Dear Parents/Carers,

Principal’s report – Week 6

Mackay Central is gaining the reputation as a school that produces high quality students, ready for the challenges of high school. The evidence of this was the recent visit from Mr Steve Paulger, Principal of Mackay State High School. Mr Paulger’s visit was to announce that 2 of our year 6 students had received academic scholarships for 2015. Thanh Huynh and Dana Del Rosario are the first students from Mackay Central to receive scholarships for academic excellence. Both girls have displayed wonderful work ethic and are also model students as well as wonderful community-minded young ladies. We congratulate both girls on this wonderful achievement and wish them well in their future academic pursuits.

2014 NAPLAN results

Our students have continued to outperform growth expectations in this year’s NAPLAN testing. Our relentless focus on ensuring that our students have the best possible literacy and numeracy skills has seen Mackay Central achieving excellent results. Congratulations to our hard working and dedicated teachers and to our students who are taking their learning seriously.

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) have commenced the mail out to schools of individual student reports for children who participated in the 2014 NAPLAN tests. Reports will arrive at school shortly and will be sent home with students. Any parents wishing to discuss their student’s results can make an appointment with their child’s classroom teacher.

Prep Excursion

Our Prep students enjoyed an excursion to our Senior Citizens today. The students entertained by singing to the residents and enjoying a game of lawn bowls.

Capricornia Athletics

Congratulations to Arthur Miller-Stephen on achieving 2nd place in the 100m and 1st place in the 200m at the recent Capricornia Athletics Trials in Emerald. Arthur is now part of the Capricornia team to compete in Brisbane in October.

Did You Know…

‘tch’ and ‘ch’ are the only phonograms in the English language (written sounds) that say ch?
‘ch’ is always used to say ch at the beginning of a word and tch and ch can also be used elsewhere.
‘tch’ may be used after a single vowel; it is the phonogram mostly used in that position. Eg catch
‘ch’ follows a consonant eg munch
‘ch’ follows 2 vowels eg peach

There are 7 words in our language that are exceptions to this rule and can be seen in the following trivia question and answer:

Which rich bachelor earl had such an attachment for gambling that he could not so much as leave the game to have his dinner? Lord Sandwich
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.

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.

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.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 11/08/2014
PREP: Leana Cuasay
You always do your best! It is a pleasure to have you in our classroom.

YEAR 1: Sean Wicks
Congratulations Sean! Thank you for being a wonderful member of our classroom :)

YEAR 2: Malakai Pai
For putting in a good effort in class.

YEAR 3: Alexander Wright
Thank you for always being such a well mannered and helpful class member.
**YEAR 4: Kristine Ganalon**  
Fantastic behaviour and manners ALL the time.

**YEAR 5: Marisse Javier**  
Congratulations on a fabulous week!

**YEAR 6: Chris Caldo**  
Chris always works hard with a smile on his face. It is a pleasure to have him in the class.

**YEAR 7: Seth Hoey**  
For a wonderful Science demonstration and explanation.

**WEEK BEGINNING 18/08/2014**

**PREP: Benji Javier**  
Benji always works well in class and has improved in all areas.

**YEAR 1: Aizhel Gatchalian**  
Aizhel thank you for being a wonderful member of our classroom :)

**YEAR 2: John Santiago**  
For always participating in class discussions and RRRs.

**YEAR 3: Charlie Douglas**  
For working really hard to complete class work!

**YEAR 4: Ceah Attard**  
Settling into our school and trying her best.

**YEAR 5: Eden Grigg**  
You are a diligent worker! An inspiration to your peers. Well done!

**YEAR 6: Maverick Formeloza**  
Maverick always gives his best in the classroom and sets a great example of excellent work ethic.

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**P&C NEWS**

**P&C MEETING**  
Our next Meeting will be held on Thursday 21st August at 9:00am in the tech room. P&C meetings are usually held on the 2nd Monday of each month, from 1.30pm, in the school's tech building behind the tuckshop, younger children are welcome to attend, please bring something to amuse them during the meeting such as colouring-in etc. I encourage you to attend our meeting with any ideas you have, every idea is considered.

**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 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 & SWEETS STALL**  
Thank you to everyone that supported this fundraiser. Thanks to your wonderful support we raised over $400 for the family.

**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 this Friday 22nd August 2014 within the school grounds.

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 our on the day please contact
the school on 4969 3111.
Thank you and happy fundraising!

COMMUNITY NEWS

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.

FATHERS DAY RAFFLE AND STALL
We are currently in the process of getting our
raffle tickets printed and hope to get them out
soon. Our Father’s Day stall will be held on
Friday 5th September from 9am. Prices will
range from 50c to $5.00. Our Raffle will also be
drawn on this day. We thank you for your
support.

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 you 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.

MACKAY SURF CLUB OPEN DAY

“The Open Day will be
held at Mackay Harbour
Beach on Sunday 31st
August from 10:00am
until 2:00pm and will
feature surf sports
demonstrations,
clubhouse tours, beach
events and marine safety talks. Club members
will be on hand to provide membership
information to anyone considering joining the
club, either for the Nippers program or as a
senior club member. For more information
please contact our office on 4955 5630,
website www.mackayslsc.com.au or email
mackayslsc@bigpond.com.”