



# Mount Isa State Special School

## Moving Beyond Expectations

Newsletter 11th August 2014

### THE PRINCIPAL



This term is well and truly on the way with many wonderful and exciting learning experiences for our students. The Challenges Games in Townsville and the visit to our friends at Magnetic Island State

School were experiences that we are certain many students, staff and parents will remember for a long time. The Games proved to be highly successful for our students with many achievements in many events. It was pleasing to see that all students wore the school uniform proudly and tried their best to represent the school.

There were many firsts and to name just a few: Anthony saw the ocean for the first time in his life and travelling from mainland Townsville to Magnetic Island was a highlight for him; Emma, Reece and Inez represented our school in receiving the Challenge Games trophy; Jack provided us with many laughs in the bus on the journey to Townsville and back; Kyle was away for the whole week from his home and demonstrated bravery and courage with the many changes around him; Kayzha showed just how fast he can run in beating many other competitors in the track events; our students met their new 'writing' friends from Magnetic Island State School and joined in with the school's NAIDOC program.

There is no doubt that planning for participation in the Games of 2015 will include a visit to our friends of Magnetic Island State School.

It is worthwhile announcing that Glencore have graciously donated \$5000 to our school for the purchase and placement of four new benches that have a purpose built overhang for wheelchairs. It is anticipated that these benches will be installed by the end of this term. Our current benches are very dated and unfortunately are unable to accommodate students in wheelchairs.

Also important to mention that as part of Disability Action Week, our school is conducting an 'Open Day' to showcase to parents, carers and

visitors what a wonderful and fantastic school we have here in Mount Isa. The date set for our 'Open Day' is Thursday 18 September. More information will be provided closer to the date, including a free BBQ by our school's Parents and Citizens Association.

Finally, school attendance is an issue that we take seriously. We believe that every day parents and carers support our school by preparing and sending their children to school is a day where they are winners. We often hear stories by parents that their children are keen to go to school which is great confirmation to us that our school is fantastic school. In addition, we provide students with great prizes from the Prize Box on Friday assembly when they attend five days in a week. Parents/carers names go into a monthly \$50 Coles card as a thank you for supporting the learning of their child.

Best regards,

Reno Tieppo  
Principal

### THE MIDDLE CLASS

We have had a great start back to the term. We are having a lot of fun with our learning and all students are trying their best to do their work and be good friends.

Last week we had camp. Kai, Inez and Kyle had a lot of fun in Townsville. Their highlights were catching the ferry across to Magnetic Island, finding shells along the beach and competing in all the sports events at the Challenge Games. All three students did very well. Travis, Cortnee and Lionel stayed back at school with the other students and teachers and continued their great work in Maths, Science and English. They did some wonderful work in the garden while we were away.

Miss Jess & Miss Jodie



JESSICA READER  
TEACHER



## THE PRE-INTENTIONAL

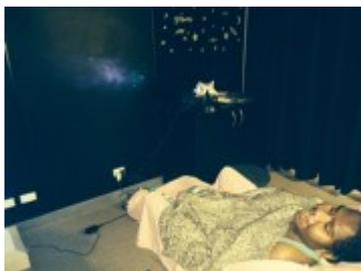
We have had a busy start to Term 3. Last week I was on camp with the senior students to Townsville. The students in my classroom continued with the same program thanks to my wonderful Teacher Aides and Miss Alex. We are busy working on new goals in the classroom. The students are working to their best. Alex the physio is helping with James fitness activities and Hakarsha has new AFO boots for walking and standing. We have a new garden out the back of the classroom which mainly consists of herbs. It is still a work in progress but is exciting to see it starting. James enjoys watering the plants and being outside. This week Geogina received the student of the week for participating with preferred activities with a big smile and laughter. As well Georgina received the star award for five days attendance. Well done Georgie!



ALICIA SCOTT  
TEACHER

Thanks

Ms Alicia Scott, Ms Kandice, Ms Suni and Ms Karen



Geogina enjoying the dark room

James enjoying entering a rodeo colouring competition



Hakarsha standing in the Multi-Sensory Environment room



## THE SENIOR CLASS

It's hard to believe that it is the end of week 4! Senior class have had a flying start to Term 3, with students still buzzing with excitement and stories from camp. Students have applied themselves enthusiastically with their Reading, English, Math and Science goals. Anthony has been doing some excellent work in Math groups around the concept of giving and receiving correct change. This is a difficult concept to master, so well done Anthony. Other students who have excelled this week are Reece and Kayzha. Both boys transition back from Reading groups with Miss Jess brilliantly and have displayed excellent effort and on task behaviour. Keep up the fantastic work boys!



Keep up the fantastic effort Seniors.

Miss Alex & Miss Andrea



On Wednesday this week, Big Al the rodeo clown and the rodeo queens visited our school to talk about the rodeo for the weekend. The queens were congratulated for raising \$80 000 for the Mount Isa community and in particular, the Flying Doctor Service. Big Al did some of his magic tricks which had students laughing. Kai and Travis tried to catch Big Al's coloured hankies and did a great job of this.



## Our School Shines in Townsville

The Challenge Games are conducted each year in July and students, staff and parents of Mount Isa State Special School attended this year's Challenge Games in Townsville. Events are focused on participation, personal best and having fun and include athletics and a range of field events. The Games commence with a march past and it was exciting to be acknowledged by the Game's announcer to everyone in the stadium that our Mount Isa uniform stood out from the others. This continued with many of our students demonstrating their skill, commitment and expertise in doing his or her best with many of the activities. All students came away from the Games with many, many ribbons of achievement. Whilst the Games were conducted over two days, our students were guests of Magnetic Island State School where they joined in NAIDOC activities prior to the Games. Four of our students have been writing letters to students of Magnetic Island State School which provided a wonderful connection between our schools. Planning is already underway with the Games for next year.

On behalf of the staff, students and parents, we would like to thank **David McBride** of **DJ McBride Haulage**, **Kent Steve** of **RKS Contracting Services** and **Robbie Katter** for their support and generous donations towards our participation in the **Townsville Challenge Games 2014**