As we approach the halfway point of the Term it is impressive to see the distance we have travelled in such a short time. Our highlights include:

* All students have returned to school eager to learn
* The Student Leader Process has been completed and our Student Leaders for 2015 announced
* Our Camp Program has commenced with the Leadership Camp leaving today for three days
* Class Meet & Greets have occurred which provided information to families about what this year will look like in each classroom
* Our Writing Blocks have been implemented and are in full swing which incorporate VCOP
* Swimming has commenced
* The School Facebook Page has been resurrected
* A new look newsletter will commence this week

**Student Leader Induction Parade**

I was extremely proud of our elected Student Leaders yesterday as they received their badges and recited the Leadership Oath. I am positive that they will be great ambassadors for our school at all times.

We are completely dedicated to developing the leadership skills of all students here at Theodore State School as we firmly believe that 'the youth of today will be the leaders of tomorrow'.

Dr Chater spoke to our students around the importance of leadership and how everyone has a role to play within the leadership continua. He also mentioned the belief that leaders emerge when needed.

I would like to thank our invited guests, Dr Bruce Chater, Mr Lindsay Christensen (P&C President) and Mr Paul Wood (EQ Assistant Regional Director) for supporting this important event as well as the parents, carers and community members who attended the parade. The conduct of our students throughout the parade was exemplary. I would also like to acknowledge the work of Miss Ashleigh Ogg, Mr Alex Hodgson and Mrs Melinda O’Connor in supporting our Student Leaders and organising the Induction Parade and Leadership Camp.
Our Student Leaders will now attend a three day Leadership Camp where they will take part in the GRIP Leadership Institute Conference and map out a plan for the 2015 School Year.

**Attendance**

Student attendance at school is extremely important. Due to the rigour of the curriculum and structure of the timetable, a day missed of school has the potential of putting students behind the rest of their peers. Here at Theodore State School we actively promote the ‘Every Day Counts’ campaign as we firmly believe that EVERY day does count.

Below is some information provided to schools by Central Office:

*It is important that your children attend school every day. Taking a day off because the fish are biting, or you want to go shopping on your birthday, is not an acceptable reason to miss a day of school.*

*If your child is sick you should contact the school as soon as possible with an estimation of how long your child will be away from school.*

*If your family has to travel away for family or cultural reasons, and expect to be away for more than 10 days you will have to apply for an exemption from Compulsory Schooling. Exemptions should be applied for and approved by the Principal of your child’s school BEFORE you travel away.*

*It is not acceptable to take your children out of school for holidays. Families should plan their holidays to coincide with school holidays.*


At Theodore State School we have a target of 95% attendance for every student. Teachers will be discussing this expectation with their classes and will be monitoring their achievement of the target each week.

I thank you for your support in this very important matter.

*Steve Conner*

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**PLEASE notify the school office if you have changed your phone or mobile numbers, residential or postal address or email address, or emergency contacts, by phoning 4990 3333 or email to admin@theodoress.eq.edu.au as soon as possible so that we can keep our records up to date. It is very important in an emergency that we are able to contact parents and guardians.**

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2015 Theodore State School Leader Induction Ceremony
2015 Theodore State School Senior & Junior Leaders

Piper Christensen  Tegan Skinner  Helena Long  Carly Clifton

2015 Theodore State School Senior & Junior Sports House Captains

Rhett Austin  Keeley Monaghan  Jenna Atfield  Edward Cox

2015 Theodore State School Student Councillors

Atika Byers  Jamie Westwood  Sam Cock  Martin Edwards  Stacey Skinner  Rashun Motley
~ Year One ~

The students in Year One are off to a fantastic start!

We have iPads in action, reading and writing goals set,
and we are looking forward to an extremely positive
and successful year of learning!
“Bypass School” – Fact Sheet

What is a bypass school?
Schools that do not deliver the required range of programs within a year level can be identified as a Bypass school provided they meet certain conditions.

The eligibility criteria for bypass school.
The Bypass Schools policy initial eligibility criteria states that students numbers need to be below 25 for two consecutive years. Now that Year 7 is included in High School that number is 35.

The Bypass Schools Policy also requires one of the following criteria be satisfied for bypass status to be approved:

- students would qualify for assistance to live away from home to undertake Year 11 and 12 (that is, students attend a P-10 school and currently have no reasonable access to education services beyond Year 10 in nearby centres), and/or
- the school is in excess of 150 kilometres from the nearest other stand-alone secondary school (rather than a P-12 school), and/or
- travel and/or distance education enrolment and/or virtual schooling enrolment are currently required to complete the senior secondary program.

