Principal’s Address

I would like to personally welcome you all to the 2014 school year. We currently have 75 students enrolled, which is fantastic for the school and community. I would like to personally welcome all new families to the island and to our fantastic, high achieving school. It’s our pleasure to deliver the highest level of education to your kids and we look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Teaching and Learning

We are picking up from where we left off in 2013 with our continued agenda to improve every student’s reading and numeracy outcomes. Students have already been setting goals and targets in both of these areas and their Individual Learning Plans will continue to drive the learning for each student. We will be organising Parent/Teacher/Student three way conferences to discuss these in more detail before the end of this term.

You would have probably noticed that all students have got Magic Words for homework and this is now a key program implemented across the school. Research explicitly states that sight words and vocabulary knowledge both play a significant role in the development of a child’s reading skills and therefore we have expanded the program from Prep to Year 7 in 2014. I have inserted the Magic Words Program into this newsletter and information on how the students are assessed and moved up levels. Each student’s homework book should detail what activities they are expected to do, to be ready for the assessment. Certificates will continue to be presented at assembly each fortnight.

Community

Our playground is well on the way with the money now set in the school budget to purchase this term. Thanks again for all contributions to the P&C fundraising committee over the past 2 years. Our P&C AGM is coming up shortly, so if you are interested in being part of our great school and exciting direction please keep your ear out for the date.

Once again welcome to the 2014 school year and we look forward to working with you to ensure your child reaches their full potential.

Mr. Michael Allan, Principal
Our Vision

At Hamilton Island State School we are focused on providing an inclusive, safe, supportive and connected learning environment. We use our 6 Pillars of school wide pedagogy, 5 Givens for every learning environment and 4 Imperatives of student engagement to drive how we do business.

Prep-1 News

From Miss Ashleigh Prickett

What a fantastic start to the year! Prep/one have been so busy so far this term. We have already learnt the first 13 letters in the Jolly Phonics and have had a great time singing the Jolly Phonics songs. We have been practising number building to ten for preps and learning about tens and ones for grade ones. We have been having a lot of fun improving our fine motor skills by using beads, cutting and gluing, sewing, tweezing and play dough construction. In science we are learning about life and living things and in HPE we are learning about healthy choices. Thank you to all of the parents that are helping during reading time. The number of parents coming is fantastic!
Hello Everyone!
Welcome to the Year 1-2 Newsletter page. I look forward to bringing you some interesting news about our classroom learning throughout the year.

In Year One
Mitchell Agresta, Jamie Bolton, Maya Brodie, Chaz Calder, Mitchell Davis, Alex Glenn, Charlie Harvey, Foxx LaMonica, Ella McCreedy, Maylen Reid, Gabriel Taverner and Chris Townsend.

In Year Two
Isaac Coleman, Alex Clarke, Brayth Ledger, Joshua Martin, Jack Riddell, Isabella Rogers, Harrison Smith, Flynn Squires, Jack Sydes, Tom Stielow, Charlie Townsend, Seisia White

From Miss. Jessie Reid
Hello Everyone!
Welcome to the Year 1-2 Newsletter page. I look forward to bringing you some interesting news about our classroom learning throughout the year.

In Year One
Mitchell Agresta, Jamie Bolton, Maya Brodie, Chaz Calder, Mitchell Davis, Alex Glenn, Charlie Harvey, Foxx LaMonica, Ella McCreedy, Maylen Reid, Gabriel Taverner and Chris Townsend.

In Year Two
Isaac Coleman, Alex Clarke, Brayth Ledger, Joshua Martin, Jack Riddell, Isabella Rogers, Harrison Smith, Flynn Squires, Jack Sydes, Tom Stielow, Charlie Townsend, Seisia White

Our Staff
Supporting the class this year:
- Mrs Sara Taverner (Teacher)
- Ms Karen Gordon (Aide)
- Mrs Nuria Murgaradas-Davis (Aide)
- Mrs Sarah Coleman (Aide)
- Ms Erin Blanchford (Parent Helper)

Key Strategic Directions:
1. Provide quality schooling through curriculum programs that cater for individuals, educational initiatives and societal expectations.
2. Develop and share high expectations for individual student learning.

1-2 News
We have had a very busy start to the term! Much of the first weeks of any school year is about getting organised and getting into a routine. Learning about how we go about our learning day. The students have settled into their routines very well. The Year Two students have been very helpful in assisting the Year Ones.

We have started doing some creative writing. This has been very a very successful activity with the students being very interested and engaged. I was extremely impressed with the imagination that went into their writing. There are no boring brains in this class! Here are some snippets.

