Hello Parents, Carers and Community Members

My name is Helen McCullough and I am the Acting Principal at Garbutt for the duration of Term 2. Students are encouraged to call me Ms M as my name is long and sometimes hard to say.

Welcome back to school and a special welcome to new families to our school.

My first fortnight at our school has been busy, with some very proud moments. Well done students, staff and our community for the quality ANZAC Ceremony and attendance at the Townsville City Council March. I was very happy with student behaviour and the level of respect given to our servicemen and women.

It is very important that students attend school every day so they are able to learn and feel connected in the classroom and in our school. Each day is important and I look forward to every learner, every day experiencing success at school. My staff and I are committed to providing quality teaching and learning but each student must come with a commitment to follow our school rules and be responsible, safe and respectful. As a school we will be explicitly teaching our expectations to students. I look forward to your support by reinforcing the importance of:

1. Attending school every day (unless there is a good reason – please call and let us know)
2. Behaving so teaching and learning can happen free of disruption in our classrooms
3. Behaving so every person is safe at our school in classrooms and in the playground

I encourage all parents to speak with class teachers about how children are progressing with learning and with meeting behaviour expectations. If you need to speak with me, please ring the office and ask the front office staff for a good time to see me. This is so I can give you the time that you deserve.

This term we are focusing on reading. Reading is an important part of our schooling and a very important life skill. Please support us by asking students to read at home.

Every great team has a uniform, and Garbutt State School is a uniform school. It is great to see the majority of students wearing their school uniform shirt and being part of the team.

I look forward to a great term at our school.