Dear Parents/Carers,  
**Principal’s report – Week 4**

Last week I had the great pleasure of hearing a keynote address of Dr Yong Zhao. Dr Zhao is an internationally known scholar, author, and speaker. His works focus on the implications of globalization and technology on education.

Dr Zhao’s presentation focused on his own personal challenge (the one all parents must face); “How do we get our children out of the basement?” In other terms, how do we ensure that the education we provide our students ensures that they are comfortable and able to leave home and successfully set up their own lives in their own homes. Dr Zhao correctly stated that in the new global economy, the jobs that exist now might not exist by the time today’s students enter the workplace. To succeed in this ever-changing world, students need to be able to think like entrepreneurs: resourceful, flexible, creative, and global.

As educators we must ensure that the ever-increasing focus on national testing and international comparisons is balanced with allowing students to be creative thinkers and problem solvers. Dr Zhao sums up these attributes as ‘entrepreneurism’. At a school level, it is incumbent on us to ensure that a wide variety of teaching and learning strategies are used. A strong focus on all aspects of the curriculum including the arts and sport is also needed to ensure that our children are productive and creative students who are ready for the challenges of the new economy.

**Matsura Sister City Visitors**

Congratulations to Mrs Hatfield and her year 5 students for their hosting of the students of our Japanese sister city, Matsura. The students had a wonderful afternoon participating in some exciting ‘Aussie’ activities including indigenous art, lamington making, a sausage sizzle and a good-old game of cricket.

More importantly was the excellent way that our students worked and played with the students. It was lovely to see how quickly cultural and language barriers can be broken down by children. Thank you to all of our teachers and teacher aides for their contributions to a very successful day.

**School Sport**

Congratulations to Arthur Miller-Stephen (year 6) on his success at the recent Mackay District athletics carnival. Arthur came first in the 100m, 200m and long jump events and will now represent Mackay District at the upcoming Capricornia Athletics trials to be held in Emerald.
**Student Absences- Information for Parents and Students**

What is an exemption and why do I need it?

Every parent of a child of compulsory school age or a young person in the compulsory participation phase has a legal obligation to ensure their child is enrolled and attending school or participating in an eligible option.

Parents can apply for an exemption from this obligation when their child cannot attend or it would be unreasonable in all the circumstances for their child to attend school or participate in an eligible option for a period of more than 10 consecutive school days.

Situations where an application for an exemption may be made include:

- Illness
- Family reasons
- Cultural or religious reasons

If your child is exempted from compulsory schooling, you are excused from your obligation in relation to compulsory schooling or compulsory participation.

The school principal is not responsible for providing an educational program to your child, however they may provide advice on other educational options available.

Who decides to grant or not grant an exemption?

- For state school students: Decisions about exemptions are made by the principal of the school the student attends.
- For non-state school students: All exemption decisions for non-state school students are made by the Manager, Office of Non-state Education.
- For children who are not enrolled in any state or non-state Queensland school: Decisions about exemptions for students who are not enrolled in any state or non-state school are made by either the Regional Director, Principal Advisor Education Services, Principal Advisor Regional Services, Director Regional Services, of the Department of Education, Training and Employment region in which the child resides.

Applying for an exemption

You are encouraged to discuss with the school whether an application for exemption is a suitable option. The school can provide you with an application form for an exemption. It is important that supporting documentation and evidence are attached to the application.

When a decision about the exemption has been made, you will be informed in writing whether or not the exemption has been granted and if any conditions have been imposed. If you are not satisfied with the decision made, you can make a submission for the decision to be reviewed.

**2014 NAIDOC BANNER**

**RSPCA VAN VISIT**

**BIRTHDAY WISHES**

**AUGUST**

- Kingston Grigg
- Xavier Whitehouse
- Corry Cook
- Della Richter
- Benica Solicar
- Russell Deveraux
- Cleve Den Asuncion

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

**WEEK BEGINNING 28/07/2014**

**PREP: Tahana Peepe**

Tahana has been listening and watching carefully and has been a good helper.
Jayden you are a spelling CHAMPION! Keep up the great work! I am very proud of you :)  
YEAR 2: Jaymee Timbol  
For being a model student in class.  
YEAR 3: Lindsay Pangilinan:  
For always working hard in class to finish her work and being a friendly face every day.  
YEAR 4: Sadhia Baird  
Settling in and making friends quickly.  
YEAR 5: Felicity Miller  
Thank you for being such a wonderful class member! You are a leader for others to follow!  
YEAR 6: Lazarus Seden  
Congratulations on your excellent Maths results last week. Keep working hard!!!  
WEEK BEGINNING 04/08/2014  
PREP: Nicholas Allgeier  
Great work in writing! Keep it up!  
YEAR 1: Chloe Salazar  
Woo Hoo! You got all of your spelling RIGHT! Keep up the great work :)  
YEAR 2: Hao Dong  
For achieving excellent spelling results on Friday!  
YEAR 3: Gypsy Saw  
For working hard to complete her English activities.  
YEAR 4: Cory Samson  
Huge effort last week! Doing the best he can in class.  
YEAR 5: Ivan Belarmino  
Great work with your location math's assessment 20/20!  
YEAR 6: Trisha Cano  
Trisha always has a positive attitude towards her learning. It is a pleasure to have her in the class.  

