From the Principal

Parents, Students, Staff and Community Members;

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success” – Henry Ford (Founder of the Ford Motor Company).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our P&C Executive, all those families, staff and students who helped in so many ways with this year’s Fete. Despite the rain, there were lots of smiling faces and numerous examples of team work, which is what working together is all about!

At the P&C Meeting on Monday 12th September our current P&C Executive resigned from their roles and after discussion there was some concern people at the meeting who showed interest at taking on both Executive and non-Executive roles for the remainder of 2016. A Special Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th October at 2:15pm in the Staff Room to confirm the election of our new Executive and Non-Executive for the remainder of 2016.

So what is a P&C Association? A Parents and Citizens’ Association (quoted from the P&C Qld Quick Guide for P&C Executive Officers) “is a group of community minded people, parents and citizens, who take on a more formal role to assist the school in providing:

- Feedback on school policies and activities,
- Additional resources to be used to enhance student learning, (i.e. fundraising), Parents with opportunities to be involved in their child’s education.”

So what are the roles within our P&C Association? Executive positions include President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and P&C’s Qld Representative. P&C’s must have 2 Executive positions filled to be viable. Without 2 Executive officers the Principal will place the P&C into care-taker mode until there are at least 2 officers elected. Other non-Executive roles that P&C Associations can have include a Fundraising Co-ordinator and a Uniform Co-ordinator etc. The BNSS P&C Association also pays a Tuckshop Convenor who looks after the daily operations of the Tuckshop.

What does Care-taker Mode mean? The school, under the Principal’s management, would be required to manage the P&C. This would include the school being responsible for all the financial duties usually undertaken by the P&C Treasurer. Given the school does not have the human resources available to do this, it would mean that things including the Tuckshop would cease to operate, no further fundraising would be able to take place to assist the students at our school and we would have to change the way parents are able to purchase school uniforms.

We look forward to your active participation in the P&C throughout the remainder of 2016 and beyond so that the Association can fulfil the above roles and functions to the best of their ability.

Thank you to the parents who have participated in the Parent Feedback Survey. This short, five question survey has been set up to gain your feedback as we move forward together to achieve school improvement through student improvement. Please use the following link and answer the questions by 3pm on Friday 16th September. Feedback will be shared at P&C Meetings in Term 4. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7LKRF9T

Keep a watch on our school these holidays – with the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see anything suspicious, please remember to call the School Watch number – 13 17 88. Anyone found on the school grounds without the permission of the Principal may be dealt with by the Blackwater Police who will be doing regular checks of the school over the holiday period.

We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday break. We wish well our families who may be moving on and look forward to welcoming the new families who will be joining our school community in the near future.

Cheers
Rod Wood
Principal

Building Foundations + Sustaining Gains = More Opportunities
We achieved some fantastic results - Hollie James achieved 3rd Place in Grade 3 Verse Speaking, Jarrod Meadows received a Highly Commended for his Grade 6 Percussion Solo, the Concert Band received a Highly Commended for their performance and the Choir pulled an impressive 3rd Place against seven other schools across the Central Highlands.

I couldn’t be more proud of all the students who participated in the Eisteddfod this year. All their hard work and dedication is a testament to their success. I’d like to say a big thank you to the parents of these students as well; without your support and encouragement, these cultural events wouldn’t happen. Bring on 2017 Central Highlands Eisteddfod!

Laura Henderson, Music Teacher

**CH EISTEDDFOD RESULTS**

Over 40 students from Blackwater North State School travelled to Emerald to compete in the annual Central Highlands Eisteddfod.

The Eisteddfod was held over the course of three massive days and was an amazing opportunity to showcase the talented students we have here at our school. We had students compete in a myriad of different sections ranging from verse speaking, instrumental and vocal solos, as well as a massed Blackwater North State School Choir and Concert Band.

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Laura Henderson, Music Teacher

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Book Week
Whilst Book Week Celebrations are coming to close we still have some very exciting announcements to make. Due to Mrs Hayes being on class for the week we will be announcing the winners, as chosen by the Children’s Book Council of Australia, of the book week categories in week one next term. We hope Piranhas Don’t Eat Bananas written by Aaron Blabey is the winner in the Early Childhood section as each and every one of our classes had voted it their favourite.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Forms were due back last Friday, August 26. Mrs Hayes has finished entering all of our data, checked our certificates and we will await their arrival for presentation towards the end of October. A big thank you to those parents who encouraged students to participate. We love to see students engaging in books and being celebrated for reading success.

