From the Principal

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I am very excited to be back at school today and I’m feeling very fortunate that I was one of the lucky ones at the State Principal’s Conference who didn’t get food poisoning.

The focus of the conference was around Collaborating to improve student outcomes across Queensland. To achieve this, State Schooling is looking at the structure of the organisational system to support and build the capacity of its teachers to improve the way students are learning and achieving. There are exciting times ahead!

Our school is participating in a cluster project with Blackwater State School and Blackwater State High School around Writing. We are collaborating to develop a common language around the teaching and learning of writing and developing and implementing common teaching practices across all sites. This consistent approach will ensure that the time students have in class is spent developing their writing, rather than learning the way this teacher teaches writing, which may at times be different one year to the next. This will see our students developing as independent and effective writers upon their completion of their schooling at BNSS. Coordinating our common approaches is Mrs Abby Green. If you see her in our school, please welcome her. Her enthusiasm is already catching.

I want to send a big thank you out to all our teaching staff who have been tirelessly working through developing start of the year routines, establishing reading, writing and numeracy practices in class, collecting the diagnostic data needed to inform their teaching and all the other demands that are common at this time of year. Keep up the good work. Parents, remember to support your class teacher, they will appreciate your thanks.

Also remember our Troop Train competition for our Year 5 and 6 students. The winners will have the fantastic opportunity to travel on the Troop Train re-enactment from Blackwater to Duaringa.

Until next time

Marie

SHAVE FOR A CURE

On Friday March 13 we will be having our annual “Shave For A Cure” on parade. This is a fundraiser for the Leukaemia Foundation and on the day there will be a gold coin donation collected as it will be a free dress day.

You can come to school with your hair already coloured (no spray cans at school) or have your head shaved on parade if you have parental permission (a note is required to be sent to the office with the clipper size noted).

Sponsorship forms are available from the office or Mrs Anderson. This is a great way to raise money for this very worthy cause.

Thanks for your support.
**Behaviour Buzz of the Week**

During the last fortnight our Prep to Year 6 students, along with their teachers have been continuing to read through our Blackwater North State School Behaviour Plan with their students. Effort along with class rules, routines and expectations has been included in class discussions. Respect is being modelled within the Active Listening - Context: Classroom and playground areas. **What are the qualities of a good listener?** Some examples are look, stay still, body posture, and think about what is being said. **How do we listen at home?** It can be at the dinner table; parents discussing chores to be done are some examples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effort</th>
<th>I maintain active listening</th>
<th>I take pride in my school and its resources</th>
<th>I take pride in my appearance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I attempt all tasks</td>
<td>I am in the right place at the right time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respect</th>
<th>I show active listening</th>
<th>I use manners</th>
<th>I show mutual respect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I use equipment as it is designed</td>
<td>I am friendly</td>
<td>I show pride in our school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I respect others’ learning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Our Weekly Attendance**

Attendance is a priority in 2015 at Blackwater North State School. Our target this year is to reach 92.2%. Our ‘Every Day Counts’ winners has been the whole school during Week 4 with 94.5% in attendance and 93.9% in Week 3.

Prep B were our winners in Week 3 with 96.3%.

**Bike Racks**

Bike racks have moved from behind Good Start to being beside the centre, along the fence line. This makes for easier access through the gate way. Students should be commended on walking their bikes and giving way to pedestrians, well done.

Another set of bike racks is now located along the fence line outside E Block. If your child/ren ride from Park Street way, they can leave their bikes here and walk through the gate that leads onto the pedestrian crossing.

**Jump Rope for Heart**

The brochures have gone home, skipping ropes are turning, songs are being sung… which letter will you be?


Jump Rope for Heart will happen Week 2 Term 2.

**Tuckshop**

Have you read our school sign?

Tuckshop New Menu, New Prices, Healthy Choices

Read your menu choices on our BNSS School Webpage: https://blacnortss.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx

**Workplace Health & Safety**

Drop off zone: Outside our school on William Street there is a 2minute drop off zone, please respect the health and safety of all our students and use this zone sparingly and quickly. Thanks to those drivers taking great care at pedestrian crossings.

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**1A News**

1A have been looking at line and colour in Visual Art this term. We have been discussing how different lines show different emotions. We have also begun exploring warm and cool colours for the first time! 1A enjoy painting a lot. In other 1A news, we would like to thank our parent helpers

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**The Reader’s Toolbox**

**What is CLAIM?**

CLAIM stands for Coaching, Learning And Intervention Model. Claim is a short term intervention program that helps a child add new tools to their reading toolbox, or helps them sharpen the tools they are already using. Children who are given the opportunity to participate in the claim program work with a teacher for a period of five weeks to help improve their reading skills. The teacher then follows up with these children and other students in their class for the following five weeks during their classroom reading hour, to help these children sustain the gains that they have made.

