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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Day	Date	School Event
2017		
WEEK 1		
Mon	23-Jan	First Day Term 1
Thurs	26-Jan	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Australia Day

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

CONGRATULATIONS!

I am very pleased to announce that our school has been granted Independent Public School status from 2017. What will this mean for us as a school:

- A formation of a strong school council
- A say in the overall management of the school regarding educational programs, behaviour expectations and uniform policy implementations
- Own staffing considerations and appointments
-

Uniforms 2017

As you will be aware, we will still be phasing in our new school polo shirt during 2017. It will be our expectation that our students wear a plain green jumper for winter/cold days and black shoes. No bright and multi-coloured shoes please. Please bear this in mind when shopping for new uniforms next year.

End of Year Activities and Highlights..

On the Learning Front:

Our school excelling in this year's NAPLAN results achieving above at National Minimum Standards in many areas

Year 6 Leadership Camp and Writers Camp at Camp Goodenough

Participated in STEM cup for Science excellence, one team reaching the finals at Griffith University

Our community participation has been in:

Anzac Day ceremonies

Summer concert

U/8 Day Celebrations

Grandparents Day

Twilight Markets

Volunteers Morning Tea

Christmas hamper project for our local community - 59

On the sporting field:

Gala Days – Windaroo won the following:

“A” Division Cross Country

“A” Division Track and Field again for the 20th time

Boys “A” Basketball

Girls “A” Basketball

Boys “A” Softball

“B” Soccer

“A” Soccer

Runners up in the Queensland All Schools Girls AFL Cup

Jack H was runner up in the World Championships for Taekwondo

A highlight was Hendy House finally winning Windaroo’s Sports Day

Representative Honours

18 Beenleigh Zone representatives

27 Pacific District representatives

4 South Coast Regional representatives

2 Queensland representatives

Music:

School musical “Ye –Ha”

Our annual Winter and Summer concerts and Twilight Markets saw our novella choir, competition choir, band and strings all perform to our families and community

Windaroo Idol

Looking Forward to 2017

In 2017, we are looking forward to building on the success of 2016. Our priorities include:

- Implementation of new Pedagogical Framework.
- The continued implementation of our new curriculum and assessment framework in English and Maths.
- Implementing ICT Learning Agreement with an emphasis on further integrating information and communication technology into our regular classroom practice to enhance student learning.
- Promoting school positive environment through the continued importance we place on school values with a focus on Care, Courtesy and Cooperation through our Values Token system.
- Formation of our new school council.

New initiatives will include:

- Implementing digital technologies in Year 5 and Year 6.
- Continue to establish a learning culture where authentic, negotiated feedback is provided by school leaders who spend time working with teachers to improve their teaching practices in the strategic priorities through modelling, evaluating and providing feedback on classroom teaching.
- Implementing consistent pedagogical practices as per new framework.

Booking Your Place

If your child is not going to be at school during the first week of 2017, can you please contact Mrs Amanda West in the front office in order for us to reserve a place for your child in our school.

Staffing and Classes for 2017

At this stage, we will be forming 39 classes for 2017. Our 2017 enrolment is being anticipated at 950 students. Class lists will be displayed in the undercover areas the first morning that school starts.

Office Administration staff will be back at school from Tuesday 17 January 2017.

We welcome to our staff the following new staff members, Ms Alycce Wilson, Ms Leah Castrission and Mrs Kim Lord, as well Mrs Sarah Charlton who returns from maternity leave.

The following staff member will be leaving us at the end of the year. Ms Kate Murdoch has had a successful transfer to Worongary State School. We wish her well in her future endeavours and thank her for her wonderful contribution to our school.

Mrs Adele Prickett, Mrs Karen Creed and Mrs Amanda Auld will be going on maternity leave and we wish them all the best.

School Holidays

Now that the school holidays are approaching, it's time to think about keeping the kids entertained on those long, hot summer days. There are many activities you can do with your children which are inexpensive and good fun. You don't need to entertain them every moment of every day, but if you plan a couple of special family activities with them, it helps to break the monotony as well as building relationships with them.

