PRINCIPAL: Helen McCullough

Dear Parents & Community

Congratulations to our students who have represented our school at community events and extra-curricula activities recently. Our Year 4 students were involved in the National Tree Planting initiative organised by Mr Keith Kiloh. The students were excited to be part of contributing to a sustainable future for our local area. Did you know that soap can be made from trees? I am sure that we will enjoy the benefits of this many years from now. Thank you Mr Kiloh for organising this event and to all other schools and community groups that contributed.

Our Year 6 students engaged in the transition to Junior Secondary at Ayr State High School. The program is designed to assist students in understanding and experiencing the secondary context. Our students enjoyed working with present and future teachers in a range of subjects – Science being a BIG talking point around labs and experimentation. Thank you to Ayr State High School for the quality program for our students.

On Friday our Year 4-6 students will support Ayr State High School’s biannual musical – Grease! We are looking forward to this and wish students all the best in their productions. We also look forward to building the interest in the performing arts to present to you next year our musical.

Our students have awed us with their submissions for the upcoming Burdekin Arts Festival. I had the absolute privilege (and a sneak peak) of reading short stories from across our year levels, viewing art pieces and am looking forward to the choirs and poetry currently being rehearsed by our students. Mark your calendars for 22nd and 23rd August - see you there!

Our Water Festival Ambassador, Taryn Delle Baite has a fun filled afternoon planned for her fundraiser. It is great to hear students getting behind this fundraiser this Saturday in our hall.

Yesterday 02/08/16, we hosted 3 schools from Rasmussen, Cranbrook and Townsville as part of our leadership professional learning. Part of this visit was visiting classes and seeing the work of our students and teachers. Our visitors congratulate and commend all members of our staff and our students for the high quality learning, the
outstanding learning/work environment and the levels of support for every student and staff member that we can proudly recognise happens daily. Thanks for being part of it!

A highlight of our fortnight was the re-opening of D Block – a more attractive and functional learning space for all learners and teachers. I would like to thank the entire East Ayr community for your support, patience and flexibility whilst this major upgrade was being completed. Our students’ WOW’s, thank you’s and the sheer joy and excitement of their new spaces and learning tools has been totally worth it. I also would like to acknowledge and thank Department of Education Regional Facilities Team and Building & Asset Services for their project management and ongoing support to our school. A great result for our school management and ongoing support to our Building & Asset Services for their project themselves.

Does that make sense?

Stay connected with us through our Facebook page – there are always regular updates on our students learning, reminders about upcoming events and celebrations of the daily top work.

Kind regards

Helen McCullough  
Principal

**Reading At Home**

Correcting mistakes in reading

Sometimes it can be difficult to know when to intervene when a beginning (or proficient) reader makes an error in their reading. Often, it is beneficial to let them read to the end of the sentence or paragraph and allow them time to pick the mistake up themselves.

In an earlier edition of our newsletter this year, we published the three questions good readers ask themselves when reading:

- Does that look right?
- Does that sound right?
- Does that make sense?

If your reader is not correcting their own mistakes, you can prompt them to do this by asking one or more of these questions rather than reading the word for them. Remind them to use their decoding strategies - sound it out is not always the most helpful strategy!

Another strategy you could use to prompt the reader to think about their mistake is to read the text back to them, how they have read it (errors included). Ask them again – does that look right? Does that sound right? Does that make sense?

If they are still finding it difficult, you could model how to decode the word (“I could see two smaller words in that word – ‘down’ and ‘stairs’, that word is ‘downstairs’.”)

It is important to remember to continue to provide the reader with time to pick up on the mistake and attempt to correct it themselves before supporting them with this. Good readers listen to themselves read and think about the text!

