Dear Parents,

Welcome to the fast and furious Term 4! I hope that everyone had a safe and happy holiday and managed to relax at some point. There are a lot of exciting events coming up in the next few weeks. Please ensure that you read and record the date claimers for this term.

Every day counts
The beginning of term is an extremely important time as new units and concepts are being introduced and taught. Attendance is imperative because if students are not at school, they are missing vital information, which will affect their end of term and semester results. Please let Sam or I know if your child is going to be absent from school for holidays etc.

New Staff
I would like to welcome two new staff members to our school. Kristy McLaughlin is working on Friday’s in the 3-6 classroom. Tamsin McBeth-Wells will be working each day for 2 hours to support students in both classrooms.

2016 Prep

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011</td>
<td>Kindy</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Bluff State School would like to welcome our new Prep students for 2016. Our 2016 Prep Transition Packs are available from the school office for collection. This pack contains information and dates for our transition program this term. Please note that due to Education Department Policy, parents are required to remain at school with their child while participating in the transition program. The dates for Prep Transition are as follows:

- **Playgroup:** Friday 9th October 8:30am – 10:30am
- **Prep – 2 classroom:** Wednesday 14th October 1:30pm – 2:30pm
- **Prep – 2 classroom:** Wednesday 21st October 1:30pm – 2:30pm
- **Playgroup:** Friday 30th October 8:30am – 10:30am
- **Playgroup:** Friday 6th November 8:30am – 10:30am
- **Prep – 2 classroom:** Wednesday 11th November 12:45pm – 2:30pm
- **Playgroup:** Friday 20th November 8:30am – 10:30am
- **Friday 27th November 9am – 3pm** (Pre-prep children are invited to participate in the Small Schools Swimming Carnival in Blackwater).
- **Prep – 2 classroom:** Thursday 3rd December 8:30am – 2:30pm

Please speak to me if you have any concerns or questions. On the Wednesday afternoons and Thursday 3rd December, we are also transitioning the current Year 2 cohort into the Year 3-6 classroom. These sessions allow the students to experience the work that they will be involved in in 2016 as well as their peers and classroom.

**Parent Teacher Interviews**
Parent Teacher Interviews are occurring before and after school in both classrooms this week. Please be mindful of this in the mornings and afternoons.
Student Free Day
Monday 19th October (Week 3) is a state-wide Student Free Day. This day is for staff to undertake professional development programs, therefore students are not to come to school on this day. The teachers and teacher aides at Bluff State School will be attending a conference in Emerald.

Rainbow Run and Family Fun Day
I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Rainbow Run and Family Fun Day on Saturday 24th October. This is our P&C’s major fundraising event of the year. There are limited spots available in the Rainbow Run so please see Max, Tanya or Darlene for more information.
Date: Saturday 24th October
Time: 4pm – 9pm
Place: Bluff State School Oval

P&C Meeting
Our November P&C Meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th November at 2:45pm. All welcome!

Date claimers for this term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 Wednesday</td>
<td>Prep 2016 Transition</td>
<td>1:30pm – 2:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Friday</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Monday</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Wednesday</td>
<td>Prep 2016 Transition</td>
<td>1:30pm – 2:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Friday</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Saturday</td>
<td>Rainbow Run and Family Fun Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Friday</td>
<td>Swimming, Playgroup</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Wednesday</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Friday</td>
<td>Swimming, Playgroup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Wednesday</td>
<td>Prep 2016 Transition</td>
<td>12:45pm – 2:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Friday</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Friday</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Tuesday</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Friday</td>
<td>Small Schools Swimming Carnival</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Thursday</td>
<td>High School and Prep Transition Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Friday</td>
<td>Swimming, High School Transition Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Thursday</td>
<td>Break Up Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Friday</td>
<td>Last day of school</td>
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Warm regards,

Elizabeth Webb
Principal

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**BLUFF STATE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AGENDA 2015**

- Reading Comprehension
- Writing (including spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Numeracy (problem solving)
- Explicit Instruction teaching
- Attendance - no more than 8 days absent a year
- Parent and Community Involvement
Darbee has shown a huge improvement in her writing while Rowdy has been demonstrating great school values.

