PRINCIPAL: Helen McCullough

Dear Parents & Community

Congratulations to the students who were nominated for the positions of School and Vice Captains. Out of a cohort of 78 students it was a very competitive and a hard field to choose only four student leaders. Congratulations to Jack Shears and Chelsea Scalia (School Captains 2017) and Logan Flanagan and Caitlin McDonnell (Vice School Captains 2017). We look forward to working with our leaders who have some fabulous ideas for 2017...watch this space.

I am very pleased to see the academic results of our students in Semester 2 continue to improve. As a staff we have reflected on the work of 2017 and can confidently say that we have reached our agreed targets in Reading (diagnostic) and summative English, Maths and Science and all other KLA’s. Across our school we see a lift in the A-C student results and the “A” standard thinking has been opened up with incredible student writing, coding and mathematical skills. Congratulations East Ayr learners – you have done a fabulous job in your learning this year.

Our learning continues – we have one more unit of work to complete and many students (and teachers) are looking at the first unit of 2017 and
beginning the groundwork for these. Every day does count and we thank the 90% of our families for showing the value of learning through 90% or above attendance.

As discussed at our P and C Meetings previously our decision to advertise for a second Deputy Principal has been completed. I am pleased to announce that the additional temporary DP position has been filled. Mr Masina Taule’lao will be joining myself and Mrs Scott in 2017 to lead East Ayr State School. Mr Taule’lao has previously been Teaching Principal at Toobanna SS. The application pool was very competitive and we interviewed six people for the role. I would like to thank Mrs Scott and Mrs Melissa Jackson for being part of the recruitment and selection panel with me.

As we draw closer to the end of year, staffing 2017 becomes clearer. Please join me in congratulating the following teachers who have been permanently appointed to EASS: Courtney Pugh, Ash Harland, Kaitlin Volker, Hannah Casswell.

Congratulations also to Taylor Jurd who has been appointed permanently to Railway Estate SS in Townsville. Miss Jurd has been working on various contracts in the Burdekin and we wish her all the best at her new school.

Staffing decisions for 2017 will be finalised in the next fortnight along with placement of students in classes.

I am now able to confirm that Mrs Dallas Mulley who has worked at EASS for 11 years and also worked at multiple schools across the Burdekin will be retiring at the end of year. Mrs Mulley has been a dedicated member of our team and we wish her all the best and look forward to seeing her from time to time.

Mrs Jennifer Elliot who has worked at EASS for two years and also multiple other schools in the Burdekin has also decided to retire at the end of this year. Mrs Elliot led our Reader’s Cup Teams in Townsville over the past two years and has volunteered many hours to support our students in this area.

Mrs Marissa Fabbro has confirmed that she will be taking on a teaching role with another education system. Mrs Fabbro has worked at EASS for eight years and with DETE for 18 years. We wish Mrs Fabbro all the best.

Congratulations to Mrs Ema Hawkins who has been appointed as Guidance Officer across multiple schools in the Burdekin after 25 years at East Ayr.

This is a promotional position and we wish Mrs Hawkins all the best in her new role - she has done a stellar job this year backfilling Mrs Patti while on leave. We will see Mrs Hawkins at our Professional Learning days and other events throughout our local area. Thank you Mrs Hawkins.

Congratulations to Mrs Shelley Sheppard who has received a transfer to Fitzgerald SS in Mackay. Mrs Sheppard has worked at East Ayr State School five years and has been a boomerang over the years – we look forward to Mrs Sheppard returning at some point in the future to East Ayr. Mrs Sheppard’s husband will be the new coach of the Mackay Cutters. We will miss Mrs Sheppard, Farrah and Elka – all the best!

Kind regards

Helen McCullough
Principal

Enrolment

Our Enrolment Management Plan (EMP) clearly outlined the process for students applying for enrolment out of catchment. A waiting list currently exists and we have limited spaces which are reserved for students who move into catchment. Please make sure that if you are wishing to enrol, to be on the waiting list, the enrolment form must be received by front office. We regularly review the enrolment numbers and waiting lists. Further information regarding our EMP can be found on our website.

