Welcome to our special edition of The Wartburg Wire! In this newsletter, I hope to be able to answer most of the questions that parents and students may have regarding our ‘special’ start to the year.

CLASSES AND STAFFING:
We have been fortunate to secure a third teacher, at least for the first week or so of the year. Mrs Bianca Wellsteed will teach the Year 3/4 class, commencing Monday. Mrs Wellsteed has just moved down from Mackay and lives at Captain Creek.

Mrs Ann Piltz will also join our staff this year. Mrs Piltz has been in the district for quite a number of years, so some of you may already know her. Mrs Piltz will teach the Year 5/6/7s on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and the Prep-2s on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Piltz will also be at our school on Monday, teaching the Year 5/6/7 class, while I focus on ensuring that our school moves into as smooth a start as possible.

Mrs Debbie Hills has chosen to move into a slightly different role this year. Debbie will work with our Special Needs students on Mondays and Wednesdays. Mrs Carolyn Hart will also work with our Special Needs students, one day per fortnight.

Mr Andrew Martin is our new PE teacher. He will work with the three classes on Mondays. Miss Christina Claire will teach Music on Tuesdays, as usual. Mrs Peta Swan will teach LOTE (Indonesian) on Mondays and Tuesdays, also as usual.

Mrs Julie Barnett will teach the Prep-2 class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. I will teach the Year 5/6/7 class on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.

CLASSROOMS:
The Year 3/4 class, this year, will be situated in the junior classroom, in the end closest to the tuckshop. Prep-2 will be in the same building, in the end closest to the toilets. The Year 5/6/7 class has a higher student enrolment than the other two, so we will have the whole senior-classroom building to ourselves!!

BUSES:
At the time of writing this newsletter, Barry’s bus was still stranded on the other side of the Essendon Bridge. Parents whose children usually access Barry’s Bus Service are asked to transport their children themselves, until Barry can arrange an alternative.

Donna’s bus service is fully operational and will operate as usual.

BOOKLISTS:
Booklists can be found on our school website. Please follow the link: https://wartburgss.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Pages/Documents.aspx.

Some parents have shared their concerns with me that their children may not have any equipment ready for the school year. We understand your predicament and support your children with a basic set of stationery and writing utensils, until you are able to travel to Bundaberg, Gladstone or Agnes Water to purchase all your children’s supplies.
UNIFORMS:
We have the usual supply of uniform shirts and hats at school, available for purchase. Please try to make sure your child is wearing shoes and socks for commencement on Monday, but we appreciate this may not be possible for everyone. Similarly with hats … if your child does not have a green school hat to wear on Monday, please try to provide them the most sun-safe hat you can.

TUCKSHOP:
Tuckshop will most likely operate on Mondays. As yet, we are unsure when we’ll be able to offer the service, as we will need to re-stock supplies before tuckshop can commence.

SCHOOL SORES:
There have been reports that some children in the district may have developed school sores (Impetigo) on their skin over the holiday period. Impetigo is an infection of the skin and is very easily spread. With care, however, the spread can be reduced. For more information on school sores, please visit www.rch.org.au/kidsinfor/fact_sheets/Impetigo_school_sores/. If you suspect your child has school sores, please visit a doctor or health professional for the appropriate treatment. Children with school sores may only attend school if a health professional has been consulted and if the sores are completely covered with a waterproof dressing.

LOWMEAD STATE SCHOOL:
Our thoughts and good wishes extend to the staff and students of Lowmead State School, following the recent flooding of their school. The Principal of Lowmead, Christine Pascoe, has asked me to let parents of Lowmead students know that they will attend Rosedale School while repairs to Lowmead are being made. Students should meet Christine at Lowmead School on Monday morning at 8.00am, so she can accompany them on the bus to Lowmead. I’m sure Christine will be able to answer any questions parents may have regarding the students’ attendance at Rosedale, when she sees them on Monday. Christine’s house was also inundated by the flood; she has now relocated to our second teacher’s residence, just behind our tuckshop.

THANK YOU!
On behalf of anyone who received any assistance at all during the flood, whether it be generators, food, accommodation, clothing, washing, fuel, transport, a friendly ear … whatever! … I would like to thank everyone who helped anyone else during and after this disastrous event. Every little bit helps and I have seen some examples of great community support over the past week. Within our school community, we will continue to assist and support wherever necessary. We will be here to offer a listening ear to your children’s stories, as they learn to deal with the enormity of the recent events and subsequent changes that have occurred.

‘Water-burg’ State School commences 8.55am on Monday morning! Let’s make it a great term!!

Jeanne Cross
Principal