Dear Parents and Carers,

**Thoughts from the Beginning of the Year**

Welcome to week 4, term 1. I am happy to say that our staffing numbers will not be changing for the remainder of 2015. We have come through Day 8 with our numbers at a stable 27.

Clare State School is lucky to have the calibre of teachers that we do, with Ms Fahey teaching the upper school and Ms Flanagan teaching in the lower school. I am excited by the learning that is already occurring across the school and I look forward to seeing the results as the year goes on.

Last year was the third year of teaching the Australian Curriculum, with all students across Australia engaged in learning the same content in English, Science, Maths, Geography and History. This year we will also focus on introducing the next Learning Areas of the Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education, Civics and Citizenship and Business and Economics and on continuing to improve student learning outcomes, especially in the areas of reading and writing.

It has been extremely pleasing over the first few weeks to see how focussed and engaged all students seem to be. I believe this occurs because Clare State School students make a conscientious effort about their behaviour in and out of the classroom. I also believe this occurs because of the work and effort our teaching staff do in setting up structures and routines in their classrooms and the efforts they put in to planning each day’s learning activities.

Congratulations to all staff and students for a wonderful start to the school year as well as to parents and families for your support.

Another aspect which has been very pleasing is the 100% of students who have been wearing the school uniform to begin the year. All students look extremely smart and as I have mentioned before I believe this helps promote a positivity across the school and into the broader community.

**Leadership Badge Ceremony**

The Years 5 and 6 Leaders Badge Ceremony will take place, **9am Thursday, 19th February** in the school library. All parents and carers from Clare State School are welcome to attend. We will have a morning tea for the parents and Student Leaders afterwards. We ask that all families of our leaders please bring a plate of food to share. We look forward to seeing you all there.

**Permission Forms**

Enclosed with this newsletter are 4 forms:

1. State School Consent Form 2015
2. Permission slips 2015
3. Medical Information Update 2015
4. Internet/Email Access Agreement 2015.

Please complete these forms for each of your children enrolled at the school and return them to the school office by **Monday 23rd February**.

**Hearing Health Screening Test Consent Form—PREP STUDENTS ONLY**

The Family and Child Health Nurse will be visiting Clare State School again in 2015 to offer the Hearing Health Screening Test to all Prep students. Prior to this test being conducted a consent form signed by the parent will need to be provided. A consent form for each prep student has been attached to this newsletter. Please sign these and return them to the school office.

**Donations Required by the School**

We are seeking donations of the following items:

- Diesel fuel for the school mower
- Egg cartons
- Magazines
- Everyday dress up items
**P&C News**

The **Clare Boars and Barra Competition** will be held this weekend 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 in both the senior and the junior division. Additionally there are also great senior and junior ticket prizes available. **Please 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.

**Date Change:** The AGM for the Clare State School P&C will now be held on Monday 23rd March at 3pm in the School Library. We would love to see you there! We need as much help as possible to keep the P&C running and to help out in 2015.

**Membership Forms:** A P&C Membership forms for 2015-16 is attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return this form before the AGM on March 23rd. This will ensure that all Clare State School parents / carers are members of our P&C.

**Tuckshop:** Tuckshop will be available again at the school in 2015. Tuckshop will be provided during the first break each Thursday at 10.30am. It will be convened by Shannie Vance. The menu for Tuckshop is attached to this newsletter. The menu includes gluten free options. If you are ordering Tuckshop please use the order forms provided. Correct change is appreciated. Please attach your order form to a paper bag with the money inside. A box will be made available inside each classroom for the tuckshop order forms. Order forms will be collected from the box on Tuesday each week. Order forms for the following weeks are attached:

- Tuckshop Thursday 26 February—orders due on Tuesday 24 February
- Tuckshop Thursday 5 March—orders due on Tuesday 2 March

**Thank you**

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**Quote of the Week:**

*You learn you can do your best even when it’s hard, even when you're tired and maybe hurting a little bit. It feels good to show some courage.* — Joe Namath

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**Student of the Week**

**Week 2:** Laurence Tomasetig  
**Week 3:** Kalan Booth  
Congratulations!

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