Reading At Home

Summer holidays are approaching quickly!

It is really important to keep up the regular reading habits that have been built over the year. When students come back from several weeks of holidays without having picked up a book, they often find it a little more challenging to rediscover their great reading behaviours.

Some tips to engage your children in reading over the holidays (when it seems like there are so many other things to do!):

Visit the local library

Visiting the library is like a book wonderland. Every possible genre, modern and classic are available. Children can borrow a number of books and when they have finished, return them to borrow new ones!

Mystery book

Often, much loved books from early childhood are put aside as children learn to read more ‘exciting’ and ‘modern’ texts. Try digging up some of these cherished books, wrapping them in brown paper (or any paper) and hiding the books around the house. As your child finds the book, allow them to unwrap and read the book together (or have your child read the book to you).

Reading to relatives

Holidays are usually a time for visits from family and friends. Try asking your child to read to a younger (or older) relative when they arrive.

Screen off nights

It is sometimes a great idea to turn off the TV one night a week and spend some time reading (as a family, enjoying one book, or individually, sharing each other’s enjoyment of the book). Take time to discuss what
is happening in the book/s and
favourite parts.

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

Year 1 & 2 Water Carnival
Tomorrow Thursday 24 November, Years 1 and 2 will be participating in a Water Carnival at Home Hill State School pool. The carnival will commence at 9:30am and will finish at approximately 11:00am. All Year 1 and 2 students received a note about this carnival. It is very important that all permission notes have been returned. Any children who have participated at school swimming can participate in this Water Carnival.

2017 House Captains/Vice-Captains
Our Sports Captains and Vice-Captains will also be selected this week. Students wanting to be a 2017 Sports Captain or Vice-Captain will present a speech to the Year 4, 5 and 6 students in their sporting house this Friday 25th November.

Year 4, 5 and 6 students will be able to vote on who they think will make a great sports captain. House teachers will take into consideration students’ votes when they finalise their 2017 sports captains and vice captains.

Year 5 teachers have explained the role of sports house leaders and the selection procedure to year 5 students.

Ayr High Orientation Days
Orientation for Ayr High 2017 students will occur for all enrolled students on Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd December, two full days at the high school. An information session will be held for parents/carers on Thursday 1st December starting at 3:30pm. More information will be sent out in the next week.

2017 Prep Transition
All 2017 enrolled prep students will attend a transition session on either Thursday 1st December or Friday 2nd December from 10:00am – 12:00pm. A letter informing parents of what their children need to bring has been sent out to all parents. If you have a 2017 Prep student and have not received a letter or know someone who has not received a letter please contact the office.

Awards Day
Our Annual Awards Day will be held in the school hall on Tuesday 6th December starting at 9:30am. This ceremony will involve the presentation of our academic, citizenship, sporting and cultural awards. We also recognise our 2016 school leaders and announce our 2017 school leaders. To close the ceremony we will congratulate our 75 year six students who are moving on to high school next year. Parents are most welcome to attend our special occasion.

Colls Lecturette
As mentioned in the last newsletter four of our Year 6 students, Madisyn Grant, Harvey Arboit, Taryn Delle Baite and Makaela Kerruish represented East Ayr at the annual Colls Lecturette Competition.

Our representatives did a great job with their persuasive speeches. Our four students represented East Ayr admirably and we were very proud of their ability to prepare and deliver a persuasive speech in front of an audience.

Congratulations and thank you Harvey, Madisyn, Makaela and Taryn.

Learnathon
All money and sponsorship forms should have been returned to the office. Over the next week we will finalise the three highest fundraisers, the class raising the most money and the students who raised $50 or more.

Winning students and class will be presented with their vouchers on the parades next Thursday 1st December. Thank you to everyone who supported our students in the Learnathon. The Parents and Citizens Association has agreed to fund sessions from Life Education and all money raised in this year’s Learnathon will go towards these Life Education sessions.