**Our reading targets are**

- Prep – Level 8
- Year 1 – Level 16
- Year 2 – Level 20
- Year 3 – Level 24

Kayla Hawkins  
(Master Teacher/Head of Curriculum)

**District Athletics Carnival**

The District Athletics Carnival will be held at Home Hill State Primary School on Friday 12 August. Over 100 of our students will be participating in a variety of track and field events. The selection of the East Ayr Team will be completed by Friday.

Students who have been selected in the District Athletics team will receive information about this carnival on Friday. Students need to return the project consent form, permission note and bus money as soon as possible.

**As well if they need to order lunch, their lunch order must be returned by Monday 7th August.**

**Sporting Captains & Vice Captains, Student Council and Peer Mediator Photographs**

These photos are on display in the office foyer and envelopes are available for ordering. Orders for these photos are to be placed in the blue money collection box in the office by Friday 12th August.

**Year 6 Group Photos**

These photos and ordering envelopes are on display in Year 6 classrooms and again these orders must be in the blue money collection box in the office by Friday 12th August.

**Taryn’s Junior Triva Afternoon**

Taryn Delle Baite, Junior Water Festival Ambassador for East Ayr State School, will be hosting a fun filled trivia afternoon this Saturday, 7th August from 2:30pm – 4:30pm in the East Ayr State School hall.

Children from 8 – 13 years are welcome to form teams of 3 – 5 students and there is a $10 nomination fee per team. Afternoon tea and drinks will be on sale.

Form a team, come along and support Taryn and have an enjoyable afternoon.

Thank you for the great support of our chocolate fundraiser. We have had an amazing response. The first chocolates will be available on Monday 8th August. If you requested your child to bring home your chocolates they will be delivered to their classrooms commencing Monday 8th August. If you requested to pick up your chocolates from the Tuckshop you will receive a text or phone call when they are available to be picked up. Full payment for the chocolates can be handed into the Tuckshop anytime in the envelope provided in your boxes. The amount you owe will be noted on the slip attached to your box at the point of delivery or pick-up. Please note all money needs to be returned by the 9th September.

2017 will see some changes to our school tuckshop menu. The Queensland Government Smart Choices policy comes into effect next
year and all state schools must comply. Currently our menu doesn’t comply as we have RED items on our menu. We also need to improve our AMBER items. The tuckshop committee are currently researching recipes and other complying menus. We do however feel it important that we get feedback from both parents and students on items that you currently like on our menu and also items that you would like to see included and any other improvements. Over the coming weeks we will hold a meeting in which we would appreciate your feedback. Please keep an eye out for more details to come.

Some exciting tuckshop news. A product change will be happening soon. Fandangles are a RED food choice and as a result will soon be no longer available for purchase. They will be replaced with Paddle Pops – chocolate, banana and rainbow flavours. Paddle Pops are classed as AMBER items. Watch this space for more details.

Planning has started for our Family Dance Night. There will be some changes this year from the P&C side. There has been discussion around the supper that has been previously provided by the P&C for the children. We will be having planning meetings for this event in the coming weeks. Please keep an eye out for more details and consider coming along and joining our discussions.

Corryn

Wizz Kids launch Studio East

Studio East has arrived at East Ayr Primary School. Some of you may be asking what is Studio East? Studio East is actually the name of our editing studio for the Wizz Kids Club created in 2015 with a small group of visionary students. We are, one of the many clubs that complement our great school. Our vision has been to recognise and celebrate great achievement by complementing our positive culture at East Ayr.

Our name (Studio East) came from a committed group of children that arrive at school by 7:30am every Thursday over the past year. During this time they have learnt how to be masters in IMOVIE.

We have created movies that remind students of our golden rules by promoting Positive Behaviour and Learning in the school setting. In addition, we have also captured some of our greatest achievements during the Interhouse Sport days.

We believe in formally recognising the contribution of the original members: Kaden Crothers, Joshua Mann, Patrick Kupke and Jye Tonion. We are growing in number and have had students from Prep to Year 6 contribute to video recordings in some way. Thank you.

