Week 6 has been and gone so fast that I feel like my feet didn’t touch the ground this week! Here at WBSS we have been so busy and working so hard that the weeks just seem to fly by. This week our Prep1/2 class received a wonderful gift of 4 new desks for their classroom from our amazing P & C and were so excited to begin their lesson when I went to visit this week. These new desks will allow for greater participation and feedback during lessons and we are so very grateful to the P & C for their generosity and support of our little school. The Preps were also very excited to talk to me about how things have changed at school over the years and thought that Mrs Arthurson’s ‘olden days’ attire was quite funny!

Mrs Jenkins had her students creating some fantastic descriptions of story characters – I know these students will be wonderful authors if they can continue the great work I saw in their classroom! The year 3/4/5s had lots of fun building their ‘villages’ for our work on bird’s eye views and the use of the blocks complimented our understanding of exactly what a bird’s eye view was.

Our school has been working extremely hard on improving the problem skills of our students and this week, as I wondered through the 5/6’s classroom, I was amazed to see our students already utilizing the skills they have been taught to solve problems in their maths assessments. Well done kids!

Tomorrow we have the Life Ed van visiting our 5/6 classroom and I invite any interested parents to sit in on the parent information session between 9-9:30am. Our students are very lucky to have the opportunity to learn about both the emotional and physical changes they will go through as they become young adults, and the parent information session is designed to give you an insight into what will be covered.

Ms Linda is madly organising the book fair for next week and I hope to see everyone there! It will be open from Tuesday morning until Friday lunch time. Feel free to pop in before and after school and during lunch times to check out what’s available.

Reading Club is on! Monday – Thursday mornings 8am in the Library.
Congratulations to this week’s Student of the Week winners!

- **PREP** - Cash for efforts in reading
  Maddison for making food choices in the classroom

  1/2/3/4 – Haley for her beautiful use of expression during her poetry recital
  Khobi for consistently being a helpful and hardworking class member

  3/4/5 – Billie for working hard to complete her work quickly

  5/6 – Jesse for being a super helper

Congratulations and Well done! This week’s sight word winners 😊

Scholastic Bookfair is coming next week from Tuesday to Friday with a great collection of books, posters and stationery for sale. More details in next week’s newsletter 😊

Congratulations to Hunta and Lachie – Blue card winners 😊
NRL Day

On Wednesday the 31st of May we will be holding an NRL day for state of origin. Come in any colour to support your favourite NRL team. We will be having games at lunch time. It will be a gold coin donation. We hope to see you in your favourite NRL team colours!!!
FREE TENNIS T-SHIRT
Herold has organised for all students at Wonga Beach State School to receive a free Hotshots Tennis T-shirt as part of the tennis program we have been running at school.
To order your T-shirt go to the following webpage:
https://hotshots.tennis.com.au
Click on REGISTER and then type in the Venue Name as WONGA BEACH STATE SCHOOL and Venue Post Code 4873.
Fill in your child’s details and the T-shirts will be delivered and handed out to your child at school.

We had a great Endeavour park. We had 8 Douglas students attend the day and they played their little hearts out. We had a borrowed player from another district for the full day and we borrowed players from our opposition for most of the games. The boys all adapted to different players across the day very well.

We played 8 x 20 minute games across the day and the improvement in all players is an absolute credit.

Our players were:
- Luka Corvok (Saints)
- Angus Vikionkorpi (Miallo)
- Kai Hahn (Miallo)
- Lachlan Nash (Miallo)
- Hunter Birchill (Miallo)
- Scott Davidson (Julatten)
- Jesse Frisina (Wonga Beach)
- Ryan Gwynne (Wonga Beach)

We were also very lucky to have Lachlan and Luka selected to attend the training clinic at Edge Hill Tigers on Tuesday 23rd May 2017.

Please congratulate these boys when you next see them in your schools,

Tracy HOD for HPE – Mossman High.
Did you know 1 in 5 Australian children suffer from undetected vision problems? Once recognised, many eye problems are easy to correct or treat. There is no better time to get your child booked in for a consultation than now! With no out of pocket cost and after school appointments to suit, Coral Sea Eyecare can perform all the checks your child needs to keep on top of their eye health.

