Welcome back to school for the 2015 year. The staff, the Year 2—6 students and I would like to make a special welcome to our four new Prep students—Amy, Baylie, Rebekah and Reggie. We all look forward to working with these eager students during this, their very first year of learning.

We have a very busy term to start the year and I will attempt to cover most of the activities in this newsletter.

**Staffing**—Miss McDowall, Miss Dempsey, Jacqui, Lis and Merrill will all be back this year, however Lis will be away for a few weeks here and there. She is completing her fourth year education prac and we wish her well in her pursuit of her education degree. It really is a great job!!!!

**Swimming** will commence as part of the HPE curriculum each Monday afternoon from Week 3 (9th February) to Week 9 (23rd March). The students will be leaving school at 2pm and we will be using the pool at Georgetown. Students will have their second lunch at school before boarding the bus and they will have a snack at the pool before returning to school at approximately 4.30pm. Please return your permission forms as soon as possible.

Our first **P&C meeting** will be held on Tuesday 3rd February. Everyone is welcome.

As with every start to the year, the students will be tested during the early part of the term. This **benchmark testing** is set by the Far North Queensland Region and will be used to gauge the level the students are at and to inform any level of assistance that may be required. It is extremely important that students are at school to complete this testing, so if your child has to be away from school, please let us know so that we can make arrangements for the testing to take place at another time.

I will be in Brisbane from 25th to the 28th February to attend the **State Principals’ Conference**. This conference only happens once every two years and is a great opportunity for me to keep up-to-date with what is happening in state education.

We will be attending the **Croydon Eisteddfod** on Friday 27th March. This event is held in the evening and we will be travelling to Croydon by bus and returning to Forsayth when the Eisteddfod is over. They are also hosting a swimming and touch football carnival, so if there are students who wish to attend, please see me.

We then finish the term on 2nd April with **Good Friday** falling on the 3rd April. Phew—I’m eggcited!!!! 😊

Until next time,

Regards

*Carol*