2015 ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT

[Image of a group of students on stage with musical instruments]
The 2015 Awards Evening was a celebration of the outstanding achievements of the students and staff of Mackay State High. With the important addition of Year 7 to Secondary, the awards had been extended, while the entertainment by our Musicians and Performing Arts students were of very high quality. Guest speaker, Andrew McMurtrie shared some of his recollections from his years at Mackay State High, encouraging students to make the most of the excellent preparation, they receive at our great school.

Tom Talocod was very emotional when announced as Dux for 2015, in a decision much closer than any other in my 6 years here, with several students vying for this honour. Our 2016 School Captains were handed their blazers of office. Congratulations to Hannah Vella, Caitlyn Mittlestadt, Harry Arnold and Luke Pearce, who I am sure, with the support of their Prefects, will lead our school to even bigger achievements.

Six of our students will join 2 students from Whitsunday Anglican School, to be the Ambassadors for our Mackay Region in Yantai in December. The students will join students from Yantai schools, as well as visiting students from across the world, invited to Yantai for this Winter Camp, as guest of the Yantai People’s Congress. Yantai Region has a Sister City link with Mackay and several other cities around the world for economic and educational advancement. Two adult supervisors will accompany our students on this unique experience.

Our Performing Arts and Musical students entertained as a full team for the final time at the Arts Soiree last Friday evening in our Hall. As well as exhibiting their quality talents, diverse skills and teamwork that is seldom seen, the teachers gave special mention to the Year 12 students, many of whom have played together for 8 years with their tutors. Each year we wonder how they will be replaced, however the new students, who have been mentored by the seniors, step forward to raise the level even further. Thank you to the family and staff, who shared this wonderful evening.

Our Chemistry students have been celebrating for several weeks now, following their success in the Royal Australian Chemical Institute RACI Titration Competition, being placed first and second in Regional finals. Students went on to excel in the RACI Quiz also, pitted against students in Australasia. Our teams in 2015 are

Year 11: Praise Chabata, Telena Hona and Caitlyn Mittlestadt
Year 12: Isla Fitzpatrick, Megan Oliver and Kyra Seaborn

In the National Titration finals, our Year 11 team is placed 11th while our Year 12 team is 24th. In Queensland against the top State & Private school teams, we were 5th (Year 11 team) and 8th (Year 12 team).

Mr Steve Paulger
Principal

YEAR 12 GRADUATION

A graduation ceremony for all Year 12 students will be held on Friday the 20th November in the school hall to recognise the exciting milestone of finishing school. On this day all Year 12 students are expected to attend their normal form class in full school uniform. After the final rolls have been taken the students will move to the hall with their form teacher ready for the graduation ceremony to begin. Family and friends are very welcome to attend the ceremony to celebrate this milestone and should be seated in the school hall by 9:15am. The ceremony will begin at 9:15am and should conclude at approximately 10:30am.

2015 AWARDS NIGHT

Our Annual awards night which was held on 4 November was a great success and a credit to the Students and Staff involved. On behalf of the organising committee a huge Thank you must go to the following sponsors for their contributions to the night.

- Black Duck Kitchens
- Bymes Pie Factory
- Consolidated Plastics & Epoxy
- CQ University
- Mrs Julieanne Gilbert
- Mr Bruce Howlett
- JJ Richards & Sons Pty Ltd
- Kookaburra Educational Resources
- Mackay State High School P & C
- Mackay Sugar Limited
- Mackay Transit Coaches
- McGuire Air
- McLennan Family Trust
- Mr David Moroney
- Print Design Australia
- Sorbellos Resturant
- Souths Leagues Club
- South Mackay Newspagency
- Sparkycom Pty Ltd
- Stabler & Howlett Veterinary Surgeons
- Mr Ian Webster
- Whitsunday Office Machines
JUNIOR SECONDARY NEWS

Year 8’s had a great 1 hour session learning more about alcohol consumption. Year 9 learned about alcohol, and the effects of both licit and illicit drugs.

The big “hit” of the session was the chance to wear “alcohol goggles” which impair your vision, and try and walk a straight line. This was a huge hit.

Students displayed a great attitude with their behaviour, responses and questions. I hope they take away the serious aspects of the presentation and reflect on them for a long time to come.

