Dear Families

Welcome to Spring... I hope the September holidays bring an abundance of clear skies and lovely weather for you to enjoy with your children.

It has as usual been a busy term as you will see from the class updates in the newsletter. Your children have been working very hard and beginning to show the signs of tiredness as are staff. A well-deserved rest coming.

As with last term the flu and a range of other nasty bugs have taken a toll again. It is again a huge thank you for keeping your children home when they have not been well. Staff continued the hand washing with gel and tables have been washed down regularly in attempts to reduce flus.

Throughout this term teachers have been reviewing your child’s curriculum plans with you. I hope you have found these meetings beneficial in both discussing your child’s development as well as establishing directions for the next months.

We have welcomed again to our school, two lovely Danish students – Anne and Ninette. As always, the support these young people provide to our school community is invaluable. Whilst working respectively in Junior 6 and Junior 2 this semester, both Anne and Ninette have supported a number of class camps too. This has enabled them to interact with a range of your children.

Staffing at Red Hill continues to provide challenges – not only as staff take leave but also where flu and/or injury occur. Next term there will be some additional changes. Jenne Walter, teacher aide in seniors is having some extended leave to travel. Julie Roderick from Seniors and Junior 1 is also having an additional week’s leave traveling with her family.

Jocelyn Haycox will be resuming full time next term with Junior 1. Cathy McLeod, Anna O’Rourke, Michele Watt, Kerrie Stewart and Erica Wilson will be teaching (each fractional amounts of time) throughout term 4 at our school. These teachers will be primarily providing the non – contact time for class room teachers.
As part of Our Great Results Guarantee agreement, Rachel Dougherty will continue to support literacy development in our school. Rachel has spent time with many of your children and has been consulting with teachers with regard strategies and support for developing literacy. Rachel has also developed some reading at home packages.

At the end of term 4, Clancy Cullen, our music therapist, is moving to Melbourne for 12 months with her family. In her absence, throughout 2015, Tara Shrestha will be our music therapist. Clancy and Tara will spend time together here at school, so that Tara is familiar with our students and programs. Music Therapy will continue for all students on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in 2015.

At the end of this term, eight of the school’s classes will have completed their camps. These have all been highly successful with your children engaging in a range of motivating experiences. Whilst staff has come home tired, everyone has commented on the success of their camps. It is always interesting for staff to see your children in different environments and gain insights into both their needs and skills that often are not seen at school.

Juniors 4 and 5 will undertake their camps to the south coast during the week of October 15-19\textsuperscript{th}. Once again this year, your P&C has subsidised camps financially to minimise costs to families.

**Did you know that this year:**

A 5 day (4 nights) camp actually cost $26,649.70 (ex GST) to run  
A 4 day (3 night) camp actually cost $16,491.71 (ex GST) and  
A 3 day (2 night) camp actually cost $12,250.05 (ex GST)

Thank you to our P&C and staff for supporting these camps. Staff do not get paid additional wages to be available 24 hours a day throughout these camps. Additional staff we bring to camps to ensure safety and a great time for your children is paid for by the school.

On Monday September 1\textsuperscript{st} our school had its Discipline Audit. The purpose of these audits is to provide feedback on how we are ensuring a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment and to inform school behaviour management planning processes.

Each of you have received information regarding our super heroes and the 3 school rules:

- I communicate  
- I look, listen and learn  
- I make good choices

Many of the children are quite good now singing our song which assists them in remembering the rules. We will in the near future provide you some additional ways in which we are using strategies to further ensure a safe, supportive learning environment using our super heroes.

The results of our audit will be published on the school’s website at the beginning of term 4. We should receive the executive summary by the end of this term. The exiting profile shared with staff by the auditor, Berta Barbe, was very favourable.

Thank-you again for your continued support throughout this term.
A big term 4 ahead... Graduation for senior students Jack, Rachael and Sinead, semester two reporting, camps, Townsend day out at Sutton’s Beach, Christmas break ups and concert ... as well as the daily programs.

