Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4! I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and are ready for another busy term. Our calendar is filling up fast, with Pre-Prep starting, JAG meetings, JOKS Day and school camp among many other things.

**Rotary Community Raffle**
If your family has sold their Rotary Community Raffle tickets, please return the books and money to school as soon as possible. All tickets and money must be returned by Monday 14 October. 100% of the proceeds from our ticket sales will be returned to the P&C for our school to use. Remember that all books must be accounted for and lost books must be paid for by the family who has taken them. **All tickets and money must be returned by Friday 25 October.**

**Sun Safety**
With summer fast approaching and the weather heating up, it is increasingly important to keep our kids sunsafe. Please ensure that your child has a named full-brimmed hat with them at school each day. It is also recommended that they apply sunscreen before coming to school. All children have access to sunscreen at school and are encouraged to reapply each break before going outside.

**Student Free Day**
Next Monday 21 October is a Student Free Day. All staff will be attending Professional Development in Townsville on that day. Normal classes will resume on Tuesday 22 October.

**Pre-Prep**
Don’t forget, we are now running a Pre-Prep program on **Friday mornings from 8:30-10am**. This program is free and is open to all families in the district. Please encourage anyone you know with young children to come along.

**P&C Meeting**
Our next P&C Meeting will be held on **Monday 18th November at 3:15pm** in the staffroom. All parents, carers and friends of the school are welcome to attend. We currently have 3 positions vacant on our executive – President, Secretary and Treasurer, if you would be willing to take on one of these positions, please let us know.

**School Centenary Meeting**
Our next School Centenary Committee meeting will be held on **Wednesday 30th October at 3:00pm** in the school library. All parents, carers and friends of the school are welcome to attend.

**NAPLAN report highlights positive results**
The 2013 NAPLAN summary report is now available from the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority website at [http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/national-reports.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/national-reports.html). Since testing began in 2008, Queensland is the most improved state with significant gains made in 9 out of 20 areas over this time. Our results for 2013 were very pleasing with most of our students showing good levels of growth since their last NAPLAN test. We also have some students achieving in the Top 2 bands for their year level. Over the next few weeks our staff will go through the NAPLAN results in much greater detail to look closely at the areas where we can build on our performance. Although NAPLAN results form a useful piece of information, they are not the be all and end all upon which to judge a school’s success. It is important to remember the results represent a point-in-time testing over a few hours each May. The NAPLAN results are important but are just one of the many pieces of information our school uses to improve learning outcomes for our kids.

**Awards**
Congratulations to the following students who have received awards for their great work this fortnight:

- Kimba Stott-Matthews
- Johnny Rehbein
- Maddison MacGillivray
- Ryland Palmer
- Tim Nagle

Keep up the great work everyone!

Yours in Education

Hayley Laidlow
Principal
**Wonderful Work from Osborne this week...**

**Pre-Prep Fun**

Friday 11 October saw us host our very first Pre-Prep session. There were many great activities on offer including play dough construction, painting and block building. All the Pre-Preps had a great time trying the activities while being guided by their Prep helpers. They then shared a healthy snack with the rest of the school. We are looking forward to more families joining us in the future.

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<<<< Daly and Maddison, the Prep helpers, working with Alexis and Justice to construct using play dough while Mum, Amanda, watches on.

**Connecting through Science**

This term, we are trialling online science lessons using iConnect. This is an initiative developed by ourselves and Maidavale State School. The purpose of the program is to enhance the science learning opportunities of our students by increasing their interaction with students from other schools, allowing opportunities to share ideas and knowledge. This term we are studying physics and this week we investigated Newton’s first law of Motion – the law of inertia. The students conducted an investigation and will be sharing their findings with the Maidavale students during next week’s session. In the future, we hope to expand the program to include other schools, both from within our district and from further afield.

Johnny and Tim testing Newton’s first law.