From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

What a fortnight it has been! From Anzac Day and Working Bees to NAPLAN Preparation and our fantastic Sports Carnival. None of these events could be possible without the time and dedication of our school community. Students, Parents and staff alike have put in a mighty effort over the past fortnight. Thank you for all that you have done, and all that you do, for Gindie State School.

I was very proud to march in the Anzac Day Parade in Emerald behind our Gindie State School Banner. Thank you to the families who made it out on the day and who represented our school with pride. This brings us also to our Sports Carnival. What a day! As I reflected on this with the students, it was a very proud day for us—our conduct, our sporting ability and our sportsmanship was impeccable. Congratulations to all students who participated on the day.

From today, our school newsletter will be sent home on Wednesdays of odd weeks, rather than Mondays. This allows us to work more efficiently around office hours. Thank you for your understanding. Parents, if you would also like a copy of the fortnightly newsletter emailed to you, please supply your email address to the school office and we will add you to a mailing list.

Next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, we have our annual NAPLAN testing. I ask that during next week, all students make sure they get enough sleep, nutritious food and plenty of water to make sure they have great energy levels throughout the testing week.

Next Tuesday from 2.00-3.00pm we also have our Year Six Transition Session here at the school with staff from Emerald State High School. Students will attend a session in the library to learn about the move to high school. Any parents that would like to attend are more than welcome.

On the last day of this term, we have been invited to participate in a High-5 For Farmers World Record Attempt at Emerald State High School. More information will be sent home as we receive it.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Braitling family for their very generous donation of sand to the sand pit and long jump pit. It is now full to the brim and the children are loving playing in it each day. A thank you for all of our new garden plants in our front gardens too. They look fantastic.

Have a great week!

Yours in Education,
Kendall Seccombe
ANZAC DAY PARADE
Thank you to all the students and family members who attend the ANZAC day march and represented our school. It was lovely to be part of such a moving ceremony. Well done to our captains for representing our school well and laying the wreath, you set such a good example to our younger students. Next year is the 100th Anniversary of Gallipoli and we hope that we can represent in a memorable way in 2015.

MOTHER’S DAY
Sunday marks a significant day for all mothers. The job of a mother is one which is consuming, tiring, yet so emotionally rewarding. To all of our wonderful mothers, we hope you have a beautiful day and that your children spoil you with love! A reminder that the P&C will be running a Mothers Day stall Friday 10th May from 1.00pm

CAMP
Camp is quickly approaching with only a fortnight to go. Attached to the newsletter is a list of camp requirements that your child will need to pack and bring along. With the cool weather coming it will help prepare us for the cold winds in Canberra!

Estelle has been super busy and has designed an edStudio that the students can access from home. All parents and students are encouraged to use the edStudio at home to make the most of their Senior Camp experience.

Access— Learning place— click on edStudio tab– in search type access key S13145495

SHOW DISPLAY ITEMS
Please keep working on your posters for our show display. We would love to have work from all of our families represented at the show. If you have any additional photographs of your family or extended family on your farm, past or present, can you please bring them to school to be copied and put on display at the show. Thank you to those who have already completed this task.

The Fowl Art colouring-in poster is attached to this newsletter. If your child wishes to enter this in the show, please return to school by Friday 16th May. Mrs Chick will send a list of show activities home with the next newsletter that your child may also wish to enter in the show.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
A massive thank you to all of the students and their families who made our sports day such a success. We all live very busy lifestyles and it is wonderful to have so many parents dedicating their time to be at the school and spend time with our children. This caring attitude really lifted everyone within the school and helped to create such a successful carnival.

The students had a wonderful time on Friday representing our school and supporting students from other schools. We are proud of the students for giving their best and participating no matter what place they came!

A special congratulations to our award winners:

MF & SC Daniels Shield for Champion Sub Junior Boy: Ranger Sullivan
D & MA Howard Shield for Champion Sub Junior Girl: Breanna Keene
Ingram Cup for Champion Junior Boy: Jeremiah Diete
Bate Family Cup for Champion Junior Girl: Nixon Anderson
Turkey Creek Sullivan Shield for Champion Senior Boy: Wyatt Thomson
Staal Cup for Champion Senior Girl: Samantha Kerle
Clinton Neale Memorial Trophy Encouragement Award: Ellen Keene
Kestrel Overall Senior Champion: Samantha Kerle
Kestrel Overall Junior Champion: Jeremiah Diete

A huge thank you to all of those who managed the catering for the carnival! There were many comments about the caramel slice and the homemade cakes. We appreciate the time parents took to cook and donate food on the day, your support is very much appreciated!

Thank you to Sports Power Emerald for donating the freight cost for our ordered shot puts and for donating water bottles that we will give out as prizes on Cricket Day.

Brain Teaser
Cloud was my mother, the wind is my father, my son is the cool stream, and my daughter is the fruit of the land. A rainbow is my bed, the earth my final resting place. What am I?

