Thursday, 5 November 2015

**Dates to remember**

9th November Student Leaders Rewards Day
10th November Music Camp
11th November World Maths Day
12th November M Factor Auditions
13th November Year 6 Low Isles Trip

**Principal News**

Dear Parents,

This week is ‘hump’ week for Term 4, 2015. Yes that is right, we are half way through Term 4 with only 5 weeks to go before the Christmas vacation. School finishes on Friday 11th December 2015 and commences on WEDNESDAY 27th January 2016. Please note that Monday 25th January 2016 has been designated as a Pupil Free Day, with Tuesday 26th January 2016 being Australia Day.

For Grade 6 students this means that they have only 25 days of primary school left before they venture to the ‘big’ school. Sounds a little daunting but I have confidence that they are well positioned to make the transition to High School. They have a pretty busy schedule with Leadership Rewards Day, Low Isle trip, M Factor, Graduation and ‘Get Wet’ day at the end of term. For our Grade 5 students this means they will be getting prepared for 2016 student leadership elections. I encourage all parents of current Grade 5 students to speak with children about nominations for School Captains, House Captains and helping them prepare their speeches. This is a very exciting time for our future leaders so please support them in their endeavors.

We had a very successful, enjoyable and productive Prep information session last Thursday with Mrs Walker providing an informative discussion around Prep life for next years ‘Preppies’. We had some fantastic feedback from one of our mums who said that what makes this school so good is the fact that the older students ‘look out for’ and support the younger students. That is a school culture that we actively encourage and support and it helps make Mossman State School a ‘good place to be’.

At long last our Computer Lab is operational again with 30 new computers, a new air-conditioner, TV, curtains, benches and telephone. New colour coded seats will be arriving shortly. We have also bought 8 new computers for the library. Over the next few weeks we will be making a ‘mini’ computer lab in the library in the meeting room using these 8 computers. We will designate these computers as ‘school work’ computers where boys and girls can complete their curriculum based tasks.

Over the last few weeks we have been trialling a new ‘playground teaching roster’ where we have introduced a games room, dancing room and drumming room. These lunch time play areas are in addition to our library, computer, undercover area and oval play areas. From all reports the introduction of these additional play areas has been highly successful. In regards to the computer lab which is only open at first lunch break (to encourage our students to be active and social) we will be having designated days for the students in Prep-3 and students in 4-6. This should ensure a balance between older and younger students and active sedentary activities.

The weather is certainly starting to warm up so please ensure your children have a steady supply of water and fresh fruit.

Our Grade 6 students are off to Low Isles next Friday 13th November kindly donated and sponsored by Quicksilver. Thanks to Quicksilver for their ongoing support of our students.

We have uploaded our Quadrennial School review onto our school website. This review maps our progress over the last 4 years. In one word improvement has been ‘outstanding’. Please have a look for yourselves.

**REMINDER Yr 6 students: Please return your enrolment forms for High School to the High School Administration ASAP.**
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Congratulations to our Week 4 Students of the Week.

**Prep**: Max for being a respectful listener and excelling at his reading and writing.

**Prep1**: Jakob for excellent retell writing and editing his work and Bob for excellent improvement in letter formation in his handwriting.

**Year 1/2**: Acacia for always being respectful and enthusiastic and Damon for his outstanding efforts in maths.

**Year 2/3**: Jack for writing descriptive sentences and Elinarose for showing huge improvements in her writing.

**Year 3/4**: Jasmine for working well in Maths and challenging herself and Olivetiola for making great changes with her classroom behaviours and staying on task.

**Year 4/5**: Edward for embracing our class routines and being a friendly class member and Mahalia for excellence in her daily writing.

**Year 5/6A**: Brooke for being an enthusiastic and engaged learner.

**Year 5/6B**: David for working hard during consolidations.

**SEP**: Taishara for working independently during all classes and trying very hard with neatness.

Kai for focussed concentration on tasks this week.

**Principal’s Award**: Mason, Beryl and Reagan

**Parade Award**: Year 1/2

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Attendance Matters

...every school day counts!

Congratulations to Year 2/3 who are currently our highest attending class for the year. Their current attendance rate is 90.53%. Not far behind is Prep1 on 90.29% and Prep on 90.04%. Excellent attendance kids, keep up the great work. Every day counts.
Sports Representative Honours

Congratulations to Reagan, Claire, Beryl, Jaxon and Ethan who have all earned representative honours for representing our school at the state level. This is a tremendous achievement for our little school.

PREP OPEN MORNING

Last week we welcomed our new little Preppies for 2016. Our new little people spent the morning playing and learning with our Preps. They had a wonderful day and our Preps loved being the "big kids" for the day.
Year 3/4 Rainforest Poems

Rainforest
I can see...
The big long wait-a-while and stinging trees.
The little fast creatures scuttling over the rainforest floor.
The fresh clear creatures flowing over the rocks.
I can hear...
The crashing rapids on the big rocks.
The leaves fluttering from the trees.
The chirps of the birds and the cold wind blowing.
I can feel...
The dead animals on the stinky floor.
The wet rotting leaves fermenting and giving off an odour.
The rough rocks cutting my feet.
By Jeremy

Rainforest
I can see the amazing tropical habitat.
I can feel the slimy mossy rocks.
I can taste the freshness in the waterfalls.
I love the smell of the rainforest.
I can hear the creatures and birds making noises.
By Jahzara O’Neil

Rainforest
I can hear...
The turkeys scratching on the ground.
The crickets are chirping around and water rushing and gushing.
The trees are swaying to the sides going to the left and the right really softly.
I can see...
The beautiful crystal water flowing down the creeks.
The colourful birds chirping in the big brown trees.
The wonderful butterflies fluttering around me.
I can smell...
The wonderful fresh air wafting through the rainforest.
The smell of the sweet scents of flowers on the breeze.
Beautiful smells just like the frangipani.
By Tiarna

Rainforest
I can feel the cold rain.
I can hear the large crystal clear raindrops hitting the ground.
I can see the waterfalls forming from rain.
I can taste the water as I stand under it.
I can smell the fresh air after the rain.
By Gerald

Rainforest
I can see...
The beautiful clear crystal water flowing
Heaps of moss covering rocks.
Beautiful trees in the huge blue sky.
I can hear...
The turkeys scratching on the ground.
The crashing currents in the creek.
The crickets chirping in the rainforest trees.
I can smell...
The lush beauty of the flowers.
The fresh air in the rainforest.
The animals droppings and rotten leaves on the ground.
By Xanthe

Rainforest
I can see the wet green leaves swaying in the wind.
I can feel the cold rushing water on my legs.
I can taste the fresh sparkling water in my mouth.
I can smell the tropical wind in my nose.
I can hear the wind moving through the trees.
By Laura

Rainforest
I can see the amazing tropical habitat.
I can feel the slimy mossy rocks.
I can taste the freshness in the waterfalls.
I love the smell of the rainforest.
I can hear the creatures and birds making noises.
By Jahzara O’Neil

Rainforest
I can see...
Crystal clear water and emerald coloured leaves...
The tan coloured sand sparkling through the water.
The golden pollen surrounded by bright coloured petals.
I can hear...
The crystal clear currents splashing against the rocks.
Leaves fluttering in the breeze.
Crickets chirping out a song.
Raindrops falling from leaf to leaf like a ping-pong.
I can smell...
The petals of the lush flower.
Freshness in the air after rainfall like a shower.
The rotting logs fermenting in the undergrowth.
By Jasmine