A special welcome to all students, parents and staff to the 2017 school year. I trust that everyone has had a safe and enjoyable break and taken the time to enjoy the company of family and friends. This year once again will be an extremely busy one and hopefully with your support, an extremely productive one. I would like to extend a special welcome to all of our new parents and students who are joining us for the first time. We would hope that your association with our school is a positive one. Your support and involvement makes our school a great place to work and learn. By working together we can obtain the best possible outcomes for all students. Later in the term we will be offering all parents and students the opportunity to be part of an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) meeting. We will develop a learning plan for every student focussing on their personal goals and the strategies required to achieve the set goals. We will also look at ways that we can all proactively work together to support the students. Last year, these meetings proved highly beneficial in aligning students, parents and teacher expectations. I look forward to working closely with you in 2017 and hopefully we will build on the successes of 2016. Mr D B Ambrose

Australiana public holiday

Tomorrow, Thursday 26th January is a Public Holiday for Australia Day. School resumes for all students on Friday 27th January.

Round 9 ‘Get Started’ sports vouchers opened today!

*Changes to the Get Started voucher eligibility criteria*

The ‘Get Started’ initiative is designed to provide a $150.00 voucher to help families who can least afford the cost of sport membership fees so they can afford to keep their children active. Parents can visit [http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/getinthevideo/getstarted/apply/](http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/getinthevideo/getstarted/apply/) for more information.

Who is eligible? Eligible applicants are Queensland children and young people aged from 5 to 17 who:

* Hold or whose parent, carer or guardian hold a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card with the child’s name on it; OR
* are identified by a registered referral agent (Mr Ambrose is a registered referral agent).

Voucher applications close 29th March 2017 or when all available vouchers are issued.

Vouchers must be presented to a club by 12th May 2017.

Parking!

Parents are NOT to park or drive into staff car parks (located off Scotland St & off Ann St) to drop off or collect their children from school.

This is to ensure the SAFETY of our students who are moving in and around our school before and after school.

We advise that the Bundaberg Police will be patrolling the school to monitor parking, general road use and speeding. Infringements may be issued. Your co-operation in this regard is much appreciated.

Thank you.
At our final parade of 2016, our 2017 Student Leadership Team was announced. Our Leadership Team for 2017 will be as follows:-

**SCHOOL CAPTAINS:**
- Tyler
- Parker
- Lillian
- Megan

**CULTURAL CAPTAIN:**
- Amelia

**BURNETT:**
- Jordan
- Elise
- Taylor
- Riley

**MILLAQUIN:**
- Cooper
- Mia
- Rhys
- Kaydence

**PETERSEN:**
- Cody
- Ella
- Emma-Leigh
- Maddison

I would like to once again congratulate all of the above students on their appointments and wish them all the best in their roles in 2017. The first major leadership activity for our Leadership Team will be a two day camp at Chaverim on 9th AND 10th FEBRUARY. This camp will provide a valuable opportunity for our students to develop their leadership skills and understanding of one another. Our Semester 1 Student Councillors from years 4 to 6 will be elected in the coming weeks to complete our Student Council.

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**P&C AGM & GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Bundaberg East State School P&C Association will be held in the school staffroom on Wednesday 15th February at 7:00pm. Business to be discussed includes:-

- 2016 Presidents Report
- 2016 Audit Report
- Election of 2017 office bearers
- General Business

This meeting will be followed by the General Monthly Meeting for February. Business to be discussed is as follows:-

- Market Night Date
- Update on Shade Structure
- Review of 2016 Awards
- 2017 AIP & and Strategic Plan

All members of our school community are welcome to attend.

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**SAME DAY ABSENCE REPORTING:** This term we will be implementing same day absence reporting as mandated by Education Queensland. Any parent who does not provide an explanation for their child’s absence by 11:00am on the day of the absence will be sent a text message notifying them of the absence. Parents/caregivers will have the option to reply to the text message providing a reason for the child’s absence. However, to avoid receiving a text message, parents/caregivers are encouraged to advise the school of their child’s absence before 11:00am by telephoning the school Absence Line on 4132 6166 and leaving a message. Your support during the implementation of this process is appreciated.

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**URGENTLY REQUIRED**

**4L ICE-CREAM CONTAINERS**

If families have any spare, clean 4L ice-cream containers, we would be very grateful if you could donate them to our school. 4L ice-cream containers are utilised for many purposes around the school causing our stock to run low quickly.

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**YEAR 2 SWIMMING**

The Year 2 swimming program will commence on Tuesday 7th February (week 3) and conclude Tuesday 28th March (8 week duration). Students will travel to and from the Bundaberg Swimming Academy on Fitzgerald Street by bus. The cost for the bus and lesson will be $8.00 per student each week.

An information and permission note has been sent home with all year 2 students TODAY. Please see the office if you did not receive one.

