Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another action packed excitement filled year!

Our students have settled in so brilliantly today. I did not see even one prep student upset; everyone in all the other classes seem so excited to be back at school and ready to learn. Some of our class numbers are quite high and looking at our figures it could mean an additional teacher which will mean smaller class numbers but we would have to adjust classes. Additional teacher numbers are based on day 8 figures which will be Thursday next week. In order to gain an additional teacher all our students need to be at school before day 8 figures have to go into Central Office, so if you know anyone who still has to come back to school please let them know how important it is that they come to school straight away so they do not miss out on important learning opportunities and we would also be able to know exactly where we are in terms of numbers. We will keep you up to date as to what is happening; it may mean an initial disruption for some classes but there would be a positive outcome.

Our Year 5 and 6 students did a spectacular job with their speeches for school captains. We use a democratic process where all the students and teachers have one vote each. It was a very difficult choice as our students were extremely confident and well prepared. Teachers, parents and students commented on how talented and responsible all the students who spoke were. The captains were announced on the last Thursday of 2013. Ava Stanford and Trent Altdonna are our Year 7 School Captains and Dalta Hatfield and Brody Mombelli are our two Year 6 School Captains. I am sure that these students will take their responsibilities seriously and closely work with our student council to lead and represent the student body and the school with pride. Alana Carbone missed being a year 6 school captain by 1 vote so will be the very first member of Ingham State School’s student council. The student council does a very important job feeding back information relating to student requests or identifying needs. They organise school social activities and in school playground activities. With the school captains they mentor and support students across the school. Speeches for student council and sports captains will take place in week 3.

With the 2014 monsoon season almost upon us, Ingham schools will be having a flood meeting on Thursday this week in which the guidelines and expectations for flooding situations will be reviewed to ensure that all schools have the same understandings regarding streamlined communication and how to best ensure the safety of our students.

Until the meeting I will just reiterate our message that we give out every year at this time in the case of a flood or cyclone: Parents and carers are urged to contact Ingham State School from 7:30am or listen to Radio 4TO at 6:30am for announcements by Education Queensland regarding floods and the closure of specific schools. Parents and carers are urged to contact Ingham State School from 7:30am or listen to Radio 4TO at 6:30am for announcements by Education Queensland regarding floods and the closure of specific schools. Please DO NOT contact any other school or the bus companies as it causes major communication congestion. Hopefully, we will not need to use these guidelines. However, in the case that we do, it should streamline communication.

THE ADMIN TEAM
**NOTES TO PARENTS**

**Absences**—Parents, please ring the school to advise that your child will be absent on the day of the absence, and the reason for their absence.

**Late Arrivals**—All students arriving at school late MUST present to the Office and collect a Late Arrival Slip which they then must give to their classroom teacher.

**Early Departures**—Parents, if you are arranging for someone other than yourselves to pick up your child early from school, ONLY those people you have listed as an Emergency Contact may do so and also, the Early Departure Register, which is located in the Office, MUST be signed and then the student collected from their classroom.

**2014 Ingham Arts Festival**

The Ingham Arts Festival will be held from Sunday 17 August to Friday 22 August.

The visual arts will be at The Knight Club and the Performing Arts will be at the Ingham Picture Theatre for individuals, and at the Shire Hall for the Speech and Choral Choirs.

The preliminary program will be available in early March with the nominations closing on June 20. Nominations, on the appropriate forms, together with fees may be posted to the Secretary, PO Box 1448, Ingham. We will also be taking all nominations on Friday 20 June and Saturday 21 June.

For any queries, please call either Rita Phillips on 0417 792 602, or Bernadette Mammino on 4776 2107.

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**2014 Speciality Baking Roster**

Wednesday 29 January — Gloria Rotondo
Thursday 30 January — Linda Ballin, Rebecca Weedbrook
Friday 31 January — Brenda Motti

**Bell Times**

Morning: First Bell 8:40am
Second Bell 8:45am

First Session: 8:50am to 10:50am
Lunch: Eating Bell 10:50am
End of Eating Bell 11:05am
End of Play 11:25am
Return to Class 11:30am

Second Session: 11:30am to 1:30pm
Afternoon Tea: Eating Bell 1:30pm
Play Bell 1:40pm
End of Play 1:55pm
Return to Class 2:00pm

Third Session: 2:00pm to 2:55pm

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**2014 SCHOOL YEAR**

**Term 1:**
- 28 January — Friday 4 April

**Term 2:**
- 22 April — Friday 27 June

**Term 3:**
- 15 July — Friday 19 September

**Term 4:**
- 7 October — Friday 12 December

**Pupil Free Days:**
- Monday 20 October

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**HOMEWORK FOLDERS**

We have, unfortunately, run out of Homework Folders; however, a new supply has been ordered and as soon as they arrive we will advise parents.

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**BUS NEWS**

Parents—if your child is catching a bus for the first time or a different bus from normal, please advise the Office or your child’s teacher which bus it is e.g. Herbert River No 2.

We also remind students that ONLY PORTS may be taken on board buses.

Thank You for your cooperation.

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**FOR SALE**

1 x Size 20 Boys Check Shirt.................$20
(Available from the Office)

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**URGENT NOTICE TO PARENTS**

Please ensure that the School Office has your current phone numbers in case the School has to contact you urgently regarding flooding or an emergency.

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**ISS Playgroup News**

2014 Playgroup will be commencing in week 3. Check next week’s Newsletter for more information.

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**Home**

Anne & Bridgette.