Huge congratulations to all Junior Secondary students who attended awards night and received an award for their achievements at school. There are many more students at school who put in a lot of hard work in class and you too should also be proud of this and continue to strive to do your best. We also encourage everyone to participate in as many extra curricula activities as possible to experience all that school has to offer.

Lastly, as much as we all look forward to seeing Santa’s gifts, a reminder to students that it is not time to ease off the effort in class. There is still learning and assessment to complete.

Mr Matt Skinner
HOD Junior Secondary

ICT NEWS

Mackay State High School has a strong tradition in the use of technology to support educational instruction and student learning. In 2016, there will be two eLearning Programs operating for our students:

- **BYOx eLearning Program** – available to all students Year 7 – 12
- **1:1 eLearning Program** – available ONLY to Year 9 & 12 students

For any parent wanting to purchase technology for their student to use in their studies, specifically Year 6 students transitioning to Mackay State High School in 2016 and Year 10 students in 2016, we cordially invite you to a Parent Information Evening.

1:1 eLearning Program

As we are working our way towards the end of the year, we are entering the phase of returning school laptops, cases and battery chargers. Any items not returned or damaged to be fixed, will be invoiced to parents/caregivers.

The following dates are the due dates for year levels to return their school laptops and accessories to the ICT Services shop:

- **Year 12** – Friday, 13 November 2015
- **Year 11** – Thursday, 19 November 2015
- **Year 8 & 9** – Friday, 4 December 2015

Summer Holiday Devices:

2016 Year 9 & 12 students accessing this program, will **NOT** be permitted to keep their school laptop over the Summer Holidays. These devices will be upgraded to Windows 8 over the break.

2016 1:1 eLearning Program Fee: $200 for year, payable to the General Office in January/February 2016. (Available only to Year 9 & 12)

Christine Adams
HOD – Business and Information Technology

HOME ECONOMICS

Year 11 Hospitality Practices – Practical Assessment

This semester, the Year 11 Hospitality Practices classes have been learning about High Teas. Their assessment for this Term was to firstly submit a Tender application for the school’s annual Melbourne Cup staff function. The winning tender, from Shauna, Caitlin and Skye, had the theme of white and gold elegance with an equally attractive menu (see below). Both classes were involved in the preparation of the High Tea and last Tuesday presented their first proper Hospitality function to more than 50 staff. All students worked exceptionally well on the day and apart from a glitch with technology (staff could not watch the actual race), the function went off without a hitch.

Menu-

**Savouries**

Zucchini and feta cheese frittata (veg)

Sushi - chicken and avocado (vegetarian option available)

**Sweets**

Coconut and passion fruit lamingtons

Chocolate éclairs- whipped cream in centre

Scones – dried fruit and nuts- with strawberry jam and whipped cream

(GF scones also available)

**Sandwiches**

Creamy prawn and dill finger sandwiches

Cucumber sandwich (vegetarian option)

From the feedback it seems that staff enjoyed the event overwhelmingly. We would like to thank the staff for their supportive and honest feedback. The students were genuinely appreciative of all the feedback and were able to understand the value of customer engagement.

A big thank you must go to Ruth Borg (HEC Teacher Aide) who helped with the ironing of tablecloths and laminating menus.
along with a small group of Year 12 Hospitality students who made the mocktail (Frozen Fruit Fantasy – a big hit with staff), teas and coffees on the day.

Well done to all and best wishes for your Year 12 Hospitality functions.

Pauline Place and Gareth Lee
Year 11 Hospitality Teachers

Most Improved Cadet

At the Ceremonial Parade of the 122 Army Cadet Unit, Epi William a Year 9 student at Mackay SHS, was awarded the 2015 Most Improved 1st Year Cadet for the Unit. Congratulations to Epi and he will hopefully bring this high performance to his school work.

ARTS NEWS

Music Farewell Soiree

On Friday 6 November, Instrumental Music parents and other members of the school community were invited to celebrate the extraordinary year that has been for our Music students and their teachers.

The Mackay SHS Concert Bands, Stage Band, Strings Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Trombone Trio and Colla Vocé entertained the crowded Assembly Hall in what became a joyous celebration of the dedication, passion, talent of all involved.

Strong relationships between the departing Year 12 students and their committed teachers, Mr. Matthew Johnston, Ms Kristen Boyd, Mrs Yvonne Bell and Mrs Nicole DeBrueys became clear throughout emotional farewells and individual addresses at the close of the night.

