Dear Parents and Carers
The end of the year is fast approaching and it is rewarding for me to walk around the school and continue to see children and staff focus on teaching and learning. Our school year ends on Friday 5 December and teaching and learning continues until the last day. Our last week is packed with Awards Day, End of Year Concert, Celebrations and Rewards days, yet teaching and learning will continue in conjunction with these events.

2015 SCHOOL STRUCTURE
Below is the proposal that the school is intending to commence 2015 with as its proposed class structure. Given the feedback that has been received so far, it is clear that people do not want over target sized classes and there is uncertainty about multi-age Year 4 – 6 classes. As such, the Year 4 – 6 year levels are likely to be structured into 2 Year 4 classes, 4/5 Green, 1 Year 5 class, 5/6 Green and 2 Year 6 classes. The proposal below provides us with the opportunity for growth. Please note that this proposal is a suggested structure as no finalised structure can occur until next year when more definite numbers are known.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Class Numbers</th>
<th>Max</th>
<th>Vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECDU</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MASTER TEACHERS
Recruitment for the Master Teachers initiative has commenced with the positions being advertised on Smart Jobs by the Department. The role of a Master Teacher in schools will focus on improving literacy and numeracy and will also build capacity through action research, developing high yield strategies for improvement with a strong evidence base. All primary schools in Mount Isa have been identified as eligible for allocation of a master teacher. Allocation has been done by region and will involve the allocation of a full time Master Teacher to be shared across a cluster. In our instance I have been advised that we will be clustered with Healy State School and also support Camooweal State School.

ACT FOR KIDS – GOLD COIN DONATION DAY
The Student Council is having a “Wear Something Red” day on Friday 14 November as a gold coin collection for Act For Kids. This charity supports abused and neglected children in remote areas through their safe houses and the CEO of the charity Dr Neil Carrington has worked with our school for over 2 years. It would be great if we as a school community can raise funds for this very worthwhile charity.

STAFFING CHANGES – 2015
It is that time of year that we will soon be sadly saying goodbye to some of our staff, and welcoming new members to the team. 2015 will bring about some changes in staff:

Transferring out of our school community are: Ann Kelly, Ben DePasquale, Caitlin Ritchie, Greg Johns, Monique Comino, Ellen Baillie, Donna Mullaly, Joanna Treweek and Jane Corkill. Sarah Cobb, Amanda Hamilton and Bernadette Crust will also be leaving us to support the Junior Secondary transition agenda. I would like to acknowledge and thank those teachers for their contributions to the Barkly Highway community and I wish them all the best at their new schools.

Teachers transferring in to our school community will be: Lesley Hegarty, Claire Goss, Belinda Winchester, Danya Benson, Tania Leiter and Rhiannon Taylor. Jill Seymour and Natalie Blyth will be returning to our school from their leave. On behalf of the school community I would like to welcome these teachers to our school community.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION SCHEME
We advise that after consultation with the P&C Association we intend to extend to 2015 families at our school the opportunity to contribute to our Voluntary Contribution Scheme. The contribution will assist the school in providing enhanced learning opportunities in the following areas:

- Additional classroom art materials and equipment
- Printed resources
- Highly developed school based technology

Students will be responsible for other school costs incurred in excursions and sport programs, etc. The contribution rate agreed to by the P&C is as follows:

- Contribution is $30 per student (Years 1 – 6) and $60 per student (Prep – as this includes all classroom resources).
- Payments can be made on any school day at the school office between 8:00am and 10:00am in early 2015
- EFTPOS and Visa card payments are accepted at the school office including automatic term credit card payments.
- Payment plans are also available.

