Welcome back to school for term 3 and thank you for making me feel welcomed. I am very pleased to be taking on this position and am excited by the semester that lies ahead.

I have travelled to Stonehenge from Townsville where I have spent the last nine months teaching in the classroom. Prior to living in Townsville I grew up in Brisbane, so Stonehenge is very different for me, but so far my family and I have loved it here. I have moved out here with my wife, Sian, and my two boys, William and Xander.

As a teacher I believe that we need to teach students to be independent learners. I aim to inspire children to seek out new and interesting ideas and make sure they have the skills they need to learn. I believe that we all work together to help each child in the school succeed. I believe in close contact with parents to make sure that you know what is happening in the classroom and are able to help your child at home, as well as me being aware of anything outside of school that might affect your child’s learning. I am happy to be contacted whenever you need. The best way to contact me is through the school phone number or email (jmorl37@eq.edu.au).

This term is going to be a very active term. We have a lot of events coming up and if you ever have any questions, please feel free to come up and see me. I am very much looking forward to the semester ahead and I know our students will have a wonderful time in their learning in the coming weeks ahead.

Reading is extremely important for all children. Reading helps us to find information, let’s us escape to other worlds or simply entertain us. The more reading a child can do, the better prepared they are to learn. We are very lucky here at Stonehenge to have such a great library at the school as well as having books at the Community Centre. I have also brought with me a large collection of books that students can borrow from me.

This week our students have taken to the books and have shown enthusiasm for reading. Heath is currently reading Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Askaban. Jarrod is reading the BFG by Roald Dahl. Brodie has already read Tashi and is now reading Conspiracy 365: February. Rory is doing a wonderful job of reading a Boy vs Beast book and Harry has read Jungle Drums by Graeme Base.

It is fantastic to see children reading for enjoyment and fun. Keep up the great work!
Math Squared

This week in class we have begun working on problem solving skills and trying to improve how we approach problems. For this I have implemented Polya’s Think Board which has been hugely successful in helping students to improve their problem solving skills. This has been on homework this week as well as work being done in class.

It is set out in a grid with four boxes to allow clear planning to occur and make it easier for students to check their work.

Here is a problem for you to try.

There are four parts to a Think Board:

- **See** – What is the question asking you, and what information do I need.
- **Plan** – What strategy can I use to solve this problem and what operation/s do I need to use to find an answer.
- **Do** – Carry out your plan
- **Check** – do the problem in reverse, or another way to prove you are correct.

John went shopping in Longreach and bought 3kg of onions. They cost him $2.98/kg. How much change did John get from $50?

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School Opinion Surveys

On Tuesday, students brought home the School Opinion Surveys for parents to complete. Thank you to parents who took the time to complete the survey. If you had trouble accessing the Internet to complete the survey, please feel free to complete it at school.