Dear Families

Another 10 weeks coming to a close so quickly and what a full term it has been.

Photos have steadily been taken of all classes since the beginning of term and should be ready for distribution soon. Mel Noonan (photographer) is just catching up a couple of individual student photos. It will be lovely to have our 2014 photos in the foyer.

A number of students and staff succumbed to flu throughout this term. This week is the first in 8 weeks that we have had full classes again across the school. Thank you for keeping your children home when they have not been well. Staff has increased the hand washing with gel and tables have been washed down regularly in attempts to reduce flus.

Throughout this term classes have implemented their units of work and continued to gather data to inform semester reports for your child. Reports are currently being finalised by teachers and will be forwarded before the end of term. I would encourage you to discuss with your child’s teacher any points of clarification you require in relation to your child’s report. At the parent evening on Thursday June 19th, teachers provided you an overview of the programs that your child has been engaged in throughout semester one.

Sadly as this term nears an end we are farewelling some staff. Our Danish students are completing their time with us. As always, the support these young people have provided to our school community has been invaluable. We wish Mike, Annabella, Karen and Julie all the best with their continued studies and a safe trip home to family in Denmark.

Caya Finlay (Junior 1) is taking 12 months leave to be closer to family in Melbourne. Caya has been at Red Hill for a number of years now. Students, staff and families with whom Caya has worked will miss her cheery disposition but wish her well throughout her leave. For the remainder of this year, Jocelyn Haycox and Rachel Dougherty will be the teachers of junior one. Both Jocelyn and Rachel are familiar to the students.
Criddy Kernke has been a teacher aide at school for three years (this year fulltime) very sadly submitted her resignation to me this week. Criddy is a trained Psychologist and has been offered a full time position in her field of study. Criddy's quiet, calm, positive demeanour will be missed by all. Again we wish Criddy every success in her new role. Susan Jordan who has been a teacher aide across classes is taking a term’s leave to work in a behaviour program. Susan will be sadly missed.

In the senior area of our school we are farewelling Caroline Smyth-Kenyon who has been teaching 3 days a week with us. It has been wonderful to have Caroline with us again this semester. Caroline is returning to Ireland with her two children but as they all have their Australian citizenship we hope they will visit us in the future. Tracy Rowlands will continue as fulltime teacher with the seniors to maintain consistency for the students.

Cathy McLeod will join Red Hill two days a week from the beginning of term 3 in the role of non-contact teacher. Cathy has volunteered time in a number of classes over the past weeks getting to know students and programs.

Our school has been most fortunate this term in hosting three student teachers. Pip, Tim and Nat became integral team members throughout their practicums, engaging in all aspects of school life and educational programming. We are looking forward to seeing them in the future as they have requested to return as volunteers, where their studies permit, throughout the remainder of the year.

Juniors 1, 2 and 3 have each undertaken camps with their students this term. Junior 1 had an overnight stay at school whilst Juniors 2 and 3 went to the Sunshine Coast and South Coast respectively. If you have been into school recently you may have seen photos of camps and camp activities in the foyer. Once again this year, your P&C has subsidised camps financially to minimise costs to families.

As advised in the term one newsletter Red Hill Special School, through a written agreement – Great Results Guarantee -with the Director General of Education received $21,622.00. Through this funding we have been able to provide professional development to staff in the areas of specific communication methodologies and literacy resources. We have purchased a large number of reading books to support student literacy programs. One of our teachers (Rachel Dougherty) is a trained reading recovery teacher and has been assessing student literacy skills and providing strategies to teachers to assist individual students. Rachel is also working once a week with some small groups of students with similar literacy level for intensive half hour sessions.

The local Rotary Club of Red Hill presented a series of readers to our school last month to further support our literacy programs. These readers are very expensive but slowly the school is developing a range of literacy resources for our children. Thank you to the many parents that have come into school over the past weeks to contact the books so we can get them into classrooms. Each of you has developed amazing skills!

