Mrs Rayner
Thank you and congratulations to all of our parents who attended our Parent and Teacher afternoon. I thoroughly enjoyed the conversations I had with parents and I could see the great interest and engagement you have with your child’s learning. I believe this was the most successful and productive Parent and Teacher event we have held. I was also very pleased with the feedback from parents and how informative the meetings with their child’s teachers were. I also found it inspiring to see how proud parents were of their child’s achievements.

If you have not as yet collected your child’s report card please make a time to meet with your child’s teacher(s) or a Deputy Principal. We are only too happy to see you.

It is an absolute pleasure to work closely with you, our parents, to ensure every child’s improved educational outcomes. I look forward to seeing you at school. Remember you are welcome at our school, in our classrooms at any time.

Ms Seden
It was great to meet with quite a number of parents/carers attending the recent Parent/Teacher interviews afternoon on 22 July 2014.

Our staff welcomed the opportunity to meet with you all and appreciate the interest you have in your child/children’s reports about their achievements in their current studies.

Thank you also to those parents who weren’t able to come on the day but have been following up with appointments since.

This year we are encouraging the Year 10 students to seek local Work Experience opportunities for their week of work experience which will be during the week beginning 15 – 19 September. Unfortunately, funding that was available in previous years to take some students to a Cairns placement is no longer available.

If you would like your son/daughter to access a work placement outside of Cooktown, please contact Mr Sam Bann (Pathways HOD) at the school to discuss. We would also appreciate any employer contacts or possible job opportunities that you are able to help us with. We will be conducting our SET Plan process with the Year 10s.

Year 7-12 students attended a very successful Careers and Education Expo at the Events Centre on Tuesday 29 July 2014. Our students were able to investigate a range of possible career prospects and interact with a number of people working in those pathways. Our students received great feedback from all the visitors at the expo about their participation and exemplary conduct during their attendance. The follow up for the Year 10s in particular is when they will going through the SET Plan process and preparation for senior subject selection. It was also valuable for the Year 12s who need to be aware of what opportunities are ahead of them and be prepared.

This term we are conducting our secondary assembly at the undercover tuckshop area on Wednesday mornings at 9 am. We welcome all parents to come along. Award presentations to acknowledge the students’ achievements are conducted every fortnight. We also celebrate the Year level who has outstanding attendance and the trophy for this has been successfully held by Year 8s for nine consecutive weeks. Congratulations to them on such a fantastic effort!
This term is a very important time for the Year 12s. They will need a lot of parent encouragement and support with their final studies. We want all our Year 12s to receive a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE), receive a good OP score to gain entry into University, as well as be able to complete all their Certificate qualifications. Mr Dean Whitson (Senior Academic HOD) is preparing students for the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) test which will be held 2nd and 3rd September. Please contact Ms Cindy Seden (Secondary Deputy Principal) if you would like to discuss if your son/daughter is on track to receive a QCE. Year 12s should be ensuring they complete all their assessment on time and study for their exams. This is the time to be doing the best they can possibly achieve, it is not a period to be ‘winding down’. Year 12 parents should contact their son/daughter's teachers if you have any concerns about their progress.

Mr Ottone
The Junior Secondary sector welcomed three new students to their classes this term and it is great to see all classes preparing solidly for their next year of schooling. The year 6 and 7 students from both our school and the Southern Cape Cluster will begin to delve further into their transition to High School in 2015 as the term and semester progress.

Leadership has a huge bearing on student success in the Junior Secondary sector and it is with pleasure that I have the opportunity to announce that two of our 2015 year 7 High School students will be representing Cooktown State School at an upcoming Minecraft Leadership camp. A huge congratulations goes out to Tom Privett and Harrison Roberts who wrote an application along with a large number of students from the entire Cairns District and were selected to attend the prestigious leadership camp held at the School of Distance Education in Cairns on August 15 and 16.

Mr Mitchell
At the commencement of Term 3, it was with pleasure that we welcomed 15 additional students to our Primary School. The Primary School saw a fantastic representation of family at the Student, Parent and Teacher interviews last Tuesday afternoon. All Parents interviewed were very supportive of the increase in student reporting times throughout the year. Next week, the Administration Team plan to visit Hopevale families to discuss student progress. On August 5 – 7, the Year 5, 6 and 7 students will travel to Mareeba for a 3 day Camp. Congratulations to all staff and students for their fundraising efforts leading up to the trip.

Choir’s Success at the Cairns Eisteddfod
On Monday June 23, thirty-one Cooktown State School children in years 3-6 traveled to Cairns to represent their school in the Cairns Eisteddfod. On the way we stopped in at Mareeba State Schools’ 3M class to visit Miss Mcburnie (last year’s choir teacher). They sung beautifully for her and her new class (and Blue!). In Cairns we played at Muddies, went out for dinner and stayed in hotel rooms. What an exciting experience. On Tuesday the children stood proudly in their choir uniform on stage and were judged in four categories. They achieved the following; Sacred Chorus- Alleluia We Will Sing- second place ($50 cash) Unison Chorus- Hey Brother - highly commended Folk Chorus- drunken sailor- second place ($50 cash) Junior chief chorus-Fireflies- highly commended.

