From the Principal

I believe it is just as important to reflect on things as it is to plan for them and then enact them. With this in mind I ask you to reflect on the following quotes when you feel challenged around a decision - “Sometimes the hardest thing and the right thing are the same.” “A positive attitude will always lead to positive outcomes.” “Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.” With this in mind I thank our families for their overwhelming support and understanding around our re-organisation of classes to cater for our previously oversized Year 4 classes. Our new organisation includes:

- Year 2/3C - Sarah Vink
- Year 3B - Lisa Transton
- Year 3/4D - Jade Mackay
- Year 4A - Sally Martel
- Year 4B - Ashleigh Kuenz

Social Media and the School Community – this is an area we all need to be aware of and adhere to as adults and with our children in mind. The Qld Government has produced a brochure to assist us with our responsibilities in this area. Should parents like to request a copy of the brochure please call in and see me anytime. Things to note include:

The internet, mobile phones and social media provide wonderful opportunities for you to network and socialise online. While these technologies provide positive platforms for sharing ideas, they also have the potential to cause pain and suffering to individuals, groups or even whole communities. Just as you would discourage your child from behaving inappropriately online, it’s important to remember that sometimes negative comments that parents and caregivers post about their school community have a greater impact than expected.

Reputations of teachers, schools, principals and even parents can be permanently damaged — and in some cases, serious instances of inappropriate online behaviour are dealt with by police and the court system.

Being aware of a few simple strategies can help keep the use of social media positive and constructive:

- Before you post something online, ask yourself if the community or individual really need to know. Is it relevant, positive and helpful?
- Remember that what you post online is a direct reflection of who you are. People will potentially form lasting opinions of you based on what you post online.
- Be a good role model. If things get heated online consider logging out and taking a few moments to relax and think. Hasty, emotive responses could inflame situations unnecessarily.
- Be mindful when commenting, try to keep general and avoid posting anything that could identify individuals.
- A few years ago parents may have discussed concerns or issues with their friends at the school gate. Today with the use of social media, online discussions between you and your close friends can very quickly be shared with a much wider audience, potentially far larger than intended.
- Taking a few moments to think about the content you are about to post could save upset, embarrassment, and possible legal action.
- As a parent you have a role in supervising and regulating your child’s online activities at home and its impact on the reputation and privacy of others.

2016 NAPLAN Results – our school and individual student results have recently arrived and as a school community we can once again celebrate the hard work of our students and staff and the wonderful support we receive from parents and family members. Individual Student NAPLAN reports were sent home last week so families can see where their children sit in regards to overall performance.

TICKS - We are receiving increased reports of ticks on students. Parents are encouraged to be vigilant and check your children for ticks as they can be very small and hard to see.

School Chaplain Update - Flor Weir will no longer be continuing working in the role of School Chaplain at Blackwater North State School and Blackwater State School. We would like to express our thanks to Flor for over 6 years' service to the Blackwater community and wish her all the best in the future.

Head of Curriculum (HOC) Update – Congratulations to Joyce Beath who takes on the role of Acting Principal at Westwood SS from Monday 22 August to the end of this year. We wish Joyce all the best for this exciting new opportunity and we would like to especially acknowledge the 21 years of dedication that she has provided our school in a variety of different roles.

Cheers
Rod Wood
Principal

Building Foundations + Sustaining Gains = More Opportunities

NEXT P & C MEETING
MONDAY 22 AUGUST @ 7PM IN THE STAFFROOM, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.
We encourage all interested parents to attend. If you are unable to attend and would like an item added to the agenda to be brought up for discussion, please contact the school or email the principal on principal@blacnortss.eq.edu.au
**Road Safety**

It has come to our attention that students are not being responsible on the way to and from school each day. We have had several reports of near misses with students and cars. We have also had reports of senior students using inappropriate hand gestures to people in cars travelling by. When students are wearing their school uniforms, they are representing Blackwater North State School so need to be following our 4 school values of: Safety, Respect, Effort and Responsibility.

**Lost Property**

The lost property boxes are overflowing with jumpers. Please check these boxes if your child is missing items. In the next few weeks any remaining items in the lost property boxes will be donated to charity.

**Amaze Maze Excursion**

Last week, the Prep to Year 3 students had the opportunity to visit the BICC to experience a maze created out of recyclable materials—mainly cardboard boxes. This was a last minute opportunity offered by the Central Highlands Regional Council and we thank the Council for providing the funds to pay for the bus transport to and from the BICC for our excursion.