With all that term 4 holds, I hope your children have an enjoyable, restful break and come back well and refreshed on Tuesday October 7th. **Remember, Monday October 6th is a public holiday.**

Pam

### General News

#### P & C News

The P&C has continued to support families of Red Hill Special School community in a number of ways. Each camp has been sponsored to reduce financial costs to families. Many new educational resources have been purchased to support all programs across ECDP and school.

A number of school families will have also started to receive invoices for extra educational activities in which your children engage. These invoices have indicated that the activity has been paid for by your P&C. This again is a commitment made by the P&C to families and which has been made possible as a result of the successful “Evening with Matt Golinski” fund raiser earlier this year.

Thank you to the many parents who have received such an invoice and forwarded a special thankyou which has been passed onto your P&C. Obviously this P&C support has been well received and the P&C has been delighted to make some little difference to families.

The P&C also wishes to express its thanks to all families and friends that supported the recent Bounce-a-thon/Swing-a-thon. To date $6000.00 has been raised - an enjoyable and successful event. It is great when our students can be engaged in activity that supports their school.

#### Drover’s Run

This event being held on November 30th is supporting a family from our school. Tickets are on sale at Scoopon for competitors. Spectators will be free. Donations will also be welcome on the day.

A banner advertising the event may be erected along one of the school fences over coming weeks.
School Start & Finish Times

We realise at times the difficulty in preparing your children for school and thank-you for your attempts to be at school in time for the beginning of programs. This start to the day is vital to the structure of the students’ day.

The school program begins at 8.45am and concludes at 2.45pm. It can be very distracting to other students and their engagement in educational programs where there is disruption with children coming later to programs. Part of preparation for the day and development of independence for many students is the unpacking of bags, toileting and preparing belongings for the day. This occurs between 8.30 and 8.45am so that students are ready to begin the day as close to 8.45 as possible.

If you are having difficulty in regularly meeting this starting time please come and chat with myself or the deputy principals.

If you need to speak with a teacher it is best done before 8.30am and no later than 8.45am or after 2.45pm. As teachers are often engaged in meetings before and after school it is advisable to make a meeting time to ensure you have their attention without distraction.

Communication

Please contact school (class teacher/admin) if you have messages to pass on regarding your child. Please do not send messages or ask questions regarding school via the contract bus drivers or attendants. These are lovely people that undertake a wonderful job in bringing your children to and from school but they are not employees of the school and not aware of all procedures within the school.

If there is information we need to know, it is important that you contact either the teacher or admin directly so that we can assist immediately.

A reminder too that the student absence line number is 32919360. You can phone this number at any time and leave your name, reason for absence and the expected duration.

Thank you to all families that keep us up to date regarding your children.

Classroom News

Term 3 has flown by in the Early Childhood Developmental Program (ECDP). We have welcomed some new students to the program and they have settled in well. Staffing has remained the same and the team continues to enjoy working with all the students and their families.

The Monday classes have continued to work on their communication skills both in small groups and as a class. They have been working hard in group time and have learnt to sit and concentrate well, while waiting for their turn. Their talking and communication has got so much better and all the staff is very proud of the progress of the whole group. Our Literacy work has been focused around the stories Hairy Maclary which we all love. The dress-up’s and sand pit continue to be the favourite games outside and we are starting to see much more co-operative play with friendships forming which is lovely. Music with Clancy is another favourite part of the day.
The Tuesday class has also enjoyed reading the Hairy Maclary books and learning about rhyming words. Each week the class work has focused on a new letter of the week. The class has enjoyed working with the letter Getter books and activities on the whiteboard to help learn the letter of the week. Rotation activities have focused on writing, reading, cutting and craft activities based on the letter of the week. One of the class, Timothee has been travelling for much of the term and we have loved receiving weekly postcards and photographs allowing us to share in his exciting adventures. This week he sent us a magic Pythagorus Cup from Greece which when filled with water to the line did not leak but when filled above the line emptied from the bottom. This led to lots of discussion about empty, full and other science concepts. This class has made huge progress in Literacy development this term and can now all write their names.

The Wednesday class has welcomed Zoe from playgroup who has settled in well and is enjoying the program. This class is working on their gross motor skills with Hugh swimming, Winnie practising power wheelchair skills and Zoe standing and playing in different positions. Music with Clancy is a highlight of the day.

