Dear Parents,

Last night a number of our staff participated in an ‘Educators Outdoors’ charity fundraiser in the name of disadvantaged children across Australia. The small frosty group, myself included, spent this morning silently recovering from the rather fresh temperatures and too many hot chocolates. I would like to thank all our staff for participating in this inaugural charity event, we hope to get a small cheque away to the Salvation Army in the coming days. If you would like to make a donation in support of our efforts, please don’t hesitate to contact Lisa in the office. You may need to let her defrost first! Great time – thank you!

On parade on Monday morning, I had the pleasure of announcing our new school Principal’s, appointment to our students. Since then we have run an internal recruitment process for a new Head of Primary. After carefully working through all the applications, Mrs Heslin, Mrs Wolski and I are delighted to announce that Mr JB Mohr has been successfully appointed to the position. Mr Mohr brings very solid teaching and learning experiences in very challenging schools across England, along with his experiences here having taught Year 6, Year 5/6, Manual Arts, Geography, HPE, Mathematics and Agricultural Science. He has also been a fantastic support to new and beginning staff and he is a very well respected and valued member of our staff. Congratulations Mr Mohr. Mr Mohr will stay as the key teacher in Year 4/5 covering all of the English and Mathematics curriculum, in conjunction with Mrs Bianca Willis who will work closely with both Mr Mohr and Miss Baker.

Folks, before I take the opportunity to pay my respects to our staff, students and families, in light of my departure, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of Mr Bill Mulcahy and his staff, past and present, for not only all the hard work that has gone into transitioning our new students for Semester 2, but for their ongoing commitment to educational outcomes for so many young Taroom locals over generations. As we all know, St Mary’s will sadly close its doors for the last time this Friday at 3:00pm. On behalf of all our staff and students here at the state school, I would like to extend my best wishes to Bill, his team and his family as they move on with their respective careers. Good luck and farewell.

As I finalise Semester 1 here in Taroom, before heading to Chinchilla State School for Semester 2 I would like to extend my sincerest thank you, to all our staff for their dedication, professionalism and support given to me over the past two and a half years, and for all that they do to proactively influence the educational outcomes for our students. Our staff do a fantastic job here and their ongoing efforts and professionalism is a true credit to them! To our students I reiterate what I said on our 50 Years of Secondary Education documentary, ‘These students are by far the best that I have ever worked with.’ The behaviour of our student body is second to none, and it is our students who make this school the fantastic school that it is. We have had many changes in staffing, leadership positions, classroom structures and strategic approaches throughout the last few years, and our teachers, staff, students and families have demonstrated detailed resilience and a strong commitment to moving forward.
Over the last two and a half years together, we have purchased a new reading scheme, implemented very structured literacy blocks focusing on the basics, implemented a very successful Spelling Mastery program, seen significant improvement in NAPLAN attainment – particularly for our early years students, overhauled our newsletter and school website, significantly strengthened our community partnerships through hosting the Kindy for ten weeks, and through our Josh Arnold Small Town Culture project – including the workshops, the CD, the concert and the documentary on our 50 Years of Secondary Education celebrations. We have seen our enrolments grow to 130 students, then 140, then 150 and then 160, and they continue to grow. This enrolment growth has paved the way for our new Head of Secondary position to become a permanent allocation to our staff, and Karen is a wonderful addition to our leadership team. We have been very fortunate to have had a full external facelift on our school buildings, with carpets and internal paint across many areas, really enhancing the overall appearance of our school and influencing the culture that promotes learning for our students. These are just a few of the many great things we have achieved in the early years, JMS and Middle School.

To our dedicated parents and families, thank you for the ongoing support and hospitality. It has been my absolute pleasure to have worked closely with Mrs Sarah Parry-Okeden, Mrs Kelly Smith and Mr Bill Hickey, as P&C Presidents, and with their combined executive committees. I think together we have really made a positive impact for our students and our school, which is of course why we are all here!

Finally, a special thank you to Angela and Karen for all their assistance in leading this great school, and to Tanika Lovett, Sophie Smith and Lane Lamb for being the fantastic aspiring young leaders that they are!

Thank you very much to all of you.
Dale Magner

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**SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End of Term 2</td>
<td>Friday 26th June</td>
<td>Happy and Safe Holidays!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 13th July</td>
<td>Taroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>P &amp; C General Meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday 14th July 3.30pm</td>
<td>School Library - All welcome!</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW Girls League selection trials</td>
<td>Friday 31st July</td>
<td>Miles</td>
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**Please keep a watch on our school**

If you notice anything unforeseen please phone

**SCHOOL WATCH 131 788**

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**TUCKSHOP**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group 10 15th July</th>
<th>Workers</th>
<th>Cooks</th>
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|                   | Katrina Howe  
|                   | Kerri-Anne McNee  
|                   | Alannah Hamilton  | | Tanya Bruggeman  
|                   | Deb Graham  | | Marg Smith  |

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