Welcome back to 2015. It was wonderful to see so many happy faces on our first day. We welcome our new students, Sean and Jack, to our school community. They join younger brother Luke who is delighted to have his older brothers with him. We also welcome Tenayah and Tayten who join Miss Ryan’s class in the Prep/Year 1 room. And of course we welcome our other new Preps, Connor and Kate. We hope your learning journey has started well in a fabulous class of 12 students.

As you will have noticed our school is nearing the end of external paint work. We thank our painters for their endeavours over the past 3 weeks to complete most of their work by the start of term. The paint team should be finished by the end of this week. I thank all staff, parents and children for their patience, working around scaffolding and remaining safe.

Thank you also to Dawn and Geoff Johanson for their great efforts over the holidays, particularly in the scorching heat, to keep grounds, pests, carpets and facilities maintained. We all really appreciate coming back to such a fresh, clean learning environment.

In the next week or so, after the painters have finished, we will ‘top up’ our soft fall areas with new river sand, as these areas have settled considerably with all the rain over recent times.

Our 2015 School Improvement Goal: to improve student outcomes in Writing, Reading Comprehension and Spelling.

Our 2015 School Rules: Be RESPONSIBLE • Be RESPECTFUL • Be SAFE • Be a LEARNER

DATES TO REMEMBER

3 Feb. P&C Meeting
9 Feb. Gympie Times Prep Photo
13 Feb. Swimming Lessons commence
16 Feb. Auskick commences
27 Feb. Jake Garrett Free Dress Day
19 March Gympie Primary Leaders Day
2 April Beach/Surf Program
2 April End Term 1

EVERY FRIDAY @ 9.00 a.m. - PLAYGROUP

From the Principal….

The year ahead is looking very exciting! Already we have Auskick and swimming in place for this term, starting week 3. As well, we have organised a beach awareness program with lifesavers. This will culminate with a day at Moooloolaba beach on the last day of term. We will move actively into our teaching and learning routines. Over the next few weeks staff will be participating in professional learning as we introduce a whole of school literacy program which boosts and supports student literacy skills. This program, MultiLit, is devised from international scientific research and its approach is to improve literacy skills through explicit, consistent instruction and to track and develop individual student progress. It is comprised of 3 parts: PreLit, (aimed at students up to Prep), MiniLit (aimed at students up to Years 2/3) and Reading Tutor Program (for all students). This, combined with our continued efforts of targeting reading comprehension skills, will form a very strong whole school focus on literacy.

Gympie Times Newspaper Prep Photo….
Each year the Gympie Times runs a special segment to showcase the Preps starting school. Photographers will be visiting Dagun School to photograph our Preps on Monday, 9th February. Parents of Prep students are asked to complete the attached Permission Form, advising if they wish their child to be photographed and published in the newspaper. Please return permissions to the office by next MONDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY.

PLEASE NOTE: The Gympie Times has advised that they have a long-standing policy that first and surnames of all people photographed in their newspaper must be published.

Swimming Lessons….
Swimming lessons will commence in Week 3 on Friday, 13th February. Whilst the school will pay for bus fares between school and the Kandanga pool, we ask that parents contribute towards pool entry at $4.00 per child per week. The bus will leave school at 12.15 noon and return to school around 2.15p.m. Lessons will be conducted by qualified swim instructors—our PE teacher, Mr. Phil McEnery and Neil, swim instructor, lifeguard and lessee at Kandanga Pool. They will be assisted by two teaching staff, two teacher aides plus any parents who would like to help out. Students need to bring their togs, towel and water bottles—as well as usual morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Please complete and return the attached Permission Form to the school office by next MONDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY.

Cont’d over page…. 
**Gympie Touch Football Association**

Season 1 2015 Junior sign-on

**Date:** 4th February 2015  
**Time:** 3:30pm-5:00pm  
**Venue:** Albert Park, Bruce Highway  
**Enquiries:** gympietouch@gmail.com

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**HOCKEY SIGN ON**

Hockey is a great sport for all ages. A new season is starting soon.  
Sign on is at the Gympie Hockey Club (cnr of Woolgar & Power Rd.) on Friday, 13th February 5pm-7pm and Saturday, 14th February 10am-2pm.  
Divisions include Under 9, Under 11, Under 13, Youth Boys and Girls and Senior Men and Women.  
We also have Hook in2 Hockey for kids just starting out for ages from 5 to 7.  
Some come give hockey a go. It’s a great family sport.  
For any more details have a look on our website, [www.gympiehockey.org.au](http://www.gympiehockey.org.au) or contact Ben Fitzpatrick 0448094420.

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**P&C Meeting**

Our next P & C meeting will be held next Tuesday, 3rd February at 5.00 p.m. at the school admin office. We strongly welcome all our parents, new and old. Our meetings are very informal and relaxed, and we value parent contributions towards making our school the best for our children. Our main item on the Agenda is our TRIVIA NIGHT to be held **SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY** at the Amamoor hall.
PREP PHOTOGRAPH PERMISSION
(PLEASE RETURN TO THE OFFICE BY MONDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY)
I, _______________________________________________________ DO / DO NOT
give permission for my child ________________________________
to be photographed by The Gympie Times on Monday, 9th February and
for it to be published in their Prep feature.
Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________________
(Parent / Caregiver)

SWIMMING LESSONS PERMISSION
(PLEASE RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY MONDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY)
I, _______________________________________________________ give permission for my child/ren,
________________________________________
to travel by bus to and from the Kandanga Pool each Friday from the 13th February for 6 weeks to
participate in swimming lessons. Cost $4.00 per lesson, per child - a total of $24.00 per child.

☐ I enclose $___________ being payment for all 6 lessons OR
☐ I enclose $___________ for the first lesson and will continue to pay for lessons each week.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________________
(Parent / Caregiver)

AUSKICK PERMISSION
(PLEASE RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY MONDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY)
I, _______________________________________________________ give permission for my child/ren,
________________________________________
to participate in Auskick for 7 weeks from Monday, 16th February. I enclose payment of $10 per child.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: _________________
(Parent / Caregiver)