Newsletter

Principal’s message –

Welcome to the 2016 school year and a very special shout-out to all the new students of Hayman Island State School. We currently have 10 students enrolled with another student due to commence after the Easter vacation.

This year we are fortunate to have enlisted the services of our new graduate Jacqueline Caulfield who is an Early Childhood trained educator from the Sunshine Coast University. From the outset, Jacqui has immediately formed positive relationships with all the students and it has been pleasing to watch her spirited personality impact on the learning of her Prep/Year 1 class.

I had the pleasure of spending 2 days at Hayman Island prior to the end of the 2015 school year where I met the students of my class whilst completing a handover with Ro Robertson, before his departure on the incredible journey both he and Ali are embarking on with their family this year.

By the time this newsletter is published, the adventure will have begun. I wish them a safe and enjoyable journey and look forward to receiving their postcards from each stop around the globe.
It would be fitting of me to publicly acknowledge and thank our wonderful Hayman parents for the welcome both Jacqui and I received when we arrived on the island. We can't believe the hospitality of the parents in organising the get together prior to the school year commencing. We are so lucky to have gourmet chefs in our midst to spoil us with the delicacies on offer at Hayman Island.

School business -

Term 1 is always busy with the requirement to plan strategic documents which set out the key priorities over the coming year. Our Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) 2016 priorities are:

- Implement the Australian Curriculum.
- Improve reading, writing, numeracy and science outcomes.
- Build staff capacity across a range of professional standards.
- Build productive relationships with community.
- Attainment.
- Transitioning from Pre-Prep to Prep and Year 6 to High School.

Key Priorities and Initiatives

During 2014/2015 all schools received funding under the Great Results Guarantee Agreement and this year we will be receiving the same funding but there has been a name change to Investing for Success.

From 2014 to 2017, the Australian Government has made available, an additional $794 million in Students First initiative funding to Queensland for state schooling.

In 2014 and 2015, $131 million and $183 million from this initiative was provided to state schools through the Great Results Guarantee. The remaining $480 million in additional Students First funding is available across 2016 and 2017.

Allocation of the remaining funding in 2016 and 2017 will build on the needs-based method to better direct funding to students and schools requiring the most support. This change in allocative method is reflected in a change in name to “Investing for Success” (I4S). This initiative will enable schools to identify the aspects of their students’ achievements requiring the most support and direct resource use so it makes the most positive difference across 2016 and 2017. Our I4S document will be uploaded to our school website once it has been signed by the Director-General.

Teacher Professional Development – The Every student succeeding State Schools Strategy 2014-2018 highlights the importance of professional development. For our students to be successful, teachers must know their learners and be able to meet their needs. Teaching quality is a key component of successful outcomes for students and as a Principal, it is my role to not only develop my knowledge, but that of my staff, to ensure that we continue to keep abreast of the ever-changing world and needs of our students.

Both Miss Caulfield and I have attended Speech Sound Pictures (SSP) training in Collinsville this term. Miss Caulfield is using this phonics based program in her classroom to develop her class’ reading ability. I have attended training at Proserpine State School to complete our
school budget and I attended a Learning Fair and a two day Principal’s conference in Townsville. The focus of my training was around Age Appropriate Pedagogy and assessment.

**P&C Annual General Meeting** – The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday the 22nd March 2016 at 6pm. If anyone is interested in taking an active role in the P&C, please consider nominating for the roles of President, Secretary and Treasurer.

**Uniform Invoices** – All parents should have now received their invoices for books and uniforms. These were automatically generated last week and emailed to parents. Please note that copies of the invoices were handed to students to give to their parents. The “Payment Methods” section on the right hand side at the bottom of the invoice, should be crossed out to avoid confusion as this school is a ‘cash free’ school. We do not take money and do not have an EFTPOS machine. Please settle accounts via BPoint for online card payments, the information for which is on the bottom left of your accounts.

