What a wonderful commencement to a new year! Congratulations to all staff and parents who prepared this year’s cohort which will make up LTSS for 2014. Day 8 has come and gone and again this year sees us with 74 students and a number of changes to the staff of last year. Significantly Mrs Crema returns from leave and replaces Mr Morrison who was acting in her absence. In another change we are again serviced by a Physical Education teacher after a hiatus of a number of years and we are able to welcome Mr Cattarossi to the role. Unfortunately we were not able to retain the services of Mrs Williamson but have retained the services of our long serving Aides and Administration Officer. A terrific team again.

The general feel of our school in the first two weeks has been very strong with enormous positivity and excitement for the year ahead. However there has been one theme from previous years which again has been evident and would be simply be wonderful on a number of levels if this element could be eliminated. Student tiredness is a very real part of all classrooms and whilst there is a measure of expectation in the younger ages the evidence in the older grades is a real concern. That prospective positivity will be enhanced if we could work to ensure this area was address as a matter of urgency.

Education is never far from the front pages of our preferred news service provider but wow what headlines have been grabbed recently. Forefront is the $131 million which will be injected into Qld schools this year and is a part of a $800 million package over four years. Couple this with the Flying Start program which was instituted some years ago and witnesses this year both our Yr 6 and Yr 7 students entering Junior Secondary next year. Again an exciting change which will have enormous impact throughout the State and indeed our school as it will effect teacher numbers, aide and admin hours, resources and budgets to name a few.

However some things won’t change as we continue to build the greatness of this school. Throughout the parent meetings staged last year, I tried to stress the absolute importance of the home school relationship which was a fundamental to the positive educational outcomes of the individual. However on a more comprehensive level this relationship is fundamental to the greatness of the school. Our school can’t function fully without the inclusion of all members of our school community and there’s no one including me who has a comprehensive view of this level. 2013 was HUGE in this aspect as support was derived from totally unexpected quarters at amazing levels. Equally though, very sadly, we witnessed the fractious nature of our families as the last weeks tore at the outer fabric of our greatness. 2014 can’t fortify our stocks against this insidious environment and realise our potential. Whilst the choice is simple as we really need to walk the talk. If not, our year will be a struggle to survive and not one to aspire to continue improvement.

Where do our priorities lie?
BIG BIG Welcome to our 2014 Prep Students and new families who have chosen to commence their learning journey with LTSS!

PREPPERS: 

Hollie Anderssen 
Reed Bonassi 
Beau Carmen 
Elektra Leeon 
Kiran Milini 
Ryan Milini 
Madison Mollenhagen 
Haylee Mills 
Alex Napier 
Alyssa Williamson 

OTHER NEW STUDENTS: 

Ayden Hall Yr 1 
Zac Hall Yr 3 
Chantaisque Con Goo Yr 3 
Keano Con Goo Yr 5 
Veda Motlop Yr 3 
Veronica Motlop Yr 6 

"Lower Tully State School ~ providing an educational environment in which students develop confidence to learn, and achieve success as individuals”.

LET THE FUN BEGIN!

OUR TEAM FOR 2014

Principal & Yrs 5-7 teacher Ron White 
Yrs 3-4 teacher Julie Musumeci 
Prep—Yr 2 teacher Rachelle Salleras 
Permanent/part time teachers Mrs Crema 
Phys Ed teacher Mr Cattarossi 
Music teacher Jan Streeter 
Special Needs Support teacher To be advised 
Instrumental Music teacher Karen Stewart 
Guidance Officer Joanne Hoskins 
Teacher Aides Margaret Hyytinen Tracey Basso Anne Pacey Joanne Davis

Administration Officer Anne Pacey Religious Education tutors: 
Cleaner Angi Johnson Mrs Hyytinen, Mrs Bonassi & 
Groundscare John Kinsella Mrs Keto
We are off to a flying start in the Year 3-4 classroom! The children have all settled beautifully into their work and our ‘old’ students have welcomed our ‘new’ students with kindness and empathy.

Despite starting off the school year with a vomiting epidemic that struck down almost half of the class, it seems that everyone has fully recovered and is back on deck, thank goodness.

The children have already undergone various forms of assessment which will help to chart their progress throughout the course of the school year. If any parents wish to see their child’s results of these tests, or simply see what material their child was tested on, please feel free to pop up to the school one afternoon.

Can parents please help the children to ensure that if exercise books or pencil cases are taken home of an evening in order for homework to be completed, that they are returned the very next day? We have had a couple of instances of forgotten pencil cases, which leads to general disorganisation and unpreparedness for learning.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank parents for being so consistent in ensuring that their children complete their assigned homework each night. The dedication in these first couple of weeks has been wonderful to see! The children are quickly beginning to understand that homework not done at home gets done at playtime.

Our first spelling test of the year was completed today, and the children have already received their results – they’ll be able to tell you how they went when they get home.

Our door is always open and parents are always welcome to come and chat about their child’s progress. I look forward to seeing you soon, should you have any concerns.

Julie Musumeci
Year 3-4 Teacher