Dear Parents/Carers,

Principal’s report – Week 4

NAPLAN Testing
This Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 May, all Year 3 & 5 students will be participating in NAPLAN testing. This is National testing in both literacy and numeracy.

The assessments will be held in the first session of each morning with catch-up available on Friday for any students absent for the tests. The sequence of tests will include:

Tuesday: Language conventions and writing
Wednesday: Reading
Thursday: Numeracy – calculator and non-calculator papers

It is vital that students have a good night’s sleep prior to the testing and a nutritious breakfast. We are very grateful that IGA Supermarkets, Bakers Delight and our school P&C have all kindly sponsored our NAPLAN Bacon & Egg Breakfast which will be provided on each morning of the tests.

School Photographs
Our school photos are booked in for 21st May and purchasing information has been sent home today. **If you choose to pay with cash, please ensure that you send the correct amount in the envelope.**

We ask that students are in full school uniform on the day (preferably the new uniform where possible). Our year 6 students will be having their photograph taken in their senior shirts.

Prep Area Upgrades
We are very pleased that the upgrades to our prep area are taking shape. The work is giving our preps a more safe and inviting area in which to play and eat. Thanks to everyone for their patience as we wait for the new turf to establish itself. It will certainly be worth the wait.

Sports Day Practise
All students are participating in their sports day practices on Friday afternoons. This is an excellent opportunity to develop team spirit and build on their sporting skills that will be required on Sports Day which is due on June 9th.

Students who wear their house colours on Friday are earning points for their house.

It is very important that students have a hat at school on these days.

School Coats and Jumper
With the cooler months upon us, students are wearing jumpers and coats to school. It is important to ensure that these are clearly named. We have reminded students to put jumpers and coats into their school bags as soon as they take them off to avoid loss.

LEM Phonics
Did you know….. EVERY SYLLABLE MUST HAVE A VOWEL?

There are a number of reasons that we put ‘e’ at the end of a word. A less well-known reason is that every syllable must have a vowel.

For example the words ‘turtle’, ‘people’ and ‘little’.

Each word has 2 syllables eg TUR-TLE   LIT-TLE PEO-PLE

The silent servant ‘e’ is placed at the end of each of these words because the last syllable would not have a vowel without it.
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.

Students will be invoiced in Term 2 for outstanding fees.

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.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 04/05/2015
PREP: Jah-marie Bickey
Jah-marie has made improvements in her work this term. Keep trying hard!

YEAR 1/2: Noah Namok
What a SUPER DOOPER brain day student you are! I am very proud of your efforts!

YEAR 2: Sean Wicks
For the fantastic effort you put into your first week. Thank you.

YEAR 3/4: Oran Quagliata
WOW! A fantastic effort in Persuasive writing and answering tricky questions! Well done Oran!

YEAR 4: John Santiago
Working to the best of his abilities in all work.

YEAR 5: Kristine Ganalon
Wow! I Love your enthusiasm! You are an inspiration to our class!

YEAR 6: Felicity Miller
Felicity finishes work then makes the most of her time by reading. What a great example you are!!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING 11/05/2015
PREP: Michelle Phiri
Michelle has a positive attitude towards learning. Keep up the great work.

YEAR 1/2: Amos Grigg
Wow Amos! What a super dooper brain day you had! Keep up the great work!

YEAR 2: Aizhel Gatchalian
For being a fantastic role model to her peers.

YEAR 3/4: Michelle Butt
An outstanding effort in reading comprehension and Narrative writing! Well done Michelle!
YEAR 5: Juliana Delmo
Wow! You are achieving sensational results and showing a fabulous attitude towards your school work!

YEAR 6: Emily Garner
Showing great effort and understanding of percentage discounts last week.

P&C NEWS

P&C MEETING
Our next Meeting will be held on Thursday 21st of May 2015 at 7:00pm. We are trialing a night meeting so we hope to see more of you there. 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.

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 you 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

ANNUAL FARLEIGH PALM FETE
Where: Farleigh State School
When: Sunday 17th May 2015
- 8.00am to 1pm
Come and enjoy the friendly market atmosphere in our lovely grounds.
Talk to other palm, cycad and garden enthusiasts.
Relax and enjoy yourself - have a picnic lunch on the lawn at one of Mackay's largest annual garden markets.
Buy a hamburger and a cold drink or have a cuppa ’.
The large variety of stalls offers nearly everything that the gardener needs.
All types of palms, cycads, foliage plants, native trees, home cooking, novelties, shrubs, heliconias, ginglers, bromeliads, jewellery, arts, crafts, and garden ornaments.

LET’S READ PRE-PREP PROGRAM
Promoting reading with children
This program helps with:
- Listening
- Following instructions
- Taking turns
- Social skills
- A love for books and reading
- Join fun activities
- Develop ‘fine motor skills’
Come and join the fun at Mackay Central State School on Thursday the 30th April 2015 and every Thursday during the school term
For children 0-5 years
Time: 9:00am 10:00am
Where: Central School Library
For more information please contact Marlene at Shakespeare Child and Family Centre on Ph. 49 577 222
Or Email on: marlenes@georgestreetnc.org.au