## Issue 7: 18 May 2016

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**We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land – the Juru people. We pay our respects to elders both past, present. We believe we can walk together for a better future.**

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**PRINCIPAL: Helen McCullough**

Dear Parents/Carers and Community

Congratulations to the Year 3 and Year 5 students who recently sat the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The students were well relaxed and enthusiastic throughout the 3 day testing schedule. It was excellent to hear the students talking positively about their NAPLAN responses after they had finished. It was excellent to see full attendance in these year levels each day. We are very proud of these students and thank each parent/carer and teacher and support staff for supporting the testing last week.

I would also like to thank all members of staff who contributed in the background to ensure that my accountabilities are fulfilled. A great deal of invisible support goes into our school daily which often includes some late nights and early mornings. Thank you to my staff who assisted – you know who you are!

Each parent will receive a report from the NAPLAN testing for their child. Our school also receives several reports that enable us to look at the whole picture of our students and the focus areas of strengths and areas of improvement (this then informs our Annual Implementation Plan in the 2017). NAPLAN is a point in time snapshot of student progress in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9.

We look forward to receiving these in the future. The preparation of students for these tests does not necessarily rely on practising multiple tests beforehand. Much research now indicates that the best way to improve student learning and NAPLAN results lies within the delivery and learning of the Australian Curriculum. This is good news and our school is doing a great job in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum, more importantly, our students are thriving in their learning.

By the time this newsletter is distributed we would have farewelled and welcomed home our Year 6 students from their Leadership Camp. The Leadership Camp this year was a 3 day adventure at Seaforth. The purpose...
of the camp is to engage and develop confidence and leadership skills of our Year 6 students. We decided to have this camp earlier than in previous years and we are looking forward to hearing about the adventures of Year 6. Thank you to Mrs Cathcart, Mrs Boland, Mr Rogers, Mrs Coe and Mr Kiloh and a number of parent helpers for assisting with the organisation of this learning experience for our students.

D Block is currently fenced off and work has commenced to refurbish the learning areas in this block. This building has been made possible through an additional allocation of funding to our school. The classrooms have been designed to ensure that each are the same, each have the right connections and equipment for 21st Century Teaching and Learning. The anticipated work completion falls within the June/July holiday period. In the meantime, thank you to the removal team, students and teachers for your assistance in temporarily moving our classes to their locations while the work occurs. Teaching and Learning for these classes is the priority and it was excellent to see this continue throughout the move.

### COMING SOON! In 2017, Prep becomes compulsory. We are holding a PREP OPEN Day on Friday 3 June from 9am-11am in our School Hall. This is for parents/kinders and children of Prep Age next year (born 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012). Our team has collected and gathered a number of great things to assist parents/students to prepare for school. At this day, we will explain the enrolment process and the transition programs and days that will be coming up in Terms 3 and 4. We look forward to seeing you there! We look forward to meeting you all. All children must be supervised by an adult. Kindies and Playgroups have also been informed and will talk with their parents about this. If you have any questions, the school contacts for PREP 2017 are myself, (Helen McCullough / Principal) or Linda Scott (Deputy Principal).

### Reading At Home

Reading with expression is an important skill as it makes the reader aware of character feelings and emotions, types of events and allows them to interpret the tone of the text. Reading with expression assists with comprehension. When reading to your child, emphasise parts of the text and character speech with expression and discuss why you did it. You could even read a short part of the text aloud, without expression, and ask your child if it was interesting and what they could do to make the text more engaging. Have them read it back to you with expression and discuss the difference. Reading without expression can make the reading uninteresting, for both the reader and the listener!

**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)

### Interschool Sport

The first carnival day is this Friday 20 May. Permission notes have been sent out and should have been returned. If your child has not returned their note it must be returned tomorrow, Thursday 19 May 2016.

### District X Country

On Friday 6 May a number of students competed at the Burdekin District Cross Country. Our students tried their best and were great representatives of East Ayr. While not eligible for the NQ Trials due to their age group, we would like to congratulate the following place getters for their effort at the district trials.

