PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome to the 2015 school year. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a great start to the new year.

It was wonderful to see all students return safely from their holidays. Many students enthusiastically shared their holidays with staff and classmates.

School Routine

Starting a new school year means re-establishing important school routines.

Ensuring your child is at school before school begins allows your child to prepare for the day's activities. It gives them the opportunity to develop their own independence by putting their lunchbox in the fridge, greeting staff and students, preparing their pencils and handling notes/money.

In the afternoons, staff will ensure students are individually responsible for packing their own ports (homework, notes & lunch boxes). Picking children up on time is your responsibility. Staff are NOT available to ‘baby sit’. We have other commitments such as meetings and setting up for the next day.

When circumstances arise which result in having to drop off your child late or collect your child early please ensure you sign your child in/out in the book labelled ‘Sign in/out Register’ by the main classroom door.

Your assistance in establishing ‘good’ school routine will help to foster independence and confidence and reduce problems which may lead to anxiety. Thank you for your assistance.

I would like to welcome our Prep student Jacob Marshall-Morrissey to our school. At present we have a total of 10 students, with at least one student in each grade. Student numbers are of great importance and will be closely monitored this week as per the Day 8 Process and Procedures. Any impact on our staffing will be communicated as early as possible.

The North Queensland Region continues to focus on reading this year. Our region has undertaken a regression analysis study on the attainment of students in Prep-3 and used this data to predict how students in year 3 might perform in NAPLAN National Minimum Standards in reading. As a result of this study the Regional Reading Targets indicate the following PM Reading levels as a minimum for students to attain by the end of each for the year levels stated:

- Prep PM Level 8
- Year 1 PM Level 16
- Year 2 PM Level 20
- Year 3 PM Level 24

Through the Great Results Guarantee funding all teachers and support staff are focused on providing students with instructional reading support. I also encourage all parents/carers to assist their child by reading together on a daily basis.

P & C News

- Next Meeting: Wednesday 11th February at 3.15pm. All parents are welcome.
- Easter Raffle: To be sent home soon.

Tuckshop

- Tues: Pies & Sausage Rolls 60c each.
- Thursday: To be advised on the notice board.

‘Strive for the Best’

Calendar

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Webber Shield</td>
<td>10 Feb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Clark’s Farewell</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Moring Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Next Newsletter</td>
<td>16 Feb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Raffle</td>
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<td>Interschool Sport</td>
<td>27 Feb</td>
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Since 1910
School Audit

I have been advised that Maidavale will undergo a full school audit this term. The date has not yet been confirmed. However, it will most likely be in late March.

Swimming

Students will not participate in swimming this term. If you have any concerns please don’t hesitate to speak to Mrs Bello or attend the P & C meeting where it will be discussed further.

The Library

The library is now located in the Arthur Coburn Building. Students have already accessed it to borrow books. Over the coming year it is hoped that we will be able to furnish it with a reception desk, student desks and a reading corner with a bright rug, cushions and chairs.

This wonderful new space will be available for use for Japanese Lessons, Reading Groups, Music Lessons, P & C meetings and other important school meetings.

Farwell Mrs. Clark

Mrs Fay Clark assisted with reading groups last year. She recently announced her retirement. She has been teaching for approximately 60 years. Her wealth of knowledge and wonderful conversations will be greatly missed.

We wish her all the best and hope she enjoys spending her retirement with her family and friends.

We will be holding a morning tea soon to celebrate her teaching career and wish her well in retirement.

Miss Harapeet on Leave

Miss Harapeet is currently on leave. Our thoughts are with her during this difficult time. She will return to work soon.

Staff, parents and students have expressed their deepest condolences for the recent passing of her wonderful mother Donna Harapeet.

Interschool Sport

Interschool sport will commence for Year 4, 5 & 6 students on Friday 27 February. This term students will choose to participate in either AFL or Hockey and join an Ayr State School team.

Student of the Week

Congratulations to Arthur Forbes for a great start to the school year. He attended every day of the first week and worked very well in all areas. Well done Arthur!