Welcome to the May/June edition of the Hamilton Island State School e-newsletter, we have had a busy and productive term so far with students sitting the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy), participating in the Proserpine State School Under 8’s day, Tourism Australia’s ‘Happy’ promotion and the Hamilton Island ANZAC day. Sailing has just started for our 4 to 7 school leaders and Bunnings are about to come and restore our gardens to the heights of the past. Lots of exciting fun learning experiences have occurred and will continue to occur throughout the term.

Teaching and Learning (United in our pursuit of excellence)

In term 2 we continue to focus on and drive our 2014 explicit improvement agenda in the areas of reading and numeracy. We continue to explicitly teach reading Monday to Thursday from 9:10a.m. to 9:40a.m. with students allocated to classes based on their current reading level and moved between classes pending on their individual rate of improvement. Each teacher is accountable for improving all students performance and I urge parents to get involved and ask questions about how their child is going and their rate of improvement so far this year. Keep an eye out for the new Mystic Maths program that will follow the same format as the Magic Words but focus on foundation math concepts.

Parent and Community Engagement

Before the end of this term, I will be holding a report card information session for parents to unpack the standards so you can get a greater understanding of how your child is going. In term 3, I will be holding workshops on how we teach reading and numeracy and some key strategies you can implement at home to assist with your child’s improvement.

Thanks again for your continued support

Mr. Michael Allan, Principal
From Miss Ashleigh Prickett

Let's start by saying that under 8's day was soooo much fun. We had a great time playing and learning together and by the end of the day we were all exhausted! (The teachers most of all.)

The assessment has begun in the prep/1 room and we are working hard to complete it and be ready for report cards.

Excellent progress is continuing to be made in our reading, Jolly Phonics and Magic 100 words and we are starting to learn how to solve addition problems in CMC.

Assessment tasks to complete:
- Retelling a story in detail
- Mapping, direction and location
- Wind Ornaments
- Making a playground
**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.

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**1-2 News**

We have had a very busy term three thus far and are now getting into the nitty-gritty end of the semester, assessments and report cards. This term we have been reading lots of stories with interesting main characters and learning to write retells about them. Next week we will complete our assessment on this. In Mathematics we learned lots about 3D shapes, partitioning numbers, probability/chance and direction.

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**Ms Chapman**

This term we had Ms Chapman in the class as a practicing teacher. Ms Chapman demonstrated that she is a fantastic teacher in the making. The students thoroughly enjoyed having her in the class and most of all, enjoyed her math lessons about shapes. Thanks Ms Chapman, we really enjoyed having you teach us!

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**Under 8’s day :)**

We all had a great time on our excursion to the mainland. The sensory activities and obstacle course proved to be a hit with the kids as well as the playground.

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**Who Are You?**

- **Gabriel Taverner**
  - Grew up in Hong Kong. He is a fantastic public speaker. Gabe loves swimming and has a great knowledge of dinosaurs.

- **Jack Riddell**
  - Is a Hammo local through and through. Jack has a great vocabulary and loves sharing his thoughts. Jack is really good at hide and seek and loves coming to school.

- **Joshua Martin**
  - Yet another Hammo original. Josh is a great reader and has glasses much cooler than Ms Reid’s. Josh loves watching the flaming thongs and enjoys writing.

- **Maya Brodie**
  - Has been on Hammo for 3 years and absolutely loves babies. She is left-handed which makes her especially talented at just about everything.

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**From Ms Jessie Reid**

Hello Everyone!

Welcome to the third edition of the Year One / Two section of the newsletter.

**In Year One**

Mitchell Agresta, Jamie Bolton, Maya Brodie, Chaz Calder, Mitchell Davis, Alex Glenn, Charlie Harvey, Foxx LaMonica, 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 Murgadas-Davis (Aide)
- Mrs Sarah Coleman (Aide)
Key Strategic Directions:
3. Build the capacity of our teachers and staff across a range of professional competencies.
4. Provide appropriate resourcing and quality learning environments to support and extend student learning and commit to sustainable practice.

3-4 News

From Mrs. Johanna Winstanley

STRING ART
Our art projects will be taking shape over the next week with everyone painting their display boards. We will be hammering the nails and using the beautiful coloured wool to make our word string art come alive!

Gardening
Part of our geography was talking about vegetation in and around cities and how it changes with climate. Thank you to Sara Matthews and Nana Kate for helping the 3-4 class to take charge of the garden beds. Look out for tomatoes, capsicum, beans and herbs. Next week we are also planting pumpkin, squash and melons. The students are proud to be making their school look and feel more green!

IN CLASS THIS TERM...

English To tie in with our history unit, we have been learning about life in the 18th Century—what it was like in Georgian England, crime and punishment, and transportation to Australia with the first fleet. Students are imagining themselves as settlers or convicts of the time and will be writing an historical narrative. Listen out for 18th Century language—asking to go to the “privy,” talking about our “devoirs” (jobs), and “to go snack” meaning to divide or share. Everyone has been really interested in what life was like back then and the hardships settlers had to endure to begin a new town in a new country.

