Dear Parents/Carers,
Principal’s report – Week 4

School Leaders
Congratulations to each of our newly elected school captains for 2016. The students were inducted into their positions on Monday and were presented with their badges by our Adopt-a Cop Constable Skillington.

2016 School Captains
John Laurence Nicdao  Novella Koch

2016 School Vice Captains
Juliana Delmo  Andrei Mariano

2016 Student Council President
Anuksha Everest

House Captains
Wattle:  Cory Samson  Marchie Clemente
Orchid:  Ethan Douglas  Meg Francine Dimaandal
Hibiscus:  Russell Deveraux  Kristine Ganalon

Parent Classroom Visits
While parents are always welcome at school, during school time, we do ask that if there is a need to deliver a message, get something to your child or pick them up for an appointment, that parents visit the school administration office first. From there, students’ teachers can be contacted and there is no disruption to classroom teaching.

BOOSTER - Solve IT – Numeracy Project
Congratulations to our Head of Curriculum, Mr Malone and our years 4 & 5 teachers, Mr Born and Miss Bella, for their very successful implementation of the BOOSTER - Solve IT – Numeracy project. Research tells us that students who are capable at mathematics consistently struggle to solve complex, multi-step numeracy problems. They might be able to do the maths, but they might not have a process for solving problems, might not interpret the question properly, or might lack a range of problem-solving strategies to use on demand.
Solve IT exposes students to Polya’s systematic See/Plan/Do/Check approach to problem-solving. Students also use a wide range of strategies that they can use to solve problems in class, in assessment tasks and in the real-world.
While the project is aimed at Year 4 or Year 5 students who the school believes could reach an A in numeracy-related assessment and the Upper 2 Bands in NAPLAN Numeracy, our school has implemented it in a way that provides all of our year 4 & 5 students with the skills and knowledge on offer.
Guided Reading
To complement our current reading comprehension strategies, 2016 will also see a greater focus on Guided Reading in each of our classrooms.

WHAT IS GUIDED READING?
Guided reading is an instructional approach that involves a teacher working with a small group of students who demonstrate similar reading behaviours and can all read similar levels of texts. The text is easy enough for students to read with your skilful support. The text offers challenges and opportunities for problem solving, but is easy enough for students to read with some fluency. You choose selections that help students expand their strategies.

What is the purpose of guided reading?
You select books that students can read with about 90 percent accuracy. Students can understand and enjoy the story because it’s accessible to them through their own strategies, supported by your introduction. They focus on meaning but use problem-solving strategies to figure out words they don’t know, deal with difficult sentence structure, and understand concepts or ideas they have never before encountered in print.

Why is guided reading important?
Guided reading gives students the chance to apply the strategies they already know to new text. You provide support, but the ultimate goal is independent reading.

Chappy Chat
As you know, one of my roles is to help families with their children & their schooling. My newsletter articles will reflect that this year.

All children need routines & rituals for emotional containment, controllability & predictability. What is a routine? Routines will differ from family to family but it must remain consistent.

Ideal routine could be:
• Before school – breakfast, getting self-ready, relaxing time
• After school – take to park for arvo tea & fun time, homework, gadget time
• Family Dinner time – help set the table, talk about the day, no tv
• Night – quiet time, relaxing, no gadgets, sleep routine. Need to have a calming/stable routine at night.

Parents you need to be cohesive and consistent.

Cohesion – decide from start to divide tasks & back each other, rule jointly & compromise, united front with the children, cohesion across all areas (family, work, school, sport, etc) & model following rules.

Consistent – this means at least 60% of the time (what you decide on Monday must be the same as your decision on Friday), decide on 4-5 key rules & 2-3 compulsory family times.

See how you go, your children can only benefit from a routine.

<3 Chappy Cam
STUDENT ABSENCES.
In line with the Education Act regarding compulsory attendance, it is necessary for Parents/Caregivers to provide a letter of explanation, or phone the school, regarding their child's absence from school. To date this term, we already have a large number of unexplained absences which Education Queensland will require us to report on. If your child is absent for any reason, please advise with a note on their return to school, or phone call to the office.

