I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all new families and students to Townsville State High for 2015.

Junior secondary students were certainly off to a flying start on the 27th January when, by the end of the week, 137 year 7’s and 75 year 8’s had enrolled.

The first day ran smoothly despite the heat in the hall. There were many excited faces amongst the crowd as all Year 7 students received a USB wristband in the colour of their reef to mark this special occasion. A tour of the junior secondary precinct and school grounds through the guidance of friendly tag teachers helped students to relax and feel right at home. Throughout the week it was a pleasure to see so many senior students act as mentors and take their young prodigies under their wings. This process assisted our year 7’s and 8’s to feel right at home in the high school system, minimizing the impact of their transition to a high school setting.

Junior students met their core teachers, reconnected with old friends and met new students. They have settled into their refurbished rooms where teachers have set high expectations and a positive learning environment. The first of the positive behaviour lessons were also delivered ensuring a whole school approach will be undertaken to creating a positive and supportive learning environment throughout 2015.

Students then met with their reef groups to discuss tactics for winning the upcoming swimming carnival to be held on Wednesday 25th February. This meeting gave our junior students their first taste of the school spirit of which Town High is so proud.

Let’s read what some of our junior students’ had to say about their first week:

It was good. I liked the teachers because they were friendly and nice. - Ramila Adhikari

It was good. I like all the teachers. It was easy to have fun because I wasn’t scared. - Brianna Knight

I thought it was fun. You get to meet new friends and do subjects. Work was good. I was a bit worried but I soon got to know everything around the school as my big sister helped me. - William Bann

It was great to come to school. I have enjoyed English and Japanese. I am in Faraday and I have a great USB now. - Ina Tamwoy

It has been great to see all students so enthusiastic for the start of their learning year. I would like to say thank you to all our wonderful teachers for their whole-of-school commitment to ensuring a safe and supportive transition for our Junior secondary students. What an excellent start to 2015.

Denise Reeves
A/HOD Junior Secondary