2016 has certainly been an outstanding year for our school where the successes of previous years have not only been emulated but surpassed. Our students have continued to excel in all facets of school life including academically, culturally and on the sporting fields with the reputation of the school as a provider of quality educational programs being reaffirmed in the wider community.

During the year we have continued to experience pressure from continued enrolment growth. All classroom spaces have been utilized and the continued management of enrolment into the future will be an ongoing issue. In addition, our growth within the students with disability area has seen enrolment increase this year to 45 students in 2016. An additional 33 students are currently awaiting verification making a total of 78 students requiring support within our Inclusion HUB. Further growth is predicted for 2017 continuing to place increasing pressure on our facilities.

The heavy focus on maximizing teaching/learning opportunities was again a focus in 2016. Literacy, numeracy and attendance all remain priorities. One of the key elements in targeting these agendas was our Individual Learning Plan process. The process of 2 individual goal setting interviews during the year was once again extremely well received by parents/guardians with 82% taking up the opportunity to meet teachers and strong positive responses to the process was also received via our written survey forms with parents clearly identifying their support for the concise and developmental information discussed. Although the process of developing and reviewing Individual Learning Plans for all students is an expensive one in terms of time and money, the benefits to the students are substantial.

To compliment the continuation of the Learning Plans, the increase in Investing for Success funding to $293,640 provided valuable support for our students. The additional funding within our school flowed directly to classrooms providing additional teacher aide support, resources, and time for teachers to develop and review Learning Plans. In 2016 this funding also allowed us to train a team of classroom profilers and also to profile all class teachers and develop a full picture of our classroom environments.

A new initiative for 2016 was an emphasis on language development in the Prep to Year 2 area. The proposal involved the purchasing of additional speech language pathologist time supported by 30 hours of teacher aide time. Although evidence demonstrates that a strong positive improvement in speech language skills was achieved, the full value of the proposal could not be determined due to the unavailability of a pathologist for Terms 2 and 3. However from the evidence to date, this proposal will be maintained into 2017. The targeting of human resources has again proven beneficial in enabling students to engage in the curriculum which in turn reflects on behaviour and self-esteem. It is only hoped that our current targeted approach can continue into the future.

Our belief in the creation of an exciting and vibrant school environment has once again been promoted through a raft of extra-curricular activities. Students have had the opportunity to participate in Active After School Care, Under 8’s week, NAIDOC week activities, Book Week dress up day, Discos, a Hitz FM Live Broadcast, Auskick, Child Protection activities at YMAZING and even view a genuine Melbourne Cup Trophy as well as be involved in a range of incentive days for individual year levels and groups.

Whether it be playing with a friend, planting trees, exploring robotics, sport or the prep buddy program, all students should come to school every day with a sense of excitement and anticipation.

2016 has been a great year for our school culturally as our school continued to provide for the broad cross section of students enrolled. Our classroom music program with Mrs Brown at the helm provided students with a broad range of musical experiences through classroom activities. Our Gala Concert held in Term 3 was a highlight with our Choirs, String Orchestra, Concert Band and individual and small group performances showcasing the depth of talent within the school. Our String Orchestra and Concert band are under the tutelage of Mrs Ulbl and Mr Little and had a memorable year with both groups taking out silver in the State wide FanFare competition. This was followed up by both groups being awarded a highly commended in the Bundaberg Districts Eisteddfod.

Our Anzac Day parade was once again a day to remember for the school community. Coordinated by our school librarian Mr McMillen, and presented entirely by our senior students, the spirit of ANZAC was commemorated in a fitting and appropriate way. The day commenced with the arrival of two Mercedes 'anti-tank' wagons and soldiers who gave a demonstration of the deployment of ‘anti-tank’ rocket launchers. This arrival was enjoyed by students and community members alike. Following the arrival of guests from the armed services our parade was held where 40 Community Link Badges were presented bringing our total over the years to 616. Our Anzac Day writing task force once again competed for the Alan Hancock Memorial Shield with Owen Collins being announced the winner.
**Curriculum**

The delivery of a quality curriculum was a central priority in 2016 with the continued implementation of the National Curriculum for English, Mathematics, History, Geography and Science. All classes across the school utilized the Curriculum into the Classroom resources developed, adapting and modifying the units based on teachers own professional knowledge and judgement and the needs of the students. At Bundaberg East State School we strive to provide an educational environment where all students are able to grow and develop to attain their personal best. We have numerous extension programs for students including Maths Problem Solvers, Writers Club and Robotics.