Musical 2017
We are very excited to announce that in 2017 East Ayr will be undertaking a new musical production called... ALADDIN TROUBLE. This is a new Aladdin story with more twists, turns and laughs than ever before. Early next year we will be looking for actors, singers and dancers from years 3, 4, 5, and 6 to show us their talents, especially the boys! We look forward to another amazing East Ayr show in 2017.

Get excited!

Miss Renz & Mrs Cathcart

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
**STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS**

PA Gabriella Cahill  
PB Seren Michielin  
PC Declan Bozzetto  
P1D Riley McDonald  
1A Jarvis Dowson  
1B Aiden Lennox  
1C Ben Stockdale  
2A Layla Todeschino  
2B Jax Tus  
2C Addison Ellis  
3A Ethan Caltabiano  
3B Shawneece Campbell  
3C Chase Christensen  
4A Jayda Hunter  
4B Jayla Tus  
4C Sky Olsen  
5A Macee Cursio  
5B Cooper Horan  
5C Zale Ivory  
6A Seth Malas  
6B Mystique Heron  
6C Josh Davis

**CLASS AWARDS**

PA Josh Fowler  
PB Ashton Smith  
PC Quade Johnson  
P1D Maddie Neal  
1A Brealyn Cole  
1B Lucas Galbraith  
1C Natalie Batts  
2A Paige Stening  
2B Kohen Taylor  
2C Shakeela Campbell  
3A Ben Laidlow  
3B Sarah O'Shea  
3C Liam Ellis  
4A Breanna Bozzetto  
4B Savannah Jarvis  
4C John Cisloowski  
5A Ainsley Wall  
5B Jorja Grabs  
5C Abbey Dowie  
6A Dakota O'Keefe  
6B Stella Sitton

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**Congratulations to the Rooster Winners**  
**AIDEN LENNOX & ZALE IVORY**

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PA Amaya Galbraith  
PB James Ellison  
PC Sophie Papale  
P1D Ellise Jordan  
1A Jay Minehan  
1B Nash Power  
1C Breanna Wood  
2A Leyton Chatfield  
2B Erin Palmer  
2C Benjamin Friend  
3A Kane Reid  
3B Caileb Jerkic  
3C Luke Politis  
4A Angelo Minuti  
4B Noah Arboit  
4C Emily Kerruish  
5A Bridie Castiglione  
5B Ashton Marshall  
5C Braden Laidlow  
6A Hunter Cowen  
6B Jye Tonion  
6C Scarlet Jenkins

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**Congratulations to the Rooster Winners**  
**AMAYA GALBRAITH & ASHTON MARSHALL**

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Earlier in the term the P&C decided to order our school hats to be made using a new material that is better quality, longer lasting and fade resistant. The hats will also be made with a toggle cord which allows the hat to be tightened more securely. The cost of the new hats will be $20. Our suppliers have informed us that they will be here in January. Keep an eye on Facebook and via text message to be informed when our new hats will be available.

The 1st and 2nd of December are the Prep orientation days for our 2017 preps. The old tuckshop will be open for the selling of Chook shirts from 9.30am-12pm during both of these mornings. If you are able to help sell the shirts on Thursday morning can you please contact me on 0429 304 291.

Chantelle from Kids Crossing has kindly offered to sell our chook shirts and hats (both old and new) on our behalf during the school holidays.

Every family should have received a letter asking for tuckshop volunteers for 2017. Please consider volunteering and helping out as every contribution is appreciated.

Our next P&C meeting will be Monday 13 February 2017, 6.30 in the staff room.

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**P&C News with Corryn Innes**

Thank you to everyone who supported our last disco, it was a great success and fun was held by all. The committee looks forward to making our 2017 discos bigger and better.

We are still in the process of finalising our online ordering for the school tuckshop. Parents and teachers will be able to access this system at the start of school 2017.

