Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Week 8 of the term. I know I say this regularly, but where has the time gone? It seemed like yesterday we all returned for the commencement of term 3 and now there is just a little over 2 weeks of the term remaining. After today there are just 54 teaching and learning days left in the school year. It is essential that children maximise their learning by ensuring that they are attending school for each and every one of those days. Over the next few weeks there are many things happening at our school with Barkly’s Got Talent, Parent Teacher Student Discussions, Bike-a-thon and the Little Peoples Carnival to name just a few. These are ways in which our school promotes and connects with our community and I hope you all can be part of these events.

CONGRATULATIONS Mr DE PASQUALE

On behalf of the school community I would like to congratulate Mr Ben De Pasquale on being selected into the Take the Lead program. This is a departmental program aimed at identifying and developing small school Principals for the future. Across the state there were 70 applicants to the program and Ben was successful in being one of 25 selected to take part in a week long program in Stanthorpe next week. Well done Ben!

CONGRATULATIONS ANN KEPPELS

Last week I was notified by the Chairman of the National Teaching Awards and advised that Ann Keppels had been nominated by a member of the school community for a National Excellence in Teaching Award. On behalf of the school community I would like to congratulate Ann on receiving this much deserved nomination. Well done Ann, you should be proud of this achievement.

NEXT P&C MEETING – Tuesday 9 September

Our next P&C Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9 September at 6pm in the staffroom. I look forward to seeing many parents, carers and community members at this meeting.

SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF WEEK

This week (1 - 5 September 2014) is the week for the recognition of all the fantastic work carried out in schools by School Support Staff. Without school support staff hundreds of thousands of young Queenslanders would not have access to high quality education. There would be no enrolments, no phones answered, no excursions, no play areas or ovals freshly mown and safe, things would not be repaired, computers would no longer be networked or effective educational tools, no science experiments, no outdoor education and literally no lights on if the bills weren’t paid! School support staff are the unsung heroes of our school system. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all our school support staff for their invaluable contributions to the operations of our school each and every day.

TEACHER AIDE DAY – Friday 5 September

This Friday is another significant celebratory day. Each year on the first Friday in September, schools celebrate the support provided to students and teachers by their teacher aides. Like school support staff, our teacher aides provide invaluable support to our school to ensure our children receive the best educational outcomes possible. This celebration day enables the school community to recognise the skills, abilities and flexibility that teacher aides contribute to the daily life of the school. I would also like to acknowledge and thank all our wonderful teacher aides for their invaluable contributions to the education of our students.

NAPLAN RESULTS & REPORTS

Our school’s 2014 NAPLAN results have now been reviewed and analysed by the school’s Leadership Team. By now children in Years 3, 5 & 7 have been given their individual student reports to take home to parents and carers. This week I have also forwarded home to parents and carers a NAPLAN Report detailing our school’s performance this year. It is important to remember that NAPLAN tests are a point in time test, however they are very useful in directing future teaching and identifying areas for future improvement.

I am extremely proud of the achievements of our students this year. Our performance in NAPLAN this year confirms that we are one of the top performing schools in Mount Isa. I will be providing further information about our results at the next P&C meeting on Tuesday 9 September.
PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT DISCUSSIONS
Next week teachers will be holding parent/teacher/student discussions regarding individual student learning and goals. This aligns with our school focuses to improve all students’ learning outcomes. Teachers have sent notes home with children requesting suitable times for these discussions to occur. At Barkly Highway State School we are committed to keeping parents and carers informed about your child’s progress. We offer two periods of Parent/Teacher/Student discussions and two written reports annually. Please take this opportunity to speak to your child’s teacher so that you are aware of your child’s social development, their individual strengths and areas of improvement. Parent/teacher/student discussions are an excellent chance for parents and carers to speak to teachers about specific focus learning goals you would like to see your child achieve.

PREP OPEN DAY – Saturday 11 October
Our Prep Open Day for enrolments for 2015 will be held between 9:00am – 12:00pm on Saturday 11 October. This Open Day provides families with an opportunity to see the kind of activities Prep children are engaged in at school and to ask teachers any questions you may have about Prep. There are also some activities and a jumping castle to keep the children entertained. If you have a child that is eligible to commence Prep in 2015 (born 1 July 2009 – 30 June 2010), or are aware of friends or relatives that have children who they intend to enrol at Barkly Highway, I would strongly recommend attending this event. Enrolment packages will be available for collection on the day.

