From the Principal
Dear Parents and Caregivers

THANK YOU
I would just like to say a big thank you to all parents, staff and students for making me feel so welcomed to Blackwater North State School, I have thoroughly enjoyed my first 6 weeks and look forward to working with you all in Term 3. Safe and Happy Holidays.

WORDS THEIR WAY NEWS
Students and teachers in Year 3 have been working with Mrs Freihofner to implement the Words Their Way program for spelling this term. With outstanding results in spelling improvement, we are looking to continue to embed this practice in further grades throughout our school. To be able to do this, we are asking for volunteers to help to prepare spelling games and resources. On Wednesday 12th August, we will be holding a resource making Working Bee from 9-11am. If you are able to donate some of your time to help us with cutting and laminating, please contact the ladies in the office to register your interest. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

CHANGES TO OUR YEAR 2 AND YEAR 3 CLASSES—SEMESTER 2 2015
It is very important that we ensure all students are learning to the best of their ability and that we at Blackwater North State School provide an environment that is conducive to this end. We began 2015 with straight year level classes. Throughout this semester our enrolments at Blackwater North State School have altered, in some instances dramatically leading to changes to our class enrolment numbers. This change has impacted mostly on our year 3 classes. Our year 3 classes at present have around 30 students in each class. To continue to provide for every child in all classes we have made a decision to create a 2/3D multi-age class, which will be taught by Miss Kathryn O’Sullivan. This makes numbers equitable and optimum learning will occur.

Changes will be kept to the minimum. All students that will be moving classes have been notified individually by letter. Our teachers will continue to cater for all students in their classes continuing current support programs. Teacher aide support for all classes will continue with reading and maths as their focus. The teachers are very excited about these changes and are looking forward to parent teacher interviews to be held at the end of term 3. Please book an interview with your class teacher earlier if required. Please note all classes will have a parent teacher meeting early next term to outline classroom, curriculum and other issues.

SAFETY SCRIBBLINGS
Parents have been observed dropping off and picking up their children in the service roundabout behind Administration.
We would like to remind our school community that this area and staff carparks are off limits and are definitely not to be used as pick up/drop off zones.

2015 SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY
The School Opinion Survey is undertaken each year by the department’s State Schools Division to obtain the opinions of parents/caregivers, students and school staff about important aspects of schooling. The survey is designed to help schools identify what they do well and what they can improve.

In the first week of Term 3 a link to the online survey will be sent home to every family in our school community. We encourage you to take the time to visit the website and share your opinion of our school in order to maximise participation so we can have confidence in the results of the survey.
Well done to 2A for winning our Library Stars Challenge this term. Yesterday 2A came down to the library for their winning celebration. They shared cupcakes and fruit outside the library before spending 45 minutes inside the library for some games and fun. Mrs Kronk and Mrs Christmas look forward to seeing other classes try hard next term to try and become Library Stars.

We have been busy collecting all of the students and teachers resources and returning them this week. Thank you to all the students who have returned their books. If you still have an outstanding book, we ask that you return it as soon as possible. Unfortunately, you cannot re-borrow again until the book has been returned or paid for.

Remember to keep reading and recording the books that you’ve read on your sheet. When your sheet is full, return it to your classroom teacher or Mrs Kronk in the Library. You have until August to fill your sheet. It is great to see some students returning their forms already.

Last Wednesday the 17th, Prep C were involved in a medieval feast. As part of an end of semester celebration, student directed learning saw our classroom be transformed into a castle and medieval hall. We planned, designed and created various props which included; a dragon, crowns, costumes, table settings and much more.

Students all received fitting titles for the day and we had Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses and Sirs. Students arrived at school dressed in their luxurious and royal costumes that made for an exciting day filled with dancing, games, songs and ended with our feast. We had an impressive turn out of parents, grandparents and some auntsies and uncles, to share in the students’ hard work and successes throughout the semester. The students drank from their hand decorated goblets and ate food from platters served to their tables. The students really livened up the saying “eating like a king”. Huge thanks to King Damien Hoare and Queen Joyce Beath for making a royal appearance to our medieval feast.

We look forward to the next semester of Prep which will surely be filled with lots of hard work and many celebrations to come.

Miss Sam Chant and Mrs Karen Bird
Students of the Week ~ 19 June

There are still some families who have not paid the $8 for religious education workbooks. Please collect a note from the office if you have lost yours.

Woolworths Earn and Learn is back and it is now easier than ever to earn valuable resources for your school. Last year more than 14,500 schools and Early Learning Centres benefited from the program, boosting supplies in Classrooms, Libraries, Music Rooms, Gymnasiums and Science Labs.

It’s simple to participate. From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn and Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn and Learn Sticker Sheet. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn and Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards). Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, in our front Office or at your local Woolworths.

Do you have a need for family day care? A registered family day care service is currently considering offering an ‘all hours’ service to the Blackwater community. This will include day, night, before and after school care and vacation care. As a registered family day care, patrons can access CCB and CCR from the government. The service is expected to be fully operational within two months. All interested persons are invited to express their interest by email to kye.dampier@gmail.com

Kye will be happy to assist you with any enquiries.

Congratulations to our newest school captain, Michael Ferguson. Michael replaces Patrick Knott, who has moved to Brisbane with his family. We know Michael will do a fantastic job as one of our school leaders.

Literacy and Numeracy (homework) Class
Mondays 4-5.30pm at Panda Park (Blackwater Rotary Park) during school term. Adults welcome.

Contact Sally on 4980 5555 or email satkinson@chrc.qld.gov.au for more information.

Blackwater North State School intends to move to electronic newsletters during next term. We do have a large number of parent email addresses on file, however perhaps this information requires updating. If you wish to continue receiving the school’s newsletter please complete the details below and return to the office.

Student/S name...........................................................................................................................................................................

Email address for newsletter...........................................................................................................................................................

(please print clearly)
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—7 pm

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

Ph: 0437339084 (Pengana) 0403137309 (Mysa)