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**CHAPPY’S CHAT**

**With Chappy John**

**Chappy’s Corner** happens on a Tuesday Little Lunch in the School Chaplain’s room (appropriately signposted “Chappy’s Corner”!) It is a simple invitation to the younger students to come and chat and play a number of board games. There is no picking of “the best”, or of the crowd favourite; but Chappy’s Corner is a place where you are always welcome to come and have some simple fun.
All who come need to write their name on the whiteboard – some of the art resulting is fabulous! Then they play Noughts & Crosses, or Fish, or The Game Of Life, or Fiddlesticks, or do a Jigsaw, or play Drafts, or Line-Up-4, or Racing Cars, or TriOminos, or Chinese Checkers, or......It is fun with a dozen or more students in my room!

**Brekky Club** has its last days for the year next week. Tuesday we are cooking ponkiks....panecocs....pinecracks....oh you know what I mean. Come and have a social time and eat the yummiest Brekky all Term!

Chappy John

**Tennis**
On Saturday the 12th of November, the East Ayr School Tennis Teams competed at the Brisbane International School Challenge for the Northern Region at Kalynda Chase Tennis Centre in Townsville. East Ayr sent two teams of four, one team in the Green Ball Challenge and one in the Orange Ball Challenge.

The Green Ball Team of Ethan Klumpp, Henry Fallon, Brenton Flynn and Joshua Mann were the defending champions. The team played Our Lady of Lourdes from Ingham and did not drop a rubber, winning 6 – nil. Next, the team played Belgian Gardens State School. On paper, this looked like a very tough match, but the team played very well winning 5 rubbers to nil. With this win, East Ayr moved into final playing Ryan Catholic College. The boys kept their form and won, with the final score 4 rubbers to nil.

Faith Taylor, Julia Neal, Jack Kiehne and Caitlin McDonnell defeated Ryan Catholic College winning 4 rubbers to nil with two drawn matches. The team then played St Clare’s Catholic School from Townsville putting in a strong performance to win 6 rubbers to nil. In the final, East Ayr played Annandale State School, and with their confidence up they won 6 rubbers to nil.

East Ayr State School will now send two teams to Brisbane for Brisbane International Schools Challenge, one in green ball and one in orange. Congratulations and good luck!

**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.

**SCHOOL BANKING NEWS**

**Banking Begins – Term 1 - Week 3 - Thursday 9th February 2017**

**Rewards**
The final reward orders have been placed and they should arrive just before school finishes for the year. Commonwealth Bank has recently received a high volume of orders for reward items, if there are any delays, reward items will be distributed during the first few weeks of term 1.

**Electronic Records**
All electronic tokens will carry over into the 2017 school year. This means that if you had 9 tokens at the end of 2016 and were unable to order a reward, the first time you bank with school banking next year would tally 10 tokens and make you eligible to order a reward item. There will be a newsletter distributed early in Term 1 that will contain information about the 2017 rewards.

10 deposits = 10 tokens = A Reward

**Opening A Youth Saver Account**
If you wish to sign up for school banking over the holidays there are three ways to get started:

1. Sign up Online – log in to netbank.com.au
2. In a Branch – visit the local branch with identification for you and your child.
3. Over the phone – by calling 132221 and opening a Youthsaver account over the phone.

**Thankyou**
I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to the school banking coordinators who have helped out this year. Rosalie Kelly, Michelle Gosper, Donna Laidlow, Renai Williams, Corryn Innes, Natasha Becke, Michelle Oats, Anne Moloney, Julie Kelly and Donna Mann have all volunteered their time, to ensure that the school banking job is completed. This is a volunteer position and your children would not have had the opportunity to bank without people like this! So, on behalf of your child and the school I would like to say a big thank you for your time and efforts!

School Banking is now finished for the 2016 school year. We will begin banking again during week 3 of the first term – Thursday 9th February 2017. Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas! Enjoy your festive break.

Neva Neal
School Banking Coordinator