Have you taken the kids fishing lately, or tried rollerblading or bike riding with them? What about yabbing or a picnic by the river, lake or beach? Had a barbecue in the bush recently? Take a picnic lunch to the local gardens and relax under the shady trees. Throw in the Frisbee for some fun and games with them. Have you been out on a boat with them? Try canoeing or kayaking or a cruise on

the paddle steamer. Or just lie on the banks of the river and watch the boats float by.

You can do some very simple activities with them on those rainy days when you are stuck inside. Consider these ideas: write or email a friend to come over and play; write a shopping list together; draw a map of the neighbourhood, your house or the way to Grandma's; plant some seedlings; loot at photo albums and tell stories about when you were a child; design, make and fly a kite; estimate, compare and count collections of things; visit the local library and borrow a book, or buy a new one to share; teach them how to play hopscotch or a board game; ride a bike, throw a ball, kick the footy; cook some biscuits together or make a yummy fruit salad.

Most importantly.....TALK, TALK, TALK with your children.

Have a great holiday and enjoy spending time with your children; they're very special young people.

End of Year Thank You

Schools are dynamic 'people organisations' and it is only through the support and goodwill of many people that we are able to offer our exciting and challenging education programs. Thank you to the many parents who volunteer their time to help out in a myriad of ways with classroom programs.

Thank you to our School Chaplain and other specialists for their formal commitment to our school. A big thank you must go to our staff, teaching and non-teaching. They are a dedicated and professional team who are extremely supportive of each other and are committed to ensuring the happiness and well-being of every child in the school. A special thank you to the children for their industrious efforts, and the manner in which they approach all aspects of their school life. We can all be justifiably proud of our school and its community!

Thanks to my wonderful Administration team who work tirelessly at ensuring the efficient day to day operation of our school. Mrs Danielle Roff (D. Principal), Mrs Valerie Paterson (D. Principal), Mrs Michelle Leadbeater (D. Principal), Mrs Robyn Parker (BSM), Ms Monica Goethals (Head of Special Education) and Ms Maria Stanicic (Head of Curriculum).

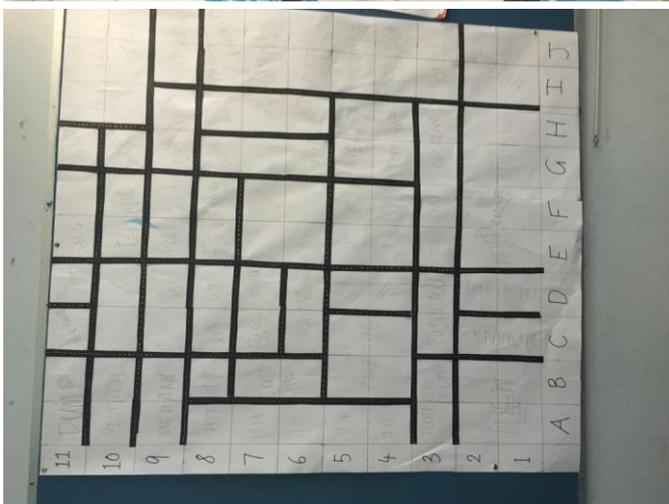
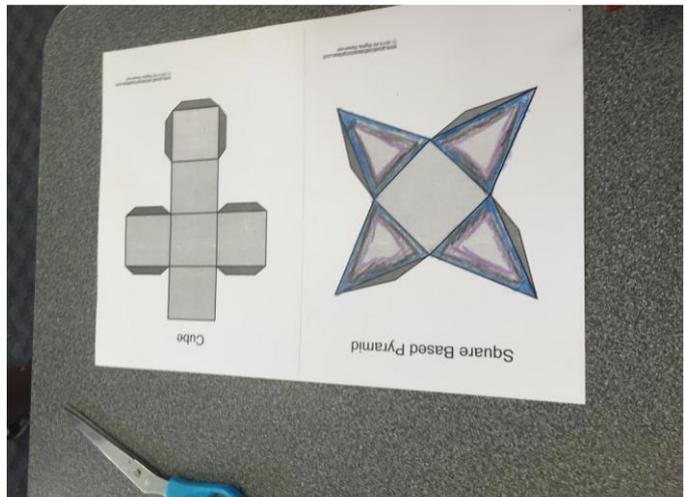
Finally, a special mention to all our Year 6 students who complete their primary schooling this week. Congratulations and we wish you all the best as you commence the next exciting stage in your life, secondary schooling!

