To all families, I welcome you to the 2016 school year. We have started the year with many new students enrolling. Our new and existing staff have been working together to establish high expectations in relation to behaviour and achievement.

This year we are working together to explicitly improve both attendance and writing. We have a number of new initiatives, which will be embedded within our school throughout the year to enhance improvement in these two areas.

This week we have been working through the student Leadership Team selection process. I am very pleased to announce the following students have been selected by staff and students to represent the student body.

School Captains: Mareeka Hill and Brock Jarick
Mimosa House Captain: Tyrell Conway
Dunstan House Captain: Melanie Hamilton
Year 3/4 Class Captains: Mackayla Oakley and Xavier Austin
Year 5/6 Class Captains: Dakota Saltner and Tully Austin
Year 7 Class Captain: Abram Adams
Year 8 Class Captain: Rhianon Adams
Year 9/10/11 Class Captain: Strayte Huxley-Wilkie.

I look forward to working with this Leadership Team to support improvement throughout our school.

Open communication between parents and staff is imperative in relation to supporting the wellbeing, behaviour and achievement of all students within our school. Teachers are available on email, or for a face to face meeting by phoning Admin to arrange a suitable time for an appointment.

We value feedback to support growth within our school.

Kind regards,
Melissa Austin

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**YEAR 4-10 CAMP 2016**

This year’s camp will be held at Boyne Island Environmental Education Centre. This Education facility is located 20 minutes south of Gladstone on the Boyne River. Please visit this website for more information about the camp facility, surrounding area and activities: [https://boyneisleec.eq.edu.au](https://boyneisleec.eq.edu.au)

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**ACTIVITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1st Mar</td>
<td>Travel to BIFEC</td>
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<td>Leadership Activities</td>
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<td>Initiative Games</td>
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<td>Trivia Evening</td>
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<td>Wednesday 2nd Mar</td>
<td>Facing Island Day Trip</td>
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<td>Human Introduced Erosion</td>
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<td>Coastal Features</td>
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<td>Thursday 3rd Mar</td>
<td>Tannum Sands Beach Trip</td>
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<td>Surf Awareness</td>
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<td>Tube/Board Rescues</td>
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<td>Board Work</td>
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<td>Beach Games</td>
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<td>Surf Swimming</td>
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<td>Evening River Walk</td>
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<td>Friday 4th Mar</td>
<td>High Ropes</td>
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<td>Pamper Pole</td>
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<td>Mangrove Study</td>
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<td>Travel to Baralaba State School</td>
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**AWARDS**

Week 2

Sierra - Principals’ Award for being a supportive big sister.
Will – Super Speller.
Jhrayne – Fantastic Listening.
Luka – YCDI Organisation Award for neat bookwork
Allan – Responsibility Award for showing respect and being a responsible learner.
Clinton – Principals’ Award for transitioning into Year 7 and being a positive role model.
Miles – Student of the Week for Great Effort.
Geoffrey – Fantastic Listening.

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Jorja – Very neat writing.
Damien – Student of the Week.
Charlotte – Writing Award for beautiful handwriting.
Jack – YCDI Confidence Award for attempting all bookwork independently.

LEADERSHIP SPEECHES

FROM ADMIN

Please remember that all visitors/parents must report to the office as soon as they enter the school grounds. It is our duty of care that all persons on school grounds are accounted for. It is a major part of the safety of our school. Also, all students that are arriving late or leaving early, must be signed either in or out at the Office by a parent or carer, before they can enter/leave the school grounds. Again, we are accountable for all students and their safety.

If any of your contact details have changed over the holidays (Address, phone number etc.), could you please let the school know. It is essential that the school has the most up-to-date details to be able to contact parent/carers, especially in emergency situations.

Parents or Carers are required to notify the school of student absences. You can do this by phone or email. We require the students name **AND** a brief description of why they are absent. The school also needs to be contacted if your child is going home in a way that is different to their normal route.

Permission to be on the school grounds outside of school hours can only be granted by the Principal. There is to be no unauthorised persons/children on the grounds after school or on weekends.

YEAR 9/10/11

Hi there, my name is Sara Saldez and the students call me Miss S. I am new here to Baralaba State School this year, and term one is off to a flying start. I love the year 9/10/11 class that I have, and look forward to all the serious learning and serious fun we are going to have this year. I am originally from the Brisbane/Gold Coast and will now call Baralaba home. I have taught in Queensland and NSW and even in a small country on a Caribbean Island. I bring with me a love of learning, a passion for working with youth of all ages, and an energy and enthusiasm that I hope will affect these students in the best way possible. I look forward to meeting all the parents throughout the year at the various functions and will continue to update you throughout the year on all the wonderful achievements that the students make.
YEAR 5/6

Hello Baralaba School and wider community!
I am very excited to be working in this wonderful community as the Year 5/6 teacher. I grew up in Duaringa and spent several years working as a teacher aide and administration officer at Duaringa and Gogango schools before I headed north last year, for my first year of teaching. I am glad to be back closer to family, friends and the rural way of life.

