From the Principal

As most of you may be aware, I have been on sick leave for the first five weeks of this term. Over the holidays, I spent some time in the Royal Brisbane Hospital and was diagnosed with a medical condition which is now being treated and managed. I would like to take this opportunity to recognise and thank the amazing staff and community of Mount Kilcoy State School. It was such a pleasure to come back and share in the success of our staff and students over the past five weeks. The Mount Kilcoy team is a terrific example of what can be achieved when everyone is working together, for the students.

I would like to specifically thank June Tones and Andrew Triggs for their efforts in the Acting Principal position. Their depth of knowledge, range of diverse skills and leadership abilities are a real asset to our school. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of Kylie Fry in our office. Kylie’s tireless efforts ensured that everything ran smoothly, supporting the staff, students and parents throughout this time. It’s great to be back!

Selina Barry
Principal
Prep/1 News

As always we have been super busy in the Prep/One classroom.

We have just finished our fifth English unit for the year and the children have enjoyed creating characters for the 'Willy the Wimp' series. Please feel welcome to pop into our classroom and see the children's character illustrations displayed around our room.

We have also been busy continuing our practice of sight words. Some children have been working so hard at home using their sight word sheets that they have jumped two levels in only a couple of weeks! Well done and keep up the great work! Remember it does not take long to practise the words. Cut them out and put them on the fridge and the children can practise reading the words as they walk past.

Our school's book fair was yesterday and it was so exciting to see the children dressed up as their favourite book character. We had quite a range of characters, from 'Snow White' to a very funny looking 'Wonky Donkey'. The children had heaps of fun showing off their costumes.

We have a very busy term ahead of us so keep working hard Prep/One! :)

Paige Somerville

1/2 News

Thank you for the warm welcome as I have begun the task of getting to know your children and their strengths.

This term as usual, is proving to be a very busy one and I’ll just give you a brief overview of some of our learning experiences. Please try to discuss them at home when you get the chance.

In English we are learning to write procedures (eg recipes) and the second half of the term information texts. Our reading program includes daily reading groups, Accelerated Reader program and home reading each night. Spelling is sent home each Monday and the students choose their spelling activities to do each night ready for their Post-test on Fridays. The students will need to learn these as a part of their homework and in-class activities. I will give extension lists next week once I know which children will require them. These will be an extra five words.

Science this term is learning about the push and pull force in relation to toys and how they move. Please start collecting recycling materials, as the children will design and make their own moving toy. Please bring these materials in over the next two weeks.

Just a reminder to read every night and to bring homework bags each day.

Special Days

Library on Tuesdays- please bring library bags
PE on Tuesdays
Music Thursdays
LOTE- Culture Studies on Friday

Thank you once again for a great start to this term and I certainly hope I get to meet you in the following weeks.

Mel Burkett

3/4 News

This term is flying by! We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at the Ball Game Competition yesterday and also dressing up for Bookweek. Thanks to those parents who have supported these activities.

For the remainder of this term, we are focussing on Indigenous stories and the grammatical components within them. We will also be writing a retell of an Aboriginal story and sharing with our classmates. In Maths, we are looking at measurement using both formal and informal units. We will continue to work with fractions. Our goal now is to apply this understanding when completing problems. The year fours are also commencing multiplication operations. The recall of multiplication tables that we have been practising, is now coming into play. These will continue to be a part of our weekly homework, along with spelling and reading.

In Science, we are looking at erosion, why it occurs and what we can do to prevent this happening. So far the children are enjoying this.

Our highlight for the remainder of the term is dance, in readiness for the Fancy Dress Ball in Week 9! We have learnt the steps, so now our next task is to get our timing right and have fun with it.

Stacey Lambert

4/5 News

First of all, I’d like to thank Mr Dann for teaching Year 4/5 on Mondays and Tuesdays during Miss Barry’s absence. Mr Dann will also be returning when I take long service leave for the last three weeks of term.

The duration of each Australian Curriculum unit in English, Mathematics and spelling is five weeks. Each unit has set assessment tasks, both during and at the conclusion of the unit study. Due to many student absences in recent weeks, our novel study of ‘Rowan of Rin’ by Emily Rodda will conclude this week.

