Dear Parents and Community Members,

It has been a whirlwind finish to what has been a very exciting year at Windera State School. One of the highlights for this year will be the graduation of the 2015 year six class on Thursday night at the Murgon RSL. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our 2015 Student Leaders and thank them for their contributions to Windera State School. These students, under the guidance of Mrs Cross have grown into their roles and done us all proud. They have all developed their Keys to Success, becoming more confident, more organised, more resilient, more persistent and better at getting along.

I would also like to extend congratulations to our 2016 School Leaders Jazmin Lewis and Nicholas Beddows who are at present at the Barambah Cluster Leadership Camp learning and preparing for their roles as school leaders in 2016.

I wish to share with you the exciting news of my appointment as Principal at Windera State School in 2016. I look forward to working with you all in the New Year to promote and enhance our school.

I would like to commend the work that Mrs Jenny Cocks our Administration Office preforms. She ensures that all staff, students, parents and visitors receive the very best support, thank you Jenny. Thank you to the dynamic teaching staff of Mrs Dianne Cross, Mrs Michelle Sanewski, Mrs Ann Morgan and Mrs Kerry Wentriro for their collegial support in helping to ensure we are a school that supports and provides an environment so every child can achieve to their full potential and become valued members of the wider community.

We have a terrific team of people who all play their part to ensure the smooth running of our school and create a positive learning environment. I would like to thank our cleaner Mrs Maree Thompson and groundsman Mr Michael Cooper for their work throughout the year. As a team we strive to provide an inspiring and nurturing learning environment for all students.

Thank you again to all staff for making the magic that happens here at Windera State School, to families for supporting us and preparing your children, and to you the students for making the most of it.

I would like to thank members and volunteers of our School P&C. Special thanks to Mrs Sue Alton and Mr Tim White for your tireless efforts and contributions to the Windera State School, you both go above and beyond on countless occasions, often behind the scenes, and you are always willing to step up to any request.

Let’s BE RESPECTFUL,
BE SAFE and BE POSITIVE
and BE A LEARNER too!
On behalf of the Windera State School, I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and a relaxing holiday with your families. See you all in 2016!

Kindest Regards

Samantha Berlin

**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.

**EVERY CHILD MATTERS AT WINDERA STATE SCHOOL**

Make every day count in 2015 – Make 2015 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. Check out the EVERY DAY COUNTS videos live on DETE TV.

[http://www.youtube.com/DETEQueensland](http://www.youtube.com/DETEQueensland)

**TELLING JOKES IS GOOD FOR KIDS!**

Q. There were four cats in a boat, one jumped out. How many were left?  
A. None. They were all copy cats!

Q. Why did the cat run away from the tree?  
A. Because it was afraid of the bark!

Q. What's a crocodile's favourite game?  
A. Snap!

Q. What animal can jump higher than the Sydney Harbour Bridge?  
A. All animals, because bridges can't jump!

**Windera State School P&C**

Involvement in the Parents & Citizens Association is one of the best ways of being aware of school activities and what is planned to improve the school environment for your child. There are many ways of supporting this organisation, however, personal involvement is the one most appreciated. Meetings are held regularly during the school year. From time to time the P&C engages in fund raising and social activities, or arranges working bees at which parents can mix with and meet others. To date the association has been an active contributor to the school’s educational program and the development of school facilities. It is hoped that you will help maintain this support.

**Windera State School Uniforms**

Uniform Co-ordinator: - Susie Pick-Thompson; 41686069

Please note you will only be able to purchase uniforms on the first Tuesday of each month from 9am to 11am. Susie is more than happy to help you with all of your uniform inquiries and needs. Uniforms must be paid for before the uniforms will be given out.
Games to Play in the Cars

This game can be as simple as you make it – perfect for even the youngest child. Ask your child to spot the _____ and fill in the blank with something very obvious to get started: "Spot the mummy in the car"; "Spot the pillow in the car"; "Spot the car seat"; "Spot the seatbelt"; "Spot a sister".

Then, move to things outside the car: "Spot a car"; "Spot a big truck"; "Spot a cow", etc. Eventually you can add colours and other details that narrow your choices: "Spot a red truck"; "Spot a convertible car", and so on.

You're all going to tell a story, just word by word, turn by turn. The first person starts with a word and the next person adds a word and so on. Even the littlies can play this one and will often come up with the funniest contributions.

Mum or dad or an older child tells a story and adds a sound effect for certain words. Each time the narrator says a word that has been given a sound effect, everyone else in the car has to make the sound. It's noisy, but lots of fun.

Have you ever – EVER – cracked open a store-bought Christmas bon bon and actually found something you liked inside it? Or really belly laughed at the jokes?

If you have, I'd love to know where you shopped! Because I haven't. In fact, we pretty much get the very same jokes every year! And if those tissue paper crowns were actually worn, it'd only be until it fell down around your neck for the third time inside a minute so was scrunched up in a ball and tossed across the table, snowball-fight style.