With the help of an inspiring young man by the name of Kid President, I have a strong passion for inspiring all students to ‘become more awesome’. I hope to instil enthusiasm, pride and persistence into the classroom. I look forward to working with parents, families and the community to help students become the best people they can be. I hope to meet more of you around the place.

Miss Katie Dunne 5/6 Class Teacher

YEAR 7

Hi! My name is Debbie Read and I am very excited to teach grade 7 and be part of the Baralaba State School team. This will be my 13th year as a teacher. I’m originally from NSW (Go the blues!) and spent time studying and teaching in the USA before moving to Queensland last August.

We have some fun units of work planned for this term: Water – Waste not, want not and Persuasion in media and speech (so be on the look-out this term for rhetorical questions, the tricolon technique and emotional appeals when your children are wanting you to do something for them.) We have already experienced how effective a persuasive speech can be and had the pleasure of congratulating Brock on becoming one of the 2016 school captains earlier this week. Congratulation also goes out to Mareeka in grade 9/10.

When I am not teaching or planning awesome things to do at school… I enjoy reading, making teaching resources, visual art, swimming, camping, photography and travelling.

I love our little school and love having the opportunity to be able to get to know you and your children over the coming year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at dmrea0@eq.edu.au

YEAR 8

My name is Allan Read and I’m the Year 8 teacher at Baralaba. I’m experienced with working with both Primary and Secondary students. Before coming to Baralaba I was at the Gold Coast. I have also taught in the USA and NSW. I have been teaching for 13 years and find my previous careers helpful in sharing my knowledge and skills with my students. Thanks for welcoming me to the community and I look forward to catching up sometime.

Allan

Resource Centre News

Greetings for 2016 – it is so good to be back after the summer vacation and a special welcome to our Preps and other new students and teachers.

Primary classes from Prep to 5/6 have again been allocated library time this year on a Tuesday and this is a good time to borrow and return books – with the Junior Secondaries students coming at a time suitable to their teachers.

All primary students are required to have a library bag as advised in the school prospectus. Library bags come in all shapes and sizes - as long as they are made of sturdy material to protect the borrowed books and named they are suitable. Named plastic document folders are also an acceptable option but until students have their own library bag they can borrow a plastic bag from the library.

The Resource Centre is open daily at first break play time and it is pleasing to see so many students spending time here engaging in a variety of actives.

If you haven’t seen our Resource Centre you are very welcome to come and visit.
“Australia: Story Country” is the Book Week theme for 2016 celebrated from the 20-26 August.
Yours in reading,
Julie Webb

**Kids APT8 on Tour**
The school is very pleased to present the APT8 Kids on Tour from the Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA). This free event will enable children to experience and explore contemporary art from Australia, Asia and the Pacific through a range of drawing, making and multimedia activities.
The school’s Resource Centre will be the venue on Wednesday, 24th February from 3.00-5.00 pm. Afternoon tea will be provided prior to the commencement of the activities.
This is a fantastic program and we are privileged to be invited to participate for the 5th year. The On Tour program will comprise a range of artists projects developed especially for children and family audiences – parents/care givers are invited and encouraged to come along and join in the fun (especially of the younger participants).
A condition of the workshop is that photos be taken so a permission form is attached to the Local Link to be returned to the school if your child/children wish to participate.

Julie Webb and Miss Kyla

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**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB**
**ISSUE 1 DUE THURSDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2016**
When you place an order for Book Club you must:
- Pay in the form of a cheque written directly to Scholastic, online payment (www.scholastic.com.au/payment nominate our school when you make a purchase), LOOP or cash.
- Have only the correct payment as no change can be given.
- The payment must be placed in an envelope that is clearly labelled with your name and the payment amount.

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**UNIFORM ORDERS**
ALL uniform orders will need to be placed at the office in the drop box. The money needs to be in an envelope with the order form stapled to the outside of the envelope.
**CORRECT MONEY ONLY.**
Order forms are available at the office.
All polo shirts $30
Junior secondary jerseys $60
Jackets $35
Hats $12

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**HEAD LICE**
Head lice have been detected in the school.
**It is extremely important for you to check your child’s head for head lice TODAY**. Keep checking every 2 days until there are no head lice found for 10 consecutive days. If you do find head lice, commence effective treatment immediately and be sure to complete the process of treatment. This will help prevent head lice from spreading.
**Please do not send your child to school until all the head lice and the eggs are removed.** Treatments do not kill the eggs these have to be manually removed to prevent further hatchings.
If you require help or further information please contact the school and we will be happy to help and give you the “Managing head lice at home package”.

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[Image of Scholastic Book Club Loop poster]