Principal's Report

Welcome back to Term 4! Where did the year go!

The last term of the year is always exciting, and this term will definitely be no exception. We have A LOT happening this term and the students and staff are pumped and raring to go!

Don't forget, we have swimming starting on Fridays for the next 7 weeks (except Friday 21 November), and we have been lucky to also coincide the swimming lessons with visits to the Cooktown Botanical Gardens and the James Cook Museum which will be happening straight after swimming and lunch.

We are coordinating some prep transition mornings for next year’s prep's to get to know the school a little better. These will be Tuesday mornings of weeks 4 (28 October), week 6 (11 November) and week 8 (25 November). Cooktown State School have also indicated that they will be holding their official transition day for years 6 and 7’s on the Tuesday the 2nd of December. They have also indicated that they will hold another transition talk with the year 6 and 7 students in week 4 of this term.

We have also scheduled our end of year Graduation for Thursday 27 November. This will be an evening event for all our graduating 6 and 7 students and is sure to be a special night. Further details to come. Our end of year concert is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday 3 December and I look forward to your input on making this year’s event the best yet!

Finally, last term, Teaching and Learning Auditor Ray Pearce came to visit our school to review teaching, learning and behaviour practices at the school. I am pleased to say that we received outstanding results and Mr Pearce commented that we were the best school he had ever reviewed. The results, when finalised by the Department will be put on our website and a copy sent home with students.

Please remember: Monday 20 October is a Student Free Day. There will be no adult supervision for students at school on this day.

Remember: No Hat, No Shoes = NO PLAY

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South Cape Cluster

We Learn • We Show Respect • We Are Safe
Toys all term!
In the Junior class, we've started a term of fun! We are investigating toys across most of our subject areas. In Science, we are investigating forces as pushes and pulls; we're investigating how some toys work with a push or a pull. Our main writing job in English will be to write a review of a toy, stating why it is good (or not!) and who would most likely play with it. In History we are learning about how toys have changed through time. If any parents or grandparents have old toys from when they were a kid, we'd love to see them!

The fun continues in Maths as we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. As you can see from the photos below, we've enjoyed constructing and de-constructing 3D shapes.

Swimming starts TOMORROW! All kids will need their swimming togs, a rashie or T-shirt and a towel. We do apply sunscreen at the pool, but to ensure that little ones are properly covered it is a good idea to give them a base coat before they leave home.

Also, please make sure all your child's things are clearly labelled with their name.

Healthy ears can listen
We start each day with blowing our noses. It is important for kids to keep their noses clean because gunk from our nose can flow back into the tubes of the inner ear. Having a clear nose helps keep our ears healthy, and helps us listen and learn.

The nose-blowing routine is:
- we run, to make sure all the gunk is runny and come out easily;
- With a tissue, we blow hard, through both sides
- Tissues go in the bin and we wash our hands with disinfectant.

Don’t forget lost lunch boxes:
Come in and check the lost lunch box collection in The Community Room.
Senior Class Capers!!

You should hear what’s going on in the Senior room. There are people arguing with each other and there are people yahooing and carrying on, but guess what? All this is in the name of rigorous learning.

The arguments are debates about whether Ned Kelly is a hero or villain. What do you think? Well there are debated points, with researched facts and credible opinions for and against. You will have to read their final English essays to help make up your mind.

The loud excited noises are the sounds students are making as they finally get those really difficult maths concepts cemented in their brain. Algebraic equations and long complicated operations are some of the concepts being tackled.

There is also lots of discussions about planning for camp and the end of year activities. So there is a lot happening in the classroom at the moment.

All marks have been finalised from term three. If there are any parents or families that would like to discuss how their child went last term please do not hesitate to contact the school. I would be very happy to talk to any families who would like to know how their child is going at school.

Spotlight on Electives: Crazy Cooking

This term, everyone is excited about Wednesday afternoons. That’s because we get to participate in fun elective activities that we get to choose. These activities include tennis, drama, cooking, collage, music and chemistry. They are super fun and we get to see how what we learn in school is relevant and practical to real life. It makes us understand what it means to be a life-long learner.

“I like cooking because you get to make things. Yesterday, we made ice blocks and biscuits. It was fun. The best part was making the icy poles because it was cool to see the colours mix. We’re selling them next break. Everyone should buy one because they’ll be yummy. If anyone has any ideas about what they’d like us to make next week, let me know. I’m all ears.” - Masterchef Eli

I absolutely love the icy swirls. They are delicious and healthy!
- Eliza S.

Sooo, Yummy!
- Rhiannon

Icy swirls are healthy & yummy. Delish
- Maddi S.
Countdown to Camp!

The countdown to our 2014 camp is now well and truly underway! Only 4 and half weeks to go!! Planning is hitting full-throttle with a variety of different activities and tours to be on offer. Camp this year will be based at Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre where we will spend some of the time utilising their fabulous facilities and education programs. Here, students will be able to participate in a range of outdoor activities and developmental programs during the week led by the qualified teaching staff at Holloways. Further to this, day trips to Cairns and the reef may also be on offer! Keep your ears posted!

GET EXCITED!!

If you have any questions in regard to school camp, please contact the school on 4060 3988.

**COOPERATIVE AND COLLABORATIVE LEARNING**

Participation in group challenges and problem solving activities encourages active citizenship.

**FULL SENSORY, MIND AND BODY ENGAGEMENT**

Programs designed to fully activate mind, body and senses creating valued and memorable learning experiences.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

Through modelling sustainable practices and connecting with the natural environment students can better assess their impact on the environment.

**ADVENTURE AND CHALLENGE**

Encouraging students to challenge themselves and exit comfort zones increases their confidence and provides a sense of achievement.

**GUIDED DISCOVERY**

Experiential learning activities based on self and group discovery, promotion of critical thinking, higher order thinking and high level reflection achieves deeper and more significant understanding.

**FOSTERING RESPONSIBILITY**

Focussing on respect, cooperation, participation and safety creates an emphasis on responsibility and becoming sustainable and productive citizens.

**REAL LIFE LEARNING IN REAL PLACES**

Emphasis is placed on transferring understanding gained from HBEEC experiences to other locations, habitats and real life contexts.

**SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

Social support and trust are incorporated into all centre experiences to ensure physical and emotional safety of learners.

**HOW WE TEACH AND LEARN AT HBEEC**

Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre

Where education comes alive

[Image of Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre]

[Image of students at Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre]

[Image of Healthy eating for children]

[Image of Rossville State School]