We are so near to the end of the school year and our classrooms are a hive of activity with students and teachers busy, busy, busy! There are many events happening over the next two weeks to keep us on our toes:

- 06/12/13 Hinterland Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival at the Mudgeeraba Aquatic Centre with students from Springbrook, Numinbah Valley, Ingleside and Currumbin Valley State Schools
- 09/12/13 Orientation Day for all new 2014 students. We welcome Mrs Boura (our new teacher) here for the day—she will work with her P-2 students for next year.
- 11/12/13 Community Christmas Celebration in our school grounds with all community members invited and encouraged to attend. Please bring a savoury plate of food and share in a meal with us. Have you sent your RSVP yet?
- 12/12/13 End-of-Year Gala for students and their families where we celebrate the work and achievements of all our students and we farewell our year 7 students. This will commence at 2:00pm.

Report cards will be issued in electronic format via email in the last week of term. Please ensure that your email address is up-to-date and accurate so that you will receive your child’s report. Interviews will be available with teachers next week. Please make contact with the classroom teachers if you would like to schedule a meeting.

As you are already aware, Mrs Shepherd will be teaching at Coomera Rivers SS next year and we have also been informed that Ms Babin has been offered and accepted a permanent position in Far North Queensland (Cairns district) for next year and we will be saying farewell to her as well. I’d like to sincerely thank both of these ladies for their professionalism and dedication to working and teaching at Springbrook State School. They have both made a valuable contribution to the education of our students and they will be missed. We wish them every success as they move onto the next step in their teaching careers. An afternoon tea will be held in our school grounds after the End-of-Year Gala for those families wishing to say farewell.

As we near the end of the school year, it’s important to remember that all students are required to attend school every day until the end of term which is December 13th, 2013. Not only is attendance at school a legal requirement, but being at school helps students to achieve more and builds social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. We look forward to seeing all of their smiling faces even on the last day of term!

Finally, a heartfelt thanks goes to our P&C members and school parent community. Through the efforts of our P&C and the support they have been shown, our P&C were able to successfully fundraise and contribute to our school financially this year. At this week’s P&C meeting, they presented a $2300.00 cheque to go towards technology resources (iPads) for our students to access and use. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with such a supportive group of parents this year.

Sarah Jane Ash (Principal)
**USING EFFECTIVE TIME-OUTS**

Many parents use the same type of discipline for every problem situation. One tool, however, is rarely effective for all situations. Plus, overusing one particular tool also reduces its usefulness. Timeout is just one tool -- and it really isn’t a "discipline" tool; it’s an effective anger-management tool. Since the purpose of a timeout is to help someone regain control, it is most appropriate to use when someone has lost self-control or there is extremely disruptive behaviour.

Most adults have the mistaken idea that the whole point of sending children to timeout is to make the child suffer for their misbehaviour. "You go to your room (or chair) and think about what you did." The tone of voice usually implies, "and you suffer." Imposing suffering only brings on more resentment and power struggles. Effective discipline, however, teaches children lessons from their poor behaviour choices, rather than punishing them. If you want timeouts to be constructive, try following these guidelines:

**Develop a plan in advance.** Teach children during a happy time about the value of a cooling-off period. Say, "When you feel like you’re going to lose control, you can go (specify the place). When you feel better we can work on a solution."

**Teach children how to regain self-control.** Suggest things the child can do to calm down while in timeout.

**Allow the child to play.** Many parents are upset when they find their child playing during timeout, but it’s actually a good sign that the child has regained self-control. If they are ready to play, children might also be ready to do some problem solving.

**Select a location for the time-out.** Some children calm down faster when they are alone and in a quiet place. Other children have too much energy to be forced to sit still. Some children become more out-of-control and hurtful when they are forced to spend timeouts alone. These children can cool off in the same room as other people, as long as they aren’t disruptive.

**Present time-outs as a choice.** A child can choose to settle down or take some time out.

If children have calmed down and are ready to return but parents won’t let them "come out," it often escalates the situation. If children return before they have calmed down, firmly but kindly return them to the timeout and reemphasize the purpose is to cool off. Describe the behaviour you want to see that shows they are calm.

