Dear families and friends,

Every Day Counts

Being at school every day counts. If your child is absent one day per week, this quickly adds up to two months of missed school in a year.

Did you know? Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

Why is regular attendance at school important?
Regular school attendance will mean that your child gets a better chance at life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day:
- they learn better
- they make friends
- they are happier
- they have a brighter future.

Why must I send my child to school?
Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school all day, every school day unless they have a reasonable excuse. Illness, doing work experience, competing in a school sporting event or going on a school excursion are reasonable excuses for being absent from school.
Principals decide if the excuse given for your child’s absence is reasonable.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for:
- birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check ups or care such as hair cuts.

Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

While it is a last resort, it is important to understand that you may be prosecuted if your child is not attending school regularly.

**What should I do if our family is going on a holiday in school time?**
You are encouraged not to schedule holidays during school time. If your family holiday is during school time, let the school know in advance and talk about what arrangements can be made for your child. Depending on the circumstances the school may be able to provide tasks for your child to complete while they are absent or assist you to organise an exemption from schooling.

**Do I need to let the school know if my child has been away from school?**
Yes, you must let the school know the reason why your child is absent from school, if not beforehand, then within two school days of their return to school.


### Swimming
Swimming will recommence in week 4 each Monday.

**SWIMMING REMINDERS:**
- swimmers
- swimming shirt
- towel
- goggles
- sunscreen
- pool entry $1.50

Please ensure all your child’s items are NAMED.

### Student Medication
A reminder to parents who send medication for students to school. Please ensure medication is accompanied by a signed and dated note that states the exact dosage and time of medication. Medication should also be in original packaging.

### Year 6 Transition at Burnett State College
We have been advised from BSC of the following dates:
- **Wednesday 21 October, 7pm** = Parent Information Session at BSC.
- **Thursday 22 October and Friday 23 October** = All Year 6 students attend full days at BSC.

This is open to all Year 6 students, even if they are not attending BSC in 2016. Additional information was given to students by Ms Debbie Leaf during her visit last Wednesday.
Attached is also some information regarding preparing your child for highschool or you can follow this link: http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/docs/preparing-child-for-high-school.pdf

Can you help?

Plans are underway for this year school concert and graduation. We greatly appreciate donations of secondhand queen or double sized white bed sheets and a top hat.

If you can assist in anyway we’d love to hear from you. Thank you to the Palmer family who have already donated some sheets.

My Data Books

Student’s were given their new My Data Books, which incorporates their Weekly report, to take home and share on Friday. We will be including additional information as the term progresses.

Please take the time to view their progress. These are to be signed and returned on the next school day.

Student of the Week Awards

On our weekly Assembly, we present our Student of the Week Award, which recognizes positive student achievements and can be nominated from any of our staff for many reasons - personal learning goal improvements, outstanding achievement, demonstrating leadership, or an attribute that exemplifies our motto, through compassionate and thoughtful acts that embody - Integrity and Industry.

Week 2 Student of the Week:

Amy Thompson has been making a concerted and conscientious effort to ensure her class work is completed on time and has been actively seeking feedback from staff. I also congratulate Amy on her participation and effort during our writing lessons. Keep up the great attitude and effort!

Explicit Improvement Agenda

Literacy and Numeracy Aims - All students to be above the National Average in NAPLAN and improving at a rate greater than the nation. Increase percentage of students achieving in the Upper 2 Bands to greater than 50%.

Australian Curriculum Aims - All students achieving C+ or better in
English, Mathematics and Science and making Adequate Yearly Progress or Value Adding in achievement. Improve writing for all students through consolidation of student friendly marking guides and explicit teaching of the ten elements of successful pieces of writing and literature

‘Integrity and Industry’
Nicole Gibbs
A/Principal – ngibb10@eq.edu.au

P&C News
Thanks to everyone who assisted with our major annual fundraiser, the 7-a-side Cricket Day. Our next general meeting is Tuesday, 10th November, 2015 at 6.30pm. All welcome.
The Gayndah Combined Schools’ Chaplaincy Committee will be holding its AGM on Thursday, 19th November commencing at 7pm. Please see the attached notice regarding this.

Community Information
Please send community information for the newsletter to admin@coallakess.eq.edu.au

BIGGENDEN KINDY & DAYCARE MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON 2015
Tuesday 3rd Nov from 11am Woowoonga Hall
$20 Buffet lunch & glass of bubbles OR Takeaway meal & can soft drink
Sweeps, games, trivia, multi-draw raffle, best hat, best dressed, lucky door prize!
Look forward to seeing you there!

GAYNDAH JUNIOR CRICKET
MONDAYS 4.30-5.30pm
Gayndah Sports Grounds
Ages 5-16 years
Registration:
⇒ $45 Junior, or
⇒ $85 to register for MILO In2cricket
(5-8 year olds this includes the gear pack)
Looking forward to a great season of cricket.

Coalstoun Lakes Hall Annual Variety Concert
Date: Saturday 31st October
Venue: Coalstoun Lakes Hall
Doors Open 6pm & Concert Commences 7pm
Admission: Adults $10 & Students $5
Local & Visiting Artists
Supper Provided
Raffle & Lucky Door Prizes
All Enquiries to Vi Rackemann 41275171 or Terena Staib 41275006

GUNTHER GUMNUT PLAYGROUP
Every Tuesday at Gunther Village in the playground next to the Coffee Shop 9.30am – 11am
All parents with young children welcome to attend, an activity and morning tea provided.
We look forward to seeing you there!

Coalstoun Lakes State School Integrity and Industry