FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is all engines go as we fire up for an eleven week school term full of exciting learning opportunities and programs.

I am very proud of the results that our students are achieving with the support of our dedicated teaching team. You can support your child's progress by staying in touch with your child’s teachers this Term. Parent/Teacher Interviews are scheduled for next week. Please come along, and have those worthwhile conversations with your child's teachers. We are also holding a Recognition Assembly next Tuesday for Junior Campus students. All parents are welcome to attend more details below.

Most importantly, Assessment Calendars will be issued to parents at the Parent/Teacher Interviews, at the time of your booking. For parents who are unable to attend interviews, your assessment calendar/s will be sent home with your child the following day. These calendars will give you the information you need to encourage your child to meet assessment deadlines and improve their subject grades.

Term One Reports and Interviews
All students will receive their Term 1 interim report this week. This report gives parents information about the progress that their child has made during the term.

An important part of the process is the conversation that can occur between parents and teachers at our scheduled Parent/Teacher Interview afternoons. I encourage all parents to book times to speak with teachers about Term 1 results, and also about how we can work together to ensure we get the best possible results in Term 2.

Bookings are essential for interviews. Details on how to make bookings online were sent home with the report cards, and are also attached to this newsletter. If parents need assistance with this, please contact the school office.

Recognition Assembly
The Junior Campus is holding a Recognition Assembly next Tuesday, the 1st of May, beginning at 9:40am. All parents and carers are invited to attend. This special event will be held in the Junior Campus Hall. This event aims to promote the tremendous success that our students are achieving in the learning programs. Junior Campus student leaders will be running this event with the help of their teachers. Please join us for this special day.

P&C Meeting
Our next P&C meeting will be held in the Senior Campus Staff Room at:
7pm on Wednesday the 16th of May, 2018.
All parents and community members are welcome and encouraged to attend.
ANZAC Day March and School Ceremonies

A sense of pride moved down the line of Spinifex State College students as we marched along Rodeo Drive on ANZAC Day this year. Our school captains lead our school with dignity as we made our way to the Cenotaph to join the rest of the Mount Isa Community to remember and pay tribute to the ANZACs.

This year, our school instrumental band performed the New Zealand and Australian national anthems at the Mount Isa ANZAC Day town ceremony. We were all very proud of our students’ performance. It was especially pleasing for me to receive an email from a local resident commending our band’s performance. Special recognition is extended to Mrs Suanne Pattison for her dedication and passion for creating such a competent and passionate group of instrumental students.

Spinifex State College also commemorated this special event at both the Junior and Senior Campuses with our dedicated parades, led by our school leaders from each campus. Lieutenant Joseph DiLegge represented the RSL at our school ceremonies this year in his capacity as Patrol Master when he delivered his address.

At these parades, our school band was inspirational as they played “Abide with Me” and the New Zealand and Australian national anthems. Cody Burnett (Senior Campus) and Andrew Knight (Junior Campus) played a particularly rousing rendition of the Last Post and Revelry. Our Cataflaque Guards, Sophie Tuttle, Amadeus Manner, Chanise Macfarlane and Joshua Matthews, were led by Chris Stephens.

I believe that our students have an enriched sense of pride in our history and a deeper understanding of the values that shape our National identity.

2018 Gifted and Talented Program

The Spinifex State College Gifted and Talented program is an opportunity for Year 6 Primary School students to embark on extended study at our College in one of the following areas:

- Mathematics
- Science
- Food Science
- Design and Technology

This program runs for ten weeks during Term 2 and 3. The Science and Design and Technology programs will run on Monday afternoons from 1:30pm to 2:30pm, and the Mathematics and Food Science programs will run on Thursday afternoons from 1:30pm to 2:30pm.

If you have a child in Year 6 that is interested, you can pick up an application pack from your primary school or from the Spinifex State College – Junior Campus administration office. Completed applications are to be delivered in a sealed envelope to Spinifex State College – Junior Campus administration office by Friday the 11th May, 2018.

Successful students and their families will be notified through their primary school by Wednesday the 16th of May, 2018.

Our Gifted and Talented program has been made possible thanks to the generosity and support of Mount Isa Mines.

