WELCOME BACK to a fantastic school that is Bundaberg West. Our teachers have been busy preparing their classrooms to be bright engaging places to learn. We welcome several new teachers to our team this year which consists of 11 classes and 2 support classes.

WELCOME TO JOY PAAP, JOHN BOULTON, MELINDA SMALL AND KRISTY FARRELL.

SEP PLAYGROUND: I am pleased to see the finalisation of our SEP playground with a fence constructed by APEX during the break. It looks amazing and will be a wonderful addition to enhance the safe play areas here at West. This was an idea from one of our parents that continues to grow.

Also at the front of the school our Performing Arts Centre has been upgraded to include a ramp into the building. The area looks fantastic and is a wonderful meeting point where we hope to put some table and chairs under a few sails in the future. It will be a great outdoor classroom.

START AND FINISH TIMES
We have also changed the start and finish times of the school day. This is to ensure we are making the most of learning time to ensure all students are successful. The first bell goes at 8:45am and school finishes at 3:00pm. First break is 11:00 – 11:40am and second break is 1:40- 2:20pm.

This means students will need to have a good breakfast to help maintain their concentration. Parents are reminded to please organise a regular arrangement for the end of school pickup and to let your child’s teacher know directly.

Swimming season is still with us and in order to make use of the pool we require assistance from parents to supervise for safety. If you are able to help out in this way please contact your child’s teacher. Also – please help your child to be organised. The office will not be calling home for forgotten togs.
Correct Uniforms Every Day – maintaining high standards for school pride
This year we will monitoring the wearing of correct school uniform closely. Please ensure a royal blue short, skirt or skort is worn every day with the school shirt. Closed in school joggers (not canvas slip-on shoes) in either white or black are expected to be worn with white socks. A wide-brimmed school hat is compulsory also.

Uniforms are available from Shawline on Walker Street and hats from our school office. Students will be reminded of the correct uniform and parents will be contacted. Please make an appointment to see me personally if your child is not in correct uniform. Weekends are a great time to wear fashion shoes and jewellery items, including piercings.

Student Leadership for 2015
Congratulations to our four captains who were announced at the graduation ceremony last year.

School Captains – Jasmine Burt, Billy Wein

Vice Captains – Isha Thomas, Marcus James

The captains will have their own Captains’ Corner in the newsletter each fortnight. They will share all the exciting things they see happening around the school.

Our Leadership Ceremony to announce the Citizenship, Music, Sport and House Captains will be held on Monday 9 February at our whole school parade 2:20pm in the hall.

Meet and Greet Sessions – Monday Feb 9 at 3:15pm and 3:45pm
On Monday 9 February parents are invited to an information session where you can meet your child’s teacher/s and ask questions about the year ahead. Student’s love to know and see their parents are interested in what happens at school and will be excited to show you their classroom. Sessions are only about half an hour. Teachers will start a session at 3:15pm and another at 3:45pm for parents who have a couple of teachers to greet. Both sessions will cover the same information. If you have more than two teachers to greet, you are most welcome to organise another time to touch base. Support staff will patrol the grounds to supervise the school-aged students who can play on the equipment or oval whilst you are in their classrooms. Younger siblings should remain under your supervision.

Tuckshop for 2015 – Farewell Kathy Tisdale
We farewell a very familiar face in the tuckshop this year. Kathy Tisdale, has been tuckshop convenor at West for around 12 years and has seen families of students start and finish their schooling and has many fond memories to take with her. On behalf of staff and students of Bundaberg West State School, I thank Kathy and her family for the years of dedicated service to Bundaberg West State School. She is definitely a life time Westie who will be missed by many. We wish Kathy all the best!

The tuckshop convenor position will be advertised following the first P&C Annual General Meeting.

Election Polling Booth at Bundaberg West State School – Sat 31 January
The P&C will be holding a fundraiser sausage sizzle at our school hall from 10am – 2pm. Volunteers to help out would be fantastic. You may be able to spare an hour before or after you vote or just to be a supportive Westie parent! Please come along and promote our school, even if just to buy a drink and a sausage.

Attendance Matters – Ten Pin Bowling for Best Class!
Last year, 4PS scooped the prize and had a wonderful time at the ten-pin bowling centre. Unfortunately Mr Street just beat Ms McNamara who is out to take the title. Be at school on time each day to be in the running.

Indigenous Community Engagement Officer – Luwana Fatiaki
It is wonderful to have West families being actively involved in our small but precious community. Luwana joins our team this year each Monday supporting students to be successful at school. Luwana will be in touch either by phone or she will pop around to visit to ensure we are working together for your children. Parents can leave messages for Luwana at the office with Kim.

Indigenous Playgroup Starts Wednesday 28 January 9:00 – 11:30am
Aunty Diana Fatiaki will be facilitating our Indigenous playgroup for children 0-5 years in our school hall. Sign in at the hall for a rewarding and educational morning that will give your child the best start for school. Get to know other parents and feel comfortable being a Westie.