Playgroup continues to meet in the mornings with some new families joining us for the session. The families continue to support each other with sharing of ideas and experiences. Music with Clancy is a wonderful session where all the children can participate learning new communication skills while having lots of fun. Play experiences are provided to practice fine motor skills, learn new play skills and have fun with sensory activities. The multi-sensory room is also a popular place to play and learn in.

Finally the Thursday class. We have welcomed a new friend Lucas into our group and he has quickly settled and made friends. The focus for this group is learning play skills and being in a group with other children. Communication is also a big focus with lots of fun games on the whiteboard to develop both speaking and listening skills. Favourite games outside include the trampoline, the obstacle course and the sandpit. This new class has all made great progress this term and enjoy being together playing and learning.
Junior one has had a fun packed term learning about Who Sank the Boat and finding Where is Elmer? We read about A Fish with a Wish and talked about same and different. Our reading and writing is going well and we have made some colourful art creations that you can see proudly displayed on our walls. We continued our swimming program and our favourite weekly visits to the park. We said goodbye to old friends and hello to our new friends – Teacher Aide Alyssa and class mate Fareed.

I would like to thank the students and parents for a lovely term. Your children have all put in a lot of effort and have achieved some great work. A big thank you also to our wonderful teacher aides Alyssa, Alicia, Danya and Julie and to our amazing non-contact teacher Michele.

Junior 1

I look forward to another busy and productive term in term four.

Happy holidays everyone from Jocelyn and the students and staff of Junior One.

Teachers: Caron and Jo
Teacher Aides: Shelley and Ellie

Junior 2

It is hard to believe that we are here again at the end of the school term. Term Three has brought lots of changes to the Junior 2 class, the main one being changes to staffing. We have been very excited to welcome Chelsea, Ketki and Michele to our team, and have also enjoyed getting to know Brooke and Elly who have helped us out on many occasions! It’s also needless to say that we were all VERY excited to receive the news that we would be having another Danish student this semester. These wonderful people work so hard in our classes and it is such a privilege to have Ninette as part of the Junior 2 team for this second half of the year!

This term we have continued to work very hard across our various programs, including communication, movement and gross motor,
sensory play and active learning, and technology access. There have been so many “wow” moments this term, and it is so pleasing to see the continual progression that each student has made, despite a fair few setbacks with regards to health. We certainly didn’t escape the flu season unscathed, but it is great to see us all back and firing again as the weather warms up!

Our Unit of Work has focused on ‘My Community’ and we have begun looking at the community from an inside-out perspective. Our stories have been centred on families and the various people that make up our families. It is exciting to see the students accessing these stories (and more!) on the computers, using their switches. In this way, they are able to communicate choices, contribute to the reading of the story, turn pages and be actively engaged in the process.

Once again we have had lots of fun with embracing our multi-sensory learning experiences. On any given day our classroom can be an oasis of peace and calm, or a wild flurry of noise and activity! The students (and staff members) have not hesitated to truly ‘get amongst it’ during messy play, music therapy, art, cooking and fun with food activities. In particular we have enjoyed our weekly sensory play sessions with our friends in Junior 3, where we are able to combine sensory-based learning with socialising and communication.

Although we didn’t have the excitement of school camp this term, the students enjoyed the recent outing to the Darling Point Fun Run. It’s always such a lovely day! We have also been making the most of the beautiful weather during our weekly visits to Woolcock Park. Staff and students alike relish the chance to get out in the sunshine and fresh air on park days, and it’s always very exciting to discuss our plans during morning greeting on Tuesdays!

As always, I have so much wonderful help in the classroom, and I want to take a moment to thank our wonderful teacher aides (Amelia, Christine, Chelsea, Michele, Caitlin and Ketki), Danish student (Ninette), therapists and advisory teachers (Rebecca, Dave, Alicia, Melissa, Marilyn, Clancy), and our admin team for their assistance. I would also like to thank the students and their families for all the hard work they put in. It’s certainly a great team!
I hope that everyone has a happy and restful holiday. I look forward to seeing you all back for Term Four!