Mount Isa District Cross Country

Students will be participating in the Inter-School Cross Country competition on Wednesday the 9th of May. If your child is interested in trailing, they will need to see their campus HPE representatives. They are Miss O’Brien at the Junior Campus students, and Mr Krosch for Senior Campus students.
Year 7 Girls Enlightenment Workshop
The Year 7 girls attended a full-day workshop run by Enlighted Education on Wednesday the 18th of April. The workshop is named “The Journey”, and is a full day school program for girls moving from years 6 to 7.

The course equips the girls with time and stress management skills, friendship do’s and don’ts, and insight into maintaining positive relationships. The girls participated in a number of hands on and interactive activities, and were involved in a fun and informative introduction to secondary school.

Thanks to Ms Storm Greenhill-Brown for delivering this program, and treating our Year 7 girls to such a fantastic day.

P&C Meeting – Senior Campus
The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday the 16th of May, at the Senior Campus Staff Room, commencing at 7pm.

Regards,
Mr Philip Sweeney
Principal

In and Around Our School
Taipans Touch Football News
Taipans men and women played their first game back on Monday night after a long two week break. All were feeling a little behind the eight ball, but managed to put in a great effort. Thank you so much to those committed players who showed up! Taipans Yellow Ladies only had four players but they played a great game and only lost by one point.

This is a reminder that men and women play Monday night and mixed games are Wednesday nights. Check Facebook (Mount Isa Touch Association) for the weekly draw and game times.

Training is every Tuesday from 2:30pm-3:30pm at Junior Campus, and if you haven’t paid your $80, please make sure you contact the office to arrange a payment plan.

The Residential Commonwealth Games
At the end of Term 1, students from the Spinifex State College Residential Campus decided to dust off the cobwebs and put on their running shoes to compete in the “Residential Commonwealth Games.”

Starting the day with the shot put landing in clouds of red dirt, it quickly became evident that Emma Darcy had potential to set a record as she easily made a throw that was just over 10m! Will Restall took out the boys shot put, and also showed potential to be the next Damien Birkenhead.

Two new events were introduced, requiring great skill and determination as the participants ran as fast as they could without losing the egg from their spoons. In another shell shattering experience, the athletes gradually extended the distance between each pair as eggs were carefully thrown to partners.

The cleanest team with eggs in tact were Donella Holt and Mary Riely. No egg on their faces!

The brother and sister team of Luke and Leah Darcy were impossible to beat in the two person Tug O’ War.

Each athlete saved their best for the 100m, 200m and 4x100m relay races. Despite the prickles and searing heat, the students ran their hearts out and there were lots of close finishes to each race. Our 100m champion was Martisha Reid and the 200m speedster was Emma Darcy. The 4 x 100m winning team had the winning genes with Emma, Luke and Leah Darcy combining with Miss Amanda Hamilton to leave their competitors eating red dust.

The 200m champion team also combined family genes with Will and Charlotte Restall teaming with Cynthia and Adrian to narrowly defeat the tiny rocket Bradley King who looked like a whirly wind hurtling down the track.

Students displayed great sportsmanship on the day and are raring to put their best foot forward at the school’s annual athletics carnival later in the year.
Term 2 Glencore Work Experience
Year 11 and 12 student Glencore work experience applications are now available from the Career Education office at Senior Campus. Dates include:

**Block 1:** 25th-29th of June, 2018
**Block 2:** 2nd-6th of July, 2018

Please submit applications to Mrs Sweeney by no later than Friday the 11th of May, 2018.

Glencore Girls for Mining Mentoring Program
The 2018 Girls for Mining Mentoring Program is available for year 11 and 12 girls. Applications are now available online. Please contact Mrs Sweeney in the Career Education office for application information.

Applications close on the 8th of May, 2018.

See attached flyer for more information.

Credit Card Payments
Please note that, due to security and confidentiality reasons, the school can no longer accept credit card payments for school fees over the phone.

Credit Card payments over the phone can only be made by calling 1300 631 073. Please quote your Customer Reference Number (CRN) and the Invoice Number from your statement.