When we are not in the editing studio, we are learning how to code on the computer to create computer games, which has continued to build on our reading and problem solving skills.

Our next project is to compile short videos and photos from the National Tree Planting Day that East Ayr participated in.

Reminder: Medical Appointments

Whenever possible, medical appointments should be made outside school hours. If this isn’t possible please phone the school to advise of your child’s absence. This would be much appreciated.

If it is unavoidable for your child to have an appointment in school time there is no need to be absent for the whole day. We are very happy for your child to attend school for ‘part’ of the school day, i.e. if the appointment is in the morning; they are should attend school for the middle and afternoon sessions. If your child’s appointment is towards the end of the school day, your child can leave school early. If their appointment is in the middle session they are able to attend school for the morning, and return to school for the afternoon session.

Transitions – Making the Change

As your child grows and learns, their understanding of the world that they live in also changes and grows. Babies become toddlers, and many toddlers today are attending day care as part of their normal routine. Toddlers grow and attend Kindy, their
world changes again. New places, new faces, new expectations and new things to do. It seems that change is everywhere, and it is our job to prepare our children for the many changes that happen in their lives – parents as their first teachers and schools as the subsequent teachers.

In school life, there are some times when changes occur that we can help students to be ready for. The transition from Prep to “big school” or Year One is an important milestone in a student’s life. They have different children in their classes, different adults working with them and often the amount of adult support in the room lessens. Another important transition time is when our “big kids” in Year Six make the jump from Primary School to High School. It can be a scary time for some students, for others it seems a barely noticeable change. All of these changes can be prepared for so that when they do occur, your child knows what to expect, when to expect it and why it is happening.

It is important, as parents and educators, that we remember that transitions are not a point in time event. The transition from home to Prep, from Prep to Primary School and from Primary School to High School is a process that starts long before your child has his or her first day. Schools organise specific activities and make preparations so that the transition period is as smooth and calm as possible, often long before the transition occurs, as well as putting things into place for during the transition period and afterwards.

The transition from Prep to Year One is often relatively easy to prepare children for. Often, as at East Ayr, the Prep rooms are part of the whole school grounds. It is a familiar place and the staff are often familiar. Still, for some children, leaving behind the known Prep rooms and staff to move to the Year One rooms can be daunting.

Transition times from Primary to High School often bring lots of changes, some of which are significant. Students often move to a new school site, with staff that they may not know. They change from being the oldest in the school to the youngest. Instead of having one main teacher for the whole year, they have many teachers, often in different rooms. They need to carry their belongings with them, as they no longer have a tidy tray to store them in, making being organised a much bigger part of their lives.

So, how can parents help prepare their students for transitions?

1. **Talk to your child about things that will be the same** - e.g. play areas, pick up times and locations, staff that they may continue to work with
2. **Talk positively about the change** – if your child sees you thinking that everything will be ok, chances are it may help them to feel more confident too
3. **Find out the transition activities that school is offering** - be interested and talk positively to your child about these
4. **Try to ensure that your child attends school on any transition days** - when they come home from a transition day, remember to ask what they did and check to see how they feel about their experiences
5. **Find out who the key staff members will be for transitions or the next year**, if you can - get to know them and talk to your child about these staff members positively
6. **Share information** – if your child has specific needs, strengths, medical considerations, make sure that your new school has up to date details
7. **Attend any information or transition meetings that the school offers for parents making the transition** - if appropriate, take your child with you
8. **Discuss your feelings and experiences** – it is likely you have been through almost exactly the same transitions, talk about how you felt and how you coped, and remember to emphasise that you made it through your transition times and your child will too

9. **Listen to your child** – if they are telling you that they are worried or anxious, try to reassure them, let them know that lots of children feel that way and it is ok. Then work out (if you can) what your child thinks may help them to feel better

10. **If you are worried about how your child will cope** - talk to your child’s teacher or make an appointment to speak with one of the helpful Leadership team members – after all, your child is why teachers are here

Your child will experience many transition periods in their life, change is unavoidable. For some children it will seem so easy, you will wonder why you worried, for others it may be quite stressful. Remember that how you react may well set the tone for how your child feels, so try to be brave and embrace your child’s growth and change, it is all part of growing up!

