PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Mackay State High School supports and guides every student to achieve their very best. In 2015 we are placing additional focus on High Performance. Performance is something that we celebrate and we look to provide further challenge and extension for our students.

In Year 8 the recent High Flyers in our Literacy and Numeracy testing are listed below for their outstanding efforts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Daniel Austin, Isabelle Ellis and Brooke Keats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Jacob Ahern and Alicia Fairbanks-Pounder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Daniel Austin, Isabelle Ellis and Brooke Keats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conventions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>Jacob Thompson and Kasey Westcott</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At the Annual Sports Awards Night, the high performers in various sports were recognized for their outstanding commitment and application to their chosen sports, with representation at school, District, Capricornia Region and State level being awarded. The Sporting Academies recognised their key representatives and the Age Champions from the Interhouse Carnivals received their medals. The large assembly of students, parents and staff were treated to talks by Ms Renae Kunst, Australian Rugby League representative & ARL Development Officer and Mr Joel Khalu, Coach and CEO of the Mackay Meteors. Staff were recognised for the valued efforts that they contribute to the various sports throughout the year for the students. Congratulations to Mr Monaghan, Mr Doyle and the staff involved across another highly successful year of sport for Mackay State High.

In the last week our Prefect nominees have presented their speeches to the staff group and later to their peers, detailing their aspirations and reasons for putting their nomination forward. The 26 students, who nominated, performed very well with staff and students then voting to select our student leaders for 2015. I was very proud of the presentations by these students who all have gained from the experience, whether elected or not. This year, the 2015 School Captains will be announced at our Annual Awards night.

In 2015 our school commences the transition to BYOx. With the ceasing of target funding for student laptops, next year students in Year 7 and Year 10 will be part of the Bring Your Own device, with two meetings being held last week for parents and students, supported by some local businesses which presented the packages that they could offer families looking at purchasing a new device. Students in Year 8, 9 & 11/12 will have the option to BYOx or sign in for the school-based laptop for the current stock available. Information and forms are now uploaded on the school website. If you have any questions, please contact IT Services through the school office.

Bob Schofield was a long term servant to Mackay State High School as teacher and Head of Social Science Faculty. His contribution to thousands of students as well as development of staff was immense. Sadly he passed away recently, a huge loss to our school and community. Our thoughts and prayers are extended to his family.

ICT NEWS

BYOx Launch

We had a great BYOx (Bring Your Own Technology) launch for 2015 with our Parent and Student Information evenings on Monday and Tuesday, 13 and 14 October. Thank you to all parents and students who came along for the presentation. A very big thank you to our local retailers, Harvey Norman, Joyce
Mayne, Matilda Internet and The Laptop Man, who placed a lot of effort in providing products and assistance for our parents and students.

Any parent or student who could not make the evenings for either Junior Secondary or Senior School, please see our school’s website for all the necessary documentation you may require to start your purchasing process:

https://mackayshs.eq.edu.au/

Alternatively, this documentation is available from the General Office at school. Please go to the Curriculum tab and then enter Teaching and Learning section to find information on BYOx Program or the 1:1 eLearning Program.

Reminder, it is only the 2015 Year 7 and Year 10 students for whom it is mandatory to BYOx (Bring Your Own Technology). All other students may continue or enter the current 1:1 eLearning Program where for an annual contribution of $200 your student will receive a school laptop with all software, Accidental Damage Insurance, Extended Warranty and free technical service, or opt to BYOx Program.

Retailers did advise if parents and students were in the market for a new technology that it would be wiser to get in early, as manufacturers will close over the Christmas period and not open up again until mid to late January 2015. Thus, it is usual that the stock they have in now is all they will receive between now and the beginning of the next school year.

When making your decision to purchase a new device, parents and students please be aware of the technical subjects which require the higher device specifications (see Page 4 of the BYOx Guide for Parents and Students for a detailed list of technical subjects). If parents are going to keep costs to a minimum, parents and students will need to consider what subjects may be possibly studied over the three year period, for example Years 7, 8 and 9. This is the most difficult consideration.

Documentation

BYOx Check List – to be used to assist in purchasing a new device if you are not sure if the device meets the specifications. Get your retailer to fill in Check List for the device, email or drop-off at school and technicians will look over and email back advise on purchase.

This Check List can also be used if you already have a device at home and are not certain it meets the specifications for your student’s learning. Follow the same procedure as stated.

Both the BYOx Information Flyer and the BYOx Guide for Parents and Students have a copy of the specifications required by the school.

