From the Principal
Hi! I hope you all had a sensational Christmas and New Year! Welcome back to the 2014 school year!
We have a very exciting year ahead and our calendar is already filling up!
Just a little about me, last year I started the year off teaching at Heatley Primary School in Townsville, then went to Trebonne State School in an Acting Principal role then finally ended back in Pentland acting for the rest of the year. I am thrilled to be part of your community and look forward to meeting everyone.

Welcome!
A huge welcome from our school community is extended to our new teachers, Miss Aleesa Swindlehurst and Miss Mel List.

Aleesa and Mel came to us from Brisbane, Miss List has undertaken the senior classroom and Miss Swindlehurst is the junior classroom teacher.

2014 REGIONAL FOCUS
Our regional focus areas are Reading, Writing, Attendance & Retention and Closing the Gap will be our key drivers in 2014. At Greenvale State School we will be focusing upon the above areas.

Regional Reading indicators to be achieved in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2:
Reading Benchmarks
Prep PM Benchmark 8
Year 1 PM Benchmark 16
Year 2 PM Benchmark 20

Reporting and Parent Teacher Interviews
During the year, students will be issued with several reports. These reports are:

• Twice a year parent/teacher interviews (term 1 and 3)
• End of semester report cards (term 2 and 4)
• National testing in years 3, 5 and 7 diagnostic report (early December).
These interviews are offered in term 1 and term 3 between teachers and parents to discuss student progress. Throughout the year additional interviews may be required and need to be arranged at a mutually convenient time. Should you wish to arrange a meeting please contact the school office.
From the Principal

Our Vision:
To provide a supportive and challenging school environment which recognises and values individual differences and equips students for tomorrow’s future.

Australian Curriculum

In English this term the P-2 students are investigating picture books and specifically looking at characters and emotions.
In Year 3-4 the students are delving into the novel ‘The Twits ’ by Roald Dahl. They are challenged to investigate the language structures to create this very clever set of characters!
The Year 5-7 students are reading a range of the short stories written by different authors. They will be investigating and comparing the differences in the ways the authors use language to create humour. During this term in Maths, students will be introduced to a range of concepts. These are listed below:

Prep – Patterns and algebra, number and place value, location, units of measurement.
One & Two – Number and place value, using units of measurement, data representation and interpretation as well as chance.
Three – Number patterns and properties, units of measurement (time), addition and subtraction as well as measurement (length) and place value
Four – Number and place value, fractions and decimals. Time and using units of measurements
Five – Number and place value, fractions and decimals, data and chance.
Six – Number and place value, fractions and decimals, data and chance.
Seven – Number and place value, real numbers, statistics and chance.

In Science this term the students in Years 3-7 will all be focusing upon the Biological Science (Animal Adaptations) where students will investigate how animals adapt their behaviour and structure to suit their Australian environment.
The P-2 students are investigating a unit called Finding Nemo! Where they explore that living things live in a range of habitats where needs are met.

In Technology the P-7 students are examining the presentation of information in packaging and promotional materials. Students will then choose an Australian product that they might like to design packaging and/or promotional materials for. Students will conduct a ‘product expo’ where they can launch their products.

In Art we are focusing our attention on the visual arts strand and learning all about colour schemes, and mixed and complementary colours, are used to create tone and variation.

In History the students in P-2 are learning about their family history. The students in year 3 and 4 are focusing upon celebrating and commemorating our history. The year 6 & 7 students are exploring the changes that shaped Australia and other societies (Greece).

In Geography the P-2 students will investigate places at a personal, local, regional, national and world scale. They will be learning to use geographical terms to describe the location and direction of places.

Mathletics and Reading Eggs subscription

This year the school has purchased subscriptions for the students to gain access to some online reading and mathematics programs. Reading Eggs is a literacy based program for the students up to grade 7. Mathletics is obviously a mathematics program for all grades from Prep through to High School. We have decided to trial the subscriptions for this year and will determine if we continue with the subscription towards the end of the year. These subscriptions enable students to work on interactive activities both at school and at home. The students’ login details will shortly be glued into their communication books so they can access it at home if required.
Our Strategies:
Improving student achievement in all key learning areas.
Demonstrate high quality teaching practises characterised by high expectations of all.

