FROM THE PRINCIPAL
Welcome back to another extremely busy term. There are many exciting things happening at the end of the year approaches.

The P & C Meeting is on Tuesday (11 Oct). I would encourage your attendance as there are a number of items that I would like to discuss as the meeting including:
- Student numbers
- Classes for next year
- Staffing arrangements for 2016
- Swimming carnival
- School Opinion Survey results

STAFF NEWS
Mr Collingwood has been transferred to Brassall State School in 2017. Mr Collingwood lives in Brisbane and drives to school each day. Although we will certainly miss Mr Collingwood’s valuable input to the teaching of our students and the running of our PE program, this transfer will certainly make his commute to work each day much easier. At this stage, we are hoping that Mr Clair will take the PE classes next year.

Mrs Topp has been transferred to Innisfail. We have not been notified of who will be replacing Mrs Topp.

Mrs Sarah Nixon has been transferred to our school from Townsville. I have spoken to Mrs Nixon and she is looking forward to working at Helidon State School.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS’ AWARD
Next Week!

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
Next Week!

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
Notes were sent home on the last day of term 3 outlining your child/ren’s attendance for the year. If you did not receive this information, phone the office and we will let you know the attendance percentage.

2017 PREPS
The ‘Transition into Prep Program’ commences next Friday afternoon. This program runs for 8 weeks. We look forward to welcoming our future students to the school. Mrs Priaulx will take our current Prep students to the Year 1 classroom to familiarise themselves with the ‘big school’. They will return to the prep classroom to be collected by their parents/guardians/siblings. Mrs Graves will work with the Year 1 students. The Year 1 students will return to their classroom prior to 3:00pm. Mrs Johnson and I will be taking the 2017 Prep students for the afternoon. Although staffing hasn’t been finalised, it is highly likely that I will be taking Prep next year. 2017 staffing will be discussed at the P & C meeting on Tuesday.

This transition program has been running for several years at the school and it has proven to be very effective in getting our new preps familiar with the school as well as our current preps learning about school life beyond the prep classroom and grounds. Please let the office know if your 2017 Prep student will be attending.

We invite parents to the staff room for a ‘cuppa’. Tea/coffee etc will be supplied.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2017
If you know of anyone wishing to enrol their children for Prep (or any year level) for 2017, please ask them to come to the office.
**SWIMMING**
Swimming will commence in Week 3 for our Year 1 – 6 students. The 1st swimming lesson is Tuesday 18 October. Permission notes have been sent home today.

As the swimming note states, there will be 4 swimming lessons and the carnival. The dates are on the note, as well as the ‘What's Happening’ section at the start of the newsletter.

The Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday 15 November. The ‘beginner swimmers’ will not participate on the day. They will have their ‘fun activities’ during their last swimming lesson on Tuesday 8 November.

**SPORTING SCHOOLS**
We were fortunate enough to receive funding through Sporting Schools. This term, the whole school will be involved in NRL.

**TUTORING**
Tutoring will commence next week. If your child will be involved in the program, your child’s teacher will inform you (phone call or when they see you at school). We have found this to be a very worthwhile program..... and where else can your child/ren receive FREE tutoring.

**PBL NEWS** (Positive Behaviour for Learning)

**Expectation:** Be Responsible

**Focus:** Do the High 5

**What is the High 5?**
- It is an effective strategy to develop problem-solving strategies for our students.
- A whole school approach that can also eradicate bullying.
- It is a 5 step problem solving strategy that can be used in the classroom, in the playground and for perceived bullying incidents.

**What do we want?**
- We want to teach our children the skills which will build their self-esteem and empower them to take responsibility for themselves and give them the power to practise these skills.
- We want to promote pro-active strategies to prevent incidents becoming bullying.

**Do the High 5:-**
- Ignore
- Talk Friendly
- Walk Away
- Talk Firmly
- Report

**Ignore**
- Pretend you didn't hear it.
- Do not make eye contact.
- Maintain positive body posture (calm, confident).
- Think positive self-esteem statements.
- Count to five in your head slowly.
- Take deep breaths.

**Talk Friendly**
- Use a calm voice.
- Maintain eye contact.
- Confident body language.
- Maintain relatively close body proximity.
- Use "I" statements - I feel ...... when you.......... because........

**Walk Away**
- Stand tall, head up high.
- Mouth closed.
- Look confident.
- Do not use eye contact.
- Walk somewhere, preferably towards a congested area or to a safety zone (teacher).
- Do not look back. Walk confidently, don't run.

**Talk Firmly**
- As per Talk Friendly.
- Use an assertive voice, slightly raised.
- Tell them to stop it.
- Re-state your "I" statement. eg. I said......
- State the consequences of continued bullying.
- Avoid provoking the person by name calling/insulting them.

**Report**
- Walk away and tell a staff member.
- Go to a safety zone.
- Bystanders - support and report.
- Report, report, report until somebody listens.
**Reporting Vs Dobbing:**
Children need to know the difference between reporting and dobbing.
- **Reporting** is helping/getting yourself out of trouble.
- **Dobbing** is trying to get someone in trouble using a whiny voice.

**SECOND HAND UNIFORMS**
If you have any uniform items that you could donate to the school, it would be much appreciated.

**EARLY LEARNERS’ GROUP (PLAYGROUP)**
Mrs Zupp continues to provide some wonderful experiences for the youngsters (and their mums/dads). If you have young children at home, we encourage you to come along and be part of the group. There is no cost associated with the activities and you do not have to join the Playgroup association, as we operate through the school. The next Early Learners’ Group will be on Wednesday 12 October.

**PARENT TALK MAGAZINE**
Click on the link below to view the Parent Talk Magazine.

**P & C NEWS**
**P & C Meeting** – next meeting is 11 October.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**
**Helidon RSL Women’s Auxillary** – Tombola on Sunday 9 October 2016. 1:30pm at the Helidon RSL. $5 entry includes afternoon tea, a sheet of tickets and a lucky door prize.

St Joseph’s Parish, Helidon – Trivia Night on Friday 7 October, 2016 commencing at 7:00pm, Parish Centre, Helidon. $10 per head with tables of 8 – 10. For information, contact 4697 6221.