Principal’s Report

Recently all Principals from State Primary, Special and Secondary schools gathered in Brisbane to attend a two day conference where the strategic direction of Education Queensland “United in the Pursuit of Excellence” was re-affirmed. We also saw the release of the Pedagogical Framework and Parent and Community Framework which were the final Policy documents to fulfil the above EQ Directional initiative. Principals also received presentations from world-recognised educators and had the opportunity to attend workshop sessions presented by colleagues detailing school based initiatives in a wide range of fields. Added to this was the opportunity to network with other professionals from across the State and bring experiences to Mackay State High School and our students and staff. The gathering occurs every two years at present and is a huge investment in the professional development of Education Queensland leaders.

Our Senior Schooling Forum was well attended with students from Year 10, 11 and 12 listening to presentations from CQU, Mackay Engineering College, Board of Chartered Accountants, TAFE and supported by several teachers from a range of faculties at our school. The pathways that are available for students were explored and some tips for parents to support students to achieve their very best as they work towards their destination after school. On Tuesday evening a further session informed parents of ways that they could support their students with strategies to assist them to achieve at their best level whether in Year 8 or finishing Year 12. The program was initiated by Mrs Camilleri, supported by several members of staff discussing assessment planners, assignment drafts and feedback, strategies to build skills and Maths sessions held after school on Thursdays. Congratulations to Sharon Barnard and the team who presented and answered questions from parents.

Students at Mackay State High engage in a range of Community Support programs. One of these is with Meals on Wheels, where two students each fortnight accompany Mr Paulger or a staff member, to deliver meals from the MOW Centre in Shakespeare St. Here we see Stephanie McBride and Quentin Heinen delivering the meal to Mr Grasso during the week.

Several secondary CAP Sporting trials have been held in recent weeks with a number of students selected for the CAP team to attend State trials in their preferred sport. Congratulations to …

Rugby League Open       Zach Schill & Gary Keppel
Rugby League U15        Conrad Green, Sam Downes, Jacob Schill & Tawera Wade
Basketball               Kahlee Saron & Danielle Fair
Hockey                   Afie Nepia & Georgia Robke
Squash                   Michael Hains, Jessica Green & Cohen Osborne
Netball Open             Sophie Arnold
Netball U15              Laura Bugeja
Swimming                 Lachlan Bunting

continued over…. 
Principals report continued…

A large number of our Year 8 students travelled to Lake Maraboon / Fairbairn Dam facility for their Year 8 Leadership Camp for 2013. Leaving a wet and cloudy Mackay, they had wonderful weather in Emerald and engaged in a range of team building and problem solving activities as well as several physical pursuits. The adventure was well received by the students, also supported by a number of their Year 11 Buddies. Thank you to Mrs Place, Mr Skinner and their team of supervisors.

Last week, 84 polite, friendly and well behaved year 8 students, 5 senior buddies and 8 staff attended Year 8 camp at Camp Fairbairn – Emerald.

Camp was aimed at helping the transition from Primary to High School, developing leadership and teamwork skills that these students can help transfer to the year 8 cohort as a whole.

A 5:00 am start on Tuesday and a 3:00 pm return on Friday produced some very tired students and staff, but a very successful time. Most students were involved in activities with others they had not been to primary school with, nor sharing classes with this year. Most were out of their comfort zone with new areas of communication and teamwork. At the end of camp though, it was clear to staff that students are adaptable, with everyone having a good time experiencing new skills. We will continue to revisit and promote this to Year 8 during the year, and I encourage all students to constantly reflect on the lessons learned from camp.

Everyone experienced Canoeing, orienteering (rogaining), ropes courses, and raft building during the daytime sessions – each focussing on teamwork. Mackay High needs a bit more work on its raft building skills! And, No students got lost orienteering – can’t say the same for everyone.

Night time activities capped off busy days, again promoting the idea of working with new people. Mad Olympics, trivia and a garbage bag formal were all hits.

