Dear parents, carers and friends of the school,

Thank you those families that have paid the school contributions either over the counter or online via our school website. Resource packs will be issued to students as soon as payment is received.

Thank you to those parents and carers who turned up for our Meet the teacher event yesterday. We trust that you enjoyed the experience and went away confident that we are well positioned to deliver a great year for your child’s learning and development in 2016.

Now for some essential safety messages for you to note….

All visitors to the school site need to sign in and sign out at the front office
We need to be informed of any changes in address or emergency contacts
We need to be informed of any court orders relating to your child’s safety, e.g. AVO
We need a completed Health Care Plan if your child has asthma, a severe allergy, epilepsy or a serious medical condition (including prescribed medication that needs administration at school)
Please follow our School Zone laws, e.g. No Parking, No Stopping, 40KM speed limit.
Never call a child across the road to your vehicle if parked or stopped on Saye Close
Never use the Staff Car parks or the Access Driveway near the hall in your vehicle or as a pedestrian
Parking is available via Saye Close on the first driveway entry to the north. You may park behind the Stage 3 building but again, you must get out of your car to get your child

We are all here to LEARN to UNDERSTAND our world, ourselves and others, to accept challenges, to create and to be the best that we can be…..

But child safety is our first priority!

Regards, Ray Rincheval, Proud Principal
School Contributions are levied on the families of the school to increase the opportunities available to the students. The level of contribution is determined each year after consultation with parent and staff representatives. The following contributions have voluntary and resource pack components. The fees for 2016 are unchanged from 2014 and are set as:

$70 for one child including 1 X Resource Pack valued at $45  
$120 for two children includes 2 x Resource Packs valued at $90  
$160 for three or more children includes 3 Resource Packs worth $135

Why do we seek School Contributions?
At our school we seek excellence in everything we do. We believe that your children deserve the best. School Contributions are an investment that families make to ensure that we continue to provide “oceans of opportunity” at Sandy Beach. Government funding pays the staff, most of the bills and for some of the learning materials. The school contributions that you make directly to us, allow us to provide the extras such as art supplies, musical instruments, sound and lighting for our plays and musicals, sporting and play equipment, attractive gardens and more. You’ll notice the difference!

Do the Resource Packs include online subscriptions and textbooks, as part of the package?
Yes! As part of the general school contribution, we provide specially selected resource packs for each class ($45). In 2016 the Resources in the pack will be given out during the year by the classroom teacher. Any textbooks in the pack will be given out as soon as the fees have been paid. We believe that the Resource packs are good value because we buy in bulk and can pass on the savings.

How do I pay the fees?
Fees are payable over the counter by cash or cheque. Parents may also make pay the fees securely online via our website [http://www.sandybeach-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.sandybeach-p.schools.nsw.edu.au). Look for the ‘Make a payment’ tab and please try to separate the ‘Voluntary Contributions’ ($25 per student) from the Resource Pack component ($45 per student). (use ‘Subject Contributions’ tab) Full instructions are provided in the ‘Notes’ section of our website.

When do the fees need to be paid?
School Contributions can be paid NOW. As an incentive for prompt payment, any families who have paid their School Contribution for the year within the next 2 weeks, will be entered into a draw where 3 families will receive a refund of their voluntary contributions component ($25).

What if a family is experiencing financial difficulty?
Most families budget to make their school contribution a priority. Where a family has financial difficulty in paying the fees, they may seek to pay by installments or may contact the school for financial assistance. Some families that cannot pay their school contributions volunteer their time to help at the school, or make a special effort to support the P&C in fundraising activities. Remember, if everyone contributes the children are the winners!
Expected Educational Expenses in a Typical Year at School

How do our school expenses compare with other schools? In a Sunday Telegraph report (way back in 2012) it was estimated that typical expenses for a student in a public school exceeded $3308 per year. The costs of sending a child to a Catholic school was said to exceed $6000 and to send your child to some private schools might cost you in excess of $15000pa, according to this article.

