March 10, 2015

Dear Hayman Families and Friends,

*At Hayman Island State School we:*

- **Are SAFE, RESPONSIBLE and RESPECTFUL**
- **Focus on READING, WRITING & ATTENDANCE**

We are now over half way through the first term in 2015.

- We have a healthy enrolment of 12 students with one student still on the way to the island to join their classmates.

- We amazingly have 6 prep students who have all made a wonderful start to their formal schooling.

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**Upcoming Dates:**

- Monday and Tuesday March 16/17 - Mr Robbo in Townsville at meetings
- Thursday March 26 – P&C Meeting @ 5.30pm – Staff Dinner
- Thursday April 2 – Last day Term 1
- Monday April 20 – First Day Term 2
Our key focus is READING with programs in place to ensure that all students are given the right amount of support to become great readers. Parents are provided with support to assist their children in reading. We have implemented the “Read It Again” program for our beginning and emerging readers. Our focus at this level is oral language, text structure, context, setting, print knowledge, story sequence etc.
State Principal’s Conference: 2 weeks ago I was able to attend the state principal’s conference in Brisbane along with approx. 1400 colleagues. The following are some messages I bring back from the conference:

1. The theme of the conference was “A GREAT SCHOOL HAS A GREAT SCHOOL DOWN THE ROAD” - In our case we have great schools across the ocean😊 We are closely aligned with Hamilton Island School which was recognised as one of the greatest improved schools in our region. The principal, Mick Allan and I work very closely together to exchange ideas, great practice and support. Within the Whitsunday area we have GREAT SCHOOL all of which I work with in our professional learning community.

2. Analysis of data and implications for the teaching and learning of READING was a focus for me at the conference. One fact that stood out for me was that children who succeed in reading (NAPLAN - Upper 2 Bands) read 200 times the amount read by students who fall under the national minimum standard. I.E: What a low reader reads in a year is read in 2 days by a successful reader. The message is clear that there is no substitute to reading….. and early and sustained intervention is the key.

3. Watch what you eat😊 - over 150 delegates contracted food poisoning …. Fortunately I dodged that bullet.

4. Another strong message from the conference surrounded personal well-being with some skills and processes presented to maintain the balance between work and life. Below is a quote that struck a chord for me.

“Have fun and be kind to yourself. Remember, this is your journey – you’re not comparing or competing against anyone else. Continue to chip away, making small improvements on a daily basis. Be persistent. Be consistent.”

Shelly Gorman’s tips on how to have your fittest and healthiest year
Body & soul, Courier Mail
• **This is our vision!**

In partnership with our island community, our children are empowered to fulfil their ambitions and fully realise their potential. As great people, Hayman Island State School staff consistently provide a safe and supportive learning environment, engendering genuine belonging whilst ensuring that all students, every school day, have equitable access to contemporary, challenging and positive learning experiences. High standards of effort and achievement is aspired, rewarded and celebrated and creativity and clever thinking is stimulated. 'Hayman Kids' are successful learners, happy classmates, highly numerate and great readers and writers.
• We thank Rommel and Arcel Espanillo for their visit to the school to make sushi with our students.
• We thank the community for their support for the school and I highlight the following contributions:

1. *Thank you One and Only Hayman Island* who supply the buggy bus so that students whose parents do not have access to a resort provided buggy are able to be safely transported to and from school to the village. When our other buggy returns from repair I envisaged using that.

2. *Thank you Activities* for making it possible for our children to experience a number of unique activities.
3. Thank you Marine for creating opportunities to learn about our aquatic friends at the marina.
4. Thank you to the FISHING CLUB and the resort colleagues who rallied together to raise money to buy the school a set of fishing rods.

5. Thank you Reggie (in the middle) for coming to visit us again on your test and tag electrical inspection visit. Denis and Sandra wouldn’t know what to do without you.
Some artefacts of Hayman Island in the bygone days that may be of interest to so many of the new resort staff.

Somewhere, out there, between the deep, deep blues and the aquamarines, the turquoise and the waving greens, smiling yellows and gentle hues, is a place called Hayman.

And no brochure, no booklet of lovely words and pictures can ever do justice to it.

Because Hayman is simply a happy experience.

It’s a place in your mind.