Well done to the students' commitment to lunchtime practices and to all of the adults involved in making this happen, especially our music teacher Kathy Lawfer and Evelyn Henry, our wonderful volunteer conductor.
Chappy’s Adventure

Semester 2 this year is going to look very different for our family as we prepare to hit the road for 6 months bringing chaplaincy to six schools far north, and western Queensland. As part of a pilot program, we will be spending a week at a time in each school, beginning with Greenvale State School before moving on to Mt Garnet and Mt Surprise and then a long way West to Boulia, Bedourie and Urundangi. Most of these schools have never had a “Chappy” before and because of their remote nature, it can be difficult to find people who are able to commit to being there full time. It will definitely be a challenge for us in many ways, but we are looking forward to time as a family and hopefully to being sharpened up and refreshed ready to come back home to Cooktown. We will miss seeing you all, but we will be back!

Secondary School Cross Country Championships

Last week Steve Johnson (Yr10) and Nick Harvey (Yr11), travelled to Toowoomba to compete in the State Secondary Cross Country Championships. What an eye opener!! Teams had massage table set up and Triathlon bikes on stands for their athlete’s to warm up it was all very serious! The size of the teams from down south were large compared to the Peninsula team.

The Peninsula team were happy to welcome the boys and some great friendships have been formed. In total there were 12 separate regions competing. The weather got down to a crisp -1 degrees and got as high as 19 degrees. This still didn’t stop the boys going for a quick dip in the pool at night! (Picture a cat hitting a pool of water!)

While the boys had studied the course on Google Earth it was quite deceiving when they arrive, as there were several steep hills involved (lucky for that Grassy Hill training!) It is very hard to compare PB’s in Cross Country as courses and weather can vary dramatically. However Steve was happy with his time of 15.30 and finishing in the middle of the group. The winner of Steve’s age group competes at the Worlds School Cross County Championships - this is an indication of how steep the competition was! Unfortunately Nick felt the cold and struggled with his breathing in the cold air. Both boys say it was a great experience and this year will be used as a building block for next year.

Thank-you to all the wonderful people who bought tickets and donated prizes so the boys could get down there. We really do live in a great community!!

At the end of Term 2 the staff surprised the students with their own dress up day.

Staff were encouraged to dress up in their favourite sporting pastime.

We had a great range - Surfers, boxers, motor cross riders, divers, fisherwomen, yogis’, golfers, just to name a few.

The students were eager to find out what was going on and some great conversations were had.

Some students were surprised to find out that teachers are pretty cool and have a real life ………………….
Environmental Club

The Students from the Environmental Club have reaped in a fantastic crop of sweet potatoes and turmeric this term. If you have ever searched in the ground for Sweet Potatoes you will know how much fun it is - hence the big smile on Jasmine and Shaylee’s faces!

The students decided to cook these up accompanied by some home made mayonnaise and fresh Spanish Mackerel donated by Miss Taylor.

Sienna and Katie were kind enough to come up and give some to the office ladies!!

Year 10 Science

This term Year 10 Science students are studying a unit called Moving Along. The class are exploring speed, acceleration and force.

This week we planned, conducted and evaluated an experiment measuring the effect of mass on time and distance.

Each group were required to vary their mass and measure how far and for how long each dynamics trolley travelled.

This experiment was a great chance for students to practice writing scientific reports for their upcoming assessment.

School Wide Positive Behaviour

This term the SWPBS Focus Skills lessons will focus on some very important behaviours that not only set students up for success at school, but also in the wider community. So far this term we have revisited our school expectations that students are safe, respectful learners. We have challenged students to discuss what a learner is, not only in class, but in other school settings and in the home and community. We have discussed our expectations for safety, both in class, at lunch times and other times. This week we are looking at respect. It is something that is in a constant state of give and take and can be as simple as using polite manners, helping others or taking care of yourself.

By learning about these expectations, students are setting themselves up for success at school and research indicates that success at school has significant positive effects of life expectancy, income and happiness.

