Would you believe we are now half way through the term! I firstly just wanted to say a big thank you to all parents, students and staff for the dedication and enthusiasm you all show in making our school so great! Our recent Showcase Award is a recognition of all the hard work done by all students, staff and parents — Well Done!

2015 NAPLAN results were sent home earlier this week. Congratulations to all the Year 3 and 5 students who sat the test this year. If you have any questions about the report, please don’t hesitate to contact me or your child’s teacher at school.

The Italian Restaurant in Cooktown have agreed to kindly donate a voucher each week for a pizza. The voucher will go to one lucky winner and will be drawn at Parade on a Friday afternoon to a student who has completed their weekly homework. To be eligible to go in the draw for the pizza voucher, students must return their homework to their class teacher by Tuesday for the Senior class and by Friday for the Junior class.

This Friday we will have visitors at the school to work with teachers on the Age Appropriate Pedagogy project that our school is involved in. Researchers from Griffith University and staff from Regional Office will travel to Rossville to take part in the study.

Lastly, if you haven’t already noticed, check out some of the great Gurney Art that our wonderful groundsman John Newman has done recently! The artwork leads up the path to the school and is a great visual welcome to everyone visiting the school. What a unique and delicate skill that fits in perfectly in our rainforest setting. Cheers, Amelia Jenkins
Have you completed the Homework survey, that the Seniors have as their homework this week? As well as practicing interview techniques and note taking, the survey will be used to inform the staff and P&C about a future homework policy. Have your say!!!

The students are well underway in drafting their information reports about an animal (year 3/4) or Local Aboriginal Traditions (Year 5/6). Over the next few weeks the students may bring this home for homework. Would you be able to read their drafts, give them some praise and one or two ideas on how it can sound better. Thanks. I am sure the students will appreciate hearing how well they are doing!
**Junior Class Capers!!**

**Healthy Diet, Healthy Minds**

Time for a reminder that school needs to be a place for healthy food and drinks. Some things like soft drinks, cake and chocolate have too much sugar. Too much sugar affects children's brains, making it hard for them to think, concentrate and learn. Foods like fruit, vegetables and sandwiches are the best foods, water is the best drink for school.

**Logos**

This term most of our work has been planned to tie in with the upcoming Wallaby Creek Festival. We've been reading posters and articles about festivals and shows. This week we are looking at logos and emblems. After looking at lots of logos, the children have designed their own. Children were asked to consider colour, words, letters and pictures to create a logo that represents something special about them. Check out these logos:

**Prep Play Study**

Rossville State School has been selected to take part in a study with Griffith University into play based education in Prep classes. Parents may not be aware that increasingly schools are under pressure to formalise the Prep year into a more rigid 'sit at your desk and write' experience. The Griffith University team believe that the push to formalise schooling for Preps has gone too far and is not appropriate for such young children. At Rossville we have always tried to make learning as fun, interactive and engaging as possible. The Griffith study will investigate if there are any differences in academic achievement for children starting school with a play-based program compared with students who begin with a formalised 'sit at your desk' learning environment. A professor from the University will be visiting to observe our Prep class on Friday.
Sometimes, our challenges seem larger than they are and sometimes our problems seem smaller than they actually are. So this is when we need to check we have the right perspective. In a challenge moment ask yourself:

Is it a...

BIG PROBLEM,
Little Problem or
No Problem at all?

If this still doesn’t help you work out if you have the right perspective then:

1. Ask will it matter next week or next year?
2. Have a look on the catastrophe chart
3. Ask a friend or family member

In teams the students played around with perspective of photos to help realise that some things seem bigger than they really are!!!