Dear parents, carers and friends of our school,

Well we made it through the “east coast low” “rain event” a little wetter, a little inconvenienced but safe. We apologise for a breakdown of our communication systems on Friday and yesterday morning: our internet and phone networks (and me!) were temporarily unavailable, so we’re sorry for any frustration or inconvenience.

I guess we are getting a little blasé about “rain events”, but the reality is, as a wealthy country we are well prepared for dealing with challenges. Think about it, we get warnings ahead of time, our infrastructure (roads, gutters, drains, houses) is well designed, our emergency services, police, SES, medical facilities are amazing. It always amazes me how quickly power can be restored to thousands of homes within a few days of a storm event. Our culture of rolling up our sleeves and helping our mates is wonderful too.

However, when disaster strikes in poor countries the impact is horrendous. Usually they are so poor that their building codes and infrastructure can’t withstand the cyclone or earthquake. They are too poor to have widespread emergency services and medical facilities available to put things back together again. The results are devastating – so many people, mostly the elderly and the children, die needlessly for want of basic medicines, clean water and shelter.

So, consistent with our school vision (see highlighted words below), it encourages me when I am approached by students of this school who UNDERSTAND OUR WORLD, themselves and others, and who ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE of responding to natural disasters in other lands and then seek to CREATE options and solutions.

When Ziggy (6M) and Arley Thorp (5CM) approached me to ask if our school could do something to help the people of Nepal, I was impressed. I wanted to support them (because even children need to know that they can make a difference).

That’s why the P&C also wants to help our students to reach out to the people of Nepal.

So, next Monday, students at this school will be sent home with a $10 book of raffle tickets. If every student in our school sold their tickets, we would raise over $3000 to send to a chosen international aid organization to assist the people of Nepal.

We have our problems but they don’t usually compare to the disasters in places like Nepal – over 7000 dead and 100,000’s of people homeless and at risk of death and disease. Arley and Ziggy want to lead our boys and girls to raise money for first aid kits, tents and water – basics - to save lives in Nepal. Please help!

At our school we are…
LEARNING TO UNDERSTAND, our WORLD, OURSELVES and OTHERS,
to accept CHALLENGES,
to CREATE options and solutions, and
striving to be the BEST THAT WE CAN BE
as individuals and as citizens.

Cheers!

Ray Rincheval, Proud Principal
From the Snack Shack

Thanks to all our volunteers who have been in to help through the week.

Please support our canteen’s Mother’s Day raffle—1st prize a basket of goodies in excess of $250 including a $50 Coles voucher and other exciting gifts, 2nd prize is a Perfect Slicer and extra goodies including a bag of Nutrimetics valued over $70 and 3rd prize is another bag of goodies valued around $50. Tickets are $2.00 each or 3 for $5.00. Please send in your money to the canteen and don’t forget to include your child’s name and class. There’s only a couple of days to go so don’t miss out. It will be draw at the Infants Assembly on Friday.

Jody Phillis
Canteen Supervisor

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**WOOLGOOLGA FUN FUNS** will be held on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th May as listed:

- **11.2Km Forest Foot Race** Saturday 9th May 3.00pm—start and finish corner Pullen Street and Pacific Hwy
- **5Km Seaside Scamper** Sunday 10th May 8.00am Woolgoolga Beach Reserve
- **2Km Beach Bash** Sunday 10th May 8.45am Woolgoolga Beach Reserve
- **1km Tiny Tot Trot** Sunday 10th May 9.00am Woolgoolga Beach Reserve

**COST:**
- $6 per adults for Forest Foot Race and Seaside Scamper or $10 for both
- $3 for pensioners and students for Forest Foot Race and Seaside Scamper
- $2.00 per entry Beach Bash
- $1.00 for Tiny Tot Trot

For further information please phone Steel Beveridge 66 56 2735 or email steellyn@gmail.com.

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**STEWART HOUSE DONATION DRIVE**

This week your child will be bringing home an envelope for the Stewart House annual donation appeal. Stewart House supports students of public schools and a number of students from Sandy Beach have benefitted from their services.

Please fill in your name, address, phone number and school, insert a donation of at least $2.00 into the envelope and return it to the school office before 12th May so you can be included in the drawer.

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

Parking in our Disability Access driveways is an offence. Please keep this area clear for the Maxi Taxi. A swinging farm gate has now been installed at this entry.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Parents collecting students of an afternoon can enter the school site and park in the area below the Year 6 classrooms, on the proviso that they get out of their parked car to collect their child from the top quadrangle and escort them by hand, back to the vehicle. This entry and exit is not to be used in the morning.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Sandy Beach PS students want to help the people of Nepal following the recent devastating earthquake. As a fundraiser, at $10 book of RAFFLE TICKETS will be sent home with the girls and boys on Monday.