

2017 Explicit Improvement Agenda— English, Early Years Reading & Collaborative Teaching

Principal's Address

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Dear Parents, Caregivers, Community Members and Students,

Last week I attended the Queensland State Principals' Conference. It was an inspiring few days. It was also a really affirming few days. Our job, as a school, is to ensure that every student moves forward AT LEAST one year of learning for every year of instruction. My job, as a principal, is to best support the classroom teachers to ensure that this happens. At the conference, I was privileged to listen to Corporal Mark Donaldson VC, speak on making an impact as a leader. Listening to him speak, it made me more aware of how, at times, decisions/changes I make to bring about impact/improvement may be difficult to understand because things have always been done a certain way. However, please be aware that any changes that take place are backed up by research and evidence and are designed to help your children's learning. After all, that is our job and I know that all of us want the best for your children.

The conference was also affirming as its main themes were the importance of reading, innovation and collaborating as a teaching staff. These are all themes that we have already prioritised as a school this year.

The importance of reading is reflected in the commencement of 'Ramp to Reading' and some changes that will soon be taking place in relation to reading groups. We will be adjusting the allocation of staff to ensure (along with parent helpers) that all reading groups are reduced in size so that specific areas of student need are met. We are also working on a guide for leading a group so that all students are getting consistent and targeted teaching.

Innovation is also at the forefront of our minds as we attempt to ensure that your children are properly prepared for the future. Teachers will be completing training so that they can better teach skills required in the future through the Digital Technologies curriculum.

I am in daily discussions with teachers around their units of work, methods of teaching, use of high yield strategies and looking at evidence of student learning. After all, I learn a lot and many minds are more powerful than one.

P&C Meeting— The next P&C Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 20.

CHANGE OF DATE:

Leadership Presentation— **Please be aware that the School Leaders' Badge**

Presentation will now be held at 2:15pm on Wednesday, March 29. The presentation of badges will be incorporated into the assembly.

Regards, Mr. Keith Poulter (Acting Principal)



School Attendance

2017 Target = 94%

Term 1 to date = 95%



1% above

Every day at school counts!



Greater than 95% means that your child has the best possible chance to reach his/her full potential.



Between 90% to 95% means that your child will improve, but will miss some key lessons, content and skills.



Less than 90% means your child is more likely to fall behind their year level benchmarks.



Hamilton Island State School



Our Beliefs: Every student matters every lesson, every day. Every student who attends Hamilton Island State School will be a high achiever.

Term 1

March

13	Monday	Swimming Prep—6
15—17	Wednesday—Friday	Year 4—6 Camp at Kinchant Outdoor Education Centre
15	Wednesday	Assembly at 2:30pm
20	Monday	Swimming Prep—6
20	Monday	P&C Meeting at 3:15pm
20 & 21	Monday & Tuesday	Complete Performance Solutions—Physical Activity and Nutrition Presentations
24	Friday	Social Function at the oval at 3pm. Come and meet new people!
27	Monday	Swimming Carnival
29	Wednesday	Assembly and leadership presentation at 2:15pm
31	Friday	Easter Holidays commence

Term 2

April

18	Tuesday	Term 2 commences
25	Tuesday	Public Holiday—ANZAC Day
26	Wednesday	Assembly at 2:30pm

May

1	Monday	Public Holiday
9	Tuesday	NAPLAN— Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation
10	Wednesday	Assembly at 2:30pm
10	Wednesday	NAPLAN—Reading
11	Thursday	NAPLAN—Numeracy
14—20		Food Allergy Week
24	Wednesday	Assembly at 2:30pm

June

7	Wednesday	Assembly at 2:30pm
21	Wednesday	Assembly at 2:30pm
23	Friday	Last day of term 2

Term 3

July

10	Monday	Term 3 commences
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August

September

4—8	Monday—Friday	Electrical Safety Week
15	Friday	Last day of term 3

Term 4

October

3	Tuesday	Term 4 commences
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