16 October 2015

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Term 4 is well underway and this week our musicians have excelled with 1st places to our Stage Band and also the Strings Ensemble. The students were very excited about the quality of their Eisteddfod performances, working so well together, rewarded for the hard work with their mentors Mrs Boyd and Mr Johnston. All of our entries performed with quality and pride and we look forward to results next week.

The Inter-house Swimming Carnival was held with very high attendances and participation rates that are always increasing. Mackay House finished the day on top due to their excellent participation rates in all events. Lachlan Bunting displaying the talent that gained him selection for Pan Pacific Championships in coming months, to break 3 long-standing records. Age Champions will receive their awards this week at the 2015 Annual Sports Awards evening. This evening is growing in its attendances and the growing participation in many sports. The commitment and talents of our Mackay SHS students, the time invested by parents and the coaching and mentoring by our staff are all recognised on the evening. Our special guest this year is Jillian Haughton, one of the successful Meteorettes Basketball Squad.

Our students have been invited to attend a Cultural exchange program with Yantai region in northern China. Representatives from the local congress visited Mackay in late August and the delegates have invited a small group of 16-18 year old students to participate in a Winter Camp with a range of very interesting activities from 15 – 29th December 2015. Students will be drawn from our school and possibly one or two other schools. Yantai region has a Sister City bond with Mackay and will send a group of their students to Mackay for home-stays in July 2016.

The costs for accommodation, meals, transfers and all activities/entries will be paid by the Yantai Congress, with the flights and some spending money the costs for the students. This is an outstanding opportunity for a small number of our students and interested families have been provided with initial details, which will be elaborated at a meeting in Week 3.

With the commencement of school, the Mackay Police have contacted all schools to remind families to follow the reduced speed limits around our school and also ensure that parking regulations are followed, to ensure the safety of our young people. The area in the bus turn-around is very busy every afternoon, so I encourage families to arrange to pick up their children in Penn St or Kenilworth St.

Congratulations to high performers in the ICAS Mathematics competition this year. The following students received High achievement awards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distinction</th>
<th>Benjamin Porter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>Lauren Anderson, Thanh Huynh, Maverick Formeloza, Kara Boys, Christopher Caldo, Kane Simon, Daniel Archer, Alex Scott, Nicholas Watt, Joshua Ward, Blake Paskins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit</td>
<td>Jayden Bell, Dana Del Rosario, Georgia Vella, Dylan Sinnott, Joshua Hansen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prefect nominees for 2016 gave their presentations to their peers and in the afternoon to staff members. These Year 11 students performed very admirably and staff were very proud of their efforts. Elections were held and those elected will be advised in coming weeks. Congratulations to all students nominating – Brendan White, Caitlyn Mittelstadt, Chereece Jocumsen, Chloe Healion, Chloe Sinnott, Christian Garcia, Cody Ainslie, Hannah Vella, Harley Baggow, Harrison Arnold, Katerina De Battista, Kayla Walz, Kylie Watts, Luke Pearce, Madelyn Meyers, Monalisa Chokuda, Natasha Westcott, Nicka Mateo, Praise Chabata, Precious Mariano and Sherizza Dela Cruz. These students took the first big step towards the final year of their secondary education, with growing confidence.

Finally, I remind all students in Year 7 to Year 10, that you are required to submit 2016 Subject Selection Forms urgently to support our planning for curriculum offerings for 2016. Students who have misplaced forms should collect one from the Office.

Mr Steve Paulger
Principal
YEAR 12 FORMAL

This year the Senior Formal will be held at Magpies Sporting Club in Glenella on Wednesday the 18th November. This is the premier night for the senior students of Mackay State High School to gather together and celebrate their final year of secondary schooling.

The cost of the ticket for the night is $65.00. This cost has been kept as low as possible to ensure the majority of seniors will be able to attend. Students can purchase their formal ticket by paying $65 to the general office and taking their receipt to Mrs Atkins in the Year Coordinators room. All ticket purchases must be made by Friday 6th November.

The night will begin at 6:00pm at Magpies Sporting Club with a pre-formal gathering for parents and family friends. Refreshments will be available to be purchased and a professional photographer from “Photos by Nell” will be available (from 4pm - appointment needed - see Mrs Atkins) to take photos of students with their friends/parents.

From 7pm parents and family friends will depart the Formal venue so that the night can get under way. The Formal is only for those students currently enrolled at Mackay State High School who have shown a satisfactory behaviour and attendance record and who have paid all their school fees.

The Formal will conclude at 10:30pm. All students are expected to remain at Magpies Sporting Club until the conclusion of the Formal unless arrangements have been made with Mrs Atkins and Mr Paulger prior to event. This is a school-sanctioned event and the school rules related to behaviour, smoking and drinking apply.

Please contact Mrs Atkins if you have any questions regarding the arrangements for the formal.

YEAR 12 SCHOOL REFERENCES

All Year 12 students have an opportunity to obtain a written school reference that can be used to help with future employment, tertiary entrance or residential entrance opportunities. The reference will address each individual student on uniform, attendance, conduct, academia and involvement in extra curricula activities. We encourage all year 12 students to apply for a school reference. To apply, students must collect a reference application from Mrs Atkins, complete Part A and submit to the general office or to Mrs Atkins on or before the 30th October. No late submissions will be accepted. References will be handed out with the graduation packs at the Year 12 graduation.

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.

