Principals Report

Over the past two weeks our staff have been beginning the process to introduce the Year 7 students in our school’s catchment area. On Tuesday a team of teachers and several students were available to answer questions from students and parents while giving presentations on the opportunities available in our curriculum as well as extra-curricula options like our Instrumental Music Bands, Cattle Show team, Sporting Academies, Optiminds and Arts. This week we have had the major round of enrolment interviews between 3.30 and 6pm from Monday – Thursday afternoons.

Along with preparations for 2014 Year 8 group, our school is also building links with the Year 5 & 6 students who will transition into Secondary in 2015 as part of Flying Start. From this week teachers will work in our partner primary schools, getting to know the students and their learning styles and expectations to share with other staff at our school.

In the next few weeks students in Year 8, 9 and 10 will be asked to complete Subject Choice forms for 2014. All students and parents are reminded that all school contributions/fees must be paid in full before students can be signed in to subjects that have subject fees such as Manual Arts subjects, Home Ec/Hospitality, Marine Studies/Aquatics and Academies. Thank you to the many families which have completed these payments already, but I remind other families to get these completed very soon.

Our Opti-minds enthusiasts have already commenced their analysis of the topics for their responses. The students are supported ably by Mrs Lyons, Mrs Aprile and Mr McGann, who invest a lot of additional time outside class commitments to assist the teams to give their best responses. This year Mackay SHS will have 2 teams in the Mackay judging with students from Year 8 – 11. Mr McGann also assists with the coordination of the school entries for the competition based at Whitsunday Anglican School this year. WAS and Mackay SHS are the only schools that have been involved every year since it started 21 years ago.

Last weekend the students in our Strings Ensemble performed very well in the Mackay Orchestras and Bands (MOB) competition and were awarded a Silver award for their very capably presented program. Several of the students immediately backed up as a part of the Mackay Combined Youth Orchestra, taking out a Gold Award. The many parents and staff were very proud of these outstanding performances.

For the past 16 months, students of the Rugby League Academy, supported by their parents and a staff team, have been fundraising towards their tour to England in the September Vacation. The Gala Academy Dinner was held at Souths with Alfie Langer the special guest. Sincere thanks to the many people who attended and bought items in the auctions and won prizes in the huge Gooseclu. The support from local businesses and Mackay and NRL clubs which donated items for auction is very greatly appreciated.

Mr Steve Paulger
Principal
Year 12 Queensland Core Skills Tests (QCS)

The QCS test is an exam that all students wishing to obtain an OP sit on the Tuesday and Wednesday the 3rd and 4th September. The test is comprised of a four elements— a Writing Task, a Short Response Test and two Multiple Choice Tests. The Core Skills Tests are based upon a set of Common Curriculum Elements that are assessed across all subject areas, as such, they do not relate to any particular curriculum or subject area. Questions typically require students to interpret and analyse information, draw conclusions, perform comparisons, create ideas, etc. While the QCS Test’s four papers require imagination, concentration and stamina they also provide our students the opportunity to show what they can do when they put their mind to it. For students, class work, assessment tasks and the QCS Preparation Program have contributed to the broad range of skills that they will be called on to demonstrate.

Students have received an information sheet from the Queensland Studies Authority explaining what materials they will be allowed to take into each session. Please ensure that your child has the necessary equipment, as they cannot borrow from other students once the test session starts.

The Year 12 students not involved in the QCS Tests will not be required to attend school on the Tuesday and Wednesday. The exception to this would be the students who are not sitting the QCS test and have not completed Certificate 2 in Workplace Practices. These students will be required to attend school on these days until their qualifications are completed.

This year the year 12 students have been working exceptionally hard on preparing for the test. We wish them the best of luck.

More information on the QCS test can be found at: http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/587.html

Frank Brunetto

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Upcoming Events

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<td>Year 11 &amp; 12 Block Exams</td>
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<td>26 August</td>
<td>Cap Trial Cricket</td>
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<td>28 August</td>
<td>QUT Career Presentation Yr 10,11,12</td>
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<td>03 - 04 September</td>
<td>QCS Testing</td>
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<td>18 - 19 September</td>
<td>Year 8 Sports Day</td>
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On Thursday 15th, a group of three senior science students (Tye Routh, Aaron Glanville and Sam Plath) represented Mackay State High School at the Chelona State School Science fair. Chelona and Oakendon students attended the fair. Our three senior students presented a series of fun experiments to the younger students, not only to entertain them, but also interest them in the sciences and for the students to realise it is not “magic” but science - as science is everywhere!