**New Pick up Spot**

For those parents who pick their children up from the front of the school near the flag poles, the arrangements have changed. Children will now wait at the new gate that has been installed further down the fence. There is a big shady tree for the children to stand under whilst waiting. It also alleviates the problem of cars stopping at the commencement of the drop off zone instead of travelling all the way through to the end. This will assist in preventing traffic from building up over the crossing as well.

**Every Day Counts!**

We are now halfway through Term 3 and I would like to remind parents of the importance of sending children to school unless there is a reasonable excuse for the student to be away, such as illness.

---

**Book Week**

The time has finally arrived!! Book Week dress up is next Wednesday, August 24. We will be having a showcase parade on Wednesday morning from 9am until 10am in the hall to give students an opportunity to showcase their amazing costumes. Secret judges will be watching the parade looking for a winning costume from each class.

This year’s theme is ‘Australia! Story Country’ but there is no pressure to dress up in this theme, you have the freedom to dress up as your favourite character from any book. We encourage you to bring along a copy of the book in which you are channeling your costume from or even a picture of it would be great.

We look forward to seeing you all dressed up next Wednesday!

**Home Reading Logs**

It has been so exciting to see our reading ticket boxes filling with those lovely purple tickets every week. Thank you to those parents who are assisting with the completion of these reading logs.

- **Week 4 Winners:**
  - Ivy – Prep A
  - Ethan – 4A

- **Week 5 Winners:**
  - Taylor – 2A
  - Ethan – 4A

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

There is only ONE week left to complete the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Forms need to be handed to the library by next Friday, August 26.

You can play a big part in your children’s future by encouraging them to be part of this positive initiative. Mrs Hayes still has plenty of forms in the library for those wanting to participate.

**Citizen Scientists**

“We have over 1 million images taken by automatic cameras from many beautiful parts of Australia, but we need to know if there is an animal in each photo, and if so, what type of animal it is. By sharing the load we can get through the images faster – that’s the power of citizen science.” [wildlifespotter.net.au/](https://wildlifespotter.net.au/)

This week in the library we have been lucky enough to have Mrs Lau come and visit us at lunchtimes to guide our students through a Wildlife Spotters initiative. Students have the opportunity to help scientists save threatened species and preserve Australia’s iconic wildlife!

We have registered our school and have become citizen scientists and are assisting researchers by looking for animals in wilderness photos taken by automated cameras around Australia.

You can join in at home too and help celebrate National Science Week.

---

**STAFF**

- Zoe Prep B
- Lily Prep B
- Eva Prep A
- Lani 1A
- Jazmin 1/2D
- Amarni 1B
- Brooklin 2A
- Amber 2A
- Kobi 2B
- Chloe 3B
- Chante’ 2/3C
- Talia 3B
- Jakk 4A
- Brody 5B
- Kayleen 5B
- Tyler 5/6C
- Max 6B

---

**BIRTHDAYS** 7 Aug—20 Aug

- Zoe Prep B
- Lily Prep B
- Eva Prep A
- Lani 1A
- Jazmin 1/2D
- Amarni 1B
- Brooklin 2A
- Amber 2A
- Kobi 2B
- Chloe 3B
- Chante’ 2/3C
- Talia 3B
- Jakk 4A
- Brody 5B
- Kayleen 5B
- Tyler 5/6C
- Max 6B

---

**Happy Reading, Library Staff**
Next week, Joye Beath takes up the position of acting principal at Westwood State School for the remainder of the year. She is very excited to have been offered this wonderful new opportunity.

Joye has been with our school since 1995 and in her earlier role of teacher/librarian she came into contact with all the students in our school each week.

She had this to say about the kids at Blackwater North—“It is so wonderful in a school like this to see the growth in the students. I have seen children grow from Prep to Year 12, when they begin their big adventure, and it is very rewarding. We are here to facilitate the best journey we can for them.

Past students of Blackwater North still stop to say hello to me and they are always polite, it’s just brilliant!”

We think you are brilliant, Mrs Beath. Good Luck at Westwood State School, we will miss you.

