Enrolments
We have 804 students currently enrolled. Prep enrolments for 2015 open on 12 May.

Professional Development
All staff have been continuing their commitment to their professional learning
- Alex has attended network afternoons for teaching LOTE. It’s good for specialists to meet with other teachers of their subject
- Similarly, Maree has been working closely with other Teacher-Librarians
- Rose attended a session at Talara College on their very successful Reading Program. Given that we are in the final throes of developing our Reading Program this was timely and useful
- Emma has attended Rock and Water for girls
- Kent and Amanda W attended a day on literacy, numeracy and the Art and Science of Teaching. They both got a lot out of this and so we are sending a number of other teachers to a second day our Region is offering
- Danae attended a day on programs for gifted and talented students
- Dave and Jane are working their way through a four day program in programming and planning behaviour support for students diagnosed with Asperger’s Disease and autism
- 12 teachers are working their way through a Peer Coaching Training. They have had their first day and are now practicing their skills with a partner. Our second training day is 30 May. It is hoped that this training will significantly lift the quality of professional conversations across the school. Being coached by another staff member is part of every teacher’s Performance Development Plan this year.

Staff News
- There are babies everywhere – Jan recently welcomed her first granddaughter into the world; Joel has had a son; both Brooke and Emma are pregnant with babies to be born just before the end of the year.
- You may have noticed some of in staff shirts. Clair organised these and they look great.

Variations to School Routine
- 27 May – Readers’ Cup. Two teams of students will be travelling to Immanuel Lutheran to compete. There is no cost for this

Facilities, Grounds and Maintenance
- Our Indoor Sports Centre is nearly finished and will be handed over to the school on Friday 16 May. All the fences will come down sometime in the week after that. With luck we can hold our first indoor Assembly on Friday 23 May.
- We have purchased some additional racks for the bike cage as most days there are too many bikes for the stands we have 😊
- Last week we held our first SafeST Committee meeting. For the first time all representative from the Department of Transport, Queensland Police, the Sunshine Coast Regional Council and Central Office staff were in attendance. The Council made a commitment to work with all other stakeholders in reviewing and considering proposals to improve traffic flow and road safety. SafeST Meetings are held about 3 times a year. Parents are represented by John Sheridan, President of the P&C Association, and a parent volunteer. Thank you to Renee Irving-Lee for filling this position last week.

Thank you from the Jenkins Family
Dear Gwen and Our Peregian Springs State School Friends,

We would like to thank you all for your amazing support and kindness over the past six weeks. We are blessed to be surrounded by such caring people. Despite the loss of our home, we still feel
very lucky. We are obviously lucky that we escaped unharmed but also extremely lucky to be part of a community that rallies around its members in the way that you have.

We would like you to all know that we are doing well. We have a temporary home and the insurance claim is making progress. The kids have had terrific support from their teachers and peers, which has enabled them to continue on with their day to day activities without any worries.

It is unfortunate that loss tends to teach us about the worth of things but some good lessons have been learnt none the less. We have learned to appreciate how precious and unpredictable life is. We have learnt first hand that the world is full of amazing people that are willing to help those in need in any way they can. We have also learned that it is not a house that makes a home; it's the people in it and the people that we invite into it. We have also learned from living minimally for six weeks how much stuff we tend to accumulate over the years that we think we need.

There is one thing that we do ask of you all now. We ask that you please check your smoke alarms for their working ability and for their correct placement. And, talk to your families about fire safety and evacuation plans in the home. We used to think that these things just happen to 'other people' too.

We hope that one day we will be able to thank you all in person for your generosity. Again, we are so very grateful to have you in our lives.

Love The Jenkins Family
(Steve, Rebecca, Blake, Cody, Nate and Layne)

A day made better
Nothing makes a staff members day go better than a heartfelt thank you – especially in writing.

