Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Enrolments:
With news that Gindie will be reduced to one class in 2015 many efforts are being made to encourage further enrolments. Kayla and I visited a Kindy last week and it was very interesting to learn that many parents did not realize our school existed. Posters have gone up at all kindergartens and child care centres in Emerald as well as at the local shopping centres. Our 3 meter long Gindie State School banner has arrived this week and will shortly take up residence just outside the tennis club. Thank you to Mrs Thomson for your brilliant design skills and Mr Bate for supplying the frame for the banner.

I have also booked the space outside Big W at the Central Highlands Market Place for Saturday 6th December. Although many people have already made decisions about schooling next year, after our recent visit to the Kindergarten, I think it is important that we are getting our name out in the community. If anyone has a spare couple of hours to assist at the BBQ and chat to potential parents, your help would be greatly appreciated. I will send further information about this shortly.

Unfortunately, our meeting about student numbers and staffing for 2015 was cancelled due to limited parent availability. I will discuss this matter further at the November P&C meeting. I would encourage all parents to be promoting Gindie positively within the wider community. While it is important that the appropriate governing bodies understand the concern of the community, the situation is not going to change unless we are able to gain further enrolments.

Homework:
Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework takes into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family and recreational pursuits.

Unfortunately it has come to my attention, that students are choosing not to complete homework and this is impacting on their ability to effectively complete school work including spelling and writing tasks.

Education Queensland’s Homework Policy states that students in prep to year two can expect approximately one hour of homework each week. This may include reading, spelling and revision of key mathematical and literacy based concepts taught in class. Students in grades 3, 4, 5 & 6 should expect approximately 2-3 hours of homework each week.

Homework tasks are designed to engage students in independent learning to complement work undertaken in class through:
- revision and critical reflection to consolidate learning (practising for mastery)
- applying knowledge and skills in new contexts (a topic of interest, an authentic local issue)
- pursuing knowledge individually and imaginatively (investigating, researching, writing, designing, making)
- preparing for forthcoming classroom learning (collecting relevant materials, items, information).

I would appreciate your efforts in setting aside time throughout the week to complete homework tasks with your children. If your child is having difficulty in completing set homework tasks, please see your class teacher.

Tammy Franks
Behavior Audit
On Monday the 10th of November we will have our Behaviour Audit. I would like to take the opportunity to say how proud we are of the student’s behavior at our school. It is wonderful to see our students following school rules and putting into practice our behavior strategies from the ‘You Can Do It’ and the ‘High Five’. We look forward to having the auditor in our school and encourage parents to introduce themselves and say hi. The auditor will spend some time going through our Gindie State School Responsible Behavior Plan, reviewing our rewards and discussing our school rules and behaviour with the students’ and parents.

Attached to the newsletter is our Whole School Behaviour and Expectations Matrix. This sets out our schools expectations of the students if they are following and displaying our school rules. This has been discussed with our students here at school. We encourage all parents to read over and discuss further with their child. Your support and understanding will ensure our school behavior is positive one for all of our students.

Student Fundraiser
Thank you all the parents for supporting our student leader fundraiser ‘Spooky Halloween’ on Friday. There were some wonderful costumes! The students had a great time eating all the spooky treats and enjoying the fun atmosphere. The students raised over $100 and this will go towards future senior camps!

Daniel Morcombe
Last Friday the students spent some time in the afternoon session watching short video clips and discussing the importance of feeling safe and what to do in a situation where they weren’t feeling safe. We discussed the signs such sweaty palms, crying, hair standing on end, butterflies in their stomach etc, and the students took home a flyer about these signs. We encourage all families to discuss child safety with their children. For more information on helpful ideas and about the program please visit the Daniel Morcombe website.

Circus Presentation
On Thursday the students presented their Circus to the parents and Junior Students. An enjoyable time was had by both the student performers and the audience. It was a wonderful opportunity to see the more creative side to our students. I congratulate all students for their huge effort over the semester bringing the circus to life.

Thank you to the many parents who came along, we thank you for making the time. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and parent participation in the acts. Thank you to the parents for helping put our classroom back together after the circus. A very special thank you to Mrs. Hammond for staying behind for an additional hour and vacuuming all the popcorn from our carpet, you are super!

Swimming
We are in our second week of swimming for 2015. This is such an important program for our students with an emphasis on water safety for all levels of swimmers. Parental support in attending swimming has been outstanding and we thank the many parents who have offered their time to come along and support our students with the Learn to Swim program. Thank you to all of our families for having your children ready to go each day. It is a busy and tiring time for everyone and we appreciate your efforts.

