From the Principal

20 November, 2015

Staff News
I will be on long service leave from Wednesday 27 January to Tuesday 2 February. Mrs Robyn Tregenza will be the acting principal in my absence and the second teacher position will be backfilled for these five days. At my own cost I will attending two conferences. The first is, “International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement”. The second conference is the Bett Show, that focuses around the most contemporary pedagogies in using technologies in schools to achieve the best learning outcomes for our students.

Michael Salmon Gala Day
Michael Salmon, well known children’s author and illustrator is coming to Keppel Sands State School in 2016. His books include dinosaur, monster and pirate books just to name a few. Michael has been entertaining students through humour, encouragement and advice on writing and illustrating stories. Keppel Sands State School has secured a visit from Michael on Friday, 4th March. We will host a Gala “Monster Mash” day where students can come to school dressed as their favourite Michael Salmon Character. Byfield and Coowonga Schools will be joining us for the day. There will be a variety of activities based around literacy, a Barbecue lunch and the highlight, a session hosted by Michael himself. We are still in the planning stages to make this an exciting event for our students. Michael’s books will be available for purchase and Michael will be happy to sign these books for your children.

School Concert and Graduations
School concert and graduations will be celebrated next Thursday night. The program is as follows (approximate times only) –
5:30  Set up
6:00  Shared dinner
6:30  Play preparation
6:45  Keppel Sands State School presents, ‘Aladdin’
7:30  Presentations
7:45  Prep Graduation
        Year 6 Graduation, Cake Cutting
8:00  Dance
8:15  Santa
**Student Leadership**
There has been discussion with cluster schools around student leadership in small schools. I have not been able to locate a current written process in our school. Early next year there will be leadership workshops for our students to attend and opportunities for our students to demonstrate their leadership capabilities. In consultation with community, we will develop a clear, transparent process, for student leadership selection in our school.

**Swimming Carnival**
Today was our last swimming lesson for the term. Tuesday of week ten is our swimming carnival. A permission note is attached to this newsletter.

**School Camp**
School camp was a great success. Students were proud of their efforts in the caves, where some students (and staff) found themselves outside their comfort zone. In our debrief students learned that it is important to try new things and that you are able to achieve well with new activities if you give it a go. Keppel Sands State School can be very proud of themselves. All students were well behaved, displayed great manners, and enjoyed themselves.

**Report Cards and School Equipment Lists**
Report Cards and School Book Lists will be distributed in the last week of school.

**After School Technology Sessions**
Monday next week will be our last session for after school. All students are welcome to attend on Monday.

**Final Newsletter**
This will be the final newsletter for the year. Any reminders I will continue to send through text. I wish all our families a happy and safe break and look forward to having you all back next year. Don’t forget the first day of school next year is Wednesday, 27 January.

**Sport**
I am looking at applying for funding to bring another sport to our school in 2016. If you have a particular request for a sport can you please tell me or text it to the Principal’s phone.

**DATE CLAIMERS**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>3 December</td>
<td>School Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8 December</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Free Dress Celebration Day</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>11 December</td>
<td>Clean up Day</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>27 January</td>
<td>School Commences 2016</td>
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Have a great weekend,

Moira Mackenzie
(Principal)