Welcome back for Term 3, I trust that all parents and students had a fantastic break and everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday. We had a terrific first semester for 2014 and I hope that all parents and students have taken the time to reflect on their report cards and are setting themselves goals for this semester based on the recommendations and feedback provided. If any parents or students have any questions relating to report cards please come and see me at the school, or if you are a student wanting more advice or feedback on ways that you can improve your results for the next semester. Advice will be given at all points through the coming units and during our goal sessions, so make sure you take the time to utilize this feedback and suggestions.

At the end of last term Birdsville State School participated in the annual Windorah Sports Camp. I am very proud to pass on that all students represented Birdsville State School in a very positive manner. I took the time to ask each teacher that was looking after our students during the week about the behaviour and attitude of our students and I received very positive comments. One teacher commented that “The Birdsville students are noticeably happier and more excited. The changes in attitude from Windorah Sports Camp from last year to this year are huge”. I was very proud to hear this comment and I think all parents and students should be proud of their achievements. Remember school isn’t wholly based on academics; it is our responsibility to ensure that all students are building confidence in themselves, and developing skills necessary for being an active participant in society. Well done to all students for this improvement! I would also like to congratulate Izayah Gilby who was voted by all coaches and his teacher, the best senior student of the camp. Sam Hannan is also to be congratulated for being voted by all coaches and his teacher, the best middle primary student. Both of these awards required our students to the best behaved in their group, seen to be encouraging all students, trying their hardest at all sports, interacting with coaches and overall the best student in their group across the whole week. We are very proud that Birdsville was able to pick up 2 awards at the sports camp and all students are to be congratulated. Well Done! Thank you also to the parents, teachers and coaches for all of their hard work over the week. Prue Hannan was kind enough to provide assistance to the Windorah P&C for the week and also provided transport for our students. We would like to thank you for your time and support during this week.

Birdsville and Bedourie have looked into quotes for a combined school camp that will be taking place over the last 10 days of Term 3. I am hoping to have a meeting with parents to go over all details in the coming weeks.

School opinion surveys will be handed out for parents to complete next week. We would love for all parents to take this opportunity to provide the school with this beneficial feedback. This data is vitally important for us to identify any concerns and develop strategies to improve. The process is now completed online. If you are unable to connect to the internet home, please come and see me at the school and we can provide you with access using the school computers. Students in grade 4-7 will be completing this survey at school during week 2 of this term.

This term has also seen a reshuffle with our Assistant Region Directors. I am very pleased to announce that for the remainder of this year Birdsville State School will be under the supervision of David Roach who has been acting in this role in the eastern part of our region and was just provided with permanency this term. David was previously the Principal at Highland School. We are very lucky to have the opportunity to work with David and I look forward to all of you meeting him when he has the opportunity to come to Birdsville. I would like to thank Dave Manttan who was our fabulous ARD for the first Semester and we wish him luck with his new schools.

As you would all know at the end of last term, I spent quite a few weeks away at various conferences. I am very happy to be back at school and love being in Birdsville everyday working with my students. While away I participated in the Regional Principals Conference in Gladstone which was attended by all principals in the Central Queensland Region. This conference was my first and was by far the best Professional Development that I have participated in. Our focus for the conference was building our Instructional Leadership and I look forward to utilising the lessons taught at this conference to improve my leadership and continue to develop as the Principal at Birdsville State School.

You may have seen around the town that we have a position open at the school. We require a new teacher aide to begin week 3 of this term. If you feel you have the necessary skills and would like the opportunity to work with our fabulous students please take the time to look at the expression of interest and apply at the school.

Thank you again to the parents and community for your ongoing support.

Yours in Education,
Tiffany Rigby
We are off and racing for Term Three. The kids are established in their routines and are demonstrating a high work ethic. With the implementation of our new behaviour plan, things at Birdsville State School will continue to become more consistent and positive as we work collaboratively with the school community. In maths, for Term Three we are teaching the concept number and place value every week, two times a week. For the other two lessons each week over the term we will investigate the concepts of measurement, fractions and decimals, money and financial mathematics and locations and transformations. Each term the curriculum is designed to build and extend on the students’ knowledge from the previous term.

