From the Principal’s Desk

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

We are very excited to be able to tell you that we have applied to become a facility that offers before and after school care. While it is early days, we would like to begin in term 4 if we have everything in place. Our first job was to apply to be a ‘provider’ of the service, which is in the process of being completed. As you can appreciate, it is a lot of paperwork, time and effort to implement such a complex process, so please bear with us. I have already had emails from 2 families indicating that they will use our facility. If you think you would also be interested in using our before and after school care, please let me know. We are aiming to offer the service from 6:30-8:30am and 3:00-6:00pm. IT’S VERY EXCITING SO PLEASE LET OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS KNOW!!!

TAVERN ROSTER

We still have a number of dates that have not been filled. If you can spare a few hours a couple of times throughout the semester, please call me so that I can put your name on the roster. The family rostered for this Friday night is the Williamson family and next Friday night (the 15th August) is the Goudie family. We have 5 families on the roster so far…… We have 14 families at school, so please consider helping out.

DRUMBEAT

Last week, the students in the senior class began their first ‘Drumbeat’ session. They really enjoyed the activities associated with this wonderful social skills program. Mark Terry, the co-ordinator has also put an article in the newsletter to help you to understand the philosophy behind the program. We are fortunate to be the only school in Bundaberg who is part of this program. My thanks to our music teacher Mr Hutchinson for organising the program with Mr Terry and volunteering his own time to facilitate it with him.

SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY

Thank you if you have already completed the online school opinion survey for parents. You have until this Friday to complete it. You are most welcome to use a school computer if necessary and you will have a private area to use. We really appreciate your input into our school and value what you have to say, so please make your opinions matter.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Thanks to the generosity of Mrs Halcrow, we are offering breakfast club on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Thank you to all of our volunteers who assist with breakfast club and who donate food to assist us in being able to offer this service 3 days each week. A special mention to the Foodstore at the 5 ways in Boundary Street who continue to donate food to our school. Chappy Kelli places her order with them and they very kindly donate most of our breakfast food. This is a very generous act, especially as small businesses continue to struggle in these economic times.
On Wednesday, we were very fortunate to receive a visit from the CSIRO Science travelling roadshow; “Labs on Legs”. Winfield and Yandaran Schools joined us for a day of experiments and fun science activities. Thank you to Mrs Neubecker for organising a great day. It also gave our students the opportunity to spend time with the other schools and have some sporting fun as well.
GIN GIN SPORTS DAY

Last week, the whole school travelled to Gin Gin to compete in the Small Schools Sports Day. Each student had the opportunity to compete against many other schools. It was a great day and gave our students the opportunity to mix with other small schools. A big congratulations to Maddison Goudie, who was awarded age champion for minor girls. Other winners were:
Maddison Goudie: 3rd in the 400m and 1st in the 200m
Matilda Pratt: 3rd in the 200m
Logan Heath: 2nd in the 800m
Congratulations to everyone who competed.
Over the last week, we suspect that there may be a few students at school with worms. Please take the time to read the information below and treat your children if they have not been treated for a while.

**Worms - symptoms, treatment and prevention**

Worldwide, there are many worms that can infest the bowels of people, but most of them are not problems in Australia because of our climate and very good sanitation. Worms causing infection in people are parasites that live and breed mostly in the bowel (intestine). The most common worm in Australian children is the threadworm, *Enterobius vermicularis*, sometimes called the pinworm. Infection with other worms such as roundworms, hookworms and tapeworms is less common.

**Threadworms**

Threadworms are small, white, thread-like worms 2 to 13 mm long. They are most common in children, but anyone of any age can be affected. They are not fussy about who they infect and having them does not reflect on the hygiene of a child’s home.

**How worms are spread**

Threadworms are caught when someone swallows the worm’s eggs. The eggs hatch inside the bowel, where they live, then travel out through the anus (back passage) to lay their eggs on the skin there at night time. The eggs may be picked up on the fingers and transferred to the mouth if the child scratches their bottom or doesn’t wash their hands after going to the toilet. However, the eggs may fall off into bedding or clothing, or be wafted into the air, settling on many surfaces in the home or school. They can survive for up to 2 weeks in the environment and can easily be picked up and cause infection in other people. Domestic pets are not a source of infection.

**Signs and symptoms**

Symptoms of threadworm infection include an itchy bottom, irritability and behavioural changes, but most people have no symptoms.

**Incubation period**

(time between becoming infected and developing symptoms)

Symptoms of infection are associated with high worm numbers resulting from repeated infections and may not occur until several months after initial infection, if at all.

**Infectious period**

(time during which an infected person can infect others)

Spread is possible as long as worms are present.

**Treatment**

A single dose therapy is usually effective and is given to the infected person and each family member at the same time. You can buy worm treatment from pharmacies, without a prescription. It is not necessary to treat children on a regular basis, just in case they have worms.