



# Mount Isa State Special School

## Moving Beyond Expectations

Newsletter 3rd November 2014

### THE PRINCIPAL

It has been a busy few weeks at school while being acting principal for two weeks. My class has been having lots of fun with Ms Jacquelyn. On Friday we had the pleasure of the RSL coming to visit us at Parade and present the school with a bronze plaque. The plaque has this message inscribed on it, "In memory of those who have fallen in past conflicts, Lest we forget." As a school we will make a special memorial place for our students and staff to remember, which will be especially important for next years anniversary.



On Friday we took all the students swimming. My class enjoyed the experience and all did very well. Please remember to bring togs, towels and spare change of clothes.

Alicia Scott  
Acting Principal





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### THE SENIOR CLASS

What a busy couple of weeks Senior class has had. Seniors have continued to work positively over the last few weeks. All of the students have been working hard on their class goals as well as personal learning goals.

Last Friday we enjoyed our first session at the pool. All of the students were exceptionally well behaved and everyone had a great time. Some students did 1:1 work in the pool with the EQ physiotherapist Alex. Everyone is looking forward to our next session at the pool.



Student of the week last week went to John Norman. John has just received a new wheelchair, despite some hesitation at first it is great to see John using his wheelchair around the school. Senior class is looking forward to finishing the year off on a high by working hard and coming to school every-day.

### THE MIDDLE CLASS

We have been having a lot of fun in Middle Class. We are learning about how to be a good friend and brother and sister. This week we learnt how to share from our friend Shauna Sheep, and then we made our own Sharing sheep to add to our class Social Skill Farm. We all had a lot of fun making our sheep and we're looking forward to adding lots of animals to our farm.

We have also been learning and practicing new skills using our body movements.

We are learning to use our upper body strength to push ourselves on the Scooter board. This has been really fun and we are aiming to get faster and faster each time we practice.

A big congratulations to the whole of Middle Class for having the best attendance in the whole school, with all students at school all week! Great job. Also congratulations to Kai for getting our Student of the Week last week for doing an excellent job at doing his work. and being gentle at school. Kyle has received our Student of the Week this week for being a wonderful role model to the other students in the class. Fantastic work Kyle!

Miss Jess & Miss Jodie





## THE PRE-INTENTIONAL CLASS

I have had the pleasure of teaching the Pre Intentional Class for the past two weeks whilst Miss Scott has been acting Principal. During this time I have had the opportunity to teach and interact with the four lovely students in the class during different activities including switch work, Science, intensive interaction and swimming. Grouped Reading, English and Science lessons also provided me with the opportunity to meet and teach the students in the middle and senior classes. During these lessons we had fun learning about the letters E and F and about solids and liquids. Students were able to melt ice-cream and then make a chocolate thick shake as part of their Science lesson on the characteristics of different types of matter. During lessons the students were always kind and friendly and happily participated in the learning activities. I have thoroughly enjoyed the past two weeks at MISSS and would like to thank all the staff for being so friendly and helpful.

Best Wishes  
Jacquelyn Lindsay

## STUDENTS ENJOYING THEIR SWIMMING LESSONS





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## THE CHAPLAIN

Sue Larkey is coming to Mount Isa on 4 & 5 November. She is unashamedly passionate about her mission - to inspire parents and educators and teach them how to *Make it a Success*. She is a highly qualified educator who has taught students with autism spectrum disorder in the mainstream and special schools. I'm very excited to attend her workshop on 4 November.



Our SEAT activities on Mondays are very exciting. The students are involved in discussions while doing art activities. In this photo 4 of our students, Rowena, Lionel, Emma and Cortnee, are showing off their finished artwork. We made hands that said "I Love you this much" and we discussed who they loved and what love is. I would like to see students discussing their feelings more when participating in the SEAT activities.

The Bridge Award Program is one of the most exciting things for the next few terms for Rowena, Emma, Anthony and Kayzha. I will have a meeting with these students on Monday, 10 November to discuss their goals with the program. We will have our first outing (Adventurous Journey) on 27 November. Keep an eye on this space for more information.



## for Thought

Food

Words – have you ever realised just how powerful they are? If you use your words for criticising, for judging others and for gossiping, then you have the power to cause a lot of heartache and upset. However, if you choose to use words to encourage others, to compliment others and to let people know how much you appreciate them, then you will have the power to make real and positive changes in people's lives.

In the Message Bible in Proverbs Chapter 18 verse 21 we read, 'Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit – you choose.'

Correctly chosen words can nourish your life and your relationships. Each time you say something nice to a person, you will see a change in their faces and that change will make you feel good about yourself. The positive influence that you will be having on others will also be having a positive effect on you.

Over the next few days, why not look for opportunities to encourage someone for their effort in having a go at something. Look for other people to whom you can offer a compliment and thirdly look for yet others that you can thank for something that they've done for you.

You will be surprised at how much enjoyment you will get from doing that.