Welcome back to school for 2015. I hope you all had a restful and relaxing holiday break. Below you will find the classroom focus for the following curriculum areas for Term 1. I would also like to thank you for having your child well prepared and presented for the beginning of the school year.

**LITERACY**

In Term 1, students will read a range of texts and identify literal information, make inferences and ask questions to clarify understanding. They will explain some ways in which authors and illustrators engage the interest of audiences and share their own judgments about texts, selecting some relevant textual evidence to support their opinions.

When learning about writing, students will create structured, meaningful texts. They will select vocabulary to provide specific detail and create imaginative texts based on favourite plots, events and characters that present ideas in a planned sequence. They will use simple and complex sentences, consistent tense and appropriate punctuation to support meaning.

**NUMERACY**

This term, students will formulate, model and record authentic situations involving operations. They will communicate sequences of fractions and examine patterns to continue number sequences. They will recall multiplication facts and derive strategies for unfamiliar multiplication and division tasks. The students will use language to communicate times; compare time durations and use instruments to accurately measure lengths. They will compare dependent and independent events and describe probabilities of everyday events. The students will also collect and record data utilising and analysing a variety of graphical displays.

**SCIENCE**

In this unit students will explore natural processes and human activity which cause weathering and erosion of the Earth’s surface. Students will relate this to their local area, make observations and predict consequences of future occurrences and human activity. They will describe situations where science understanding can influence their own and others’ actions. They suggest explanations for their observations and compare their findings with their predictions. Students will discuss ways to conduct investigations and safely use equipment to make and record observations.

**HISTORY**

This unit of work, Celebrating and Commemorating our History, examines the key inquiry questions:

- Why did the great journeys of exploration occur?
- Why did the Europeans settle in Australia?

This unit will examine the historical period from 1450 to 1800 which includes investigating the journeys of the great explorers and examines the journey that led to Australia’s colonisation. It will promote understanding of the significance of celebrations and investigate the contributions made by different cultural groups to the development and character of the local community.

**GEOGRAPHY**

The content of this unit is organised into two strands: Geographical Knowledge and Understanding and Geographical Inquiry and Skills. In this unit, students will build on their mental map of the world and their understanding of place. They will identify and describe the relative location of places at a national scale and complete maps using cartographic conventions. Students will interpret geographical information and data to identify different views and form conclusions on how the environments should be protected.

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**How parents can help us**

We would really appreciate it if parents could ensure children have all class equipment. Please ensure homework and reading is completed, signed and handed in each week on Friday. Please make sure students arrive at school on time and in school uniform. If students are not in school uniform for any reason, a note must be provided.

Thank you to the parents who have approached me in regards to helping in the classroom. If you are interested in assisting in your child’s class, please come and see me or contact me via email (bwhee19@eq.edu.au) or pop in and say hello.
What’s happening this term?

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11 February</td>
<td>Parent Information Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 19 February</td>
<td>Bonus Behaviour Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27 February</td>
<td>Leader Induction Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17 March</td>
<td>Bonus Behaviour Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25 March</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interview Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 April</td>
<td>Cross Country Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>Behaviour Rewards Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 3 April</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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**Websites of Interest**

- loganholmess.eq.edu.au
- mathletics.com.au
- readingeggs.com.au
- spellingcity.com

**Extra Information**

**Technology**

If you have purchased a subscription to Mathletics and Reading Eggs through your Bedrock Books order your child will be issued with usernames and passwords so that they can access these online learning tools from both school and home. This year, students will also be engaged in learning using iPads and laptops in safe learning environments such as edStudios and Virtual Classrooms on the Education Queensland servers.

**Behaviour**

Like the rest of the school, our classroom has a daily behaviour chart where each student begins the day in the green zone. Students gain points at the end of each day for finishing in the zones above the green zone. Once ten points have been gained, students move up one place on the thermometer. The Behaviour Rewards Day at the end of the term recognises those children who have achieved the highest levels or moved the most on the thermometer.

**Homework**

Homework this term will consist of spelling, reading and number facts. As these are the basic fundamentals for all learning, it is expected that students practise these on a daily basis to ensure the best outcomes in future learning. The homework folder will contain a spelling book, number fact folder and reading log. Homework will be distributed each MONDAY and needs to be neatly completed and handed in on FRIDAY of the same week. It is an expectation that students practise neat Queensland Cursive writing in their homework.

**Drink Bottles**

Please supply your child with a labelled drink bottle every day containing water only that they can have with them during class time. All children are encouraged to take their drink bottles into the playground to ensure they can access their bottles and fill them up for the next session.

**Fruit Snack**

Students are encouraged to bring a fruit or vegetable snack into class that they can eat while continuing to work. Students are required to bring their fruit snack into the classroom at the start of the school day and place it on their desks. Only fresh fruit and vegetables may be eaten at this time which means no fruit in a tin or packet. The fruit or vegetable needs to be something that can be eaten while students continue with their learning, so please do not send anything that is going to cause a mess.

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Brett Wheeler  
Classroom Teacher

Kerry Carroll  
Deputy Principal

“Believe and Achieve”