Everyone had to help prepare meals, cooking for 100 people. WOW. 2013’s year 8’s had big appetites and weren’t fussy eaters. Keep it up. We even got to celebrate some birthdays courtesy of Mrs Lyons and her cake icing skills.

Please check out our Facebook site for more photos.

Many Thanks
Mr Skinner, Mrs Place, Mr Doyle, Mrs Lyons, Mr Baxter, Mrs Aprile, Ms Tittor, Mr Hall.
School Based Apprenticeships
Traineeships Available

- **City Beach** at Canelands Shopping Centre has a school based traineeship available **Certificate II in Retail**. This traineeship is available for students in years 10 and 11.
- **Australia Post** is offering a school based traineeship to indigenous students in year 11.

If you are interested in applying for these positions or would like more information see Mrs Dearden in P09 or call 4957 9152.

**WORK EXPERIENCE FORMS FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS WILL BE HANDED OUT AT YEAR 10 PARADE ON THURSDAY. PLACEMENT DATES ARE 20/05/2013 THROUGH TO 31/05/2013.**

**REMINDER:**

Please do not message your child via mobile phone during school. In an urgent situation ring the school office on 49579179.

Please instruct your child that if they are sick they must come to the school office and the office staff will phone and make arrangements with you for your child to be collected.

**SHOULD A FAMILY EMERGENCY ARISE, DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL, OUR OFFICE STAFF WILL HELP YOU IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.**

**2013 Next Step survey**

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2012. The **Next Step** survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Government Statistician to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details of forward the survey to their new address so they can participate. Thank you for your support of the **Next Step** survey in 2013.

Food Donations for Brekky Club

The Breakfast Club is available to all students, recently we had a record of 110 students attend on the 1 day, which is great. For us to offer this great service we need donations. For the month of March we are asking the school community for food items for our popular Breakfast Club.

Families, Staff Rooms, Form Classes and individuals are asked to try and bring along food items such as Jams, Spreads for eg Vegemite, Peanut Butter, Margarine etc to stock up our Pantry.

These can be handed in at Brekky Club, The Office or Student Services in E5.

Thank You

Chaplaincy Spotlight
Chaplain Phillip Hall

International Women’s Day Luncheon

On Saturday 9th March six Year 12 girls and two teachers (Mrs Atkins and Mrs Masserano) attended the Zonta International Women’s Day Luncheon at the Northern Beaches Bowls Club. The girls were inspired by speakers including Julie Boyd- past Mayor of Mackay, Dr Sally Rodrigues – Obstetrics and Urogynaecology Specialist and Sarah Newman -Queensland 2012 Young Women in Public Affairs winner.

Well done to Sophie Arnold, Chelsea Mather and Samantha Plath who submitted applications for the 2013 Young Women in Public Affairs Award along with twenty other young women in the district. All three applicants are very involved members of not just our school community but the wider community as well. Congratulations go to Samantha Plath for making the finals for this award. Samantha is interested in studying medicine in the future and is particularly interested in how her skills could be used to help women who are living less fortunate lives.

Special thanks goes to Zonta Club member Vassie Comino of P Comino and Sons for sponsoring the year 12 students at this luncheon.
English & Drama Department

Term two has some exciting opportunities on the horizon for some of our English and Drama Students. Firstly, our grade 10 English students will be attending a performance called “I Am Macbeth” by Grin & Tonic in the school hall on 9am to 10am Friday the 10th of May in week 4 of term 2. This will be a wonderful opportunity to introduce the students to a modern interpretation of Shakespeare’s famous work prior to their unit of study in term 3. Grin & Tonic Theatre Company is extremely well known for devising work specifically for high school students. Read the blurb below taken from the official Grin & Tonic website if you’re keen to know more.

Secondly, our drama students from grades 10 to 12 will also have the opportunity to attend a performance by Grin & Tonic called “Heartfail” 10am to 11am Friday the 10th of May in week 4 of term 2. Our students will then be fortunate enough to work closely with these professional actors in a variety of specialist workshops that are linked to our course of study. The grade 10’s will participate in a Brecht workshop 12pm to 130pm Friday the 10th of May in week 4 of term 2. The grade 11’s will then take part in a Shakespeare intensive 2pm to 3pm Friday the 10th of May in week 4 of term 2. Lastly, our lucky grade 12’s will be involved in an Absurd workshop Friday the 17th of May in week 5 of term 2. I am certain our drama students will relish the opportunity to immerse themselves in these fantastic drama experiences.