As also identified through the newsletter last term, the school will undergo a Discipline audit this year. We have been notified that our audit will occur September 1st 2014. We will be introducing three super hero characters to assist students in remembering and learning our school rules. Thank you to Jenni Bateman (our talented artist from middle1) in creating the concepts for us. Thank you also to Clancy Cullen (music therapist) for developing a song to further assist students with the 3 rules:
I communicate
    I look, listen and learn
    I make good choices

Thank-you for your continued support throughout this term. We hope your children have an enjoyable, restful winter break and come back well and refreshed on Monday July 14th.

Pam

Classroom News

ECDP students have had another busy term! Pre Prep 1 and 2 have been working hard on sentence structure using motivational choice making items.

Photos L-R: Finn, Michael, Max and Nate working on sentence structure

Pasquale is working on pre academic maths (i.e. building)

Pre Prep 4 is working on choice-making and pre academic skills. As always, communication is a priority for us and we use our skills across many activities - gross motor, fine motor, play skills and whatever else we can fit into the day!

Photos L-R: Finn, Jett, Fred, Bodhi, Jacob and Zigi working on sentence structure

Photos L-R: Winnie and Hugh having some fun in their standing frames
Pre Prep 3 is working on letters of the alphabet, the common sounds they make and all of those fun aspects of phonics! We are beginner writers and readers and are recognising sight words and practising writing too.

Photos L-R: Pre Oliver, Eric and Vi using interactive technology

Playgroup has a wonderful time socialising once a week. We meet together to play using lots of different sensory experiences. Our parents get the chance to work with school therapists. The highlight of our morning is music with our fantastic music therapist Clancy.

Photos L-R: Pre Prep 3 group shot, Aston, Addison, Thomas, Steve, Timothee, Dhatri and Nicholas. Learning to draw a person

Pre Prep 5 is working on play skills and communication. As we are a new group we are getting to know our friends and how to play and learn together.

Thank you to all of our supportive parents and of course our wonderful teacher aides! Have a relaxing and safe holiday.

Teachers: Caron and Jo
Teacher Aides: Shelley, Ellie and James
Junior 1

Junior One has enjoyed another term engaged in a variety of activities that move us further towards our curriculum goals. We have a focus on literacy, numeracy and personal and social development. We are able to develop and learn these skills through a variety of activities including music therapy, swimming, visits to Woolcock Park and the sensory room. We also include literacy and numeracy activities based around our fortnightly text. The students engage and develop vital communication skills across the school day.

Our most exciting adventure this term has been our sleep over at school. The students enjoyed a day out visiting the museum, science museum and a spin on the Brisbane Wheel. Although it was a new and somewhat nerve racking experience for some students, they became excited when seeing the fantastic Deep Ocean display at the museum. We observed different ocean creatures, big and small, as well as being more hands on with the large sand pit filled with blue pebbles and a large octopus to discover. The students enjoyed the interactive exhibitions in the science centre including large mirrors that distorted our image to make us tall or wide, short or skinny. We were able to explore sound with tubes to play various pitched sounds. There were so many engaging and interactive exhibits to explore! We enjoyed a spin on the Brisbane Wheel and got some wonderful shots of us high in the sky. Once we had finished our day and returned to school we were all, both students and staff, pretty tired. We set up our ‘camp’ beds and relaxed while watching a DVD. For many of the students this was their first night away from their families. All the students were very brave!

It has been a lovely term and it couldn’t have flowed smoothly without the support of our teacher aides and therapists. Thanks to our teacher aides Alicia, Danya, Julie and Criddy as well as therapists Dave and Rebecca. We would like to wish Criddy a fond farewell as she finishes at Red Hill at the end of this term. We wish you all the best in your new role!
As many of you would know, I am taking leave for a year from Red Hill Special School. After 6 years teaching at the school I have decided to take some time to discover new possibilities in order to develop my professional skills. I have enjoyed working with the various students and staff at the school and will miss my time here.

Wishing everyone a lovely and well deserved break!

**Teachers:** Caya
**Teacher Aides:** Alicia, Criddy, Julie and Danya

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**Junior 2**

This term the students of Junior 2 have continued to work very hard in their communication, gross motor and sensory programs. We have been very fortunate to have had wonderful input from our school therapy team to assist in these programs, and it is fantastic to see the progress that the students are making! We have also continued to enjoy exploring different worlds during our book theme, and in recent times we have enjoyed joining with Junior 3 to turn our books into interactive, multisensory stories!

