Greetings to all of our Windera Community!

It was great to see the mature and responsible way that our Year 6 students conducted themselves at their Badge Ceremony. I would like to personally thank the parents and families of the year 6 students for attending this special day. It was an honour to have special guest Councillor Kathy Duff present the leaders with their badges and senior shirts.

Maths has been a curriculum focus for Windera State School this year. This means that we have directed our professional development towards this area and have done ‘stocktake’ of where we are and where we need to go in terms of developing and enriching maths for our students.

**BEING ON TIME FOR SCHOOL**

It is very important that children come to school on time i.e. somewhere between 8.00 and 8.20am. These 10 minutes give children time to get ready for the school day – hand in homework, select new home readers, catch up with friends, play in the playground, do the jobs that come with being a school leader, and talk to their teachers. We want to get the learning program underway as soon as the bell goes and children need to be ready.

**UNDER 8’S DAY**

Reports from the students who attended the under 8’s day was very positive. They all enjoyed their musical experience, role play and instrument making with Daz and Kaz from the Kangang.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Yet again Windera students have excelled in their participation in the Small School Cross Country. A job well done by everyone! Thank you to the parents for supporting our school and your children by being at the cross country to cheer them on.

**ANZAC CEREMONY**

I was bursting with pride at the number of students who represented the Windera State School at the ANZAC Day ceremony in Murgon. All of the Windera students who were involved in the morning’s proceedings were outstanding role models and preformed their duties with respect and enthusiasm. Well Done!!!

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Let’s BE RESPECTFUL, BE SAFE and BE POSITIVE and BE A LEARNER too!
**Windera State School’s PLAY GROUP**

When: Thursday, 05-05-16 – 9am to 10am  
Where: Windera State School  
What: Hat, morning tea, water

**Windera State School Values**

At Windera we continue to follow our four values:  
Be Safe  
Be Respectful  
Be Positive  
Be a Learner  
As a school we are continuing to be active learners and great role models of the Windera State School values.

**Visiting the School**

Please remember that if you are visiting the school or are volunteering in the school please sign in at the office and collect a visitors badge to wear.

**HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARENTS**

Friendships are important for happiness and well-being. Children can be cruel, often excluding others from peer groups, often for no apparent reason. It can be lonely for children or young people who find themselves isolated from peer groups or without a best friend.

**BRIGHT IDEAS FOR HELPING CHILDREN MAKE FRIENDS**

- If possible, establish a dialogue with your child about friendships so that you can offer support when there are difficulties and provide some ideas when needed.

- Identify and discuss any behaviours such as teasing, bullying or self-centredness that may prevent your child from making friends. Sometimes a child’s remarks can irritate others to the extent that he/she is ostracised.

- Teach some social skills such as how to start up a conversation and how to hold the interest of others during a conversation.

- Provide opportunities for your child to make friends at your place after school or during weekends so that friendships can develop. An invitation to bring a friend along to a family outing can provide opportunities to strengthen friendships.

- Encourage your child to participate in ‘out-of-school’ activities or groups that may provide opportunities to meet new people away from the peer groups at school. Friendships formed through shared interests are very strong.

- Encourage your child to take up a challenging or interesting activity so that he/she becomes a more interesting person for others to be around.

**Every Day Counts**

This year our school's attendance target is 97%.  
Current Attendance is  
P—3 95.28%  
Yr 4—6 99.06%  
Well Done!!!
SOMETHING TO MAKE AT HOME
A Succulent Ball

From ABC Gardening Australia
Fact Sheet Series 27 Episode 07, 16 April, 2016.

SUCCULENT SPHERES
Sophie Thomson

FEATURED PLANTS
GLAUCOUS ECHEVERIA Echeveria secunda var. glauca
MEXICAN SNOWBALL Echeveria elegans
HOUSELEEK Sempervivum sp.
STONECROP Sedum sp.

HOW TO ... MAKE A SUCCULENT SPHERE

Supplies
Two wire hanging baskets.
Hessian, horsehair underlay, coconut fibre or shadecloth
Chicken wire
Fencing clips or wire
Knife or other implement for making planting holes in the coconut fibre
Soaker hose (optional, but advised)
Plants!

Method
1. Line both baskets with coconut fibre.
2. Coil a soaker hose inside the basket that will go on top.
3. OVERfill the baskets with potting mix, until it makes a shallow dome.
4. Seal the top of each with hessian, more coconut fibre, underlay or shadecloth.
5. Keep the cover in place with chicken mesh.
6. Sew into place or use fencing clips to secure the mesh.
7. Flip the baskets over and plant into the domes.
8. After 4-6 weeks, once the plants have become established, wire the two halves together or use more fencing clips.
9. Hang in semi-shade and keep well-watered, as these spheres dry out easily.

P & C News

Please find attached the P & C Minutes for March and April. Please note that the next P & C meeting is on Tuesday May 17.