You are still able to pay by credit card if you come into the office.
Girls for Mining Mentoring Program

Do you want access to a personal mentor who is motivated, driven and ready to inspire and encourage you? **BECOME A MENTEE.**

The Glencore Girls for Mining Mentoring Program is the first of its kind in north Queensland.

The program was created in response to an identified demand for formal mentoring of female students.

Many students have little or no experience of working in the real world. Being mentored by an experienced professional offers an invaluable opportunity to gain insights into organisational and professional life and helps them plan their future career.

Students will be encouraged through a semi-structured Mentor Program to seek information and guidance from their mentor about their career direction and future employment goals.

The mentor will share their knowledge and experience, provide guidance and take an active interest in the career development needs of the student, creating a mutual benefit in each other's personal and professional development.

**ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

**COMMENCEMENT**
The program will commence during Term 2 and finish at the end of Term 4.

**STRUCTURE**
Mentors and mentees will be provided with a basic structure, and some support tools and activities. Mentees will be matched with a mentor based on career ambitions and personal and goals. The mentor/mentee relationship is a dynamic one, so the relationship will naturally grow between you and your mentor.

**FUNCTIONS**
There will be three foundation events held throughout the program: “Program Launch” – Term 2; “Networking Function” – Term 3; and “End Program Celebration” – Term 4. This year's program also brings potential for more functions and events.

If you would like to the opportunity to be mentored by an experienced mining professional, please register your interest online at www.glencore.com/careers (job reference G4M2018).
Dear Parents

Parents are encouraged to discuss their child's progress at Parent/Teacher Interviews for Spinifex State College. Interviews will be held in the library at Spinifex Junior from 4.00pm – 6.30pm on Monday 30th April, 2018.

To make the process quicker and easier for parents, you can now book interviews online yourself at times that suit your family best. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow the three simple instructions below.

Alternatively, please phone Junior Campus on 4740 1111. ***Please ensure you provide staff with your child’s full name, teachers you wish to speak with and the subjects that they teach your child.

BOOKINGS CLOSE: 8am on Monday 30th April, 2018.

Enter THIS school event code: 5z3np *Please note that this code is different to the interviews at Senior Campus

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the bookings closing, by re-visiting the website, and using the same event code. You will need to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking.

Parents wishing to change their interview times AFTER the bookings close, should contact the Junior Campus directly on 4740 1111.
Backyard Improvement Program 2018

The Backyard Improvement Program competition is now open for entrants, giving Mount Isa families with children the opportunity to win some great prizes by creating a lead safe and healthy environment for your children to play and grow in.

The aim of this program is to assist residents to reduce the amount of bare soil areas in backyards that are accessible to young children, ensuring we work together as a community to reduce the possible risk of high blood lead levels in our children. This initiative of the Alliance is part of our commitment to continuously work with the Mount Isa community for a healthy lifestyle.

It is essential that the Mount Isa community contribute to improving the health, safety and wellbeing of Mount Isa city’s children, they are our future and essential to the growth of our community.

Families with young children are encouraged to join the Backyard Improvement Program Competition, and make relevant changes to your gardens. On signing up you will be given assistance in making improvements to your gardens with a Backyard Improvement Program kit. The Kit includes low maintenance, water wise garden tips and handy hints brochure, grass seed, tap timer and more. The participants of this program have the opportunity not only to create a safer environment for their children, but to also win a fantastic family stay at the award winning Adels Grove and other great prizes. You have until Friday 23rd June to enter, the sooner you enter, the longer you have to make improvements to your gardens, FREE CALL 1800 457 547 to join.
PLAYGROUP QUEENSLAND’S

Messy Play May

MT ISA

Free Messy Play Day for Families!

WHEN: Tuesday, 15 May: 9-11am
WHERE: Mt Isa Playgroup Centre,
       2 Daphne Avenue, Mt Isa

- Water Play
- Coloured Rice & Spaghetti Trays
- Moon Sand
- Bubble Wrap Painting
- Sand Play
- Tennis Ball Painting
- Playdough
- Sensory Walk
- Bubble Blowing

Grab a friend, come along, get messy and discover what playgroup is all about. For more information and to register to attend visit: playgroupqld.com.au/events or call 1800 171 882. You don’t have to be a Playgroup Queensland member to join in the fun.

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