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Hannah is playing the guitar during music therapy.

James and our St Laurence’s College volunteers exploring at Woolcock Park.

Corey loves the liberty swing!
We have been very sad to see some of our class members experiencing illness and other setbacks this term. Our friend Corey has shown wonderful resilience after his recent surgery, and has been such a brave boy! We have also missed Haelee and Paw Moon who had time off whilst they were unwell, however we are very glad to have everyone back at school and happy and healthy again!

The most exciting event for our class this term was our school camp. Unfortunately we were very unlucky with some of us being unable to attend camp due to illness, but Hannah and James were able to enjoy a two-night stay at the beautiful Windward Passage at Caloundra. Along with Annabella and Caitlin, we were a very happy little group of five! During our stay we spent a wonderful day at Underwater World where the highlight was definitely having the opportunity to get up close and personal with “Teiko” the seal! It was a lovely experience to have Teiko rest her head in our laps, to feel her soft fur and tickly whiskers, and to even hear her talk! We also thoroughly enjoyed exploring the Jellyfish Kingdom, where we were all mesmerised by the beautiful lights and the way that the jellyfish were illuminated as they moved through the water. Of course no trip to Underwater World would be complete without a trip through the underwater tunnel. Hannah and James were very fearless during this part of the day, and were fascinated by the sharks as they swam directly above us! All in all it was a beautiful camp, and we’re so grateful for the opportunity to share this wonderful experience with the students! A big thank you must go out to Caitlin and Annabella for their wonderful support. Thanks also to our P&C for the generous contribution they make each year to our school camps.

We have been very lucky to have the beautiful Annabella assisting us in our class for the first half of the year. Annabella has been with us as part of her studies to become a Pedagogue. Unfortunately for us, we have to bid her farewell as she returns to Denmark at the end of term.
Annabella has truly been an asset to our class, and I know that the students and staff members alike will miss her greatly. It has been wonderful to see how well Annabella has taken life at Red Hill in her stride, and her ability and willingness to engage with the students has been second to none. On behalf of our Junior 2 family, I wish her safe travels, and all the best for her future studies. I also want to remind her to come back and visit us anytime! Thank you for all of your help this semester Annabella!

A big thank you must also go to our other dedicated teacher aides who, day after day, are on hand to ensure that our program runs smoothly. Without these wonderful ladies, we would not be able to enjoy so many wonderful activities. So thank you Amelia, Christine, Deb, Michelle and Caitlin for everything that you do! I couldn’t do it without you.

Junior 2 and Junior 3 Bear Hunters...

I hope that everybody has a happy, healthy and safe winter break. I’ll see you all back at school for Term 3!

Teachers: Kate
Teacher Aides: Christine, Amelia, Deb, Caitlin and Michelle
Danish Student: Annabella

Junior 3 students have had wonderful semester one! Matthew, George, Charlotte and Fred have continued to work hard towards their individual goals. We have been working hard to improve each student’s communication this semester. Matthew has impressed us by using his objects of reference to communicate his wants. Fred has begun to successfully use a language board to greet and farewell his friends and teachers. Charlotte has become more confident in the classroom and has impressed us with her improvement and desire to use her PODD book to communicate with a variety of staff. George has spontaneously and independently used his iPad to request his favourite toys numerous times!

Matthew looks at his name and picture. George uses his iPad to greet his friends. Fred uses the language board to greet his class mates.
This term we have continued to participate in our weekly horse riding lessons at the McIntyre Centre. The focus of these lessons has been on developing and enhancing core strength, agility and balance. It has also helped strengthen the students’ spine and pelvic muscles, improve their posture and coordination and increase joint mobility. Horse riding has also been beneficial in increasing the students’ confidence as they develop control over the horse. The beautiful weather of late has made the day out even more enjoyable!

Matthew, George, Charlotte and Fred participating in horse riding lessons at the McIntyre Centre.

