Dear Parents and Community Members

Hello,

Welcome to the new school Year!

I hope you enjoyed the holiday break. I had a wonderful time in Hervey Bay and Brisbane. It was wonderful to spend time with my family.

The Regional Agenda and State Education Agenda continues to drive the overarching direction of our school. The following is an extract from the front page of the Regional Charter of Expectations.

“Every Student Succeeding”


Purpose: Preparing Queenslanders with the knowledge, skills and confidence to participate effectively in the community and the economy. Copies of the Regional Charter of Expectations can be obtained upon request from the school office.

I am currently drafting the **2016 Annual Implementation**. Our school priorities in 2016 are:

- Using grammar and punctuation to improve reading comprehension, accuracy, fluency and enhanced vocabulary.
- Provide coaching and feedback to staff and students
- To investigate the starting of an outreach to 0-5 years old through playgroup or mobile library

We are keen to share our new direction with you and show you ways you can become involved and/or support us at home!

We have 2 additional teachers to introduce to you this year. In Prep – Year 3 we have Mrs Vanessa Sansby on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We welcome back Mrs Fiona Bartlett, who on Thursdays will be teaching History, and consolidating English and Mathematics with the teachers’ aides whilst I have my administration day. I am sure you will make them all feel very welcome.

Our teacher’s aides will be Mrs Brenda Shelton, Mrs Christine Rynne, Mrs Nicola Burrows and Mrs Kerry Wentiro who will be ably assisting the teachers and the students.
There are many excited young faces in the playground and classrooms eager for all the new experiences they are engaging in. Some children’s energy is waning come afternoon, so early nights and good nutrition is required, especially at this time of the year. Please pack a water bottle each day and encourage your child to sip water often throughout the day.

**Communication between school and home is very important.** Your class teachers are always your first port of call! Our teachers try and make themselves available to parents before and after school as needed. If you require more than a few minutes of your teachers’ time before or after school, please make an appointment. Teachers at Cloyna check their emails once a day, usually before or after school. It is important to note, teachers are entitled to a 48 hour response time for all written communication. Our teachers endeavour to respond within 24 hours. Our jobs are different to those of an office worker, our number one priority is paying our full attention to the children in our care and so emails are of a secondary importance during the school day. Please use telephone or face to face communication for all emergent issues.

**Teachers will be holding Parent Information Sessions in week 3 this term on Wednesday 10 February at 5 p.m.** Please try your hardest to attend so you are aware of how your child’s class will operate in 2016.

A very important policy to note is around payment for school excursions/incursions, camps, swimming, interschool sport, competitions, instrumental music etc. All payments must be paid by the due date for a child to attend. In previous years, the school has incurred debt from allowing children to attend events and activities and then parents not paying. In 2014, the debt to the school was in the thousands of dollars! In 2015, we chased these payments up and luckily were able to recoup most of these outstanding amounts. In 2015, we trialed bringing in a “no prior payment, no attendance” policy and had much more success in parents paying on time. From 2016, we will officially enforce that parents must pay for all excursions, incursions, activities etc. by the due date or children will not be able to attend or participate. Please understand that we do not wish children to miss out on these activities. If your family are experiencing genuine financial stress or difficulties please let Mrs Cocks or myself know. We will arrange for your child to attend and we will work out a payment plan. The school can then make personal arrangements with your family about how we can work with you to best support your family through your difficult period.

We have made some changes to Assemblies this year also. Whole School Assemblies will be held each Monday morning. All parents and family are welcome to attend these assemblies. Finally, I would like to remind all parents about the importance of ensuring your child is at school every day. The State, Region and Cloyna State School are heavily committed to promoting “Everyday Counts”.

I hope you have a great week.

Heather Castle

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**Parent / Teacher Information Meeting**

The Parent meeting will be on Wednesday February 10 at 5.00pm. Come and find out what the students will be doing this year in the classroom — this is a good chance for you to talk with the teachers so that parents, teachers and students are all working together to achieve the best outcomes for all students.

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**Administration hours**

There has been a change in times I will be here in the office. They are as follows:—

Monday—8.00am to 12.00  Wednesday—12.30 to 4.00  Thursday—8.00am to 3.30. If you need to contact the school outside of these hours, if possible please call outside of teaching time—call before 8.50 and after 3.00. Please leave a message on the answering machine, if no one is available to take your call and someone will get back to you. Looking forward to a great year.............................Jenny Cocks
Welcome to all new families that have joined our school community over the summer break. A big welcome back to returning families for Term 1, 2016! We hope you had a great holiday and are recharged and ready for the new school year.

A special thank you needs to go out to Jess Prior for opening up the tuckshop again on Fridays this year. This service is 100% volunteer based, we’re very lucky to have such a wonderful support within our school. The P and C executive have decided that we will continue to only have tuckshop at first break on Fridays. Attached please find a copy of the Tuckshop menu.