Experiments done for the children (from Prep to Grade 7) included presentations on the power of pressure, experiments on electricity with a Van de Graff generator as well as experiments with Quicksand. These students were also able to attend displays after the main presentation, where the children could look and interact with such items as preserved insects and simple circuits.

These experiments were done as part of this year’s National Science Week festivities which ran from the 12th to 18th of August. Tye Routh, one of the Junior Scientists who participated states: “It was a really great way to represent our School and its’ strong Science department while being part of a larger Science Week celebration”.

A huge thank-you goes out to Mr Patton, who helped organise the experiments and stands for our Junior Scientists.
Junior Secondary News

Hi to all year 8 students. Please make sure your Chinese presentation is ready for this week otherwise you will have to do it next week. I am pretty sure you won’t want to do that would you… unless you are happy to receive an E or D – which is not what we want Junior Secondary students to be happy about. Aim for your best at all times, even when the going gets tough.

Shayla. – Year 8

Drama

The Hysterical History of the Trojan War

This term both Year 9 Drama classes will be conducting a play on The Hysterical History of the Trojan War. This ‘story’ is a comical recount of the actual Trojan War. This play is full of ancient (and very vain) Greek Gods, a self-obsessed prince and one that just won’t die. If you want to read or watch the play; you can expect a LOT of lame (but slightly funny), dad type jokes and a lot of singing. Good or bad singing; well that you can decide for yourself.

Past performances of this play from all around the world are available on YouTube.

The class is rehearsing their play

Home Economics

Cooking up a storm in the kitchens with Year 9. Cooking is very popular

Information evening

The Year 7 into 8 Information evening was very well attended. Thanks to all future students and parents for attending. A big thankyou also to staff and students who ran displays and guided parents on the night.
SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICESHIPS/TRAINEESHIPS AVAILABLE

- **City Beach** at the Canelands Store has a NEW Retail School Based Traineeship vacancy available – **Certificate II in Retail** available to grade 10 and 11 students.

- Brodon Mye from **Novaskill** would like to meet with indigenous students in Year 10 who are interested in doing a School Based Traineeship in **Certificate III in Media** at MY 105. Brodon can be contacted on 0423 375 257 or see Mrs Dearden in P09 for more information.

CASUAL POSITION AVAILABLE (AFTER SCHOOL HOURS)

- **Best & Less at Caneland Shopping Centre** is looking to employ casual Retail Assistants for Thursday night, weekends and school holidays. Please drop your Resume to Marianne O' Riely at the Caneland Best & Less store.

- **Prouds the Jewellers** in Canelands is looking to employ **Christmas Casuals**. Employment will commence in September/October. To apply pop into the store with your Resume and ask for Tracey Hassan.

FULL TIME POSITONS AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS

- **Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal Pty Ltd (DBCT P/L)**, in partnership with MRAEL Group, are seeking motivated individuals interested in undertaking a **Mechanical or Electrical Apprenticeship** commencing in 2014. INTERESTED? An information flyer is available to view on the notice board at P09. Application packages can be viewed on the MRAEL website at [www.mrael.com.au](http://www.mrael.com.au) Applications close Sunday, 25 August 2013.

- **Aim Aluminium** is looking to employ at the end of this school year an apprentice interested in a career in the **fabrication trade**. Please drop your Resume to Andrea Dearden in P09, work experience will be organised as a trial for interested applicants.

- **Michael DePinto Air Conditioning & Refrigeration** requires the services of a **Junior Office Administrator** with previous office experience or willing to undertake a Traineeship in **Certificate III – Business Administration**. A flyer is available to view on the notice board at P09. Please drop your Resume to Andrea Dearden in P09, the successful applicant will be signed into a school based traineeship and rolled into full time at the completion of Year 12.

- A local **Painter** is looking for a **full time apprentice**. He may consider commencing with a school based and rolling into full time at the completion of the school year.

- A local employer has a position available for a full time apprentice **Tiler**.

YEARS 10 TRY A TRADE STUDENTS 2013

- Mitchell Carter
- Trent Pere
- Isaiah Dau
- Brodie Boss
- Daniel Beveridge
- David Brun
- Sam Downes
- Brody Dimond
- Jay Fauchon
- Dean Fuhlbohm
- Blake Grosskreutz
- Alex Brown
How to deal with Stress

Some stress can be a good thing. It can help us get motivated to get things done. But too much stress – and how much is too much varies from person to person – can lead to other problems for some people, including depression. The important thing is to work out what is troubling you.

Some tips to help reduce and deal with stress.