REPORTS CARDS
Report cards for Semester 2 2014 will be forwarded home on Tuesday 2 December. The report card is a summary of the achievements of your child this semester. Teachers provide a number of opportunities and assessment tasks to students to allow them to demonstrate their abilities. Teachers plan assessment tasks collaboratively and carefully design them to ensure that they assess not only the children’s knowledge and understanding of the content but also how effectively they are able to demonstrate that understanding. Teachers then moderate student work samples to ensure that the standard is consistent across the year level. Evidence collected is used to determine ratings allocated. Parents are welcome to make an appointment with classroom and specialist teachers if they need further clarification about any details provided.

Please remember to look carefully at the effort rating on the report cards and to read the comments to help you gain a true picture of your child’s performance. It is not unusual for a child to receive an ‘A’ for Effort and receive a different rating for their achievement. This means that the child has worked to their best ability to obtain that achievement and this has been duly acknowledged by the teacher.

CLASS LISTS FOR 2015
On Tuesday 2 December, prospective class lists for 2015 will be displayed on the noticeboard near the uniform shop. Please note, the class arrangements published are commencing class lists. They may change depending on final enrolments. These are the class arrangements we intend to commence 2015 with, however, the school reserves the right to make changes depending on the needs of the school and resourcing allocations. If you have a preference for your child’s class placement, there are forms at the school office that you can complete.

2015 ENROLMENTS
We are continuing to accept enrolments for 2015 to maximise our school resources. With the Year 7s moving to High School next year, we have the capacity to safely accept up to 70 additional enrolments and still only be at less than 85% capacity. Under our School Enrolment Plan our school can accommodate up to 90 children in Prep – 3 years, and up to 85 children for Years 4 – 6. If you are aware of any families intending to enrol their children at our school in 2015, then they are more than welcome to contact our administration office for enrolment packages.
DEPUTY’S REPORT
During the last week or so we have been conducting our prep enrolment interviews and meeting the new little people and families that will be joining our Barkly Highway school community in 2015. Initial indications are that these parents have done a terrific job in preparing their children for their schooling journey with the majority of next year’s preps keen and enthusiastic about commencing school. We are still currently taking enrolments, so if you know of others who haven’t decided to enrol in our wonderful school as yet, please pass this information on. It is this stage in term 4 where we begin to construct classes for the following year. In order to have numbers as accurate as possible this is a reminder to also let our office know if your child is leaving and won’t be attending Barkly Highway State School next year.
Now is also your opportunity to let us know, in writing, of any educational considerations you would like us to be aware of when determining your child’s placement for 2015. Where possible we will be doing all that we can to ensure that classes are balanced both in number and also educational dynamics. With this in mind you can appreciate that it just isn't possible to request a specific teacher. Sometimes being best friends in the playground doesn’t always equate to industrious work habits in the classroom, and often friendship groupings change during the course of the year. Certainly any educational needs that you highlight will be given due consideration, but ultimately the creation of classes for next year is made in consultation with teaching staff.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2015
On Friday 14 November we will be holding our School Captain elections, with 12 candidates presenting a speech and the students from Years 4 and 5 voting. Students have already participated in an interview with Mrs Fiona Kropp and myself. Both Mrs Kropp and I were very impressed with the quality of applications, interview responses and how the students have conducted themselves so far throughout the process.
The process will be a merit selection. A slight change has been made to the announcement date, 2015 school leaders will be announced on Monday 1 December during our Academic Awards parade.

YARNING CIRCLE UPDATE
Progress is definitely being made on the construction of the Yarning Circle. It is Mr Duncan Turnbull’s hard work and dedication that continues to move this initiative along at such a rapid speed. I wish to sincerely thank Mr Turnbull, sponsors (of which there are many) for their kind donations of materials and the Parent Reference Group for leading this project.