“ The universe is full of magical things patiently waiting for our wits to grow sharper”
Eden Phillipotts

P-2 ROUND UP

It is hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of another school year. I would like to offer a very special **'THANK YOU'** to all our wonderful, hard working teachers, teacher aides and students! Our teachers have worked hard to provide interesting, learning opportunities for all of our students throughout 2016 and achieved great student outcomes. Every moment at school is a learning experience for our primary school children. **'THANK YOU'** also to our school families for their support throughout 2016, this is always greatly appreciated as we work together to develop our children for the future.

The last two weeks have seen a lot of classes moving rooms and students working hard to complete projects. Below are some photos from 2H where the students have been busy creating a 3D city.



The children needed to create their own buildings and use co-ordinates to place their building on the map of the city. The learning continues right until the last day!

Please don't forget to encourage your child to read during the holidays and continue to learn sight words if needed. Another great idea to keep our writing skills on track is to get your child to write a sentence about some of the wonderful adventures they will have on the holidays.

Both teachers and students are getting very excited for the holidays to come and also for the excitement of a new year to begin. I would like to wish all of our families a very happy, festive season full of joy, good health and special times with family and friends. I look forward to working with you all again next year.

Thank you and Happy Holidays.

Student Council Christmas Hampers Project

We had our school assembly for the handover of 59 hampers this year! Thanks you very much to all of you who donated non-perishable food items to help struggling families. It is good for our students to see how they can give back to the community and make someone else's family more joyful. The hampers were greatly accepted by Michelle Lee from Uniting Care's Intensive Family Support group.

End Of School Year!

As we near the end of the school year it can be a time of excitement for some yet others may be a little anxious about the next year. It may help to;

- Focus on all the positive things that your child has achieved in the year, things that they may not have thought they could do
- Focus on all the things that will be the same the next year at school eg. same play areas, familiar faces in their class, they know school routine such as specialist lessons and assembly
- Keep some things the same for next year if this helps your child and change at a later time if needed eg same lunch box, same school bag, same uniform, same pick up areas and routines
- Keep a calendar to show what activities are happening over the holidays that they can look forward to and put in some home time!
- Keep in contact with school friends over the break

Enjoy your break!

Certificates

Congratulations to the following students who have received certificates this week for the effort they have put in this semester.

Trae T,	Alexander W,	Mason T,	Claire N,
Connar L,	Lawrence W,	Ahmed A,	Elliot C,
Lukas C,	Tahlia P,	Sevannah W,	Myley T,
Xavier K,	Blair T,	Caleb M,	Cooper L,

Kaden M,	Mitchell M,	Aidan K, Nick L,	Manawa T,
Fletcher M,	Cruiz G,	Ashka P,	Cooper S,
Phoenix P,	Jessica C	Jhye H	Jessica M
Daniel W	Zeke M	Jayden R	Osman A

FROM THE 5 & 6 DEPUTY

Year 6 Graduation

The Year 6 Graduation was held on Monday 5 December at the Beenleigh Events Centre.

An enjoyable night was had by all.

A big thank you to our Year 6 parents and carers who joined us for the evening and helped to ensure that the students looked great for their special night.

Thank you to Jennie McIntyre for organising the decorations and to our Year 6 teachers for their organisation of the event. A special thank you to the Windaroo staff who helped out on the night.