Maths We have been learning all about angles and directions, and the year fours have continued their study of shapes—investigating area of rectangles and triangles, then the volume of prisms. Everyone is getting much better at their times tables, and it’s time we began tackling the harder ones—the 7s, 8s and 9s. Keep up the practice at home of those core maths concepts!

Next week we welcome new student Ashleigh to the class—she will be joining the year four group. This comes on the tail of saying goodbye to Bowen who may yet come back to see us in term 4.

Our fish will soon be in need of a bigger fish bowl. If anyone has any vessel suitable, please bring it in to class so we can create a “break out room” and have our larger fish swim a little more freely!
We have had a fantastic term and the students have been working really hard to constantly improve in their work and once again are continuing to achieve fantastic results. This month’s newsletter item is a celebration of the student’s achievement and presentation of their work.

Their English task for this term was to create a multimodal narrative with an ethical dilemma. The students worked extremely hard on this task and presented some fantastic work. Enjoy some samples of what the students presented.

In Mathematics, we have been learning about different types of angles, investigating patterns and identifying the mathematical strategies needed to solve real life problems.

The student’s report cards will be going out in the next two weeks. Parent/student/teacher meetings will not be formally advertised but feel free to make an appointment if you would like any explanations or to look at the report in closer detail.

Thanks for a great term!

From Mr. Michael Allan

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**Behaviour Expectations**

*Our Caring Values—At Hamilton Island State School we are Proud Learners who are:*

- **Respectful** – We treat ourselves and each other with respect, show care and regard for property.
- **Responsible** – We take responsibility for our performance and own up to mistakes, so that we can learn from them.
- **Safe** – We always take care and act in a safe and appropriate manner.

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**5 - 7 Presentation of Student Work**
P&C Focus 2014

We are embarking on an exciting educational shift into the digital age that will significantly change the way our students learn at Hamilton Island State School. We will be using the latest and greatest tools to support and enhance the learning for our students. In conjunction with the P&C and community, we are working together to supply Ipads to every student from years 3 to 6 (from 2015). Students in these year levels will have an Ipad to use as part of their learning, every lesson, every day.

Goal:
- 35 Ipads = $10,500 ($296 each)
- Upgrade of wifi systems = $6000 ($3000 each wifi port)
- Cases and screen protectors for each Ipad = $1750 ($50 each Ipad)
- 40 bay Docking Station ($2750)

Grand total of $21,000

Will's Sushi & Muffin Days

A big thank you to Will, Dave, Wendy and Isabella Rogers on their hard work and dedication to this cause. Will raised $480 by holding Sushi and Muffin Days for the students, parents and community. Will is a Junior Captain and came up with the fundraising idea himself. Congratulations to Will and the Rogers’ family for this fantastic achievement and thanks to all who bought some sushi or a muffin for being such great supporters of the school.
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.

Teaching to decode sounds when Reading

10 Decoding Strategies

Below are the 10 decoding strategies we use to teach reading to all of our students. Over the year, I’m going to focus on one strategy for each newsletter and elaborate on how to teach it.

The Skippy Frog strategy is taught in the early years to help students take risks and use prediction strategies to help decode unknown words within sentences. The strategy is: if you come to a word you don’t know, skip it, read to the end of the sentence, re-read and see if you can decode the word.

Instruction Plan

I Do—Model the strategy to your child using the ‘think aloud’ technique. This allows the child to hear what you are thinking when you are reading the sentence, getting stuck on a word, skipping it, reading on and finally re-reading to assist with decoding the word.

We Do—Ask your child to copy what you did and see if they start to decode unknown words within sentences. Ensure you are there to provide feedback on how they are going. Keep going until they can use it effectively.

You Do—The child can use the strategy by themselves.
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.

Science

Students have been working very hard this month with science and geography.

Prep/1/2
We have been investigating the properties of materials and how they can be changed for a specific purpose. Students have been conducting investigations to find out about how we can make things stronger and what happens when materials are exposed to the wind and rain. In geography, students have been exploring the world through maps! We have also been learning about the purpose of different spaces.

Grade 3/4
Students have learned to explain the difference between a solid and liquid and we have been conducting investigations into their properties. Our history focus has been the first fleet, making timelines and learning about life for the early settlers.

Grade 5/6/7
We have had some great opportunities to investigate melting and freezing. We have also learned about the water cycle and the changes states of water. We also explored the need to conserve water. During history we have explored life in the colonies, federation and the women’s movement. Students have been asked to compare and contrast what life was like before and after federation and how the rights of women have changed over time.

Warm regards,
Sara

From Mrs. Sara Taverner
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. 4.30-5.30pm @ 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
Thanks again to all our major sponsors

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