UNIFORMS  
We have been in discussions with Lowes Australia (located Big W entrance Canelands) about the possibility of them selling our School uniforms. This will give parents the options, of layby, paying by eftpos or cash, and also the convenience of purchasing your uniforms while you are shopping 7 days a week. The shirts would not be much of an increase in what you currently pay now. At our last P&C meeting we passed the new school shirt (you can view it on our facebook page) and we are currently deciding on some quick dry shorts with our school emblem embroidered on them. The new uniform will be phased in starting January 2015. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to a P&C member.  

RAINBOW FREE DRESS DAY FOR ALLIRA  
This Friday 8th August, we are holding a Fundraiser for 4 year old Allira, who has recently been diagnosed with stage 3 Kidney Cancer on her left side, she has lost her left Kidney to the Tumour. Allira is currently at the Royal Children’s Hospital undergoing treatment. As this is going to be a long journey for Allira and her family, we would like to help with some of the financial strain and raise some funds for the family. Allira’s mum Jessica attended Mackay Central State School for her entire Primary education and was School Captain in 2002. So this Friday for a donation all students can come in Rainbow colours Free Dress for a donation to this great cause. We are also going to hold a stall on Monday 11th August at 1st break for the students to purchase cupcakes, baked cookies, toffees and other baked sweets for 50c & $1. All funds raised go Directly to Allira and her family. WE would like to thank you in advance for your support.  

ADIDAS SCHOOL FUN RUN  
We will be holding our Adidas School Fun Run as a major fundraising event this year. The event will be held on 22nd August 2014 within the school grounds.
COMMUNITY NEWS

The Adidas School Fun run is a healthy, fun and active fundraiser that ensures we send the right message to our students about getting active, having fun and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The main focus of this event is on participation. Family support is most appreciated as we encourage all students to get involved.

All students have received a Sponsorship Form to help collect sponsorship on behalf of the school. The funds raised will be used to beautify our Prep Area. We ask all parents to read the sponsorship Form and sign the front page to grant permission for their child to fundraise and participate in this event. Students who raise just $10 or more will receive a reward for their effort. In the Sponsorship form you will also find many other benefits like the chance to win a family holiday to Disneyland!

Students wanting to track their progress, and use online fundraising, can do so by logging onto schoolfunrun.com.au/students and creating a Student Profile Page.

Finally we would like to welcome parents and family members to attend the Fun Run event day at our school on 22nd August 2014 to help cheer on the students. If you would like to volunteer and help on the day please contact the school on 4969 3111.

Thank you and happy fundraising!

CUA COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM
HELP US WIN $5,000 TO IMPROVE OUR SCHOOL

As part of the Adidas School Fun Run, we have been given the chance to win $5,000 for a project within our school. The project we have chosen is to beautify our Prep area. **We need your votes to win this grant!!** Voting is open from 28th July – 24th August and you can register your vote online at www.cuacommunitycare.com.au and in CUA’s Mackay Branch located at Shop 16, Mount Pleasant Shopping Centre, Phillip Street, Mackay. Each person can make one online vote and one in branch vote. Please let all your friends and family know as well. So please give us your support and help us win $5,000 to improve our school.

STUDENT BANKING CHANGES

As of this week, students are to drop their deposit books and money into Miss Debbie in the office, by Thursday Mornings. From here your student banking co-ordinator Cassie Stone will collect them, and finalise deposits and return the deposit books to school. This is the only way I can guarantee that banking can happen every week. I am very sorry if this is of any inconvenience to anyone, but as I no longer have another co-ordinator, and my work commitments, this is the only fair way to continue. If your student is due for a reward I will put a slip in their deposit book and they can choose their reward. Thank you.

NOTICE BOARD

Please check our noticeboard for all the latest P&C news...

FACEBOOK PAGE

For those of you who have Facebook, we now have a Facebook page, please feel free to like our page. **MACKAY CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL P&C**, this page is updated regularly with things happening at school. This is the best way to stay up to date.