Term 3 has commenced and NAIDOC Week Celebration has been a focus this week recognising the Indigenous cultures of our Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Islander students and families. On Wednesday there was a special Assembly with guest speaker drawn from former students of our great school who shared some of their experiences both at school, with family and in their lives after school. A special lunch for local Elders was served at lunchtime at our Hall by our Hospitality students and they were entertained by singers, dancers and a Touch competition on the oval.

Students have had the opportunity to participate in a History/Geography Tour to Melbourne in the last week of Term 2 and a further group travelling to the South Island in New Zealand over the vacation, enjoying the chilly weather and sight-seeing and skiing / snow boarding on the mountains near Queenstown. The Facebook site has some photos and the students and staff are sharing many of the stories and experiences. Sincere thanks to the teachers who organised and made these tours possible for the students.

On Tuesday 22nd July between 3.30 and 6.30pm Parents are invited to book in Parent –Teacher interviews to discuss the progress reported on Semester 1 Reports that were distributed this week. If your student has not collected their report, it is available through the Office. I encourage all parents to take the chance to meet with at least a few of your child’s teachers.

This term we have some special enrolments at our school. Marie Vandenhaute is an exchange student from Brussels, Belgium, who will be attending our school and gaining some exposure to our school system and immersed in the English language for the next 10 weeks. We also have 8 lads from schools in Castleford and Hull in England who will be billeted with our Rugby League Academy families for about 6 weeks. These lads continue the valued partnership that we have with the Academy schools for these student exchanges each year. The boys and the two staff are basking in the “warm weather” that we are experiencing, in our pullovers and jumpers. The growth from these exchanges for both the visitors and those with whom they have contact, is something they will remember for many years.
DATE REMINDERS TERM 2 2014

JULY
17 - 18 July  Athletics Carnival
18 July    Vicky Wilson Cup Netball
22 July    Parent/Teacher Interviews
21 - 23 July Yr 11 Marine - Brampton Is
28 July    QCS Workshop—Year 12
29 July    ICAS English
29 July    Year 12 Marine Boating Trip
30 July    Year 11 RYDA Day

August
4 - 6 August  Roadshow - Year 8 2015

Quote............
If you can, help others; if you cannot do that, at least do not harm them.
Dalai Lama

A message from the office
Welcome back to Term 3 – how quickly this year is passing.
The next major event in Mackay SHS fees will be the closing of magazine invoices and ordering of the 2014 Year book. You should have your student resource scheme fees and all subject fees paid before acceptance to attend any excursions and purchase of the magazine.
Please ensure you contact the office if you wish to discuss payment plans to assist clearing these accounts.
You can forward an email to admin@mackayshs.eq.edu with your request.
Are you aware you can direct some or all of your Centrelink payments to the school to assist paying your fees? Please contact us for the necessary forms or more information.
Should you need to contact a teacher you are welcome, attention your email to the specific teacher on admin@mackayshs.eq.edu.au and we will forward it on your behalf.

CHAPSTICKS FOR SALE
Assorted flavours to choose from
All money towards supporting our School Chaplains in the Mackay Region
Available at the Student Counter

THANKS TO BRUMBYS SYDNEY STREET FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF MACKAY STATE HIGH SCHOOL BREKKY

$4
Year 8 2015 at Mackay State High School

Roadshow
Our annual visit to each feeder primary school will begin the week starting August 4th. During the roadshow students will receive an enrolment package and will meet key staff including: Mr Paulger -Principal, Mr Brunetto - Deputy Principal, Ms Kate Leon-Mason - Year level Co-ordinator for Year 8 2015.

Parent Information Evening
The parent information evening for Year 7 students transitioning into Year 8 in 2015 will be held on the 13th August. This night will provide our new school community members an opportunity to discover the excellent learning opportunities that Mackay State High School provides for its students. It will also provide parents an opportunity to meet staff and have questions answered. At the end of the night parents will be able to make bookings for the upcoming Enrolment Interviews.

Year 7 into 8 Enrolment Interviews
Interviews will be held from Tuesday 19th August to Thursday 21st August. These meetings enable parents to ask any further questions and for our new students to get to know our administration team and staff on a more personal level.

Frank Brunetto
Deputy Principal

RUN Project and Year 9 Science
Year 9 Science students will be involved in assessing an initiative through the Regional Universities Network this term. This initiative is to increase awareness of science and maths related careers and to aid teachers in providing resources from experts in their fields. Students will undertake a few online lessons designed by the Central Queensland University on the Human Body involving sonography and radiography. CQU will then survey the students and teachers and then interview a couple to assist them in determining the effectiveness of the lessons designed. This initiative will then roll out later this year with several universities being involved.

Kylie Anthes-Cole
HOD Science

Change of Contact/Address Details

Student Name
Year Level
New Address
New Phone Number

Please detach and return the Administration Office
James Cook University invited the school to participate in the annual University Experience program for Year 12 students. This event consists of a two day residential program. Students will have the opportunity to explore and participate in three areas of study (academic sessions), assisting them to make sound decisions about choosing future careers and courses and applying to university.

The Residential Experience featured presentations about student services, study skills, accommodation, the student association and more. Eight of our year 12 students attended and we would like to thank the Sarina State High School Guidance Officer Dave Synewski for taking us up in their school bus. We stayed at John Flynn college. The students I spoke to said they thought it was a worthwhile and rewarding “experience”.