**Teacher:** Kate  
**Teacher Aides:** Christine, Deb, Caitlin and Michelle  
**Danish Student:** Ninette

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**Junior 3**

This term we welcomed back Minseo to our class! It has been a fun filled, busy term working, communicating, socialising and having fun! A key focus for junior 3 this term has continued to be developing each student’s communication skills.

A highlight of the term was the day out for the Fun Run at Darling Point. Charlotte, Matthew, Fred and George each participated in the walk and enjoyed playing on the playground after the long walk.
This term, cooking has become a part of our weekly routine. This has provided a wonderful language learning time where staff have been modelling the use of a PODD book to communicate like or dislike of each of the ingredients in the smoothie. It is great to see Fred keen to use the boards alongside his words to ask for more!

Our weekly walks to the Woolcock Park have continued to feature as the favourite activity by all students. Matthew regularly communicates early in the day by bringing the outing bag to the teacher that he would like to go to the park NOW! The time at the park not only allows for the enjoyment of being in the outdoors to enjoy the beautiful weather, but is a great time for the students to work on gross motor skills whilst climbing, swinging and crawling over the play equipment as well as working on their communication skills in a different environment.

We have continued to join with the junior 2 students every Thursday to socialise and interact. During this time, we have been using the “Learning to Play” program to practice our play skills at the same time of working on increasing students’ engagement time in an activity. It is exciting to see some of the students begin to predict the next step in the play sequence.
This term Junior 4 embraced our ‘Jurassic Juniors’ theme, which explored the wonderful world of Dinosaurs. Each student really seemed to get involved in this theme each in their own way. We had great fun experimenting with erupting volcanos, making different dinosaurs in art and craft, using music and movement to move like dinosaurs, digging for dinosaur eggs as well as making miniature dinosaur gardens. Our culminating activity and most favourite for the term I think, was our trip to the museum. The students had a wonderful adventure catching a bus and train into South Brisbane to see the big Dinosaurs at the Queensland museum.

Finally, thank you to the wonderful staff who have continued to implement the students programs and goals during the term whilst I have been away. It is so wonderful to work with such a supportive and helpful team!

Have a great holiday and see you all in term 4!

Teacher: Amanda
Teacher Aides: Sam, Belinda and Ketki

The students have worked hard towards their goals this term and all have enjoyed success. We have focused on learning through functional skills this term, which has seen lovely improvements in the student’s independent skills throughout their
daily routines. As always 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 have also introduced a new learning tool (Clicker 6) into the classroom and it’s exciting to see each student want to engage with the program. It allows the students to be able to work at their individual pace/level and provides access to literacy and learning. All the students throughout the term have participated to the best of their ability in all the different activities which are presented through a multi-sensory approach.

Term 3 is always a busy one. We got to enjoy two wonderful events, the Darling Point fun run and the Yatala mini ekka. The students and staff all enjoy spending the day together at these events where we get to share in the student’s smiles and laughs. Darbi, Flyn and Lewis couldn’t wipe the smiles off their faces after driving the Dodgem cars at the mini ekka and Maisie was a crowd pleaser during the fun run giving all the Iona College supporters ‘Hi-5’s’! and of course our local TV superstar Will, for putting a big smile on as channel 9 captured him cuddling a goat at the mini ekka.

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.
Next term not only will be the final term of the year it will include our school camp. All the Junior 4 staff can’t wait to share in this adventure with the students as for some students this will be their first three day camp. We are going to Barney’s Place down at the Gold Coast from Monday 13th October - Wednesday 15th October. We have three jammed packed days planned, which involve a theme park visit, a light and sensory experience, beach visits, an all abilities playground visit and that’s just to mention a few items on the agenda. We will provide a detailed itinerary closer to the time.

Enjoy the spring break.