When timeout is over, problem-solve to generate ideas for handling the situation differently in the future.

Think about your long-term goal. If you want children to learn that it is their responsibility to control their behaviour, use timeouts as cooling off periods which teach children how to achieve this self-control.

Adapted from: [www.Parentstooshop.com](http://www.Parentstooshop.com)

Carla Loughnane
Guidance Officer

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**School Banking**

**Headsup!**
If you have 10 or more tokens make sure you redeem them for a prize before the end of the year as the system will be changing in 2014... you won’t be able to use your saved tokens next year. Torches are no longer available.

There are 60 x Apple iPod touch 16GB and 100 x Kids Adventure DVD packs to be won.

Students simply need to make two or more School Banking deposits before November 30 to be automatically entered into the competition.

News from the Junior Room

Over the past two weeks the Junior class has been working on making their writing more interesting. Students have been given a 'sentence starter' and then a short period of time to create a piece of imaginative writing. Here is just a sample of their efforts.

I walked around the corner and I saw a baby bird. It had black feathers, a yellow beak and closed eyes. We thought he was dead but he just had a big fright. An hour later we let him go but he wouldn’t go. He just stayed with us.

Connor

We looked up and down. I saw a cicada. It stayed there on the grass.

Mika

I opened the door and there was a box and inside was a chick. It was brown and yellow and one day old. Mum said I could keep it in the grass outside. “Don’t worry there’s a nice warm hutch for it.” Then I opened the box. “Yes, it is so cute,” I said. “Cheep, cheep,” it said.

Arwen

I walked around the corner and something black and white flashed across the road. I chased it for a mile. Suddenly the thing turned around. “Oh Spot, you got out again!” Spot was a lovely spotty Dalmatian who lived next door to Mrs and Mr Becool. “Well, I better put you back in your yard, down the fifth round from here! Here we go again.”

Britt

### Dates to Remember

**WHAT:**
- 2014 Prep Students Orientation
- Hinterland Small Schools Swimming Carnival
- Community Christmas Celebration
- End of Year Celebration
- & Farewell Mrs Shepherd
- Last day of 2013 school year!

**WHEN:**
- 2nd & 4th December
- Friday 6th December
- Wednesday 11th December
- Thursday 12th December
- Friday 13th December

**WHERE:**
- Mudgeeraba Aquatic Centre
- Springbrook SS
- Springbrook SS
From the Senior Room

Our Senior students are very clever when it comes to creating cars and chairs for technology this term. Over the past couple of weeks the year 3’s and 4’s have been in the process of designing and building cars from a wide range of materials that have been supplied. They have all thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of building a car that will hopefully travel 7 meters on race day. The Year 5’s 6’s and 7’s have been working on their design and creation of a chair made strictly from one material, cardboard. This group of students have come up with fabulous detailed plans and the construction phase has been a messy but fun one. We all can’t wait to see the final products for all involved. Good luck Senior students.

A WORD FROM THE GARDEN

Our last cooking lesson was to prepare and cook Spinach and Ricotta Triangles. Everybody tried them and almost everybody LOVED them! Here are some comments, quoted from students in the Junior Room:

Ryka “Perfecto!”
Maiki “I liked it!”
Mika “Delicious”
Britt “I loved it and it was perfect!”
Katie “I don’t like it, I love it!”
Cate “Delicious, yummy, fantastic!”
Arwen “I felt like I was kissing a boyfriend, I like it!”
Aimee “It was delicious, so good I want to marry it!”
Connor “Too yummy!”
Kaleb “Very yum.”
Aidan “Very good, I liked the pastry.”
Student of the Week

Callum for his concentration and focus in completing tasks.

Tennille for excellent focus and concentration to complete set work tasks.

Elvis for being a learner and completing his reading comprehension assessment with great results.

Britt for displaying a positive attitude towards all curricular activities.

Mika for demonstrating a growing independence with her own learning abilities.

