



Community Newsletter – Issue #3 – Term 1 - 2018

Dear Parents/Community Members,

It is fantastic to see our students attending and learning every day. We have seen our youngest learners start to read, write and demonstrate numeracy skills. This is fantastic to see and equally great to see that students are having a go and excited to come to school each and every day. Our Prep students are settling in well and our routines are well established. It is also great to see our year 6 students buddying up with the preps to discuss and co-produce posters about the “Hamilton Island Way”. I’ve seen a remarkable improvement already in our reading and writing, in particular the year 3/4 class has produced some beautiful narrative writing. Every student should feel proud of their efforts.

Every student in our school is important to us and we are committed to providing personalised education suited to their needs. The very first step in that is maximising learning time and we believe that if students attend every day and every learning minute of the day we are improving their opportunities for academic success. Students can come to school from 8.30am.

The Hamilton Island Way is 100% attendance.

Just a little bit late doesn’t seem much but did you know.....

He/She is only missing just.....	That equals.....	Which is	And over 13 years of schooling that’s
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
½ an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per Year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years

Lastly, the staff at Hamilton Island State School take the issue of bullying and cyber safety very seriously and have adopted a range of proactive strategies to deal with bullying behaviour. These strategies are outlined in the school's Responsible Behaviour Plan. Anti-bullying behaviours and cyber safety are reinforced through our behaviour "Guppies", regular well-being classes and various programs throughout the school year. Students are encouraged to approach their classroom teacher, the adults on playground duty or myself if they feel they are being bullied or have witnessed any bullying. Respecting ourselves and others are paramount here at school and no student should feel like they are alone or helpless.

Kind regards,

Rob McCullough
Principal



How can I help my child prepare for the NAPLAN tests?

Year 3 and 5 students will soon participate in the annual National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests to assess their skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests will be conducted in all state and non-state schools across the country from 15 - 17 May 2018. An individual NAPLAN report for each child will be sent home later this year. Results provide additional feedback for parents, carers and teachers on how students are progressing in key curriculum areas.

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. By sitting the NAPLAN tests students are gaining valuable skills and experiences in preparation for the new environment of senior external examinations.

Help your child prepare for NAPLAN by reassuring them that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and reminding them on the day to simply try their best.

If you have any questions about your child's preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

Reading at Home

At Hamilton Island State School we are modelling behaviours that 'good readers' do. Good readers often don't realise that they are doing these things. Our good reading behaviour starts with decoding.

As proficient readers, we use a range of strategies to work out unfamiliar words. Surprisingly, sounding out a word is often less helpful than other strategies. The most common decoding strategies in use are:

- Syllabification (break the word up into the syllables – e.g. tap / ping = tapping)
- Look for a smaller word inside (e.g. important – I can see the words port and ant)
- Look for the base word (e.g. batting – I can see the base word bat)
- Say the first sound, read on and re-read
- Flip the sound (e.g. is it ow as in cow or snow?)
- Look at the picture
- Check the punctuation (often the question starters of who, what, where, when, why and how are tricky words and a clue to solve these may be to look at the question mark at the end)
- Stretch the word out and piece it back together
- Think about a word that would make sense

If your child is stuck on a 'tricky' word, encourage them to use a range of these strategies to work it out. Good readers don't rely on just one!

Spelling and its role in literacy development

Research has found that spelling, reading, writing and comprehension are all closely linked. Teaching our students the strategies, rules and concepts to grow their spelling and vocabulary knowledge benefits them in all aspects of their learning, as well as in their everyday life. Learners who feel confident with letters and word patterns are able to read and comprehend more complex texts. They also have the necessary language tools to better convey their own ideas through both written and verbal communication.

The relationship between written words and sounds can seem arbitrary and difficult for many learners. But building a strong foundational knowledge of the links between forms, letters, sounds and meaning is essential for students to become confident communicators.

Our aim with spelling this year is to ensure our students are transferring their spelling knowledge into their reading and writing, and most importantly having fun with it. Each class will tailor spelling lists which are based on the Australian Curriculum, linked to our units of work and lessons will focus on definitions, usages and origins.

Spellodrome and Reading Eggs will play an important part in our spelling program this year - spellodrome.com.au and readingeggs.com.au

Proserpine SHS Year 6 Transition Dates 2018

First Transition Day - 7 June (Thursday) Cannonvale State School + Bloomsbury + Islands

Year 6 Parent Nights - 9 August (Thursday), 18 October (Thursday)

Second Transition Day - 30 August (Thursday) All students

Final Transition Day - 10 December (Monday) All students
(More information to come)

P&C News

Every Monday between 8.30 and 9.00 is now the designated time for buying uniforms. If you need to purchase uniforms outside this time please ring the school to arrange a suitable time. Additionally, we are looking for 2nd hand uniforms to be stored here at the school for emergency use. If you have any old uniforms that are not needed, please bring them in and drop them off to Mr McCullough.