District Swimming
Our District Swimming Carnival will be held in Springsure this year on the 28th November. We have decided to offer the carnival to the Year 2-6 students as they participate in all events if nominated. Our Preps and Year 1 students will remain at school with Mrs. Ray. Once nominations have been finalized a permission note will be sent home containing more details. We really appreciate parents being able to assist with the carnival and would love to have parents come along to support our swimmers.
You Can Do It Parade Awards Term Four

Below are the You Can Do It Capabilities. These are the focuses that our Senior Leaders will be presenting on Parade each Monday this term. Senior Leaders look for students displaying the focus capability throughout each week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Breaking down the High 5 – Walk/ move away</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Breaking down the High 5 – Talk friendly</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Breaking down the High 5 – Talk firmly</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Breaking down the High 5 – Report to teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>REVIEW and REFLECT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>REVIEW and REFLECT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Social Skill Focuses for Term Four

Each week, Social Skills are explicitly taught in our classrooms. Below is an overview for our weekly focuses for Term Four. We encourage you to review these focuses areas at home with your children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Term Four</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Getting Along</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Confidence</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Persistence</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Emotional Resilience</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Organisation</td>
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</tbody>
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P&C News

New Principal—The P&C have elected Mrs Sullivan to take part in the selection process of a new principal for Gindie State School. Mrs Sullivan is wanting to collect ideas from the other parents about what qualities they would like in a Principal. If you would like to make a suggestion, please see Mrs Sullivan or pop your ideas into a sealed envelope labelled “Confidential P&C” - you are not required to put your name on this—and place it into the mailbox in the office.

As it is getting towards the end of the year and we encourage new parents to be part of our P&C. Please come along and see what we do. All positions on our P&C committee will be open for the 2015 year. Our children rely on P&C funding to assist with their learning, so come along and be part of our P&C!

Picnic lunch will be held next Tuesday, 11th November. Lane’s and Tyson’s mum are providing the food, and Harry’s mum is the helper. Thanks ladies!
Remembrance Day
Just a reminder that next Tuesday the 11th of November, is Remembrance Day. We will be observing a minute’s silence at 11 a.m. This is an important part of Australian History and we want our students to understand the sacrifice made by many men and women.

Senior Leader Speeches
On the 1st Of December, Monday of week 9 we will be holding a special parade to hear the school leader speeches from our year 4-5 students. Please discuss with your child at home in regards to running for a position. All students are encouraged to speak and run for a position.

The students will need to write their speech at home and practice before the day. We invite all parents to come along to the Monday parade to listen to the speeches. After all speeches have been heard, the students will vote for their preferred school leaders. Please come and support our future leaders for 2015.

Prep Open Days
Our Prep Open Days are coming up in Week 8 and 9. If you know of any parents who might be considering attending Gindie State School then please encourage these families to contact the school for an information pack.

During the Prep mornings, the pre-preps will join the Junior Classroom and complete activities alongside their peers. There will also be an opportunity for parents to ask questions. The Prep booklist will be issued to these families during the sessions as well.

LOTE Showcase Day
Sumadi our wonderful LOTE teacher will be holding a showcase day in week 9, Tuesday the second of December. This is a wonderful opportunity to come along and see what the students are learning in LOTE and meet their Indonesia teacher. On the day the students will be singing, using the LOTE language with the parents and sharing some traditional Indonesia food. We encourage all parents to come along and participate in this cultural session which will run from 11.45am to 1.00pm. Hope you can make it!

Positive Publicity
On the 6th Of December we will be holding a BBQ outside the new shopping complex in Emerald. The aim of holding the BBQ is to positively promote our school and share with community the wonderful things we do at Gindie. Please check your calendars as we would love to have parents come along and help with the sausage sizzle and positive promotion of our school on that morning.

Student Resource Scheme
Attached to the newsletter is the 2015 student resource scheme forms. Please complete and return the blue form by Friday 14th November. Payment does not need to be made until Term 1 of next year. Once all forms are returned, we are able to order student’s textbooks so that they arrive at school ready for the students to beginning their learning on Day 1 of the 2015 school year.