The Senior Concert Band surprised Mr J with a technique that he has been teaching them all year, to sing the part. The unsuspecting Mr J was speechless but appreciative of the humour shown before launching into an amazing rendition of Eyes of the Dragon, also performed at Awards Night.

http://vimeo.com/145600100

Also featured throughout the evening were videos, edited by Mr Perry Hobdell, of performances of the 5 numbers learnt at the Queensland Academy for Creative Industries on the Crescendo Band Tour.

A DVD of the Tour performance and one of a photographic overview of the Music year are available for purchase for $5 each. If you did not get your order in at the Soiree please send through a request for one from Mrs Glenda Hobdell, ghobd1@eq.edu.au

Another popular feature of the night was a tablecloth drawing competition, Doodle Beats, many of which were fantastic. Check them out in the photo gallery.

Congratulations again to our exiting senior students. We look forward to following their future journeys and welcoming them back again.

http://vimeo.com/145600101

Mrs Glenda Hobdell
HOD The Arts
MATHS

FREE - FREE - FREE - FREE - FREE - FREE

MATHS TUTORING

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON E BLOCK
Students from all year levels are encouraged to attend Maths Tutoring from 3-4 pm each Wednesday.
Seniors E03
Juniors E01

ENGLISH

Congratulations to Lauren Anderson in Year 8 for receiving a Distinction in the ICAS English Writing Competition. A great result!

Well done also to following students for receiving Credits in the competition:

**Year 7**
- Tom Camp
- Julia Dator
- Darcy Whibley
- Kara Boys
- Thanh Huynh
- Lachlan Keates

**Year 9**
- Marnie Bugeja
- Emma Bugeja
- Charni Bloxsom
- Hannah Morgan
- Bonnie Green
- Cody Gunston
- Brooke Keates

Brooke Lafu
Charlotte Milner

Tutoring
Every Monday 3- 4pm in A08
Students can get help with assignments, exam preparation, oral presentations etc.

ESL
ARE YOU AN E.S.L. (English as a Second, or third or fourth Language) STUDENT WHO NEEDS SOME EXTRA HELP WITH ASSIGNMENTS? You are eligible for:

- **What:** Extra FREE tutoring for ESL students
- **WHEN:** Every Wednesday 3pm to 4pm
- **WHERE:** D05 classroom
- **WHO:** with: Mrs McGuire and Mrs Baxter

Bring along your assignments or homework for help with grammar and vocabulary; or to understand the task requirements.

SEU TRANSITION DAY

Term 4 2015

- **Session 3:** Friday 20th November 9.00 -11.20am
- **Session 4:** Friday 27th November 9.00 -12.00pm.
  Parents invited to stay for morning tea
- **Session 5:** Whole School Orientation full day, 7th December 2015

BREAKFAST CLUB

- **VENUE:** At the Hall Canteen
- **TIME:** 8.00am – 8.45am (Monday –Thursday)

**MENU** –

**Monday** - Toast and spreads with Milo on Mondays
**Tuesday** - Scrambled egg, toast, cereal on Tuesdays
**Wednesday** - Pancakes, toast, cereal on Wednesdays
**Thursday** - Fruit Smoothies, toast, cereal on Thursdays

Everyone is welcome to come along for a bite to eat and a friendly chat to start the day. Eating breakfast gives us more energy to get through the day and it’s a good way to make friends at the school. We look forward to seeing new and familiar faces.

A special thanks to Sydney Street Brumbies Bakery who have supported Breakfast Club every day for 7 years with their delicious Bread.
Students, Do You Want to Give Back to Your Community?

Have you got spare hours during the school holidays?

Would you be available on Sunday afternoons in 2016 once a month?

Is community service required by future employers, university entrance, residential college entry?

Mackay Historical Society and Museum (4 Casey Avenue, South Mackay) needs your help during the upcoming school holidays with a view to extending into 2016 as a Sunday opening volunteer.

http://www.mackayhistory.org/research/mackaymuseum/index.htm

Students who qualify will receive a statement of service.

If you are interested please contact this email address:

    mackaymuseum@gmail.com

Or leave a message on Mackay Museum Facebook page with your contact details.

https://www.facebook.com/mackaymuseum