Swimming, music, part visits, sensory room and air mattress have continued to feature in our weekly program amongst our curriculum and communication work tasks. A new addition to our programme this term has been interactive stories with our friends from Junior 2. The students have journeyed to the Jungle to go on a walk to find animals and have ventured out on a bear hunt. These sessions have been a great time to increase student’s engagement as well as experience and understand the story at a deeper level through touch and sounds.

The absolute highlight of the semester has been our camp to Mermaid Waters! Although many of our plans did not work out the way we intended, everyone had a great time! We spent time at the All-abilities playground where the students loved playing on the swings and slides. Matthew, Fred and Charlotte particularly enjoyed playing in the sand and waves at the beach, whilst George enjoyed a casual stroll down the beach with Belinda. The Abrakidazzle indoor playground was also a fountain of fun for the students as they bounced, climbed and explored their way through the playground. A big thank you goes out to Belinda, Sam and Jocelyn for giving up their time to come along on camp. We all loved having you apart of our camp and appreciate your help so much! Thank you also to the P & C for their generous donation towards our camp.

Matthew, Charlotte, George and Fred having fun at the All-abilities playground while on camp.
A huge thank you goes to our wonderful teacher aides; Sam, Belinda, Michele and Michelle. Thank you for your enthusiasm and support in helping the students reach their goals this term.

Have a happy and safe holiday.

Teacher: Amanda

Teacher Aides: Belinda, Sam, Michele and Michelle

Junior 4

It has been a successful end to a wonderful Term 2. The students have worked hard towards their goals this term, and all have enjoyed success each in their own way. We have continued our learning through our ‘Fiction, fantasy and fun’ unit which includes all things literacy. Our main focus this term has been exploring Monsters. We looked at small, big, long, short, scary, nice, scaly, smooth and any other monster type and shape you could image! We’ve had a lot of fun with this theme particularly during our art and cooking sessions. The students continue to work hard during our guided reading sessions where we read together, look at letters and different words we know and learn about ones we don’t. We are also learning to recognise and put sentences together. We’ve also provided the opportunity for students to experience story telling sessions through sensory elements. As always our classroom walls fill up quickly with all the great work the students create each fortnight. It has been exciting to observe all the students working at their individual pace and participating to the best of their ability in all the different activities which are presented through a multi-sensory approach.

Junior 4 has continued to be active members of the community with our visits to Ashgrove library and the Brisbane Square Library. Tuesdays are always full of adventure and without a doubt the student’s favourite day. They have all enjoyed playing in the new all abilities playground at the Botanical Gardens. This facility is wonderful and provides a range of equipment and access for all our students. They are learning lots of different social skills while playing, not only with their peers but with other children from the community. I always enjoy watching these interactions.
this small 30 minute block. We also enjoy singing together as a class most afternoons where the students take turns to choose their favourite numeracy song on the interactive whiteboard.

All the students have worked hard this term. It is always nice to officially acknowledge their hard work with student awards each fortnight at our school assemblies. We’ve also been making progress and continue to work on developing other skills through movement, sensory, cooking, gross and fine motor, and independent skills.

As always, add music, swimming and horse riding to our programming and it makes for a busy week. The students enjoy these programs so very much. I have been very impressed particularly with the improvements each student has shown during our swimming sessions. Also, music with Clancy guarantees student participation, engagement and learning through bundles of fun. It’s hard to wipe the smiles off their faces. The students practise so many different skills during
Special acknowledgement must go to two wonderful members of our Junior 4 team who are leaving us, Miss Karen and Miss Nat. To Karen, our lovely Danish student, thank you for all your hard work and support this semester. The students have become very fond of you and I know they will miss your singing. I hope this experience has been wonderful and Australia showed you a great adventure. To Nat, our dedicated fourth year Prac student, thank you for a fantastic term. You worked so very hard each day and I wish you all the best in your teaching career. Another big thank you to all the Junior 4 team - Aimee, Megan, and Susan your help and support each day is invaluable.

I wish everyone a safe and happy winter break!!