As at Tuesday, 11 November

LOCK DOWN PROCEDURES
In the next fortnight, our school will be practising a ‘Lock Down’. It is an Education Queensland requirement that we practise both ‘Fire Drill’ and ‘Lock Down’ procedures. The ‘Lock Down’ procedures require the teachers to lock all doors/windows and to instruct the students to sit under their desks. The purpose of the ‘Lock Down’ is to ensure the safety of the children in a situation whereby someone or something enters the school grounds and is considered a threat to the safety of the staff and students. Teachers will be talking to their students about what possible threats could enter the school ground. In the younger grades, it is recommended that the conversations focus on severe weather or a vicious dog. It is not our intention to frighten the children but it is essential that the procedures are practised in the unlikely event we are ever faced with such a situation.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Swimming Prep – Year 3</th>
<th>Swimming Prep – Year 3</th>
<th>Homework Club (2:45-3:45)</th>
<th>Year 6 Transition Spinifex State College</th>
<th>Year 7 Transition Spinifex State College</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 – 14 November</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prep Information Sessions 3:00pm and 7:00pm (Resource Centre)</td>
<td>School Captain Speeches and Voting (11:40am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parade 2:00-2:30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Swimming Prep – Year 3</td>
<td>Swimming Prep – Year 3</td>
<td>Interschool Basketball Carnival</td>
<td>Bronze Rewards</td>
<td>Silver Rewards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 – 21 November</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Final Homework Club for the Year 2:45-3:15)</td>
<td>Futsal Gala Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 8  
24 – 28 November | Parade 2:00-2:30 |  |  | Gold Rewards |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| **Week 9**  
1 – 5 December | Academic Awards  
8:45am  
(2015 School Captains Announced) | Tools for Change  
Year 6 Spinifex State College | Tools for Change  
Year 6 and 7 Spinifex State College | Last day of School for 2014 |
| Year 7 Farewell  
Dinner and Graduation |  |  | End of Year Concert 6:00pm | Attendance Reward Day  
Prep-7  
8:30-11:30 |
|  |  |  |  | Behaviour Rewards |
|  |  |  |  | Behaviour Rewards |

Ash Wagh

**STUDENT COUNCIL**

**CASUAL DRESS DAY – FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER**

This Friday, our Student Council will be hosting a Casual Dress Day. Students are invited to wear red to school and bring a gold coin donation to support the charity Act for Kids.

**ACT FOR KIDS IS AN AUSTRALIAN CHARITY WORKING TIRELESSLY FOR CHILD SAFETY AND PROTECTION.**

They help kids through long-term intensive therapy, and provide support for families at risk. The CEO of Act for Kids, Dr Neil Carrington will be visiting our school on Friday and it would be terrific to be able to hand over a generous donation to this worthwhile charity.

**OVAL PLAYGROUND UPDATE**

A new playground, on the oval, for our senior students is coming! It is expected that the playground will be installed over the coming summer holidays and will be ready for the start of the 2015 school year. The P&C and Student Council have worked hard to achieve this, and with the grant we received earlier in the year, our playground is now happening! Well done all – it has been a long time coming and we finally did it!

*From Miss Kelly and Mr DePasquale (Student Council Coordinators)*

**PE NEWS**

**INTERSCHOOL BASKETBALL – WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER**

Miss Kelly is our Basketball coach for 2015 and has now chosen her team to compete in the Mount Isa Interschool Basketball Competition. A mixed team (boys and girls) will be attending the event on Wednesday 19 November at the Basketball Stadium. Students will be required to arrange their own transport to and from the venue. Students should return their permission notes to Miss Kelly ASAP. Good luck Basketballers!

**INTERSCHOOL FUTSAL – FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER**

Our school will participate in the Mount Isa Interschool Futsal Competition Next Friday 21 November. Miss Comino is our coach this year and will take away approximately 10 students (a mixed team – boys and girls) next Friday to the Basketball Stadium for the Futsal Carnival. Students are to arrange their own transport to and from the venue and should return their permission notes ASAP to Miss Comino. We all wish our Futsal team the best of luck!

**SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS PREP – YEAR 3**

WOW! What a crazy first two days of swimming we had this Monday and Tuesday. Students who participate have been involved in a 45 minute lesson on each of these days. We have had an overwhelming response to our Prep to Year 3 Swimming Lessons for 2014 and are extremely happy. We now have 237 of our Prep to Year 3 students attending Swimming Lessons – that is a staggering 88.7% of the total enrolments we have for those cohorts! The next two lessons will be held on Monday 17 November and Tuesday 18 November, at Mount Isa Aquatics. Students had a great time on Monday and Tuesday and we expect more perfect weather for our next two lessons. Please remember that payment of $33 is due to the office by Monday 17 November. This cost is fully inclusive of pool entry, instructor hire, transportation costs and an assessment of student learning followed up with a certificate for each student to keep. Thanks to all the parents and carers who have supported our school for this event. Thanks also to Ryan Juillerat for his time on Monday and Tuesday to drive the bus all day, constantly ferrying students between school and the pool. Your assistance is much appreciated. If you are available to drive the bus for us on Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 and hold a current LR, MR or HR Licence, please contact Ben DePasquale (bdepa5@eq.edu.au).

*From Mr DePasquale (Physical Education Teacher)*

**YEARBOOK 2014**

Our Yearbook once again looks amazing. To all those families who have purchased one, your yearbook should be arriving in the coming weeks and will be distributed to students when they are available. Thanks.

*From Mr DePasquale (Yearbook Coordinator)*
END OF YEAR CONCERT – WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER

It has been a longstanding tradition here at Barkly Highway State School that we host an End of Year Concert to celebrate the year that was. This is a celebration for the whole school, and this year it will be held on Wednesday 3 December (during the last week of school). It will be a family event, so students who attend must be accompanied by an adult. The tuckshop will also be open on the evening to sell drinks and snacks. Further information about the event, including times, will be available in the coming weeks. The Tuckshop will be open for this event with drinks and snacks available for purchase on the evening. BYO chairs.

From Mr DePasquale

JUMPING CASTLE HIRE

Having a party? Need something to entertain the kids on the weekend? How about hiring a jumping castle! The Barkly Highway State School P&C has two jumping castles for hire. There is one Disney themed castle, which costs $200 to hire. We also have a Batman slide, which is $300. Prices are for day hire and the pick-up and drop-off times can be negotiated. All money raised from hire of our jumping castles goes right back into the P&C and ultimately the school and our students. Email jumpingcastle@barklyss.eq.edu.au if you are interested or want further details. If you would like to be the Jumping Castle Convenor in 2015, please also email this address. From the P&C

RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

With this busy term quickly moving forward and towards the end of our school year, we would like to make sure that all student borrowing is coming back by the end of week 7, which is next week.

Unfortunately we do have quite a number of long-term overdue books. Overdue notes will be again sent home with students shortly. We would greatly appreciate it if you could also check with your child if any books are outstanding and help to locate them. Our last Book Club for the year has closed now and we are awaiting delivery of the goods. We received one order form without a name though, so please let us know if you haven’t received your order by the middle of week 8. A huge thank you to all of our families who have been supporting the events.

Don’t forget to check out the scholastic web page:

Scholastic is offering the Summer Reading Challenge again. For more information and other competition run by Scholastic please go to www.scholastic.com.au/summerreading.

As always, please don’t hesitate to come and see us with any queries you may have.

Kind regards

Svenja Spitzner-Lewis

LITERACY NEWS

Hi Everyone,

This week’s Literacy News is about the Writing Trait – Conventions. The 6 Writing Traits are: Ideas, Organisation, Word Choice, Voice, Sentence Fluency and Conventions. These traits are the keys to good writing.

“Conventions and Presentation are all about getting the writing ready for publishing. The trait has two parts. The first part, conventions of a text includes: spelling, punctuation, use of capitals, grammar and spacing, such as, between words and to indicate paragraphing. The second part, presentation of the text, includes: visual features such as, handwriting, font size or type, bullets, illustrations, graphics, use of colour, and arrangement of words and pictures on a page.”

