Congratulations
Our congratulations are extended to Mrs McKnight who has been successful in gaining a permanent position through merit selection at Westdale Public School. She will be greatly missed by our school community. We wish her all the best in her new position which she commences at the beginning of Term 2. Ms Roxanne Galloway will be taking Mrs McKnight's Year 6 class till the end of the year.

Harmony Day
Thank you to all those people who made our Harmony Day Celebrations such a special occasion. A special thank you to Mrs de Roos and staff for their tremendous organisation. There are more great photos at the end of the newsletter.

New curriculum
As mentioned previously there will be the gradual implementation of a new national curriculum over the next few years. In the implementation program the English syllabus will be mandatory in 2014 with schools preparing for its implementation this year. Our staff will commence planning its introduction at our School Development Day on Monday 29 April 2013. The shape of the New Curriculum can be found at http://www.acara.edu.au/verve/_resources/Australian_Curriculum_-_English.pdf.

Staffing and enrolments
The school is currently very close to reaching the numbers for a new teacher to be appointed. If this occurs years 3 and 4 will go back into straight classes. In the meantime the school is using its resources to support these years. As a part of this support at the beginning of Term 2 we will be grouping the children into straight Year 3 and 4 classes for the peak learning periods 9:20am to 11:20am Tuesday to Friday. Mrs Wearne will be taking them on Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Davidson on Thursdays and Fridays.

The roll classes will remain the same but the three classes will become four with a literacy and numeracy focus during the first session of the day. A letter will be sent out before the end of this term explaining this in more detail to those parents who it concerns.
Parent Teacher Interviews
Our parent teacher interviews will be held during Week 2, Term 2. Each teacher will organise their own timetable and will be sending notes home before the end of term.

Positive Behaviour for Learning
This week’s lesson is on Encouragement.

Encouragement means to give support to someone, or to inspire them to keep trying.

Ways in which we can show Encouragement is by saying well done, giving a thumbs up, telling a friend you think they are great at an activity or saying I like the way you.....

Please talk to your children about ways we can show encouragement at home.

Thank you
We would like to thank all our volunteers that have helped during Term 1 so far at school whether it is in the classroom, on an excursion, at sport or in the canteen.

We would like to say a very special thank you to Mrs Narelle Caterer and Mrs Lorraine Schmitzer for the large amount of time they spend in our classrooms helping all our children. It is lovely for the children and the teachers to have this extra helping hand.

New Students
We would like to welcome Alicia and Caine to our school.

We hope you enjoy your time here with us at Quirindi Public School.

2012 ASCA
Last Saturday Josephine Saunders, Madison Kelly, Isabella Pursehouse and Alexander Rosebey (Yr 6 2012) travelled to Sydney for their ASCA presentation for 2012. The presentation was at Kings School in Parramatta. These four students represented our school wonderfully. Congratulations on a great result.

Science and Engineering Challenge
At the Science and Engineering Challenge we had fun completing some cool science activities. Everyone was split into groups of approximately four and went to tables to complete the activities. We did two activities each. My favourite activity was the one where we made a balloon powered car. I think the science and engineering day was awesome.

Emily Cooling.

Lost Property
Once again our basket is overflowing with clothing that cannot be returned to the rightful owners as the articles are not labelled. This time we also have a great deal of drink bottles and lunchboxes that have no owners. If you think your child may have lost anything this term, please come to the office to look through the lost property. All unclaimed items will be sent to a local charity shop at the end of next week.
Merit Awards

K-6S  Noah Allan
KS   Jamie Grant & Zach Porter
KT   Ellie Greenland
1C   Imogen Smith
1M   William Condrick-Gibson
2C   Tahlee Duffy
2T   Ryan Palmer
3S   Adelaide Eade
3/4I  Lacey Newcombe
4S   William Condrick-Gibson
5A   Islaa Byrne
5W   Hudson Shaw
6D   Saias Byrne
6M   Isaac Byrne

Student of the Week

K-6S  Maxwell Flett
KS   Bronte Matthews
KT   Howard Lewis and Samuel Payne
1C   Mitchell Taylor
1M   Lachlan Tickle
2C   Paige Sevil
2T   Ella Hobson
3S   McKenzie Mizzi
3/4I  Lachlan Tickle
4S   Steven Smith
5A   Laura Sadler
5W   Jack Cudmore
6D   Hudson Shaw
6M   Isaac Byrne

Principal Award
Congratulations to Shelby Porter and Caelan Gray for receiving the Principal’s Award this week.

