End of Year Preparations

As we prepare for the end of year, please keep an eye out for school library books and home readers in your home libraries. We will continue with our homework program and library borrowing until the end of week 7, when we will be collecting all resources for stocktake.

Calcutta

The Jundah P&C Calcutta was an enormous success. I’d like to thank Warren and Carol from the Jundah Hotel for their generosity in hosting the event and our hard working P&C, especially Aunty Kay for all their work. Thank you also to Shane for doing such a great job on the auction.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are certainly on the downhill run to the end of the year. It seems the closer to the end we get, the more momentum is built and the faster it seems to go! We are busily working on our final assessment pieces for the term. Our maths unit is almost complete and we are working hard on our persuasive and motivational speeches. I am very proud of how the students are working towards achieving their learning goals and their focus on improving.

With four weeks to go, it is timely to remind you that every day counts. We are still learning and working hard every single day and it is imperative that students are at school to learn. You will read further in the newsletter about the concert, which is on the last day of term. We will still be learning up until the end of the year, maximising every opportunity to set our students up for success. Please ensure that your child is at school each and every day, ready for learning.

Part of our Jundah Journey this year has been about having high expectations of all students. We honour our students when we believe they can achieve and in doing so, we provide them with every opportunity to succeed. Students who are not completing work to the set standard are asked to complete or repeat their work in their own time. This sends a message about the standards we expect and affirms to them that we believe they are capable of achieving.

In addition to our current units of work, we are also working on individual student needs in English and Maths. Students have Individual Reading Programs and Individual Maths Programs, which are personalised programs to develop their capability and improve their performance in areas that we have identified.

Miss Jane and I are currently preparing reporting for Semester Two. Three Way Reporting opportunities will be available to all parents in week nine, when I will present the report cards. These reporting sessions are optional but provide an opportunity for me to explain the report. Please let me know if you would prefer not to attend.

We have had a spate of incidents involving wild dogs in the school. During the term we have had an emu and half a dozen kangaroos mauled in the school grounds. After exploring ways to keep the dogs out, we have realised that altering fences is both expensive and limited in its impact. If you notice dogs in the school grounds, please notify me at home and I will contact the council to have them removed.

Finally, my door is always open. If you have any questions or concerns please don’t hesitate to contact me. Our open and honest communication is the key to a successful school and is vital to the learning of our students.

Yours in learning,
Juanita
Attendance

Our attendance at Jundah State School continues to be an issue and while I appreciate the challenges that our remoteness brings to families, my core business is about improving learning outcomes for students. In Semester One, our attendance rate was 96.1%. This Semester it has dropped to 92.5%, which is below our school goal and the goal of the state. Missing days of school for reasons other than illness has an indisputable impact on a child’s learning.

Attendance will be reported on in Semester 2 reporting cycle using the following scale.

- **A**: >96%
- **B**: 93%-95.9%
- **C**: 90%-92.9%
- **D**: 85%-89.9%
- **E**: <84.9%

School Photos

I am absolutely delighted to announce that Louise has our school photos ready for your viewing. If you go to her website, louisegronoldimagery.com.au and enter “windmill” as the password you will be able to access the photos. Louise has a form for you to download to order the photos and payment can be made via cheque, direct debit or paypal. Please note that no money will be accepted at school.

I am sure you will agree that Louise has done an absolutely amazing job of capturing the personalities of each child. I hope that you will be as thrilled as I am with the end result. Now, the challenge is deciding which ones to purchase!

Louise would like orders completed by **Monday, 17th November** so that photos can be printed and delivered before the end of term.

Christmas Concert 2015

This year’s Christmas Concert will take place on **Friday, 5th December** in the town hall. The children are working hard preparing their performance pieces and excitement is certainly building for the finale of the school year. Please spread the word about our special night. We look forward to welcoming community members from across the Barcoo Shire to celebrate the end of the year and the coming festive season.

More information about commencement times and Christmas Tree details will be forthcoming.

Miss Jenny Boyne

Miss Jenny Boyne, a recent graduate from Queensland University of Technology has been appointed our new cluster teacher. Jenny comes with the highest recommendations from her practical teaching supervisors and a glowing report from her previous employers. I am absolutely delighted to be welcoming Jenny to our teaching team and feel very confident that she will contribute to our vision of The Jundah Journey, providing the very best education to our students.

Jenny is passionate about teaching and was a stand out amongst applicants for the cluster position. She has been appointed permanently and will be with us for a minimum of two years. Next year, our cluster teacher position will be shared with Windorah and we will be using our school budget to top up our allocation to make the position full time. This will mean that Jenny will work five days per fortnight in each school.

I’d like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Jenny. I’m sure you will join me in giving her a very warm Jundah welcome and help her to feel at home in our little town.

School finishes on **Friday, 5th December** this year.

**Term One commences on Tuesday 27th January, 2015.**

**Term One finishes for the Easter Holidays on Thursday 2nd of April.**