Dear Families,

It is with great pride and a little sadness that 2019 is coming to an end. The Burdekin Small Schools Swimming Carnival was another highlight of our term and it was great to see our students enjoying themselves and competing to the best of their ability.

Our Awesome Day at Billabong Sanctuary was just that, awesome! The students enjoyed interacting with the animals and we spent the day enjoying each others company.

The Annual Presentation Day was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our successes of 2019 and to wish our Year 6 students the very best for the future as they head off to high school.

Congratulations to our Award Winners:

Mary Terese Tracey Award—Sarah Evans
Academic Excellence Award sponsored by Wilmar Sugar—Cecillia Cason
Creative Arts Award—sponsored by Marie Finn—Cecillia Cason
Student Council Committee 2019
President—Cecillia Cason
Secretary—Saxon Hutchings
Treasurer—Sarah Evans.

Congratulations to each of our students for the achievements throughout the year.

Thank you to P&C Committee: Rebekah, Kim, Thomas and Michael for your support throughout 2019 and thank you to our parents and community members who have supported our school in many different ways. Our school flourishes because of your support and commitment to your children, so a sincere thank you to each and every one of you.

A sincere thank you to the dedicated staff at our school. Each of you contributes to our school and the success of our students, and on behalf of the students, thank you for helping our students grow and develop as wonderful members of our community.

Finally, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a safe and restful holiday and I look forward to 2020 with new students, new adventures and new goals.

Kind regards

Renee Cross
PRINCIPAL
WHAT IS OUR TERM 1 2020 FOCUS? WRITING, WRITING, WRITING

Provide a place for your child to write.

Stock the “writing centre” with supplies such as paper, pencils and crayons. You can also gather family photos and magazines in the centre that can be used as story starters.

Read, read, read!

Reading exposes students to general vocabulary, word study and content-specific vocabulary. Through reading, students see a variety of authors’ techniques that they can use in their own writing.

Provide authentic writing opportunities for your child.

Have your child write his own thank-you notes, party invitations and letters to family. Let your child make the grocery list. Finding a pen pal for your child would make writing “real.”

Be a writing role model.

Make sure your child sees you as a writer. Point out times that you use writing to communicate with others. When your child writes, you should write. You can schedule a day of the week that you will turn off the television and share your writing.

Ask questions.

Ask specific questions about your child’s writing such as: “How did that happen?” “How did that make you feel?” “Can you tell me more about that…?” “What are some other words you could use to describe…?”

Playgroup News

Last Monday was our last playgroup session for 2019! I know Miss Christina was feeling a little sad, but it is amazing to know that Cody, Bella and Dillion will join us at big school next year in Prep!

A sincere thank you to Miss Christina who has had a great time working with our little people and thank you to our parents who supported our Playgroup initiative.

Playgroup will begin again next year in Week 3 (as this stage) and we are looking forward to welcoming more little people to our school.

It is important to promote our playgroup in the wider community so children have a great foundation before heading to prep and we can encourage families to look a little further into the choices they make about education.
* Did you see us in The Burdekin Advocate? Students, Mrs Cross and Mr Last had their photo taken to tell the community about the installation of our school zone lights in 2020.

* Year 6 transition days will be held on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th December. Students are to be dropped off and collected from Ayr State High School and will need a hat, water bottle and lunch.

* Christmas Raffle tickets are on sale now! Hamper to be drawn at Presentation Day—Wednesday 4th December.

* The refurbishment in the Admin building will begin over the holidays. It is an exciting time for staff and students as the kitchen and storage areas are in need of an upgrade. Hopefully it will be finished before the commencement of our 2020 school year.

* An application has been submitted for chaplaincy support from 2020–2023. At this stage, the application is still under review so fingers crossed!

* Our new laptops arrived last week and are currently undergoing the installation of programs and operating systems.

* The installation of the wheelchair access toilet block will begin in the new year! The toilet block will also include a change table and shower facilities which are a fantastic addition to our facilities and we can support our students, their families and members in our community.

* An application has been submitted for chaplaincy support from 2020–2023. At this stage, the application is still under review so fingers crossed!

**Enrol Now for Prep**

Enrolments are **OPEN for Prep in 2020**.

If you have a child born between **1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015** they are eligible to enrol at our school next year.

Please see the Office Administration staff to collect an enrolment pack **TODAY**. All enrolments require a copy of your child's birth certificate and immunisation records.

The Prep Transition program **starts 23rd October**, Term 4 9am-10am. Dates and times are as follows:

- **Wednesday 23rd October** 9:00 am to 10:00 am
- **Wednesday 30th October** 9:00 am to 10:00 am

**Kalamia State School Application for a Chaplain**

The opportunity has come up for Kalamia State School to apply for a Chaplain!