Our new phone system is set up to record your student's absence. When you ring the school number, just press 1 on the keypad and record student's absence details. If you wish to use this option, this will save you forwarding notes to the Class Teacher.

FEBRUARY
◆ Jesse Coomber
◆ Amelia Ganalon
◆ Eddie Whitehouse
◆ Indiana Lampton
◆ Aurellia Mack
◆ Reyshan Dela Cruz
◆ Amber Lafu
◆ Gina Whitehouse
◆ Trinity Grigg
◆ Lindsay Pangilinan
◆ Jai Jones
◆ Meg Francine Dimaandal
◆ Novella Koch

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 08/02/2016
PREP: T’Sharn Wilson
You have been a kind, helpful class member and you listen carefully. Well done!

YEAR 1/2L: Amelia Tetley
Yippee!!!! What a Super Dooper brain day you had! Keep up the great work!

YEAR 1/2C: Sarah Bradford
For making a positive start to the school year.

YEAR 1/2C: Adeeba Shaakira
For listening carefully and following instructions.

YEAR 3: Kingston Grigg
Outstanding effort in class!

YEAR 4/5: Olivia Bradford
Having made new friends and settling into Central life easily and quickly.

YEAR 4/5: Merlita Richardson
Having made new friends and settling into Central life easily and quickly.

YEAR 5: Izza Rohail
Thank you for always being an enthusiastic learner who readily participates and strives to improve.

YEAR 6: Emily Hearne
For demonstrating a fantastic attitude towards being a good learner. Well done Emily!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 15/02/2016
PREP: Almarie Yacat
Almarie is an enthusiastic student and is becoming very good at rhyming. Great work!

YEAR 1/2L: Indiana Lampton
What a wonderful student you are :) I am very lucky to have you in my classroom :)

YEAR 1/2L: Teisha Pope
What a wonderful student you are :) I am very lucky to have you in my classroom :)

YEAR 1/2C: Izekial Bickey
For consistently trying to use full stops and capital letters when writing sentences!

YEAR 3: Marsha Elpa
Outstanding effort in Journal retell! Well done Marsha!

YEAR 4/5: Sophie Dunn
Showing great improvements already this year. Keep it up!

YEAR 5: La-Verne Bellear
Congratulations on displaying your positive, calm attitude in all areas of school life!

YEAR 6: Ruby Cahill
For settling quickly into year 6 and demonstrating the four expectations of our school.
P&C AGM
Our AGM was held on Monday 15\textsuperscript{th} February. At this meeting we elected our 2016 executive committee. Congratulations to those elected; your new executives are:

\textbf{President:} Armie Astridge  \\
\textbf{Vice – President:} Kirsty Grigg  \\
\textbf{Secretary:} Jane Cheng  \\
\textbf{Treasurer:} Denise Pope

COMMUNITY NEWS

\textbf{SCHOOL BUS ASSISTANCE FOR LOWER INCOME FAMILIES}
The Safety Net Scheme was developed by the State Government to assist students who do not receive other forms of School Transport Assistance and are members of lower income families.

\textbf{Who may be eligible?}
To be eligible for assistance under the Safety Net Scheme, students must be in one of the following categories:

- Students of families eligible for a Health Care Card
- Students eligible for a Health Care Card
- Students of families eligible for a Pensioner Concession Card
- Students of families receiving Veterans Affairs Pension
- Students placed under a Care and Protection Order.

Application forms with further details are available by calling into the Translink Division of the Department of Transport and Main Roads in Nelson Street, Mackay or by telephoning 4951 8673.

\textbf{CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE ASSISTANCE}
Conveyance Allowance is an assistance provided by the Department Transport and Main Roads to eligible parents/guardians who drive their students to school or to the route of the school bus.

There are several types of Conveyance Allowance available. These are determined by the type of school attended, distance driven to school or bus route and the type of school bus service (if any) provided in your area. Application forms with further details are available by calling into the Translink Division of the Department of Transport and Main Roads in Nelson Street, Mackay or by telephoning 4951 8673.