We wish all of our Year 6 students all the very best for the future.

Happy Holidays

I'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. I hope you all get to enjoy some quality time with your family and friends.

All the best,

Danielle

SCIENCE NEWS

STEM Cup Grand Final

Congratulations to Liam H, Kyran and Jovan H who made it through to the Grand Final last Friday. There were 100 teams from all over SE Qld.



We are very proud of your efforts!

Science \"FIZZICS\" Show

Prep - Year 5 will be enjoying the exciting Fizzics Show on Thursday 8 December.

SPORT UPDATE

Swimming

The year 4 students have just finished an intensive “Learn to Swim and Basic Life Saving”



program held at Eagleby Aquatic Centre.

It has been fantastic seeing our year 4's improving in their strokes, fitness and broadening their knowledge in survival skills and strategies. Well done everyone!

Windaroo SS Swimming Team 2017

Any children born 2007, 2006 or 2005 who are interested in trialling for Windaroo's swimming team to compete at the Beenleigh Zone Swimming Carnival early in 2017 please see Miss Shaab before the end of the school year to collect a nomination form. (NB your child does not have to belong to a swimming club. However they need to be a competent and capable swimmer)

Representative News

Congratulations to Emily O (5R) who recently competed at the National 10 -12 years School Track and Field Championships held in Sydney. Emily finished 5th in Australia in the 10 year old



girls high jump final jumping 1.35M.

Well done! All of Windaroo is proud of you.

FROM THE P&C

Next P&C Meeting

Our first meeting for the 2017 year is set for Wednesday 8 February at 9:15am in the Lone Pine Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Uniform Shop - Back to School Hours

Our uniform shop Back to School hours for 2017 are as below:

Monday	January 16	9:30am - 1:30pm
Wednesday	January 18	9:30am - 1:00pm & 2:00pm - 5:00pm
Thursday	January 19	2:00pm - 5:30pm
Friday	January 20	9:30am - 1:30pm
Monday	January 23	8:00am - 10:00am
Tuesday	January 24	8:00am - 10:00am

Happy Holidays

Can you all believe we are in the **last week of school for 2016!** This year has gone so quickly. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in our Windaroo Family Happy Holidays, we hope you are able to enjoy some time with your loved ones and stay safe over the festive season. Thank you for supporting us in all our endeavours to support our children and our school. We look forward to welcoming you all back in 2017.

Contacting the P&C

If you would like to touch base with us or be kept up to date with all things P&C there are a few different ways:

Skoolbag App: We will post events and alerts onto the Skoolbag App to keep you all up to date.

Facebook Page: Search Windaroo State School P&C on Facebook. This will keep you up to date with information on the P&C and Uniform Shop and other important school news.

Email: Need to contact us? Email us at windarooopca@outlook.com

or if you have a fundraising enquiry email to windarooopcafundraising@outlook.com

REPORT CARDS

Email Copies

Please check your "In-Box" as Report Cards were emailed out today. (You may also need to check your Junk Mail Folder if you have not saved us as a Contact).

Report Cards for those with no email address will be printed on Friday.

QParents

Report Cards are also available on your QParents App.

QParents APP Now Available

Recently you would have received your Invitation Code via email to join the QParents App from Education Qld.

This free App provides all of your child/ren's school details both at Primary and High School.

This includes:

Absences, Invoices, Report Cards, Change of Details, Timetables.

This is a great App to provide you with fast access!

FREE DRESS - Thursday 8 December

Prep - Year 5 students are permitted to wear Free Dress on Thursday 8 December.

Year 6 students need to wear school uniform for their Bowling Outing.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Metro South Holiday Dental Service

As the school year is coming to an end, Metro South Oral Health would like to ensure those children in need of oral care have access to our free dental service. We have a large number of dental clinics in the local area and our clinics are open and available to all eligible children over the school holidays.

Please see attached flyer for details.