Port Douglas State School acknowledges the Traditional Custodians the Irrikandji and Kuku Yalanji Tribes of the country in which this school is located and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

Interviews for 2014 Leadership will take place on Friday November 15, 2013. Nominees will present themselves to a Panel and answer to Criteria. Speeches will be delivered to Years 3-7 with the years 3-6 voting on November 24.

School Captains will be announced in week 10, 2013.

What seems to be a bug at the top of the pupa is in fact the head of the caterpillar which has remained in the pupa shell while the caterpillar has morphed into a butterfly and has come out with the butterfly as the case has split. Fancy the chances of two butterflies emerging at the same time side by side and Cathy Nutt having the opportunity to capture this moment on camera! The Butterfly Garden is giving us all such joy with the wonders of nature particularly at this time of the year.

2014 PDSS School Magazine

Recap the year that was! Check out each class’ double page spread and much more.
Only $5. Pre-order at office.
Enrol Now for PREP 2014

It is vital that all student beginning as PREP students in 2014 enrol now so that they are guaranteed a placement at our school. Please visit our website www.portdougss.eq.edu.au or the administration office and complete an enrolment package. Enrolling will also add you to our email list ensuring that receive all relevant information in the lead up to next year.

Better Behaviour... Better Learning

The outstanding behaviour of our students in 2013 has really opened the door to some amazing learning.

The average daily behaviour incident has dramatically reduced in 2013 shifting from 2.49 per day to 1.54 per day. This notable improvement can be attributed to: our wonderful students, the support of their families and our whole school consistent positive approach to behaviour.

The positive feel within the school is transferring into student learning. The list below identifies some of the areas success and while we are pleased with this success we are will stay focused on both individual student improvement and student achievement.

NAPLAN
- MSS similar to National cohort in 14 out of 15 areas
- NMS similar to National cohort in 13 out of 15 areas
- U2B similar to National cohort in 13 out of 15 areas
- 100% positive gain from Yr 3 to Yr 5 in Spelling and Reading
- School targets met for NMS in Yr 3 Reading, Yr 5 G&P
- School targets met for U2B in Yr 3 G&P

PM Reading
- Years 1-3
  - 76% students at or above benchmark.
  - Year 1
  - 72% (34/47) students above benchmark.
  - Year 2
  - 80% (38/47) students at or above benchmark.
  - Year 3
  - 71% (32/45) students at or above benchmark.
  - Year 4
  - 70% (24/34) students above benchmark.
  - Year 5
  - 76% (26/34) student at or above benchmark.

PROBE testing (Reading)
- Year 5 students
  - 76% (23/30) students above benchmark.
Congratulations to the student and teachers driving this improvement and achievement.

End of Year Concert

The end of year concert will be held on the 12th December 2013 in the Cyclone Centre. Arrival from 6:00pm and Commencing at 6:30pm. All students in all year levels will be involved in the end of year celebration. There will be performances and presentations of awards. Please mark the date in your calendar. Further information and programming will be communicated soon.

Every Student, Every Classroom, Every Day! TARGET 95%

Our Term 4 attendance rate has dipped slightly down 0.16% to 93.00%. We can be proud to be in the GREEN ZONE. We can still strive for our goal to achieve a 95% rate for the term. Term 4

Can you see a trend? Which day of the week is our strongest? Which day of week do we need to improve?

Port Douglas State School Website and Q Schools App

The PDSS Website is “live” and will continue to develop into the best information and communication tool for members of our school community. The website directly informs the QSchools App available on iTunes and Android devices. Please take a few minutes to add our website to your favourites and download and install the QSchools app on your device. For your information the FNQ Education website address is www.farnorth.eq.edu.au

A recent accident involving a student riding to school and a motor vehicle is a serious reminder to our students to wear their helmets and follow the road rules. Fortunately, the student only received very minor injuries and we wish Samantha and her family our best and a speedy recovery. The Port Douglas State School Community would also like to thank the members of our community who were first on the scene and able to support those involved. A big thanks also to the Emergency Services Teams, Ambulance and Fire for their quick and effective response.
Swimming Program Review from the Yr 2 GR Class

