Congratulations to all our students on the excellent start to the term. Already our students have shown focus in getting back into their learning. Also last week we began our whole school swim program and it was fantastic to see the excellent behaviour of students continued even though it was something new this year. I would also like to thank the great support of our parents ensuring that every child is at school on time and ready to ensure that they are best prepared to make the most of their learning opportunities.

Also I would like to thank our P & C who at the last meeting donated $ 8000 to support school programs and support all students to be able to access programs. Thank you to all families that have been part of the fundraising group that continues to enhance opportunities for all students at Bouldercombe State School.

Friday this week our Year 3, 5 and 7 students that participated in NAPLAN program earlier this year will receive their individual reports. If you have any questions or queries, please don’t hesitate to catch your child’s classroom teacher.

Finally with the increase in temperature, a number of students are requiring reminders about the need to drink water. We would appreciate your support to also remind them about drinking more and having a water bottle with them at school.

Please don’t forget this coming Monday is a Student Free Day. During this time teachers will be working through development programs. During week 3 Miss Stace will be on Long Service leave until the following Monday replacing her will be Mrs Knight.

**Chickenpox (Varicella)** We have been informed of a confirmed case of chickenpox within our school. As chickenpox is a highly contagious disease we ask for your help in being vigilant with children at home and checking that there are no signs or symptoms before sending them to school. If a student has chickenpox please advise the school and keep them at home for a minimum of 5 days after the rash first appears or until dry scabs have replaced all blisters. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Description** Chickenpox (varicella) is a highly contagious disease caused by the varicella-zoster virus.

**Symptoms** The disease starts with cold-like symptoms such as a mild fever, headache, runny nose and cough. A day or two later a rash begins, starting as small pink blotches but rapidly progressing to itchy blisters which usually last three to four days before drying out and turning into scabs.

**Transmission** Chickenpox is spread through coughing, sneezing and direct contact with the fluid in the blisters of the rash. The dry scabs are not infectious. Since shingles blisters also contain the virus, a person who has never had chickenpox can become infected with chickenpox from someone who has shingles. An individual with chickenpox is infectious for about one to two days before the onset of the rash and until the blisters have all scabbed, usually four to five days. The usual time between contact with the virus and developing the illness is about 14 to 16 days, although sometimes it can take longer.

**Treatment** No specific treatment is recommended or required for otherwise healthy children and adults with chickenpox. It is important to try to prevent a young child from scratching the rash as this can result in permanent scarring or secondary infection. To reduce the itchiness, try adding an anti-itch solution (eg. Pinetarsol) to frequent baths. Use paracetamol to lower temperature or to reduce discomfort. Aspirin must not be given to young children and adolescents due to the risk of developing a severe condition called Reyes Syndrome. This is particularly important for children who have or who may be developing chickenpox.

**Health Outcome** For the majority of children, chickenpox is a mild illness of short duration with complete recovery. While chickenpox is usually a mild disease in healthy children, life-threatening complications such as pneumonia or inflammation of the brain (encephalitis) are possible. It can be fatal in about three in 100,000 cases. Chickenpox is more
severe in adults and can cause serious and even fatal illness in immunosuppressed individuals of any age. Chickenpox can also cause shingles (herpes zoster) in later life.

**Control** People with chickenpox should be excluded from childcare facilities, schools or work for at least five days after the rash first appears or until dry scabs have replaced all blisters. Any contacts with lowered immunity, such as those with leukaemia, should be immediately excluded and referred for specialist advice.

**P&C News**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Peta as our new Treasurer and Uniform Co-ordinator. It was also great to see more people attending last week’s P&C monthly meeting. At this meeting, the P&C formally endorsed a donation of $8,000 to the School, to support a range of items for 2013 including camps and classroom resources. Donations such as these are only made possible through the excellent work done by our team of passionate fundraisers, led by Kaye.

Uniforms were also discussed, and it may be possible to get similar uniforms at a substantially reduced cost. These may not be exactly the same as the current ones, and some samples are being obtained for display and comment.

The next P&C monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday night, 5th November, at 7pm, and everyone is most welcome to attend.

**Win A Marquee** from The Morning Bulletin. Help us win a marquee! We are collecting tokens from The Morning Bulletin to go into the draw to win a marquee. Simply drop off your tokens with entry form to the school office to put us in the running!

**Birthdays:**

Happy Birthday to Brodie (18th) who celebrates her birthday this week.

**Students of the Week:**

P/1- Lucas & Becca
1/2- Thomas & Chelsea
2/3- Chloe & Paige
4/5- Steven, Drew & Vanessa
6/7- Trey, Noah & Amber

**Yeppoon JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes**

Where: Merv Anderson Park, Yeppoon. When: 10th November 2013, Walk starts at 10.00am. Short Walk – 1.83km, Long Walk – 4.2km. Food, Drinks & Entertainment after the walk. For further information:- phone Katie 0429 015 454. Become part of a team that makes a difference, register today at www.jdrf.org.au/walk or call 1300 363 126

**2014 Brisbane Broncos Memberships**

Buck to Bronco Membership includes: *Non-ticketed core benefits pack – see broncos.com.au for inclusions * 2014 Junior Pass to allow free entry to games (conditions apply) * Broncos Backpack * Broncos Shoe Laces * Broncos Drink Bottle * Birthday Card featuring player Autographs * Invitation to the Buck to Broncos coaching clinin – Only $60 (conditions apply) BRONCOS.COM.AU 1300 46 2766

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Thursday 17 October  Active After School (YrP-7 3.15pm-4.15pm)
Friday 18 October  Tuckshop Forms & Payment Due
Monday 21 October  Student Free Day
Wednesday 23 October  TCC Small Schools Day 9.30am -1pm (Yr 7’s)
Thursday 24 October  Tuckshop
Wednesday 30 October  NO Dance
Wednesday 30 October  Pre-prep Morning 9-10.30am
Tuesday 5 November  P&C Meeting 7.00pm (All Welcome)
Wednesday 20 November  Pre-prep Morning 9-10.30am
Wednesday 4 December  P&C Meeting & EOY Afternoon Tea 4.15pm (All Welcome)
Thursday 8 December  Swimming Carnival at Gracemere Pool
Monday 9 December  Gold Awards
Thursday 12 December  End of Year Presentation