Welcome
A happy New Year and warm welcome to students, parents, carers and staff as we commence 2015. Our student population is currently 139 which is an increase of 21 students from the same time last year. We welcome Theo, Mykayla, Conor, Cooper, Darcy, Molly, Emily in the Junior School; Tyrone, Jayden, Trent, Emma in the Middle School and Joel, Kate, Eric, Jayden, Riley, Claudia, Aidden and Jace in the Junior Secondary School and Corey and Michael in the Senior School.

Additionally we welcome Leanne, Thelma, Judith, Keren, Renee, Jenny and Kathlene to our teaching staff and Kaz to teacher aide staff. Further Janine will support the school one day a fortnight as a guidance officer and Sarah, a speech language therapist, will be supporting school staff in the development, and implementation of a whole of school communication strategy. Ella has been appointed on a three year contract as a master teacher to support staff to prioritise the teaching of literacy/numeracy and to provide coaching and guidance to teachers. We share Ella with Burdekin Special school, Mount Isa Special school and the Charters Towers School of Distance Education.

Buildings
During the vacation period O Block was erected. This is a demountable which will host two classrooms. It is expected we will take occupancy of these rooms and the end of this week.

Whole School Assembly
On Tuesday 24 February at 9am, in B block a whole school assembly will be held. At this assembly, Year 12 students, Sam, Isaiah, Bonnie, Alyssa, Steven, Emma, Keeley, Josh and Aiden will be inducted as Seniors. Additionally, the Turtles (Keeley and Aiden) and Frogs (Bonnie and Adam) sports captains will be presented with their badges.

From the P & C Association
Welcome to our new (and old) families. Our P & C Association plays a vital part in our children’s education. We are a small group always looking for new members to join our very dedicated committee members. Currently the P & C have committed funds for the new sensory playground in the middle playground. With this project well under way it is time for us to start working on our next fundraising venture for other important projects for our children. No matter how big or small your contribution of time would be appreciated.

The P & C Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 9 March, 2015 in the Administration Block staffroom at 6.30pm. We look forward to seeing new and old members of the school community joining us. All are welcome to attend.

Jenny Roberts
Secretary – TCLC P & C Association
*** IMPORTANT REMINDERS ***

**Student Resource Scheme Participation Agreement** forms that were sent out last week are due back to the office **ASAP**. Please return completed forms to the office indicating if your child **will be / will not be** participating in the scheme.

**Student Details** - A reminder that if you have changed any contact details such as address, home phone, work phone number or mobile number, please notify the school **immediately** so we may update our records.

**MEDICATION – IMPORTANT**: If any students require medication at school, **all medication must be delivered by a parent or carer to the office and not sent with students in school bags, taxis or buses.**

*The following points are for security and safety purposes, and are requirements of the Health (Drug and Poisons) Regulation 1996 (Qld).*

- Provide medication in **original pharmacy labelled container** to the school. *(this includes over-the-counter medication/creams/vitamins)*, ensure medication is not out of date and has an original pharmacy label with the student’s name, dosage and time/s to be taken.

**Vaccinations**
School immunisations will take place on **18 February, 6 May and 2 September, 2015**. Consent forms were sent home last week for boys and girls born between 1/1/2002 and 30/06/2002 and boys and girls born in 2000.

**Better Start Early Days Workshops**

*Are you in the early days of the journey with your child with a disability? Are you still finding your way in the disability system? Does your child have: Special needs? Cerebral palsy? Down syndrome? Fragile X syndrome? A moderate or greater vision or hearing impairment (including deaf blindness)? Or one of a range of other conditions?*

You can attend a **FREE** one-day workshop especially designed for you. The Better Start Early Days workshops are for parents who have a child in the early years before school. **These workshops are for people who receive, or might be eligible for, Better Start or NDIS funding.**

- Learn more about the services and supports available to you and your child
- Understand how Better Start or NDIS funding works
- Meet other parents who have similar experiences to you
- Build confidence and develop positive strategies

**Townsville Workshop:**
**Date**: Thursday 26 February, 2015
**Time**: 9.30am – 2.00pm
**Venue**: Currajong After Hours School Care, Tippett Street, Currajong

Morning Tea and lunch provided as well as child minding.

Register Now! To find out more about the workshops contact: Parent Connect 4759 2037, 4759 2008 or parentconndect@cootharinga.org.au or website: betterstartearlydays.net.au
A note from Chappy Drew:

Hello and welcome back to those returning from last year; and a huge welcome to those new to Townsville Community Learning Centre. For those who don’t know me yet, I am TCLC’s School Chaplain and I am here two days a week (Thursday and Friday).

Since we have new families to the school I thought I would outline the duties of School Chaplains. A school Chaplain is a person of faith; trained in offering care and acceptance to all, regardless of faith, race, gender or cultural background. They care for students struggling with a wide range of issues, including: friendships, peer pressure, self-esteem, bullying, stress and anxiety.

School Chaplains are safe people for young people to connect with at school. Chaplains do this through listening and interacting with the students. They are confidential, caring and offer support where needed. I am also here to support any student wishing to explore their spiritual beliefs and world views, along with facilitating and providing pastoral care.

If I haven’t had caught up with you yet, then please say hello if you see me around, as I’d love to meet you.

Blessings, and have a great week 😊

Chappy Drew

AUTISM QUEENSLAND OUTREACH SERVICES TEAM
VISIT TO TOWNSVILLE AREA DURING THE WEEK OF 9 MARCH, 2015

Members of the Outreach team will be visiting the Townsville area during the above week, to offer services to assist schools and families who have a child diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Outreach visits take place at the child’s school. These visits are approximately 1 ½ hrs and consist of an observation followed by a discussion with parents, teacher/s and other relevant parties. The visit will address educational issues and other concerns.

Students may be prioritised according to needs by the Autism Outreach Team. Please see Administration or your child’s teacher if you would like a parent permission form. Parent consent forms must be signed and returned to administration by Friday 13 February, 2015.

IMPORTANT DATES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Wednesday 18 February, 2015</td>
<td>School Vaccinations</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24 February, 2015</td>
<td>Whole School assembly</td>
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<td>Senior Induction &amp; Sport Captain presentation</td>
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<td>9 – 13 March, 2015</td>
<td>Autism Queensland Outreach visit</td>
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