From the Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Unfortunately Marie has been unwell this week, we wish her a speedy recovery. Here is the news from the desk of the Deputy Principal.

**Harmony Day**

Harmony Day (21 March) celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. On Friday we are having a FREE DRESS DAY, to celebrate our school diversity, wear Orange! Gold Coin donation. [http://www.harmony.gov.au/](http://www.harmony.gov.au/)

**Cross Country – next Friday – 27 March**

Due to our 9am start for our 2015 Cross Country there will be NO PARADE in WEEK 3. We will have Parade on Thursday 2nd April, our last for Term 1. Please come along to our school oval next Friday and cheer on our wonderful students. See you there!

**Easter Bonnet**

Have you got your EASTER BONNET ready? Prep to year 2 will share their Easter bonnets on Wednesday 1 April at 9am in the Hall. Let’s get crazy with our bonnets!

**Workplace Health & Safety**

Thanks parents, friends and visitors for using our school Drop off zone, quickly picking up and moving on. Thanks for not using our teachers’ car park and using our pedestrian crossings to safely cross the road with your child/ren.

**Behaviour Buzz of the Week**

During the last fortnight our Prep to Year 6 students, along with their teachers have been continuing to discuss and implement our Blackwater North State School Behaviour Plan with their students.

As part of our You Can Do It Program we have ‘Lunchtime Leaders’ where volunteers from years 5 & 6 help out in Prep and Year 1/2 eating and play areas. Some of the feedback- ‘They help me in the playground’. ‘They seem so tiny but help out others’. ‘They play with me’. ‘I like their lanyards - I can see who is helping us’.

**Behaviour Awards This Fortnight:** Prep – 2: Erin 2C, Fraser Prep C, Laine Prep C, Aidan Prep C Year 3-6: Curtis 5A, Chama 4B, Aiden 5A, Calli 3A

**Our Weekly Attendance**

Attendance has been really good, with just a dip during the week of Cyclone Marcia. Our target this year is to reach 92.2%. Our ‘Every Day Counts’ has seen us beating this target every week! Thank you for working with your class teachers and sending your children to school every day! We all are winners, and know that ‘every day counts’.

Every Day Counts Winners: Week 6: 3A 95.97% Week 7: 3A 96.1%

**ANZAC Garden**

Thank you to our P&C who have created our wonderful ANZAC garden at the front of our school. As you enter our school grounds from William Street there is colour and a variety of plants to greet you. Mrs Christensen and her fellow workers have worked tirelessly to prepare the area, plant the new foliage and cover with wood chip, then check the watering system was working. This is a great garden for our 100 year ANZAC commemoration celebrations. We also have to acknowledge our Central Highlands Regional Council who supplied the funds to purchase the items required. We look forward to celebrating our 2015 ANZAC service with our school, CHRC representatives and friends.

Until next week, Joye.
We have had a lot of classes coming to the library lately where many students can’t borrow because they have not returned their books. Please remember to return your books each week so that you can borrow new ones. A special mention to Prep 8 and 2A who had returned most of their books. It was great to see so many students from these classes able to borrow new books.

**Friends of the Library**
A big thank you to the parents who have been helping us to cover books in the library. Each book in our library must be covered before it can be borrowed. This year already, we have catalogued close to 1000 new books. Without parent help, it would take us a long time to cover all these books before they could be borrowed.

Happy Reading, Library Staff

**5B NEWS**
This term in 5B, we have been learning about the artists Van Gogh and Kandinsky. We have painted a landscape picture using different colour shades, tints and patterns. The second piece of art we did was a collage focusing on overlapping shapes. At the moment we are working on self-portraits using a pencil to draw continuous, broken and hatched lines. Some of the student’s artwork will be displayed in the foyer soon.

Miss Henderson is feeling very proud!! The Senior Vocal Ensemble were awesome last Friday on parade. They will be travelling to compete in the Biloela Eisteddfod in May this year. Junior Choir will be performing on parade in week 10.

The Central Highlands Eisteddfod will be held in Blackwater this year in August. If you would like to be on the Eisteddfod committee or volunteer over the course of the Eisteddfod could you please email Laura @ lhend119@eq.edu.au with an expression of interest.

**PREP STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME**
There are still some parents of children in Prep who have not paid the $50 contribution towards resources. We ask that you call to the office to settle this amount as soon as possible. Many thanks to those parents who have paid already.

**UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS**
Wed 2.45 - 3.15PM  
Fri 9.30 - 10.00AM
The University of New South Wales will be holding competitions again this year. Dates for these competitions are as follows:

- **Computer Skills**: 19 May
- **Science**: 3 June
- **Writing**: 15 June
- **Spelling**: 16 June
- **English**: 28 July
- **Maths**: 11 August

The competitions above are open to students in years 3 to 6. Year 2 students are able to participate in Maths, Science and English only. If you would like your child to participate in any of these competitions, please fill out the form below and return it with your money to the office by Monday 30 March.

If nominations are not received by this date, students will not be able to participate. Please note, if fewer than three nominations are received in any subject, that category will not proceed.

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**COMPETITIONS**

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Signed: .................................................................  Amount enclosed: ..............................................