It is unbelievable to think that we are nearly half-way through the term.

Christine Killey
We are fortunate enough to have Christine visiting our school again in week 6. Her visit will be comprised of:

• Providing follow up information for staff from our previous training day
• Observations of the implementation of the program
  □ Providing feedback
• Modelling the implementation of different aspects of the program

On this day, a TRS teacher will be provided to ensure staff availability for the training.

Year 7 Scholarships
On Thursday, Lisa (Junior Secondary) and Frank (Principal) will be visiting our school to discuss scholarships that will be on offer for students commencing Year 7 next year. We extend the invitation to parents who would like to attend and find out more information.

SWD teacher
Next Friday, Meagan (SWD teacher) will be visiting our school to work with students in both small groups and individual (as advised by the school). If your child participates in these sessions, it does not by any means directly mean that your child is identified with learning needs; it provides another set of hands to complete activities requested by staff. If you have further questions regarding these sessions, please don’t hesitate to contact administration.

Healthy Lunch Idea- Crunchy Pita Snacks
Split pita breads in half and cut into bite-sized triangles. Place on a baking tray. Sprinkle over spices of choice and cheese.
Bake in a hot oven for 10 minutes until crisp.
Allow to cool and store in an air-tight container.
Serve with a healthy home made dip ie. Beetroot or hummus.
NAPLAN Online Pilot

Our school will be participating in the NAPLAN online pilot later in the year. Bluff State School students will also be one of the first schools in Queensland who will sit the NAPLAN testing online in 2017.

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**
Selected students will sit a series of ‘trial’ NAPLAN tests online during August. During this time, staff and students will be given an opportunity to use the model and provide feedback to DET and the QCAA of its effectiveness.

**WHEN?**
The ‘pilot’ will be conducted during August.

**WILL MY KIDS TEST RESULTS CHANGE?**
Students participating in the pilot will not be receiving grades. It is simply designed to ensure that the platform will run smoothly for a full transition in 2019.

An information session regarding NAPLAN online will be held in week 5 (Wednesday 10th August). This session will provide a range of information regarding the pilot program and give an opportunity to ask questions.

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**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

Brade showed a positive attitude towards learning and applying herself to her work, while Roman achieved a level 4 reader using a range of strategies to reach this goal. Logan has been showing outstanding effort in all areas. Talle and Emily used excellent strategies when reading to reach new reading levels and Isabelle did some great work on her money assessment.
Students in the P-2 class have been excited about becoming investigators and finding facts. They have explored narrative texts and how some information can be factual. In the text 'Make way for ducklings', students found a number of facts about Mallard ducks such as, they lay 8-13 eggs (called a clutch) and lose their feathers (called malting). These facts were confirmed through examining an information text online.

In the coming weeks, students will examine sentence structure of both ‘narrative’ and ‘information’ texts to begin to write factual statements/sentences. This, along with the skills to search for facts, will be an integral part of their assessment pieces.

Over the last couple of weeks, students have begun discussing families and how they are different. They have developed a small family tree (in their books), of their immediate family members. In the coming weeks, students will investigate ‘what family means to me?’

Geography has been comprised of many conversations about the ‘weather’ and how it is different around the globe. Students discussed how we get ‘day’, ‘night’ and our ‘seasons’. This led into a conversation about using the sun to tell the time (students found out that Miss O is not great at this), but did learn that the sun comes up in the Easts and goes down in the West, therefore they can use its position like a clock. Because it is very dangerous, students were advised not to look directly at the sun.

Students revised fractions of shapes and quantities through a range of hands on activities. They also investigated ‘equivalent’ fractions through folding pieces of paper. Students made the connection to multiplication and division (after the first folds, each time it was folded in half – this meant that the denominator was double the last number). Students then represented this using pictures on their whiteboards.

Last week students moved their knowledge of fractions to working with money. They described Australian money in terms of appearance and value, and made monetary amounts.