PE Music Sporting Schools

This term, on Tuesdays we will again be travelling into Murgon for our PE/Music lessons. From April 19 to June 7 the students will have Indoor Hockey lessons as part of for our Sporting Schools program at Murgon PCYC. Please make sure the students have morning tea, lunch, water bottle and hats with them. The students will be returned to school by 3.30pm.
Leaders Ceremony

The Ceremony was exciting for the school leaders because we were presented with our leader badges and senior shirts, this will allow the younger students to identify the school leaders. Our special guest was Councilor Kathy Duff who presented our badges and shirts. Jazmin presented Councilor Duff with a bouquet of flowers and thanked her for being a part of our ceremony.

Anzac Day

It was a cold and windy day on Anzac Day. Being a school leader Tanya Bridges was chosen to carry the Windera State School banner. The School Captains Nicholas Beddows and Jazmin Lewis laid the wreath at the Cenotaph. As part of the mornings proceedings, several Windera students presented crosses that were decorated with poppies and the names of the fallen soldiers into a large sand filled star.

Sports Report

Cross Country. Last Friday, the students from the district small schools gathered at Cloyna School to participate in the annual cross country. The day started with the usual guided walk of the track. This was followed by each school chanting their war cry. The first race of the day was run by the Preps in which Kaliah Aiton came first. Alex Hinkley came third in his race which entitles him to represent the small schools at the trials in Murgon. Everyone did an excellent job!!!!

Cloyna won the aggregate trophy and the ball games trophy. Moffatdale and Wheatlands tied in the overall points for the ball games and cross country trophies.

By Tanya Bridges

Q: Why did the girl give her pony cough syrup?
A: It was a little horse.

Q: What did the lawyer name is daughter?
A: Sue.

Q: What sound does a nut make when it sneezes?
A: CASHEW!

Q: How do you mend a broken pumpkin?
A: With a pumpkin patch.

Q: What’s the only school where you have to drop out to graduate?
A: Skydiving school.

Q: In what school do you learn how to greet people?
A: Hi school.
## Dates to Remember

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
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<td>May 3</td>
<td>PE/Music/Sporting School</td>
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<td>May 5</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
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<td>May 9</td>
<td>School Assembly</td>
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<td>May 10</td>
<td>PE/Music/Sporting School</td>
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<td>May 10,11,12</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>PE/Music/Sporting School</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>May 20</td>
<td>Yr 5,6 Gala Sports Day</td>
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## Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Connagh</td>
<td>20th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Gabriel</td>
<td>14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Maryann</td>
<td>26th</td>
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Hi All,

It appears that Anzac Day parades went off well throughout the district. I marched with Kilkivan School this year, where the horses led the parade to commemorate the Light Horsemen. I trust your Anzac Day went as well.

Here is an excerpt from a parenting article I read recently, called ‘My 5 Parenting Goals’ Hope you find this tip helpful.

**Keep My Eyes Open**

Sometimes we notice that something does not feel right with a child, but we get distracted. We are all very busy, it’s true. We have great pressures and responsibilities pulling us in too many directions. The child who seems a little ‘off’, not himself, snappy or more quiet than usual is trying to tell us something. But it is easy to tuck this information away in a back pocket and only realize that something is wrong when a crisis occurs. We then think back and recognize that the signs were there, we were just too preoccupied to pay attention.

Don’t allow problems with your child to fester and grow. Open your eyes and observe if a child seems sad, withdrawn, distant, more moody than usual, or angry. Recognize if there seems to be greater confrontation between this child and siblings, if friends stop calling or coming over, or if the child can’t seem to find his place in school. Because before you know it, half the year can go by and what could have been a small problem has now become a ‘situation’ that requires major time investment and causes terrible aggravation.

Here is another recipe that disguises vegetables for the fussy eater. Pumpkin and corn this time. I hope you enjoy these yummy muffins..

**CHEESE AND PEPITA MUFFINS**

**Ingredients:**

- 1 1/2 cups self-raising flour
- 175g pumpkin grated
- 50g prosciutto or shaved ham chopped
- 2 shallots finely chopped
- 1/3 cup Greek Style Yogurt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 125g can drained corn kernels
- 1/4 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin kernels (Pepitas)

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease a large muffin pan.

2. Combine the flour and baking powder in a large bowl. Stir in the pumpkin, corn, prosciutto or ham, cheddar and shallot. Make a well in the centre.

3. Whisk the eggs, milk and yoghurt in a jug. Pour into the well in the flour mixture and stir until just combined. Spoon among the prepared pans. Sprinkle with pumpkin kernels (Pepitas)

4. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Let it cool for 5 minutes in the tray, before removing and cooling on a wire rack. Can be frozen and placed in lunch boxes as needed.

Playgroup Thursday morning May 5—9.00 to 10.00am organised by our Chappy, Janelle Allen. Please bring morning tea, hat and a water bottle.

If you have any questions, please see Sam at school or phone on 41686153(phone before 8.30 or after 2.30).