Teacher: Casey
Teacher Aides: Megan, Aimee and Susan
Danish Student: Karen
Student Teacher: Nat

Junior 5

This term Junior 5 has embraced this wonderful autumn weather and enjoyed being outside exploring and learning whilst the sun shines. Our community visits to Ashgrove Library continue to be a trip we all look forward to and we all enjoy the opportunity to sit quietly and look and read some of the books. Eating outside on the deck and resting in the deck chairs is always a good reason to eat our lunch quickly. The fortnightly trip to the City on the bus and to wander around the Botanical Gardens, play in the wonderful new play park, travel on the City Cat Ferry and visit a different library is always an action packed day. There we have great views of the river and city beyond. The students have all been learning to behave appropriately when in the community and are always fascinated when looking up above their heads at the tall buildings that pass us by when on the bus. Our weekly trip to Woolcock is always an adventure and we have been learning to play social games such as Hide and Seek and What’s the time Mr Wolf as well as launch our long rocket across the grass.

One of our main focuses this term has been exploring the exciting and interesting world of dinosaurs with our final year Prac Student, Tim. We have great fun experimenting with erupting volcanos, making different dinosaurs in art and craft along with miniature dinosaur gardens. All of this will culminate with a day trip to the Brisbane Museum to see the dinosaurs at the end of the term.

Junior 5 has also been working hard in Guided Reading sessions, reading stories together, learning new words and reading them in full sentences. We are increasing our knowledge of high frequency words which we have displayed on our Word Wall in the classroom. We enjoy sharing our reading books at home.

Our music sessions with Clancy are guaranteed to be filled with songs and dances along with a symphony of noise when we play our musical
instruments. We have enjoyed making our own music too in our free time. We have fun playing duets on the piano and xylophone as we dance along to songs played on the iPod.

Our swimming sessions have also become a popular time in the week and everyone has reached their goals and more when completing their swimming program. A few heads have gone under the water for the first time too. Well done Amaya in particular.

All the students have worked well this term and have all been rewarded with Star Pupil of the day and Student of the Week in our school assemblies. They always look forward to collecting stickers too on their communication books which are given out after students reflect individually on positive achievements during the day.

A big thank you to all the staff who have helped and supported the students this term. A special acknowledgement of our Mr Tim who has brought a breath of fresh, young air to the class. We wish him well in his future career.
Junior Six has been looking at Dinosaurs, Aliens and Dragons this term. The books we have covered are Things you never knew about Dinosaurs, Captain Flinn and the Pirate Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs love underpants, Aliens in underpants save the world and Zog. We have enjoyed our interactive stories and have been working hard on improving our reading, writing, and listening skills. We had some dinosaur eggs that hatched at school which was very exciting.

In mathematics this term we have been looking at comparing sizes and weights, as well as our usual number work. We have looked at things that are smaller and bigger, taller and shorter, and heavier and lighter. We have been measuring with blocks, our hands and rulers to find the length or height of things, and using blocks and weights to find out how heavy they are.

In social and personal development we have been roleplaying our stories and pretending to be different characters from the stories. We are taking turns and becoming very supportive of other people trying their best.

We have continued our swimming and our excursions to the gym, as well as making an outing to the Library this term. Some of us have also started yoga on Wednesday mornings. This is helping us with our balance, core strength, and breathing and calming techniques. A visit from a fire truck was a surprise for us this term and we loved climbing onto the high seats and trying on the helmets.

We have had a student teacher, Pip, work with us for four weeks and she has been very good. We wish her all the best in her future practical experiences and know that she will be a fabulous teacher. At the end of this term we also say farewell to Mike, our Danish student who has been with us since the start of the year. We wish him all the best with the rest of his studies also.
Broken and Joshua doing some Yoga.

Dressing up as Dinosaurs in underpants for our Dinosaurs love underpants story book.

Abishek wearing a fire helmet and meeting one of the Firemen.

Harrison using the trundle wheel to measure in meters.

Angus and Tom digging for Dinosaur bones with Pip.

Harrison using the trundle wheel to measure in meters.

Harrison and Mike doing some reading activities on the computer.