Quote of the Week:
Mothers hold their children’s hands for a short while, but their hearts forever.

Unknown
NAPLAN TESTING
NAPLAN testing is less than a week away. Our students will continue getting NAPLAN support and preparation with Mrs Chick for this week and Monday of Week 4.

The first day of testing will be held on Tuesday 13th and will run to Thursday 15th May. We ask all parents to ensure that their children get plenty of rest and eat nutritious food to avoid illness etc. and to ensure their child performs to their maximum potential on the day.

We wish all of our students success and look forward to using these results to better support your child’s educational journey.

SPORTS REPRESENTATION
Congratulations Fraser who represented Gindie State School at the C.H. soccer trials in Moranbah on Wednesday 30th April. Fraser has been selected to participate in CQ trials on the 25th–26th of May. We wish him the best of luck!

THANK YOU
Thank you to Richard and Robyn Daniels for bringing in their bobcat to move the sand we ordered for our sports carnival. We really appreciate the extended support our Gindie community offers. Thank you!

ICPA SPORTS CAMP
Please see the attached letter for details of this year’s sports camp. Students in Year 4-7 are eligible to attend. If you are interested in your child attending, please see Helen for enrolment forms.

Library News

**Book Club** Issue 3 of Book Club was sent home last week. Please place your order and make payment by Monday, 12th May.

**Book Covering** Help is needed to cover new books for our Library. If you have any spare time please contact Mrs Thomson. Your help would be much appreciated.

**Australia’s Best Doodler** To celebrate the launch of a new Tom Gates Book, a competition is running to find Australia’s best Doodler. The Author Liz Pichon will choose the winner who will receive a Tom Gates book pack and a years supply of Crayola. All you have to do is start with a plain A4 piece of paper and doodle whatever you like. You can use colour or your drawing can be in black and white. Please give your drawing to Mrs Thomson by the end of this Term.

P&C News

**P&C Meeting**
Please come along to our P&C Meeting, which will be held next Thursday 15th May, at 3.30pm.

**Picnic Lunch**
Our next picnic lunch date has been changed to **Monday 12th May**, due to NAPLAN testing on the Tuesday. Please send along some money with your child.

**Fundraising**
Reminder there will be a **Mother’s Day stall** this Friday at second lunch. Items will be priced from 50c to $5. Please send along some money with your child as we can’t do IOUs for this event. Also, **Smencil** orders are due back at school this week.
**News from the Junior Room**

Today the Junior Class has started a wellbeing and resilience program called ‘Bounce Back’. Bounce Back is a preventative whole class social and emotional learning program. This program predominately focuses on classroom strategies and activities that teach students those positive social and emotional skills that might best be described as ‘life skills’. Each Monday the Juniors will participate in class ‘Circle Time’. During this time your child will engage in games and activities to teach the following ‘Core Values’ of Being Friendly, Honesty, Being Responsible, Caring about and supporting others- showing kindness, Respect and self-respect.

Last week our Prep students started a new program called ‘Synthetic Phonetics’. The lessons in this program are being taught to our Preps for 20-40 minutes each day and the program will continue to be implemented until the end of the year. This program teaches children that spoken and written words are comprised of phonemes (sounds that letters make), how to pronounce all 44 phonemes and how each may be represented, to blend phonemes together to read a word, to segment words into phonemes to spell and to use their phonetic knowledge as the primary approach to reading and spelling unknown words.

Thank you to all the parents who helped out with reading groups last week! We are really encouraging the Juniors to get reading and rewarding those children who are moving up in their reading levels. For your information, these are the following desired reading levels for the END of Term 2:

- Prep Reading Level: 3-5
- Grade 1 Reading Level: 10-12
- Grade 2 Reading Level: 20-22

The Junior Class is in need of an adult to help out with Reading Groups each Tuesday from 9am-10am. If you are available please let me know ASAP.

Have a great week!

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**News from the Senior Room**

Week Three has arrived! In mathematics, our focus for the week is on Shape. Each grade is exploring the properties of 3 dimensional and 2 dimensional shapes. The Year 6’s have started their ‘Largest Pyramid’ investigation and we have small pyramid models around the classroom. Next week we will be moving onto Fractions and Decimals.

In English we have been working on our reading strategies and reading comprehension. Year 3 and 4 are investigating narratives through chapter books and the Year 5 and 6 students are investigating narratives through comics and animations.

We still have many students who have not returned their show posters. I would like to see them back by the end of this week. Homework is an important part of our classroom program. It is vital that all students bring back their homework to be marked each FRIDAY.

We are also focussing on our book work. Each entry should have a date, a title (where appropriate) and be neat and well presented. Students will be asked to re-do work that does not meet these expectations.
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<th>Week 1</th>
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<td>Working Bee for Athletics carnival Sun 29th Apr 8.00am</td>
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<td>Athletics Carnival set up 2.00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Nibbles Meet and Greet 3.30pm</td>
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Rain!