KEEP UP THE FABULOUS WORK!

We are still collecting stamps for the Sister Carmel and Sister Colleen! Your used stamps can be recycled to help the poor!

You can help the Mary McKillop International Missions Fund by collecting used postage stamps that will be sold to raise funds to assist missionaries in the continuing effort to support those in need.

Your stamps do not need to be removed from the paper - simply cut around the stamp!

The Sisters from the Mary Immaculate Catholic Community in Blackwater will pass them on for us.

You can drop your stamps into the school office.
Welcome to final term of the school year!

In English, the Prep – 2 class will be responding persuasively to narratives. In this unit, students read, view and listen to a variety of literary texts to explore how stereotypes are used to persuade audiences. Students create a persuasive response. They compare how the representations of a character are depicted differently in two publications of the same story and give reasons for a particular preference.

The following table is what we are learning about in Mathematics over the next two weeks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2    | • Subitise to count collections.  
      • Develop visual representations of quantities.  
      • Identify quantities by referring to a starting quantity.  
      • Arrange parts within a quantity.  
      • Compare and sequence quantities.  
      • Connect number names, numerals and quantities.  
      | • Identify standard place value partitions (tens and ones) of two-digit numbers.  
      • Record numerals and number names for two-digit numbers.  
      • Sequence and order two-digit numbers.  
      • Position and locate two-digit numbers on a number line.  
      | • Recall addition and subtraction facts that bridge ten.  
      • Identify related addition and subtraction facts.  
      • Use ‘Think addition’ to recall subtraction facts.  
      • Recall addition number facts.  
      • Recall related subtraction number facts.  
      • Identify addition ‘compatible pairs to 20’.  
      • Add strings and collections of single-digit and 2-digit numbers.  
      |  |
| 3    | • Join collections.  
      • Represent addition experiences.  
      • Share collections of objects.  
      • Represent the sharing process.  
      • Compare and sequence quantities.  
      • Sequence numbers to 20.  
      | • Ask a suitable question for gathering data.  
      • Gather, record and organise data.  
      • Identify the chance of events occurring.  
      • Predict outcomes of familiar events.  
      | • Add and subtract single-digit numbers to/from 2-digit numbers.  
      • Use the compensate strategy for adding eight or nine to a 2-digit number.  
      • Add and subtract 2-digit numbers.  
      • Solve addition and subtraction problems involving 2 digit numbers using number sentences.  
      • Describe number patterns.  
      • Identify missing elements.  
      • Recall skip-counting sequences.  
      • Identify patterns resulting from adding twos, fives, tens and hundreds.  
      |  |
### 3-6 Classroom

**Week 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Maths</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Art</th>
<th>History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fractions</td>
<td>Stolen girl – persuasive narratives</td>
<td>Heat and its properties</td>
<td>Drama – building tension in a scene and writing a script</td>
<td>Change in our community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Year 4 | Chance and collecting data | Persuasive narratives | Light and its properties | Drama – creating and portraying characters | 1800s Explorers – Burke and Wills & Leichhardt |

| Year 5 | Data collection | Informative text | Light and its properties | Change – continuity in our community – the positives and the negatives |

| Year 6 | Comparing fractions |                         |                         |                                      |

**Week 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Maths</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Art</th>
<th>History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number facts and word problems</td>
<td>Stolen girl – persuasive narrative</td>
<td>Heat – transfer of heat</td>
<td>Drama – creating and portraying characters</td>
<td>Change – continuity in our community – the positives and the negatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Year 4 | Representing, interpreting and displaying data |                          |                         |                                |

| Year 5 | Interpreting, analysing and presenting data | Informative persuasive text - creating an informative brochure | Light – creating, manipulating and colouring | 1800s Explorers - Gold rush |

| Year 6 | Data – misleading and manipulating data |                         |                         |                                      |

AUTHOR: Trina Saffioti
Illustrated by Norma MacDonald

A fictionalised account of the Stolen Generation that tells of an Aboriginal girl taken from her family by the government and sent to a children’s home. She sings and dreams of her mother and the life they once shared but each morning is woken by the bell to the harsh reality of the children’s home. Finally, one day she unlocks the door and takes her first step toward home.
Developing your child’s social media scripts

It’s important to start conversations with children about using social media at a young age to prepare them to be savvy users when we’re not around.

