18 August 2016

Principals Report

Good afternoon Parents, Students and Families,

With term 3 now on the downhill run, our students in all classes will be in the midst of completing assessment pieces in preparation for the completion of their units of study. It is great to see such enthusiasm emanating from our students as well the processes that our kids are putting into place both at home and at school to ensure that they are achieving the greatest academic outcomes possible. Keep up the great work everyone!

Our students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will receive their NAPLAN Parent/Guardian reports in the last week of school this term. This report will provide Parents and Carers with information upon how students achieved in the fields of writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar, reading and numeracy and will provide a comparison to Queensland and Australia’s average achievement in these fields.

Earlier this year, students from years 8-12 participated in a number of Australian competitions. These competitions were based on Geography, Science and Maths with the History competition to be implemented later this term. Some provisional results have returned displaying some exceptional outcomes with these competition assessments. I will look forward to sharing the achievements of these students with the school community in the coming weeks!

In the final week of this term, our year 10 students will embark upon a practical work experience opportunity. These students will enter a place of work for the full week to provide an incredible insight into the working environment, build industry skills and be granted with the unique opportunity to use practical experience to support the subject selection process for their final senior years of education. Please contact Cindy Seden on 40 820 222 if you have any questions regarding work experience.

Finally, our year 6 students will depart our school on Tuesday morning and spend the remainder of the week at Daradgee Environmental Centre on school camp. This wonderful opportunity will provide the participants with experiences to test their problem-solving skills, build resilience and utilise effective communication techniques in an exciting yet challenging physical environment. Have a great time year 6!

Have a fantastic fortnight. I look forward to seeing the school community at our upcoming community and school-based events!

Robotics for all

Students from across the Cooktown region were able to attend the first of what is to be a regular robotics workshops hosted by Cooktown State School. We had a total of 20 year 4 – 6 students from Cooktown SS, Rossville SS, Lakeland SS, Cairns School of Distance Education and Endeavour Christian College attend the workshop.

The Cairns school of Distance Education and the Queensland Society for Information Technology in Education helped our school by promoting robotics kits for schools that did not have any and two great robotics mentors Bruce and mark. Teacher Mr Herman Rijken, the robotics club mentor was presenter for the day.

The students were introduced to the wonderful possibilities that robots and designs can bring to them. For many of the students attending, this was their first time ever using robotics kits and learning to code.
The main focus for the day was to get students to solve a problem. The task given to them was to build as fast as possible a robot from the basic blueprint given. All groups attending did create a robot by the end of the day and started to try and improve on the design. Each of the robots were then put through their paces in testing to see which robot was the fastest. The competition was very close with only 0.2 seconds separating first from fourth. On the day, Cooktown State School was declared the winner.

It is safe to say that the robotics workshop was a success and schools that participated are looking forward to future events.

**Printing for success**

We would like to say thanks to the P & C for their generous donation of 1 of the 2, 3D printers at Cooktown State School. The school is now able to provide students with a new way to learn skills and design on computers. Students who choose it in years 11 & 12 will be able to create projects using a computer and then print off their creations using the 3D printers. These printers have enabled the school to offer some new and exciting opportunities for students. The robotics club has already started plans to make custom robots using this printer.

These printers are capable of making anything that has been designed on a computer using CAD software. Currently the years 11’s are working on 3D models and they will be assessed on those models by having them printed on our 3D printers. One student who is studying through Distance Education was able to use the 3D printer to print the house she designed for one of her assignments. Students can make practically anything using the printers. The only limit is the imagination of the students.

The 3D printers are also available for public commission for a cost. The first community commission was finished in the past week. The 3D printer can print out objects in a single piece with the following dimensions 230mm x 230mm x 230mm. The only consideration is the time it does take to print an accurate model. The HMS Endeavour in the school Administration building took 70 Hours to create and was made from 3 different files. 3D printing is not a fast service. Jobs may take up to 72 hours from accepting the job to being finished. Anyone interested in a commission please contact Herman Rijken at the school to discuss your 3D printing requirements.

**Manual Arts News**

All students are eagerly working away on their furnishing projects in the Manual Arts room and achieving some very successful results.

Josi cheekily showing off her quality cabinet making skills on this “MakeUp Cabinet” that she designed and built. Mikel was also a great assistant for the final touches of this project.

Year 7 have started in the workshop this term. For these students we focus on their skills with hand tools before we begin large projects. We also focus on their quality of finish. Year 7 students have jumped straight in and not afraid of getting their hands dirty and they even brought with them their own creativity and designs in the small tasks that we set for them.
The following is some of their own cutting board designs;

Hannah and her cutting board. Nate’s cutting board design.

Mareeba Primary District Athletics Carnival 2016

Thursday 28th and Friday 29th of July saw a number of Cooktown boys and girls participate for the first time in the Mareeba Primary District Athletics Carnival. It was the first time that Cooktown has participated in the U10-U12 carnival and has opened up possibilities for more interschool events in the future in the larger district.

