From the Principal

Reading
Our main priority this year has been to continue to improve all our students’ reading skills. It seems such an easy task for teachers to be able to do, the skills of reading are not always grasped by all students despite the best of teaching strategies being used. Reading isn’t such a simple task. It is about making meaning of what we read and being able to make sense of what we read. It is about questioning what we read and being able to engage with what we read.

Readers become great readers because they are able to use the three reading building blocks

- Graphophonics cues: knowing about sounds, images, letters, groups of letters, words
- Syntactic cues: Does the text sound right? Are the words in the right order?
- Semantic cues: knowing about the topic (culture and world knowledge)

These ‘building blocks’ are not just the domain of the school. Successful readers started learning about reading from when they were a baby – a long time before ‘going to school’ was even considered.

With parents as the ‘first teachers’, school continues the teaching of reading. Reading isn’t confined to the subject English and neither is it restricted to reading books. Reading skills are needed in all subjects and what we need to read can be found all sorts of ‘texts’ – stories, poems, recipes, graphs, diagrams, maps, photos, videos, websites, text messages, … As readers are taught how to predict, compare, infer and question what they read, they start to become real readers who can interact with the author in whatever social or cultural context the text belongs.

I want every student at Camooweal State School to be a reader. Teachers work hard to teach the strategies that good readers use. Support aides work with identified students to boost reading skills.

Administration Officer – Sarah Young
Sarah is out of the school on Monday and Tuesday next week. She is in Mount Isa completing Professional Development. Please be aware that I will get to the phone messages only in the afternoon.

Border Sports
Border Sports is fast approaching and will be held in Mount Isa on Thursday 23rd June. We have been practising our events in preparation for this upcoming event.

Indigenous Language Perspective Team
Henry Fraser - Linguist- Indigenous Language Perspectives are in the community next Thursday and Friday. They are completing the vernacular
vernacular language poster. Vernacular Language Posters have been developed for several communities and towns around Queensland and are used by educators, community members and others to raise awareness of and present the local language varieties spoken in a given area by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The process of poster development has been shown to support teachers, teacher aides and community members to have a better understanding of the languages spoken around them, and why some students might need particular kinds of support.

PLC
This week I have been away with the Western Alliance Principal’s group and joining up with the all of the Principal’s in Mount Isa. Our improvement agenda

Nationally Collection of Data on School Students with Disability
Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability. All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability.

In 2013, 10% of Queensland state schools participated in the first year of implementation. In 2014, two thirds of Queensland schools participated and all schools collected data from 2015.

Please be reassured that the Department will not provide on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

We have launched the annual Premier’s Reading Challenge this week.

Students will be encouraged to engage in meaningful, age-appropriate reading on a daily basis (for example, Preppies will be looking at pictures and finding known words and letters, older students may be reading chapter books) and a tally of completed books will be kept for each student.

At the end of the challenge in August, the goal is for the Prep – Year 4 students to have completed 20 books, and the Year 5 & 6 students 15 books.

All results are forwarded to the Premier’s Office and official certificates will be awarded to all successful students.

As an added incentive, the school will be awarding a book prize to all students who reach the goal for their year level.

Happy reading, all!

Vaunessa Parker

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you.

Only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department. If you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, please let me know.
Well here we are… another fortnight has disappeared and we are another week closer to the end of the first half of the year! All this talk of time interests the P – 2 class and we spend a little time each morning looking at the calendar and identifying the features and upcoming events. Miss Thelma and I are amazed at how well everyone considers the questions we ask and answer correctly… things like,

What is the date today?  
How many days/weeks are left in this month?  
What important events are happening this week? and  
How many months until Christmas?

Even the Preppies are identifying the days, months and the year! This is just one of the examples of how we can help our children to understand mathematics and how it is an important skill we can use every day.

We have had some excellent gains in our reading this fortnight. We have been working really hard in our modelled reading sessions every day, and practising our sight words every chance we get! Big thanks to the students in the 3 – 6 class who have been helping us with our weekly focus words at Homework Club before school every morning!

It was quite an unusual week last week with the P – 2 class being the “big kids” while the 3 – 6 class were away enjoying Science Camp at Paluma. We missed them very much and looked forward to hearing updates about their adventures. We ended the week with Walk to School Safely Day- great job, everyone- followed by a yummy pancake breakfast. On the subject of walking safely… don’t forget to keep a special eye out when crossing roads at the moment, P – 2! We are starting to get a lot of visitors in caravans and campers as well as our usual road trains, so make sure you use those crossings and look both ways (twice!) before you cross the highway!

We have had a lot of fun working on our Science unit, Mastering Materials, this term. This fortnight the focus has been formulating “what would happen if...?” questions, then predicting outcomes and performing experiments to see if our prediction was correct. We have made physical changes to materials to make them stronger, and this week we tested if different materials would float or sink when placed in water. Next week we will be commencing our assessment tasks, demonstrating our understandings through a construction task. The Preps will be creating a wind ornament, the Year One’s must design a working boat (in miniature, of course!) and the Year Two’s will be creating a lunch box.

The P – 2 class is working hard to meet the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Every day we have a 20 minute quiet reading session, with everyone encouraged to read a book appropriate to their level of reading development. For our beginner readers, this may be doing a “picture walk” of a book and looking for letters and sight words we know… and as our skills grow we may attempt picture books and even chapter books. Every minute of practice helps to grow our confidence, our skills and our appreciation of ourselves as readers, and may lead the way to a lifetime of enjoyment of a simple pastime and a very important life skill. We are looking forward to our efforts being recognised by the Premier.

