FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to the new school year. I trust you had an enjoyable Christmas break and for many I believe there is palpable relief that school is back in session. This year looks to be as full as the ones before it and it comes with a sense of optimism felt throughout the community.

Teachers and ancillary staff have been at school for the past week preparing for the year ahead and have spent many hours in professional development to build their personal capacity and continue their lifelong learning.

This year, Humpybong State School has renewed its commitment to the Improvement Agenda of improving student results in reading, writing, math and science. In 2012 the staff will focus on building their capacity in the teaching of reading and there will be a sharp and narrow emphasis on using data to differentiate learning for all students. The other focus area for our school community is improving student attendance. Data will be collected regularly to track absence, including late arrival and early departure and strategies will be put in place to ensure every avenue is explored to help our students be here, on time, every day. Our motto is ‘every day counts’ and students will regularly be reflecting on this theme and the importance of school attendance.

I look forward to the year ahead where I know we will share many special moments, milestones and achievements together. The first opportunity will be held in week four of this term. Parents will be invited to attend the first of three, Three Way Reporting meetings on the student’s progress in school. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to contact the office. There are community organisations that can help and if we are aware of issues we can help with a resolution.

Parents who are having problems supplying the resources for their children are encouraged to contact the office. There are community organisations that can help and if we are aware of issues we can help with a resolution.

STUDENT RESOURCES

Many students arrived at school on day one with all of their stationery ready for the new year. I thank parents and caregivers for ensuring your children have the necessary equipment to support their learning in 2012 and know that the teachers appreciate the effort and expense.

Parents are most welcome to attend our Assemblies! It is a way to see and hear what is going on in our classrooms and an opportunity to join in on the celebration of our students’ learning.

*Please note that the Assembly on Thursday 16 February 2012 will also include our Induction of Student Leaders and Class Representatives for 2012.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

Interschool sport will be commencing on Friday February 17. Students in Year 6
and 7 will have an opportunity to trial for the various sports on offer this season. Further information will be provided to students in the near future. Prompt payment of fees associated with interschool sport is requested – this fee covers the transport costs associated with travelling to sporting venues each week. Students not participating in interschool sport remain at school on Friday afternoons and are involved in our Options program.

Tim Adsett
Deputy Principal (Year 4 – 7)

WELCOME P – 3
A very warm welcome to all our new and existing families for 2012. I look forward to engaging with students and teachers in the role of Deputy Principal P-3, whilst Mrs Colville enjoys some well-deserved long service leave. A special welcome is extended to our Prep students who have settled well into their classroom routines and are looking incredibly smart in the school uniform. Thank you to those parents and carers who have ensured that their child is wearing the school uniform and that they have brought all of the necessary materials needed for the start of the year.

PREP – 3 ASSEMBLY
Our first Prep assembly will be held on Thursday February 9 commencing at 11:25am in the hall. Assemblies provide an opportunity to recognise and celebrate success, practise important audience manners and contribute to a sense of community. Please join us for this special occasion when 3 Orange will perform a movement piece. Prep assemblies will occur each fortnight.

SCHOOL RULES
Last week each class discussed in detail our school rules. Students at Humpybong State School are guided by the following rules that are simple to remember and are able to be easily applied.

- Care for Yourself
- Care for Others
- Care for Property
- Care for Learning

We believe that Humpybong State School is a supportive environment where all members of the school community work together in developing acceptable standards of behaviour to create a caring, productive and safe environment for learning. Please take a moment to talk to your child about our important school rules.

Hayley Bloxham
A/Deputy Principal (Prep – Year 3)

MUSIC MATTERS
Welcome back to what promises to be an amazing year at Humpybong. For those of you who haven’t met me, my name is Juanita Reid and I have been given the privileged position of classroom music teacher at Humpybong. This year I will be working from Monday to Thursday teaching Preps to Year 7.

I am passionate about teaching and particularly about using music to engage our learners and help each child to reach their potential across the curriculum. We have several exciting projects to develop this year, all of which I hope will inspire our students and community.