So two years ago, I whipped up some of my own crackers. Easy to do, I made them a little more "my style" and filled them with yummy Lindt balls, a cardboard crown you could adjust to fit your head and a few other goodies for the kids.

They went down a treat in my family, who are cool with that kind of thing. The looks on their faces as they each read their jokes was hilarious. I wish I'd filmed it! We had a great giggle, repeated it last year and I think I've now set myself up for a new tradition. It is getting harder and harder to find the right jokes though...

You can buy the kits or the pieces individually such as the snappers and the tubes (though toilet paper rolls are also fine to use) – or you can just buy the snappers from craft stores like Spotlight and Lincraft. Then choose your paper (I usually stick to plain white or craft paper and adorn with washi tape, stickers or twine) and string and get creating!

What I love about handmade bon bons is you really can do whatever you like and use them in various ways – fill them with confetti for a colourful mess, make them mini gifts for your guests with tiny gifts wrapped up inside, divide up puzzle amongst all the guests and put it together as a group in-between courses.

Better yet, make your own puzzle out of a blank one. Draw a map of your yard/home on it and once everyone puts it together they'll see it's a treasure map and they can go forth and find their treasure – a great way to kick of the gift-giving among a big family celebration.

Or just stuff with a really good-tasting treat and a good joke!
Students will be attending Swimming and Music on Tuesday December 8—some students will be attempting their appropriate level Swimming Certificate.

**Students need to bring the extra clothing required for their survival test.**

**RLSSA Swimming Certificate**

**Survival Test Sequence - Swim & Survive Levels 4 – 7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 4</th>
<th>Level 5</th>
<th>Level 6</th>
<th>Level 7</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Survival Sequence:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Survival Sequence:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Survival Sequence:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Survival Sequence:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dressed in swimwear, shorts and t-shirt complete the following:</td>
<td>Dressed in swimwear, long pants and long sleeved shirt, perform the following as a continuous sequences:</td>
<td>Dressed in swimwear, long pants and long sleeved shirt, perform the following as a continuous sequences:</td>
<td>Dressed in swimwear, long pants and long sleeved shirt, jumper, socks and shoes, perform the following sequence:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-scull, float or tread water for 2 minutes</td>
<td>-Survival scull, float or tread water for 4 minutes</td>
<td>-Enter deep water using a feet first entry</td>
<td>-dive and swim 10 metres underwater to simulate an escape from a sinking boat surrounded by oil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Swim slowly for 3 minutes changing survival strokes after each minute-Float for 1 minute using an open ended flotation aid</td>
<td>-Perform a feet first surface dive and swim underwater for a short distance</td>
<td>-Submerge feet first, swim underwater on the back looking up at the surface</td>
<td>-Swim a further 40 metres freestyle as if escaping from a dangerous situation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-swim slowly for 6 minutes using 3 survival strokes changing survival stroke after each minute</td>
<td>-swim 50 metres quickly as if escaping from a dangerous situation, then swim 50 metres slowly</td>
<td>-remove shoes while treading water then swim slowly 50 metres breaststroke</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-remove clothing in deep water</td>
<td>-float using a buoyant aid for 1 minute</td>
<td>-float, survival scull or tread water for 5 minutes and wave one arm occasionally as if signalling for help, reassure nearby candidates by talking to them</td>
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<td>-swim slowly demonstrating survival strokes for 6 minutes</td>
<td>-swim slowly for 200 metres using survival strokes, changing strokes every 50 metres</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-scull, float or tread water for 3 minutes, waving for help intermittently. Clothing may be removed</td>
<td>-remove clothing in deep water</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Names</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level 4</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level 5</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level 6</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level 7</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jasmine Rockemer</td>
<td>Tanya Bridges</td>
<td>Joshua Beddows</td>
<td>Nick Sanewski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Megan Pick-Thompson</td>
<td>Maddy Beddows</td>
<td>Alex Hinkley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas Beddows</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riley Hinkley</td>
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</table>
Congratulations Student

For great Library skills—reading many books, ‘returning books on time’,
Birthdays for December
Joshua Beddows—11th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates to Remember</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>Jan 27</td>
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End of Year Celebration Day
Thursday December 10

What to bring:
- Water Pistols
- Swimming togs and swim/ tshirt
- Water bottle
- Hat

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Head lice

Head lice have reared their ugly heads again, so parents please check your child’s head for lice TODAY. If you do find lice, commence treatment immediately.

Remember to keep checking your family members’ heads every 2 days until there are no head lice found for 10 consecutive days.
Bowls Club

Friday Night Meals have commenced at the Murgon Bowls Club again, starting from 6.30pm—new resident Chef is Sakina from the Saleyard Café.

Barefoot Bowls has also commenced—interval can be taken so as dinner can be eaten.

Please book on 41685701, 0438685701, President 41681664, Secretary 41689093, Clubhouse 41681043.