Vicki Spandel

Creating Young Writers: Using the Six Traits to Enrich Writing Process in Primary Classrooms (2012. p.10)

Chatter matters – Get DETE’s new SPEAK oral language app

The ability to communicate effectively through speaking and listening is essential for a child and builds a strong foundation for successful learning. Children with language impairment are six times more likely to have a reading problem than children without. It therefore makes sense to be proactive in the early years of a child’s life and DETE’s new SPEAK app helps this happen.

The SPEAK (Speaking Promotes Education And Knowledge) oral language app has been developed by the Department of Education, Training and Employment as a joint initiative with Queensland Health and Redland City Council to help develop children’s speaking and listening ability.

SPEAK provides lots of fun, free activities, ideas and information for parents, carers and educators to support and nurture oral language development in children from 0-6 years of age. There are multiple activities within each age group to help boost your child’s speaking and listening ability.

The information and activities were developed by the department with the help of speech pathologists, educators and health professionals.

The SPEAK app is available for free download from the iTunes store and Google Play. It is for everyone who wants the best start in life for their child and provides a fun, convenient way to make chatter matter.

Additional information is available from the DETE apps website.

Cheryl Gallagher

(Literacy Teacher)
FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICER
Welcome to Joice Reuben, our new Family Support Officer at Barkly Highway State School.

TUCK-SHOP NEWS
Our new special is Chicken Caesar Salad, it is $5.00 and this includes: lettuce, breast chicken, bacon, croutons and squeeze on caesar dressing.
Optional extras are: Shaved parmesan cheese or grated cheddar cheese $0.50 and/or egg $0.50
The special starts on Monday 10th November and finishes on Friday 28 November and is available to order at the Tuckshop or on flexischools.com.au

Last week on Friday 7 November we celebrated Tuckshop Day!! I would like to take this opportunity to say a big THANK YOU to Kellie Swaffied, Justine Scarsi, Lorraine Hilton and Keith Fisher. These amazing people all help to make our Tuckshop run like a breeze and also make each day a pleasure to come to work and look after our fantastic Barkly Children and Staff.

Some dates to highlight on your calendar are:

- Last day of Flexischool orders for Tuckshop is Wednesday 3 December.
- Tuckshop will be open on Wednesday 3 December for Xmas Concert night. (Menu will be in next newsletter)
- Tuckshop will be open for over the counter orders only on Thursday 4 December.
- Tuckshop will be closed for business on Friday 5 December.

Attached to this newsletter is our 2015 menu, please keep this on your fridge to refer to for next year. Copies are also available at the Tuckshop.

To make life a little bit easier for our parents and caregivers we have added Birthday Club to Flexischools, just log onto www.flexischools.com.au and you will notice a new tab for Birthday Club.

Have a great week!!

TUCKSHOP BIRTHDAY CLUB 2014!
To help take the stress out of your child’s class Birthday Celebration.

Another great time saver is our Birthday Club for your little Darling’s special day we can make fresh cupcakes or supply ice blocks to your child’s class. All we ask is that you give us a week’s notice to be able to prepare for the special day. Cost is $1.50 per head.

UNIFORM SHOP
The uniform shop has a NEW OPENING TIME! It is now open on THURSDAYS 8:30–9:00 AM. If you can’t make it to the school, sign up to Flexischools for an easy way of ordering, flexischools.com.au and your order will be delivered to the student.

EXTENDED OPENING HOURS: Tuesday 2 and Wednesday 3 December 2:00-3:00pm. Get your uniforms ready for next year!

EXTENDED OPENING HOURS 2015: TUESDAY 20, WEDNESDAY 21 & THURSDAY 22 January 2015 9:00am – 12:00pm.