PREP CLASSROOM VISIT & INFORMATION SESSION
During term 4, we will be holding a Prep Classroom Visit Morning and Prep Information Sessions to provide parents and carers of children who will be enrolling in Prep in 2015 with information concerning the Prep curriculum, learning and routines children will do at Barkly Highway State School Prep. Parents and carers of children who have handed in their enrolment forms will receive a letter advising of these sessions in due course.

The Prep Classroom Visit morning will be held between 8:30 – 10:30am on Friday 24 October. Parents and carers of prospective prep enrolments for 2015 will be able to visit a Prep classroom on that morning and see what a typical morning in Prep looks like. The Prep Information Sessions will be held on Thursday 13 November at 3:00pm and 7:00pm.

DISCIPLINE AUDIT
All Queensland State schools are required to have undergone a Discipline Audit before November 2014. The purpose of the Discipline Audit is to provide quality feedback on how the school is ensuring a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment and to inform school behaviour management planning processes. During the audit, an independent, experienced school principal will visit the school to collect a range of data and information about school wide programs and procedures in the area of discipline. Interviews will also be conducted with staff, students and parents to gather a range of perspectives on school strategies and practices in relation to behaviour management.

The Discipline Audit at our school is scheduled to take place Tuesday 7 October. The report’s Executive Summary and 5 page Profile will be made available to parents and caregivers on the school’s web site after the completion of the audit.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2015
We are now taking enrolments for all year levels in 2015. Please contact the Office for forms or further details. With the Year 7s moving to High School in 2015, we are able to accept a greater number of enrolments from outside our catchment area, given that we currently receive less than 35% of our enrolments from within the area. In all year levels we currently have the capacity to accept enrolments from all areas of Mount Isa.

DEPUTY’S REPORT
Last Friday week, thirty nine students, Miss Ann Kelly, Miss Caitlin Ritchie and myself returned from another successful Canberra Study Tour. Again the students all exemplified what is so great about BHSS – their behaviour, manners and courtesy, their engagement and questioning and their learning were all exceptional. Many thanks to the families who were able to provide this opportunity to the students, and to the accompanying staff. A trip like this requires a great deal of effort and commitment ‘behind the scenes’. Be sure to check out some of the photos on our school Facebook site.

NAPLAN
NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) testing for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students occurred on the 13, 14 and 15 May. NAPLAN is designed to provide information on the literacy and numeracy achievements of students. Results are used along with school assessment, allowing comparatives between individual students and other students across Australia. NAPLAN provides a national snapshot of how students are performing in the skills of literacy and numeracy.

Barkly Highway State School results continue to improve. Some encouraging results include the following:

- **Reading**
  - Close to Nation average in Year 3, 5 and 7 in the upper 2 bands.

- **Writing**
  - Close to Nation average in Year 3 and 5 in the upper two bands. Year 7 exceeded the Nation average in the upper two bands.

- **Spelling**
  - Close to Nation average in national minimum standard across Year 3, 5 and 7. Close to Nation average in upper two bands in Year 5 and 7.

- **Grammar & Punctuation**
  - Close to Nation average mean across Year 3, 5 and 7. Close to Nation average in upper two bands in Year 3, 5 and 7.

- **Numeracy**
  - Year 7 national minimum standard exceeded that of the Nation average.

Our school analyses results and uses data to reflect upon current teaching practices with a focus on maintaining high levels of student achievement and continuing to improve outcomes. Sincere thanks are extended to students and parents of students in Years 3, 5 and 7 for the dedicated approach to this often stressful process of National Testing.
BOOKWEEK
What a fantastic Bookweek it’s been this year. Congratulations to Miss Kings and Mrs Spitzner-Lewis for coming up with imaginative and creative ways to engage our students in the joy of reading. It was wonderful also seeing the students and staff in their dress-ups as their favourite story book characters. A huge effort by all and a wonderful way to celebrate Bookweek!

UNIFORMS- LOST PROPERTY
There is an increase in the number of uniform items in the lost property. Unfortunately many hats, jumpers and jackets do not have names on them at all. This makes it very difficult to return them to students promptly. If your child is missing any uniform item, please ask them to check the lost property bay which is near the uniform shop.