Banner Recipients
Congratulations to Ella Hobson, Isabella West and Charli Nixon on their Banners.
Young Leaders Conference 2013

Last Monday a group of our Year 6 students attended the Young Leaders Conference at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. Our students listened to motivational speakers about aspects of leadership such as initiative, resilience and self-belief. Another theme of the day was the concept of influence. The children were posed the question: 
What is one thing you can do to positively influence others?

Here were their responses:

**Jock Thompson** - to help people through tough times.

**Grace Cudmore** - to hear the cries of people in need.

**Riley Medway** - don’t leave anyone out of your games.

**Jordie Thompson** - to be kind and caring to everyone even if they are not your best friend.

The children were also asked how they could influence in a positive manner at Quirindi Public School

**Clancy McInnes** - have a go at everything and never give up.

**Hudson Shaw** - be supportive to everyone and help when someone is down.

**Lachlan Bradfield** - try your very best at everything you do.

**Layne McKinnon** - to look out for other students.

**Laura Frear** - to help kids that are being bullied.

What thoughtful responses from our leaders. Thank you to all the parents for accompanying their children to Sydney. We look forward to our school leaders putting into action what they learnt in Sydney.

Active after School

Active after School Communities will be finishing for this term on Thursday 4 April 2013. Thanks to all who participated and had fun. Stay tuned for the start date for Term 2.

P&C News

Last Thursday the P&C Association held their AGM and the following people were elected to these positions:

**President** To be filled

**Vice President** Jenny Golland

**Secretary** To be filled

**Treasurer** Natalie Eade

**Canteen Co-ordinator** Dana Hawkins

**Canteen Treasurer** Rachael Owen

**Ground Force Coordinator** Chris Owen

**Fundraising Co-ordinator** Jenny Golland

**School Council Rep** Natalie Eade

Thank you to these parents/caregivers for volunteering their time and we look forward to having a successful year. If you are interested in helping out during the year please let one of these people know, as many hands make light work.

As you may see there are two positions still vacant. They are the following:

**President:** Duties include - chairing meetings, overseeing P & C activities, supporting and making volunteers feel welcome, adherence to the constitution, spokesperson and representative for all P & C related business, signatory on bank accounts, communicating with the Principal on association issues.

**Secretary:** Duties include - taking the minutes of meetings, preparing agendas, preparing correspondence, tabling of all correspondence both incoming and outgoing and general administrative duties.

These are very important positions within our committee that need to be filled. If you are interested in nominating yourself for these positions please hand in a letter of nomination to the school office by Tuesday 9 April 2013. There will be a special meeting to fill these positions on Thursday 11 April at 5.30pm at Collarene - all are welcome.

**Book Fair**

Don’t forget that we are hosting our first Book Fair for 2013 on 1 and 2 May 2013. The Information Centre will be open form 8.30am to 9.00am, 11.30am to 12.00pm, 1.30pm to 2.00pm and 3.20pm to 4.30pm both days.

**PSSA State Swimming**

Next Tuesday and Wednesday we have nine students representing our school and the North West Region at the NSW PSSA Swimming competition. This event is held at the Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre (SOPAC).

Good luck to our competitors.
Harmony Day 2013
Willow Tree Horse Sports
On Friday 22 March 2013, fifteen children from Quirindi Public School attended the Willow Tree Public School P&C Horse Sports. Great sportsmanship by all our children was displayed throughout the day. The children rode well and received many ribbons for their efforts. Congratulations to the following students who were successful in their age group point scores.

Laura Smith  Champion 8 year old girl
Charlie Lamaro  8 year old encouragement award
Isabella Pursehouse  Reserve Champion 10 year old girl
Bradley Sadler  Champion 11 year old boy

Blandford Horse Sports
On Monday 25 March 2013, thirteen children from Quirindi Public School attended the Blandford Public School P&C Horse Sports. This was a restart to the previously washed out event earlier this month. Again, the children all rode well and displayed excellent sportsmanship towards their team mates and other competitors! Congratulations to the following students who were successful in their age group point scores.

Laura Smith  Reserve Champion 8 year old girl
Charlie Lamaro  8 year old encouragement award
Laura Sadler  Reserve Champion 11 year old girl
Bradley Sadler  Reserve Champion 11 year old boy
Casey Clarke  Reserve Champion 12 year old boy
Sam Palmer  12 year old boy encouragement award

Happy Easter!
Wishing you all a very Happy Easter and safe long weekend with your families and we will see you back at school next Tuesday for the remaining two weeks of the term.

Canteen Roster - Times approx. 8.45am to 12 noon – 6746 3043

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Thank you to our wonderful volunteers
As you can see we need more volunteers to keep our prices down.