Teacher: Casey
Teacher Aides: Megan, Aimee and Michelle

It has been yet a very busy term and Junior 5 has enjoyed learning about Transport and looking at different stories about, cars, trains and boats. We looked at old and new cars and had fun washing Miss Hilary’s car one day. We learnt the names of the different parts of a car. Then as a special surprise a man called Peter brought his old car, a 1928 Hudson Essex, called “Rosie” to school for the class to look at and compare with new cars. It was a beautiful car and we all enjoyed admiring its special features.
Another story we enjoyed was Mr Little’s Noisy Train and we learnt about all the different parts of a train and what they were used for, along with some funny surprises when we lifted the flaps! As a follow up to the story we were fortunate to visit the Railway Museum in Ipswich which was a great day-out. We all had fun exploring the different trains and carriages and marvelled at the size of them all. We were able to sit in a simulator in the front of a train and drive the train along the tracks very fast and see the countryside wizz by as we went faster and faster. We also played in the life-size train station and operated the signals and pushed the carriages around on the tracks. A great day out for the whole family as a holiday visit too.

Another special outing was to visit the Maritime Museum at Southbank and look at all the different boats and ships. We were able to climb all over a huge navy ship and looked at the little tug boat that worked along the Brisbane River. This reminded us of the story we had read about brave ‘Mavis the Tug Boat’ that pushed the pontoon down river in the floods. We went on the City Cat and looked at the new pontoon that was being built and enjoyed lunch in New Farm Park. On this day out we were able to travel on a bus, train, ferry and taxi. It was a very busy day!

We all enjoyed looking at the car, especially the horn!

Keanu went inside a simulator and drove the Tilt Train.

Amaya and Marie-Louise enjoyed dressing up and playing in the Station at the museum.

The ropes were heavy too.

It was Harry’s first trip on a train.

Zach sitting in the drivers seat of a big steam train.

We went on a Navy Gun Ship.

We were amazed at how big a ship’s wheel was.
Junior 5 has also enjoyed visits to Ashgrove Library and we all enjoy eating our lunch on the veranda before having a quick play in the park. Journeys into the city have included visiting the City Library, the new Botanical Play Park, exploring Roma Street Parklands and walking to Woolcock Park. A highlight in the week is our trip to the riding centre where we have all enjoyed learning to ‘walk on’, ‘trot’ and step over logs and weave in and out of barrels whilst riding on different ponies each week.

The whole school was also very fortunate to be visited by Andre and Helen, Marie-Louise’s parents who played the violin and cello to the whole school. We were all mesmerised by the beautiful sounds the string instruments made and the tunes they played and everyone sat very still and enjoyed the experience.

As part of our maths focus this term we have been conducting surveys to create bar charts and Venn diagrams. This involved counting traffic one day outside the school. Another day we asked staff members how did they travel to school, did...
they have a pet and what colour was their hair? We have learnt how to use a software program and record our findings on the computer as well as make a bar chart using different symbols and images.

Of course I could not have managed this term either without the support and dedication given by my wonderful staff to help run the mechanics of the daily routines in Junior 5, thank you Mary, Aimee, Megan, Ketki and Cathy.

A big focus this term has been to learn as many high frequency words as possible and take home our lovely new school reading books to share with you at home. A big thank you to all of the parents who have supported and worked with their child. It has certainly made a huge difference.

We are all ready for a holiday and plan to find some time to recharge our batteries and relax ready to return to school next term ready for our Class Camp to the Gold Coast. We have so many wonderful things planned to do and look forward to, as well as spending some time with Junior 4 as we swap over with the accommodation mid-week.

We look forward to seeing all the students return ready for a new term for Pirate and Space Adventures! Have a great holiday.

**Teacher:** Hilary

**Teacher Aides:** Mary, Aimee, Megan, Ketki and Cathy our non-contact teacher
This term Junior Six has been looking at Celebrations. We have loved learning about and celebrating Birthdays with many people having their birthdays this term. We have made party invitations and thought about the foods and games we would like to help us celebrate. We have also been learning about Chinese New Year, this is quite different to birthday celebrations and we enjoyed finding out which Chinese Zodiac year we were born in. Most of us are the rooster, but we also have some monkeys and a sheep. Our staff are different animals as well.

In mathematics this term we have been practising our addition and subtraction. We have been introduced to fractions and are doing very well at identifying half. Some of us can identify eighths!

In social and personal development we have been playing games. This helps us with our turn taking, sharing and rule following. We have played party games in our room and are enjoying sports in the oval. We are getting very good at our cricket skills.

