To the Parents and Community of Harlin State School,

Exciting times at Harlin!

I am pleased to welcome Mrs Meryl Doherty to our team. Meryl has transferred in to us to take the P/1 class in ‘B Block’. Meryl starts with us today and (pending confirmation of our numbers on Friday) will continue on at Harlin for the remainder of the year.

Congratulations on your appointment Meryl and welcome to the school!

We also welcome Mr Terry Gabbedy to Harlin. Terry will be our school cleaner starting on Friday afternoon this week. Congratulations on your appointment Terry and welcome! I would also like to thank the other applicants for their time and effort during the shortlisting and interviewing process.

Unfortunately this also means that our wonderful cleaner (for over a decade!), Mrs Dalton, is leaving us. Bev, thank you for your years of dedication to Harlin. In my short time as principal here it has been clear that you set a high standard for yourself and the school and for this we all say THANK YOU! Enjoy your retirement and come to visit any time!

On Friday 12 February at 7:30am the P&C are hosting a BBQ at the school to welcome our new staff and the new students and families attending the school. It will be wonderful to see everyone there!

Regarding the new class set up, the years 4, 5 and 6 students will remain with Miss Derksen in C Block. The year 3 students will return to A Block to make up a year 2 and 3 class with Mr Skippen. The Prep and year 1 students will be moved to ‘B Block’ - the library with our new teacher Mrs Doherty. I have made this decision with my staff and consulted wherever appropriate to ensure that teaching and learning is at most effective throughout 2016. Each class will have their own block which will ensure that noise levels and distractions are lessened dramatically, and school classroom space is maximised. The venue for P&C meetings, parades and other events is still being discussed and parent input in these decisions is most welcome. The move will be most difficult for the year 3 students as they may feel like they are being ‘demoted’ (plus Miss Derksen is a superstar—who wouldn’t want to stay in her class?!) Parents, please assist us in ensuring a smooth transition by reminding your child that they will continue to do hard work and learn new things with Mr Skippen in Year 2/3. As a staff we cater for the individual abilities of our students and this will not change with the new class structure. Thank you for your support during this transition, we hope to be back to ‘business as usual’ Monday next week, and ask that parents who drop Prep and Year 1 children off please deliver them to ‘B Block’ on Monday morning.

The student badge presentation will be held at Harlin at 9am on 10 February. Parents are requested to bring a plate to share for morning tea afterwards. Mrs Deb Frecklington will be in attendance.

A reminder to all parents and caregivers—THRASS are coming to Harlin and are putting on a complimentary parent session on Thursday 18 February. If you are interested in attending please let Mrs Maller know as soon as possible. The staff at Harlin are also taking part in the THRASS Follow-Up Course on Friday 19 February after school.

Find attached to this newsletter a ‘Generic Permission Form’. By signing and returning this permission form you agree for your child to take part in the events/excursions listed on the form. Further information regarding the events/excursions will be sent to parents (usually through the newsletter) closer to the proposed dates. Please have this form returned by 10 February.

You will also find many other attachments to this newsletter—one of which is the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students. I have added some new appendices to this document for your reference. This document will be reviewed with P&C once the AGM has taken place.

Thank you all for your support over the last two weeks. It’s been a busy but overwhelmingly successful start to the year! If there are any concerns with the classroom or school see me directly to voice your concerns. Those of you who have gotten to know me will know I do appreciate the ‘direct’ approach :) .

Due to student safety concerns, all students will be assembling under A block covered area when school finishes. If your child is not catching the bus to go home they will need to report to the staff member on duty when they are leaving the school grounds.

Finally, Thank you to Mr John Derksen for assembling our second basketball hoop.

Until next time,

Andrew Skippen
Principal Harlin SS

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**Our School Values**

* Be Safe  * Be Responsible  * Be Respectful  * Be Resilient

Office hours are:

- Monday 8am to 11am; Tuesday 8am to 1pm; Wednesday 8am to 3pm;
- Thursday 8am to 1pm (Payments by 1pm on Tues, Wed, & Thurs)

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**Contact Details:** Ph: 07 5423 5117 Fax: 07 5423 5114

**Address Details:** 8521 Brisbane Valley Highway, Harlin

**Postal Address:** MS 550 Toogoolawah. 4313
From the Junior Room

Well! Our amazing little people in P-2 have had a busy couple of weeks!

