Dear Parents and Carers,

As this is our last newsletter for the year I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during this year. It has no doubt been an Extra-ordinary year or an extraordinary year, whichever way you wish to look at it. The resilience shown during the time of need was amazing and has truly defined us this year.

Year 6 Celebration

Last night we had a wonderful celebration for Year 6 students and their families. Thank you to Trevor Milton, Vanessa Hoffensetz, Matt Williams, Tara-Lee Parker, Jo Walker, Annette Gough, Paul Temple and Rebecca Stevenson, for their work in planning, preparing students for the event and the work on the night. It was a really enjoyable night as usual. Thank you to our invited guests who attend every year to present awards and trophies. Year 6 will enjoy a Fun Event at Tenpin today.

Farewell

Farewell to our families who are leaving the school either through transfers, relocations or family all now going to be in secondary school. We appreciate and value your contribution to our school over the years. Also farewell to our Year 6 students who will be heading into secondary school. We wish you all the best.

To our staff who are leaving us, Denise Svane, Sheree Smylie, Kylie Green and Penny Cockrem we wish you all the best and thank you for your great contribution to Oonoonba SS. Thank you to Penny Cockrem especially who has dedicated 39 years to students in state schools. Well done to Penny and we wish her all the best for her retirement.

Mr Williams has been successful in gaining a position at Aitkenvale SS for Term 1 as a PBL Coach so we wish him well. We will welcome new staff next year.

Report Cards

Report Cards will be issued today. You child should bring home a sealed envelope containing with their report card. Our students and teachers have worked hard this year, despite the disruption during Term 1.

2020 Meet the Teacher Open Session

All new and returning students to the school are invited to attend an Open Session from 1.30-2.30pm on Friday 24th January, 2020. This session is open for you to come in and meet your child’s teacher and bring in all the belongings in preparation for the start of the year. All going well you will receive a text message on the day before or on Friday morning with information about the class for your child.

2020 School Year

School begins on Tuesday 28th January 2020. After a well-deserved break, we look forward to the new school year. Thank you once again for a very successful 2019. Please enjoy a collage of photos to reflect on this year.

Anne-Marie Day
Principal
Year 6 students and their families attended the Celebration Farewell last night at Rydges Southbank. It was a special night for all concerned and I would like to thank Mr Williams, Mrs Walker, Mrs Parker, Mr Temple, Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Gough for their work in preparing for the evening.

Special guests presented a range of awards and the evening was highlighted by the very crisp Year 6 instrumental ensemble performance, the audio-visual presentation of the 2019 year that was, and the performance of "When I’m Gone" (cup song) by the Year 6 group.

Thank you to Mr Marsh for his assistance with the logistics for the evening. Thank you to other school staff who attended the celebration and assisted with setting up, and packing up at the end of the evening.

I would especially like to acknowledge the work of Mrs Vanessa Hoffensetz who in the context of her many other duties in the school office, had the task of dealing with all of the logistics for this event, as well as working to set up before, and packing up at the end of the evening. Her very good work, which started some weeks ago, has resulted in a very successful evening of celebration for our school community.

It was also very heart-warming to see just how many parents and family members attended the evening to celebrate their child’s life achievement of completing primary school education.

Caelan Williams and Elliott Ruddle were the MCs who started the evening off and Georgia Sullivan and Chelsea Firth continued as MC’s to guide us through the evening to the end, coping well with a couple of technical glitches that we unexpectedly encountered. Our sporting house captains, music captain and school captains gave us a comprehensive review of the 2019 school year.