The Department of Education’s website has a link to raisingchildren.net – a website for parents. The address below is for the section on starting school, which you may find useful. http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/starting_school.html/context/591

**Burdekin Sports Representatives**

Last Sunday 31st July, NQ Girls Rugby League Trials were held in Townsville. Representing East Ayr were Caitlin McDonnell, Mystique Heron, Keara Oliver and Tahlia Morello. Congratulations and well done.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

PA Karlos Pearson
PB Reese Bradford
PC Lily Arroita
P1D Pypah Schofield
1A Kelisha Rawiri
1B Kovi Cursio
1C Joe Pennisi
2A Layla Todeschino
2B Lilliana Stafford
2C Landyon Chatfield
3A Zanda DalleCort
3B Sarah O’Shea
3C Mikayla McDonnell
4A Jim Johnstone
4B Neill Evetts
5A Adam Prior
5B Isabella Moloney
5C Pacey Horan
6A Taylah Koutsonis
6B Joshua Mann
6C Aidan Calligaro

PA Wasse Ghee
PB Isabella Fitzgerald
PC Summer Dixon
P1D Riley MacDonald
1A Joshua Stinton-O’Brien
1B Shaize Christie
1C
2A Christopher Capper
2B Lewis Breen
2C Simby Malaya
3A Max Durso
3B Dallas Musumeci
3C Liam Ellis
4A Angel O’Keefe
4B Archer Swindley
4C Tyla Cox
5A Ainsley Wall
5B Braith Dowson
5C Kourtntie Holznagel
6A Jayda Olsen
6B Jack Malas
6C Harvey Arboit

PA Wassie Ghee
PB Isabella Fitzgerald
PC Summer Dixon
P1D Riley MacDonald
1A Joshua Stinton-O’Brien
1B Shaize Christie
1C
2A Christopher Capper
2B Lewis Breen
2C Simby Malaya
3A Max Durso
3B Dallas Musumeci
3C Liam Ellis
4A Angel O’Keefe
4B Archer Swindley
4C Tyla Cox
5A Ainsley Wall
5B Braith Dowson
5C Kourtntie Holznagel
6A Jayda Olsen
6B Jack Malas
6C Harvey Arboit

PA Parker Bonato
PB Robert Bright-Hafemeister
PC Ryke Haller
P1D Amelia Woods
1A Lachlan Kelly
1B Michaela Backo
1C Lilly Wilkins
2A Hogan Smith
2B Rhia Nielsen
2C Alexander Bright-Hafemeister
3A Thomas Bach
3B Cooper Sheehan
3C Zylon Dallecort
4A Imogen Fraser
4B Jayla Tinus
4C Sky Olsen
5A Rohan Hollingsworth
5B Jorja Grabs
5C Mia Kelly
6A Mackayla Hodder
6B Valyn McNerney
6C Callum Drain

PA Angelina Curro
PB Shyla Stinton
PC Chase Bolam
P1D River Politis
1A Kendra Butler
1B Keatan Jarvis
1C Jorda Quagliata
2A Cooper Kross
2B Brayden Becke
2C Kelsey Cox
3A Daly Clay
3B Bennet Benoy
3C Jazmyn James-Stokes
4A Zahn Cursio
4B Ethan Backo
4C Kayley Iwascyzyn
5A Capri Robinson-Millar
5B Julia Neal
5C Kayla Byers
6A Jayda Olsen
6B Cameron Wellington
6C Kory Jordan

News from the HUB

Yeah, we are finally back in the ILC. Lunchtime activities are back up and running and our students are once again enjoying a variety of activities. This week we have been creating face biscuits - not only fun but delicious.

