Welcome back! All the staff and myself are looking forward to another fantastic year working with you and your children.

**Breakfast Club:** A reminder that breakfast club is currently operating on Monday and Wednesday mornings commencing at 7:45am. Thank you, to John and Wendy who have been volunteering their time to come and assist. Without volunteers, these programs can not continue so if you can help out now and then, please do.

**Homework club:**
Homework club has commenced and is currently operating each Wednesday afternoon between 2:30pm and 3:00pm. All students are welcome to stay each week for assistance with their homework. Homework is issued on Monday and due each Friday.

**Attendance:**

**Current Class Attendance levels:**
The target for all Far North Queensland Schools is 95%. Currently our school is on 93.9%. These percentages are an improvement from this time last year. Congratulations! Please remember that every day counts. Students who miss school, rapidly fall behind their peers under the demands of the curriculum. Attending school is compulsory with **minimum** attendance expectations being 85% across a 12 month period.

**P&C - We need more people please.**

Our next P&C meeting will be on **8th March 2016 at 2:30pm.** This meeting is the Annual General Meeting. I would like to encourage all parents and members of the wider community to consider getting involved. Please remember you do not need to have a child at the school to be involved. Everyone is welcome.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tess Lowmow, Margaret Korsch, Melissa O’Shea and John Kotlowski for all their hard work throughout 2015 with our P&C.

**Cross Country**
Our school Cross Country is planned for **Thursday 24th March 2016 commencing at 8.30am.** This is the last day of Term One. Our P&C are kindly organising a BBQ lunch for students, parents and families attending our cross country.

**School Leaders:**
Congratulations to our four school leaders for 2016:
William Able, Patrick Cockburn, Danika Diamond Lee and Kira Lowmow.

**Parade** is now being held on **Friday afternoons at 2:15pm.** Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Wireless Upgrade Project:**
Our Wireless Upgrade Project is now nearing the installation phase. This is an exciting $15000 project which will provide the most up to date and fast internet access for our students.
In the Classroom

English:
Our students in Prep-2 are exploring emotion in picture books. They are learning how to listen and speak in conversations and discussions. Students have explored the actions and emotions of characters, examining language and images. They will present written and spoken ideas about characters and literary texts.

Our 3-6 students are currently working on creating persuasive texts. In this unit, students read, view and analyse digital, written and spoken persuasive texts. They use their growing knowledge of literature and language to write a persuasive text.

Science: All students are investigating The living world

Our Prep-2 students are working to identify that living things have basic needs, including food and water, and have a variety of external features. They are learning to describe how living things change as they grow. Students also are working to understand that the needs of living things are met in the different places in which they live and suggest actions to improve the health of a habitat for living things.

Our students in 3-6 are learning to understand what constitutes a living thing, and that living things can be distinguished from non-living things. They are working towards justifying groups of living and non-living things according to observable features, and recognise once-living things.

Whole school integrated project: Australia

With our new class set up has come new and exciting opportunities for the delivery of the curriculum. Each Friday, students are participating in an Inquiry Approach to education. This approach covers the Key Learning Areas of Geography, History, Technology and The Arts. It is therefore extremely important students attend school on Fridays. Our Semester one Friday project work surrounds the theme of Australia. So far we have explored where our country is in relation to others in our world. We’ve had a closer look at our States and Major Cities plotting them along with Cartographic features on maps. Students picked a State to research and presented information about the Flag, Coat of Arms, and the Floral, Fauna and Gemstone Emblems. Last week students focused on Indigenous art and created some fantastic dotted pieces of work in natural earthen colours. In the following weeks students will be learning about Australian population, climate, culture and different lifestyles, along with significant landmarks both natural and man-made.
Hello everyone,
It was great to see all our students buzzing and happy to return to school. We have already had our Idol commencement meeting and interested students have taken the necessary paperwork home to be signed. When the forms return with the annual fee student will start their lessons.
This term we are very excited because the music room is getting a major workover, starting with the purchase of new music equipment. This equipment comes to the value of $7500, which was so very kindly donated by the Chillagoe-Dimbulah Daylight Lodge. This includes a larger PA system, electric drums, 2 guitar amplifiers, 3 new percussion sets, a bass guitar, 4 good quality microphones, and several other upgrades and consumables. These items should arrive at the school later this term so watch out for the new sound and excitement in the students (and Miss Penny!). We will also be acquiring new curtains and storage facilities for the room. Feel free to pop in and check it out when it arrives.
Cheers!

Students of the Week

Week 1: Ellen Gordon and Glenanne Fred for settling well in Prep.
Week 2: Lynette Diamond Lee and William Able
Week 3: Chloe Crossland and Aldoray Thomas
Week 4: Justine Johnson and TeAwhina Kotlowski