- **Chloe Hook** 1st Place
- **Lacy Horan** 3rd Place
- **Shaye Malaponte** 4th Place

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the NQ Trials on Tuesday 24 May in Townsville.

- Charley Ruskin 4th Place
- Kayla Byers 5th Place
- Damon Pitcher 1st Place

Good luck at the NQ Trials.

### P&C News with Corryn Innes

Thank you to all parents who helped at the school disco and volunteered time to sell gifts at the Mother’s Day stall. A combined total of over $1800.00 was raised at these two events. This money raised will go directly back into the school to support the learning and development of our students.

The disco was a great night. Feedback from both students and parents has been positive and has provided us with some ideas and improvements for the next disco. The P&C are still in the planning stage for the next disco that will be later in the term. We will be in touch with those parents who nominated to help at the next disco in the week leading up to it. Congratulations to Pacey Horan who won the lucky door prize.

Fun Run donations are still being finalised. We will have a total in next issue of the newsletter.

We are still looking for helpers to help out at both the 3-6 (17th June) and P-2 (24th June) athletics carnivals. There will be a variety of jobs on the two days ranging from setting up, helping out with some of the activities and selling food and drink. The P&C are still working out some details for these days in regards to selling food and drinks and volunteers. If you are available to help out on either of these days can you please send a note to the office addressed to the P&C re: athletics carnival and we will be in touch leading up to the carnivals.

Have a good week

Corryn

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**Kind regards**

Helen McCullough
Principal
**STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS**

PA  Emma Booth  
PB  Isabella Fitzgerald  
PC  Bailey Hudson  
P1D  Shila Horan  
1A  Jarvis Dowson  
1B  Shayanna Douglas  
1C  Ethan Thompson  
2A  Prudence Barbagallo  
2B  Jax Tunis  
2C  Lincoln Newman  
3A  Elizabeth Ellison  
3B  Jaxon Setter  
3C  Bradley Cahill  
4A  Caitlin Kross  
4B  Lucas Hutley  
4C  Macey Watson  
5A  Tahlia Morello  
5B  Cooper Horan  
5C  Branden Laidlow  
6A  Remy Haller  
6B  Terry Connors  
6C  Jack Malas  

**CLASS AWARDS**

PA  Mitchell Jones  
PB  Addison Kelly  
PC  Anthony Elsley  
P1D  Millie Henderson  
1A  Dylan O’Shea  
1B  Lucas Galbraith  
1C  Rylan Peters  
2A  Ruby Jenkins  
2B  Colt Fabbro  
2C  Addison Ellis  
3A  Nicholas Tait  
3B  Charlie Conaway  
3C  India Devow  
4A  Mikayla McDonnell  
4B  Joshua Piva  
4C  Jarvis Cornford  
5A  Blake Jorgensen  
5B  Ethan Klumpp  
5C  Mia Kelly  
6A  Joshua Ferrando  
6B  Mystique Heron  
6C  Aidan Calligaro  

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**CHAPPY’S CHAT With Chappy John**

**What’s Next?**

Our participation in the local interschool Cross Country competition is at an end. Mind you, although only two of our runners gained ribbon-winning fame, I still applaud everyone’s hearty effort on the day. There was a slight breeze, but in the middle of the trees, where I was stationed, there was none, and in the sun it was HOT!! Around the corner and through the trees came our East Ayr runners, all with a smile and a determination to finish. Well done!

NAPLAN for our year 3 and 5’s has also come and gone – well done to all students - you gave it your best! At our school photos day we certainly had smiles, and some groovy moves at the school disco. So what’s next?

In fact our school has things happening this week; we have camp for our year 6’s; sports carnival on Friday for years 5 & 6; and Thursday Brekky for everyone! Last week our first Thursday Brekky was a great success, with over 50 students eating in the hall at any one time as the crowd moved through. Thank you to all the Peer Mediator helpers, who did a great job feeding all the hungry students!

Chappy John

**NAPLAN**

Well done to all students in Year 3 & 5 who participated in last week’s NAPLAN. All test booklets have been packaged up and mailed to be marked independently from the school. A NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later in the year.

