A note from the Principal:
I would like to congratulate all students and staff on a great start to the school year. I have received warm welcomes as I have visited classrooms where students have been working hard on a variety of engaging activities. It is a pleasure to see the enthusiasm and effort as the children immerse themselves in their learning.

The important issues that our school will be focusing on throughout the year will include:

- **School Wide Positive Behaviour – Respect, Learning, Safety and Relationships.** This week lessons are focusing on teaching responsible and respectful behaviours; respecting the property and personal space of others, whilst respecting the importance of learning through good behaviour and trying ones best in the classroom.
- **Reading –** Our school aims to develop a positive attitude towards reading for all students, with every student experiencing success and develop confidence as readers. Home reading programs are now under way and it is especially important in the early years to read with your child on a daily basis.
- **Numeracy –** Our focus for the year is on the understanding of number, with the aim that all students build on the necessary numerical skills that underpin all mathematical concepts. Parents can help by playing games that utilise numerical skills such as adding, subtracting and multiplication.
- **Attendance –** All students are expected to attend school every day, unless they are sick. On these occasions a note from home or phone call to the office to explain the absence is required.

Last week the Minister for Education, Training and Employment announced $131 million in additional state school funding under the *Great Results Guarantee*. Our school is to receive an extra $508 per student for students in prep to year 2, through the agreement. Our school community will decide the best way to use this additional funding, to target the literacy and numeracy needs of our young learners. A strategy to use this money will be discussed at our P&C meeting on Monday the 10th of February please join us in the library at 7.00pm to have your input.

**STAFFING**
Our enrolment numbers have stabilised and there should be no more restructuring of classes, thank you for the patience and understanding from families with earlier class changes.

Wayne Alexander, our Deputy Principal, is taking two weeks leave and will be replaced by Stacey Seed. Sara Dawson will take on Stacey’s role in special needs.

**THUMBS UP**
On Friday I invited teachers to identify a student who had put in 100% effort in their first week of school, someone who was working at an exceptional level in the classroom. It was wonderful to find that teachers had a great deal of trouble giving me just one name, they were happy to report that all students were off to a great start with their learning. Congratulations to the following students.

- Prep F – Mackenzie K. A very mature start to a new year.
- Prep M – Jayden H, Dana A. Both are beautiful artists.
- 1B – The whole class had a terrific start to the year. However Liliana M had exceptional bookwork, a delight to look at.
- 1N – Students have settled in beautifully. A special mention to James R who is putting in his best effort. A special mention also for William F who kindly gave up his seat at lunch time to a younger buddy.
- 2G – A great class of readers, well done to Elijah H for a great effort in the first week.
- 2B – A wonderful start to the year for Bianca H.
- 3S – Laura F has begun the year in fantastic fashion.
- 4N – An impressive start to the year by all students with a special mention for Thomas D.
- 4/5L – Some great numeracy work happening in this class, a special mention for exceptional behaviour and work for Tegan K.
- 5W – A switched on group of students with our new member Stuart M off to a great start.
- 5/6B – A group of hard workers with special mention to Hayden B and Emily L for exceptional effort.
- 6/7K – A very engaged group of students with special mention for Samuel G for his diligence to his work.
- 6/7C – A motivated group of learners, congratulations to Keegan C, for great work and showing initiative.

A special thank you to all the parents involved in tuckshop and helping around the school, it is greatly appreciated. With such a fabulous start to the year, I am sure the year ahead will be highly successful for all at Jones Hill State School.

Please feel free to contact myself or the teachers if you have questions or concerns.

Kind regards Helen Grogan.
SCHOOL PARADES
Our school parades start this Friday, February 7. All parades will be held in the school hall. Parents and friends welcome.
- Years 4 to 7 – Friday morning 9am
- Prep to Year 3 – Friday afternoon 2:30pm

SWIMMING PERMISSION
A permission note for ALL students from Year 1 to 7 for any swimming activities conducted in 2014 is required. Could parents please fill out the form at the end of the Newsletter and return it by Monday February 10.

SWIMMING LESSONS
Swimming commences in Week 3 (next week) for students in the following classes.
1B, 1N, 2B and 2G Lessons will be conducted at the Gympie South Pool. Invoices will be sent home in the near future.

WIDEBAY SWIMMING TEAM
All 10, 11 and 12 boy and girl club swimmers, who would like to be considered for the Widebay swimming team, see Mr McEnery for forms on Wednesday.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC WITH MRS THOMPSON
Welcome back Woodwind, Brass and Percussion students, please come and see Mrs T on Tuesdays in the NEW music room. Lessons will start 11th February. Please bring all your equipment. Books, reeds, cleaning cloths, drum sticks, practice pads!
There are still a number of instruments available for interested students in years 4-7. There are flutes, clarinets, trumpets and a glockenspiel still waiting to be played. Come and see Mrs Thompson ASAP or leave a message at the office. First in, first served!