1:1 eLearning Program

2015 Year 8, 9, 11 or 12 student accessing this school device program, parents can pay their $200 prior to the following dates:

2015 Year 11 & 12 – $200 paid by Friday, 14 November 2014
2015 Year 9 - $200 paid by Friday, 28 November 2014
2015 Year 8 - $200 paid by Friday, 5 December 2014

Once this payment is finalised:

2015 Year 11 & 12 students can take their current laptops home for the holidays.
2015 Year 9 students will receive Deployment of their laptops in final week of school.

Incoming Year 8 students in 2015 opting for the 1:1 eLearning Program and who have paid their $200 by Friday, 5 December will have their laptop deployed in the first week of the 2015 school year.

Parents and students please do not hesitate to contact us via the email if you have any further queries on the BYOx Program or the 1:1 eLearning Program.

Christine Adams
HOD – Business and Information Technology

Hello again everyone and welcome to Term 4! We have hit the final quarter of 2014 and sport at Mackay State High is still in full flight. We kicked off the term with our annual Sports Awards Night. This important night on our sporting calendar was held on Thursday 16th October at Souths Leagues Club. Sports Awards night allows us to celebrate the individual and team success across many sports at Mackay State High school. The entire HPE department would like to congratulate all award recipients. Your dedication and tireless hours of training and preparation have certainly paid off and it was excellent to see so many students and their families celebrate their success.

Special mention must go to our Major award winners. There are only a select group of students who receive these prestigious awards. Once again congratulations to the following students;

Football Academy Player of the Year – Joel Mengel (Year 10)
Netball Academy Player of the Year – Kylie Watts (Year 10)
Josh Hoffman Shield for Junior Rugby League Player of the Year – Brendan White (Year 10)
Bill Esau Clubman of the Year Trophy – Zac Thorpe (Year 12)
Dane Gagai Shield for Senior Rugby League Player of the Year – Jacob Schill (Year 11)
Mackay State High School Spirit Award – Frank De Battista (Year 12)
Pierre De Coubertin Award – Danielle Fair (Year 12)

The nominees for both Junior and Senior Sportsperson of the year were announced at the Sports Awards Night. The winner will be announced at the Mackay State High School Awards night on November 5. Congratulations to the following students on being nominated; Junior – Hannah Morgan, Lauren Morgan, Rhys Neale, Hayden Pace, Shannyn Flynn. Senior – Lachlan Bunting, Bianca Do Nascimento, Danielle Fair, Jacob Schill, Ashten Windsor.

A special thank you must go to our Guest Speakers who took time out of their busy schedules to present awards and speak to our athletes. Ms Renae Kunst (Australian Jillaroos) and Mr Joel Kahu (GM Mackay Basketball), the entire Mackay State High School community want to thank you for being a part of our special night. The night would not have been possible without
The tireless efforts of the HPE Staff and in particular our Sports Coordinator Mr Craig Monaghan.

Do you still have English Books on loan that you no longer need?

Please return any outstanding books to the English Department as soon as possible. Thank-you.

Get the help you need for the results you want.

After School English Tutoring
Providing help with homework, assignments, exams, oral presentations etc.

Every Monday from 3pm to 4pm in the A1 Classroom and the A2 Computer Lab
Contact your English teacher for more information

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2015 SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

These are some excellent opportunities for year 12 graduates.

TJ Ryan Memorial Medal and Scholarships

The TJ Ryan Memorial Medal and Scholarships are awarded to Queensland secondary students who demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities within their school and community, and academic excellence through their achievements in Year 12.

Further Information:
http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/scholarships.html

Aspiring Teachers Grants

The Aspiring Teacher Grant is available to high-achieving 2014 Year 12 graduates who intend to commence an initial teacher education program at a Queensland higher education institution in 2015.

Further Information:
http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/scholarships.html

Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarships

The Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarships are available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders who aspire to become teachers in state schools.

Further Information:
http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/scholarships.html

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Step into Teaching Scholarships

Step into Teaching Scholarships support eligible individuals to complete an undergraduate or commence a postgraduate secondary teaching qualification in one or more of the following high priority curriculum areas:

- Mathematics B and C
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Industrial Technology and Design (including Manual Arts).

Further Information:
http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/scholarships.html

YEAR 12 FORMAL

This year the Senior Formal will be held at Magpies Sporting Club in Glenella on Wednesday the 19th 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 $75.00. 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 $75 to the general office and taking their receipt to Mrs Atkins in the Year Coordinators room. All ticket purchases must be made by Friday 7th 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 the formal photographers from “Belle Memories” will be available (from 5pm – no appointment needed) 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.
ART NEWS

EISTEDDFOD SUCCESS

58 students from our Instrumental Music program participated in the Eisteddfod this week with a consistently high standard delivered by all groups. The adjudicators recognized each of our ensembles or bands for their work, as follows.

