Dear Parents and Students

The weeks continue to pass by rather quickly, but there is at least one comforting factor – our school and therefore our children are involved in lots of activities centred on developing your child’s education. Perhaps that is why the time seems to be getting away so quickly.

**Student Free Day**

Every year schools have an additional pupil free day to engage in professional development activities, curriculum development and school management. Our school will have their additional student free day on **Monday 13th September**. Students do not attend school on this day. The purpose of having this day will be to allow teaching staff to collaboratively plan programs for 4th term. The fourth term student free day is on Monday 18th October.

**Teaching and Learning Audit**

To continue to improve on our student performances, our school has undertaken a teaching and learning audit today. A representative from the department conducted the audit. The teaching and learning audit process places a strong focus on auditing key curriculum, teaching, learning and assessment practices of our school. The audit focused on 8 key aspects of our school's operations:

- An Explicit Improvement Agenda
- Analysis and Discussion of Data
- A Culture that Promotes Learning
- Targeted Use of School Resources
- An Expert Teaching Team
- Systematic Curriculum Delivery
- Differentiated Classroom Learning
- Effective Teaching Practice

Within each area, evidence was collected against set criteria to decide on our school's level of development as well as identify commendations (exemplary practice), recommendations (areas for development) and affirmations (areas of effective practice) for each area. Teachers, students and representatives from the P&C Association were interviewed. Following the audit, our school will be provided with a detailed report relating to our progress against system expectations and accountabilities to inform future developmental needs of our school as well as developmental needs for the education system. All state schools in Queensland will undergo an audit.

**Reminder of Tanny Sports Meeting**

The annual meeting will be conducted tomorrow Wednesday 18th August 7:30pm at Yangan School. I hope you can find time to attend this meeting and provide input into the future organization of this event.
Science Week 16-20 August

During Science lessons this term students in Years 3/4/5 and 6/7 have been exploring various science concepts through science experiments. They are then practising their presentation skills by presenting some experiments to other members of their class. To celebrate Science Week, teachers from Warwick State High School will be visiting our school this Friday 20th August to conduct experiments with the whole school from 11:00am to 12:00 noon. Parents are most welcome to join the students.

Book Week Next Week

‘Across the Story Bridge’ is the theme for this year’s book week celebrations. Book Week celebrations are conducted throughout all Queensland schools from 23rd August to 27th August. Thank you to Mrs Smith for organising the activities at our school and the display in our library. Students have been challenged to construct model bridges from straws, lego and newspapers. These will be displayed in the library next week.

Competition entries should be returned to Mrs Smith by this Friday, 20 August.

Mrs Smith will be away on Thursday 19th August at Library Libcode Training Update in Toowoomba.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child’s education or any other school related matter, please have no hesitation in contacting the school.

Have a great week. Regards, Ian Rathmell

School News

Gotcha Values Awards

- Improving – Serayah Steele (for effort, ownership and responsibility for following up on learning; in addition to reading for Accelerated Reader).
- Contributing – Eli McKinney (for involving yourself fully in all class activities).

Congratulations to Serayah, Raoul and Eli as the recipients of these special awards.

Gotcha Awards:

Will Saxby and Rani Towson (for reading 5 Accelerated Reader books). Jessica Welsh (for 5 continuous 100% reading comprehension tests for Accelerated Reader) Eloise Hawes (for improved number facts and reading fluency) and Liam Schulz (for displaying passion for reading Accelerated Reader).

Special awards (for achieving a full sticker chart) to Megan Kelly, Eli McKinney, Blake O’Dea, and Adrienne Hawes.

FOUND – Black fold up umbrella, new school jumper - unlabelled, small (size label missing). Contact the school office if these are yours.

Arts Council – Magical World of Crazy Science

On 25 August, Queensland Arts Council will present The Magical World of Crazy Science at our school.

To ensure that your child has the chance to participate in this experience, which is linked to our curriculum, please return payment by 25 August with the $6 admission fee per child. This program is funded with the assistance of Education Queensland.

Students leaving early and/or arriving late.

If, for any reason, your child or children need to leave school early or arrive late, it is a requirement of Education Queensland and the school for them to be signed out or in by an adult. Please make sure late arrivals and early departures by students are noted in the book which has been placed in the school office. Thank you.

Religious Instruction is next week, Wednesday 25 August.

Southern Downs Athletics

Congratulations to our students who represented Warwick Country Schools at yesterday’s Southern Downs Athletics Carnival. Your dedication and effort to training was rewarded with your selection in the Warwick Country team. Athletes will be advised in the next week of selection to participate in the Darling Downs Athletics Carnival.

School Uniform

Students are beginning to wear non-uniform items of clothing to school. This includes non-navy jumpers and shorts. Please assist your child in wearing the correct uniform that includes navy lowers (shorts, skirt, skorts or track pants), school t-shirt, navy jumper or jacket and sports shoes. For safety reasons no jewellery is to be worn.

Enrolments for Prep are now open at Yangan State School

In 2011 children born between 1 July 2005 and 30 June 2006 are eligible to attend Prep. In Prep, children learn through inquiry, investigation and play — known as active learning. It’s a powerful way for children to develop important skills and the right attitude for school. If you need more information about Prep please contact the school 4664 8224. Come and enrol your child in Prep now.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes Friday 27 August. Students have been challenged to experience or read 20 books (P-4) or read 15 books (Yr 5-7). Lists of books read should be returned to class teachers by Friday next week.