Library News

BOOK FAIR: Attached to this newsletter is your invitation to our ‘Book Fair Garden’. During week 7 our Library will blossom with a wonderful array of new books for your family to purchase. The Library will be open every day before school from 8.15am and after school from 3.00pm to 400pm. All purchases made benefit our school with credit to buy new books for our library.

BORROWING: Please ensure all library books are returned on Thursday so that more books can be borrowed this week.

Quote of the Week:

<i>I hope you always find a reason to smile.</i>
News from the Junior Room

As final year assessment is just around the corner, we have been very busy with classroom lessons and learning.

In our Writing Workshop time, the Juniors have been learning how to write a persuasive response to fairy tale stories. We have been comparing traditional fairy tales to fractured fairy tale stories. The children have learnt how to use a Venn diagram to compare the same character from two versions of the same fairy tale. This week the children have co-constructed a written response with adult support. They are learning how to explain their preferred character and how to justify their thoughts by referring to the illustrations and text in a story using persuasive language.

In Math this fortnight Prep students have been practising counting forwards and backwards from any number to 20. They have practised counting collections to 20 and subitising collections to 20. Prep children have practised drawing, naming and counting simple 2D shapes.

Grade 1 & 2 children have been learning to recognise and represent multiplication as repeated addition, groups and arrays. They have also been practising solving word problems by developing appropriate addition and subtraction sums.

In Geography the children are finalising Part A of their assessment which requires them to demonstrate their knowledge’s surrounding the location, direction and features on world maps and local areas.

Could all parents who volunteer for our classroom reading groups each time, please give me a call if you are unable to come for your intended volunteer day. We really appreciate the wonderful support Mrs Gretton, Mrs Sampson, Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Braithling, Mrs Hopper and Ms Whittingham have given our children as they have volunteered for reading groups each week!

News from the Senior Room

Over the past fortnight students in the senior classroom have been working towards producing their own persuasive speech on a topic of their choice. They have learnt to effectively plan and write a speech using a variety of persuasive devices and this week they will choose their own topic to argue. Students will plan, write, edit and practice their persuasive speech during class time, however it would be appreciated if parents could also encourage students to practice talking through their speech at home.

In mathematics the seniors have been busy reading and plotting grid points on a map, interpreting information on timetables and measuring basic angles. Students will complete their 5 weekly number facts assessment this week.

Students have been enjoying exploring the properties of materials and different types of matter in science. Over the coming weeks they will be further exploring materials that act as insulators and develop a plan for an esky using appropriate materials.

Yesterday in LOTE students were busy learning how to play local Indonesian instruments in preparation for the LOTE showcase day coming up in week 9.
# Gindie State School
## Term 4 2014

### Week 1
- **6th October**: Labour Day
- **7th October**: LOTE
- **8th October**
- **9th October**
- **10th October**

### Week 2
- **13th October**
- **14th October**
- **15th October**
- **16th October**: HPE & Arts, P&C Meeting 3.15pm
- **17th October**

### Week 3
- **20th October**: Student Free Day
- **21st October**: LOTE
- **22nd October**
- **23rd October**
- **24th October**: Picnic Lunch

### Week 4
- **27th October**: Swimming
- **28th October**
- **29th October**
- **30th October**: HPE & Arts, Senior Class Circus Act 2.30 senior classroom
- **31st October**: Teachers Day, Daniel Morcombe Day, Child Safety, Fundraiser, Spooky Halloween

### Week 5
- **3rd November**: Swimming
- **4th November**: LOTE, Melbourne Cup
- **5th November**
- **6th November**
- **7th November**

### Week 6
- **10th November**: School Discipline Audit
- **11th November**: Remembrance Day, Picnic Lunch
- **12th November**
- **13th November**: HPE & Arts
- **14th November**

### Week 7
- **17th November**: Swimming
- **18th November**: LOTE, LOTE Showcase Day
- **19th November**
- **20th November**
- **21st November**

### Week 8
- **24th November**: Swimming
- **25th November**: Prep Orientation Day
- **26th November**
- **27th November**: HPE & Arts
- **28th November**: District Swimming Carnival

### Week 9
- **1st December**
- **2nd December**: LOTE
- **3rd December**
- **4th December**
- **5th December**: Prep Orientation Day, Positive Publicity BBQ on Saturday

### Week 10
- **8th December**
- **9th December**: Report cards sent home, Picnic Lunch
- **10th December**: Awards & Concert Night
- **11th December**: HPE & Arts, Open Classroom
- **12th December**

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*Tuesday, Thursday, Today and tomorrow!*