For those of you new to the school, the ILC and HUB provides a fun, safe place for students to come and enjoy a variety of activities structured to support the wellbeing of our students. The sessions are run by Ms Graham, Mrs Crouther and Mrs Coe and include activities such as art, construction and other interesting games.

If you would like to know more please contact Mrs Coe on 47830222.

Ayr High School Musical “Grease”

On Friday 5 August, Year 4, 5 and 6 students have been invited to see Ayr High’s production “Grease”. Students received information about “Grease” last week. Permission notes and money are due back tomorrow Thursday 4 August.

Please note that we are now working from the office staffroom each Thursday and not the library.

Competition Time

East Ayr State School in conjunction with Commonwealth Bank would like to congratulate John Cislowski for winning the Deposit Blitz Competition for Term 2! There were 70 students who qualified for entry into the competition which is an excellent effort for Term 2 Banking!

For Term 3, there is a new Dollarmites banking competition that you should have received a letter about in the mail. During Term 3, if students make three or more deposits, they will go into the draw for a chance to win one of the Star Saver prizes including camping kits, instant cameras and magazine packs. Also, if you complete the fun Stargazing activity online, along with making three or more deposits, you will also have the chance to win one of the Supernova prizes – PlayStation 4 packs. You can start your Stargazing activity online at any time during Term 3 at commbank.com.au/prizelights. Please see your mailed newsletter from Commonwealth Bank for more details.
Rewards Orders
After banking this week, we will be ordering our first rewards for Term 3. Look out for your student number below to see if you are eligible to order a reward. Please fill out your rewards coupon that was distributed at the beginning of the year, OR, on a piece of paper; include your name, class, banking number as well as the reward item you want and we’ll see that it is ordered for you.

Available Rewards
Please note: Mud Splat Handballs and Flying Snake Tails are out of stock and cannot be ordered. Reward items for Term 3 include:
- Backtrack Eraser Pen – New
- Jump and Skip Rope – New
- Dollarmites Money Box – 2014
- ET DVD – 2015
- Galaxy Glider - 2015
- Intergalactic Rocket - 2015
- Outerspace Savers Money Box – 2015
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Outback Pat Bag Tag

Spot Your Student Number?
The electronic records show the following student numbers are eligible to order rewards this week:

9 tokens (eligible to order a reward if they bank this week):
140 165 210 218 280 292 328

10 or more tokens:
149 214 247 257 271 281 307 313
137 148 160 186 191 221 232 243
273 298 302 321 136 159 234 260
275 278 129 144 169 182 244 282
322 163 184 195 213 227 279 200
204 236 240 277 300 306 285 287
303 312 319 187 194 197 223 283
324 202 226 291

20 or more tokens (eligible to order 2 reward items):
248 290 87 235 138 207 2 268
134 249 246

Please note: I may have included younger sibling’s student numbers. To order rewards, a student must be currently enrolled at East Ayr.

Thank you for your continued support with school banking. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to leave us a note in your child’s bank book, or drop by the office staffroom at 9am on Thursdays.

Neva Neal

At School before the Bell?
Please remember that all students are to remain under **Block C** until the first bell at 8:30am. While waiting under Block C all students are to be reading.

**Absent from School**
(Don’t let it be Unexplained)
Ph: 0417 003 685
Send a text or leave a message
Drop by the office or send a note
All Day - Every Day!
Aiming for 95% or better
**Writing**

Our Preps are producing excellent writing. Below are some examples of students’ amazing writing.

I went to a dog.

Whosy sat on a log.

There was a dog.

That laughing at The frog.

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Imaginative:

- Giraffes love to dance.
- Gerald did it backwards. Someone fell in the air.
- Giraffe was sad because he couldn't dance.

Shayna, P10

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Informative:

- Giraffes have long thin legs.
- Giraffes have long black tongues.
- Giraffes eat leaves off of trees.

Mara, P10