Welcome back
It has been an eventful start to the new year. One thing that I have noticed within the last week is the absolute ‘never say die attitude’ of the community of Mundubbera. Despite the loss that so many have endured we continue to look after each other. As the next few weeks roll on we will need to continue to keep a close eye on each other and even ask for help if our children, friends or neighbours show signs or concerns. Education Queensland is currently working across a number of agencies to get support to all schools affected by natural disasters. Please see Mr Peter Townsend if there are any wellbeing concerns you may have for your children.

Student Numbers
The official number of students currently enrolled is 254. This is an increase of 18 students from 2012. There will likely be some small movement of students between year 4-6 to ensure that appropriate class sizes are consistent with Education directives. I will personally contact parents of any students who will be affected by changes.

Meet and Greet
We will be having an informal get together next Tuesday 12th February from 5.30pm. The ‘get together’ is for you to come and meet all the teachers and staff involved in your child’s education. There will be a BBQ and drinks provided.

Kids Help Line
A number of support agencies have been in contact with the school to provide direct or indirect support for students. Red Cross has provided the number for Kids Help line 1800 551 800, if required for students to talk to someone off site.

- Peter Townsend
SECONDARY ARTS COUNCIL COMING SOON

ChoreoFUNK will be performed for students in years 7 to 10 on Tuesday 12 February. Cost is $6 per student and this must be received by 11 February.

SECONDARY RESOURCE SCHEME

Information on the secondary resource scheme was distributed on Monday. It is essential that the agreement forms be signed and returned this week to enable student participation in the resource/book hire scheme. Please contact the school if you do not wish to join this resource scheme.
New secondary students are required to pay the $50 deposit and all secondary students need to pay the $40 resource fee plus levies associated with their chosen subjects.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL

This program for primary school students will commence next week and be held on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Afternoon tea will be provided from 2.30 with activities from 2.45 to 3.45.
Parents / carers of those wishing to participate must complete a form available from the school office before children are eligible to attend.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS NEEDED

There are many requests for second-hand clothing and your assistance would be very welcome. If you have second hand uniforms available for donation or sale, please forward them to the school office with your name and price attached. Those with no such note will be presumed to be donated.

HEALTH ISSUES

There are mosquitoes and sandflies in abundance at school and around town. We have repellent available in all classrooms and at the office. Please ensure any bites that may become infected are treated appropriately and kept clean if at all possible. There have been several cases of vomiting and diarrhoea reported in town. This is of great concern and proper hygiene must be maintained to stop this illness spreading. Hand sanitiser is being used at school. Should any member of your family be unfortunate enough to contract this illness, please keep them isolated and drinking small amounts of fluid frequently. They should not return to school or mingle with others until symptoms have cleared for 48 hours.

SECONDARY CAMPS

As parents would be aware, the school was planning to conduct a camp program for all secondary students in week 7 (March 12th to 15th). It has been decided that due to the recent flood and aftermath, it would be more responsive to either postpone or alter the proposed camp program. I therefore wish to advise all parents that both camps have been cancelled, however we are investigating other options later in the year. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me.— John Balshaw, Head of Department
SECONDARY AG NOTE
Due to a range of circumstances a decision has been made that our Ag students will not attend the Brahmousin Cattle Handling school that is being held in Wondai on the 16th & 17th of February. We are hoping to provide a similar opportunity to students later in the year.

FROM THE LIBRARY
Book club pamphlets have been handed out. We are sorry for the short notice due to late school commencement after flooding.
Book club orders and payment are due by 10.30am on Wednesday 13 February. Payment should be by cash or cheque payable to Mundubbera State School.
The Dragon Readers Program will continue for primary school students this year. New students will receive a folder for this activity.
Here’s how it works:
Each primary school child reads and/or is read to for 10 minutes at a time that suits each day. An adult needs to hear the child read.
Each parent dates and initials the appropriate space in the record folder. One signature a day maximum please.
When the dragon reader has filled the current sheet, he/she returns the record sheet to our library and progresses to the next level.
Awards and incentives are given when readers achieve each level. Also at each level a certificate will be given to students to celebrate their success.

AG STUDENTS HELP OUT
Thanks to Brittany, Misty, Tianna, Emma, Bailey, Tully, Nathan, Jackson and Benjamen who joined Mrs Evans in volunteer work last Friday. They helped to clear rubbish and stabilise fruit trees at Wittmann’s farm.

The efforts of all who helped with furniture removal and flood clean-up activities during the recent very trying times are appreciated.
THANKS FOR THE COLOURING BOOKS
Thanks to Townsville Rural Fire Brigade members who brought colouring books for our Prep students and to volunteers from Red Cross who brought activity books for students in Prep to year 4. The generous support from within the community and from throughout Australia is greatly appreciated. Red Cross volunteers arrived today from South Australia to help in our town and other volunteers have come from throughout Queensland.

Congratulations to Students of the Week, awarded on last Friday’s parade.

25 February    Primary Arts Council  *Three Endangered Animals*

**EMERGENCY RELIEF CLOTHING AVAILABLE**
There is a considerable amount of clothing and linen available for collection from the RSL Hall. These items have been donated to flood-affected Mundubbera people. The RSL hall is presently open daily.