The next English unit will be about understanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s stories. Science and History studies will continue for the whole term.

Several weeks ago, I sent home Parent Interview forms for those parents who would like to take this opportunity for an interview this term. If you did not receive one and would like an interview, please ring the school or contact me at jtone4@eq.edu.au.

Well done to our students who have participated in recent sporting events. Good luck to Blake at the National Cross Country competition later in the week. Costumes for the Book Character Parade were excellent and this week we’ll begin dance practice for the Fancy Dress Ball on 12 September. Accelerated Reader targets for the term have been set at 12 points for Year 4 and 17 points for Year 5, so weekly monitoring is necessary to ensure readers are on track to meet these targets. Also, learning times tables each week for homework is important, as this knowledge forms the basis of many areas of mathematics. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to enter the Science competition for the Science Spectacular at the Kilcoy High School tonight, which will be lots of fun if you can make it.

June Tones
Well, who would’ve thought it possible…… Here we are in week 6 already! The last few weeks have gone past in a blur and we have had our noses well and truly to the grindstone here in the 6/7 classroom.

Our English unit is progressing well, with students now having read eight chapters of the hybrid text “Black Snake” about the life and times of Ned Kelly. We have also been busily adding to our journal entries about whether Ned is a villain, a victim or a hero after each chapter. It has been great to see the discussion which has been generated by the narrative sections of each chapter….turns out that Ned wasn’t that ‘bad a bloke’ afterall. At the end of this unit, students will complete an assessment in comprehension and also have a chance to write their own narrative-based story on an event in the life of one of the characters in the Ned Kelly saga.

In maths, students have been learning about financial matters, including knowledge of decimals, percentages and fractions, adding and subtracting decimals and calculating discounts and interest rates. We have also utilised our online Mathletics program more regularly over the last few weeks to try and consolidate some of our learning… Please feel free to access this program from home as a part of homework tasks!

Well, that’s it from me for this edition. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child’s progress, please feel free to contact me at school on 54981777 or email me at atrig3@eq.edu.au

Andrew Triggs

**Science Show**

Next Wednesday afternoon, 27 August, the QUT’s Science and Engineering Faculty will be presenting a free Street Science Show for our students. This is part of primary schools celebrating National Science week.

**Prep Enrolments for 2015**

Mt Kilcoy State School is now taking enrolments for Prep in 2015. Enrolment packages can be collected from the school office. Prep Orientation days will be organised for term 4. Please return enrolment forms prior to term 4 to participate in our Orientation Days.

**Parent/Teacher Interviews**

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on Monday 8 September in the school library. Interview notes will be sent home within the next week. Please complete and return to the school office as soon as possible.

**Ballgames Carnival**

Thank you to the parents/caregivers who came along to our Ballgames Carnival yesterday to cheer on the children. Even with the August winds, we still managed to have a great day. Congratulations to Yuranga House for being the champions on the day.
Administration

- Please ensure that when you visit the school grounds, you sign in at the office first. This is to ensure that we are complying with Education Queensland Policy and our Critical Incident Policy.

- As you are aware, schooling every day is most important. Please contact Kylie in the office to record your child’s absence. If you are sending a note, please ask your child to take it to the office.

- Please remember when collecting children, they are not to cross the road unless accompanied by an adult. Students are to remain within school grounds until collected. Please do not walk behind the cars in the staff car park. Use the concrete path and personal gate on the lower side of the car park.

- Students are not to arrive at school before 8.15am, as no supervision is available before then.

P&C News

The P&C meeting will be held tomorrow in the school staff room at 3.30pm. We would love to see any new parents/caregivers come along and join in.

I would personally like to thank all parents/caregivers who provided cupcakes, and also helped in the canteen for Athletics Day. A BIG thank you, to Mrs Fry and the other volunteers for their work involving the school tuckshops.

Remember Fathers’ Day is just around the corner. The P&C will be selling gifts to celebrate this very special event. Watch this space for more information.

For any further information about the P&C or to forward ideas, please email me at michael.main76@gmail.com

Michael Main
P&C President