Arwen for creative thinking and enthusiastic class involvement.

Ryka for always being respectful member of our class.

Dante for displaying respect to others and working successfully as a group leader when on camp!

Reading Awards

100 nights - Cate
75 nights - Maiki
125 nights - Aimee
100 nights - Ryka
75 nights - Katie
125 nights - Britt

Reading Eggs

Arwen: 93% Map 5
Maiki: 100% Map 7
Callum: Bronze Reading Eggspress

Gardening Awards

Cate for the loving care you show in our garden.
Connor for always being reliable and hard-working in our garden.

Gotchas!

Students who received 5 or more Gotchas this week:

Elvis, Ryka, Connor, Bridie, Dante
Sammy, Tennille, Arky, Maiki, Callum
Britt, Angus, Cole, Taylor, Mika
Cate, Tilly, Aidan, Zack, Arky
Kaleb, Arwen, Aimee, Arky
Mathletics Awards

Silver - Maiki 3726 points
Silver - Aidan 3410 points
Silver - Callum 1210 points
Bronze - Connor 2432 points and 1133 points
Bronze - Callum 1021 points and 1041 points
Bronze - Aidan 1190 points
Bronze - Samantha 1383 points
Bronze - Elvis 2226 points
Bronze - Elvis 3570 points
Bronze - Cate 1570 points
Bronze - Aimee 1023 points
Bronze - Maiki 1213, 2257, 1081 points
Bronze - Angus 1338 points
Bronze - Kaleb 1160 points
Bronze - Tennille 1076 points

Christmas Raffle!
Tickets will be on sale this week for our P&C Christmas raffle, drawn at our End of Year Celebration next Thursday. Please support our school and buy a ticket or two, available at the school office or from Dan and Nikky.
Families, please remember if you have goods to donate for the raffle hamper, please give them to Dan or Nikky. We still welcome more donations!

Farewell!

After 8 years of dedication to the students at Springbrook State School, Mrs. Shepherd is moving to Coomera Rivers State School.

Whilst we will be very sad to say goodbye, we are also excited for Mrs. Shepherd to be diving into new adventures in her next school.

We will be hosting an afternoon tea to celebrate Mrs. Shepherd’s time here, and invite all students of Springbrook State School, as well as those who were students here during Mrs. Shepherd’s time.

We will also be farewelling Ms Babin at the end of this term. Whilst Ms Babin has only been here in 2013, she has had a positive impact on us all and we wish her good luck in her next position.

Please bring a plate to share, come and enjoy an afternoon picnic with our teachers and a play on the oval:

WHEN: Thursday, 12th December, 3.15pm, after the End of Year Celebration
WHERE: Springbrook State School, undercover area.
Is your child afraid of seeing blood or having an injection or other medical procedure?

GRiffith University

At Griffith University, we are conducting a study to evaluate the effectiveness of a one session intensive treatment for children and adolescents (7 to 18 years of age) who have Blood, Injury and Injection Phobias. We are providing this service at no cost to families. To find out more about this project, please contact Dr. Ella Milliner and Dr Lara Farrell on (07) 567 88317 or email e.milliner@griffith.edu.au

Gold Coast Bus and Rail

Gold Coast Bus and Rail

GOLD COAST PUBLIC TRANSPORT CHANGES ARE COMING

From 20 January 2014, if you or your child catch an urban bus route or Queensland Rail train to school on the Gold Coast you may be impacted by upcoming changes to public transport network. To find out if your service is changing, visit translink.com.au.

Detailed information booklets will be distributed to all Gold Coast households prior to these changes. Handheld timetables will be provided closer to the introduction of the network change in January and will be accessible online from the TransLink website.

It is important to note that these changes are for urban bus routes operating on the Gold Coast. Dedicated school services, operated by Surfside Buslines will still service local schools. Information on school service timetables and routes can be accessed online at www.surfside.com.au.

Note for your diary

Brisbane Ekka date change

Next year, the Ekka will run across 2 full weekends, starting Friday August 8, and wrapping up Sunday August 17.