From the Principal

After 2 weeks in which can only be described as tropical paradise, my family and I have returned to face the realities of life and Melbourne’s cold winter climate. The warm weather of tropical north Queensland was very well received with a consistent daily temperature of 29°C and water temperature of 27°C. Needless to say we spent lots of time in the water and a highlight was exploring the majestic beauty of the Great Barrier Reef and all that it has to offer. Visits to Cape Tribulation provided contrasts and experiences of a different nature and we were fortunate enough to see crocodiles, snakes and cassowaries in their natural habitats, much to the shriek and squeals of my children!

Whilst it was a well-received break and I managed to not think about work for most of the time, I couldn’t help but cast my thoughts towards everyone at Watsonia North after seeing this board in the main street of Port Douglas. It truly encapsulates the values and attitudes we try to instil at our school and for a moment there, I wanted to bring the board back and share with everyone. Decided that it was too big to put in my case, thus the photo!

I would like to thank Jamie Jaquinta and all the staff, for leading the school so capably in my absence. It certainly was a busy time with Education Week and various other activities, however everything ran smoothly and I thank everyone for supporting Jamie and the staff.

STUDENT FREE DAYS FOR 2015

As noted in previous editions of the newsletter, School Council has endorsed the following days as pupil free days:

- Tuesday 9 June: Curriculum Day
- Tuesday 21 July: Reporting Day (students only attend interview)
- Friday 14 August: Curriculum Day

A reminder also that next Monday 8 June is the Queen’s Birthday holiday. With curriculum day planned for the following day, students will be able to enjoy an extra-long weekend.

PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS

Children will be in receipt of their Semester 1 report in the last week of this term, with mid-year interviews scheduled for early in Term 3 on Tuesday 21 July. Students do not attend school on this day, however they are required to be present during the nominated interview time.

Two of our staff members, Ms Sarah Pollitz (M21) and Ms Julianne Haldon (S4) will be on leave during this time and alternative interview times will be arranged.

Information relating to dates and times for these alternative interviews will be distributed to families of children in these two classes by the end of this week.

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY – ‘COLLECTION NOTICE’

All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic schools, will participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability this year. The data collection is an annual count of the number of students with a disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability.

All education agencies are now required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013 to provide information on a student’s level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

Data will continue to be re-identified prior to its transfer to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. No student’s identity will be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

The collection of this information from states and territories will inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jamie Jaquinta (Assistant Principal) or myself. Information may also be obtained from the Victorian Department of Education and Training Data Collection Hotline on (03) 9651 3621.

Tina King (Principal)
PE & Sport News
SPORTS RESULTS – ROUND 6

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<td>Netball B</td>
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THIS WEEK – ROUND 7
FRIDAY, 5 JUNE – 9.30am start: WNPS v St Marys (away). Football and Soccer at Whatmough Park, Netball and Softball at St Marys PS.

DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY
WEDNESDAY, 10 JUNE at Bundoora Park (12.30pm).

DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY
Well done to all of the students who competed at our District Cross Country event last Wednesday at Banyule Flats. Students who finished in the top 10 in their race will now go on to Division Cross Country at Bundoora Park on Wednesday, 10 June. Watsonia North finished second overall – thank you to all of the parents who helped and came along to support the event!

Trent O’Sullivan (PE & Sport Coordinator)

OUT OF SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY
A massive earthquake hit Nepal on Saturday 25 April 2015, just 80km from the capital Kathmandu. More than 9,000 people have died and a further 17,800 have been injured as a result of the 7.8 magnitude earthquake, which hit Nepal on 25 April. With more than 750,000 homes damaged or destroyed, 3.7 million people have been left homeless — including more than 1.5 million children.

A second, deadly earthquake struck on Tuesday 12 May, 2015. With a magnitude of 7.3, a devastating second earthquake caused further deaths and casualties, heightening the already desperate situation in Nepal. People have been killed by severe landslides in Sindhupalchowk, one of the areas worst affected by the first earthquake. The second earthquake left children and families in the worst-affected areas terrified, with many staying outdoors for fear of further aftershocks.

Many children in Nepal had already lost their homes and all their possessions, putting them at great risk. They are either sheltering out in the open or in crowded camps, exposing them to diseases and abuse. Children and families are simply trying to stay alive and make sense of what has happened. Sleeping outdoors can be cold in the mountainous terrain at this time of the year, and many are without tarpaulins and blankets.

On THURSDAY, 18 JUNE we will be having an out of school uniform day.

WHY?
To show our support for the people in Kathmandu, who were devastated by the earthquake that hit on 25 April

AND
to help contribute to the cost of replacing 4 of the backboards on our school basketball courts.

So, come dressed in the colors of the Nepalese flag which is red, blue and white!

AND
don’t forget to bring along a gold coin donation!

Neighbourhood
Watch Grimshaw
Creating Safer Communities
PO Box 127 Watsonia 3087
Email: nhw.grimshaw@gmail.com
Website: www.nhw.com.au

New Generation
FIRST AID FOR PARENTS & CARERS
Viewbank Preschool (kindergarten) is pleased to be able to host a First Aid Information session for parents and carers in Resuscitation (CPR), Choking, Burns, Anaphylaxis, Head Injury

When: Sunday 14 June 3-5pm
Cost: $25 per person (normally $50)
Venue: Viewbank Preschool
RSVP: Fri June 12, 2015

Please note that NO certificates will be issued for participation in this course
For bookings and enquiries contact Kate 0411 036 723 or book online at http://www.trybooking.com/HRDH
G’day folks! Batten down the hatches, Winter has arrived. Brrrr! I seriously do not know how anybody could like the Winter more than the Summer – anyway that’s just my whinge for the week.

To move on, we are seriously excited about our Cartooning workshops. On Thursday afternoon, we spent an hour with Josephine from Tooney Toonworld realising that no matter what we draw, we can’t be wrong! Amazing! All the years I failed Art at school because my teacher told us if we couldn’t do what she wanted, we were no good at art. Well, all those myths have now been put to bed – the children drew some really cool characters using letters of the alphabet as their starting point. We are waiting patiently for this Thursday to learn on our way to become expert Cartooneers.

For our families who requested care on the Pupil Free Day next Tuesday, please note that we will NOT be running a program. We did not receive the minimum number of children required to operate therefore, there will not be a Cool Care program Tuesday June 9. I have placed a note on our sign in/sign out table for our regular parents advising them of the arrangements, for our not so regular families, please be advised herewith.

As the weather is so much colder now, particularly in the mornings, we are more than happy to open our doors prior to our operating time of 7.15am. We welcome families to come in out of the cold however, as per our licensing requirements, we are not able to care for the children prior to 7.15am. Please do not think ‘bad’ of us if we ask you to stay until this time – like most things in life, we need to follow the rules and the 7.15am commencement time forms part of the legislated agreement. We appreciate your cooperation in matters such as these.

We hope you all enjoy your longer weekend coming up.

Stay warm and Stay Cool (if that makes any sense). Have a good one! Jenny
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