Principals Report

On Friday 25th October, school communities across the world recognise the passion, efforts and commitment of the teachers who work in our schools and across our community on World Teachers Day. The regular adage of the job being from 9am – 3pm 5 days a week, belies the huge amount of time taken to prepare the lesson programs for each session during every day, catering to the wide range of interests and abilities of the children in the classroom. It is expected that teachers have a good knowledge of every child in the classes that are taught and when the module of work is taught, it is necessary to complete assessment and provide verbal and often written feedback to individual students.

This does not include the huge amounts of time and commitment that goes into the extra-curricular tasks available to our students including practice and performance of our Instrumental Music, Sporting teams in many areas and different age divisions, Academic competitions, Debating, Cattle Show team and much, much more. As a parent of two young men, I certainly appreciate and extend special thanks to the many teachers and other school staff, who supported my wife and I to make them into the people they are today. “Thank you” seems such a small measure of appreciation, but it is often the best received. I sincerely thank every teacher on our staff for the efforts and passion they bring to work each day.

Congratulations to the students in our Instrumental Music group and the Choir who have excelled in their performances this year at the Mackay Eisteddfod. The Concert Band and Strings Ensemble were placed 2nd while the Stage Band from Mackay SHS was Highly Commended for their performance last week. The Combined School Concert Band comprising students from Year 8-12 from both Pioneer and Mackay State High Schools also performed extremely well being awarded the Overall Trophy for the most entertaining performance in the Open division. Congratulations to the students and the staff who gave countless hours in practice and preparation. I also congratulate the many students who also performed individually during the Eisteddfod.

As we move to the final Term, Awards Night approaches being held on Tuesday 29th October commencing at 7pm at the MECC. Invitations were issued to students who are receiving awards on the evening and I hope that we can get all of these students to attend and receive the recognition for their outstanding efforts throughout 2013 with family and friends present. Thanks are extended to Mrs Wall, Mr Skinner and Mr Brunetto who along with the Office staff and assistance from other staff, have organised the Awards Night program. Our guest speaker is Noel McBride who was School Captain of our proud school in 1971. A very successful and well attended Sports Awards night was held at Souths Leagues Club last Thursday evening. Congratulations to those awarded trophies and certificates.

Ms Donna Drinkwater has accepted an opportunity to take up the role of Acting Principal at Theodore SS, a Prep to 10 school in the south west of our region. Mr Skinner will be A/Deputy while Mr Little will be A/ HoD Junior Secondary, through to the end of 2013.
1:1 eLearning Program

Mackay State High School 2014 Years 9-12 students will again have the opportunity to study using technology through the 1:1 eLearning Program. For an investment of $200 per year, your student will receive:

- a school laptop to use at school and at home
- access to the latest educational and productivity software
- subject specific applications and digital resources
- on-site qualified technical help and support services
- connectivity through our high density wireless network
- Accidental Damage and Theft insurance (Excesses apply).

Parents/caregivers can choose to pay the $200 laptop fee for 2014 Year 9-12 students now or at the beginning of the school year in January 2014. By paying the fee early, students currently in the program can retain their laptops over the summer holidays and new students to the program can be assured of early placement in the program. The fee can be paid at the General Office in person, by credit card over the phone or direct debit (please phone General Office for payment details).

Early payment dates are:

Year 11 students - payment required by 11 November 2013
Year 10 students - payment required by 18 November 2013
Year 9 students - payment required by 25 November 2013

Further information about the 1:1 eLearning Program is available on our website.

Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

Mackay State High School students have always generously supported the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal through the Interact Club. Usually this has been through a Free Dress Day, however, this is not possible this year.

We would still like to provide students with the opportunity to support this very worthwhile Community Appeal. Students will have the opportunity to give a gold coin donation at a special parade on Friday 1 November.

During this parade the students will be able to enjoy a performance from Mackay State High School’s very successful eisteddfod’s competitors.

Mrs Ann Wall
Coordinator—Mackay SHS Interact Club
RACI CHEMISTRY QUIZ ACHIEVEMENTS

On the 25th July this year all senior chemistry students participated in the Royal Australian Chemical Institute’s National Chemistry Quiz. Over 114,216 students from 1726 schools from 17 countries took part in this year's Quiz - a truly international event in chemistry education.