We have continued our swimming and our excursions to the gym, as well as going to the Darling point Fun Run and the Mini Ekka. In week 7 we went on camp and had lots of fun on the parks jumping pillow, as well as on our outings to Australia Zoo and the Science centre. Big Thank you to Dave (our school physio) for coming along to help us out. Some of us were very brave at Australia Zoo and fed and touched some animals such as lizards, kangaroos and even a snake!

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**Junior 6 at Australia Zoo**

**Abishek and Harrison on the Ferris Wheel at the Mini Ekka**

**Kaito and Pip at the Fun Run**

**Junior 6 resting after the Fun Run**

**Braken making some birthday cup cakes**
Joshua and Kaito making some birthday cupcakes

Harrison and Abishek on the jumping pillow with James at camp.

At the end of last term we said goodbye to our Danish student helper, Mike. This term we said hello to Anne, who is a new Danish student helper in our class.

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

Teacher: Nicole
Teacher Aides: Alyssa, James and Sam
Danish Student: Anne

Middle 1 has been busy partying this term, as we have learnt about celebrations in our unit work. We have been trialling and engaging with the national curriculum ACARA, for our English and Maths studies and have been working towards our individual learning goals. This term we have been involved in lots of community based learning which has seen us regularly out and about.

We have been lucky to participate in some exciting events including the Darling Point Fun Run, The Variety Bash and the Yatla Mini Ekka. It was a glorious day for the Fun Run and who could resist a day by the beach. All of the students made Red Hill proud with their great attitudes and fantastic behaviour. Gus enjoyed taking in
the sunshine and ocean views, Madi loved high fiving and meeting all of the helpers and Leah liked the climbing frame at the park.

We were honoured to lead the start of this year’s Variety Bash at Suncorp Stadium. We felt like celebrities as we rubbed shoulders with Wally Lewis and were treated to show bags, toys, stickers and treats. You couldn’t wipe the smile of Clay’s face as he checked out all of the cars and Jasper was busy posing for photos with all the teams who were dressed up in the most amazing costumes. Variety does an amazing job in supporting our school and it was such a privilege to meet some of the teams who are involved in this amazing event.

The Yatla mini ekka was definitely a highlight of this term. Lyam and Gus enjoyed playing the side show games including the clowns and the fishing game. Clay and Madi couldn’t resist all of the tasty treats that were available and Jasper and Leah were busy checking out all of the rides.

This term we have been busy running the school sausage sizzle. Every week we have to send home, collect and count order forms, navigate council buses to shop for ingredients and of course cook and deliver lunches to all of our hungry customers. This has provided a rich learning opportunity for the students who have developed their social, counting, money and reading skills and the best part is that they have enjoyed it so much they don’t even realise it’s ‘work’.


I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of our dedicated team; Jenni, Sam, Chelsea and Alyssa. You are truly amazing! I wish all of our families and staff a safe and happy holidays.

Teacher: Jess

Teacher Aides: Jenni, Sam, Chelsea and Alyssa
This term Middle 2 has been learning about growing food. We visited Nova Nursery in The Gap and looked at all the plants, then bought veggie potting mix and cherry tomatoes and mint. We got horse manure from the McIntyre centre where we go riding, and dug it through our soil. We planted our seedlings and water them most days. We hope to cook with the produce in the near future.

This term we also began sailing with Sailability in Manly on Mondays. This has been a most rewarding adventure. We did this in preparation for our whale watching trip during camp in the first week of September, and as a follow on from our Lighthouse Keeper book series. The students all enjoyed the whale watch boat ride and some were interested in the whales too, but 2 staff succumbed to motion sickness. Oh dear! We also went 10 pin bowling, visited Underwater World, saw a lighthouse and went to an All Abilities playground. The accommodation just south of Mooloolabah was generously subsidized by our wonderful P&C fund raising, so thanks again for making our camp more affordable.

Have a good holiday Seth, Abbey, Lily, Darah, Will and William with your families. Thanks and have a great holiday to my teacher aides Bec Stephanie and Deb. Special thanks to Ian, Ketki and Ninette for coming and helping out on camp. See you all again next term.

