Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As most people are aware, NAPLAN been the big news item in education this week. 2015 saw Queensland achieve its highest results to date. Our school had several successes of its own, with many students achieving in the top two bands of assessment in one or more areas. Our teachers and students are congratulated on the work in leading up to these results. There are lots of individual student success stories that go along with these results, where students have made individual growth of performance greater than national improvement rates. This reinforces the school’s improvement agenda and the hard work of many. These results are cherished, however we also know that there are areas that we still want to do better in. One of our current whole of school agenda items is writing. Over the next 18 months, our school will focus our attention on improving student writing and help to provide a commonality in instructional processes across all of our classes. This will be based on the research of 7 Steps to Writing and 6+1 Traits of Effective Writers. Reading and Numeracy will continue to be big ticket items for us as we want to continue our direction forward, always setting our benchmarks for ourselves and our students that little bit higher.

There is an old saying that it is the little things that can make the biggest difference, and time and time again at our lovely school this rings true. So many of the little things that go on behind the scenes contribute to the overall learning of your children. I see it daily with our tireless, cheerful teacher aides gently coaxing the very best reading out of our students. Our dedicated administration team knowing so much about every student in our school – and going above and beyond every day to help them feel safe and flourish at our school. All of the little things we do, piece together to make a very big, beautiful picture - and that results in the education of your children. I am happy to shine the light on them! On top of working normal school hours teaching and motivating learners, they are here before and after school for hours planning relevant and engaging learning activities designed to deliver the Australian Curriculum in innovative ways. They reflect with each other and myself on ways they can improve the way they deliver their lessons. They research educational initiatives to ensure the reason we use our programs is aligned to the needs of our students.

Transition to and from Thargomindah State School

Over the next few months we will be extending our transition program for students for 2016. We will be holding a transition morning tea, early in Term 4 designed to answer any questions parents may have about enrolling children into e-Kindy, e-Kindy Students into Prep and Transition of Year 6 students to High school.

District Athletics

Congratulations to our students who represented our school at the District Athletics Carnival last week and I am pleased to hear about the wonderful sportsmanship displayed by these students, not only supporting our own school, but students from other schools in the area.

Parent Helpers Wanted

Our P&C are currently seeking the help of parents to assist in catering for our annual Thargomindah Small School Sports Camp. Please contact Janet Beetsom on (07) 4655 3147 if you are able to help us out.

Kind regards,

Steve Bennett
I cannot believe how quickly the weeks are flying past! Time flies when you are having fun.

As a class we really enjoyed having our guests visit from Eulo and Yowah and sharing our learning time with them. This was a great experience for all the children and as teachers we were able to share ideas of how to approach different facets of the curriculum. Thank you for coming!!

Wills... the green machine won!! Not to worry Burke will come back in the swimming. Congratulations to all the athletes. It was a fabulous day out on the track and field. It was great to see the children enjoying themselves. A special little mention to all the age champions, congratulations. Thank you to the P&C for catering.

This past week has seen us start to move through some assessment pieces with the children working extremely hard. We are wrapping up our English unit on informative text. The climax is the students creating an informative writing piece on the Northern Blossom Bats. Next we are heading into a new unit in English on procedural writing. It will be an exciting unit and one I hope the children will enjoy.

We had a very welcomed visitor come and join us this week and share a story and some one on one reading. Mr Julian (Grandfather of Caleb and Jonah) is a retired teacher and it was great to have him in the room. He read a fabulous book called “Marty and Mei-Ling” which the children really enjoyed and then analysed the differences in the characters. I would like to acknowledge Julian and offer my thanks and gratitude for wanting to help our children. Especially seeing he is on holidays. Thank you very much!!

Finally, our school sign now has the count down to sport camp on it. Only 4 weeks to go!! It sounds like a fabulous week and one the children will love. For the younger children it would be great if you can start to talk to them about the sleep over and start to prepare them for the few days they will stay at school. In my experience it is the nighttime where they will struggle the most. Chat to them about how quickly the night goes when you sleep and how busy they will be during the day and that they need lots of sleep to play all the different sports the next day. Get them excited about all the different sports and the new friends they will make. I will chat with them in class about it as well. I know I am very much looking forward to it.

The eKindy students went on a small trip to the Post Office! I would like to thank Janet Beetson for her assistance in teaching the children about addresses and showing them how the mailing process works.

During this week the students will be doing two experiments and will learn about Predictions, Observations and how to record information by making a small experiment booklet. They will include a drawn picture of what they predict and observe from the experiments and label them with photos and decorations.

Lastly, thank you to all the parents/carers who brought along their children to Playgroup this week, I’m sure they had lots of fun.

Makala Byrne
Thargomindah eKindy Teacher Aide
POSITIONS VACANT

- Casual Cleaner

Bulloo Shire Council is seeking enthusiastic and committed persons to join our Cleaning Team.

The successful applicant will form part of a dedicated team, committed to delivering high quality standards within Council.

The position is on an “as needs basis”.

For further information and to obtain a copy of the position description, contact Councils HR Officer, Mrs Tammie Warner.

Applications should be submitted via:
Email: council@bulloo.qld.gov.au
Fax: (07) 4655 3131
Post: Mrs Tammie Warner
Bulloo Shire Council
PO Box 46
THARGOMINDAH QLD 4492

Applications will close 4:00pm, Friday 28th August 2015

THANK YOU FROM THARGOMINDAH STATE SCHOOL

We would like to thank everyone who attended the working bee at the school on Saturday 4th August. We had a very successful day—we planted in excess of 60 plants, installed garden edging and filled garden beds with local stone. We also replaced the timber decking on the play equipment with Mod Wood and painted the outdoor tables. A very big thank you to all who assisted, including Mitch who saved many blisters by providing the bobcat. Many hands made light work!!!!