Lindsay Hains  
Guidance Officer

On the 14th and 15th of July myself and 7 other grade 12 students experienced university at JCU in Townsville for the first time. This experience gave us insight into what it is like to live on campus, the commitment we are about to make and how enjoyable uni life can be. I chose to look at marine biology, medicine and rehabilitation which helped me to decide on the big decision of what to study next year and how to apply. The JCU experience was really worthwhile and I am glad I got the opportunity to attend.

Jessica Heitman - Year 12

The JCU Experience trip was a wonderful venture. Whilst at JCU we experienced being in an auditorium with 140 other students, this was an excellent eye opener for what it would be like during the lectures of university life. We were also able to sample 3 courses of our own choices, to allow us an insight on what courses of our interest would be like, this included the workload and study hours required for various courses, contact hours with teachers, and free time that is left over. Overall the experience was wonderful, and excellent food was served by the staff.

Phillip MacNaughton - Year 12
New Zealand Ski Trip 2014

26 students and 3 teachers have just got back from an amazing 10 day trip in New Zealand. We had a fantastic time, the students got to experience -18 wind chill one day!

Students had to choose skiing or snowboarding, we had 4 days up the mountain, a day in Christchurch, a day in Wanaka, and 3 days in Queenstown. The trip wasn’t just about the snow we participated in many activities, Snow Tubing, Lungen, Ice Skating, Puzzling World, Christchurch Museum, Hot Springs, Cultural Show and lots of yummy dinners at amazing restaurants.

MSHS students will get the chance in 2016 to experience New Zealand and will have 2 years to save for this trip of a life time!
During the last week of Term 2, 14 Year 11 and 12 history and geography students and 2 Teachers Mrs Gibson and Ms Blackbourn, went to Melbourne for a history excursion.

On arrival in Melbourne, we checked into our accommodation the Nunnery at Carlton. Dinner in Carlton was so hard to decide, on what to eat. On the first night, Sunday, we participated in a ghost tour of the city, learning about some of the history of Melbourne. Our tour took us to the Princess Theatre and the Old Parliament House, and through Chinatown and we began and finished at Federation Square.

On Monday we partook in a tour of Melbourne, which included the Shrine of Remembrance, the Melbourne Cricket Ground and St Kilda. We also went to the Jewish Holocaust Museum, which was definitely an eye opener on what happened to the Jews during World War II. This was very powerful and emotional especially the account of holocaust survivors.

The next day, we headed out to Phillip Island for the day. Our first stop was Maru Koala and Wildlife Park. Panny’s Chocolate Factory was next, where we indulged ourselves with a variety of scrumptious chocolate. We then drove from one side of the island to the other, passing the Phillip Island Race Track. We stopped in at Nobbies Centre and watched the waves roll into the island. To conclude our Phillip Island day tour we went to see the Penguin Parade. That was my highlight for the trip, seeing all the penguins run up the beach, right beside us and splash through the puddles. It was a huge but a fulfilling day and we were all glad to be back at the Nunnery.

Wednesday began with a tour of the city looking at the significance of many of the Historical buildings, we were able to download an App that explained the significance of the many greatly preserved buildings.

Thursday was spent at the Melbourne Museum. We started with a cold case, where we had to come up with a plausible explanation for what happened to people in each period of Melbourne History. After a look around the Museum and lunch, we toured the Aztec Exhibition human sacrifices were the highlight here. We then did a tram tour of the city, and ended our day at the South Wharf DFO. We had an early night as we had to get up early for our flight back home.

All in all it was an amazing experience. Having lived in Melbourne, and visiting the city many times, I found it fascinating to be able to see the city from a different perspective. I would definitely recommend this trip to people for next year.

Megan McMillian Year 12

More photos to come
SCHOOL BASED VACCINATION PROGRAM

All students should now have had their first and second HPV vaccination to be on schedule for round 3 in October. Those students that missed any immunisations at school and did not catch up at Child Health during the holidays will need to make arrangements through their GP.

Students that were in Years 8 and 10 last year (2013) will also need to contact their GP to finalise outstanding HPV, Hepatitis B and Boostrix vaccinations. This must be done by December 2014 or parents will be required to pay for the costly vaccinations as students will no longer be covered by the National Immunisation Program.

Mackay State High School would like to invite parents to download the QSchools App which will allow parents the opportunity to see when news, events and newsletters are posted on our school website. Using this Free App is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information about the school.

Alternatively you can access our school website which has detailed information on the school and links to the school Facebook page.

https://mackayshs.eq.edu.au

AUSTRALIAN NAVY CADETS—Recruiting for 2014

Are you between the ages of 12.5 and 19, like having a go, like the water, like adventure work together in a group? Then come along and see the Navy Cadets at Training Ship Pioneer. Interested students, parents come along to the Open Day Sunday 27 July between 8am and 12 noon.

Defence Precinct - Western End, 400 Shakespeare Street, Mackay

For more information contact Darren Scott - 0418 282202
Website - www.navycadets.gov.au

MESSAGES...Parents are reminded that arrangements for social, work commitments or travel home from school should be made with your student before they leave home in the morning. We are a very large school and delivering non-urgent messages disrupts the smooth running of our school and the learning of students. If a more pressing situation arises in the school office your message may be delayed.

A reminder that students mobile phones are not to be used during School hours, it has become apparent that students are contacting parents this is not acceptable and not in accordance with our eDevice policy and could result in confiscation.