BUSH DANCE
One of the most exciting projects is the Humpybong Bush Dance. During term three Adam Vickery, our PE teacher, and I will teach dances to all the classes across the school, culminating in a community bush dance to be held on Friday September 14. Please mark this date on your calendar as it promises to be a memorable and fun filled night.

SMART STRINGS
Last week our year three students had the exciting experience of a violin lesson with Ross and Jo Walker from Smart Strings. Mr and Mrs Walker are experienced music teachers who work in many schools in South East Queensland, teaching violin to Year Three pupils. This is a preparatory program to students who are interested in learning the violin. We are very privileged and thrilled to announce that Mr and Mrs Walker have offered to bring their highly successful and reputable program to Humpybong State School.

Their program will compliment the fine work of Ms Newton, our strings instrumental teacher and offer Year 3 students an opportunity to try the instrument before making the commitment required in the Year Four program. I would encourage all parents of Year 3 students to consider this amazing opportunity. Please talk to your child about their violin lesson last week. I am happy to answer any questions you have about the program. We would appreciate the return of your expression of interest forms as soon as possible so we can work out class sizes. Payment of $50 for the term is also required and can be paid after the form is submitted if needed. If you are interested in enrolling your child in the program but are having difficulties with the payment, please let us know and we may be able to make some arrangements to assist you. The lessons are for half an hour between 1:45 and 2:45 pm on Tuesdays.

PLACES AVAILABLE
I am very pleased to announce that Ms Newton has several places available in the strings program this year. These positions are for a cello and several violas. If your child is interested in learning one of these instruments Ms Newton will be at the school on Tuesday and will be assessing students for their suitability. There are also places available for Year 4 beginner students in Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, and Euphonium. Please return your Expression of Interest notes to the office.

For students who are enrolled in the instrumental program under either Ms Newton’s or Ms Guarerra’s instruction, it is important that they make a commitment to learning the instrument. There is an expectation that these students practise at home, come prepared for lessons and turn up to ensemble practises on time. If you have any questions about your child’s progress in the instrumental program please let me know and I will pass on your enquiry to the relevant teacher who will contact you as soon as possible. Learning an instrument is a wonderful opportunity for our children but to make the most of it requires hard work and commitment.

An Instrumental music information session for parents will be held Tuesday February 7, 3.30pm in the hall.

RECORER PROGRAM
As part of our school music program students in Year 4 - 7 will be learning the recorder. This is a simple and relatively easy instrument to learn for very little cost. Learning to play the recorder compliments what the children have been learning in music in terms of their musical literacy and there is a lot of evidence to support the positive impact that learning an instrument can have on a child’s learning in all areas of their education. I look forward to sharing some of the research findings with you in future newsletters.

If your child doesn’t already have a recorder please consider purchasing one soon. The school has 30 available for sale at the office. They cost $7 and include a vinyl bag, finger chart, joint cream and a cleaning rod.

I am keen to get to know all of our students and their families. Please feel most welcome to come and say hello or
pop up after school to ask me any questions you may have about the music program or any other projects I may be involved in. You can also contact me by ringing the school.

Till next time,
Juanita

'May the song in your heart be a happy one.'

HOPE FOR 2012

2012 is being variously described as either a season of renewed hope, or the beginning of the end. How we respond to this depends on whether we believe in a positive future or that the worst is yet to come. For Queenslanders, however, the future is looking rosier. The devastation caused by the 2011 floods is slowly being repaired. Hope is returning to the community as a whole. Things are looking up. Personally, I believe that hope can be defined thus: Having an Optimistic Perspective Every day. And what does it look like? Hope is getting out of bed in the morning. Hope is a new baby. Hope is planning for an uncertain future. Hope doesn’t dismiss the harsh realities, but believes that they CAN be overcome. Hope is essential for us all.

I hope that 2012 is a hope-filled year for you and your family!

KFC (Kids Fun Club) will be commencing soon. Needed: Parent helpers, One hour, one day per week to assist with running activities.