Every day, Year 1 Year 2, Prep B and Year 3 have been going to swimming lessons at the QT pool. For two weeks we’ve all been doing freestyle, breaststroke, diving and floating. We were taught by Mrs Deanne Hoye and Mrs Sarah Gaske. Mrs Hoye and Mrs Gaske made the lessons lots of fun. (By Lucy, Cody, Remy and Sophia)

Back Float
Flop calmly-not tense (Alex)
Relax
Chin to the sky

Breaststroke
Start on your back with a kickboard hugged to your chest (Toby)
Bend your legs, then tail whip (Jacob)
Stretch legs out for one, two, three

Freestyle
Start with a stream line body (Corey and Brianna)
Straight legs kicking (Ethan)
Spear the water

Dig for treasure
Put it in your pocket
Elbow to the sky (Lyra and Hayden S)
One two, breathe on three (Andrew and Hayden C)

P&C NEWS

The School’s 25th Anniversary is being planned for early in 2014 (Sat 3 May is a possibility. Janice Ruffles has kindly agreed to co-ordinate the event that will be primarily in the form of a Family Fun Day. Hopefully photographs from the early days of the school will be on display-donations would be greatly appreciated! If you can be of assistance to Janice in any way please contact the school.

Prospective Douglas Shire Councillors were given the opportunity to present their case at a Public Meeting in the Cyclone Shelter on Monday 28 Oct. Attendance was approximately 300 and it gave us the chance to see what the capacity of the Shelter is and how the air is circulated by the huge ceiling mounted fans.

The final P&C meeting of the year will be conducted at the school on Tuesday 19 November.

Thankyou for the Kindness!

Year sevens, the seniors of the school, are having an exciting last term of the year. The year 7s are participating in a trip to Low Isles, the Inter House Swimming Carnival, grade eight Orientation Day for those going to Mossman High School and year seven graduation dinner at the Sheraton. The year sevens will be using these opportunities to explore, have fun and most of all, enjoy the great outdoors we have right on our doorstep. The trip to Low Isles is funded by Quicksilver and the year seven graduation is very cheap, thanks to the Sheraton. However, additional guests have to pay a small fee for the food and drinks provided. Thankyou teachers, parents and others for organising these amazing opportunities, because it is a lot of rare, amazing kindness!!!

Just remember, all year sevens MUST have their Mossman high school enrolments in IMMEDIATELY.

By Kira L’Estainge.
Community Announcements

Scholastic Book Clubs is running again!

- NO book club money to be brought to school, only the order form. Safe and hassle free!!!!
- On-line payments only via Parent Book Club Payment tab, follow the link: www.scholastic.com.au/schools/bookclub/order/order_form instructions. Households unable to do this pleaseRing school.
- When payment has been accepted, write the 11-digit receipt number in the space provided on your BookClub order form in the bottom left corner. Then record the amount paid and provide the name of the credit card holder on the form.
- Completed BookClub order form and post in the frontoffice letter shute marked Scholastic.
- Making a payment does not order your child’s books; check the order total is correct before payment. Insufficient payment means no books.
Enquiries: Jasmine James, jameis@pqr.edu.au

The Lost Property box outside Admin is filling fast.
All items will be disposed of at end of term.

MISSING from PDSS Bike & Scooter racks;
1 white small Raleigh push bike with camo coloured mid bar on frame. The seat is up at the highest level.
1 Razor scooter with Callander sticker.
Any information would be appreciated and/or return to PDSS.

Some kids can’t go home...
Fosters Carers in Cairns & surrounding districts are needed to care for children & young people who are in need of a safe & supportive home to help them on their journey.

The greatest gift to these children can be the capacity to understand the effects of trauma whilst providing the day to day care with stability & consistency.

For more information on how to become a Foster Carer please phone Joanne or Rachelle at UnitingCare Community FNG, Or 40 506 500 or email familylives.fng@vccommunity.org.au

Christmas In The Park
George Davis Park
Saturday 7th December
9 am - 12 noon
FREE ACTIVITIES include
- Jumping Castle - Horse Rides
- Face Painting & Tattoo
- Cuddles The Clown
- Squirt & Blazer Bear
FREE BBQ & Snow Cones
Santa arrives 11am

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AT Port Douglas State School TENNIS Court

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I have enclosed $_______. Student Name & Class:

2014 PDSS School Magazine - $5