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4 May 2015

## Principal's Message



The first week of Term 2 has been packed with events.

On Tuesday, 20 of our school leaders had the pleasure of riding on the Troop Train to Barcardine. It was a great experience to ride in a steam train and to have the opportunity to talk to some old diggers.



On Wednesday, officers from the Army and Airforce addressed our students about careers in the Defence Force.

Thursday, our school Captains, Josh Keene and Georgia Goodman, accepted 90 badges presented to the school by the RSL. These badges recognise soldiers from the Longreach district who perished in action.



Friday, the school acknowledged Anzac Day at a special ceremony which was attended by special guests and

addressed by Peter Coombes who gave an excellent speech to students.

Saturday saw a record number of students attend the Anzac Day march in town. Students proudly wore the badges during the march. Josh Keene took part in the ceremony reading the second resolution.



### Staff:

We welcome a new School Nurse, Jo Harris, who has been appointed to the school.

### Students:

Only two weeks to go to NAPLAN tests from 12 – 14th May. Students have finished this round of Literacy and Numeracy testing which is currently being marked. The Numeracy tests have been entered and data is looking positive for an improved result in NAPLAN.

Mentor interviews are continuing with students being able to look at their own data and progress and to set goals around literacy and numeracy.

### Uniform:

With the weather turning cold, parents are encouraged to purchase the school jumper from the tuckshop - \$25 and all sizes are available.

At Monday night's P&C meeting, it was approved to amend the girls school uniform to include wearing black tights under the school skirt BUT NOT WITH SHORTS OR BY THEMSELVES (leggings).

### Upcoming Events:

Cross country – on Thursday afternoon students participated in the 2015 Cross Country in period 4. The course was run through the school, streets and around the race track.

**Lesley Andrews**  
**Principal**

## Thank You

The school would like to thank St Brigid's Parish and the St Brigid's Parish Drought Committee for the very generous donation for the students at our school.

This money was made available by St Brigid's Parish Drought appeal in appreciation of the fact that they recognise that the prolonged drought has had an impact on families. The intent of this donation is to ease the burden on local families so that students can participate in normal activities without financial constraints.

## Position Vacant

A temporary fulltime groundsman position at the Longreach High School is available for approximately 4 weeks starting Monday 4 May. If interested please call Kerrie Baker on 4652 8333.

## NAPLAN Preparation

**Dates: Week 4 – 12, 13 and 14 May.**

Whilst NAPLAN is a point in time test, it is based on the skills students require to be successful in their schooling and therefore can provide us with some good information about students' abilities.

To be sure students have the best chance of achieving their potential on NAPLAN day, there are some things you can do. With your child you can:

1. Discuss NAPLAN and focus on effort: "We want you to do your best" (nothing beats a good attitude!). This can also relieve anxiety if the focus is on effort.
2. Provide them with a good breakfast.
3. Encourage adequate sleep in the days leading up to NAPLAN.
4. Ensure they have a water bottle with them.
5. Ensure they have the materials they may need (pencil, rubber, sharpener, ruler, calculator).
6. Ensure students are at school on time.

By encouraging your child to be organised, persistent and resilient you are giving them the toolkit they need to do their best.

**Tania Schaller**  
**Master Teacher**

## Chaplain's Message:

### Chappy's Corner



In either Chappy's place or the library at the moment there are jigsaws waiting to be completed. Sometimes the jigsaws are done in a matter of days and sometimes it takes a few weeks. Sometimes there may be a piece missing and some have so many pieces of the same colour that we don't always get it quite right, or it can seem impossible because each piece is a small

photo which makes a bigger picture. It's only through determination and time that we are able to complete the puzzle. Time because you'll put a piece in what you think is the right place only to find out that there is a piece that fits better.

There are so many ways of relating puzzles to life. The analogy I'd like to use today is when we put a piece in the puzzle only to find out that it's not quite in the right spot, so we need to take the time to find where it fits properly.

We too can seem like we are not quite in the right spot, or that we not important enough to even be a part of a jigsaw puzzle. It takes time to find that right spot but you will find it. Teenagehood is a really trying time as we try to find out where we all fit into this puzzle called life; but if we take the time to learn from others, talk to others, enjoy the many experiences, it will make things so much more enjoyable. It's ok to not fit in at the moment, because in time you will. We are all important pieces of this puzzle called life; just because you haven't necessarily found your right "spot" yet, doesn't mean that you are any less important. Enjoy the experience, and take your time. Sometimes it can take a while to figure out where and how all the pieces fit, but if we take our time and allow others to help us, we can and do find our place in this puzzle. Enjoy the experience as it will make you a wiser and more resilient person in the long run. If we gave up on a puzzle at the first sign of trouble, we would never get any puzzles done and we would miss out on the sense of accomplishment that comes when a tough task has been completed.

So enjoy life, taking your time to find out where you fit; don't miss out on the joy of completing a tough task. You do belong; it just takes time to find out where. Like an old television commercial said "Good things take time".

**Jenny Edwards**  
**Chaplain**

## Drama

The Year 9/10 Drama class have been working on developing their basic acting skills this term, culminating in a group performance. In the following video, the Year 10s perform an excerpt from the play 'Why the World Needs More Unicorns', wherein a unicorn attempts to convince Noah to let her onto the Ark.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2ameSt0v5s>

**Erin Landles**  
**Teacher**

## Local children need local foster carers!

From our major regional centres to the smallest outback towns, we need more people who can take a local child into their home and provide the care and protection all children deserve.

Having local carers means when a child comes into care they can keep going to their usual school, stay in touch with their friends, community and culture, and remain involved in sports teams and other activities.

Foster carers are people of all ages, from a diverse mix of backgrounds. They might be single, a couple, or a family with

children of their own. What they all have in common is the ability to provide a secure, nurturing environment and the willingness to take on a challenging yet immensely rewarding role.

We'll be with you all the way, with training, advice, and round the clock support.

To find out more about becoming a foster carer, contact the Anglicare CQ foster and kinship care team:

***Emerald: 0437926462 or (07) 49824062***

***FKCIntakeWestern@anglicarecq.org.au***

## Coming Events

### P & C Meetings

The next P & C meeting will be held on **Monday 25 May at 7 pm** in the Library. Everyone is welcome to come along.