From the Principal’s desk

Welcome to term 3!
It was lovely to see everyone bright-eyed and enthusiastic to start the new term. Welcome back everyone and an especially warm welcome to our newest students. Aratula State School is a wonderfully safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment and I look forward to seeing you grow and achieve great success.

Out and about…
We had a very busy time during the last few weeks of school last term. Since the last newsletter, the whole school went on an excursion to the 4RealMilk Robotic Dairy at Tamrookum and our senior students travelled to Brisbane to visit the Spirit of Anzac Centenary Exhibition. Both of these events were well attended and all students reported learning a great deal from these experiences. Our students were commended on their exemplary behaviour. Congratulations to all for being fantastic ambassadors for Aratula State School.

Another event in our community was the Winter Harvest Festival that was held on the middle weekend of the school holidays. One of the highlights was the tractor pulling event. Haimish Faux gathered a group of visitors that he had never met before to create a team and they came in third place! Third prize was $100 which Haimish has very generously donated to our school. We are very proud of your efforts and your kindness.

Students got to sit in a working army vehicle at Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience.
Every day counts!
Attendance at school every day is essential to ensure that every child has every opportunity to learn and succeed. In the event that absences occur, please phone the school or send a note so that we can update our system and ensure that all absences are explained. It is our goal to have 93.6 per cent attendance for the term with 100 per cent of absences explained.

No hat - no play
It is a requirement that all students wear their school hat during playtimes. In the interest of health and hygiene, we are not able to provide spare hats for students who have forgotten theirs. Although the school playground has a shade, this does not provide adequate UV protection. Students who do not have a hat will be required to sit in the undercover eating area and will not be permitted to play.

School opinion survey
The 2016 school opinion survey is now open. The eldest child in each family brought home a white envelope yesterday with a letter detailing the steps required including a unique code for each family to use to complete the anonymous survey online. If you require assistance to complete the survey, including internet access, you are welcome to use the computers in the senior classroom.

Important cyber safety tips
The department has recently been alerted to random users contacting children using the social media app ‘Instagram’.

The following tips are provided to parents on how their children can avoid random contact on social media:

Know which social media your child uses.
Discuss with your child who their online friends and followers are. Only be friends with people online who you know and trust in the real world.
Take a proactive approach and establish clear and agreed rules for your child’s internet use.


Sports Day
Staff and students will travel to Boonah next week to participate in the combined small schools sports day. Roadvale State School P&C will be catering for the day and they have requested that all food be pre-ordered. The order form should be returned to school by Friday 22nd July.
Please do not send money with your order – payment should be made on the day.

While every effort is made to maintain student safety, families are reminded that:
The Department does not have accident insurance for students.
Medical costs associated with an injury to a student are borne by the parents or guardians.
It is a parent’s decision whether they take out insurance and what level of cover is appropriate.
Parents can contact insurance companies directly to enquire about student personal accident insurance cover for their child.

Feedback
If you ever have any feedback you would like to provide, or any ideas or suggestions for our school, I would love to hear from you! Please come to see me, call to make an appointment or email me anytime at aarms55@eq.edu.au.

Have a fabulous fortnight!

Angela Armstrong
Principal
ARATULA COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE PRESENTS

COMMUNITY FUN NIGHT
29th July
From 6pm Til Late
Bar and BBQ Available
Kids Corner

This Month:
French Cricket

Come down and have a beer and relax with the locals!

Become a member for $5
or
$10 for a family (2 adults and any children under 18 years)

Carter Road Aratula Q 4309
Aratula Community Sports Centre
Find us on Facebook

Last Friday of every month
For enquiries please contact
Kasey 0448025869 or Natalee 0419658253