I am hoping to run a lunchtime program for Year 4 – 7 and would appreciate a parent helper to assist with running activities for one hour, one day per week.

Keep smiling and God bless,
Nicola

‘Be joyful in hope...’ Romans 12:12

FROM THE P&C

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR 2011

A very special thank you to all our wonderful staff in the tuckshop and also to our exceptional volunteers – we couldn’t have done it without you all, so thank you. We would also like to thank the staff, teachers, parents and students for all your support and fundraising efforts. We managed to raise over $25,000 in 2011 in fundraising, so THANK YOU everyone!

UNIFORM SHOP

A very special thank you to all parents and students for their patience and understanding in this very busy time of the year. Due to unforeseen circumstances at the end of 2011 we were unable to complete all of our orders in the uniform shop in the first week of 2012. We have received stock from our suppliers, including shirts, skorts and the new reversible hats. Our uniform shop has a new convenor and we would like to welcome Michelle Dobson to the uniform shop. Michelle has been with the P&C for many years as our fundraising coordinator, she is extremely well organised and looking forward to 2012. The uniform shop will be open every week on Tuesday from 8.00am to 10.30am. The uniform shop now has its own EFTPOS facilities, so payments can be made by cash and EFTPOS. We will no longer accept Lay-buys in the uniform shop. If you have placed an order, please contact Michelle in the uniform shop or email our P&C Secretary Kelly Kohler on Kelly@kohlerzone.com so that we may get your order to you ASAP. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our P&C Executive Committee who looked after the uniform shop in the first 2 weeks of school, all of our Committee work and still managed time to volunteer in the uniform shop during this very busy time.

FRIDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Don’t forget we hold our sausage sizzle every Friday afternoon from 2.30pm. Only $1.50 for a sausage in bread. Our first sausage sizzle for 2012 will be on Friday 3 February under the Year One buildings, just look for our P&C flags. If you would like to volunteer at the sausage sizzle, please see one of our P&C executives at the sausage sizzle on Friday.

P&C MEETINGS FOR 2012

Our P&C Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each calendar month. Where this coincides with vacation period, that meeting will be forfeited. The dates for our P&C meetings for 2012 are: 7/2/2012, 13/3/2012, 8/5/2012, 12/6/2012, 10/7/2012, 14/8/2012, 11/9/2012, 9/10/2012, 13/11/2012 and 11/12/2012. These meetings will be held in the STIC at 6.30pm.

FUNDRAISING TERM ONE

This term we will be holding our annual Easter Raffle, the prizes include a Digital Camera, a Family Pass to the Planetarium and various Easter Baskets. More information regarding this event will be sent home shortly.

Colin Orr
P&C President

FOR TENDER

Toyota Hiace Commuter 120 series. 12 seats. Road worthy certificate every 6 months. 116, 192 kms. First delivered to the University of QLD in November 1997. Reserve price is set.

P&C AFTER SCHOOL CARE

PCYC SAC offers quality Before and After School Care to the children of Humpybong States School. Our opening hours are from 6.30 am - 8.30am for Before School and 2.45 pm - 6pm for After School Care. We offer a variety of activities from indoor/outdoor games, arts/crafts and quiet activities for the children to relax after school. We provide a light Breakfast and Afternoon tea for the children. We also offer a drop off and pick up service for Prep students to their classrooms.

For enquires please call us on 3283 6421 or drop by for a chat. We are located across from the grade 1 classrooms.

Kind Regards,
Heather P SAC Co-Ordinator.

TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop is closed Monday’s. No hot food at snack time. Volunteers are always needed, so please come and speak to me. Due to Workplace Health & Safety we are not able to heat food up, brought in from home. Our new Menus have gone home with all students, if not please speak to you child's teacher first. If your child goes home sick and is having tuckshop, can you please let us know?

Meal deals
1. Toasted tuna cheese sandwich, Popper, Piece of fruit - $6.50
2. Banana bread, Small popcorn, Juice cup, Icy bite - $1.00

Bags .20c each.

Sherri Hallam

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