Hello everyone,

A massive start to the term with students engaging with the curriculum in unique ways. Firstly, 100% of our years 3 – 6 students were able to participate in Whitsunday Voices thanks to the sponsorship of the Winchester Foundation. Both teachers and students were raving about their experience. Above is a photo of Ehlana obtaining a signature from author R.A. Spratt.

Sarina and District Schools’ Chaplaincy Committee again sponsored a visit by Brad Huddleston (from USA) and Sgt Nigel Dalton (Qld Police) to present further information regarding the effects on the brain from ongoing exposure to personal electronic devices / gaming. Students were highly engaged with Brad and Nigel as they age appropriately taught about cyberbullying, and the indelibility of the ‘footprint’ left when uploading online. An informative summary is attached to the newsletter. For those who missed the parent session, Chappie Di has a list of 15 apps that are dangerous for children to use. These are available on request 😊

On Monday 17 of our students went to participate in the District Athletics Trials. They are to be congratulated on their behaviour and sportsmanship! Well done to all who participated. Congratulations to Jaelee Spenser who will be going to the regional carnival after her successful work in High Jump and Long Jump. Way to go Jaelee!

Rock Pop Mime preparation is reaching fever pitch as costumed dramas and last minute practices put polish on their performance. Friday’s parade will have a dress rehearsal / performance, so we will start parade at 2:30pm

-- Roslyn Waldron (Principal)

Why do we teach this way?
The purpose of teaching through a concrete-to-representational-to-abstract sequence of instruction is to ensure students truly have a thorough understanding of the concepts/skills they are learning.

- Each concept/skill is first modeled with concrete materials (e.g. chips, unifix cubes, base ten blocks, beans and bean sticks, pattern blocks).
- Students are provided many opportunities to practice and demonstrate mastery using concrete materials.
- The concept/skill is next modeled at the representational (semi-concrete) level which involves drawing pictures that represent the concrete objects previously used (e.g. tallies, dots, circles, stamps that imprint pictures for counting).
- Students are provided many opportunities to practice and demonstrate mastery by drawing solutions.
- The concept/skill is finally modeled at the abstract level (using only numbers and mathematical symbols).
- Students are provided many opportunities to practice and demonstrate mastery at the abstract level before moving to a new concept/skill.

So much work but it all feels like play!

Important Dates:
20 July – Rock Pop Mime practice in Mackay
20 July – First Aide Course @ 3:00pm
24 July – Sarina High School Scholarship Applications due.
27 July – Optiminds work begins in earnest – focused 3 weeks!
30 July – Arts Council Performance “Heave Ho! Off We Go!”
3 August – Music Avia
7 August – Free Dress Day! (Pyjama Party!)
14, 15 16 August – Blue Mountain Campdraft

Our Learning Objectives: 1. Reading and writing must make sense! 2. Student know what they know, and know what they need to know next!
Food for Thought

Being Honest and Trustworthy

Honest and trustworthy – does that describe you? If you saw someone unwittingly drop a $10 note, would you let them know or would you take the money for yourself? If you were aware that you had been accidently undercharged $10 in a shop, would you tell the shop assistant? Unfortunately, some people would do the dishonest thing in at least one of those situations. What about you? If you chose to do the right thing, you would discover something very special. In both instances, the gratitude that you would receive from the people involved would far outweigh any $10 cash benefit. If you are one of those individuals who proves by your actions that you are really trustworthy, you will always be greatly respected by others. Please remember that one of the most valuable things you own is your reputation. Guard it well – with honesty.

A message from Chappy Di.

Social Media Checklist for Parents:

1. Talk openly and often about online safety with kids.
2. Install safety monitoring software on all devices.
3. Limit screen time and designate specific areas for internet use.
4. Establish clear ground rules and safety principles.
5. Stay up to date on social media and online trends.

It's simple to participate. From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards). Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at Swayneville School or at our local Woolworths. Our box is the one decorated with Minions!

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Bus Runs

Swayneville School is most fortunate to start the year with three bus runs serving our school. There are the two runs that service Blue Mountain area, as well as the East Funnel Creek, Tara Creek and Middle Creek Areas. These are run by Bus Fox.

Bus Fox: 1800 809 734

Vassallo Buses: 07 49431600

The bus run out from Sarina is run by Vassallo Buses. Jim Vassallo is trialling this run, giving our school community a chance to prove viability. Jim is investing heavily in our school, so it really is a case of ‘use it, or loose it’.

Please contact the bus companies directly to register your child/ren. Vassallo Buses are also willing to discuss ‘best fit’ with families and it would be worth the conversation if you have enquiries.

At school, our task is help students make the bus in the afternoon. A roll call is taken each afternoon, and if students have changed arrangements and the school has not been informed, then staff are put into a very difficult position. Unless we are directly notified by parents of a change of arrangements, your child will follow their normal routine.

‘Bus Notes’ template (photocopy sheet) have been sent home with your child. Parents are welcome to give them directly to the class teacher, Mrs Hoare in the office or staple them in the KIT book (P–2). Of course, a phone call is also just as effective. Either way, the message needs to get to our bus duty teachers.

A code of bus conduct is applied for travel on school buses. This was sent home with bus students yesterday. Additional copies available.

A letter regarding possible rebates re bus travel for those on lower / limited income is yet another attachment.

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Year 4/5/6
Hannah Alway, Courtney Perna & Lucy Hamblin: excellence in behaviour, participation & persistence.

Year 3/4
Reeflen Clark: taking extra care in handwriting.
Izabel Stead super listener award.

Year 1/2
Will Hamblin: an amazing 1st week back at school & always giving 110% on all tasks.
Olivia Hauwert: great leadership skills in maths rotations.

Prep/1
Ty Tomlinson: improved handwriting.
Jett Davis: amazing generating of rhyming words.

Donohue: 187. Jackson: 127
Queen Bee: Prep/1.

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Swayneville State School
952 Sarina Marlborough Road
Sarina Qld 4737
Phone: (07) 4956 4530
P&C contact: pandc@swayneviss.eq.edu.au
Principal: Mrs Roslyn Waldron
Email: the.principal@swayneviss.eq.edu.au
Web Site: swayneviss.eq.edu.au/wcmss