Theodore is currently not eligible for bypass school status and why.
Theodore State School does not meet either of the final two criteria in this list. It also does not meet the first criteria, which is intended for circumstances where students cannot reasonably access Years 11 and 12. This is not intended to be applied as a blanket approval of bypass for rural and remote schools that do not offer Year 11 and 12. As Moura State High School (the nearest other Queensland Government school) is located just under 50 kilometres from Theodore State School by the shortest trafficable route, and offers the senior levels of Year 11 & 12 and is accessible to students from Theodore via a school transport service this is not considered unreasonable.

Individual students from Theodore who meet the residential distance criteria for the Living Away From Home Allowance Scheme (based on their home address) are still able to access financial assistance when attending boarding school.

For more information look up the weblink below;


Advice received from Department of Education, Training and Employment - 2014
Respectfully submitted, Katy Kucks - ICPA Dawson Valley Branch Secretary

In summary Theodore State School does not qualify as a ‘bypass’ school. If you are interested in more information on the ‘living away from home allowance LAFHA scheme’ to assist your family with Year 11 and 12 educational expenses please use the link below to download the PDF form.

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If you have any education-related you wish to discuss or issues you would like to see raised at ICPA State Conference in September, please contact your local ICPA (Isolated Children’s Parents Association) executive – Nikki Mahony nikkigyymnda.com.au, Sarah Cox cracowstn@bigpond.com, Monica Atfield or Katy Kucks.
(We are currently in discussion with State ICPA about subject choice for years 9-10 impacting on subject choice for years 11-12, and how this may impact Theodore students and the school community.)
CAT WANTED - 6 month or older friendly cat wanted for a loving family. Please phone Meredith Barrett on 4993 1864 or 0428 931 864

Anyone with children wanting to participate in the Catholic Sacramental Program please contact Mr Peter Mahony 07-4993 7144 peter@gyranda.com.au (Children who have been baptised are eligible to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and

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**Moura Rangers Soccer Inc.**

**SOCCER SIGN ON**

Thursday 19th February
at Moura Soccer fields 3:30pm
For Children born 2004 – 2010
Children born 2003 can be approved to play

Sign on will be followed by a Sausage Sizzle
And the Club AGM

**WHAT TO BRING:**
A copy of your child’s Birth Certificate
Soccer boots/shoes to have a kick

**COACHES NEEDED**
If you are interested in coaching a Soccer Team please see us at Sign on

Sign on is an Online Registration Process, if you would like the information before sign on: please email mourarangers@gmail.com

For more information please contact Tracey on 0409876470

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**COMMUNITY NEWS ADVERTISING**

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POSITION VACANT

THEODORE COUNCIL ON THE AGEING INC

is seeking an experienced person to fill the role of

MANAGER

30 hours per week

Some flexibility of hours is available

Applicants should possess

Excellent organizational and administration skills;
Computer skills in Microsoft Office and Reckon software;
Experience in financial book keeping and budgeting;
Human resource management skills;
Excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
Demonstrated leadership ability;
Funding submission experience.

Formal qualifications an advantage

Enthusiasm to work within the aged care industry is essential

To apply for the position of TCOTA Manager please
e-mail a covering letter and resume to
Meredith Barrett
Chair TCOTA
moutox@bigpond.com

Further information is available by emailing, or phoning
Meredith Barrett on 49931864

Applications close 5pm Wednesday 25th February 2015
THEODORE JUNIOR ROOSTERS SIGN ON DAY

Food Available to Purchase
Fun football games
For more information contact
Peter Shoecraft – 0409 269 846
Scott Monaghan – 0429 925 434
Jo Ree – 0418 973 111

February 20, 2015 3.30pm
Theodore Football Club

THEODORE JUNIOR ROOSTER
PO Box 115, Theodore Q 4719
Follow us on FACEBOOK

COMMUNITY NEWS ADVERTISING

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Advertising Deadline 9am Tuesday
Dear Parents, teachers and citizens,

You are invited to become a member of our P&C for this year.

Member benefits give you a vote at meetings and keep you informed about issues and business at our school, and most importantly help support the education of our students.

Please return your forms to the school office by 27th of February.

If you hold an exec position on any of our sub-committees, you also need to be a member of P&C.

Our next general meeting and AGM meeting date has not been set, watch this space next fortnight for a date announcement.

Yours faithfully,

Katy Kucks
P&C secretary

P&C Association

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

2015

NAME __________________________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS ________________________________please provide current address.

ADDRESS _______________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

PHONE ______________________________

PLEASE TICK  I am a parent/caregiver of a student at the school or
I am a community member over the age of 18 years

DOB ___________ (if not a parent of a student currently enrolled in the school)

SIGNATURE ______________________________________