Calendar of Events

**August**

- 3rd Ramona Farina from Italy is arriving.
- 4th Round table Meeting with Isaac Council.
- 5th Playgroup at 9am
- 5th Trudy Graham is visiting.
- 6th Afternoon tea for Jen & Ramona.
- 6th - 7th School Review Audit.
- 11th - 14th Camp at North Keppel Island Environmental Centre.
- 19th Playgroup at 9am
- 20th Ramona’s Aussie Day
- 21st - 23rd Campdraft
- 23rd - 28th Clermont ICPA Sports Camp.

**Sept/October**

- 19th September to 4th October – School Holidays
- 5th Public Holiday- Labour Day

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**Safe  Happy  Learning**

“*You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.*

*Clay P Bedford*

During my time as participant in the Take the Lead Small School Principal Program I was asked to give a short speech that summarised my philosophy of teaching, as well as my aspirations for leadership. I would like to share some of this with the Clarke Creek community to give you some insight into why I love and appreciate my job.

Firstly, I feel very grateful that I get to witness Queensland students succeed on different levels every day. I strongly believe in developing problem solving skills in order to allow students to apply their knowledge both inside and outside of the school environment. I have a strong teaching approach, whereby I will not ‘tell’ a student something that they can explore and learn about themselves. As stated in the above quote I want to see the students ‘learn by creating curiosity’.

In my short time at Clarke Creek I have been lucky enough to witness a community of encouragement and support that is reflected by the school culture and atmosphere. When I accepted the position as the teaching principal at CCSS, my aim was to not only keep the families and community informed of the curriculum, but to enlist you all to help me deliver it. I truly believe that our mutual support will result in the improved learning outcomes for our students and I very much look forward to watching the students grow over the remainder of the year.

Jen S

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**Welcome Jen Shackcloth**

Jen Shackcloth is our new Acting Principal. Jen has come from Glenvale State School in Toowoomba where she taught a Year 3 class. We hope you enjoy your time at Clarke Creek School.
Go n Run

Congratulations to Mick, Max, Cameron, Tiahna and Ty for reaching 125kms and for Lara Hart for gaining her 50kms Go n Run badges. What a great effort! Fitness is very important at Clarke Creek School. We run everyday.

Miss Ramona

Ramona Farina is from Italy – Milan and is in her 3rd year at university studying psychology. She has come to Australia as part of a Language Exchange Program where she is spending time at 4 of our local schools to help gain a better understanding of the English language and culture. Ramona has been teaching our students to count, the days of the week and a small presentation about each of the students in Italian. She cooked pasta with salmon and cheese and has been helping in the classroom with reading. The children love having Ramona in the classroom and playing games with them at lunchtime.

New Library Furniture

The students enjoy reading time on their new library furniture.
Science
The children this term are learning about Earth and Space. They are very excited to be learning about the solar system they live in and about the different planets. We watched a clip last week that involved a cartoon teacher asking cartoon planets about themselves. The children were heard in the playground repeating, “Red spot”. Which they learnt was Jupiter’s main feature. The children have asked on many occasions to watch this again and I had promised to put the link in the newsletter. https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=jEXWxNhqTzU

Who wants to be a millionaire challenge
During science and math warm-up’s on a Tuesday, the children will be playing our version of who wants to be a millionaire. They are asked questions that focus on our learning in class and are given 4 possible answers. They earn themselves money along the way. The aim this term is to be the person who earns the most money over 7 weeks. There is a special something at the end of the term for the top 3 money earners.

Art
This term the children will be learning string art. Over the last few weeks they have learnt all the techniques needed, and are now working very hard at designing their own picture. They are all very excited by this project and cannot wait to be allowed to use the hammers. Mrs Brady has done 2 examples up for them to use, that demonstrates what they can do, by adding 3 different pictures to create one big one.
On Tuesday we started camp week at the Capricorn Caves and on arrival discovered (much to the delight of the students and the sheer fear of myself), that the adventure tour involved headlamps, climbing on our hands, knees and stomachs and walking through the caves in pitch black darkness. However the feelings of everyone at the end of the tour were that of excitement and a willingness to do it again (except for Nate, who was quite content with only seeing the one cave and then wanting the tour to be done).

