First week of School

New Staff
**Principal's Note**

Welcome to my first Principal's Note for 2016. The first few days of school have been completed and it is very evident that we are in for a very productive year. Since day one of this week, all students have been engaged and actively participating in the planned classroom and school programs. Well done to parents, staff and students for ensuring our school year started smoothly. It is always reassuring to know that we have a very dedicated school community that is committed, enthusiastic and happy to be here to make a difference each day.

Our continued focus for our school in 2016 is Reading and Numeracy. All teachers will ensure every effort is made to consolidate and enhance all students' reading and numeracy skills each and every day. Parents can help reinforce our improvement agenda by simply assisting with homework and encouraging children to read each night.

**Attendance**

As we begin a new school year, parents are reminded of the importance of sending their children to school each day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year. Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year.

**School Uniform**

It is great to see the entire student population attending school every day wearing our uniform with pride. Well done students and parents!

**Class Information Sessions**

Class Information Sessions will be held for each class during Week 3. These sessions are a great opportunity for parents to gain an understanding of classroom routines, programs, expectations and environmental factors that will promote student learning for 2016. I strongly encourage all parents to attend. A note will sent be home with session times. See you there!

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**Homework Group**

Homework Group will commence Monday 1 February. It will run Monday to Thursday from 3:00pm to 4:00pm.

Homework Group is an opportunity for students to attend to get assistance with weekly homework tasks or assessment tasks. Students are not permitted to attend if they do not have homework or assessments to complete. This program is not to be used as a child minding service.

A permission note (sent home Thursday) needs to be completed prior to their attendance. For further information please contact the School Office.

**Welcome**

This week we welcome Miss Cara Davidson and Mr Mark Robinson to our teaching team at Surat State School. I trust that their time with our school will be rewarding and productive.

Parents, if you haven’t been in to meet your child’s new teacher, I urge you to do so as soon as possible in order to build a partnership to continue to support your child’s education journey.

Remember, “The Surat State School way is to commit to our learning, strive for excellence and succeed in all we do.”

Enjoy the weekend!

Mr Justin Washington
Principal

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**Playgroup**

Our school is hosting a community playgroup on Wednesdays from 9.00-11.00. Playgroup is open to children from 0-5 years of age. At playgroup, parents and caregivers spend relaxed time with their children making friends and support networks. Meanwhile, children develop physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually, as they discover new experiences, gain self-confidence and make new friends too.

For more information, please contact Mrs Sally Broadhead via the School’s Office.
Important Dates

**FEBRUARY**

- 2nd: P & C Meeting - 3:15pm
- 5th: P & C Meet & Greet - 6pm

**BOOK CLUB DUE**

- 8th: R & D Swimming Carnival
- 19th: School Photos

**MARCH**

- 2nd: Arts Council
- 25th: GOOD FRIDAY

**INVITATION**

The Surat State School P&C wishes to invite all school staff and families to a Meet and Greet BBQ next Friday, 5th February at 6pm in the school ‘big shed’.

Free BBQ Steak Burgers and Sausage on Bread will be available. BYO refreshments.

This will be a great opportunity to welcome and meet new teachers, staff and families to our wonderful school. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please RSVP by Wednesday 3rd February to; Megan Coveney at School Office 0746264333 or Julie Schutt - candjschutt@bigpond.com

**Tuckshop Volunteers Needed for 2016**

We are looking for Tuckshop Volunteers for 2016. If you are interested in helping us out with tuckshop next year please contact Kathy Murray on 0439809005 or akmurray.com@bigpond.com

**P&C Notice**

Welcome back to a new School Year! We hope you have all had an enjoyable holiday!

Please note our next general meeting will be held next Tuesday, 2nd February at 3.15pm in the High School Building. All welcome.

Don’t miss the Meet and Greet BBQ next Friday, 5th February at 6pm in the ‘big shed’.

Hope to see you there!

Best wishes for a great year ahead.

**P&C Committee**

**Prep News**

This week we have welcomed 8 prep students – 4 boys & 4 girls to Surat State School! We have had a very exciting & busy 3 days so far – learning new songs and rhymes, drawing, reading, painting, writing, playing, learning our school expectations and routines, and meeting lots of new people. We have even started setting up our class zoo! We are looking forward to learning more and having fun in Prep!

**Miss Grenning & Preps**

**Surat SS Mascot Design Competition**

Thank you to those students who entered the expectation poster competition last year! Your ideas were valued greatly.

This year, we have decided that we would like one school mascot designed to use on our promotional material for our behaviour expectations. This could take the form as an animal or human- some ideas are the ram, a boar, a bull or even a superhero! Some classes have already begun designing their submission- but if you would like a chance to have your design considered as the school mascot, please submit to Miss Downie by no later than Friday, 5th Feb.

Conditions:
- On A4 paper only
- Bright, bold, simple cartoon style
- Design must only include a suitable mascot
- Headshot of mascot/ very simple body

If you are stuck for ideas, Google search “animal mascot” as a starting point.

