Principal's Report

As expected, Term 4 is delivering all the fun and excitement we expected! Friday's are proving to be a fun day out with swimming lessons and great personalised tours of the Botanic Gardens and Natures Powerhouse. Also, students are always excited when Wednesday afternoon roles around to participate in the great electives we have on offer.

Camp planning continues and is shaping up to be a great week at Holloways Beach and Cairns. Can I remind everyone to please return permission slips to the school by the end of this week.

This week we also had our first morning of pre-preps visiting the school to join the prep class and get a taste of what school life is like. They had a great morning in the classroom sharing stories and painting.

I am also pleased to include with this Newsletter the results of last terms Teaching and Learning and Discipline Audit. I look forward to your feedback.

Next Friday, the 7th of November, I would like to invite all parents to the school to take part in the Quadrennial School Review. The review will form the basis of a new 4 year strategic plan for the school and is your chance to have your say in the future direction of the school. I encourage you to all please come along to the school from between 5pm—6pm to participate in the discussion. This will be followed by a BBQ dinner at 6pm and the Halloween themed Disco from 6:30—8:30pm.

**Prep's working on their art**

**Alert—Head Lice**

With the hot part of the year now well and truly upon us, it is a good time to be alert and aware of the dangers of head lice. The enclosed Queensland Health Fact Sheet has plenty of useful information on the detection, treatment and prevention of head lice. Please take the time to read.

**Remember: Every Day Counts!**
This week, The JR class produced fantastic writing and demonstrated excellent problem solving.

We were writing about our favourite toys using a variety of describing words. We learned that you can communicate the quality of something by describing its appearance, how it works and how it makes us feel.

For example, my favourite toy is my amazing skateboard. It has colourful decorations that make me feel cool. My board is just fast enough to give me a thrill without putting me in danger. When I ride my skateboard, I feel ecstatic.

Speaking of my skateboard, I have been learning in science how it works. My skateboard works with a push. A push is a type of force. Pull is the other kind. We have also learned that everything in the universe is lazy. An object at rest will stay at rest unless it is forced to move. The Sr Students tell me that physicists have a special word for laziness: inertia.

There isn’t a lot of inertia on the tennis courts during our electives. Mr Joel teaches us how to play tennis. So far we have learned to rally using our forehands and backhands. I’m looking forward to learning how to overhead smash.

In philosophy, we have been having deep discussions with Ms Margie. We have been listening to a story called the Velveteen Rabbit and considering the question of “what is real”. We learned about a philosopher named Rene Descartes who once said “I think, therefore I am”. Mme Jo taught us that the original French translation of this sentence is “Je pense, danc je suis.”

I agree with Descartes. For example, I think the Velveteen Rabbit is real because the other toys were teasing him and if he wasn’t real, he wouldn’t have heard the other toys teasing him or become sad. So he must be real because he can hear, think and feel. On the other hand, I don’t think a tree is “real” in the same way as the Velveteen Rabbit because I have never seen a tree feel, think or react.

So as you can we’ve been very busy working in school this week. The whole school is doing excellent work. In fact, I strongly believe we deserve a whole school blue slip. Mrs Jenkins seems to concur.

- By Zayade Kulka (edited by Mrs Jenkins)
Senior Class Capers!!

Wow! Only two and a half weeks until all assessment is due!

The seniors are really showing what they are made of, by putting in focused efforts to complete their assessment tasks and make them the best they can be. In English this week they showed ‘GRIT’ by working on their writing when they thought it was hard going. For Maths they are all learning more and more concepts so they are ready for next year.

On a lighter note everyone is enjoying their Wednesday afternoon electives. One group working with Miss Heidi are creating beautiful works of art by collaging their favourite pictures and patterned papers.

With only two weeks left for assessment it is really important that attendance is very high so that the students have the best opportunity to complete their work well.

*Eliza, Rhiannon and Lily enjoy collaging so much that they work on them at lunch*

*Jack’s boat image.*

Jack Cox displays his excellent drawing ability with this pencil sketch of his boat “Black Pearl”.
**Countdown to Camp!**

Only **2 and half weeks** to go!! Can you believe it!

Planning is hitting the final stages for our 2014 School Camp to **Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre**, and I can tell you, it’s going to be good! The itinerary is going to be jam packed with a lot of fun games and activities throughout the week.

- The Great Barrier Reef is the largest reef in the world
- Astronauts can see the Great Barrier Reef from the moon
- The popular Disney/Pixar character Nemo is based on the Anemone Fish (or Clown Fish), which can be seen all over the Great Barrier Reef and look great in photos!

**GET EXCITED!!**

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

---

**School Garden**

With a lot of help and effort from volunteers our new school vege and herb garden is up and running and **IT LOOKS GREAT**. Thank you to all volunteers for helping make this great initiative happen. Also, a big thank you to Swiss Farms of Lakeland for their generous donation of their Red Valley compost.

That's a BIG tractor! Thanks Jason Carroll and Swiss Farms for delivering the compost.

Thanks to Daniel Hall for designing and constructing the Garden beds.

* There is plenty of room in the garden, if you would like to come and plant something, you are more than welcome!
* If you have anything you would like to donate eg. Watering cans, trowels, or seeds or cuttings it would be gratefully appreciated.

Our first plants getting a water from Margo Steiner.