For the rest of this term we will cover these topics:
- Be in the right place at the right time
- Be prepared (books, food, shoes, hats, writing materials and books)
- Own your learning (learning is hard work, students need to put a lot of effort in at home as well as school)
- Every day matters (imagine coming into a conversation half way through, it’s hard to understand what’s going on, when your child misses school, lessons have moved on and they have missed vital learning)
- Wise use of time (work smarter, not harder)
- Polite respectful manners
- Safety and risk taking (choosing safe behaviours, especially on holidays)

We look forward to sharing more information with you about these topics over the next weeks.
To be eligible to receive an OP, students must: be eligible is recommended as it will give them more options in the future. Even if your child is not currently planning to study at university, sitting the QCS Test and remaining OP rank for school leavers applying to university. FPs are additional rank orders that supplement an OP. A student’s OP shows their position in a statewide rank order based on their overall achievement in Authority poetry, graphs, tables, maps, mathematical and scientific data, cartoons and artistic works. What are OP’s and FP’s? In each testpaper, students are asked to respond to a variety of stimulus materials, such as prose passages, two Multiple Choice papers, a Short Response paper, and a Writing Task of 600 words. The QCS Test consists of four papers: students are preparing for the QCS Test all the time and in every subject. spelling, punctuation and grammar, calculating, analysing and hypothesising to name a few. This means that The CCEs are generic skills that students work with across their senior subjects, such as using correct Common Curriculum Elements (CCEs). Particular knowledge of specific subjects is not tested. Instead, the QCS Test assesses achievement in the 49 students are eligible to attend the Combined Primary and High School Regional Athletics Carnival in Cairns at Barlow Park on Sunday 17th and Monday 18th July. Please be mindful that Parents will need to make arrangements for their own child/children to attend this events. Can parents please let the school know ASAP if your child can go as nomination needs to be in by Monday afternoon. A full list will be published in next week’s Local Newspaper.

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<th>Isabella</th>
<th>Jake Lee</th>
<th>Ra-Shaan Gibson</th>
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<td>Veronica</td>
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Movie Night
On the 19th of July, we held a movie night at school. On show was The Lego Movie and I’m pleased to say that the night was a huge success! This was a fantastic opportunity for our Year 6 students to step into their leadership roles and I’m happy to say they really shined. They ran the event with such efficiency and professionalism, even Donald Trump would have been proud! By the end of the evening, we had raised over $550 for the years 5/6/7 camp! So on behalf of myself and the wonderful students of 6L, I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the students, staff and parents who assisted in making this event a fun and memorable evening.
Digital Media News

Cooktown P-12 State School has a new Web Site. It is full of lots of useful information and newsletters can be downloaded from there as well. Just type cooktownss.eq.edu.au in your browser to get connected.

The Cooktown P-12 State School P&C has joined Facebook. Be sure to look the up and like the page if you are on Facebook. P&C is an essential part of any school. The page can keep you in touch and is full of current events.

Rollicking Readers

Our Thursday morning rollicking readers have been rolling along fantastically. Mr Mitchell made us all laugh and laugh as he read The Pedlar. Lana played the role of the pedlar with lots of hats on her head and the children in the audience were the naughty monkeys. What cheeky monkeys they were as they took the sleeping pedlar’s hats!

Mr Ottone read a very different sort of story. The Water Tower had everyone thinking hard and trying to find clues in the illustrations. It was a very thought provoking and eerie story. Mr Ottone is going to bring the follow up book so we can see if our ideas of what happened match the author Gary Crew’s ideas.

Join us on Thursday mornings at 8:30 in the library. It is a great way to start the day.

If you would be Rollicking reader please come and see us in the library.

CDCC Outside School Hours Care Program

Cooktown District Community Centre has received Provider Approval and Service Approval by the Department of Education, Training and Employment to open an Outside School Hours Care and Vacation Care program.

The Outside School Hours Care Program started on the 14th of July and will operate from 3pm to 6pm daily and our Vacation Care program will run from 8am till 6pm.

The centre will also be open on Pupil Fee Days from 8am till 6pm. The Fees are $18 for After School care and $50 for Vacation Care and Pupil Free days. Many families will be entitled to the CCB and CCR making the service even more affordable.

At After School Care the children will meet Educators at a designated area at their school, have their names marked off a roll and will walk or be transported in CDCC Vehicles to the OSHC at 11 Charles St. During the afternoon, children are offered a nutritious afternoon snack, the opportunity to complete any homework, and to participate in a range of age appropriate activities until parents or carers collect them.

Educators will work closely with children to develop a program that is based on their interests and skill level. Throughout all the components of care, the CDCC OSHC Educators will provide a high level of supervision at all times. While there is a focus on fun and recreation, clear Centre boundaries will be set to ensure the safety of each and every child.

For further information or enrolment forms please call the CDCC OSHC Co-ordinator Tegwyn on 4069 6098 or 0458770842

Prep Enrolments 2015

Prep enrolment packs will be available at the end of this term. Some important dates to remember for our first lot of Prep Meet and Greets

Thursday September 11 –3.30 –4.30
Wednesday September 17th 5.30-6.30

Additional staff will be on hand to engage with children so parents can talk freely with the Prep Teachers.