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT (SWPBS) WEEKLY UPDATE
Investing in SWPBS results in:
- Change in school discipline systems
- Reduction in problem behaviour
- Improved academic performance
- Savings in staff and student time
- Improved effectiveness of individual interventions
- Improved perception of school safety, mental health

Weekly Focus:
This week our focus is respect in the classroom and all learning settings. Every class will be engaged in a lesson designed to teach the following expectations:
- Act responsibly and respectfully at all times
- Respect the property and personal space of others
- Respect your own learning and try your best

Parents, teachers and students working together make a powerful team!

WIDGEE COUNTRY MUSIC MUSTER
April 11-13 at the Widgee Showgrounds. 3 day pass - $125 adults, $100 Pensioners, $62.50 Teens (14 – 17), Under 13 Free. Day entry see website. Camping Friday and Saturday – Free, other night’s $6 pp. Artists – Tania Kernaghan, Ray Kernaghan, Lee Conway, Craig Robertson, Graham Jensen, The Webb Brothers, Neil Duddy, Brett Clarke, The Viper Creek Band and many, many more.

LION FOOTBALL SIGN ON DAY
Gympie Lions Football (Soccer) Gympie Lions sign on Saturday 8th & 15th February from 9.00-2.00pm at the Main Club House - One Mile Ovals. Training is on every Tuesday’s at 4pm on the One Mile Oval - starting on the 4th March. If you are keen to play - come down to sign on day, contact Kylie Wheeler on 0439 843 392 or self-registration at www.myfootballclub.com.au

GYMPIE CATS AFL SIGN ON DAY
February 8 and 9 from 10am to 2pm – phone 0447 828 046 for more information

LAYING TRACKS FOR CONFIDENT COMMUNICATORS
When: 26th February Keynote and panel discussion 5:30pm – 7:30pm  Where: Civic Centre Heritage Theatre
Presentation: All Aboard: Laying the tracks for confident communicators by Adele Wallis
The session aims to cover the basics of language development, the impact of being a competent communicator, and briefly look at some of the principles for creating communicative children, in a world where technology is potentially responsible for de-skilling our kids. - No cost all welcome

TENNIS COACHING/HOT SHOTS
Gympie and District Tennis Association Coaches Brett Cottrill and Matt Watkins will commence coaching/hot shots program on Tuesday 11th February at Jones Hill State School. Groups will be held on Tuesday (Yr 5, 6 & 7), Wednesday (Yr 3, 4), Thursday (Yr 2) or Friday (Prep, Yr 1) lunchtimes from 11.00am to 11.40am for a MINIMUM BLOCK OF 7 WEEKS. Costs will be $65.00/pupil, $120.00 for 2 or $165.00 for 3 children in the same family. Loan racquets are available each week. Groups will be arranged according to skill and year levels.
AWANA
Looking for fun, new friends etc. - You will find it in a safe environment at AWANA held at Gympie Church of Christ Cnr Horseshoe Bend & Tucker Street. For Children from Grade 3 to Grade 8 every Thursday evening of School Term From 6.00pm to 8.00pm - commencing Thursday 13.02.14. Contact 5486 5336 or 0438 772 677

UNIFORM SHOP
Fridays - 8:30am to 9:30am
No EFTPOS - Cash/cheque only
Enquiries Jill Wells 0408 064 744
7am to 6pm Monday to Friday

CLASS SWIMMING LESSONS
Please return by Monday February 10.
One form per family
A permission note is needed for ALL students from Years 1 to 7
I give permission for the student/s below to attend Jones Hill State School class swimming lessons or free swim days in 2014. Students will travel to pool by bus to swim at Gympie Town Pool, Gympie South Pool or Kandanga Pool.

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PARENT’S SIGNATURE:_______________________ DATE:_____________

TENNIS
Please return this form to the office by Tuesday 11th February with the following completed:

NAME: ___________________________ GRADE: _________ AGE:_______
PHONE NUMBER: ___________________ EMAIL: _______________________

PARENT/GUARDIAN’S SIGNATURE:
For more information phone Brett Cottrill 0417 746 795.
Please make cash payment or cheques payable to Brett Cottrill.
Direct Deposit: B A COTTRILL. BSB 014585 ACCT 583359786 including students name as reference.
NOTE: Gympie Junior Tennis sign-ons Wednesday 5th and 12th February and Thursday 6th and 13th February at The Reg English Memorial Tennis Centre, Cartwright Rd 3.30pm to 5.30 pm.