ICAS COMPETITION
The results for the UNSW Spelling competition have arrived. Congratulations to the following students who have achieved a great result. All students will receive their certificates at next week’s assembly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Result</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abigail</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Merit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shenay</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Merit</td>
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<td>Ronan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Credit</td>
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<td>Josie</td>
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<td>Hayden</td>
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<td>Ash Wagh</td>
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PE NEWS
Interschool Softball and AFL
Earlier this term, students from our school participated in day one of the Interschool Softball and Interschool AFL competitions. The second of these days will be next Friday 12 September. Well done to those who have participated in the carnival so far. Thanks to Mr Nelson for volunteering his time to take the AFL Team and to Miss Burke for coaching our school Softball Team.

Term 4 Interschool Sports
In Term 4, students in the upper grades will have an opportunity to be part of our school Basketball and Futsal teams. These games will be played over a one-day carnival toward the end of Term 4. Trials for these sports will not be until early next term; however students are encouraged to start practising their skills for these sports in preparation for the trials.

MUSIC MATTERS
Year 4 students will be performing at parade on Monday 8th September at 2.00pm. Senior and junior choir will be performing at Barkly’s Got Talent on September 17th.

RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS
What a whirlwind two weeks we’ve had!

BOOK WEEK
It was fantastic to see so many students and teachers alike getting dressed up as their favourite book characters. We also had some successful entries for the competition accompanying the Book Week at the town library. Those students won some book prizes and were recognised on parade recently. Congratulations again to all of them.

Congratulations to all the students and teachers who participated in our dress up day and parade on Friday 22 August. Our winners for the Best Dressed Book Character for each class were as follows:

| Prep Blue – Zane Sanders as Darth Vader | Prep Gold – Finn McNamara as Camilla the Cupcake Fairy |
| Prep Red – Zachary Sherwood as Where’s Wally | 1 Blue – Flynn Donnelly the policeman from Toby and the Big Tree |
| 1 Gold – Miah Starr as Little Red Riding Hood | 1 Red – Jessica Ward as Peter Pan |
| 2 Blue – Ethan Godwin as Iron Man | 2 Gold – Amy Bailey as Cat in the Hat |
| 2 Red – Brianna Hatherell as Slinky from Toy Story | 3 Blue – Arwen Ingram as Little Red Riding Hood |
| 3 Gold – Tarlee Slatter as an Evil Queen | 3 Red – Hayley Smith as Ariel |
| 4 Blue – Hannah O’Shea-Breed as Pollyanna | 4 Gold – Paige Benfield as Morticia |
| 5 Blue – Hayley Watt as Cat in the Hat | 5 Gold – Tobi Odurose as Jack in the Box |
| 5 Red – Layla Jackson as a Zombie from the Walking Dead | 6 Blue – Bethany Minniecon as Minnie Mouse |
| 6 Gold – India Jones as an Arabian Princess | 6/7 Green – Jack Muller as Napoleon |
| 7 Blue – Kasey-Lee Creer as Little Red Riding Hood | Teacher – Mrs Bec Cremona as the Queen of Hearts |

Thanks to students and parents who helped students connect to book characters with costumes on Friday. It was a fantastic day and everyone who participated seemed to have loads of fun and enjoyed themselves. Thanks to all of my colleagues who participated and dressed up on the day. We really did live the theme for 2014: “Connect to Reading.”

Brooke Kings

Book Fair
Our second Book Fair for the year was a resounding success. The students were inundating us browsing the shelves and writing their wish lists at every opportunity they had throughout the week. A big thank you to all of the families who supported this event. Thanks to your generosity and buying a book or two for your child, we are now able to choose some resources from scholastic which will in return directly benefit your children. Books on order will be handed out as soon as they arrive.

Book Club
Issue #6 orders have arrived and have been handed out to students.

PRC
The Premier’s Reading Challenge will close this Friday. All students are asked to finalise their reading record sheet and hand it back to the library signed by parents or teachers.

Library
We are approaching the end of term and will ask for all students borrowing to be returned by next Friday please. As always, please don’t hesitate to come and see us with any questions or queries you may have.

Kind Regards

Svenja Spitzner-Lewis
**Student Council News**

**Barkly’s Got Talent date change – Wednesday 17 September** Changes in timetables and clashes with community events have meant another change to our date for Barkly’s Got Talent. The event will be held on Wednesday 17 September, in the last week of this term. As the date draws near, students who were successful in their audition will work with staff to ‘polish’ their act. There will be prizes on the night for first, second and third place, as well as a performance from our school choir. Drinks and snacks will also be available for purchase on the evening. We hope to see you there supporting this great event for our students to show their talent. All money raised from the evening will go back into the school through purchasing resources for our students.