**Swimming** – Our swimming lessons got off to a flying start and then landed with a thud after just one week. Unfortunately the departure of the only person with a Bronze Medallion meant that we legally could not go ahead with the lessons as it would have been in breach of the safety requirements for conducting an activity of this type. I do however wish to thank both Mark and Maddy for volunteering their time in supporting the students of Hayman Island State School.

**Curriculum** – Some of us might feel a little digitally challenged and may not know a main frame from a memory module, and think cookies are things you had with a cup of tea! By engaging our students in the Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies, including coding and robotics, we help them become critical thinkers, creative problem solvers, team players, innovators and entrepreneurs. That’s why the department’s goal is for all Queensland state schools to teach coding by 2020. Each Wednesday Esther Miller attends Hayman Island to teach our students digital coding and the kids absolutely love it!

**Student report (Kirk)** – So far this term at Hayman Island State School, we have been studying a lot of subjects such as English, Maths, Spelling, History, Science, Health and Physical Education, and Digital Technologies. My favourite subjects are Maths, Science, HPE (Zumba and the Gummy Bear song), spelling, handwriting and Digital Technology.

During break, we play hide and seek, tag, hand ball, airport control (all the kids pretend they are aeroplanes and they take-off and land at the pretend airport) and my friend Chris and I, are control tower and ground crew. We also play chase. You have probably noticed that we have said goodbye to the Robbo’s and hello to the team of Miss Hawthorne (our Principal) and Miss Caulfield.

**Chris’ report** – Year 6’s are learning English, Maths, Science, History, Digital Technology and Chinese. In English we are learning how to set out and write a short story. In Maths we are learning strategies to help us work out how many chairs will fit in Central Lanai. We have been doing Science experiments to learn how objects change matter from a solid to a liquid, so basically reversible and irreversible changes.
We are learning in History about the significance of Henry Parkes’ role leading to Australia’s Federation. Every Friday we have HPE when we do Zumba and physical activities. This year we have a change of teachers and now Miss Caulfield is our Prep and Year 1 teacher and Miss Hawthorne is our Principal and she teaches years 2-6.

Miss Caulfield’s Report – This year the Early Years classroom has hit the ground running as students investigate the subjects of English, Maths, Science, Health, Movement and History in term 1. Firstly I would personally like to congratulate all of our prep students who have done an amazing job at settling into their new school routine. Prep students have all excelled in their first maths unit of work of categorising, allowing them to extend their learning and understand some of the Year 1 concepts at such an early stage.

In term 1 English students have been investigating feelings and emotions within narratives and personal experiences. Students explore how and why authors and illustrators portray emotions within text to support their comprehension of the story and to help understand their own feelings within different situations. This learning has also been carried into other areas of the curriculum as students make personal connections and share their feelings within health and history. Towards the end of the term we have started to extend students’ knowledge of feelings and emotions within text to look at the elements of a story as students identify the main characters (and their feelings), the setting, purpose and plot of a narrative (beginning, middle and end).

Through Science students have been enjoying exploring the needs of living and non-living things within our natural environment. Year 1 students had lots of fun going on a mini excursion of all of the beautiful habitats we are lucky enough to have here on Hayman Island. Through hands-on learning students’ investigated and discovered the different life and elements of the pond, rainforest, mangrove and beach habitats on the island. Students were able to identify healthy and unhealthy features of these places, supporting their development and understanding of sustainability and environmental concerns.

Date Claimers –
14 March – Visit from Regional Office Staff (Melissa Jackson – Assistant Regional Director, Karen Anderson – Curriculum Advisor).
15 March – Visit from Peter Crawford, Contractor, Information Technology.
16 March – Danielle Upkett, Guidance Officer visit.
21 March – Miss Hawthorne at PLC meeting, Cannonvale State School
22 March – Jeannie Peachey visit.
24 March – Last day of Term 1
Every Wednesday – Esther Miller – AB Kids Coding