- Stress in relationships – whether this is with a partner, family member, friend, teacher or other people in your life – is a major cause of stress. You might want to talk to a counsellor, school support team – Nurse, Chaplain or Guidance Officer, or an adult you can trust - someone who can help you work things out.
- Take time out – take some time to do something distracting or something you enjoy, such as going out with friends, going to the gym or a yoga class, listen to music, play sport or watch a funny movie.
- Keep things balanced – this might mean learning to say ‘NO’, so you don’t take on new things that will add to your stress levels.

If you have a health concern that is causing you stress – make that appointment with a doctor. Don’t put it off!

Delma Spindler
School Based Youth Health Nurse

Pastures from Space

Amy Cosby from the University of New England visited Mackay State High School’s Senior Agriculture students to talk about Pastures from Space. ‘Pastures from Space’ is a program that provides estimates of pasture production during the growing season by means of remote sensing. Satellite data is used to accurately and quantitatively estimate ‘Pasture Biomass’ or ‘Feed On Offer’ (FOO) which is combined with climate and soil data. This is used to produce the ‘Pasture Growth Rate’ (PGR) estimates.

She also came to talk about the many different career options in the agricultural industry, and how the University of New England can help us to get a degree into the industry. UNE is located in Armidale, NSW and offers many courses for different industries.

For further information on Pastures go to;
http://www.pasturesfromspace.csiro.au/
http://www.une.edu.au/
By Jayne Glendinning Year 11
The Mackay SHS Rugby League Academy Gala Dinner was held on Saturday 17th August 2013 at Souths Leagues Club. This is one of the major fundraising events for the 2013 England Tour, which leaves next month. There will be 23 boys and 4 staff members travelling to England to play rugby league and visit various places in Northern England and London. We would like to thank all people who attended the evening and made it such an enjoyable evening. We would also like to thank all sponsors and businesses who donated prizes for our gooseclub raffle. With less than 4 weeks left until we leave, the money raised will help the boys enjoy their England experience!

SUN Success

Congratulations to Rebecca Marcum who recently received confirmation of her successful completion of “Fundamentals of Psychology” through CQU in the SUN (Start Uni Now) Program. Rebecca achieved a Credit for this subject, outstanding considering she was also doing her full Year 11 workload. This partnership offers students at Mackay SHS in Year 11/12 the chance to complete University Courses at a much reduced cost and if successful, then students like Rebecca will be offered automatic entry to the Bachelor of Psychology when she completes Year 12. Students interested in starting a University course in the SUN program, should speak to Mrs Barnard (HOD Senior Schooling) in P Block.

Year 12 Queensland Core Skills Test (QCS)

The Year 12 QCS test will be held on Tuesday 3rd September and Wednesday 4th September in the library. Year 12 students who are not sitting the QCS test do not need to attend school on these days. If your student has planned to sit the test and is unable to attend school on the test days due to illness it is essential that a doctor’s certificate is obtained and presented to the school.

The students have been preparing for the test at school through practises that familiarise them with the testing process. To ensure your student is fully prepared on the test days it is essential that they have equipment ready (as outlined in “Student Instruction” document), that they are well rested by having a good night’s sleep, and that they eat a healthy breakfast and are well hydrated.

To assist with these preparations the school will be providing students with a breakfast (bacon and egg rolls, fruit, yoghurt and juice) on both test days. Students can attend the breakfast from 7:45am on the test days on the grassed area outside the auditorium.

Liz Atkins
Year 12 Coordinator

Thank You
Good Manners – the way to a person’s heart!

Call it old fashioned but the reality is that people with good manners are pleasant to be around. They too are more likely to be liked, more employable, and more likely to feel good about themselves. Good manners are about being courteous, polite and respecting others as well as yourself. When you use manners you are considering the feelings of other people, and being the kind of person that others will like and respect. The good thing about manners is they are contagious – what you do encourages others to do the same to you.

Here are some simple but useful tips for you to teach and demonstrate to your child (guaranteed to make parenting easier at the same time):

Be polite
- say hello (or good morning) and goodbye when you meet someone you know
- say ‘please’ and ‘thank you’ as often as possible
- say ‘excuse me’ if you need to interrupt or pass between people
- Always ask if you want to borrow something, and return it in good order
- Take your turn (or offer others to go first)

For older children - when answering the phone say hello and who you are, and ask how you can help the person

Be respectful
- Look after yours and others property
- Offer an older person (or a pregnant lady or a disabled person) your seat if they are standing
- Open a door to others (don’t push your way in first)
- Use nice language not bad language
- Always introduce a friend (this is…..) if you know 2 people don’t know each other
- Be aware of your noise level - avoid being loud in a public place – it’s not fair on others
- Be aware of your child’s behavior in public. Teach your child ‘rules when out in the community’ like keep your hands to yourself (not grabbing things off shelves); stay close; limit noise level; listen to and follow instructions
- Treat others kindly
- Be aware of others’ cultural ways (eg. spitting in public is not widely acceptable)
- Always be aware of others feelings and respect them

Having good manners not only makes you a pleasant person but will also make others want to be with you.
Remember Adults: our behavior is on display. If we want children to learn appropriate behavior we have to be the example they follow.