I am still so impressed with a number of our grade one students—they have grown up so much over the Christmas holidays. We did a letter test with all of the students yesterday and I see huge improvements since the last one completed in early term 4 last year. Good job kids!

Our preps have settled in nicely. We are practising crossing our legs on the carpet and putting our hand up if we would like to speak. One of the biggest hits for the preps has been writing letters and numbers in shaving cream on the desks! Ew!

Year 2 students in the class have also been pushed to a whole new level this week. Some of the writing we have done has been top notch stuff! I'm looking forward to seeing just how much the year 2s improve over 2016.

I will be sad to see the Preps and Year 1s go to B Block and Mrs Doherty, but they will be in good hands with her and our two prep aides Mrs Wendt and Mrs Lynch. And what a lovely small class size! 15 students! You beauty!

We welcome Mrs Blacklock back into the classroom too! She has already started sewing up a storm with the grade ones!

Wanted: old magazines for the preps/yr 1 to cut out pictures.

As always, see me if you have any questions or queries.
Andrew Skippen

From the Senior Room

WELCOME BACK TO EVERYONE and welcome to our new students. These last two weeks have been jam packed, and by packed I mean packed to the rafters. 30 students in the senior class - WOW, must be a first for Harlin. Its been great having the year 3’s in my class and I will miss them they go back to Mr Skippen next week.

What's happening in the senior room this term....
English: writing short stories and writing persuasive texts
Maths: number, measurement and some chance and data
Science/technology: animal adaptations
Geography: Australian outback

Homework will be very similar to last year's, a matrix was sent home on Monday with the seniors and will be due in next Friday. If you haven't seen it, come in and see me.

Its going to be a very short term, but full of work. If parents have any questions, please feel free to come in for a chat or send me an email kderk3@eq.edu.au

Have a great week
Kerry Derksen
Hi Kids,
My name is Penny Pancake and I hope you are as excited about Pancake Day as I am. Not just because I get to have lots of fun and eat pancakes, but because I get to help. I get to work with my friends at Uniting Care and raise lots of money so that we can help disadvantaged people. Disadvantaged is a big word, but it just means people who don’t have a lot of money or just need some help.
I would love it if you told your Family about Pancake Day here at Harlin State School on Tuesday 9th February and bring along a gold coin donation to drop in the collection tin.
Thankyou for helping and joining in the Pancake fun.
Lots of love Penny x

P&c NEWS

Welcome to our new families and Welcome Back to our returning families!

The AGM for the Harlin SS P&C Association will be held on Thursday 24th February, at 7pm at Harlin State School. All welcome.

Please consider joining our P&C Association by completing the membership form attached to the newsletter. You are not committing yourself to anything by joining up, but it is a way to show your support. When we apply for grants to undertake projects, we are asked how many members we have. So, by joining the P&C you can help us show that we have a community of supportive parents behind our little school. It is one easy way to help that costs nothing in time or money.

If you are interested in an Executive Position (President, Secretary, Treasurer), please have a chat to Mr Skippen, or Jacinta Murray, Helen Golinski or Ngaio Deer regarding what is involved.

Pub Raffles: Each year, Harlin is invited to participate in Friday night Pub Raffles at the Harlin Hotel. If anyone is interested in helping to sell tickets please call Jacinta on 0427281700.

Ngaio (P&C Secretary)
TENNIS. Tennis Lessons will commence at Toogoolawah Tennis Club courts on Thursday, 5th February, 2016. Preschool to High school are catered for. Please contact Peter Bourne on 0417 779 102 for more details and class times.

**Expressions of Interest**

Saturday Morning Bootcamp—Toogoolawah
Starting 1st Saturday in March
Start: 7am
Cost: $10
If interested. Text your name to 0417839818 Donna Gottschall One2One Fitness

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**Toogoolawah PICTURES**

**Sat., 6th Feb - pg**
Doors: 7.00 pm Movie: 7.30 - 9.15 pm

**Sat., 13th Feb - pg**
Doors: 7.00 pm Movie: 7.30 - 9.30 pm

Child to High School: $6
Adult: $8 Family: $25
Snack Bar. Hot Dogs & Pop Corn
Alexandra Hall, T’wah
Inquiries: 0438 149 954