Dear Parents/Carers,

Principal’s report – Week 2

2015 New School Uniform
After extensive consultation with the P&C, a new school uniform for Mackay Central State School has been agreed upon and is available for the 2015 school year. We have arranged a supply agreement through LOWES in Canelands and the uniforms, including embroidered black shorts and skorts, are on sale now at LOWES in Canelands.

While it will be ideal to have all students in the new uniform for 2015, we will allow students to wear the current uniform if needed in 2015 with a full phase-out of the old uniform in 2016.

Please note that school hats will still be sold at the school tuckshop.

Quadrennial School Review
This term our school will undertake a Quadrennial School Review. The Quadrennial School Review (QSR) is scheduled every four years and sets the strategic plan for the school.

The review consists of a thorough examination of practices within the school, a review of current school data and trends as well as a consultation process with our school community including parents, staff and other stakeholders.

A final agreement on the Strategic Four Year Plan will be presented to the P&C before the end of term 4.

As part of our review I have asked our P&C and staff to ‘Picture the Graduate’. In 2020 our current Prep students will graduate from MCSS. I asked them to consider 3 key questions:

1. If we have been successful, our graduating students will be…
2. Despite all of their differing skills and abilities our graduating students will be able to…
3. When they go to high school or university our graduating students will be able to…

I have also attached a traffic light survey for each family to fill in. Your ideas and thoughts are very welcome and very important to the process. The questions that will be asked are:

1. What would you like to see remain or stay the same at MCSS?
2. What would you like to see stop or be removed from MCSS?
3. Is there anything that we haven’t thought of or might consider for the future?

Please return any completed surveys to the school office by Tuesday 21st October.

Pupil Free Day
Please be reminded that next Monday 20th October is a pupil free day.

Mackay Eisteddfod
Many of our students are involved in the 2015 Mackay Eisteddfod. I would like to congratulate and thank all of our teachers who are giving significant time and rehearsals into ensuring that our students do the very best in their performances. Our Recorder Ensemble has already achieved success in their section with a Highly Commended Certificate for their performances of Waltzing Matilda and The Drover’s Dream. Congratulations to Miss Benson and all of the students.
Year 6 – 7 Graduation Dinner
Earlier this year, information was sent home regarding an end-of-year Year 6-7 graduation dinner. As yet we have received very few responses. We are re sending the information in the hope of having as many of our year 6 & 7 students as possible. If there is not sufficient interest shown the dinner will be cancelled and Year 6-7 graduation will be part of our traditional Awards Night.

High school open days smooth the way
It’s an exciting time for both our Year 6 and Year 7 students who will move to high school in 2015.
No matter where your child will attend high school, taking part in open events, information evenings and orientation or taster days is an important step toward a smooth transition between primary and secondary education.
Term 4 is normally the time that high schools open their classrooms to incoming students, so be sure to check with your chosen high school about upcoming opportunities for you and your child to tour the facilities and meet the teachers. We will continue to work closely with our local high schools to support students to make a smooth transition.

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
OCTOBER
◆ Benjamin Javier
◆ Alexa Formeloza
◆ Andrei Jayma
◆ Jiah Mallie
◆ Chad Stone
◆ Rhyza Cabesas
◆ Jeanel Contreras
◆ Jaimie Stevenson
◆ William Lunar
◆ Kristine Ganalon
◆ Joe O’Brien
◆ Lawren Samson
◆ Matthew Heath
◆ Danica Belonio

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 13/10/2014
PREP: CJ Decano
For trying hard and making great progress in reading.
YEAR 1: Isaiah Bell
Wow Isaiah! I am very impressed with the way you have started Term 4. Keep up the great work :)
YEAR 3: Jeanel Contreras
Fantastic Reef Guardians by helping others to recycle and keeping our school clean!
YEAR 3: Katherine Ganalon
Fantastic Reef Guardians by helping others to recycle and keeping our school clean!
YEAR 4: Chonteal Stone
Showing great attention during Eisteddfod practice.
YEAR 5: Marisse Javier
Thank you for being so kind and helpful. I'm lucky to have you in my class!
YEAR 6: Aljune Gavarra
Aljune has shown good improvements in his writing this year. Keep it up!
YEAR 7: Lilly Ritter
For displaying a positive and responsible attitude to her work.

P&C MEETING
Our next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th November at 1:30pm in the tech room. P& C meetings are usually held on the 2nd Tuesday 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
Our new uniforms have finally arrived at Lowes Canelands (Big W Entrance), and they look fantastic. They are available to purchase now, and range from size 4 to 16. We are also expecting the shorts and skorts to arrive soon. At Lowes you have the option to layby, paying by eftpos or cash, and also the convenience of purchasing your uniforms while you are shopping 7 days a week. Shirts are $30.00, but our Hats will still be available to purchase from the Tuckshop. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to a P&C member.

GRANDPARENTS DAY OCTOBER
As last year was such a success, we are again going to be hosting Grandparents day at our School. Grandparents will be invited to attend a special parade, the morning session, followed by a Morning tea. The official day for Grandparents day is Sunday October 26th, so we will be celebrating on Friday October 24th. So please tell your Grandparents to keep this morning Free. A note will go home early this term.

MANGO MUTTERINGS
We are pleased to announce that this year we are currently creating our 2014 Edition of Mango Mutterings. Students have until next Tuesday 21st October, to submit their Cover page submissions. The requirements are: A4 page, 1cm border around page, Must have Mango Mutterings 2014, School logo, and End of an Era Last Ever Year 7’s. Please remember to write names on the back of the entry. Along with Year 7, we are also running a Teacher of the Year Competition. Voting started Monday and will run until 27th October. Students just need to write their favourite teachers name on a piece of paper and the reason why they think they deserve to win. The winning Teacher will be announced on Parade in a few weeks.

PHOTOS – If you have any copies of photo’s you would like to possibly see in our magazine, we would appreciate them. Any event from throughout the year it can be from a Class excursion or a whole school event, some photo’s we are trying to find are Anzac Day March, Fun Run, Sporting events.

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Mackay West Rotary Club Annual Christmas Fair is on Friday and Saturday, 24th and 25th October at Col Story Rotary Park, the City Gates starting at 6 pm.

This is the first Fair of the Christmas season and a fun night out for the whole family.

The Club has been running the Christmas Fair for over 35 years (since 1978).

Attractions include Ham Wheel (full size hams), Meat Tray Wheel, Cent Sale, Pick of the Shelf, Bottlé stall, Lucky Dip and lots more.

The kids will love the merry-go-round, steam train ride, jumping castle, RSPCA animal farm, giant slide and face painting.

Santa will give away a bike each night to some lucky child. Entry forms available at the Fair or in The Daily Mercury on Friday and Saturday.

Food and drinks available and a Cake Stall as well.

The Mercy College Band will perform on Friday night and The Mackay City Band on Saturday night.

Rotary is a community service organisation and all proceeds go to local charities. Rotarians work on a voluntary basis. This is the largest fund raising event for the Rotary Club.

Come and join the festivities and support your local community by supporting the Christmas Fair.

See you there.