The Thursday had only those students who qualified for the high jump and 800m. While the Friday had the rest of the primary athletics team head down on an early bus trip for the remainder of the events, including the 100m, 200m, relays, shot put and long jump.

Overall Cooktown met some serious competition from the larger schools who were competing on the day but a few students managed to stand out and make their way into the Peninsular trials being held in Cairns.

These students include:

- Isabella Sabatino who placed second in the U12 girl’s shot put.
- Abbey Martin who placed third in the U11 girl’s 200m.
- Makeilla Gibson who placed second in the U10 girl’s shot put.

A big thanks must go out to all students who attended the carnival. All represented their school proudly and showed tremendous sportsmanship and school spirit cheering on their fellow team members for the duration of the day. Also big thank you to Alay White for attending the day including waking up early and returning late Friday afternoon for what was a big day in Mareeba.

Let’s celebrate our award winners

Congratulations to our Junior Secondary Students of the Week. Your efforts are much appreciated!

Keep up the great work Jessi Darvell, Ben Keegan, Angus Snell and Jake Farnan!

Congratulations to Mikel Whipper who is the P-10 attendance champion this fortnight. Mikel has not missed a single day of school this semester and can be congratulated upon his most impressive achievements at school as well as his 100% attendance record!

Well done, Mikel!!
YEAR 10 SET PLANNING & 2017 SUBJECT SELECTION

Over the past fortnight, Year 10 students have completed their SET (Senior Education and Training) Plan. A SET plan will help students:

- Think about education, training and career goals after Year 12.
- Structure their learning in Years 11 & 12 around abilities, interests and ambition.
- Decide which learning options are best to ensure students achieve their learning, further education and training, and career goals.
- Include flexible and coordinated pathway options in their course of senior study.
- Map student’s pathway to a QCE.

Before the end of Term 3, all Year 10 students will receive a printed copy of their SET plan, LUI number, subject selection handbook and parent letter outlining their child’s selected subjects. The letter will include available times for parents and students to discuss subject selection queries with staff, if required.

For more information regarding subject selection, contact Tal Mitchell or Trent Kirk

JCU VISIT

On Friday the 12th of October, Orr Thomason (Team Leader, Education Sector Engagement) and Deanne Grant from James Cook University spoke with Cooktown State School students from grades 7-11 regarding tertiary pathways. Key topics such as: HECS, financial assistance, scholarships, bridging courses, pre-requisites, ‘Uni Life’, online study & student support were discussed.

If students require any further information regarding university pathways, contact Trent Kirk (Guidance Officer).

Tantrums, fighting, refusing to cooperate? Too much yelling and stress? Like to find a better way?

Parenting doesn’t have to be this difficult. The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program offers practical tips and strategies that really do work, backed up by 30+ years of ongoing research.

The Cooktown District Community Centre is running a relaxed small Group Triple P session with other parents, on the 16/8, 30/8, 13/9 & 11/10 (9:15-11:30am). Child minding will be available upon request. Sessions are FREE!

Phone 40696098 for bookings or register by clicking on the link below

http://www.triplep-parenting.net/

SPRING RULE TEN

When the suffix ‘full’ is added to the end of a base word, one of the ‘f’s has to be dropped

Janelle paints colourful works of art.

- hope ➔ hopeful
taste ➔ taster
- cheer ➔ cheerful
use ➔ useful
- thank ➔ thankful
force ➔ forceful

Try these...
- truth ➔ peace
- play ➔ peace
dead ➔ dead
fear ➔ joy

- eg. ‘thankful’ means full of thanks

Week 5 and 6 in 3OS

Written by Natrese and Geri-Rose

We have been learning about hundreds, tens and ones in maths. We are also learning our new spelling rule this week, which is about adding ‘full’ the end of words.

We still have 2 perplex toys in our room. Whoever drops the tiny marble has to give it to the next person. They are lots of fun to play with.

Written by Natrese

In 3OS, we have been making spiders and webs because we have been reading the book Charlottes Web. We have also been talking about the High 5 rules. Our teachers have been teaching us lots of things like character traits.

From Geri Rose
Deadly Australians Visit

Australia is home to the world’s most venomous creatures. These may be found in a variety of habitats ranging from inner city (Sydney Funnel Web), central Australia (Small-scaled snake) to pristine northern beaches (Box jellyfish). Australia has some 400 venomous creatures of which 60 are capable of causing death.

All Australians should have knowledge of our venomous wildlife and an understanding of correct first-aid procedures.

“Prevention is always better than cure” though, which is why learning about the habitats of our dangerous wildlife and ways of avoiding accidental contact is so important, particularly for children.

That is why we have the Deadly Australians Program coming to Cooktown. Get your payment in to the office as soon as possible. Payment is compulsory and we do not want your children to miss out.

When: Friday 26th August
Cost: $6.00 per student

Cooktown Student Council Movie Night

When: 26 of August
$5.00 per person (includes Dinner) other food and drinks will be available for purchase.
Kung Fu Panda 3
5.30pm arrival for a 6pm start

Ride Along 2 (secondary students only) starts at 7.30pm