A Day Made Better recognises exceptional primary school teachers across the country. Last year, A Day Made Better received 5,700 nominations for over 1,000 inspirational teachers. This year they're aiming to gather 10,000 nominations from every corner of Australia. Every nominated teacher will receive a certificate and gift to acknowledge their incredible contribution. And, if a teacher from our school is chosen as one of 10 winners, they'll receive $2,000 worth of supplies and an Apple iPad for their classroom.

Put our school on the map by encouraging parents, staff and students to nominate an exceptional teacher today. Support an exceptional teacher today at http://www.adaymadebetter.com.au/

NAPLAN
All students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will sit the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We ask all parents to ensure that children are on time to school. Arriving late on these days would be very unsettling – not just for the late child but also for all other students. Children who are away will sit the tests on Thursday and Friday.

I am completely confident that as in previous years children have been adequately prepared. The concepts tested include knowledge and skills from the previous year as well as from the current year level. Some questions also test children's competence in higher level thinking skills.

I spent some time in 5SH and 65C last week and was so impressed with their approach to planning a piece of writing. This is a skill tested as part of the writing test – in previous years teachers have had some notice about the type of writing required. This year students have needed to be prepared for anything! And since any piece of writing these days is rarely one genre or the other, children will be able to use all their persuasive skills to write some brilliant narratives – if this is what is required!

Transition to school from kindergarten
We have many siblings starting school next year. Starting school is a major life transition for families and children. Managing this change is best done if information is shared between parents, carers, children, principals and early years’ teachers in schools and kindergartens. By managing the transition to school in a supportive way, children’s continuity of learning is maintained.
A positive start to school means children and families have a greater and ongoing connection with the school community. Have a look at the Step up into education website (http://www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/stepup/) for more information and resources.

**Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability**

All Australian state and territory governments have agreed to implement a nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability through a phased approach from 2013, with all Australian schools participating by 2015. PSSS is to complete the process in 2014.

The *nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability* will help to present a more reliable, consistent and transparent view of students with disability across Australia. This improved information will help education authorities and schools better target programs and resourcing decisions, contributing to more effective outcomes and a quality learning experience for all young Australians.

School staff will review existing information about all students and make an informed decision regarding which students may meet the broad *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA) definition of disability and the level of adjustment, if any, that is being provided.

This data will provide information about:
- the number of Australian school students with disability
- where Australian school students with disability are located
- the level of adjustments provided for Australian school students with disability to enable them to participate in schooling on the same basis as their peers.

Teachers at Peregian Springs State School will make professional judgments to identify which students are provided with an adjustment to address a disability, as well as students who meet the DDA definition of disability who do not require an adjustment, over the period from **12 May to 1 August 2014**.

Any student attending PSSS during this period of time, who requires adjustments to be made in class to cater for a disability such as even a broken leg will be included in the school data.

There are five disability categories: Physical, Cognitive, Sensory and Social/Emotional. For the student to be included in the national data collection on students with disability, the school should have evidence that adjustment/s have been provided for a minimum of one school term.

Adjustments assist the student to participate on the same basis as students without disability in the school's learning programs or courses and to use or access the school's facilities and services. In providing an adjustment, schools generally assess the impact of the student's disability in relation to education. This includes the impact on communication, mobility, curriculum access, personal care and social participation. Other areas that might be considered for some students are safety, motor development, emotional wellbeing, sensory needs and transitions. Reasonable adjustments reflect the assessed individual needs of the student. The school won't need to create any additional documentation for the data collection but simply identify evidence available to support their professional judgement.

The data will be entered into the One School Database between the 12 May and the 1 August and submitted on the closing date of the collection **1 August 2014**.

The school will inform parents/carers of the nationally consistent collection of data on students with disability, as they have the option to inform the school if they do not want information about their child to be recorded in the national data collection.

**Principal’s Blog**

I blog irregularly throughout the year about our school, education and being a parent. This fortnight I have written about the Drop Off Zone and our ANZAC tradition. You can find these posts and all previous posts at [http://peregianposts.blogspot.com.au/](http://peregianposts.blogspot.com.au/)

**Reports attached**
- Balance Sheet Summary
• Cash Flow Management Report
• Budget Overview