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**ATTENDANCE**

Over the holidays I reviewed our attendance data for 2016. Overall our average for the year was 94.5%, an improvement from 2015. There are however a small percentage of students whose attendance is unsatisfactory. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that students are at school as regularly as possible. Failure to ensure regular attendance limits the opportunity for students to engage in school and form meaningful friendships. As expressed by Johnathon Thurston...

“If you miss training you will be on the bench for a game. If you miss school you will be on the bench for life.

Please give every child the chance to be the best they can be by maximising school attendance.

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**PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS**

All class teachers will provide a Parent Information Session early this term. Some classes will hold their session as early as THIS week. Dates, times and locations for these classes are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS/ES</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27th</td>
<td>All Prep Classes</td>
<td>2:30pm</td>
<td>Respective Classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 30th</td>
<td>All Year 4 Classes</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 31st</td>
<td>2S</td>
<td>2:50pm</td>
<td>Classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 31st</td>
<td>All Year 3 Classes</td>
<td>2:50pm</td>
<td>3G Classroom (J Block)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1st</td>
<td>1B/1M/1W</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>1M/1W Classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1st</td>
<td>2H (All Year 2 classes</td>
<td>2:45pm</td>
<td>Classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1st</td>
<td>All Year 5 Classes</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>5H Classroom (J Block)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 6th</td>
<td>2A/2MP</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Respective Classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 8th</td>
<td>All Year 6 Classes</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>6P/6S Classroom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We encourage all parents to attend these sessions as they provide a great opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and gain an understanding of classroom expectations and routines.
2016 AWARDS CEREMONY
At the awards ceremony held at the end of the 2016 school year, many students were recognised for their hard work and positive attitude towards school. Numbers of awards presented were as follows:-

- Principal’s Awards 153
- Achievement Awards (Years 1-3) 68
- Silver Academic Awards (Years 4-6) 20
- Gold Academic Awards (Years 4–6) 36
- Gold Attendance Awards 40
- Silver Attendance Awards 114
- Total 431

The achievement of an award is one that requires commitment, effort and dedication and is a reflection of the strong positive attitude of the students, parents and staff. It is also pleasing to note that many of the students who achieved an award had identified this as a goal on their Individual Learning Plan. I would strongly urge all parents to provide every encouragement and support for their child to work to the best of their ability and get the rewards they deserve.

END OF YEAR AWARD PROGRAM - REVIEW
At the February P&C meeting we will be conducting a review of the current awards program. We are seeking parental feedback on our awards program. If you would like to participate in the review, please complete the proforma accompanying this newsletter & return to the office or contact the office directly.

HANDY HINTS
NEWSLETTERS: Printed newsletters are issued to the youngest sibling of each family every Thursday. If for some reason a family does not receive a Newsletter, spare copies are available from the office. Alternately, electronic copies can be viewed each Thursday afternoon by visiting our website at www.bundeastss.eq.edu.au and selecting the ‘Calendar and News’ drop down box followed by the ‘Newsletters’ option.

NO SCOOTERS/SKATEBOARDS AT SCHOOL:
A number of scooter/skateboards are being ridden and stored at school. We remind parents and students that scooters and skateboards are not allowed at school. We thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

PERSONAL DETAILS CHANGES
If parents have changed any contact details, we kindly ask that you attend or contact the school office to advise updated information. Information that may have changed includes phone number, address, emergency contacts, medical conditions etc. Up to date contact details allow us an efficient response in the case of an emergency.

ASTHMA PUFFERS
If we are required to hold a Ventolin puffer here at school for your child, please attend the school office to sign a medication form. Thank you.

PRESENTATION DAY BALLOONS
We would like to thank RACHAEL KNIGHTS and SPOTLIGHT for donating and arranging the green balloon display that decorated our stage in the hall on Presentation Day last year. I am sure you agree the balloons created an attractive atmosphere which made the day extra special for our award recipients and graduating students.

TUCKSHOP TO COMMENCE THURSDAY 2nd FEBRUARY
Our Tuckshop operates with its full menu each Thursday. All orders MUST be PRE-ORDERED by the WEDNESDAY of that week by writing the order on a brown paper bag and placing it in the Tuckshop Box located outside of the tuckshop.

Please ensure you clearly state the child’s class and whether the order is for Little Lunch or Big Lunch. Your co-operation in this regard assists our preparation and is greatly appreciated. The Tuckshop also opens at Big Lunch on Wednesday for the purchase of ice-blocks, chips, lollies etc (no orders necessary).

WAVES NETBALL CLUB
The Waves Netball Club still has vacancies for new Junior Players born 2007-2009 for the 2017 season. Juniors will play Wednesday afternoon from 5:30pm and will have designated qualified Waves coaches. COST: $170 FOR THE SEASON (incl. Club shirt & Club socks – black skirt to be provided by parents).

Enquiries: Sandy Baker 0401 533 222/Sharyn Batt 0437 346 696
Team/Player Registrations OPEN NOW
Juniors, Premier, Masters, Mixed and Women
Competition dates 10th February 2017 – 20th June 2017 (Grand Final)

www.bundytouch.com