Leanne McNamara, Principal
OUR VALUE OF THE WEEK!
Be a super WESTIE through kindness!

- Being kind helps you to get along with others.
- Speaking nicely and using encouraging words helps you to make friends.
- Taking turns and not being too bossy helps you to work well in groups.
- Being kind helps to make people like you.

WAYS YOU CAN BE KIND AT SCHOOL:
- Speak to someone who seems unhappy
- Help your classmates with their school work
- Eat healthy food (be kind to your body)
- Speak nicely to everyone
- Say nice things to people
- Listen carefully to what others think and want to do
- Sort out your problems without fighting
- Be helpful to family, friends and teachers
- Care about nature and living things
- Return property to others
- Share things with everyone
- Make sure everyone has a turn
- Choose to behave well.

NEW BELL TIMES
School Commences 8.45am
School Finishes 3.00pm

Both Brass and Strings instrumental lessons will commence on Monday 2nd February

CHAPPY’S CORNER
I wish to introduce myself – for those who don’t know me. My name is Lynn Rathbone and I am the School Chaplain. I commenced at West 2 terms ago. I am married to Steve and we have three children – our eldest is 23 and working in Sydney and the other two are in grades 9 and 11. My interests are reading, gardening, travel, horse riding, cooking and looking after my animals. I have 9 Hens, two Dorper Sheep (one will have a lamb this year) a dog “Murphy” and two horses – Costa and Rorge. I am really excited about this term and getting to know your children and yourselves. I love working with children and I am passionate about their growth and wellbeing as a whole.

We will be doing a variety of activities this year – both indoor and outdoor. A sewing activity is planned this coming Monday with Mrs Morris – who is an experienced seamstress and a “Blue carded” Grandmother who loves to teach children sewing. We are going to be involved in gardening activities this term in the Sensory Garden near the SEP rooms and together with the “Green Team” we will be growing herbs and salad vegetables for use by the Tuckshop and looking after the Worm Farm. I have other craft and games activities planned this term and look forward to spending time having fun both in and out of the “Chappy Room”.

Please feel free to contact me via the School Office: 4132 8333 regarding any concerns you may have about your child or any assistance you might need or via email: lynnr@chappy.org.au

I am connected to the “Befriending Program” which is a free service available in Bundaberg through the Combined Churches of Bundaberg which caters for any social and emotional needs which you might have. Please pick up a yellow brochure with a “Sun” logo on it, in the School Office which will explain the service more fully or visit “friends changing lives” webpage.

I’m hoping you have a happy and healthy term 1.
Lynn Rathbone, School Chaplain

SWIMMING LESSONS
Swimming lessons have commenced. Parent supervisors needed. Please help your child be organised for swimming as the office staff will not be phoning parents for forgotten togs.

TUCKSHOP NEWS
Healthy Eating:
Schools have an important role in promoting healthy eating and physical activity to students and providing an environment that supports a healthy lifestyle. A healthy diet can improve behaviours critical to educational success, performance at school and improve academic performance. Tuckshops are an important part of the school environment.

Healthy Food:
West State School Tuckshop provides healthy food and drink choices that are tasty, interesting and affordable. West State School Tuckshop is open every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday beginning 11th February 2015. If you would like to volunteer please call in at the tuckshop or the school office to register your interest.

Volunteers:
Volunteers do not have to spend a whole day at the tuckshop. Parents, grandparents or members of the wider community can make a real contribution by volunteering for as little as an hour. All tuckshop volunteers, other than parents, are required to have a “Working with Children Blue Card” to ensure the safety of the students.

Menu:
A new tuckshop menu will take effect with the re-opening on Wednesday, 11th February. The new menu will be sent home next week.

TUCKSHOP OPEN FROM WEDNESDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY

JUNIOR TABLE TENNIS COME AND TRY
Bundaberg and District Table Tennis Association will hold a Come & Try Night on Friday 6th February from 7pm to 9pm at the Bundaberg Table Tennis Centre, Kendalls Road (opposite the Airport). It’s free, prizes to be won and a free drink and ice-block will be given to all players. Ring Dave Delpratt 41552388 for more information.

Junior season starts Friday 13th February 4.30—6.30pm
Nominations close Thursday 12th February
Junior coaching Every Friday 7pm to 9pm
Adult fixtures Tuesday and Wednesday nights
Social play Fridays 8.30am to 11.30am

DATE CLAIMERS for TERM 1, 2015
Leadership Presentation 2.20pm 9th February
Meet and Greet 3.15pm and 3.45pm 9th February
Prep 2015 Newsmail Photo Day 12th February
Last Day Term 1—Thursday 2nd April
Good Friday 3rd April
Easter Sunday 5th April
Easter Monday 6th April
First day Term 2 20th April
ANZAC Day—Saturday 25th April