“The maxim holds true for the world of social media that children now inhabit from an increasingly young age. Even though our children are growing up with technology as a part of their everyday lives, they will still make plenty of mistakes while using it. This means we need to have direct conversations with our kids about the comments and posts that are okay to make using social media of all forms.

As parents, we teach our kids to talk politely and clearly so that they know how to speak to others when we’re not around. In effect, we give our kids social scripts to fall back on when they talk to friends, teachers, and relatives. There’s no guarantee they’ll look an adult in the eye when they speak to them, but our discussions, reminders, and lessons about manners will hopefully hold up when we’re not around.

The same applies to social media. Our conversations and lessons will prepare them to be savvy users when we’re not around. Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. “Is this worth posting?”
   The relatively impersonal nature of social media means that we can post information and pictures with relative immunity. Also its immediacy means that we can do so without much thought. This means that kids need to be very critical about what they see online. “Is this accurate?” and “Is this worth posting?” are two valid questions children can ask when they read posts placed by others.

2. “Have you taken a big breath?”
   A child who blurs out everything that comes into his mind without thinking is sure to put plenty of people offside. “Think before you speak” is the type of message that every child should have in mind.

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
Developing your child’s social media scripts...

The same applies to social media. Just because they think something doesn't mean they post it. ‘Take a big breath’ may just about be the most important message to give your kids about social media.

1. **“Do you want the principal to see this?”**
   An invitation to a teenage birthday party posted on social media is one way to get more attendees than you bargained for! The viral nature of social media means that kids should only post messages and photos that they want to be spread and read by a large audience.

2. **“How does this post make you feel?”**
   We need to teach kids that not every post needs to be commented upon and not every thought needs to be shared, particularly when they are angry. Teaching them to walk away and then to step back in when they’ve calmed down is perhaps the most important communication lesson of all. It is very relevant to social media as emotions are often the last thing on many people’s minds when they haphazardly post a message.

3. **“How will you fix this?”**
   Social media just like any social space requires kids to behave ethically and with kindness. When kids overstep the mark and post hurtful things then it's fair that they fix their mistakes, and apologise. It’s reasonable that we teach our children to act with tolerance and with empathy online, and if mean things are posted then they should be expected to try to repair relationships through social media, just as they should offline.

I agree with Galit Beeren, author of *Kindness Wins* who says that parents should have conversations with children around social media before they reach the teenage years. Starting these conversations when they are younger means that they are more open to our parenting opinions, as well as being a little more amenable to the messages of tolerance, kindness and empathy that we need to encourage.

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**Michael Grose**

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ALL PROCEEDS RAISED FROM THIS EVENT GO TO BLUFF STATE SCHOOL P & C ASSOCIATION

24th OCT 5PM-9PM
ON THE BLUFF STATE SCHOOL OVAL

ADMISSION TICKETS
ADULTS $5 CHILDREN $2
ENTRY INTO ALL RACES

BAR
CANTEEN
RAFFLES

RAINBOW RUN
4pm-5pm
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE
Children Under 3 Free
4yrs-13yrs $15
14yrs – Adult $25
(price includes entry to family fun day)

FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO BOOK YOUR SPOT
PHONE 0439988856 OR
EMAIL bluff.s.s.pande@gmail.com

WATER BALLOON TOSS
PLUS MUCH MORE

STALL SITES AVAILABLE $15 PER SITE PHONE 0439988856 OR EMAIL bluff.s.s.pande@gmail.com
Supporting Bluff State School in 2015