At our school we estimate that the typical "all up" cost of one year at primary school is more like $840, not $3308!

Yes, tuition in the standard curriculum in public schools is free but there are always other costs including voluntary contributions, resource packs, uniforms, excursions, payment for extracurricular programs e.g. swimming schemes, participation in off site sporting carnivals, visiting performances, enrichment activities such as extension mathematics and science days, dance workshops, music workshops, debates, dress ups, class parties, dances, etc.

We know that it all adds up but we believe that at our school offers great value for money for a broad and rich curriculum with lots of extras.

To assist you with your budgeting, the following table estimates the total cost of attending our school for a typical primary student in a typical year at our school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uniform: 2X shirts ($40), 2X shorts ($32), jacket ($40), shoes ($75), hat ($10), 4X socks ($20)</td>
<td>$227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backpack $40, lunch box and water bottle $20, pencils/pencil case $20</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary Contribution including resource pack:</td>
<td>$75 max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming for Sport: 7XS8</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major excursions: Year 3 ($70); Year 4 ($150); Year 5 ($250); Year 6 ($450)</td>
<td>$215 av</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intensive swimming Program Year 2 and older non-swimmers</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting performances: 2 @ $8</td>
<td>$16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School photos</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths &amp; Science Enrichment Day @ $8 each X 2</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Education Van Drug Education Program (Healthy Harold $8.00)</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Dance lessons: 10 x $4</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Carnival interschool sport</td>
<td>$7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSW International Competition entries average $7 per test</td>
<td>$14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold coin' fundraisers, e.g. our sponsorship of a school in Vanuatu, disaster appeals: 4 x $2</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fete spending say,</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family entry into Musical/Play = $15 (parents and children immediate family only)</td>
<td>$10 per family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL Say... = $840

So, for a student to fully access the "oceans of opportunity" provided at our school it would typically cost between $450 and $900 per year and probably averages around $750 for a Year 4 student. The total is surprising and if you have more than one child at school the impact on the family budget can be really significant.

That is why you need to plan for and budget for the real cost of schooling. That is why you need to be aware of some strategies for managing the educational expenses such as:

- checking your eligibility for the Smith Family's Savers initiative
- paying off major excursions in regular installments
- putting aside some money each week as part of the school budget
- choosing extra-curricular sporting opportunities wisely by limiting sports representation to only one or two sports
- using the clothing pool
- labeling every piece of your child’s clothing and property so that you don’t have to pay for replacements
- investing in school hat ($15) before surf caps ($20+)
- contacting the principal if experiencing financial difficulty to negotiate payment plans or financial support, if Available.

Warm regards,
Ray Rincheval, Principal
Woolgoolga Physical Culture

Woolgoolga Physical Culture Club classes will resume at Sandy Beach School Hall on Monday 15th February for girls aged 4 through to ladies.

Physi is a unique sport combining carefully choreographed exercises, basic ballet, gymnastics, Pilates and dance all in one! It’s all above movement, flexibility, core body strength, rhythm and coordination.

Come along and try the first class for free, meet some new friends and learn some new skills, for more information please ring Kerrianne on 0412 555 678 or Michelle on 6654 0887.

AMY Gravino will be offering group Guitar tuition at Sandy Beach Public School in 2016. This is available every Friday during school hours at a cost of $10 per week. Guitars are available to hire. Limited places. Please fill in and return note below to school office ASAP or contact Amy directly on 0438 121 276.

Name: ...............................................Class: ...........................................

Parent Name: .......................... Contact Number:..........................

WOOLGOOLGA JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

REGISTRATION DAYS 2016

UNDER 7’s TO UNDER 16’s

Upstairs at Seaview Tavern Pay before the 27th of FEB for $85.00

13TH OF FEBRUARY, 10:00am- 12:00pm
27TH OF FEBRUARY, 10:00am- 12:00pm
Like us on FACEBOOK (Woolgoolga Junior Seahorses)