3-7 CLASS NEWS

As you are all aware this Monday and Tuesday students head to the much spoken about ‘Dig Tree’; there will be much to report on our return.

Some people were probably wondering what ever happened to our news reports that were going to be sent into the Warrego Watchman; well they were sent in and I was advised that some of them should have been put in last week’s paper—please let me know if you saw them.

During maths students have been investigating money, symmetry, the Cartesian Coordinate System (year 6) and angles. These will continue to be our focus for the next couple of weeks before we complete the term with chance and data concepts.

We have been studying Force in Science this term with our culminating activity being that of creating a toy that uses Force. Last week we learnt that force is calculated by the equation ‘Force = Mass x Acceleration’. We also learnt some forms of force which include, push, pull and gravity; we learnt these through a series of experiments including releasing a rock and a ball at the same time; and spinning a bucket of water around without losing a drop. Unfortunately for Blair, right at the end of the experiment he clipped his leg and lost the force resulting in water going everywhere; even on him.

Last week in Art we incorporated some of our mathematical concepts by creating symmetrical patterns. Students created these by designing a pattern in one quadrant of their paper and then drawing the reflections in the remaining three quadrants. Once students have completed these they will be put on display in the undercover area.

Cooking last week saw us completing a trial run on our desserts for the upcoming restaurant menu. Students split themselves into two teams whereby they will be cooking separate dishes to offer 2 entrees, mains and desserts for their restaurant. We are happy to announce that ‘Vanilla Panna Cotta’ and ‘Chocolate Cheesecake’ will be on the menu after our success on Monday.

BOOKFAIR

This year we celebrate Book Week in Week 7 i.e. 24th—28th August. Our theme this year is Under The Sea. During this week students will have the opportunity to do some fun activities during lunch hours in the Library relating to the books shortlisted for children’s Book Week awards. Come and check out some of the fantastic books that have been shortlisted for this years Children’s Book Prize Awards!

P & C NEWS

Parent Helpers Wanted

Our P&C are currently seeking volunteer parents to assist in coordinating our annual Thargomindah Small Schools Camp. If you have time or are willing to assist with this, please see the attached form or contact Janet Beeston—4655 3147.
There has been lots happening in the high school building lately!!!

Firstly, we were very excited to win the “Cleaner’s Award”!! Kay delivered the trophy to us with a large smile on her face and we are very happy to have it here with us for the week. We were unable to make the parade when it was awarded to us due to on air lessons so we are a bit upset that we couldn’t bathe in our glory at parade! I am sure though we will have it in our possession soon enough.

Secondly, all of the students are heading to Charleville for Sports Muster on the 13th and 14th of August. Special thanks go to Marco and Doyles for taking the students. They will be competing in field events and catching up with their Charleville teachers and fellow class mates. Fingers crossed there will be some ribbons and trophies heading home with them. Good luck guys!!

As part of the Sports Muster there is also a “Family Welding Competition” being held. The competition had to be an outdoor item from scrap metal or objects that included a property name. This items are then going to be hanging on display around the Charleville Distance Ed school. Good luck to the Otaola family for their entry. It says “Hat Creek” which is the name of Tractor’s paddock.

Thirdly, the second trip to Longreach has come around quickly and the week of the 24th August to the 28th August. We are all looking forward to the trip and seeing all our friends and teachers at the Multi-school. On the last night of the camp there is a small formal dinner for the students that the kitchen staff put on for them. This is when we all get the chance to dress up for the night and celebrate the Year 10s graduation and also a good-byes to the students who are leaving the Western Alliance and Distance Ed.

Until next time
Miss Jo, Christina, Cody, Reece and Jarvis
Children’s Events

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<th>Age Group</th>
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<th>Sponsor</th>
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<td>6yrs &amp; Under</td>
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Women’s Open Events

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<td>Flag Race</td>
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<td>Double Barrel Race</td>
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Open’s Events

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Please Note: The Open Double Barrel can have up to 3 sponsors

Thargomindah RFDS Motorbike Gymkhana & Enduro
P.O. Box 72
THARGOMINDAH QLD 4492
29 July 2015
Greetings All!
Thargomindah RFDS is, once again, holding its Annual Motorbike Gymkhana & Enduro in Thargomindah on 19th & 20th September 2015.

We are currently looking for sponsorship to help run this event. This year we will be doing as we did last year and are asking people if they would like to donate prize money to a particular event. Whichever event you choose to sponsor we will put your name / business to that event. I have attached a list of events we will be holding and the amount of prize money required for each event. Or there is the option to donate a monetary amount instead of sponsoring a particular event.

Your donation will be well advertised and will be announced throughout the entire weekend.
If you would like to sponsor an event or make a donation please contact Sue Gray on the below contact details.
Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Thargomindah RFDS Auxiliary.

Yours sincerely,
Sue Gray
Treasurer
RFDS AUX | Thargomindah Qld 4492
M: 0487 664 286
E: sueg1806@gmail.com

Please Note: The Open Double Barrel can have up to 3 sponsors

R.F.D.S

BREAKFAST IN THE PARK & RELISH AND CAKE STALL
Come and enjoy a full hot breakfast with the family, and take a cake or relish home to indulge on the weekend!

WHEN
Saturday, 22nd August from 8:30 to 10:30am

BREAKFAST INCLUDES
Bacon, eggs, tomato, toast, sausages and spaghetti or baked beans with a side of relish

BEVERAGES
Coffee, Tea and Orange Juice

PRICE
Adults $15
Children $8

SWEETS NEEDED
If you would like to donate any sweet or savoury food items to the R.F.D.S cake stall, please bring along Saturday.

MUCH APPRECIATED