P&C NEWS
We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to the wider school community and everyone who has been involved within the Barkly Highway State School P&C throughout the year. Your involvement has enabled the P&C to achieve many goals, one which we’ll mention is the donation we were able to extend to help support the purchase of the new upper school playground which will be installed early next year! We look forward to your continued support in 2015. Thank you from the Barkly Highway State School P&C.

COMMUNITY NEWS
RATEP INTAKE 2015
RATEP is a community based teacher education program to enable Indigenous people to become qualified teaching assistants and/or registered teachers.

We are currently taking applications for the following courses:

- Certificate IV in Education (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) part time studies of 18 hours per week for adult students. Applications close 6 March 2015.

- Diploma in Education (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) full time studies of 25 hours per week or part time studies of 13 hours per week (over two years) for adult learners. Contributes to one year of study in Primary Education at JCU. Application close 6 February 2015.

Where: Spinifex State College Senior Campus
Q Block, Room 5
Contact: Prue Pocock or Sharyn Pratap
Ph: 4749 0180
Email: ppoco3@eq.edu.au or sprat24@eq.edu.au

2014 CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT – proudly presented by the Mount Isa City Council
Sunday 30 November at Buchanan Park. Gates open at 5:30pm and a gold coin donation is required for entry. Santa will be making an appearance, food & drinks will be available for purchase and a fireworks display. PLUS, a lucky door prize of a $1500 Mount Isa to Cairns airfare voucher.
STAR ALLERGY ALERTS
Does your child have Anaphylaxis, severe food allergies or a medical condition?
Keep your child safe with Star Allergy Alerts… a bright, fun range of kids food allergy and medical awareness products designed in modern colours and with cute characters that your child will love to wear!

Our products are recommended by Allergy Specialists and General Practitioners, and are used in Schools, Kindergartens and Childcare Centres as an integral part of their Anaphylaxis Management Programs.

Medical Awareness products include: badges, t-shirts, tattoos, wristbands and medical bracelets.
Visit www.starallergyalerts.com.au

MOUNT IS BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
3 on 3 basketball competition for juniors!
Suitable for Under 12’s right up to Under 21's!
Starting 2 December – 20 January (with a 2 week break over Christmas)
Times 5:30pm – 6:30pm
For more information please call 4743 5444 or email adminmtisabball2@bigpond.com or register on the website.

ON THE BALL HOLIDAY PROGRAM – MOUNT ISA
‘On The Ball’ holiday program is an exciting program and an opportunity for young people to exercise, have fun and meet current and former Basketball players.
LEARN BASKETBALL SKILLS FROM….NBL Brisbane Bullets Legend Leroy Loggins & Andre Moore and SEABL super star Sam Rioli
THIS IS A FREE PROGRAM, THERE’LL BE COMPETITIONS, PRIZES & LUNCH IS PROVIDED…!

REGISTRATIONS: Wednesday 10 December
9:00am (7-12 year olds)
12:00pm (13-17 year olds)

When: Wednesday 10 – Friday 12 December 2014
Time: 9:15am - 11:30am (7 - 12 year olds)
12:15pm – 2:30pm (13 - 1 year olds)
Where: Mount Isa Basketball Stadium - Corner Jessop Drive and Sports Parade

Please bring along your parent/guardian consent form (or complete it on the day)
For more information contact Lyn Lenehan at Whitelion (Stride Programs) 0415 770 319 or llenehan@whitelion.asn.au

PARTNER SUPPORT
Providing strategies to assist parents to maintain their relationship, 3 x 2hr sessions, commencing: Wed 26 Nov 2014.
Morning/evening sessions available, contact Liz or Angela at Centacare on 4749 8000

STRONGER RELATIONSHIP TRIAL As part of the Australian government’s Stronger Relationships trial, you and your partner can access the Partner Support Programme for FREE by registering online. Visit www.dss.gov.au

“Like” us on Facebook
Keep up to date with the latest information and events on Facebook. Search and “like” us at ‘Barkly Highway State School’. www.facebook.com/barklyhighwaystateschool