Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to our 2015 school year.

Welcome to our first ‘Messenger’ for the term. We extend a very warm welcome to all new students and parents to our great school, especially all our new students in Prep and the two new families that have joined Clare State School—the Booth family (Jaiden—Prep) and the Kovacich family (Mylee—Year 2 and Ronin—Year 1).

I know that all the students have made a great start to their schooling in 2015.

Great Start to 2015

Thank you to all parents and guardians for preparing your children for the 2015 school year and for supplying them with the required texts and stationery supplies. If any of your children have outstanding books or text, including the handwriting text book, can you please send these along to their class room teacher as soon as possible. We appreciate your assistance with this as it assists the students to have a smooth transition into the school year. Most students were excited to start school again, which was evident by their eagerness and great smiles in the first week of this term. I hope this excitement and their commitment to learning continues right throughout the year.

Thank you also to those parents who have kindly donated a ream of photocopy paper and a box of tissues. If you have not already done so, the donation of this resource for your child’s classroom would be greatly appreciated.

Staffing 2015

Prep—2: Ms Kara Flanagan  
Year 3—6: Mrs Sharon Fahey (Tuesday—Friday), Mr Lee Braney (Monday)  
PE: Annette Wellington (Tuesday)  
Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy: Vera Keryk (Monday)  
Guidance Officer: Ann Patti (as required)  
Speech Therapist: Sharyn Holm (as required)  
LOTE: Sensei Moritake (Charters Towers School of Distance Ed)

School Communication

School communication, which occurs via these school Newsletter is one of our key communication mediums at Clare State School. School newsletters are distributed every two weeks, mostly on a Tuesday in electronic form. There will be no paper copies of our newsletter unless you request otherwise. If you would like to receive your newsletter in paper format please let the office know.

Student Behaviour

At Clare State School we are committed to providing a safe, respectful and disciplined learning environment for students and staff. We have high expectations around behaviour. This is something that all staff work extremely hard on and want to continue to build upon, ensuring that all students feel safe and enjoy coming to school and that they have the potential to achieve the best outcome they possibly can.

Our ‘Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students’ will be reviewed in 2015. The focus of this review will be to simplify the school rules. The behaviour plan is designed to facilitate the high standards of behaviour we expect at Clare State School so that the learning and the teaching in this school can be effective and all our students can participate positively within the school community.
Halogen Young Leaders – Brisbane Trip

The children of Years 5 and 6 will be attending the Young Leaders Day, held in Brisbane, on Friday March 20th. At this stage we are looking to fly to Brisbane, Wednesday 18th March, and return to Townsville, Friday 20th March. **Can you please return the permission slip already provided to the relevant families by this Friday 6th February**, so that we can organise teaching staff and book our travel and accommodation.

Boars and Barra Competition

The Clare Boars and Barra Competition will be held this year on the 20—22 February. This is the major fundraiser for the Clare State School P&C in 2015. There are great prizes available for the winning boar and barra’s in both the senior and the junior division. Additionally there are also great senior and junior ticket prizes available. Please make sure that you support this event by purchasing tickets at: About Town Bait & Tackle in Ayr, the Clare Club, GI Joe’s Guns & Ammo in Ayr and A Mays Inn Hunting Supplies in Townsville. See attached flyer for more information.

School Captains 2015

There will be a badge ceremony and a morning tea in the school library on Thursday 19 February at 9am to welcome the 2015 School Captains. All Clare State School families and friends are welcome to attend this ceremony. Further details will be provided in the next newsletters.

School Swimming

Due to a change in the timetable for our PE teacher, the P-Year 2 class will now be having their swimming lesson from 9am on a Tuesday morning. To make it quicker and easier to commence these lesson can you please send you P-Year 2 student already dressed in their swimming clothes to school. Their school clothes can be kept in their swimming bags to change into after their lesson.

Religion at Clare State School in 2015

Religious education will continue to be provided at Clare State School in 2015 on a Wednesday afternoon from 2pm to 2.30pm by one of our parent volunteers, Mrs Kylie Mc Nee. This basis of this religious education is in the form of ecumenical / Christian information. Mrs McNee is looking for another parent volunteer to help her run this program. This assistance will be in the form of helping the children to complete the work sheets and activities. If you are interested please contact the school or see me.

Thank you

Lee Braney
Principal

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**Quote of the Week:**

*Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.*

Nelson Mandela

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