Adapted from ‘Kids Health Topics’ – Children, Youth and Women’s Health Service
Mackay State High School
Junior Secondary
Bringing Year 7 on board

Mackay SHS offers students a dynamic and exciting learning program, provides a safe, supportive and happy environment and a responsive transition program for students and families. Recent student outcomes include OP 1s, Australian Sporting selections, Gold Awards for Bands and outstanding results for Cattle Show team.

Mackay State High offers a safe and supportive school
We make you welcome with:
• Year Coordinators and Form Teachers providing daily personal support
• Senior buddies who visit Year 7 & 8 classes weekly and act as mentors and older friends
• Guidance Officer, Chaplain and School-based Health Nurse
• Head of Department for Junior Secondary
• Junior Secondary Leaders who play a vital role in communication with our younger classes
• Junior Secondary teachers
• Junior Secondary Deputy Principal
• High behaviour expectations including promotion of positive behaviours and student leadership
• Valuing a wide diversity of cultures

An engaging and comprehensive curriculum
Our staff team focus on high expectations, applying our quality teaching model, with strong relationships with students.
• A strong core curriculum in English, Math, Science and History
• Modern resources
• Great team of friendly and dedicated teachers
• Scholarship program from our P&C
• Large range of electives for all interests e.g. Agriculture, Manual Arts, Arts, Technology, Home Economics and programs to support those with Special Needs
• We cater for students of all abilities and individual needs, and promote "Pride in doing your best"

A fantastic range of extra-curricular opportunities
There is something for everyone!
• High quality Instrumental Music programs
• Sporting Academies
• Cattle Show team
• Year 7 and Year 8 Leadership camps
• Competitions such as Optimind, Rock Pop Minx, Debating, ICAS, Eisteddfod
• Community engagement

It starts at Primary School
Our transition program starts with visits and talks to State Schools, making close links with your child's teachers to share feedback on progress, strengths and needs. Our staff host an Information Evening, Open Day and, along with junior and senior students, actually visit schools and work with students and teachers in their classrooms.

Mackay SHS has a strong reputation for high academic standards and support of the wider community. We hope you will be part of this. Come along and enjoy our school!

mackayshs.eq.edu.au

DISTINCT IDENTITY | LEADERSHIP | QUALITY TEACHING | STUDENT WELLBEING | PARENT AND COMMUNITY | LOCAL DECISION MAKING
2014 intake of students in Mackay Engineering College

Would you like to be part of Mackay Engineering College? If you do and you would like to submit an application of enrolment simply go to http://mec.eq.edu.au (click on Enrolments tab - download the Application Form for Mackay Engineering College) (Website available from 30/8/13) Of see your Manual Arts Department and they will be able to issue you with an Enrolment Application Form.

Submit your completed application to the Head of Department – Industrial Technology and Design (Manual Arts) at your school by the 11th October 2013.

What does Mackay Engineering College offer?
- Certificate I Engineering
- Certificate II Manufacturing
- Mechanical & Fabrication Trades (in partnerships with other RTOs)
- School-based Apprenticeships/Traineeships (SATs)
- Coordination of Work Placements for our students
- Employability Skill Development

Mackay Engineering College is a facility developed for the five Education Queensland schools in the Mackay Region in partnership with Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), Universities and Industry Partners to provide entry level career pathways into the manufacturing and engineering industry.

If you require any further information about Mackay Engineering College please contact Frank Duthler (Head of Mackay Engineering College) on 0467705992 or Sylvia Warren (Business Manager Mackay Engineering College) on 0467702981 or 48950333. Or you can email your queries to Frank Duthler fduth3@eq.edu.au or Sylvia Warren swarr33@eq.edu.au.

THE HAUNTING OF DANIEL GARTRELL

Saturday 14 September 2013, 7.30pm
MECC Auditorium

Featuring Max Gillies and Samuel Johnson

A suburban hermit’s life unravels when confronted by his own dark secrets in this suspenseful drama. Audiences are sure to experience a journey that stretches their senses, hits their funny bone and delivers a poignant message for all.

Tickets $25 - $42
Pre-show dining available
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.