Reading Tips

Give your child lots of opportunities to read aloud. Inspire your young reader to practice every day! The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

- Once is not enough.
  Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps kids read more quickly and accurately.

- Dig deeper into the story.
  Ask your child questions about the story you’ve just read. Say something like, “Why do you think that happened”

- Be patient.
  When your child is trying to sound out an unfamiliar word, give him or her time to do so. Remind your child to look closely at the first letter or letters of the word.

Pick books that are at the right level.
Help your child pick books that are not too difficult. The aim is to give your child lots of successful reading experiences.

Interschool Cluster Sporting Events this Term

This year’s small school cluster sporting events will take place in Charters Towers, Ravenswood and Pentland. There has been some recent discussion and some dates have been set for the swimming carnival and the cross country. The Swimming Carnival which is hosted by Greenvale State School will be held in Charters Towers on the 19th March. We will be meeting at the Charters Towers pool for a 9.30 am meet and greet with a 10am start. We will conclude by 2pm and travel to Charters Towers Central State School where we will be sleeping the night. The host schools (Greenvale and Homestead) have organised for an artist in residence to venture to Charters Towers. Brian Doyle is a cartoonist and graphic artist who will engage and inspire students and teachers of all ages. Brian will work with the students for the afternoon.

Please check out this link for further details of Brian
http://www.visualartist.info/briandoyle/cv

The next day on the 20th March in Charters Towers is Cross Country which is being hosted by Homestead State School. At the completion of the day, schools return to their townships. More details will be sent out closer to the time!

Finally congratulations to the students who have had a sensational start to the 2014 school year! Your behaviour, work ethic and enthusiasm for learning is exceeding expectations! Well done!
Have a fantastic month!

Mrs Martin
Principal
Hi everyone,

My name is Aleesa and I am the Prep-2 teacher at Greenvale State School. I grew up and lived in Morayfield on the Sunshine Coast. I love being part of the Greenvale and Greenvale State School community. It is definitely a nice change of scenery to the big smoke! In my spare time I love to go travelling.

Looking forward to meeting you soon!

Hi, my name is Mel List

I was raised in a rural town called Elimbah, an hour north west of Brisbane. When I finished high school I travelled around Europe. I went to Germany to visit my family and see where I was born. As much as I enjoyed travelling, I missed our wonderful sunshine state.

Once I returned I commenced my degree and began working at Caloundra High School as a Teacher Aide. I graduated from the University of the Sunshine Coast last year. Whilst at university I taught at Goondiwindi State School & Wallumbilla State School. Both schools were much smaller compared to the schools I was used to on the Sunshine Coast. I had a great time teaching at these schools and engaging with the school and the school community.

I chose to commence my teaching career at Greenvale State School as I’ve always wanted to work at a remote school. I look forward to teaching here and can’t wait to find out more about Greenvale.
Our Strategies:
To provide a safe, supportive, inclusive and disciplined learning environment.

CODE OF SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR

Education Queensland is committed to provisions that ensure all students have a right to and receive a quality education. Greenvale State School is a “School Wide Positive Behaviour Support” School.

SWPBS is...

A process for teaching expected social, emotional and behavioural skills so the focus can be on teaching and learning. At Greenvale we support our students to learn the rules and expectations for their conduct through explicit teaching, encouragement, rewards and certain consequences.

Each week a specific expectation is taught to the students by their classroom teacher. For example, ‘Always use polite appropriate language.’ The expectation for the week is taken from the Safe, Respectful and Learner Rules. The expectations focus not just on behaviour but also academic, self-esteem, emotional self-discipline, and relationships. All the expectations are displayed in every classroom on the SWPBS expectation matrix. In week one the whole school focused on learning the school rules:

I am Safe
I am Respectful
I am a Learner

Week 2 – We are focusing on following instructions, our motto is first time every time.

Next week we are going to be focusing on being safe. Miss Swindlehurst and Miss List will be doing a role play on parade so be sure to come along at 9.00am on Friday morning to watch.

Week 1 Star Students

Hayley Atkinson, Chelsea Condon, Wade Jonsson, Alyson Marsterson, Claire Keough, Douglas Keough & Dean Jonsson
Our Strategies:

Confidence and pride in the school’s performance is developed through collaboration and consultation with students, staff, parents and community.
Our Strategies:
To provide a safe, supportive, inclusive and disciplined learning environment.