With the continued injection and increase of the ‘Investing For Success’ funding an increased targeted approach towards students who require additional support has resulted in considerable gains. The Support-A-Reader program along with benchmarking allowed the effectiveness of interventions to be monitored. Similarly with our new speech/language support programs pre and post testing indicated substantial improvement. The utilizations of additional staffing to support reading across Years 3 and 5 enhanced the reading skills of our highly competent readers.

The Coral Coast ACE extension program, which involved students from years 5 and 6 was continued and provided an opportunity for students to experience extension activities and workshops for Mathematics, English and Science. Within the school, the Maths Extension program from Years 2 to 6 developed student capabilities, mathematical literacy and challenged thinking as well as, enhance a love of learning.

**Academic Successes For 2016 Are As Follows:-**

- **Bundaberg Maths Team Challenge**
  - First and third in A Schools
- **ICAS Maths**
  - 2 Distinctions, 22 Credits and 17 Merits
- Successful ACE Applicants for Year 7 in 2017
  - **Kepnock State High School** – 17 Students
  - **Bundaberg State High School** – 3 Students

**National Testing**

Our comparative data for the 2016 NAPLAN Years 3 and 5 indicates quality educational outcomes for our students.

Students from Bundaberg East attained strong results in the National Years 3 and 5 testing program. Of the 30 comparisons made, our students were deemed to be similar in 6 areas and above in 24 areas when compared to our, Like Schools, State and National cohorts. These results reflect positively on the programs and strategies being utilized within the classrooms as well as the strong support and extension programs in operation.

The data also indicates that strong classroom instruction, focus on reading, comprehension, grammar and punctuation have all borne fruit in this round of testing. Results in writing need special mention with our students demonstrating continued growth in comparison to the national means.

### National Testing Results

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<th>Reading</th>
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<th>Spelling</th>
<th>Grammar</th>
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**Facilities Development**

During the year the provision of up to date facilities for the benefit of our students continued: Internet access was upgraded with new cabling and Wi-Fi now available in all rooms across the school. The completion of the replacement of air conditioning program now ensures all our air-conditioners are as energy efficient as possible, pavers were replaced, troublesome palms and trees removed and the area outside of C Block terraced and turfed. Perhaps the most major development was the acquisition of Olsen Park which now is officially part of the school facilities. In the future we will need to examine how best this new area can be utilized by our students and the community.

**School Audit**

This year our school underwent a financial audit to examine compliance of the school’s practices in a range of areas. Internal Auditor, Mr Richard Tooth, found that our practices were EFFECTIVE, which is the highest possible rating of the four ratings. In particular a comment from the auditor in his conclusion stated:

“The following areas are examples of systems that demonstrate good processes and strong internal control:-Financial processes and records, Workplace Health and Safety Human Resources Management.”
**Professional Development**

Professional development of all staff must remain a focus for any organization that is geared towards continual improvement.

Whole school professional development was conducted in the mandated areas of Code of Conduct, Child Protection, Anaphylaxis, Fire Safety, Asthma Trauma, Asbestos, and CPR. Classroom teachers, administration and teacher aides individually or in groups attended a plethora of professional development including coding/robotics, classroom profiling, Workplace Health and Safety, Data Analysis, Keys to Managing Information, Internal Controls, Finance and OneSchool.

2016 also saw the completion of training in our Curriculum framework, ASOT (Art and Science of Teaching). The ASOT framework by Robert Marzano has been a four year journey with teachers encouraged to reflect on classroom practices and work proactively for improvement. This work, along with our work on Essential Classroom Skills and Profiling, has enabled teachers to receive direct feedback on their work in rooms as well as to develop consistency across the school.

Professional development for 2017 is currently being planned with teachers set to undertake training in Sheena Cameron’s teaching of reading strategies.

**Student Council**

The continual development of our young leaders through our Student Council remained a major focus in 2016. Our Student Councillors commence the year by attending a two day Leadership Development camp. Here they encountered learning situations designed to enhance leadership skills in team work, communication, resilience and empowerment.

During the year, Student Council meetings were held once a term to provide opportunities for students to have input into the school operations. Of particular note in this area was the involvement of the Council in the acquisition of Olsen Park and their part in the Community Consultation meetings.