Teacher: Nicki
Teacher Aides: Rebecca, Stephanie and Deb
Senior 1

Term 3 is nearly at a close and we are all geared up for our senior camp in week 10. There has been much excitement and planning by the staff and students to get us ready to enjoy this wonderful event that we all look forward to. The students have been actively involved in the detailed planning of the camp. From their preferred food/meal ideas to the activities they would like to partake in- it has definitely been a joint effort and one we are all excited to share. Much planning and preparation has taken place by the students in regard to what to pack, what items will be needed on particular outings - for example, the beach, the motorbike ride. This has enabled the students to feel a part of the process and to take ownership of their own packing and self-organisation.

This term we have focused on nature and living things. This has seen us growing beans and herbs in the classroom as well as many visits down to our local park to observe the items in nature. We have learnt many community signs during this unit and have a good understanding of what these signs and symbols mean to us in our everyday lives. We have collected nature items and used them to create a piece of artwork.

We have been engaged in our regular routines of swimming, sporting wheelies and other community access visits such as the banking and the mail run. Once again, these outings offer us the opportunity to gain access to the community, the parks, socialise and use transport cards to access council buses. These outings encourage the students to develop skills of independence. Such programs are of great value to their senior schooling and transition programs.

We have also set up a compost program this term and our class is involved in the collection of compost bins throughout the school each week.
We are looking forward to sharing all the wonderful experiences from our camp with you all. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to a busy term 4.

**Teachers:** Therese and Rachel  
**Teacher Aides:** Jenne, Julie, and Tim

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**Senior 2**

Hello from Senior 2. In term 3 our unit of work was *My Place in a Living, Growing, Changing World* which incorporated ideas from the Australian Curriculum Junior Secondary Science Unit 2. Over the term students explored the classroom, local environment and Woolcock Park to find a wide variety of natural and man-made objects including leaves, flowers, paper, fabric, cans and rope. With help from staff, students used these found objects to make interesting mobiles, posters and artworks which were displayed in the classroom and also shown to other classes on assembly.

As part of this unit, students planted garden pots of natural and man-made objects to see which would grow and change as the weeks went by. Whilst our marigolds, dianthus and zinnias flourished to produce flowers and healthy foliage, we had no success with the plastic toys, thongs, rubber gloves, straws and Christmas cards we also planted. It seems that despite lots of water, sunshine and attention, some things just can’t change and grow. We also made grass head people from stockings and seeds, read stories about natural and man-made objects and watched short video clips about the natural world.

Our other classroom activities included swimming each week here at Red Hill, having fun with Clancy during music therapy sessions, experiencing the lights and sights of the multi-sensory room, keeping healthy through stretching, moving and massage and using ICT to play computer and iPad games. We also worked to be active members of the living, growing, changing world around us by participating in activities outside school. As a group we bowled each fortnight at Kedron Bowl, participated in Flipside Circus activities and explored Woolcock Park. Each Thursday Senior 2 students Rachael and Sinead also used public transport to access community venues including Queen St mall, the Myer Centre, Southbank and the Botanical Gardens. As Rachael and Sinead are graduating from school this year, next term both students will also access post-school services as part of their transition from Red Hill.

A highlight of term 3 was our class camp to Caloundra. During our five days away we explored the sights and sounds of Sunshine Plaza, went for walks around the local area and spent a lazy afternoon at the beach. At UnderWater World we touched sea creatures, walked through an underwater tunnel while sharks and other sea life swam over us, watched a seal show and saw otters being fed. During camp each student also went on a fabulous motorbike/sidecar ride around the Sunshine Coast with James from WheelAdventures. As being on camp takes lots of effort from lots of people, I would like to thank classroom aides Lisa and Deb for all they did while we were away, and also thank Lisa for driving our students in the minibus. In addition I would like to thank past staff member Susan Jordan who came back just to be part of our Caloundra experience and Jillian Rowlands who volunteered her time for the whole camp, took lots of photos and video and helped the students have fun.

Troy and Will at Windward Passage Apartments, Caloundra
Finally, as term 3 draws to a close, happy and safe holiday wishes from Senior 2. See you in term 4.

**Teachers:** Tracy and Kerrie  
**Teacher Aides:** Glenis, Tim, Deb, Lisa and Sonja