Congratulations to all the students who have done such a wonderful job reading so many books and taken 137 Accelerated Reader quizzes. The students have read a total of 2,102,300 words already! WOW!
**P&C News.**

**IGA Help Your Favourite School Promotion**
The Supa IGA store in Warwick is offering the chance for allocated schools to win part of $50,000 in cash giveaways. Simply shop at the store and nominate your favourite school at the checkout.

**URGENT Help Needed!**
Families are needed to sell raffle tickets at the Yangan Hotel on a Friday night. The P&C is rostered to sell tickets once every 4 or 5 weeks. If we can get enough families, you would only be rostered once in 3 to 4 months and you can combine with another family if you wish. Rostered dates are: 3 Sept, 8 Oct, 12 Nov, 17 Dec. Please leave your name with Carolyn in the office if you can help in this way. Thank you to those families already committed: Croft, McIvor, Reid, Donges, Welsh, Gimm and Mazoudier. Please swap with another family if the date you are rostered is unsuitable.

**Reminder** – tomorrow Wednesday, 18 August Garden Morning from 8.30am

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**Quotable Quote**

'A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman’s birthday but never remembers her age.'

Robert Frost

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**Age Champions Warwick Country Sport**

Which Sport is this?
Community News

Final Warwick Girl Guide Biscuits are now for sale at “Just Because”, with both Choc-Top and Original for sale at only $3.50 a packet. These delicious biscuits will not last long, so get in now and please buy a packet or two to support Warwick Girl Guides. Thank you

Warwick Potters 2010 Children’s Spring Vacation Workshop - Hand building with clay
POTTER’S PLACE, 63 HORSMAN Road Monday to Wednesday 20th 21st 22nd September. Forms available from Wattle Doo Craft Shop, 143 Palmerin Street (Opposite Rivers Store). For information Sue Keong 46670686 Mobile 0402460919

When: Monday 20th September 9.30-11.30am, Tuesday 21st September 9.30-11.30am
Wednesday 22nd September 9.30-11.30am

Where: Potters Place 63 Horsman Rd - opposite Slade

Who: Students from 8 years of age are divided into age/experience groups.

Cost: one child $45 - for each additional sibling $40. This cost includes tutoring, clay, glazing and firing of pots made by students. Students are to bring morning tea, an apron or cover up shirt. Pick up day glazed pieces TBA. PLEASE BOOK EARLY AS NUMBERS ARE LIMITED bookings can be made by completing the form and paying a $20 deposit(or full fee is preferred) and leaving this in the specially marked box at Wattle Doo Crafts. We will confirm your child’s place in workshop by phone

Gutsy Challenge
Win great prizes by getting sponsored to take the Gutsy Challenge in September. Eating healthy food can be a challenge. So get your friends, family and community members to sponsor you to eat 2 pieces of fruit and 4 vegetables every day for one week in September. The Gutsy Challenge is raising money for digestive cancer research. Get healthy, Get sponsored, Win prizes - www.gutsychallenge.com

Warwick Tennis Club – 2010 Warwick Junior Masters Tournament #2
Saturday and Sunday 4&5 September. Junior development series, entry level tournament and junior players aged 8-17 years are encouraged to enter. You can choose to play singles, doubles or both. Cost is $25 per player, $50 per family. Each player plays at least three best of 3 set matches, depending on number of entries received. Chris Hoffman, Tournament Director. Entries close ONLINE midnight, Sunday 22 August at http://tournaments.tennis.com.au/sport/tournament.aspx?id=703B4EAF-5FE1-4304-A042-E3CDBA77C753

Southern Downs Voices – Would you like to join?
For the next three weeks, the Southern Downs Voices are preparing for a concert – new members are welcome to join to sing in the concert. They will be learning only 2-3 new songs. Upcoming rehearsals at the Town Hall 18 August 4-5 pm, 25 August 4-5pm, 1 September 4-5pm. Dress rehearsal Thursday 2 Sept 7.00pm, Concert Friday Night 7.00pm 3 September at Warwick Town Hall.
If you love being in the choir you might like to stay for the big end of year event. Carols by Candlelight have invited Southern Downs Voices to sing in 2010. Not only are we singing the first three carols on the night, but two adult choirs will join you and the Warwick City Brass Band will accompany all three choirs. It will be fantastic!!! Contact Bruce Eddiehausen 0418 671 531.

Hemmant State School 1864 - 2010 - The Final Chapter
Hemmant State School invites past students, staff and community members to acknowledge the closing of Queensland’s longest continuously operating school. Formal dinner (adults only) H mmant Hall Friday 10 September 6.00pm $30 per head. RSVP with payment by 25 August to Hemmant SS PO Box 7060 Hemmant 4174 – cheques made payable to Hemmant SS. Open School and Afternoon Tea Tuesday, 14 September 1.00-3.00pm. Please call Hemmant SS 33904478 for more details or enquiries@hemmantss.eq.edu.au

Tertiary study options for you and your child
The latest publication mapping the many options between TAFE and university shows that tertiary pathways are a ‘two-way street’. The new TAFE and university pathways – getting the credit you deserve publication is now available. The guide lists credit transfer arrangements between 13 TAFE institutes and 11 universities across Queensland, which can help reduce study time. It also lists dual awards, where you or your child could study at TAFE and university jointly. Many university graduates also top up their skills at TAFE and take advantage of the Recognition of Prior Learning process. Practical examples, Adult Tertiary Preparation program information and key contacts make this booklet an invaluable guide for parents and students. Get an online copy by visiting the TAFE website www.tafe.qld.gov.au (publications link) or a hard copy by contacting your local TAFE institute. Contact details are on www.tafe.qld.gov.au or via telephone 1300 30 8233.