If I could eat anything:
Boulders to protect my family – Mitchell A; Pencils to write fast – Seisia; Axolotl so I could walk and breath under water – Isaac; Electricity so I could power the world – Jack R; Rubbish because it would be funny – Harrison; Bacteria so I could eat everything in the world – Gabe; Boxes because I can – Jamie; Doors so I would be on a TV show – Brayth; Everything because I like to eat – Chris; Bricks so I can build houses – Josh; Magic words so I learn them – Foxx; Fire so I could shoot it out of my mouth – Flynn; a real engine so I could run faster – Alex G; Magic Powers so I could do anything - Jack S; a smart book to get smart - Charlie H

If I could go in a hot air balloon:
I would go to Brisbane to see my friends – Maya and Ella; It would be in the shape of a lizard – Isabella; I would go over the sea – Charlie T; I would go find dragons – Tom; I would have a tea party – Maylen; I would see where I live from above – Chaz; I would go surfing, visit Brisbane and see the snow – Mitchell D; I would bake cup cakes - Izzy.

Who Are You?
Seisia White enjoys Spelling Mastery because it helps her with her sentences, likes to try new things, especially sports, and has been to Darwin.

Isabella Rogers enjoys maths and doing sums, loves riding her bike and used to have a stray ginger cat visit her.

Mitchell Davis enjoys being in Mr Allen’s spelling mastery class, loves to play games and travelled around Australia.

Isaac Coleman likes enjoys reading groups and learning how to read, he loves to catch frogs and cant wait to learn how to ride his motorbike.
The 3-4 class has begun Class Speaking again this year. A welcome return of the great exercise which gets the students to become confident and competent public speakers.

The topics this term are: News Report, Something You Should Know, and Free Choice.

Students must prepare what they will say, have cue cards, and present their speech using good speaking practices. We look for good posture, eye contact, smooth pace, varied intonation, and voice projection. Students learn from one another and become adept at giving and receiving feedback. The roster for speakers is on the class door, and here are our next week’s lists:

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<td>Hagen</td>
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Speeches must be ready for Thursdays. Please encourage your child to find a topic of interest about which to speak and help them to rehearse!

Please practice telling the time to the minute with your child, including “how long” type questions too! Everyone needs to keep working on this maths skill!

Is your child asking you those tough homework questions about grammar that leave you scratching your head and scrambling for an answer? Trying hard to jog the grey matter back to what you learned in school when all you were interested in at the time was MTV and hyper-colour t-shirts? Do you now lament that you once used to laugh when your teacher would tell you, “One day you’ll need this!”

Sound like you?

Well, do not fear! The new parent friendly Homework Grammar Helper is here!

A quick, pain-free and easy to use test to get you knowing your verbs from your adjectives in a jiffy!

**Step 1:** Take “the word”

**Step 2:** Ask the following simple questions from the Homework Grammar Helper

1. Can you do “the word”? Yes? - It’s a VERB!
2. Can you smell, touch, taste, hear, see, feel, experience or have “the word”? Yes? - It’s a NOUN!
3. Can you use “the word” to describe something? Yes? - It’s an ADJECTIVE!!
4. Does “the word” tell when, where, or how a verb could be done? Yes? Then it’s an ADVERB!!

Easy as 1, 2, 3, 4! Homework done and out the door!

The simple to use Homework Grammar Helper is available exclusively in the 3-4 classroom now.

Use yours today!
The 5 Givens for EVERY learning environment

Each teacher will:
1. Set a positive classroom learning tone.
2. Establish an atmosphere of high expectations.
3. Focus on high standards of student presentation and handwriting.
4. Correct all student work and provide constructive feedback to each student.
5. Maintain a very high standard of classroom display that is relevant and educationally stimulating.

5-7 News

QAR – What kind of question is it?

From Mr. Michael Allan

We have had an extremely busy start to the year and I’m extremely excited about teaching the years 5 to 7 class in 2014. We have started the year by building a positive learning culture in our classroom and getting to know how each other works and our interests and hobbies. Students have been sitting all of their ‘start of year’ tests and setting goals to drive their learning and achieve individual success. The students have also been focusing on reading and learning the how to answer different types of questions they may come across in NAPLAN and other standardised tests. Right There, Think and Search and Author and Me and On My Own. See pictures for more information.
Science and Swimming

Dear Parents,

I am Mrs. Taverner and I will be teaching science and swimming this year.

Our science times are as follows:
- Prep/1 Thursday afternoon
- Grade 5-7 Thursday middle block
- Grade 3&4 Thursday 10:00
- Grade 1&2 Friday 9:00

This term, our focus is on the world around us. The sub strand is biological sciences and we are learning all about living things.

Our prep class is beginning to understand that living things have needs and all have a special place to live. Grade 1&2 are learning about lifecycles and habitats. They will investigate the understanding that for living things to grow and survive, they need to have a healthy habit. We will investigate how our actions affect the living things around us.

The 3&4’s are learning all about grouping and classifying living things based on their observable features. They will continue to develop their understanding of the impact of human activity on the life cycle of living things.

In the upper classes, it is all about the features and characteristics living things have that help them to adapt and survive. We will explore food webs and dichotomous keys and students will demonstrate their understanding of the interdependence of all living organisms.