One birthday this fortnight… Happy Birthday, Benita!

In the weeks to come we will be completing all our Term 2 assessment tasks, so it promises to be a very busy and creative time in the P – 2 class! Have a great Campdraft and Rodeo weekend everyone!

Until next time - Miss Taylor & Miss Thelma

In Health, the Preppies identified and grouped foods that help us Go, Glow and Grow!
In maths the students have been studying angles and shapes and how to measure and draw them. They found the activity on making angles in teams most enjoyable. They had to make a variety of different basic angles and shapes by using themselves. Make sure you test them on their angle work at home.

We also had a lovely time looking at nutrition with our Deadly Choices teachers and building on our science unit looking at ‘classifying and grouping.’

We would like to thank all our helpers that are travelling the journey with us and helping us to reach our goals.

Mr Hayes and Miss Thelma R
PLAYGROUP
Playgroup runs from 9:00am—11:00am.
All are welcome.
Please remember that parents/carers must stay to look after their own child.

PARADE
In term 1 parade is held every Friday at 2:45pm. We would like to invite everyone to attend. At parade we highlight students who have been
• trying their hardest
• Being good role models
• Showing respect
• Being learners and
• Being safe

We would like you to join us in these celebrations.

School times for Term 2
Breakfast Club: 8:15am—8:55am
School Starts: 9:00am
First Break: 11:30am—12:00am
Second Break: 1:30pm—2:00pm
School Finishes: 3:00pm

BIRTH CERTIFICATES
Do you need a Birth Certificate for your child?
If your child is nearing School age and you don’t have a certificate, come and see us at School. We can help you with the paperwork and cost. It is a legal requirement for all School students to have a birth certificate or other documentation for proof of age.

CLINIC VISITS
Please be aware that the Camooweal Clinic welcomes all parents/carers to take their child to have head lice and boils attended to. Head lice spreads very quickly and easily between students.
WEEK 5 PARADE AWARDS 13/05/16

PRIDE AWARDS

Congratulations to Jordan Williams, Anthony Percy, Stavros Wickham and Donella Holt who have all been caught doing great jobs around school.

3-6 CLASS AWARDS

Donella Holt—for great English work
Rayoni Holt—for always being first to be ready to learn

P-2 CLASS AWARDS

Congratulations to Jordan Williams, Braith Wickham, Kerry Percy, Reanna Manning, Sheldon Dempsey for all having improvements in their sight and spelling words.

Congratulations to Patrick Doyle for coming to school on Minnie’s bus all by himself.
WEEK 6 PARADE AWARDS 20/05/16

P-2 CLASS AWARDS
Braith Wickham, Kerry Percy, Lisa Lorraine, Reanna Manning, Sheldon Dempsey, Grace Doyle.

3-6 CLASS AWARDS
Jacob Solah

PRIDE AWARDS
Braith Wickham, Lisa Lorraine, Geraldine Ellis, Amy Dann.
RANGERS VISIT 24/05/2016

Today we meet Rangers Caroline, Dan, Kerin and Fred who will be coming back on Monday and Tuesday 30/31 to do some activities with us.

The Students had the opportunity to ask the Rangers some questions. Each student got up in front of everyone, stated their name and asked their questions. We all learnt the 3 most important words which make up what Rangers do:

CARE FOR COUNTRY
What a fun filled morning of activities and yummy food. Miss Taylor had the under 8’s busy. Miss Sally from Mt Isa joined in along with our Play-group friends.
My Health Record

Throughout the northern Queensland region, the Australian Government is creating a My Health Record for all residents. If people don’t want a record to be created, then they have the option to opt out.

It is critical that we communicate and generate awareness of the benefits of having a My Health Record, not only across northern Queensland, but also for all residents of Australia.

This My Health Record content pack has been specifically designed to highlight the benefits that My Health Record can and will bring to the people of north Queensland.

My Health Record is a digital record that will contain important health information about an individual, making it easier for health professionals to make decisions about people's health care, such as any existing allergies, medical conditions, treatments and current medications. This ability to connect people’s healthcare providers will mean safer and better healthcare for all.

The purpose of this pack is to provide content that you can use to communicate with your networks.

This pack includes communication and promotional materials that are intended to help you spread the word about My Health Record.

Thank you for your support of My Health Record.
2016 school calendar
Queensland state schools

DECEMBER 2015

JANUARY 2016

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY 2017

There are 194 school days in 2016. Semester 1 2017 commences for teachers on January 19 and for students on January 23.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS
Staff professional development days for teachers are January 21-22, April 6-8, and October 17. Schools are able to decide when their flexible days will be held, as long as they are in the school holidays or out-of-school hours.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
Public holidays are set by the Industrial Relations Minister. Public holidays for a local show are not shown due to diversity of dates across the state.

FINAL DATES FOR STUDENT ATTENDANCE
November 18 is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement. November 30 is the final date for student attendance in years 10 and 11.

Some schools in regional, rural and remote areas will close for the Summer holidays on December 2.

The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication (July 2015) but may be subject to change.

For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit www.education.qld.gov.au
# May 2016

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**SCHOOL RESUMES 11 JULY 2016**