**Father’s Day Stall**

Friday the 5th of September is the last day of our Father’s Day stall. Come on down at first break tomorrow to grab a last minute Father’s Day gift! The stall is run by our Student Council.

**Bike-a-Thon**

Keep practising your riding because Bike-a-Thon is coming! In Week 10, bring along your bike (and your helmet) on the day your grade will be participating in bike-a-thon.

- Monday 15th September – Prep
- Tuesday 16th September – Years 1 and 2
- Wednesday 17th September – Years 3 and 4
- Thursday 18th September – Years 5, 6 and 7

PCYC are coming along again this year to join in the fun. Will you be caught by the speed gun? Even if you don’t have a bike, we will have some available that you will be able to use to make sure you can take part! Everyone who wants to participate must return their permission slip which has been signed by your parents. This permission slip is on the donations page of the Bike-a-Thon notes sent home recently. These notes must be back by Wednesday 10th September.

**No permission = no participation.**

Parents and staff, you are welcome to bring along your bikes and participate with your children/students. Can you outride the children?

We will stamp your card after every lap. How many laps will you be able to do?

This is a Student Council event and all money raised will go towards new resources for the school.

*Miss Kelly and Mr D*

*Student Council Coordinators*

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**Year 6 Camp Canberra**

Last Saturday on the 16th of August the majority of our grade six students attended the unforgettable Canberra camp experience. We had a great time as there was lots of action and laughter. Most people would agree that the snow was the best part of the trip as not many of us had ever seen or touched snow before. We enjoyed our time at the snow by having snow ball fights and tobogganing. Camp was a great experience that allowed us to bond with peers and teachers. During our trip we also attended many interesting and exciting places such as The Royal Australian Mint, Old and New Parliament House, Questacon, Telstra Tower and many more. One particular place that we found extremely unforgettable was the War Memorial. We were very lucky to have Reuben Westerman and Tyson Hales represent the school by participating in laying a wreath during a special ceremony.

Written by Melanie and Kaylee

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**TUCK-SHOP NEWS**

A reminder that we have Eftpos available at Tuckshop and if you haven’t already joined the easy way to order online, Flexischools is a great time saver for those busy parents. For more information you can see us at Tuckshop or have a look online at www.flexischools.com.au

**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.

Back by popular demand are NACHOS!!! The special started on **Monday 18th of August** and will end on **Friday 12th September**. They are $4.50 which includes corn chips, nacho mince and cheese. Extras are sour cream $0.25, salsa $0.25 and guacamole $0.50. These can also be ordered on Flexischools or at the Tuckshop.

Please make a note in on your calendar that Tuckshop will be closed on **Friday 19th September**.

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!!

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**P&C NEWS**

**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. Email jumpingcastle@barklyss.eq.edu.au if you are interested or want some more details. All money raised from hire of our jumping castles goes right back into the P&C and ultimately the school and our students.
Hi Everyone,

This week’s Literacy News is all about the Writing Cycle or Process. This is the process or cycle that the children follow in their classroom as they write their fiction and non-fiction texts. The cycle involves planning the writing, drafting the text using the plan, editing and proofreading the draft by themselves and/or with a buddy, revising the draft, conferencing the text with an adult and finally, publishing the text to share with others.

The first step is to **plan** the writing. The children are often supported with this step with brainstorming ideas on what to write about. They may also need to research information on these ideas before they write. They work with their teacher and classmates to identify a structure to follow to make notes in before they begin to draft their work. For example, if they are writing a *procedure* they may create a page with the following headings on it: **Title**, **Materials/Equipment** and **Method** to make notes in. They may also work out with their teachers and classmates a list of “success criteria” or “ingredients” to remind them about what they need to include in this type of writing, for example for a procedure they may need to include, a *List of Materials/Equipment*, *Numbered steps*, *Command or imperative sentences*, *Action verbs*, *Factual noun groups*, *Capitals to start sentences* and *End marks – full stops and exclamation marks*.