Happy Reading
Mrs Hayes & Library Staff

**BOOK WEEK DISCO**

The Book Week Disco is on this Thursday night from 5pm -7pm. Students are encouraged to wear their book week costumes but this is not a necessity to attend the disco. Juniors (Prep-Yr2) will be in the Multipurpose court and Seniors (Yr3-Yr6) will be in the hall.

The winners of our Colouring Competitions and Banana Guessing Comp will be announced on the night.

Free entry!

Popcorn, poppers, soft drink and sausages on bread will be available to purchase on the night.

Look forward to seeing you there!

**2A NEWS**

Wow! What a term. We have been so very busy in 2A. In Science we have been learning about the life cycles of plants and animals. We know that some animals such as frogs and butterflies go through metamorphosis in their lifecycles. We are lucky enough to be watching our very own tadpoles transform in our classroom.

We have been writing Information Reports in English. We have been researching the diet, habitat and appearance of many different animals. Our class favourite was by far the Peregrine Falcon. Did you know that when diving for its prey a Peregrine Falcon can reach speeds of up to 400km per hour!

Below is some snippets of the outstanding work going on in 2A.

*Nesting Habits of Ducks*

“Duck’s make their nests out of sticks and they can lay around six eggs. Female ducks keep their eggs safe by sitting on them and waiting for them to crack.”

Connor Kurtz

*Appearance of Frogs*

“Frogs can come in all different colours and sizes. Frogs have webbed feet like ducks feet. They have wide mouths so they can eat insects. When you see a colourful frog that means that it is poisonous. Tree frogs are green or brown. Frogs use their colours to hide from predators. Lots of frogs have long skinny legs.”

Amber Sauer

*Diet of Northern Blossom Bats*

“Northern Blossom bats are nocturnal animals. They feed at night. They like to eat ripe fruit such as mangoes. Northern Blossom bats eat lots of different food. The bats diet is Australian flowers, mangoes and bananas.”

Bella Whitehouse
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK ~ 9 SEPTEMBER

DISABILITY ACTION WEEK

This week is Disability Action Week. The theme this year is ‘Opening Doors’. There are loads of free events to join in with in Blackwater and Emerald. Each classroom has a flyer displaying the events locations and times. Some of them include: a Driving Simulator, activities at the Emerald Pottery Club, Line Dancing, Remote Communities forum, Laser tag, Free BBQ, Mental Wellbeing Morning tea and PCYC fun night. Please have a look in your classroom for more information or on the notice boards around the school.

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS RUGBY 7S

37 boys and girls from Blackwater travelled to Emerald SHS to compete in the CH 7s Cup (Rugby 7s) last Friday.

Our two U10 teams, Blackwater Blue and Blackwater Yellow toughed it out all day, playing quality Rugby against bigger opposition from Springsure SS 1 and Moranbah SS. Their determination saw Blackwater Blue place 3rd and Blackwater Yellow place 4th in the pool.

Our U12 Blackwater White team came through the pool stage undefeated, with convincing wins over Springsure, Emerald SS 1, Emerald SS 2, Moranbah SS and Blackwater Red to head into the Grand Final as firm favourites. Blackwater Red was also successful in securing wins over all other schools to hold second place in the pool and book a finals spot against Blackwater White.

In a hard fought game between the 2 Blackwater teams, Blackwater White was able to keep their undefeated streak going and came away with a 19 – 0 win over Blackwater Red. Thanks to all parents for supporting the boys and girls for this competition.

Next competition is Western 7s at Emerald SHS in early Term 4.

IT ALL STARTS HERE

SEPTEMBER SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

- Mon 19th Sept – Bubble Soccer / Sumo Suits and more at PCYC
- Tues 20th Sept – Excursion to Rockhampton Dinosaur skate and activities park
- Wed 21st Sept – Excursion to Emerald for Laser Tag and skate park
- Thurs 22nd Sept – Excursion to Capella Pool water activities and mini golf
- Fri 23rd Sept – Blackwater CHRC BICC movie day double feature
- Mon 26th Sept – Excursion to Yeppoon Coolwaters Park
- Tues 27th Sept – Film making, table tennis and games at PCYC
- Wed 28th Sept – Excursion to Emerald Barefoot Bowls and skate park
- Thurs 29th Sept – Excursion to Rockhampton Bowl n Leisure Centre
- Fri 30th Sept – Blackwater CHRC BICC movie day double feature

Participants must be PCYC members. Suitable for ages 10 – 17 years

Contact PCYC Blackwater for costs & details. SPACES LIMITED & BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

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Monday Nights 4—5pm

CUB SCOUTS Age 8—11 years
Monday Nights 5:30—7 pm

SCOUTS Age 11—15 years
Tuesday Nights 5—7 pm

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