Looking at our hatching Dinosaur eggs.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to seeing you again next term.

Teacher: Nicole
Teacher Aides: Alyssa, Criddy and James
Danish Student: Mike
Student Teacher: Pip
Middle 1

Wow! What a busy and exciting term we have had! Shortly after the Easter holidays we ventured off to the Gold Coast for our amazing camp at Barney’s Place. The weather surprised us and the sun came out just in time for our trip to the beach. Leah, Jazper and Madi enjoyed paddling in the waves, whilst Gus, Clay and Lyam soaked up the sun, building sandcastles and relaxing on the beach. The next day we headed off to Sea World and had an amazing day watching the shows, checking out the wildlife and going on the rides. We definitely have some thrill seekers in M1! At home we enjoyed views of the Gold Coast canal from our luxurious veranda, fed the birds on our own private beach and chilled out in the spa. When it was time to leave, the students were already planning next year’s camp! We all had a great time away and the students should be proud of their fantastic behaviour. A special thanks to Jenni, Sam, Michelle, Ian and Louise for their hard work during our time away.

At school we have been learning about pets, working on our individual goals and programs and having fun with our friends. We have also been busy shopping and planning for the sausage sizzle we will be running next term. As the semester draws to a close it is so pleasing to reflect on all the wonderful achievements and the progress that our amazing students have made. I wish you all a safe and happy holiday!
Middle 2

This term Middle 2 has been learning about different kinds of pets. We have had stories and explored the attributes of cats, dogs, fish, chickens and horses. Highlights have been having our very own Siamese fighting fish to look after for a few weeks, and William's brother Toby brought in his pet hermit crabs to show us and other classes. We have a feature wall with some lovely photos of the students and their pets at home.

We joined with Middle 1 to have games incorporating animals with language and maths concepts. We did this on the mini oval on Fridays and it was enjoyed by all.

Another activity was Royal Day, a dress-up day to take us into the Queen's birthday weekend. We had a right royal time across the school with some fabulous photos.

Most students have been working very hard on the independent skills of eating and drinking. Abbey is now able to use a drink bottle by herself and is participating well in using a spoon and fork. Darah has improved greatly at using a cup to drink from and to spoon her food and put the spoon back in the bowl. Will is using a fork quite well. William takes the occasional spoonful by himself. Seth can now open his containers and is more often putting his bottles back and saying finished.

This term we also have been using the new eye gaze computer for Lily and Abbey. Both are making quite good progress in learning how to use it. This will hopefully lead to them being able to communicate their wishes using their eyes.

There have been some good gains in the pool also. Seth in particular is consciously using both arms and legs together, possibly for the first time ever.

Teacher: Jess
Teacher Aides: Jenni, Sam, Susan and Criddy
My thanks go to my regular volunteer Louise, William’s mother, who has been a valuable extra pair of hands at horse riding, and to Maddy and Lilly my student volunteers who have helped some of this term with swimming. Many thanks to all my teacher aides, Stephanie, Michelle, Bec, Ellie, Alyssa, Sharon, and to many others who have helped out when needed.

Abbey turned 10 in June. Sam helps her blow the candles out.

Darrah enjoys horse riding a lot more this year. She lifts her leg to get on the horse and holds the reins.

Lily begins using the eye gaze computer. Both Lily and Abbey are doing very well.

Will doesn’t have to try hard to do a handsome prince impersonation.

William enjoys a smile while having the soup he helped make.

Seth is using 2 hands and 2 feet to become independent in the pool.
See you all again in third term and enjoy your holidays.

Teacher: Nicki
Teacher Aides: Stephanie, Bec, Micelle, Alyssa, Sharon and Ellie

Senior 1

Nearing the end of another term gives us the opportunity to reflect on all the wonderful learning experiences over the past 10 weeks. The students in Senior 1 have been engaged in a number of different focus areas and community outings as well as continuing with our routine swimming, communication and movement programs.