For our second History unit students explain how communities changed in the past. They describe the experiences of an individual or group and they identify events and aspects of the past that have significance in the present. Year 3 will be assessment on their ability to explain how a community changed in the past. Year 5 is required to conduct a historical inquiry to investigate how Peter Lalor and the Eureka Stockade were significant in bringing about change in Australian democracy. Year 7 show their understanding through sequencing events about Egypt’s contacts with her neighbours and conflicts in her internal affairs and explain the effects of changes on Egypt’s administration; to explain and give reasons for the changes and continuities in the role of the nobility in Egyptian society.

I look forward to the term ahead and cannot wait to see what the students produce.

Any questions and queries, please don’t hesitate to get in contact.

Terri Davis

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BEHAVIOUR

Based on the latest (2013) school opinion survey, the school has identified some concerns around behaviour and the consistency with behaviour management at Birdsville State School, for this reason we have identified and created a behaviour program based on our 2013-2015 Responsible Behaviour Plan. Please see below for our new program overview.

Our three school rules are Be safe, Be Respectful and be Responsible. For these school rules we have identified what the associated behaviours would look like at various locations throughout our school including in the classroom, playground, toilets and bike racks. These behaviours have been verbalised to students and I have created poster sets that are displayed in all areas of the school that remind our students of these expected behaviours. Throughout the school day if students are seen or heard using any of these identified behaviours, students are provided with a ‘Pelican Point. Students then place these up in their designated area of the classroom. Students are expected to reach 200 Pelican Points by the end of this term and if so, will participate in a behaviour celebration with all staff, other students who have reached 200 or above and any community members wishing to participate. Students are also encouraged to be ‘on track’ to achieve 200 by the end of the term meaning 4 per day or 20 per week, for this reason surprise celebrations will be occurring for those students who are on track at the identified time.

On top of this each week all students will placed on to OneSchool (computer based data system-state wide) and all positive behaviours (Pelican points) will be noted in individual student records. All pelican points will be collated and one student will be selected each week as Behaviour student of the week. Students understand that the more pelican points received each week means more chances to win. Students are provided with a certificate and a free pass.

The school will be using data collected from OneSchool to identify behaviours that students may need assistance with along with any negative behaviours (which are also placed onto OneSchool) and work with staff to up-skill students. We also have a Targeted Behaviour Support Program which will be used when students have multiple negative behaviours recorded. This is called the RESPOND program which requires the student to have goals around behaviour that are monitored each day for 20 days. Students are required to check in each morning and afternoon with a staff member who will keep track of their behaviour. Students will be marked each lesson out of 3 for their goals and are required to achieve 85% or above for 20 days straight before they are taken off the RESPOND program. Students will celebrate success at the end of each week on the RESPOND program.

For any further information on our new Behaviour Program please come and see me at the school.
ATTENDANCE

I would like to congratulate the students on a terrific attendance rate for the first semester of 2014. Our students achieved 97.9% for the whole of term 1 and 2. Our students should be very proud of this effort as it exceeds the attendance average for our state. Parents are also congratulated on this as it is your consistency and commitment that ensures your child is at school at every day (unless sick). I’m very proud that the students at Birdsville State School want to be at school and understand the importance of coming to school each day.

Please remember that EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Does your child have a chance of being successful?

1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but…….

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses....</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is.....</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s...</th>
<th>Which means the best your child might perform is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 Days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 Days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 Days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing at grade 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Birdsville State School
"Strive to succeed"

At Birdsville SS
Every Child Matters, Everyday

HEALTHY EATING

Please remember the importance of providing your child with a healthy breakfast each morning and packing your child a healthy lunch. I have been quite impressed with the effort by most students with their lunches however at times it has been apparent that some students are bringing either not enough lunch or unhealthy choices. Please remember that students are required to bring at least one sandwich or equivalent per day. It is also encouraged that students bring plenty of fruit, vegetables and yoghurt. It is recommended that students are limited by the amount of packaged and processed food they bring to school as the preservatives and sugar that these foods contain, can have an impact on their ability to focus and learn.

Whole School Attendance Rate = 97.9%

COMMUNITY NEWS

P&C NEXT MEETING
THIS MONDAY 5:30pm
21st JULY at the school.