Good luck and get drawing!

**Citizenship Shield Points**

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**Staff Profile**

Name: Justin Washington
Position: Principal
Favourite Food: Sushi
Favourite Sport: Rugby League
Favourite Subject: HPE
Hobbies: hunting, fishing, relaxing
Words of Wisdom: Follow your dreams and never give up
Program Awareness & Registration Day

When: Wednesday 3rd February
Where: Surat SDDA Community Hub
Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
What: Early registrations and awareness of programs are available throughout the day.
Cost: FREE!!!
Programs: Toddler Literacy, Healthy Lunches, Homework Club, Sport & Rec and the Safety & Wellbeing programs are available to register for.

THERE IS ALSO A FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE AT 6:00PM AT S.D.D.A COMMUNITY HUB.

AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE & IT’S ABSOLUTELY FREE!!!
If you are interested in attending the sausage sizzle, please phone Robert or Megan on (07) 4626 5288.

We look forward to seeing you!!!

Sausage Sizzle
Surat Bowls Club
PINK/BLUE RIBBON
OPEN DAY

ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO BREAST CANCER & PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH

Saturday 27th February

Start 3:30pm - 5:30pm
BBQ Tea - 6pm - 7pm
7:30pm - 9pm
Cost $15.00 (Bowls & Tea)
Names in by 2:30pm to 46265169

Make a fun day of it and wear something pink or blue

Prize for best dressed male & female
Roma & District Schoolboy Rugby League

The 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Roma District Schoolboys Rugby League Association will be held at St John’s Roma on Wednesday 10 February commencing at 6.30pm. Among the items being discussed at the meeting will be a new committee structure proposal. The proposed executive of the new committee will be:

- Chair [must be a registered teacher].
- Deputy Chair x 2
- Registrar
- Secretary

Under this structure the only member of the committee that MUST be a teacher is the president. All other positions may be filled by teachers, parents, community members who have an interest in schoolboy rugby league and are willing to be involved.

Since Schoolboys became fully affiliated with the QRL a couple of years ago the number and complexity of the jobs involved in running the association has increased. It is now too much for one person to take on as has been done in the past. So if you are a teacher at any of the schools in the district or a parent/grandparent/care giver with children playing rugby league from U8 to U14 or a community person who has been involved in the past, the Association needs you to become involved. See you at the AGM!

Free Workshop

Principles of Curating and Exhibition Management

Workshop Outline: Exhibition Planning and Development (2 days)
This workshop will outline key strategies for conceptualising and identifying an appropriate selection of works by various artists, and developing and managing these into an exhibition and/or gallery situation. It will give an insight into setting and working with clearly defined objectives, using an effective project management structure, working towards realistic timelines and budgets, and utilising effective evaluation processes. In order to ensure your exhibition is successful you will also need to promote it well. This workshop will provide basic steps for how to promote your new show including:

- Concept development (how to develop a cohesive exhibition or body of work with a solid rationale)
- Establishing the purpose and objectives of your exhibition
- Working with artists
- Exhibition design
- Exhibition information (booklet, catalogue etc.)
- Logistics (timelines, freight, budgets)
- Contracts & Legal issues (copyright and moral rights)
- Pricing and handling artwork
- Installation of artwork
- Developing a promotional plan

WORKSHOP DETAILS
Saturday, 5 March 2016 10am - 4pm and
Sunday, 5 March 10am - 4pm

WORKSHOP LOCATION
Roma Community Arts Centre, 38-44 Harthorne St, Roma

BOOKINGS: arts@maranoa.qld.gov.au or 4624 0302 by Friday, 19 February
### 2016 School Calendar
#### Queensland State Schools

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**School terms**
- 2016 School Year:
  - Semester 1: January 19 - June 17
  - Semester 2: July 18 - December 16

**School Holidays**
- Christmas Period: December 18 - January 4
- New Year's Day: January 1
- Australia Day: January 26
- Anzac Day: April 25
- May Day: May 1
- Queen's Birthday: June 13
- Labour Day: September 5
- Thanksgiving Day: November 24
- Boxing Day: December 26
- Christmas Day: December 25

**Public Holidays**
- Public holidays are set by the Industrial Relations Minister.
- Public holidays for a local show are not shown due to diversity of dates across the state.

**Staff Professional Development Days**
- Staff professional development days for teachers are January 21, 22, 25, April 6, 7, 8, and October 17.

**Public Holidays**
- Staff professional development days for teachers are January 21, 22, 25, April 6, 7, 8, and October 17. Schools are able to decide when their flexible days will be held, as long as they are in the school holidays or out-of-school hours.

**For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit: [www.education.qld.gov.au](http://www.education.qld.gov.au)**

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**Final Dates for Student Attendance**
- November 18 is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement.
- November 25 is the final date for student attendance in years 10 and 11.

Some schools in regional, rural, and remote areas will close for the Summer holidays on December 7.

*The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication (November 2015) but may be subject to change.*