Students displayed their leadership skills in various forums including ANZAC Day, School Parades, Remembrance Day, Sports Day, Gala Concert, Chaplaincy Breakfast and other school events.

**ICT**

Students across the school participated in a wide variety of classroom activities designed to provide them with a wide range of skills when using computer software and hardware. At East, we pride ourselves that all students have computer access through our two labs, classroom computers and laptops.

The recognition of the importance of coding was recognised this year with the implementation of basic coding across year 3 to 6. This enabled students to use the software “Scratch” to create character animations. The students in year 5 and 6 programmed robots successfully. Students also made video animations and music video productions to highlight their skills. We have applied for Federal Government funding across the Coral Coast Cluster schools to support an extensive teacher training initiative and student coding handbook.

43 students participated in the afterschool robotics project this year. We took 8 teams to the Central Queensland Robotics Championships this year and placed second in the primary dance division. Well done to all the students who participated.

**Camps and Excursions**

School excursions provided an extension of curriculum experiences for students across all year levels. Students visited a variety of sites to increase their awareness of social and environmental issues as well as history and science topics first hand.

Major class camps/excursions for the various classes included Year 1 Childers Museum Trip, Year 2 Local Area Excursion, Year 3 Overnight Camp at School, Year 4 Camp at Mon Repos, Year 5 Camp at Barambah and the Year 6 four day Brisbane Camp.

Other events/excursions are valuable additions to the school day and provide students with exposure to a unique blend of cultural, health and artistic experiences that engage and motivate.

Students were also engaged in visits to the school by Harold and the Life Education Van, Old Macdonald’s Traveling Farm, Commonwealth Bank Start Smart Banking Officers, Forensic Science Workshop, the 93.9 Hitz FM Live Broadcast crew and The Spinal Education and Awareness Team.
School sport is an integral part of the fabric of school life. In many ways it is what engages students in school, develops physical, social and emotional skills and provides a platform for staff and students to inter-relate on another level. With sport, a key emphasis is on engagement with all students from years 4 to 6 given the opportunity to participate.

Bundaberg East State School students have excelled on the district sporting fields and along the way have demonstrated fine sportsmanship and fair play. Sports offered during the year having included: Athletics, Rugby Union, Rugby League, Football (boys and girls), Netball, Oztag, Touch Football, Table Tennis, Tennis, Hockey, Swimming, Ten Pin Bowling, Lawn Bowls and Cricket. Students always participated wholeheartedly with success as follows:- Bundaberg Rugby League Development Cup Winners, Bundaberg AFL Winners, Childers Open Day AFL winners, Northern Wide Bay Rugby League winners, Inter-school Ten Pin Bowling – 2nd in Bundaberg and 4th in Queensland, Semi-finalist in Netball in both the local Vicki Wilson Competition and CQ Shield Carnival in Rockhampton, Year 4A Rugby League Champions, Finalist in Year 5A Rugby League, and Rugby Union Sportsmanship Shield Winners

A highly successful inter-house athletics carnival and cross country day were also held with Petersen winning the athletics Carnival for the first time in 15 years making it a day to remember.

A large number of students from our school were successful in gaining representation honour. Bundaberg representatives for 2016 were:-


Wide Bay representatives for 2016 were:- Owen Collins and Brandon Prendergast.

Our Active School programme for 2016 was offered in 3 terms in accordance with Department of Sport and Recreation guidelines. Students participated in Gymnastics, Hockey, Basketball, Soccer and Cricket. Visiting coaches assisted with the Sports program offering support in Cricket, Touch, Aussie Rules, Table Tennis and OzTag.

Sport is an integral part of the school program with all students actively encouraged to participate. School sport not only provides a range of extra-curricular activities, we have been able to achieve well above our expectations. Educationally and socially our students have excelled, setting new benchmarks that will be challenging in the future.

Our belief that ‘we are all in this together’ and ‘effort reaps reward’ have never been as clearly evident as we have continued to rise to the challenges of increasing enrolment and diversity. I would like to congratulate and thank all the staff for their commitment and dedication in providing quality educational opportunities. The success of the school would not be possible without the support and enthusiasm of our students and parents. As a school community we can be extremely proud of our achievements in 2016 and look forward to emulating them or improving on them in 2017.

I extend my sincere thanks to the whole Bundaberg East State School community for their support in 2016 and would like to wish all a safe and enjoyable Christmas Break and a happy and prosperous 2017.

Yours in Education

Doug Ambrose
Principal