Lastly, it is with great pleasure that we announce that the cost for all these wonderful performances and workshops will be covered by both the English and Drama Departments respectively. We recognise that finances can be a barrier for some students and don’t want anyone to miss out on these fantastic opportunities. So save the date and get excited.

Performance & Workshops -10th of May

I Am Macbeth

Our ‘I AM’… series continues as we turn our eye to one of the bloodiest and most poetic of William Shakespeare’s tragedies, Macbeth. Prophecy and pressure mounts on the doomed Scottish king, and your students decide how the tragedy unfolds. Immerse your students in an interactive multimedia event at your school. Ambition and power turn the natural world upside down as the lines between actor, student and tyrant are blurred and we find ourselves questioning whether destiny or choice determines our future.

Bold, bloody and barking mad.

Heart Fail

…Because theatre and love are just accidents waiting to happen.

A couple of up and coming actors wait backstage at a performance of Romeo and Juliet. Except there’s been a mix-up, and the actors believe they are here for A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Everything goes wrong. Props are mislaid. Messages are lost. And the result is earth-shatteringly tragic and farcically comic. The two lowly actors need your help to rescue the play, revive the doomed lovers, and then seek to mend the world that they have accidentally broken. Heart Fail examines the trappings and laws of comedy and tragedy.

It’s a blisteringly funny look at Shakespeare and Love.

BRECHT – Engage your students in a well known narrative, that they then subvert through an hilarious and thought provoking game show. This workshop addresses Narrative, the Verfremdungs Effect (Alienation), Gestus, Didacticism and Epic Theatre.

SHAKESPEARE – Want to lift the language off the page? This workshop allows the student to explore a physical/visceral approach to the text. Watch as your students instinctually and easily comprehend Shakespeare. This workshop contains Text Analysis, Vocal Work, Thematic Punctuation, Critical Thinking, Imaging, Verse Vs Prose and the ‘Mind’s Eye’.

Workshop - 17th of May

ABSTRACT – This exploration of the lengthy and diverse period of the Absurd begins with the all-important existentialist hero and ends with the pregnant pause. This workshop addresses Characterisation, the Pause, High and Low Language, Performance Styles and the Group Vs the Individual.
Stands Up to the bully, and use yours words to tell them to STOP hurting you.

Take appropriate action to get away from the bully. Walk or run if need be, or get an adult.

Open up to a trusted adult in your life, like your parents, a teacher or friend.

Protect yourself from bullies. Hang-out with others. Bullies look for kids who are alone.

Avoid being alone with a bully.

Call for help. Seek help from peers and/or an adult.

Take a Stand. Be assertive. Look the bully in the eye and tell them to stop. Keep it short. “I don’t like it when you do that, please STOP!”

Resources for Parents
An excellent toolkit from child and adolescent psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is available at bit.ly/Bully3
The kit includes a series of short videos called Six Quick Tips for Parents about Bullying. Videos include: What are the signs your child may be bullied? And what if your child is the bully?

Lifeline 13 11 14 Kids Help Line 1800 551 800

Thanks to Brumbys Sydney Street for their support of Mackay State High School Brekky Club
Have you changed your details recently?

Parents/Guardians who have changed their address, phone numbers, etc, please fill in form and return to the school office.

Student’s Name:…………………………………………………………………Email:………………………………………………………………………
Address:……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Home Phone Number:..................................Mobile Number:..................................Work Number:..................................
Emergency Contact:..................................Relationship:..................................Number/s:..................................
Emergency Contact:..................................Relationship:..................................Number/s:..................................

Medical Information

Has your child’s medical details changed?
Please fill in this section and return to the school office.

