March 19, 2014

Dear Hayman Families and Friends,

We welcome to the classroom since our last newsletter, Maya Abbott and Sebastian and Chris Constantino. These three students have added so much to the life of the school and they are an absolute joy to have around. I truly believe we are blessed by the wonderful families here in paradise!

As all the island community would relate to.....time is flying by and the school has been a very busy place indeed. To give everyone an idea of what goes on, here is a typical day in the life of our students at school. Remember that we have students in every grade from 1 through to 6 in the same classroom.

8 am: Students start to arrive, unpack their bags of homework and lunch boxes and spend some time with their mates on the swings, playing cricket or maybe looking out to the bay wishing they could go fishing rather than to school😊 And with a view like this...who can blame them?

Dates to Remember
Sunday March 23
WORKING BEE 9am
Friday, April 4
END OF TERM 1
Tuesday April 22
START TERM 2
Friday April 25
ANZAC DAY
8.30 am: It is straight into work with activities aimed at reinforcing learning. We call them warm-ups. 2 to 3 days a week we do a short and sharp writing activity. Gone are the days of 30 mins of “show and tell” and chatting about how great the ice-cream at the diner is. (Although you might like to ask Bastie how good coffee tastes on ice-cream after he mistook it for Milo😊)

9.00 am: It is English time! Some go straight to Miss Nat for spelling, others on to the internet for online classes with children in other schools to do some specialised English classes (Getting ready for NAPLAN testing). Olivia logs into a Japanese class once a week. All students work between laptops, workbooks, activity sheets and reading books as Mr and Mrs Robbo move between them to teach there 6 different lessons.
11.00am brings a well-earned break. With the hunger pains hitting in we have our lunch and play.

Happy birthday Maya and Happy St Patrick’s Day!  
Not every day is a party!

11.40 am brings a time for our class book that we all share. The current novel is “Holes” which has everyone sitting on the edge of their beanbag with interest. Great Stuff!

12 O’clock brings us into Maths time for an hour and, again, 6 different lessons and progressions.
We break again at 1pm for 20 minutes of snacks and play and return to class for our own reading time often followed by music with Mrs Borchers, Current Affairs, History, Science, and Art. We have PE every Friday afternoon.

Please provide comment on our proposed new School Motto

“Learning in Paradise”
At 2.30 our day finishes at school but homework and reading is set for every weeknight.

Many Thanks

Thanks to the guys from Copp and Co and the de-sal fellas for constructing a “buggy” park which makes the area at the rear of the school safer and more appealing.

Learn to Drive

We were very excited to take delivery of our new vehicle for our learn to drive program!!!
Bottle Top Collection in the Village…. Shame!

For those who don’t know… we pay the students when they at school! They get $50 for completing their homework each week and even $30 for being nice to someone. They are paid for completing their class work on time and get bonuses for doing more than asked or expected. They are paid for good manners and get $20 for spelling all their weekly words correctly. At times, they may be fined for doing the wrong thing. Some students have over $1000 in their “class bank”. At the end of this term we will auction off some goodies and they will be able to spend up big!

Looking on the ground at the village and at the staff beach gave me a thought to pay the kids $1 for every bottle top they collected. I was blown away (and nearly became bankrupt) when over ONE THOUSAND bottle tops where collected in 2 days. Roche alone collected nearly 400! We are not surprised by Roche’s effort and there may have been reports of him out with a touch in the middle of the night looking! His quest was also interrupted to his disappointment by the threat of the cyclone and he pleaded for an extension of collection time.

At the end of the day it is pretty shameful that so many bottle tops are sent spinning off into the village. Maybe it is time to stop????

I do have a theory that some of us might think that the stubbie top is like a seed and if we throw them into the garden it might grow into another beer!!!!??? We do live in paradise but it is not heaven!!!

Let’s just hope it is a build up from many years of poor decision making by those whom have left the island and thank the students from the school for their efforts on making it right again.

Roche…the cat that got the cream. And this was only Part of his collection.

Chris counting his “loot”
Parents and Community
There have been 2 P&C Meetings so far this year with the first to elect our new office bearers.
President: Mark Thompson
Secretary: Ali Robertson
Treasurer: Nat Silver

Some important decisions include:
- A change to the uniform with our new uniforms expected very soon.
- A working bee to be held at the school THIS SUNDAY (March 23) from 9am.

Some upcoming projects include:
- McDonald’s fundraiser
- Support for a school camp

The next meeting will be a dinner meeting on Monday May 5 at the Colleague’s Diner @ 5.30pm.

Many thanks to parents and the community for your ongoing support.

Every Day Counts
I cannot express more the importance of every day attendance at school for our children.....unless they are sick. Studies and data conclusively show that kids whom have greater attendance at school are more likely to achieve higher results. Education Queensland has published data obtained over 12 years specifically demonstrating this fact.

I encourage parents to please come and discuss with me any unavoidable leave required from school and we can work together to ensure the continuity of learning.

School Times
8.30-11.00  Class Time
11.00-11.40  Lunch
11.40-1.00  Class Time
1.00-1.20  Break
1.20-2.30  Class Time

Our Own Blue Pearl Bay Escapade
Keep an eye out in the diner on the big screen for our Blue Pearl Bay Escapade/Clean-up and Science Excursion.
It was an exciting and challenging day where all students impressed and we learnt a great deal about the environment and a little about the history of our touch of paradise.
Communication
Please feel free to contact us at school or around the island.
Internal Line - 1978
Email:
Mr Robbo - rlrob0@eq.edu.au
Mrs Robbo - arobe342@eq.edu.au
Mr Robbo’s mobile is: 0477731632

Working Together for Our Kids

Ro Robertson (AKA: Mr Robbo)
Principal

P.S.
Please feel free to contribute to and advertise events or things you wish to sell etc in our newsletter. Just send me an email ☺

On our walk we looked and think we saw where the old jetty was located.