**Annual Burdekin Festival of Arts**

This event will be held from Monday 22 August to Thursday 25 August 2016.

Information on this event will be sent home next week.

Students who are interested in entering the visual arts and writing section will need to return their permission form and entry money as soon as possible.

Students will be supervised in their lunch hours completing their entries.

**Attendance**

Here at East Ayr School attendance is very important and our aim is to reach a 96% attendance rate for 2016. As this is a longer term with 11 weeks, attendance can become an issue as
we move into the half way mark of the term. Children can become tired and especially if they are doing outside of school activities like sports, eisteddfods, dancing etc.

TIPS:

- Make sure your child understands why school is important and everyday counts
- Don’t give in to your child wanting to stay home even on sports or extra curriculum days
- Show your child that you are interested in what they have done in school
- Get ready for school the night before
- Arrange appointments before or after school or during the school holidays
- Set your alarm and your child’s alarm clock. See who can beat the clock!
- Attend breaky club on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at school

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

Competition Time
Don’t forget about the Commonwealth Bank competition that is currently running with a family trip to explore Australia Zoo on offer. To be in the draw, you have to make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 and you’ll automatically receive entry into the competition for a chance to win. This is a nationwide competition that started in Term 1. See your information pack for more details.

On top of this, we are also running an in house deposit blitz competition for East Ayr $5 only. Those students who bank THREE times between Week 6 - Week 9 will go into the draw to win a Dollarmites prize pack. All eligible students will have their names go into a hat and the winner will be drawn on parade during week 10. The prize pack will be shown on parade over the coming weeks.

Rewards Orders
There has been a hold up with our last rewards order, but be assured that rewards will be distributed as soon as the order arrives. We are placing our next reward order in week 8 – after banking on Thursday 2nd June. Look out for your student number in the next newsletter to check if you have reached 10 tokens and are eligible to order a reward.

Available Rewards
Reward items for Term 2 include:

- Dollarmites Money Box – 2014
- ET DVD – 2015
- Galaxy Glider - 2015
- Intergalactic Rocket - 2015
- Outerspace Savers Money Box – 2015
- Flying Snake Trail Wildlife Write Set
- Mud Splat Handball – New
- Outback Pat Bag Tag – New

School Carpark
There is an area of the school grounds next to the school residence designated as a “Staff Carpark”. The aim of allowing staff cars to park in this area is to bring them off Ross Street allowing additional parking places for parents and visitors. If the 60 staff vehicles were parked outside from 8:00am – 4:00pm there wouldn’t be any space close to the school for parents and visitors to park or drop children off.

The Staff Carpark is for the use of East Ayr School Staff only at all times. This area is also OUT OF BOUNDS for students. This is a safety rule that has been in place for many years as cars and delivery vehicles use this access throughout the school day.

Students/parents are not permitted to enter or leave the school grounds via the Staff Carpark. There are a number of entry and exit points for pedestrian traffic to use in Ross Street, James Street and Davenport Street.

Should parents have a special need to drop a student into the school

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

2017 Prep Open Day
On Friday 3 June we will be holding a 2017 Prep Open Day. This will be held in and around the Hall. There will be a variety of activities, enrolment information and a visit to the prep classrooms.

The morning activities will be from 9:00am – 11:00am and everyone is welcome.

If you know of any children who will be commencing Prep in 2017 please inform them of this event.

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.
Queensland Week

Family FUN & FITNESS EXPO

Food and Drink ON SALE

Prizes and GIVEAWAYS

Jumping Castle
Merry-go-Round
Face Painting
Rockwall

Rides
Come and Try Activities
Demonstrations
Health, Fitness and Wellbeing Information
& much more

Special Guest
SALLY BROUWER
Former Australian PT of the Year

Sunday, June 5th
9.30am - 12.30pm Anzac Park, Ayr

For more information go to www.burdekin.qld.gov.au

Proudly supported by
Burdekin Shire Council
Queensland Government