Student’s Name:…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Doctor’s Name:………………………………………..Doctor’s Phone Number:…………………………….
Doctor’s Address:………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Medical Condition:………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Known Allergies:…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Do you have a Tax File Number?

Secondary school students have the opportunity to obtain a tax file number through the school. Students complete an application, which includes their name, address and date of birth. Once the Taxation Office receives the application form, it will be processed, and the number will be mailed to the student’s postal address.

By applying through the school, original proof of identity documents do not need to be sent to the Taxation Office. You may wish to consider this service if your child does not have a tax file number and is interested in applying for a job in the near future.

For further information please contact the school or phone the Tax Office on 132 861. Students can obtain an application form from the School Office.

Newsletters by email

Our fortnightly Newsletters will be emailed to you personally if you send your email address to the school office requesting to be included in the “silent” mail list for Newsletters. Email to admin@mackayshs.eq.edu.au to receive the newsletters. Alternatively, simply logon to our school website and review the collection of Newsletters.
Car Maintenance 101

The workshop for EVERY DRIVER

New Drivers | The Whole Family | The experienced Driver | Students

You're invited to "Car Maintenance 101" - the workshop for Every Driver!

Car Maintenance 101 is a workshop designed to teach basic vehicle maintenance to any driver wishing to learn. It's a free community event implemented by North Jacklin, a local car dealer in Mackay for 50 years.

There are no silly questions and all mechanical jargon, which can often be confusing, is banned. Numbers are limited and booking essential. Please call us on 4963 200.

The next Car Maintenance 101 workshop is on Tuesday 19th March, from 6.30pm - 7.00pm.

What's Covered

Guest Speaker: Wayne, a retired police officer and defensive driving instructor at Mackay Driving School, gives us his top tips for safe driving.

"Under the bonnet" - whilst looking at an engine, participants are shown some of the main parts, their names & functions. We also learn what an engine needs to run and the process of combustion & compression.

The Monthly Vehicle Health Check - what is safe to check and what is not, how to perform the checks. We discuss fluid levels, tyre care and participants are encouraged to practice performing the checks on our vehicles.

The top 3 breakdown scenarios - what to do when you have a flat battery, engine overheat & if you get a flat tyre. Participants will get an opportunity to practice jump starting a vehicle & changing a tyre themselves.

Guest Speaker: Wayne

North Jacklin

ATSICHS Mackay Ltd - Dental Clinic

Mackay Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Services - Dental Clinic currently have appointments available for all eligible teens to access their Teen Dental Voucher. The State Government has now commenced issuing the 2013 vouchers.

Business hours: Monday to Friday between the hours of 8.30 - 5pm

What you need to do if you choose to access this service:

- have the preventative dental check
- take their voucher and Medicare card to the dentist when they visit for their preventative dental check
- claiming for the preventative dental check

Here at ATSICHS we bulk bill all our Teen Dental Vouchers so there is no out of pocket cost to you.

The Teen Dental Voucher must be used for a preventative dental check.

Our Dental Clinic is open to the public including indigenous and non-indigenous clients.

This voucher is available for all teenagers who:

* are aged between 12 to 17
* receive (or their family receives) certain government benefits, such as the FTB (Part A) and eligible for Medicare

Contact ATSICHS - Dental Clinic for more information or to make an appointment on (07) 4957 9426
Western Districts Junior Rugby League

We are still taking registrations and welcome all players, new & old, in particular seeking players for our Under 12 team
Please contact Tracy 0438 735 698 OR secretary.wdjrlfc@hotmail.com

**BREAKFAST CLUB**

Location “The Hall” Canteen

Time: 8.00am—8.45am

Menu:

Monday: Toast and spreads
Tuesday: Cooking omelettes, French Toast etc.
Wednesday: Pancakes and syrup
Thursday: Fruit smoothies

The Tuckshop urgently requires HELP, we are desperately short staffed, if you can spare a couple of hours a day or a week, even once a month we would be very grateful. The Tuckshop cannot operate unless we have people that can help us prepare food for our students at Mackay State High School.