Of course the P & C is always looking for new members. If you are interested in being a part of this great school, please contact the P & C or speak to your classroom teacher to see how you can help. It’s our children who will benefit!!!!!

First P & C Meeting for the year will be on next Monday February 8 at 4.30 in the school staffroom. Please plan to be here as the local P & C supports your children in their education here at Cloyna SS.

The School is again being involved in Health Screening—the screening will be in the next couple of weeks. Consent forms have been given to those students whom we don’t currently have permission from. If you have not returned the form please return urgently.

Congratulations to our students

- **Week 1**—Zac—Powering on with Sight Words
- Jack—a fantastic ‘Sizzling Start’ in his writing
- Jodie—welcome as new student
- Brian—welcome as new student

Congratulations to our students
**In the Classroom**

**PREP TO YEAR 3**

What an exciting and busy start to Term 1 we have had. Students have settled into our classroom routine well.

**English**

In this 6 week unit, students will explore texts to analyse how stories convey a message about issues that relate to families and friends. Students will write an imaginative retell about a character from a book. We have been reading picture books and identifying the emotions displayed in them.

**Mathematics**

Students will begin the year learning about “Number”. This will include numbers to 999, addition and subtraction (multiplication and division for year 2 and 3), skip counting & number patterns and problem solving (word problems).

**Science**

**SCHOOLYARD SAFARI**—We explore the external features of small animals and how their features help them survive in their habitats, through a series of collaborative inquiry-based learning activities. Investigations into how a range of small animals move, feed and protect themselves are conducted, and comparisons are made of the animal’s different habitats.

**YEAR 4 TO 6**

We are ready and raring to go and settling into our classroom happily!

**English**

**YEAR 4**—In this 9 week unit, students listen to, read and analyse narrative (Fantastic Mr Fox) to explore the author’s use of language features to create characters. They complete a reading log that shows analysis of a character and create a spoken procedure between two characters.

**YEAR 5 AND 6**—In this 7 week unit, students listen to, read and view extracts of high quality literary texts. They demonstrate their understanding of the language features and sentence structures needed and develop their own literary style. They create a literary text, in the form of a letter, that explores their personal experiences.

**Mathematics**

In Maths we will be working on Reading and Understanding Whole Number, Addition and Subtraction Strategies as well as Multiplication and Division Strategies. Children will also continue to participate in the online Mathletics program, which is encouraged for at home use, as well as class time.

**Science**

**YEAR 4- FEATHER, FUR OR LEAVES** Through a collaborative, inquiry-based approach, students will learn how to distinguish living and non-living things as well as how to classify living things.

**YEAR 5 AND 6 -DEsert SURVIVORS** Students explore how the structural features and adaptations of desert plants and animals help them to survive in their own natural environment through a series of collaborative inquiry-based learning activities. Comparisons are made with plants and animals that live in other environments and features such as colour, body shape (surface area/volume ratio), behaviour and capacity to retain water are investigated.
Administration of Medications in schools

There have been some changes regarding the administration of medications to students in Queensland schools. Attached is information pamphlet from the Department with regards to how and when school staff can administer medication to your child/children. Please read this pamphlet thoroughly and if you have questions please don’t hesitate to talk to Heather.

Happy Birthday—
for January

La-Keya—2nd
Heath—8th
Blade—12th
Taila—26th

Religious Instruction

Religious instruction classes (Prep students exempt) which are conducted by visiting Christian instructors will commence in a couple of weeks. The program is non-denominational co-operative program and an instructor brings a 30-minute lesson each week for 5 weeks in each term. The information received by the school upon student enrolment is used to place students in either religious instruction or ‘other instruction’. However, parents and carers can change their mind about these arrangements at any time by sending their request in writing to the office.

“Other Instruction’ - In accordance with s.31 Education Regulations 2006, students who are not participating in religious instruction will be provided with other instruction in a separate supervised location during the period arranged for religious instruction. The other instruction will relate to part of a subject area that has already been covered in class which may include, but is not limited to, wider reading, personal research or revision of work. This work will be provided by the class teacher and students will complete the work under the supervisions of a staff member nominated by the Principal.

apt8kids on tour

APT8 Kids on Tour will enable children to experience and explore contemporary art from Australia, Asia and the Pacific through a range of drawing, making and multimedia activities.

Draw, Make and Create
Sunday 13 March, 2016 from 9.30am to 12.30pm
at ‘The Studio’, Wondai Regional Art Gallery, On the Roundabout, Wondai

Workshop is open to all children aged from 6 to 11 years.
*All material & equipment is provided. *Morning Tea will be provided *Parents are encouraged to attend.

To register please call in at the Wondai Regional Art Gallery
or phone 4168 5926 with your children’s names, ages and contact number.