Dear Parents/Carers,

Principal’s report – Week 4

All we need is for our school community to start collecting as many daily school tokens as you can from Saturday 14 February to Monday 16 March. Bring them to school and hand them into the office as often as you need.

School Leaders

Congratulations to all School Captains, House Captains and Student Councillors on their formal induction to their positions and badging ceremony held on Monday’s parade. This was a special moment for our school leaders and we are sure that they will do us proud as they set the example and tone for our school during 2015.

Win a Classroom Makeover

Our school has registered for the Daily Mercury’s ‘Win a Classroom Makeover’ competition. The Daily Mercury have partnered with Staples™ to give you the opportunity to win a $5,000 classroom makeover for your school, fuelled by products from the Staples™ Education Essentials range.

All we need is for our school community to start collecting as many daily tokens as you can from Saturday 14 February to Monday 16 March. Bring them to school and hand them into the office as often as you need.

At the end of the competition, the school with the most number of tokens per student will win a $5,000 classroom makeover from Staples™. All schools stand an equal chance of winning, as we’ll pro-rata entries across the number of enrolled students to determine the winner.

Phonograms may consist of a single letter or a group of letters. Multiple letter phonograms cannot be broken into separate sounds, as they represent one unit of sound. A sound may be represented by more than one phonogram. For example, the sound ‘ay’ can be represented by ai, a, eigh, ey or ei, depending on the word in which it is used. In the same way a phonogram may represent more than one sound. For example, c can sound like ‘k’ in cat and like ‘s’ in city.

Students first learn to read and write the phonograms representing the 26 letters of the alphabet. The letter symbols representing these sounds are called phonograms.

The Phonograms (letters or combinations of letters that make sounds)

The programme begins by teaching students to recognise the written symbols for the 42 sounds which make up the English language, rather than teaching the names of the letters of the alphabet. The letter symbols representing these sounds are called phonograms.

Last Friday our teaching and support staff completed the final day of the 3 day LEM Phonics course. LEM will now become the consistent, whole-school approach to teaching phonics and spelling throughout the school.

LEM Phonics aims to teach the students the skills of communication — listening, speaking, reading, writing and spelling —which are basic to experiencing satisfaction and well-being in life. Using the phonograms (letters or groups of letters that make sound) and rules, the student is able to make sense of the English language, which is generally considered inconsistent.

ICT Levy

Each year we ask that parents contribute a modest fee of $20 per student to cover the cost of 2 important programs that assist student reading and mathematics skills. The Reading Eggs and Mathletics programs are individualised for every student and can be accessed at home as well as at school.

We ask that if you haven’t already done so, please bring the levy to school as soon as possible so that we can ensure every child has access to these important programs.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CENTRAL!

MARCH

Monday 16th - 18th
LIFE EDUCATION -
Cost $6.00

Tuesday 17th
P&C MEETING @
9.30AM

APRIL

Thursday 2nd
INCENTIVE DAY
LAST DAY OF TERM1

Monday 20th
SCHOOL RESUMES
TERM2
CHAPPY CHAT/MORNING TEA
G’day to all the parents,
Once a month I will be holding a Chappy Chat. This is a free morning tea provided by me for you. During these morning teas, I hope to be able to get to know you more, allow you an opportunity to discuss any school issues and to let you know what is happening in the school.

The morning tea will follow parade on Mondays. It will be held in the conference room which is at the end of the multimedia/computer room.

Dates for Semester 1:
9th March, 11th May & 15th June.
For more information, please contact the school or see Chappy Cam.
YEAR 2: Josiah Da Silva
For the brilliant effort that you put into participating in English and Phonics lessons!

YEAR 3/4: Michelle Butt
Welcome to MCSS and thank you for bringing your beautiful manners and excellent attitude to Year 3/4!

YEAR 4: Leah Whale
Leah has settled into Central very quickly. She will be an asset to our school.

YEAR 5: William Lunar
Fabulous behaviour and work ethic!

YEAR 6: Alex Cuthbert
Alex presented an excellent speech as a candidate for sports captain.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 16/02/2015
PREP: Marika McBrown
Marika shows a keen interest in learning.

YEAR 1/2: Billie-Jade Douglas
Woo Hoo Billie-Jade! What a great start to Year 2 you have had! Keep up the great work :)

YEAR 2: Bianca Wheatley
For listening and following instructions. Congratulations!

YEAR 3/4: Chloe Pope
For being an expert in tadpoles and for sharing her knowledge with the class.

YEAR 4: John Santiago
Working to the best of his ability even on days where things don’t go his way.

YEAR 5: Kristine Ganalon
Thank you for being such a motivated student. You are a great leader for others to follow!

YEAR 6: Pushti Shah
Pushti shows great enthusiasm towards her learning and is a fantastic role model to her peers.

P&C NEWS

P&C AGM
Our AGM was held on Tuesday 17th February. At this meeting we elected our 2015 executive committee. Congratulations to those elected; your new executives are:

President: Kirsty Grigg Ph: 0448 630 746
E: kirstygrigg@outlook.com
Vice – President: Anika Forster.
Secretary: Florina Whitehouse and Cassie Stone
E: b.c.stone@bigpond.com
Treasurer: Charmaine Miller.

P&C MEETING
Our next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th of March 2015 at 9:30am in the tech room. P&C meetings will now be held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 9:30am, with morning tea provided, 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.

MANGO MUTTERINGS 2014 SCHOOL MAGAZINE ARE STILL ON SALE!!
If you missed out on your copy last year, the school magazine is still available through the office for $8.00. You may purchase as many copies as you wish. Thank you for your support.

STUDENT BANKING
This year’s theme is outerspace…..
Students are to drop their deposit books and money into Miss Debbie in the office, between Monday and Thursday morning. 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. Reward counts continue from last year, so if you were up to 9 deposits then your first deposit this year will earn you a 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. We encourage you to join our page, as it is here you will get lots of important information that’s happening at our school. Search 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

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.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE ASSISTANCE
Conveyance Allowance is an assistance provided by the Department Transport and Main Roads to eligible parents/guardians who drive their students to school or to the route of the school bus.

There are several types of Conveyance Allowance available. These are determined by the type of school attended, distance driven to school or bus route and the type of school bus service (if any) provided in your area.

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.

Mackay Athletics Club

Sign-on and Information Day
Saturday 21 February 2015
Anytime between 10am-2pm
Mackay State High School,
Via English or Penn Sts, Mackay
Ages from 5 to Masters

1st club day, Saturday 28 February
Trial period only $10.00 for two weeks

www.mackayathletics.com.au
for more information or call
James on 0431 973 129
New members to bring a copy of Birth Certificate for sighting.