Last Friday we presented awards to six Year 2/3 students who added to or sharpened tools in their reader’s toolbox. Here are some of the tools we saw being used:

- Jacob 3A - Chunking and blending sounds together
- Mikayla 3B - Using expression to reflect what was happening in the text
- Logan 2A - Smoothing out his bumpy reading
- Braxtan 2A - Looking at all the sounds in words when decoding
- Reaan 2A - Retelling a story with an orientation (who, when, where), a beginning event, the problem, a solution and a coda (end event).

Well done to all these students. They worked very hard and completed their claim homework every night.

“What a child can do today with support they can do independently tomorrow” Vygotsky

Together we can make a difference to a child’s reading.

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**Book Fair**

**Kings, Queens & Castles**

**Enter the Kingdom of Books**

Our fair was held last week and it was great to see such a large range of new books for the students to browse through and equally as great to see the number of students who visited the library with their parents and bought new books. We raised approximately $6000 from our book fair. This entitles us to just over $2200 in free books to add to our library collection. We have selected a large number of books from the book fair and they will be ready to borrow from the library soon.

We would like to thank Mr Bozzetto, Mrs Christensen, Mrs Sanderson and Mrs McDonald for their help during book week.

Remember each student requires a library bag (preferably waterproof) to keep the library books safe to and from school. We still have a large number of students who do not have library bags when they come to borrow books from the library.

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**Unifom Shop**

**Opening Hours**

**Sister City**

**Kite Flying Day**

Sunday 15th March

**10.30am**

Hunter Street

Sporiting Complex

Blackwater

Gold Coin Sausage Sizzle

In remembrance of the 2011 Japanese Tsunami disaster.
Blackwater is very fortunate to have a sister city, Ichinoseki in Japan, and this relationship has grown and developed for more than two decades. Unfortunately on 11 March in 2011, Ichinoseki was affected by the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake which destroyed houses and damaged roads and public buildings.

To mark this sombre anniversary, two hundreds kites will be flown at the same time in Ichinoseki and Blackwater (Kite-Flying project). Students from grades 5 to 6, who are studying Japanese at Blackwater North State School, have been chosen to create messages of love, hope and peace on kites. These will be sent over to Ichinoseki, and in return, Blackwater council will receive one hundred kites from students in Ichinoseki.

Members of the community are invited to come along and get involved in this project. This year, it will be held on Sunday 15th of March at Hunter Street Sporting Complex from 10:30am. Sausage sizzles are available for gold coin donation.

Yumi Akiyama, Japanese teacher

COMPETITIONS

The University of New South Wales will be holding competitions again this year. Dates for these competitions are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>19 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>15 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>16 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>28 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>11 August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

I would like my child/children.................................................................................................................................................. in year/s................................................................................
To participate in the following competitions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETITION</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>CHILD’S NAME/S</th>
<th>YEAR LEVEL/S</th>
<th>AMOUNT PAID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signed.......................................................................................................................... Amount enclosed:........................................................................................
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: 043739084 (Pengana) 0403137309 (Mysa)

Blackwater Mineworkers Club

• Kids Outdoor Play area
• Gaming Lounge
• KENO
• TAB
• A.T.M. & Eftpos Facilities

45 Arthur Street
Blackwater

Phone: 49825590
Fax: 49827474

BLAC2KWATER  TAE KWON DO
(WITH A DIFFERENCE)

FUN
FITNESS
SELF DEFENCE
LIFE SKILLS
MMA
GREAT FOR KIDS AND
ADULTS

St Stephens Anglican Church
15 Taurus Street, Blackwater

All are welcome to join us for:

Sunday Morning Service: 9:30am
(includes children’s ministry)

Bible Study: Tuesday 7pm

E: ststephensblackwater@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/St Stephens
Anglican Church

This space is available. Please contact the office for
details.

MINEx WORKERS CLUB
BLACKWATER

Open 7 Days
Bistro Open for
Lunch & Dinner

This space is available. Please contact the office for
details.

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Affordable rates for all plumbing needs
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Roof treatment / maintenance
Roof repairs
Emergency 24hr service

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

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Custom Built Computers
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Mobile: 0439500999

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Phone: 49826336
Fax: 49827474

YOUR CLUB

45 Arthur Street
Blackwater

Lil Birdeez Photography

~ Family & Children’s Portraits
~ Maternity/Newborn Shoots
~ Weddings and Event Photography
~ Formal Photography

Contact Karen Bird
0439083698
karen.bird@hotmail.com
Lil Birdeez Photography