What a great Aussie afternoon. Our best dressed for the day was Bayden Reeves and the boy with all the moves on the catwalk was won by Nate Soutter. We also had thong throwing and other Aussie games. Ramona and Miss S were our judges. Ramona got to taste traditional Aussie foods including pavlova and experience Aussie games. Tomorrow is our last day with Miss Ramona. She is going to be missed.
As we boarded The Gundoo Spirit ready to set off of North Keppel, it was lovely to see the happiness on the student’s faces as they all road up front and took in the salt air and breathtaking view. Once there and settled, we combined with Comet State School and took the kayaks out. Bill and Holly (two of our camp teachers) showed all the students how to paddle as a team and how to capsize and get back into the vessel. It was a great afternoon and the only casualty of day 1 was the sunburn that took up residence on the back of my legs.

That evening, we boarded the Gundoo Spirit again and set off to catch some plankton. Everyone stood amazed as we were shown how the plankton glows fluorescent blue when disturbed. Back at camp we took our plankton catch to the microscope lab and classified the different species we caught.

On Thursday (after a good rest), we headed off with a picnic morning tea for a mangrove/beach walk. One of the highlights of the entire trip was the sinking sand. Our students ran, crashed, jumped and made their own unique imprints in the sand. It was great exercise for everyone and the fun the students had could not be measured.

That afternoon it was Clarke Creek’s turn to go snorkelling on the reef. Dressed in their wetsuits (and looking a lot like baby seals) our students took on the cool water to discover why the reef is famous around the world. We were delighted to see dolphins on the way to our snorkel spot and the squeals from our students let us know of their excitement. It was great to see everyone give it a go, even though the weather was a bit crisp.

The after dinner activity on Thursday night was a campfire and damper making. Both schools put on a little show by singing songs, chanting school war cries and even a little poetry recital. The weather was perfect for it and we did a little star gazing as the sky was so clear.

Before we knew it, we were packing up our cabins and loading the Gundoo Spirit ready to head home. We (and by we, I mean me), were all ready for a little rest on the bus trip. However, it was a true testament to how much the students enjoyed the camp as giggles and conversations flowed all the way back to Clarke Creek.

Finally, I would just like to say how proud I was of our Clarke Creek students. They were an absolute delight to take away and I think Roger (the island principal) said it best when he told me that he hadn’t had such a lovely, well-behaved school on North Keppel in a long time.
HappyBirthday!

Student of the Week

Tiahna Reeves  21st July
for Beautiful Manners.

Ty Soutter  1st August
for being such a great role model.

Tom Wallace  6th August
for being persistent with handwriting.

Tiahna Reeves  21st July
Ty Soutter  1st August
Miss S 31st August
Clarke Creek P&C News

Semester one at Clarke Creek has already been through for 2015 and the school year is flying by at a rate of knots. We have 9 students enrolled at the school at present 7 boys and 2 girls. Our small enrolment however has not stopped the P&C from forging on with fundraising and supporting the school and the students.

In term one the P&C took on the project of subsidising the new turf and outdoor courtyard at school. This project cost the P&C $15,000 which looking and utilising the area now has been money well spent. The children use it every day and with the dry conditions and water being valuable it had been a rewarding project. A big thank you must be made to Pat Moran for lending us his machinery and also Lenny Spencer for his relentless hours spent driving the bobcat and also his attention to detail. Stewart and Kerry Wallace donated the base material for the turf to go on and also helped out with the labour. The project however would not have got off the ground without the leadership of Elizabeth Hill and all her planning and hours of labour towards the project. Thank you David and Elizabeth.

Also thankyou to Ron and Bev White for the sand and the loan of their tipper. Penny Wallace for her irrigation supplies and the Isaac Regional Council for their support clearing the area.

Term two saw the P&C catering for the May Campdraft which through all our volunteer work and local community members helping out we raised over $5000. We would like to acknowledge and thank the Campdraft committee for this opportunity to fundraise and also thank them for purchasing the large boiler which is now permanent in the canteen for catering purposes.

Already in term three we have pledged $4000 to go to the school for our children to go on camp to Great Keppel Islands educational and environmental facility for this years whole school camp.

Sadly for our school community we saw the departure of our principal Mrs Lisa Roach at the end of first semester. We thank her dearly for the time, passion and pride which she put into our school and our children during her time here. We wish her all the best and every success as she moves onto the next stage in her career.

Following on from that we welcome to our school Miss Jen Shackcloth who has come from Toowoomba to experience our simple bush existence and teach our fantastic students. Welcome Jen and we hope you enjoy your time in our community.

Growing Characters Building Unity!!!

Kerry Wallace (President)