**Here are some day to day writing activities you can try with your children:**

- **As your child gets older, write together.** Have your child help you with the writing you do, including writing emails, shopping lists and messages.
- **Suggest note-taking.** Encourage your child to take notes on trips or outings and to describe what they saw. This could include descriptions of nature walks, a boat ride, a car trip or other events that lend themselves to note-taking.
- **Encourage copying.** If your child likes a particular song, suggest that she learn the words by writing them down. Also encourage copying favourite poems or quotations from books and plays.
- **Encourage your child to read his stories aloud.** As your child gets older, ask him to share his stories with you. Listen carefully without interrupting and give him positive feedback about his ideas and his writing!
- **Hang a family message board in the kitchen.** Offer to write notes there for your child. Be sure that she finds notes left there for her.
- **Encourage keeping a journal.** This is an excellent writing practice as well as a good outlet for venting feelings. Encourage your child to write about things that happen at home and school, about people he likes or dislikes and why, and about things he wants to remember and do. If he wants to share the journal with you, read the entries and discuss them together.

**Helping young children develop strong writing skills**
http://www.colorincolorado.org/article/21885/

**Opti-minds News**

Congratulations to the school’s 3 Opti-minds’ Teams!

On Saturday 23rd August at St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, 14 students from years 5 to 7 participated in the Opti-minds’ Challenge Day. We entered two Science and Engineering Teams and one Social Science Team. The children began working on team building activities in Term 2 and had 6 weeks, from the beginning of term 3, to solve their Science and Engineering or Social Science problems, and prepare their team’s presentation of the problem’s solution.

The Social Science Team won a “Spirit of Opti-minds” Award and the Division 1 First Place Trophy. This team also received an invitation to participate in the 2014 Opti-minds State final hosted by the University of Queensland in Brisbane in October. One of the Science and Engineering Teams won a “Spirit of Opti-minds” Award. Each team member received an Opti-minds Participation Certificate for working on the challenges this term.

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Enjoy writing together,
Cheryl Gallagher
(Literacy Teacher)
**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**KIDS CLUB**

Friday's from 4.00pm to 6.00pm
Prep to grade 7.
Safe supervised Fun, games, activities & laughs for children
Dinner provided  Gold coin donation
At COC Mount Isa, 10-12 Enterprise Rd
Ph: 07 4743 8656

**PALS Social Skills Program**

Playing & Learning to Socialise
Run by Isa Therapy Services
This program, delivered by an experienced occupational therapist, involves learning social skills using story-telling, songs, games, role-play and fun activities to motivate and engage children to develop a range of social behaviours that will help them develop friendships and get along with others.
Monday 22nd – Thursday 25th September 9am – 11am
Cost: $300 (Private Health Insurance rebates may be available)
Where: Isa Therapy Services at 92 Marian St
To register your interest in the September Program or for future programs in 2014:
Please contact Isa Therapy Services Ph: 4743 6695
Email: admin@isatherapy.com.au
Registration closes: Friday 5th September. Group sizes are limited.

**Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)**

Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.
The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $150 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

**CENTRECARE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

Hello everyone
As we are all aware, changes to the Education System will commence next year with Grade 7 being included in High School and Grade 10 moving to the Senior Campus. Change and transition generally causes some concerns and anxiety until the situation is normalized.
Centacare would like to support schools and families at this time by presenting the 'Mind Over Mood' Program and the 'Dealing with Children's Anxiety' Program. These programs provide the information necessary to respond to teenagers in a confident and supportive manner. Parents, Carers and Teachers of Year 6 and 7 students, as well as the higher grades could benefit greatly from this information.

**Dealing with Children's Anxiety**

This program assists parents to cope with their children's anxiety and move on to a more positive future.
The Aims of the Program:
- Help parents model effective anxiety management strategies
- Learn stress reduction strategies so that they can model effectively
- Help care-givers to respond effectively to their child’s anxiety
Program start date: Wednesday the 22nd of October 2014
At: 9.30 am -11.30 am or 6.00pm -8.00pm
Cost: $15.00 for program $30.00 for book
For more information call:
Liz or Angela at the Centacare Family Centre on 4749 8000

**Mind Over Mood for Men**

Change How You Feel By Changing the Way You Think
Commenences: Monday the 20th of October 2014
Evening Sessions only from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Please contact Angela or Liz for more information
Centacare Family Centre
07 4749 8000

**SPINIFEX STATE COLLEGE ANNUAL INFORMATION EVENING**

Spinifex State College are hosting an annual information evening for all current Year 6, 7, and 8 students considering their educational needs for 2015. All details and applications forms can be picked up from Spinifex State College.

**When:** 9th September 2014

**Where:** Spinifex Junior Campus – Library (5th Avenue)

**Program:**
- 6:30pm – Subject Displays
- 7:30pm – 8pm – Presentation
- Light refreshments provided

**Contact:** 4740 1111 (8am – 3:30pm)