Dear Parents/Carers,

Principal’s report – Week 8

Term 1 has progressed very quickly and positively for our school and we are already contemplating the Easter break which begins on Good Friday (25\textsuperscript{th} March). We are very pleased and proud of the progress that our students are making as well as the respectful and responsible way they go about their learning.

I would like to give a very special thanks to our P&C and their volunteer parents who have stepped in to our tuckshop while Mrs Smith has been away. The ladies have provided a wonderful menu for our students over the past 2 weeks and have worked tirelessly to ensure that our students have healthy and tasty lunches.

Incentive Day

Students who have displayed positive behaviour throughout our school term are rewarded with an Incentive Day. Term 1 Incentive day activities will be held next Thursday 24\textsuperscript{th} March in the school and involve students revolving around classrooms and being involved in various fun Easter activities.

Mackay Central Sports Carnival

A date has been set for our annual athletics carnival. Tuesday 24\textsuperscript{th} May is our scheduled carnival day and all students will begin athletics practice in their houses in early term 2. We invite students to wear their house colours on Fridays to add to the excitement of our carnival and its build-up.

Parent Communication

It is vitally important to have open and positive lines of communication with your child’s teacher. There may be times when you need to get in contact or need to meet with your child’s teacher and the best way to ensure that this occurs in a timely manner is to make an appointment either via note or phone call to see the teacher. This will ensure that uninterrupted time is set aside to ensure all concerns and queries are answered and understood.

Qparents

In coming months you will receive information regarding the QParents application that our school will be rolling out. QParents is a secure, online portal created for the parents and caregivers of Queensland state school children. Parents can access their child’s student details, download timetables and report cards, see a child’s attendance record, report absences and access invoices and payment details.

QParents provides a more convenient way for parents to interact with their school and will help streamline school administrative processes. It is hoped that this solution will encourage and support parents and care givers in the active role they play in their child’s learning journey.

Staffing

Mrs Tammy Lando will be acting principal for the remainder of this week while Mr Fehlhaber and Mr Malone attend professional development.

Mr Kliese (Yr 6) will be taking leave in the final week of the term and Mr Sturgeon will replace him from Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Baynton will be in year 6 on Incentive Day.
STUDENT ABSENCES.
In line with the Education Act regarding compulsory attendance, it is necessary for Parents/Caregivers to provide a letter of explanation, or phone the school, regarding their child’s absence from school. To date this term, we already have a large number of unexplained absences which Education Queensland will require us to report on. If your child is absent for any reason, please advise with a note on their return to school, or phone call to the office.

Our new phone system is set up to record your student’s absence. When you ring the school number, just press 1 on the keypad and record student’s absence details. If you wish to use this option, this will save you forwarding notes to the Class Teacher.

MARCH
◆ Jack Hingston
◆ Clark Real
◆ George Samson
◆ Mac Jiro Cheng
◆ Krystal Cahill
◆ Marsha Elpa
◆ Neyshan Hall
◆ James Attard
◆ Madison Hearne
◆ Jaylm Peepe
◆ Lockie Turner
◆ Joshua Bustillo
◆ Lain Doyle
◆ Joseph Penola
◆ Cory Samson
◆ Martchie Clemente
◆ Anuksha Everest

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 07/03/2016
PREP: Etycas Alfereti
Etycas is a kind and helpful class member who always works to the best of his ability. Well done!

YEAR 1/2L: Aurellia Mack
Congratulations! I am very impressed with the way you have been working in class. Keep it up!

YEAR 1/2L: Helena Lai
Congratulations! I am very impressed with the way you have been working in class. Keep it up!

YEAR 1/2C: Izekial Bickey
For the outstanding effort that you have put into improving your classroom behaviour.

YEAR 3: Kaiyana Pai
Keep up the great effort with reading every night! Well done Kaiyana!

YEAR 4/5: Jhoana Nicdao
Jhoana always does her best in any school activities with a great attitude.

YEAR 5: Michelle Butt
For your continuous effort in making responsible and respectful choices; your attitude is greatly appreciated, Michelle.

YEAR 6: William Lunar
For demonstrating improved confidence and participation in class.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 14/03/2016
PREP: Ezekiel Hedley
Ezekiel always follows the rules and is a cheerful and polite class member. Well done!

YEAR 1/2L: Salena Ellis
Salena I am very proud of the way you are working during our LEM phonics lesson. Keep up the great work!

YEAR 1/2C: Krystal Cahill
For your independent recipe writing.

YEAR 1/2C: Adeeba Shaakira
For your independent recipe writing.

YEAR 1/2C: James Sparkes
For the hard work that you put into your school work.

YEAR 3: Jayden Samson
I am so proud of you Jayden! Thank you for being a fantastic class helper!

YEAR 4/5: Olivia Bradford
For always listening and being ready to learn!

YEAR 4/5: Rheannah Volker
For settling into Year 4/5 so well!
YEAR 5: Rafael Decano
For always putting in maximum effort in all tasks - thank you for your enthusiasm and responsible attitude!

YEAR 6: Juliana Delmo
For being a responsible and respectful learner and always demonstrating a positive attitude towards your schooling.

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**P&C NEWS**

1. Please join us on our next P&C General Meeting Scheduled on March 21, 2016 at 3:00pm in Media Centre.
   Agenda: Tuckshop update, school vegetable garden and fundraising calendar.

2. P&C is in need of volunteers for Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser on Voting day, 19th of March 2016 at these shifts 7:00am–9:30am, 9:30m–11:30am and11:30am–2:00pm.
   Interested volunteers may contact Ms. Amy Bradford thru our Facebook page or send an email at amydougieb@hotmail.com or see a P&C executive ASAP. This is a great opportunity to make some money for the P&C, let's make the most of it!

3. The P&C is seeking your input on our tuckshop. A survey will be sent home with each student tonight. Only one response per family is needed. Please complete one copy of survey and send it back to school with your eldest student before Friday 18th of March 2016. Thank you for helping us improve your tuckshop experience!

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**SCHOOL BUS ASSISTANCE FOR LOWER INCOME FAMILIES**
The Safety Net Scheme was developed by the State Government to assist students who do not receive other forms of School Transport Assistance and are members of lower income families.

**Who may be eligible?**
To be eligible for assistance under the Safety Net Scheme, students must be in one of the following categories:

- Students of families eligible for a Health Care Card
- Students eligible for a Health Care Card
- Students of families eligible for a Pensioner Concession Card
- Students of families receiving Veterans Affairs Pension
- Students placed under a Care and Protection Order.

Application forms with further details are available by calling into the Translink Division of the Department of Transport and Main Roads in Nelson Street, Mackay or by telephoning 4951 8673.