- String Ensemble – 2nd Place
- Stage Band – 2nd Place
- Flute Ensemble – 2nd Place
- Concert Band – 3rd Place
- Percussion Ensemble – Highly Commended

The students have put in a huge amount of time rehearsing for the competition and the school is proud of their dedication and achievements. Thank you to their equally dedicated teachers, Mrs De Brueys, Ms Boyd, Mr Johnston and Ms Bell.

Still to come are performances by our Folk Singing and Novelty Chorus Groups. We wish them well and look forward to a taste of their talents at Awards Night and Arts Under the Stars.

BEACH ART DAY

On Friday 10 October, 29 Year 10 and 11 Art students travelled to Lambert’s Beach with Mrs Hobdell, Ms Hodby and Ms Kelly as part of our Visual Art Program.

The aim of the day was for students to gather research data from the beach environment, as well as to complete experimental, land art works. Land art is made directly in the landscape, sculpting the land into earthworks or making structures using natural materials found in the landscape such as rocks or twigs. Students were asked to respond to the landforms, environmental issues discovered and history of the place, documenting their findings and developing ideas.

Elements of performance were also incorporated into some works, with evidence of the intervention of the artist articulated. Artworks completed on the day are to be extended in class time and will contribute to assessment outcomes for all participating students.

Key works will be featured in the Velocity Art Exhibition at Arts Under the Stars on November 10.

ARTS UNDER THE STARS: A space odyssey

A showcase celebration of classroom outcomes and the evolving curriculum across the Arts

Arts classrooms are abuzz with preparations for the festival style Arts Under the Stars event to be presented on the evening of November 10 in the grounds of Mackay SHS.

Arts Under the Stars will draw on the successes of previous years but extend beyond these in terms of student/teacher involvement, type of activities, and nature of performances and presentations. In 2014, the event will take on a festival atmosphere, bringing together all disciplines of the Arts, supported by Home Economics, in a highly engaging and interactive celebration of our rigorous programs. It will be staged for the wider school community and feature works drawn directly from the classroom across year levels in the areas of Drama, Film, Television and New Media, Music, Instrumental Music and Visual Art.

In particular, the event aims to:

- recognise the outcomes of a broad range of students across ability levels and year groups
- collate and exhibit a broad selection of arts works
- promote the creation and display of a variety of artistic forms
- provide a sense of history and place but with a futures perspective, showcasing integration of technology into the arts programs
- foster positive relationships between students, staff and community
- serve as an educational experience for staff and students (collaborative planning, curation, event management, public relations)

Audiences will experience a huge variety of arts based performances and artworks ranging from contemporary art installations and shadow puppetry to jazz vocal performances and living libraries. Admission is free with food and souvenirs on sale... all are welcome!

Glenda Hobdell
HOD The Arts

Awards Night

Our Annual Awards Night will be held on Wednesday 5th November at 6.30pm, at Mackay Entertainment Centre. This is a special night on our School Calendar where we recognise the successes of our finest scholars, outstanding citizens and champion sportsmen and women. Invitations to students receiving awards will be coming home in the near future.
NEW JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL UNIFORM 2015

In 2015 with the introduction of Year 7’s into Mackay State High School we will be introducing a NEW Junior Secondary Uniform. This uniform option will be a compulsory uniform option for students in Year 7 and Year 8 in 2015. Students in Year 9 will be able to purchase the new Junior Secondary Uniform however they will only be able to wear it for 2015 as there is a different uniform required for the Senior School.

The New Junior Secondary Uniforms will not be available for purchase until December. The uniforms have been ordered and delivery has been timed around the Orientation Days for Year 7 and Year 8 which will be held in December.

More information about availability and pricing will be provided to the school community at a later date.

Other Notices:

Attendance Really Does Matter!!

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but......

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You Miss</th>
<th>That Equals</th>
<th>Adds Up To</th>
<th>Over 13 years</th>
<th>End Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Day / Fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days / Year</td>
<td>4 Weeks / Year</td>
<td>&lt; 1.5 Years</td>
<td>Finish Grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Day / Week</td>
<td>40 Days / Year</td>
<td>8 Weeks / Year</td>
<td>&gt; 2.5 Years</td>
<td>Finish Grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Days / Week</td>
<td>80 Days / Year</td>
<td>16 Weeks / Year</td>
<td>&gt; 5 Years</td>
<td>Passing Grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Days / Week</td>
<td>120 Days / Year</td>
<td>24 Weeks / Year</td>
<td>&gt; 8 Years</td>
<td>Work voucher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respect Excel Attend Learn

If you want to be successful at school then YES attendance does matter!

‘Every Day Counts’