Below is a list of awards and recipients, from the celebrations:

**Gail Chapman Student of the Year:**
Georgia Sullivan

**Sharon Weldon Academic Achievement Award:**
Marc Bakker

**Eric and Janelle Ball Academic Improvement Award:**
Noah Orlicki

**William Ross State High School Best All-Rounder:**
Zarya Friend

**The Katie Fowler Trophy:**
Reagan Hardy

**The Jorjah Price Music Award:**
Chelsea Firth

**Mandarin Chinese LOTE Achievement Award:**
Marc Bakker and Chelsea Firth

**Hooper Family Sportsperson of the Year:**
Mitchell Enchong

**The Hon Coralee O’Rourke MP Member for Townsville Community Award:**
Zi Xin Chen and Ava Shephard

**Sid Ware Memorial Citizenship Award:**
Lila Quinn and Evoltia Tuala

**Evie Feather School Spirit Award:**
Angelina Parliaros

**Book Award - Academic Achievement:**
Mackenzie Fowler  Zoe Morrison  Chelsea Firth  Lila Quinn  Ava Shephard  Chloe Kendall  Luke Swain  Riley Craven  Caelan Williams  Georgia Sullivan  Noah Davies  Charli Frei  Elliott Ruddell  Riley Parker  Allira Rowe  Madaya Ireland  Jacob Baker  Adam Mackinnon
FROM THE DEPUTY’S DESK cont’d

Book Award – All-Rounder:
Tony Spurgeon  Ethan Morris  Minhal Mehmood  Mitchell Enchong  Jack Purdy  Hollie O’Dea  Cooper Currin  
Noah Orlicki  First Kaikawing

I would like to wish all Year 6 students the very best of making their own luck from this point onwards. As illustrated in last night’s wonderful images contained in the 2019 Year in Review, collectively they have been a fantastic bunch of students and I wish them well as they continue on their journey into the future and life in general. I look forward to hearing about their progress and successes at whichever high school they will attend next year.

Christmas Carols
We were able to hold the very much enjoyed by all Christmas Carols last Thursday afternoon. Thank you to the many parents and family members who attended. A very special thank you to Mrs Gough, our music teacher, for coordinating the afternoon’s proceedings, and very importantly for her work in preparing students for their performances. Mrs Stevenson was also ‘instrumental’ in preparing our strings students for their performance. All students did a fantastic job and it was great to see them performing in front of an audience.

2019
I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone good health, a Merry Christmas, safe holiday period, and a Happy New Year. Turn your electronic devices off and spend some quality time with each other and be present—not just physically there, but connected.

Wouldn’t it be great if your presence was the most important of your presents to your family?

I would like to thank Kelly and Rebecca Gillham and their volunteers for the work with our students in our school in the Religious Instruction program. I hope that over the coming weeks that people in our school community are able to reflect on the real meaning of Christmas and the significance of this time in the year.

To staff and families leaving us at the end of the year, thank you very much for your contributions during your time here. All the best with your future endeavours.

I am very much looking forward to 2020 and the things we will be able to achieve at Oonoonba State School. We certainly have achieved so much this year!!

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Trevor Milton
Deputy Principal

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**2020 Calendar—Term 1.**

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P & C MATTERS...
Collection of online pre-ordered book packs from Lucky Charm will be available for collection during the following times:
Wednesday 11th December: 8:30am-9am & 2:30pm-3pm
Thursday 12th December: 8:30am-9am & 2:30pm-3pm
Friday 13th December: 8:30am-9am
*If you have pre-ordered a book pack for collection and are unavailable during the specified times, please contact Dana (0409346883) or pandc@oonoonba.eq.edu.au to arrange alternate pick-up.

TUCKSHOP
Last day for tuckshop will be Thursday 12th December 2019 – limited menu

SUBWAY LUNCH
Friday 13th December – No tuckshop available due to stocktake

UNIFORM SHOP – we have a full range of uniforms, hats, library bags & chair covers!
Opening hours:
Monday 20th January 2020
Tuesday 21st January 2020
9am – 11am (both days) &
Friday 24th January 2020
(TBC)

Dana Leviston
President Oonoonba State School P&C Association
"Creating opportunities-Making a difference"

2020 Open Classroom Visit
When? Friday January 24 2020
Why? To meet the class teacher
What time? From 1.30—2.30pm
How do I find out what class my child is in? Class lists will be on the board in the CPA (as they are usually are on the first day of school).
What do we bring?
Bring all belongings and familiarise your child with his/her new surroundings.

Looking forward to a restful break and resuming in 2019.