From the Principal

ATTENDANCE
Once again, I am very pleased to report that we still have five of our students maintaining an attendance rate of 95% or higher. Congratulations to Charlea, Tristan, Thalia, Cassidy and Alice for your super efforts. A huge thanks also to your parents for ensuring that you are attending school each day. Our present overall school attendance rate is 94.3%. This is AMAZING!!! Our target of 95% is getting closer and closer! Just remember that every day your child does not attend school not only affects our overall attendance rate, but also reflects in the progress that your child is making at school. If you haven’t already done so, check out the Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV.

http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland

PARADE
Our first parade was held on Friday morning, 23rd May; and it was absolutely wonderful to see so many parents and community members turn out for this event. The students loved sharing their completed assessment pieces with those present. An incredible amount of hard work and learning goes into completing each of these pieces, and it was lovely for this to be recognised by such an appreciative audience. Hopefully next parade we will be able to show you all how our new spelling program works and the theory behind it. Our Award winners from this parade are listed elsewhere in this edition.

NW HEALTH
Last Thursday afternoon, Cassie and Ellie from North West Health came to the school and spoke to the students again about the importance of eating correctly and also keeping your teeth clean. They made some very tasty, healthy snacks; and gave each child a toothbrush and toothpaste. Thanks Cassie and Ellie.

HOMEWORK
This last week has been particularly disappointing with regards to children completing their homework in a neat and tidy manner. We now have copies of the neatest page of each child’s Homework Book on display, and if nightly homework is not of the same standard, then no sticker will be awarded. This means that your child will not get the week off homework for that round. It has also been disappointing that not all students have completed their tasks each night. Please help your child to complete their tasks each night to the best of their ability, so they can get their stickers and then their week off homework.

RETURNING SCHOOL ITEMS
Some children have also been forgetting to return their Weekly Report Folders. Students spend about an hour each Friday morning reflecting on their week so that they can share it with you, their parents. It is extremely important that each and every child reflect on what has happened at school during the week, as it engages their brains and reminds them of what has been learnt. These reports also chal-
Challenge your child to think very carefully about not only their behaviour and effort for the week, but also about how they feel they are progressing towards meeting their individual goals and targets. Please take the time to share these with your child and write a thoughtful comment, as this will further encourage your child to become a successful learner.

**TOILETS**
When Mr Dave Mantan - our ARD - visited the school last month, he noticed that our new toilet block was not all that satisfactory. Upon returning home to Gladstone he made some phone calls on our behalf, and as a result of this I have been speaking with the Regional Facilities Manager, and also our Senior Facilities Officer. Both have informed me that the defects that are still apparent in this building WILL be rectified; and also that the covering to try and keep them cooler in summer will be built. As well, we are discussing the height of the urinal and trying to work out how it can be lowered to be more user friendly for our younger boys.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
Last week I returned from the Regional Principal’s Conference. At this conference we spent a day working our way through the Quality Schools, Inclusive Leaders Program; a day listening to Dr Jim Watterston, the Director General of Education, and several members of his staff; and two days working with the Central Queensland Regional Director and ARDs. These four days were all about the direction Education is heading in Queensland, and ultimately how Principals can improve student outcomes through high quality Instructional Leadership. Whilst this was very reaffirming of quite a few of the practices we already have in place in Bedourie, it was also rather daunting, as there are still a large number of things to be done in order to keep our little school at the forefront of educational practice.

**REPORT CARDS**
Semester One Report Cards will be mailed out during the first week of the holidays. Terri and I are just waiting on results from our last rounds of testing before finalising them.

**THE NEXT TWO WEEKS**
These next two weeks are going to be chaotic and full steam ahead as we rush to complete all of our tasks for the semester. The chaos will be compounded by the fact that both Terri and I will be away for most of this time. I will be leaving on Tuesday morning to attend workshops and meetings in Longreach and Jundah as part of our CoWSS combined Great Results Guarantee funding; and Terri will be leaving for Townsville on Thursday afternoon to attend some Professional Development on Brain Gym. This is a program that activates both sides of the brain to ensure that students are using their full brains when learning, and will join very nicely with our new Write2Spell Program. Mr Adam Hammer will be working with the students from Thursday afternoon through until the afternoon of Friday, 20th June. During this time, on Monday, 16th June, the students will be treated to a [leatherwork and canvas painting workshop](#). This is being provided through our partnership with Red Ridge, as it brings its creative space to our community.

**WINDORAH SPORTS CAMP**
Both Terri and I will arrive home in time to take the children to Windorah. All children to be at the school by 7:30 am sharp, as all bags will have to be bagged into plastic bags to stop them becoming dusty. Don’t forget to bring your home bake items as well. It would be great if these could be placed into disposable containers (eg ice cream tubs). I have attached the What to Bring List for those who have misplaced theirs. Don’t forget to clearly label all items of clothing that you pack!

Leanne Hohnke-Jansen
Principal

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**Congratulations to our Parade Award Winners**

| Most Improved English: | Tristan Warren |
| Most Improved Maths: | Cassidy Bell |
| Book Work Award: | Dakota Crombie |

**Gold Attendance:** Charlea Smith, Thalia Saunders, Tristan Warren, Cassidy Bell, Alice Jansen

**Silver Attendance:** Christian Jackson, Vada Thomas, Orin Thomas, Cherokee Crombie, Dakota Crombie
WINDORAH SPORTS CAMP  
23 - 27 June, 2014  Be at school by 7:30 am sharp

WHAT TO BRING
Please ensure that all items are clearly marked with your child’s name. All children will require clothing for five days.

- SLEEPING BAG, SHEETS, PILLOW
- HAT (no caps allowed)
- INSECT REPELLENT (if you think it is necessary)
- SHORTS and SHIRTS (four changes)
- TRACK SUITS and/or JUMPERS (enough for each night)
- SOCKS (enough for each day, each night and a few spares)
- UNDERWEAR (enough for each day, each night and a few spare)
- SHOES (joggers) and an extra pair for night time
- NIGHT TIME CLOTHES for night activities
- PYJAMAS
- TOOTHBRUSH & TOOTHPASTE
- BRUSH and/or COMB
- SOAP
- TORCH
- TOWEL for showering
- THONGS for showering
- SHOPPING BAG to take gear to showers
- HOMEBAKE your donation of cakes, biscuits etc for morning and afternoon teas
- MEDICATIONS (Clearly labelled and handed to Principal/Teacher BEFORE leaving)