A chaplain can help support students, and staff with emotional and spiritual support, provide an additional role model in the school and can be a resource for families as well. Chaplaincy services are inclusive of and show respect for all religious and non-religious beliefs and other stances within the community.
End of Year P&C Meeting

Thursday 12th December

3.30 pm in the
Conference Room

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2020.

Key Word Sign

Please
Move open dominant hand straight forward from chin,

Joke of the Week

What to you call a computer that sings?
A-Dell
AWARDS

Each week, our Student of the Week Award and Principal’s Awards are presented on Parade. Parade is held every Monday afternoon at 2.45 pm, either in the classroom or the undercover area (depending on the weather conditions)

The Principal’s Award for Week 7 was awarded to Jake Stephenson
The Student of the Week Award for Week 7 was awarded to Saxon Hutchings

Aussie of the Month Awards:
September 2019: Claire Griggs-Tetley
October 2019: Jackson Arboi
November 2019: Paige Colls

POSITIVE CULTURE 4 LIFE

Behaviour Focus for Weeks 1—4
- Week 7—I am Respectful: I am honest and truthful about my behaviour
- Week 8—I am Respectful: I am fair and show good sportsmanship
- Week 9—I am Respectful: I follow Instructions, first time every time

Awesome Days—We are going to Billabong Sanctuary and more surprises!

Thank you to our school community who have supported our Positive Culture for Life initiative.

I AM RESPECTFUL I AM SAFE I AM A LEARNER

SCHOOL REVIEW 2020

Kalmia State School will be involved in a Full School Review in Week 5 Term 1 on Monday 24th February and Tuesday 25th February 2020.

Every Queensland state school is reviewed by the School Improvement Unit (SIU) at least once every four years. The reviews are an important part of how the department monitors and supports schools. The reviews provide schools with independent feedback, tailored to their context and needs.

Each review team generally consist of two to four reviewers, and they will look closely at the school’s performance data and speak with a wide range of staff, students, parents and community members to get an accurate picture of the school.

The report details key findings and recommended improvement strategies to maximise student outcomes. The information will be shared with staff and the school community to help shape the school’s strategic direction.
One of the best things parents can give their children is a healthy attitude to living. There is a sense of satisfaction and achievement for parents who feel confident that their child is equipped to handle difficulties and challenges. We live in a world of uncertainty and change where many things are beyond our control. How we manage often depends on the way we see situations. Helping your child become an optimist and look on the bright side of life is a step towards preparing your child for a strong future.

What is optimism?

Optimism is being able to expect the best out of life’s experiences. It means having hope and a strong belief and confidence to deal with situations. Optimism is about thinking positively. Being able to look on the bright side helps all of us to get on top of challenges and manage life’s difficulties.

The importance of optimism

Remember the story of the little red engine from your childhood? When faced with the challenge of climbing the hill, the little red engine said to itself over and over again ‘I think I can, I think I can’. As it came nearer to the top of the hill it changed its chant to ‘I know I can!’ If, like the engine, children believe they can, they are more likely to give things a go. Psychologists who work with athletes to win often help them develop images of themselves succeeding or self-talk to help them remain positive through hours of training. This is optimism in practice.

Building blocks of optimism

The building blocks to optimism include:

- having a go
- practicing
- planning for the best outcome
- coming to terms with success and failure

Every time children achieve something they set out to do, they start to develop a belief that they can go on trying and have more successes.
Community News

**CHRISTMAS STORY TIME**
stories, carols, crafts & a special visitor
Friday 13 Dec 10:30am  Burdekin Library

**School Holiday Program**
FREE Ages 5-12
Bookings Required 4783 9970

- **Christmas Lanterns**
  Make your own lantern for the Community
  Christmas Carols
  Saturday 7 Dec 9am-1pm

- **Adult Christmas Craft**
  Book Art Wreath Refreshments
  Wednesday 11 Dec 5:30pm

**JANUARY EVENTS**

**SUMMER READING CLUB**
Stories are everywhere waiting to be discovered
JOIN THE CHALLENGE
From 1 Dec 2019
SUMMERREADINGCLUB.ORG.AU

Explore fashion and adornment through creative activities by artists from Australia and the Pacific when Kids On Tour comes to your local venue!

**FREE activities**
Come into Burdekin Library these January school holidays & enjoy a range of activities for all the family!
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm
Saturday 9am-1pm
108 Graham Street AYR
Summer Writing Club
For Kids
35 BOREDOM BUSTING creative writing challenges over summer!

- Beat boredom and become a better writer
- Sign up anytime
- 1st challenge available from December 16th
- New challenges unlocked daily
- Access challenges online anywhere, anytime
- Improve creative writing skills while having FUN
- Awesome Christmas Gift idea
- Sign up at www.juniorwritersclub.com.au
- Use Codeword SUMMER19 to claim your discount

www.juniorwritersclub.com.au