This term we have honed our amazing bowling skills at Kedron Bowls. This is much more than just bowling for the Senior 1 students. The experience offers the students the opportunity to handle money, pay the assistant, and receive their change and receipts. It is also a time to socialise with each other as teenagers, have a bite to eat and let our (friendly) competitive sides be seen on the bowling alley. Scores are analysed and much discussion is had around the numbers, sequencing and ordering of scores.

We have also spent time at New Farm Park and enjoyed riding on the City Cat, as well as shopping at Ashgrove shops. Once again, these outings offer us the opportunity to gain access to the community, the parks, socialise, use transport cards to access council buses and city cats. The visits to Ashgrove shops are an excellent chance for the students to practise some very important skills that will be imperative for their transition to post school life. This shopping experience allows the students to use as much independence as possible to complete grocery shopping from a list, handle money, speak to shop assistants and ask questions. A very worthwhile and valuable experience for all involved.

Senior 1 has also been busy in our school community by completing their daily jobs at RHSS. Raising and lowering the flag, closing the school gates, collecting paper for shredding and completing a weather chart are all jobs that are completed by our class and assist the school to run smoothly and safely each day. Next term we will be adding new jobs to the roster such as, composting and recycling.

We have had the pleasure of working with Louise, our wonderful Danish student this semester and sadly we have to say our goodbyes as she will be returning home during the semester break. We would like to thank Louise for her amazing dedication and hard work throughout her time in our class and we will miss her lovely happy face in our classroom each day. Louise will be missed and we thank her for her wonderful dedication, inspiring goals and gentle ways with the students.

We are very sad to see Rachel leave us to teach in a junior class next semester. We will miss her energy, passion, love and her smile. Thank you for everything Rach. Also, a big thank you to our amazing teacher aides - Jenne, Julie, Tim, Susan and Sonya for their dedication, hard work and bright dispositions each and every day.

We have lots of exciting new things planned for term 3. Rest well over the holidays and we look forward to another term filled with learning, life skills and lots of fun along the way.

Shopping up a storm at Ashgrove shops.
Morning tea at the gym.

Off to do the school banking.

Teachers: Therese and Rachel
Teacher Aides: Jenne, Julie, Tim, Susan and Sonya
Danish Student: Louise

Senior 2

Hello from Senior 2. This term 2 has been a happy time for our class and we have kept busy engaging in lots of great learning experiences. As always, in each of these our focus is on developing meaningful communication and on participating in the wonderful world around us. Here at school our classroom activities have included swimming each week, making lots of noise in music therapy sessions with the very talented Clancy, experiencing the lights and sights of the multi-sensory room, keeping healthy through stretching, moving and massage and using ICT to discover the exciting world of computer and iPad games.

Feeling the wind in our hair on the city cat.

Being active members of the community is an important part of our work as Red Hill Seniors, and this term we continued to participate in activities outside school. Two of our students, Troy and Will, attended weekly horse-riding lessons at Brookfield and both have made great progress in listening to the instructor and sitting well on the horse. Two other students, Rachael and Sinead, enjoyed fortnightly trips to venues including Queen St mall, Queensland Museum and the Myer Centre (where it seems they explored lots of interesting dress shops!). Rachael and Sinead accessed these venues via public bus and next term will also add City Cat and train to their list of easy ways to get around. All students,

Morning Tea at New Farm Park.
including Luanna and Hayden, explored Woolcock Park during the semester and enjoyed using the equipment or just being out in nature during our seemingly endless summer. Next term we will continue being active members of our community and plan to bowl at Kedron, access Southbank, spend money at the local shops and have the best time during our five day camp at Caloundra.

Sadly, this term we are saying goodbye to one of our class teachers, Caroline Smyth-Kenyon, who is returning to Ireland with her family later in the year. Caroline has worked to bring out the best in every student and has given them many positive experiences during the term. We will all miss her very much. We wish Caroline and her family every happiness in the future.

Finally, a huge thankyou to all the wonderful staff who work in Senior 2. Your focus on the students, dedication and hard work are a vital part of what makes our classroom a successful and happy place to be. Thankyou everyone.

Have a safe and happy holiday. See you in Semester 2.

Teachers: Tracy and Caroline
Teacher Aides: Lisa, Glenis, Sonya and Tim