JUNIOR SECONDARY NEWS

Firstly a reminder that payment of deposits is available for year 7 to secure a place on next year’s year 8 camp which occurs in early March. The approximate cost is $180. If lower, families will be refunded the balance. The full cost does not need to be paid, just a deposit of $80. This will ease the payment burden in the New Year if paid gradually this year. Students received a letter regarding camp in term 3. If you have lost this, students may obtain a new copy from the general office.

Students have been shown a slide show of photos from this year’s camp, showing the great range of team building activities we do, and the benefits to student’s confidence and general life skills they can experience.

What’s On Soon

“Day for Daniel” will be held on October 30 for years 7 - 9. Students will spend the day undertaking a variety of activities to help reinforce issues around child safety, and recognition of their own safety. Detailed information will be made available to students soon, including donations on the day aimed at supporting the Morcombe Foundation.

Good News Stories

Congratulations to Junior Secondary students on their level of participation at the recent swimming carnival. It would have been great to see every student present, supporting the school at a school event.

Thought of the Newsletter

THEY ARE THE weakest, however strong, who have no faith in themselves or their own powers. —Christian N. Bovee (1820–1904), American writer

Mr Matt Skinner
HOD Junior Secondary

YEAR COORDINATORS

Uniform

The Administration, Year Coordinators and Staff at Mackay State High School are committed to ensuring that students wear their uniform properly and with pride. This not only helps promote a positive school image within the community but also teaches students that being able to comply with a uniform code that forms part of a workplace health and safety standard is a valuable attribute to possess.
Any student arriving to school without the correct school uniform is required to see their relevant year coordinator before form to discuss the situation and to get issued with a uniform pass for the day. These students will then be issued with a 30 minute lunchtime detention.

We ask that parents support us by ensuring their student is wearing correct school uniform each day. The correct uniform policy can be found in the student diary. Of particular focus are shoes, socks and shorts. Socks must be white MSHS socks or plain white, unbranded, ankle length socks. **Black socks are not acceptable.** Shoes must have solid soles, enclosed upper preferably leather or leather like, predominantly white (white laces) or predominantly black (with black laces). **Canvas shoes, mesh shoes, grey shoes or shoes with bright colours or coloured laces are not acceptable.** Shorts must be MSHS navy blue shorts or plain, unbranded, navy blue shorts with elastic waistband. **Capricornia sports shorts or navy shorts with brand names are not acceptable.**

Thank you to all the parents who consistently ensure their student is wearing the correct uniform each day. If you have any questions regarding the uniform please don’t hesitate to contact the relevant year coordinator. We also ask that if you are purchasing new shoes for your student that you follow the guideline attached to the end of this newsletter.

- Year 7 – Sam Neil/Amanda Dick
- Year 8 – Kate Leon-Mason
- Year 9 – Simon West
- Year 10 – Andrew Gercken
- Year 11 – Miles Jackson
- Year 12 – Liz Atkins/Joseph Markham

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**MATHS TUTORING**

**Wednesday Afternoon E Block**

Students from all year levels are encouraged to attend Maths Tutoring from 2-4 pm each Wednesday.

**Seniors E03**

**Juniors E01**

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**ENGLISH**

**Tutoring**

Every Monday 3- 4pm in A08

Students can get help with assignments, exam preparation, oral presentations etc.

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**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.

**ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT**

On the 4th of November 2015, Mackay State High School will hold its annual awards evening at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre. It’s an opportunity to recognise the hard work undertaken by our students throughout the year in all areas of their schooling life.

**Donations**

Each year Mackay State High School acknowledges, celebrates and rewards the many successes of our students, across all areas – academic, cultural, sporting and service, at our Annual Awards Night. This year the school is seeking support in the way of donations to be awarded to students on the night. If you have a business or company and would be willing to show your support in this way, we should really like to hear from you.

Donors are acknowledged in the Award Night program, as well as in the school newsletter. As we draw a significant number of families from the local community this is an excellent opportunity to provide exposure for your business or company, while also showing support for our school and its students.

For further details or to discuss your donation please feel free to contact Ms Mel Davidson during school hours. Your support of our students will be very much appreciated.

**SEU TRANSITION DAY**

**Term 4 2015**

- **Session 1**: Friday 6th November 9.00 -11.20 am  
- **Session 2**: Friday 13th November 9.00 -11.20am  
- **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

**Q PARENT**

Access your child’s student information online and stay connected to your child.  
Anywhere, anytime:  
- report cards and assessment  
- timetables and class times  
- attendance records  
- invoice and payment details  
- online payments and much more

Visit qparents.qld.edu.au  
Register online for QParents then scan to download the free iPhone app

**SCHOOL BASED YOUTH HEALTH NURSE**

The Spectacle Supply Scheme (SSS) provides a range of free basic spectacles (vision glasses). Queensland Health administers the SSS through the Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme. To be eligible you must: Be a permanent resident in Queensland and hold one of the following cards, Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card or a Queensland Seniors Card. You must have had your eyes examined by an optometrist or ophthalmologist who has determined that you require spectacles. You are able to apply for new spectacles through SSS every two years. If you or your child require glasses and you have previously thought them unaffordable it would be worth investigating.

If you require any further information about the scheme please phone 13 43 25 84 or contact the SSS team on (07) 3136 3636. You can also use the following website: www.qld.gov.au/health/support/equipment/types/spectacles/index.html

**Trixie Mills**

School Based Youth Health Nurse
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.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

The Mackay West Rotary Club Annual Christmas Fair is on Friday and Saturday, 30th and 31st 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 37 years.

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

The kids will love the merry-go-round, steam train ride, jumping castle, animal petting 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 of the Fair.

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.