I was recently talking to a teacher who has just been appointed to their first school and I could see the excitement and expectations of getting into their classroom and start practicing their craft. They had a love of teaching, a rush of enthusiasm and desire to make a difference in their student's life, both in and out of the classroom. I was reminded of my first days at Quirindi Primary School in 1986 as a casual teacher, looking with great excitement taking on a Yr 3 class for six months and I was reminded of why I became a teacher. It’s more than a job. Teaching really is a calling and only certain people can fulfil that ‘call’.

Every day we as teachers have countless opportunities to be a positive influence on the lives of the students we teach. It is an incredible privilege to play a part in shaping a young person’s life. This privilege is not afforded to everyone. I remember a teacher during a prac once telling me that “Our words create our world” That is, often what we say will reflect what others think of us. However it’s not only our world that we create. Our words influence those around each and every one of us. We can all think of that negative person who never has anything good to say, so we don’t want to be that person. Our words are powerful, and so we need to make sure every day counts. There is purpose and life and influence to be found in every day. We must remind ourselves of this in every class, in every conversation, in all our interactions. Every day really does count. Don’t waste a single one.

As novelist John Irving once said “You take every opportunity given you in this world, even if you have too many opportunities. One day, the opportunities stop, you know.” Our school ethos is “Small school BIG opportunities”. Take the opportunities presented, weigh up their importance and effect on your life and decide whether it’s what you want and need. There are wonderful experiences we encounter throughout our time at school and one this week was to sit in a workshop with renowned author John Heffernan. These opportunities offered enrich our lives with possibilities of taking our lives on to tangents never thought imaginable.

“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.” Thomas A. Edison

Christopher Jackson
Principal

Small school “BIG” opportunities!
**TERM 1**

**March 2013**

- **Blandford Horse Sports** 25th March
- **Cross Country/Easter Hat Parade** 28th March

**Lunch Orders**
Thank you to Tennille Kelly and Jasmin for making lunches this week. Lunches on Monday 25th will be made by Helen Smith.

**Thank you**
Thank you to Marion Scott for her kind donation to the school of the Quipolly Book.

**Easter Service**
A Easter Service will be held at the Anglican Church at 12pm on Thursday 28th. Everyone is welcome.
After the service we will have Fish Fingers for sale at the school 50c each. The money will be donated to Project Compassion.

**Ties**
New ties are available from Lowes in Tamworth for $20.00. The school has limited second hand ties available for purchase of $10.00 each.

**Cross Country**
This year’s Cross Country will be held at Wallabadah Race Course. The event will start at 9.30am. Transport for your child to and from the event need will need to be arranged. Everyone is welcome.

**John Heffernan Visit-By Jock Barnett**
On Wednesday the 25th of March John Heffernan came to our school. He talked about some of the books that he has written. Books like The Boot Thief and Haunted Australia were based on true stories. While Mr Heffernan was writing Haunted Australia in his writing shed he had some strange things happen to him. Some of his books have been published in China and France. I really enjoy some of his books and his life stories.
Assembly was held by K-2. Hosts were Brayden Smith and Sienna Cronin.

**Awards**

**K-1-2 Class**
*Brian Stocks* for improvement with sightword knowledge.
*Alanamae Abbott-Blundell* for constructing better sentences in written work.
*Eve Porter* for excellent number skills in Maths.

**Mrs Roseby**
Andrea Makeham for being a thoughtful mediator.

**3-4-5-6 Class**
*Jamie Upperton* for great problem solving skills. Well Done Jamie.
*Maryjane Abbott-Blundell* for working well in mental arithmetic. Congratulations.

**New Smoking Laws**
Each week we will be including important changes made on 7th January by the NSW government about new requirements in NSW making smoke free outdoor areas.

**P&C News**
Hello Parents & Guardians,

Monday night was the P&C AGM, what a great roll up we had!! It was great to see new and old faces. Let's keep the enthusiasm going. Remember everyone is welcome.

The new committee was elected. With myself as President, Jeff Nankivell as Vice President, Meagan Hall as Secretary and Mandy Smith as Treasure. Along with our new fundraising committee, Amanda Young, Nicole Harris

Natasha Payne and Kerralea Effer. Congratulations to all and let's have a successful year raising money for our school.

Next meeting will be the 13th May. Please come along and become a member to have your say.

Happy Easter
Cheryl Bray
President

Don’t forget to please donate something “eastery” for the annual Easter Raffle. Your Contribution helps raise funds for the students. Keep an eye out for Kerralea at IGA this Saturday selling raffle tickets.
Cheryl will be reordering new pavers for those who missed out last year and wish to have their family/child’s name included in the school beautification project. If anyone is interested in ordering please contact Cheryl or collect a form from Jaime at the office.

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**Wallaby Week Ahead Term 1, 2013**

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| **WEEK 5**  
  Young Leaders Day  
  Blandford Horse Sports | | | Cross Country/Church Service/Easter Hat Parade | Good Friday |

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Quirindi Junior Basketball**

**FINAL Registration Day**

Saturday the 23rd March  
Quirindi High School Hall  
9:00am to 11:00am

$70 High School Students  
$50 Primary Students  
(No additional court fees charged)

4 Divisions:

- Years 1 & 2
- Years 3, 4 & 5
- Years 6 & 7
- Years 8, 9 & 10

Competition is played on Friday Nights and run during Terms 2 and 3.

Don’t miss out at being a part of this great sport.  
“We never get washed out”

Enquiries: Terry Beresford 0412787680  
www.quirindibasketball.com.au

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**Netball Registration Days**

Rose St Courts, Quirindi  
March 23 and April 6  
10am to 1pm  
(Grading Day April 6 for 8-12 years)

Phone Carolyn 0478 048 308 or Cindy 6746 3338