We live in an amazing and unspoilt environment that provides great stimulus for discussion with your child. Throughout the term, students are welcome to bring in things from home that they feel are relevant to the topic – books, plants or an animal for show and tell. It would be advantageous to watch any national geographic TV programmes where children are exposed to different animals and habitats. There are some fun programmes on ABC3 specifically aimed for children – World’s Deadliest and the top 60 are some that I know are popular. Again, these provide opportunities for discussion and learning.

Swimming will continue until the end of term and is on Fridays for all children. The aim is to improve swimming fitness and confidence in the water as well as to learn some life saving skills.

I am very lucky to work in each class at the school and am looking forward to working with your child this year and hope that they are able to share their scientific knowledge with you!

From Mrs. Sara Taverner
6 Pillars of School-Wide Pedagogy

Pillar 1. Strong relationships (students, parents & community)
Pillar 2. Accept accountability for each student’s learning and commit to improve each student’s performance.
Pillar 3. Use data to drive teaching practices and monitor student performance.
Pillar 4. Use differentiation strategies to cater for every student.
Pillar 5. Plan and teach each lesson using explicit instruction (I Do, We Do, You Do, Plough Back)
Pillar 6. Use consolidation strategies to move student knowledge from short term to long term memory.

Building Vocabulary - Magic Words

Below is how the students are assessed on whether they have mastered all the words in their study list:

1. Read the word fluently
2. Spell the word correctly
3. Say the word in a sentence
The 3 Imperatives for Student Engagement

Each teacher will:
1. Ensure that each child feels safe, valued and respected.
2. Provide learning experiences and work to students at their ability level.
3. Engage each student in their progress towards their short and long term learning goals.

Hamilton Island Sports News

Well things continue to improve for the students on Hamilton Island and I’d like to thank the parents and the children for their support of the respective programs and of course all the coaches, instructors and parents who assist in the delivery of each activity.

My own position has altered slightly and I am now the Island Activities & Events Manager and in association with Ake with the Staff Activities, Jacqui with Guest Activities and HIE Management; we will continue to assess and, where possible, improve the services we can offer. Of course, the emphasis for any successful program relies on you to be the drivers. We are very fortunate that HIE support and assist where possible (including some of my time), but much like any community, the onus is on the residents to create the clubs, manage and coach the sports, do the fundraising, wash the uniforms, etc.

Sadly, with Elise departing in the coming months, the current dance offer will cease. We have however been incredibly fortunate to welcome some more dance and drama instructors to the Island community who will shortly be releasing details of that offer!

Karate has continued to run over the holiday period and I know Jacqui has grand plans to introduce gradings and uniforms over the following year. Details for class times are as follows:

- Wednesday: 7:30am – 8:15am – Under 9 years old*
- Friday: 7:30 – 8:15am – 9 years and over*
- Sunday: 8:00am – 8:45am – This session is all school ages

*Jacqui will move students based upon ability as required.

Please make note as per the previous email from Ange that Karate will conduct Karate this week and then recommence on Sunday March 2nd following Jacqui’s leave from Feb 8-28th.

Our swimming program has been delayed by the inclement weather but all kicks off this week! A big thanks to Louise and Sara for their groundwork and to the parents for the incredible number of enrolments. I have been in discussion with the Swim Club on the mainland so there’s a very real chance, we can look at opportunities for competition in the very near future!

In regards to the free sports program, we will offer the following sports in Term 1:

- Mondays: Cricket. 4.30-5.30pm @ the Oval
- Tuesdays: Soccer. 3.15-4.00pm @ the Sports Club
- Thursdays: Touch. 4.30-5.00pm @ the Oval
- Fridays: Fun Run. 5.30pm @ the Sports Club
- Saturdays: Junior Zumba. 9.15am. Meet @ Sports Club.

The card system will continue to operate for Swimming and Karate. You can purchase a card from the Sports Club for $50 which can be used for 10 sessions of the activity/sport of your choice! Dance and Tennis will operate independently.

Contact Details:

General enquiries: STEPHEN JACKSON 0408 236 483 or sjackson@hamiltonisland.com.au
Activities & Karate: Jacqui Elmsly 0431 207 602 or jelmsly@hamiltonisland.com.au
Swimming: Louise Keeran 0433 383 058 or Sara Taverner 0412 125 775
Tennis lessons: Ben Robbins 4946 8590 (Sports Club Desk)
Dance & Drama: Jane Trotter 0414 564 693
Zumba: Nuria 0410 495 053
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<tr>
<th>Marg Kurzok</th>
<th>Graham Young</th>
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<td>Air Whitsundays</td>
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<td>Shane Howden</td>
<td>Linda Derry</td>
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<td>BWYCV Virginia &amp; Otto</td>
<td>Samantha Sharp</td>
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<td>Troy and Kerry Martin</td>
<td>Hamilton Island Medical Centre</td>
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