Coral Sea Eyecare are also currently holding a "Design The Spectacles" colouring competition with lots of great prizes to be won, so call them TODAY on 40995100 to arrange an eye examination for your child and pick up an entry form. Your child’s vision is important, don't place it on the bottom of your to do list!

See the attachment with this email for your colouring competition sheet or grab one from the office!

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Athletics Training is well underway in PE classes. Can all students please remember to wear covered shoes for PE on Tuesday's as it is not safe for them to participate in events such as Shot Put without the appropriate footwear.

⇒ We are a part of the LiveLife Community Support Program in FNQ. This means that in November we are in the running to receive either a $250 or $500 donation to support our amazing school. You can show your support by nominating Wonga Beach State School when you shop at LiveLife Pharmacy during the month of November!

⇒ Lilly Anne with her gift basket she won in the Mother’s Day Raffle last week! Well done 😊
From the staff...

Throughout 2017 we have been working on improving our work in 4 major areas:

1. Improving teacher capability
2. Increasing the complexity of student vocab
3. Improved numeracy skills – in particular problem solving skills
4. Improving student writing

Over the year, we have been working tirelessly to improve our practise – which will no doubt improve our student’s performance. We have made some amazing improvements in all of these areas and thought that we’d like to share with you some of the fantastic things that have been happening in each area.

**IMPROVING TEACHER CAPABILITY:** This is basically about us perfecting our teaching craft and providing learning opportunities that enable ALL students to achieve to their highest level of potential. We have received support from curriculum leaders within our region as well as professional development in the areas of differentiation and quality feedback to students. This has resulted in teachers providing an even higher level of teaching instruction to the students at WBSS.

**INCREASING STUDENT VOCAB:** One of the areas that Queensland students tend to fall down in is their use of vocab. This is largely due to the relaxed way adults converse with each other in our part of the world. This affects not only writing and speaking, but also student’s ability to comprehend more difficult texts as they may not understand some of the more complex words used in the text. This year we have continued our work on vocab and have built into our weekly timetables time for the explicit instruction of tier 2 and above vocab words. We have also continued our work on vocab instruction within our reading groups – ensuring that we record any words we don’t know, look up a definition and then revisit these words every reading group session. We have noticed a great increase in student vocab understanding and use throughout the year – which is a great affirmation for the hard work we have done in this area.

**IMPROVED NUMERACY SKILLS:** This year we have designed a whole school problem solving skills plan and have identified the key strategies that students need to be able to solve numeracy problems with increasing difficulty. We have even gone so far as to break them down into grade level skills so that we can help to develop their ‘problem solving skills tool box’ – we have seen some great progress in the way in which students ‘attack’ a problem and their confidence in maths has increased dramatically.

**IMPROVING STUDENT WRITING:** All of the teaching staff at WBSS have received professional development in the area of writing and we have also introduced compulsory writing sessions throughout our week to allow students ample opportunities to refine their writing skills. Students are given stimulus pictures and they are then given time to write about the picture. They then receive specific feedback on their writing and are given opportunities to edit and improve on their work. This has had a great impact on their writing and we are proud to say that this writing is IN ADDITION to the English unit work we already do.

As you can see, we have been extremely busy this year and are very proud of the improvements we can see in our student’s work. We are all great believers in lifelong learning and know that this includes us learning new skills and new ways of doing things to ensure better outcomes for our kids!

Cheers,

WBSS Staff
The 3/4/5 class worked on bird’s eye views this week – here they are creating their ‘village’ before they had to draw a bird’s eye view of it.

The Prep1/2 class have been looking at how school has changed over time in their history lessons. This week they even had the chance to see what an "olden days" teacher dressed like!
Mrs Jenkins and her class exploring the way characters are portrayed in story books

The Year 5/6 class busily working on their problem solving skills