What we will miss about Mrs Beath…

“She is lovely, very nice, and she never gets angry. I hope you enjoy being a principal and we hope you come back.” Cameron
“I would miss Mrs Beath because she helps people in the school.” Erin
“Mrs Beath helps teachers by taking their classes.” Macey
“When she takes our class she changes the class rules.” Owen
“I will miss her cheerfulness every day. She is so helpful. Mrs Beath has helped me in multiple areas in my short time here and is the easiest person to come to for help or just a friendly chat.” Sarah Vink 2/3C

This term we are doing Jump Rope for Heart fundraising. The easiest way to fundraise is by making a profile for your child online (it only takes 5 minutes) and then sharing their profile via Facebook, Twitter or email. Visit http://heartfoundation.org.au/parents and scroll down and search Blackwater North SS in the box which reads “Find your child’s school”.

Our goal is to raise $5000 for the Heart Foundation.

If you choose to fundraise in cash, please remember to bring all money to BNSS administration by the Jump off Date (9 September).

Please support this Fundraising initiative as it is for a great cause and every cent you fundraise is going to the Heart Foundation.

---

**GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NEWS**

**5 AUGUST ~ STUDENT OF THE WEEK ~ 12 AUGUST**

**GOOD LUCK, MRS BEATH!**

Next week, Joye Beath takes up the position of acting principal at Westwood State School for the remainder of the year. She is very excited to have been offered this wonderful new opportunity.

Joye has been with our school since 1995 and in her earlier role of teacher/librarian she came into contact with all the students in our school each week.

She had this to say about the kids at Blackwater North—“It is so wonderful in a school like this to see the growth in the students. I have seen children grow from Prep to Year 12, when they begin their big adventure, and it is very rewarding. We are here to facilitate the best journey we can for them.

Past students of Blackwater North still stop to say hello to me and they are always polite, it’s just brilliant!”

We think you are brilliant, Mrs Beath. Good Luck at Westwood State School, we will miss you.

**What we will miss about Mrs Beath…**

“She is lovely, very nice, and she never gets angry. I hope you enjoy being a principal and we hope you come back.” Cameron
“I would miss Mrs Beath because she helps people in the school.” Erin
“Mrs Beath helps teachers by taking their classes.” Macey
“When she takes our class she changes the class rules.” Owen
“I will miss her cheerfulness every day. She is so helpful. Mrs Beath has helped me in multiple areas in my short time here and is the easiest person to come to for help or just a friendly chat.” Sarah Vink 2/3C

---

**BMX RACING EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT**

(SCHOOL TERMS ONLY)

Head to Sunrise Rotary Park corner Park Avenue and Opal Street, Emerald.

Registration 5:30pm – 6:15pm
Practise gates 6:15pm-6:30pm
Racing starts 6:30pm

$6 per rider
$15 family 3 or more

All riders MUST hold a current BMX license before hitting the track.

Further Information
Central Highlands BMX Club,
Facebook group chbmxclub.secretary@gmail.com
Club secretary Amy 0400786985

**JUNIOR TOUCH SIGN-ON**

**TODAY 5:30PM**

AT THE TOUCH FIELDS

FOR PREP—YEAR 6

---

**Week 1 attendance stats**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>93.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>95.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Blackwater Scout Group
Girls & Boys of all ages most welcome

Joey Scouts
Age 6—8 years
Monday Nights 4—5pm

Cub Scouts
Age 8—11 years
Monday Nights 5.30—7pm

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

Ph: 0437239084 (Pengana) 0403137309

Blackwater Hardware
4 Littlefield Street
Blackwater Q 4717

For all of your Hardware needs
Come and see our friendly staff
Phone: 49861266

C-A-S Pest Control
Pest Be Gone

Licence # 13996
0405 198 493

Blackwater Plumbing Services

Commercial / Industrial / Domestic
Affordable rates for all plumbing needs
Water purification
Pool treatment / maintenance
Sewer repairs
Emergency 24hr service

Phone: 49825411
Mobile: 0419712214
E-mail: admin@blackwaterplumbing.com.au

NO Job Too Big or Small

ALL BMA Equipment Compliance
Roadworthy's & Services
Labour Hire

Office: 4982 7081
Address: S Jarrah Street
PO Box 244
Blackwater Qld 4717
Email: storm25@bigpond.com

ABN: 45 202 113 397

Authorised Inspection Station #9920
Examiner #17606
Air Con Lic. #AU29367

SAFETY IS #1

vWi
V Wave Industries

All Electrical Needs
AirConditioners. Phone Points, TV Antennas
Appliance Repairs Solar Pumps
0400 972 689