Focus for the coming weeks:

**Week 4:** Chance – Using language of chance to describe every day events

**Week 5:** Shape – Sort, describe and draw 2D shapes and 3D objects

A quick reminder that if you have any concerns regarding your child’s progress, please don’t hesitate to make a meeting with me at a suitable time to discuss.
English
Our focus is poetry, students have been learning about stressed and unstressed syllables in poetry. This week they will be creating their own poems with different rhythm, alliteration and rhyme. Students will be moving on to onomatopoeia and imagery next week. Students have produced some very creative poems. Come in and check out their work!

Science
Our focus this term is ‘space’. We will be looking and Venus and Mercury over the next two weeks. The students will be looking at the features of both the planets and compare them to Earth. The students are enjoying the unusual facts and the unknown answers of the space exploration.

History
Our coming focus for the next two weeks is the Archer Brothers. The Archer brothers have made huge contributions to the early exploration of the Rockhampton and Gracemere areas. Students will rediscover their journey and compare how these places have changed today.

Spelling
Each week we have a spelling rule focus. Ask your child if they can explain this week's rule. Students focus on this rule all week during ‘word work’. Students enjoy trying to prove the rule wrong and using the rules in their writing.

Art
A huge thank you to Darlene Radlingmayr for her contribution to our art lesson this week. She brought in her mosaic pieces and also assisted children with their own designs and pieces. The students’ art work looks amazing. They are not yet finished but feel free to check out the progress.
P&C NEWS

P&C Executives
President: Darlene Radlingmayr Secretary: Tanya Dickens Treasurer: Kyleigh Clanfield.
If you have any enquiries, ideas or need an item added to the agenda at the next P&C meeting please contact one of the executives or email bluff.s.s.pandc@gmail.com

Next P&C Meeting
Our next meeting will be held on the 10th of August, at 2:45pm in D Block. Everyone is welcome to attend-especially if you would like to know what is happening within the school. Just a reminder that member support is appreciated and regular attendance at meetings is a requirement for your membership to remain valid

P&C Support
The P&C support the school in many ways. So far this year we have purchased text books for all students throughout the school, donated $500 towards school camp costs, purchased books for all students for the end of year celebration, donated graduation gifts for year 6 students and upgraded the electricals in the tuckshop. Our main goal over the next 5 years is to upgrade and shade the multipurpose sports area (basketball/tennis court). All of this would not be possible without everyone’s help, and the P&C would like to say thank you!

P&C Donations
Many thanks go out to each and every volunteer whom gave up their time to help on the day, with preparations and clean up, this event would not of been possible without your help. A big thank you also goes out to all businesses whom donated items for the cent sale, and thank you to all families whom donated goodies for the cake stall/canteen and items for the cent sale at the annual Garage Sale.

Tuckshop
Tuckshop will still be held on Thursdays with orders due in on Wednesday in term 3. We would like to apologise for the constantly changing menu, due to electrical problems in the tuckshop we have been keeping only a limited supply of food. We hope to have this problem fixed soon. A special thank you goes out to Denise whom took on tuckshop last week, while Darlene was away for personal reasons.

Fundraising
100’s Board: Prize $100. $2 per number. On sale at the Bluff Hotel. Drawn once 100’s board is full. Many thanks to Graham and his staff at the Bluff Hotel for supporting our P&C Association and assisting with our fundraising. The 100’s board fundraising will continue throughout the year. Congratulations to the winner Dan Smith. Drawn: 25/5/16 Number: 91
Annual Garage Sale: Thank you to everyone who supported and attended the annual Garage Sale. The day was a great success with a profit of approximately $1000. An exact figure will be presented at the next meeting.

Volunteers are an essential part of fundraising. When you volunteer, you help raise vital funds for the running of the school community. Can you spare a little time to help volunteer with your school P&C? Getting involved is a great way to meet new people and learn new skills. If meetings aren’t your cup of tea, you can help in other ways like cook sausages at a barbeque, assist in finding sponsors and donations for events, help at a working bee, assist in the tuckshop, or assist in a wide range of other activities and fundraisers throughout the year, every little bit counts! Keep an eye out in the school newsletter for ways you can help.

Volunteer’s Needed!
If you are able to volunteer, please contact one of the P&C executives.

Dingo Races 27th August
The P&C has been approached by the Dingo Racing Committee about assisting in the bar from 6pm-12 on the 27th of August. For volunteering at this event the P&C will receive a donation from the Dingo Racing Committee.