Tuckshop

A reminder that every Wednesday morning before class time, our P&C will be taking tuckshop orders. Unfortunately we cannot take any late orders. The tuckshop will be delivered 1st break on Thursday.

Tuckshop Menu
Sausage Roll
Pie (any type)
Vegemite Scroll
Bacon and Cheese Scroll
Ham and Cheese Sandwich/Roll
Chicken and Cheese Sandwich/Roll
Egg and Lettuce Sandwich/Roll
Salad Sandwich/Roll
Quiche – Spinach and Cheese / Cheese and Bacon

Year 5/6 Class News

In English over the past fortnight we have been creating a fantasy world that includes heroes and villains as well as mythical creatures.

In Art, with the use of plasticine, we have created our own sculptures with the aim of making our final pieces from clay.

Word problems, fractions, percentages and data have been our focus in Mathematics recently. Additionally we have started different warm ups to help us with recall and remembering multiplication and division facts.

Science is starting to get rather interesting because we have been investigating the use of camouflage in the natural world. I wonder what is install for us next.

Olivia Murphy – School Captain

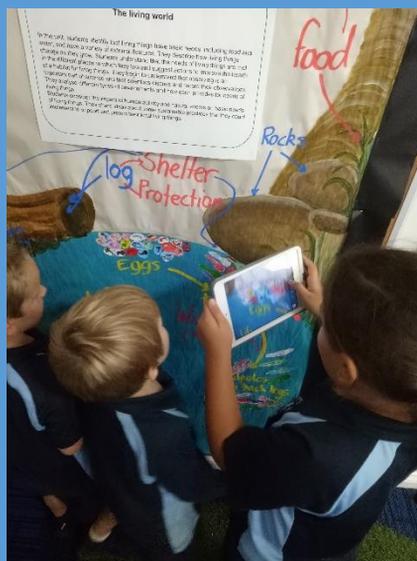
3/4 Class News

In English the 3/4 classes has been producing awesome stories. The class has had to write an additional chapter to the children's classic "The Twits". Additionally the class has started looking at figurative language in poetry.

During Mathematics the class has begun it's journey into the field of fractions. This area of maths is massive and they have started investigating simple fractions, specialised terminology and the parts that make up a fraction.

In History they are studying about colonial Australia and what it would be like to be a child convict during that time.

Josh Marin – School Captain



Prep to Year 2 Class News

Like Mr McCullough wrote earlier, the Prep students are doing a fantastic job with their sounds and are now having a go at magic words and reading. Everyday they are learning and using new sounds through their Jolly Phonics. The year 1 and 2 students are completing their first assessments for the year. All students have been practicing rigorously for their final persuasive presentations about their favourite book character.

In Mathematics they have been focusing on everyday uses for numbers. Counting forwards and backwards, working out patterns and learning new math games are some of the ways we learn about our numbers.

Science is all about life cycles of frogs. They have been making scientific diagram about each of the stages. For some students this is their favourite time of the week.

Blake Cowley – Student Council



March

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 7	5 Swimming	6	7	8	9 Leadership Induction
WEEK 8	12 Swimming Yr5/6 Camp	13 Yr5/6 Camp	14 Yr5/6 Camp	15	16
WEEK 9	19 Swimming	20	21	22	23
WEEK 10	26 Swimming	27	28 Assembly 2.30pm	29 Swimming Carnival Last Day of Term	30 Good Friday

April / May

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Break	2	3	4	5	6
Break	9	10	11	12	13
WEEK 1	16 1 st Day of Term	17	18	19	20
WEEK 2	23	24	25 ANZAC DAY	26 P&C Meeting – 3.15pm	27
WEEK 3	30	1	2 Cricket Sessions	3 Cricket Sessions	4 Cricket Carnival
WEEK 4	7	8	9	10	11
WEEK 5	14	15	16	17	18



**HELP KEEP OUR ISLAND HOME
BEAUTIFUL!**

**GET INVOLVED IN CLEAN UP
AUSTRALIA DAY:**

**MEET LAURA AT SHADY CREEK LAWN TO BE
GIVEN EQUIPMENT AND AN ASSIGNED
CLEAN UP AREA.**

WHEN: SUNDAY 4TH MARCH

TIME: 8:00AM-10:00AM

**MEETING POINT: SHADY CREEK LAWN
(OPPOSITE AUSTRALIA THE GIFT)**

ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT LAURA:

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