There was 1641 year 12 students and 2012 year 11 students across Qld who participated.

A High Distinction was awarded to the top 10% of students in the state. A Distinction to the next 15% of students in the state (10% - 25%) and a Credit to the next 15% of students in the state (25% - 40%).

It is a pleasure to announce the following results:

Year 12
High Distinction: Samantha Plath
Distinction: Darcie Beckmann
Credit: Mark Bico
Bart Van Zuilen

Year 11
High Distinction: Aaron Glanville and Tye Routh
Credit: Phillip MacNaughton

Congratulations on a magnificent achievement!!

MACKAY WEST ROTARY CLUB

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Col Story Rotary Park (at the City Gates) on TWO big nights
Friday 26/10/13 and Saturday 26/10/13 commencing at 6pm
Come and join the festivities and support your local community Christmas Fair.
Geoff Morgan President 4955 1418 or 0403 272 889

Book Reminder

As the year is drawing to a close, we are looking for books. If you have any books at home that belong to the English Department please return ASAP. If you are in Year 12 and have not returned or paid for outstanding books you will not be able to purchase Formal Tickets !!!
Library staff developing skills

Over the last few weeks Library staff have had the opportunity to participate in Professional Development here in Mackay. Mercy College hosted a SCIS (Schools Catalogue Information Service) familiarisation workshop. This training allowed us to stop, think and become aware of the other possibilities open to us to further enhance student learning experiences. The biggest revelation has been that SCIS now catalogues websites and apps, and we can now add these cataloguing records and links to the school library catalogue. Below is a list of some sites and apps that parents may find useful.

Website and app reviews (From SCIS Connections Issue No. 87 Term 4 2013)

50 best apps for kids from 2013 that parents can trust


UK newspaper, The Guardian, has collated their top fifty apps for younger children. The engaging and entertaining apps are summarised and categorised by the subheadings: 'education', 'storytelling', 'creative' and 'playful'.

Cool math

www.coolmath.com

Billed as the most popular math's site in the world, the website contains a huge variety of appealing math's games and lessons. Parents and teachers are not left out and have their own sections detailing how to best utilise this resource.

LitPick

litpick.com

Young adult literature reviews are the focus of this website. The reviews are undertaken by young adults themselves, under the guidance of an adult sponsor (teacher, parent, librarian). Reviewers of hard copy books need to be based in the USA; students in other countries are able to review ebooks.

Last Wednesday a representative from ClickView visited the school from Sydney to conduct training in the use of Clickview 24-7 Cloud. This a TV recording service that allows us to go back in time (up to 14 days) and choose from thousands of TV programs that can be selected, edited and added to the school's Clickview library for use by teachers and students.

Geraldine Moylan, Mary Senini, Peter Crooke (Clickview) and Tracey Petitth
SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICESHIPS/TRAINEESHIPS AVAILABLE

- Brodon Mye from Novaskill has the following school based traineeships available for indigenous students currently in Year 10:
  - Business Administration
  - Fitness
  - Automotive Mechanical
  - Diesel Fitting
  - Media

FULL TIME POSITONS AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS

- Peabody Energy 2014 Apprenticeship Intake:
  - Coppabella – Apprentice Electrician
  - North Goonyella – Apprentice Diesel Fitter
- A local company situated at Paget is looking to employ a full time Business Administration Trainee to commence in 2014. See Mrs Dearden in P09 for details on how to apply.

- Benlee Concepts are seeking expressions of interest from senior students that are looking at obtaining a trade in carpentry. To apply you need to be committed to completing a four year trade (Certificate III in Carpentry) and be able to demonstrate your ability to learn and develop and not be afraid of a bit of hard work. A license is preferred. See Mrs Dearden in P09 for details.

- 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.

2014 CQ TAFE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

- Students in Year 10 who are interested in attending TAFE one day per week in 2014 as part of the school program. A copy of the Schools Program Guide listing the courses being offered in 2014 is available, please see Mrs Dearden in P09 Programs being offered in Mackay for 2014: Visual Arts; Retail Make-up and Skin Care; Fitness; Information, Digital Media & Technology; Early Childhood Education & Care; Aged Care; Health Services Assistance, Allied Health Assistance; Hospitality; Hospitality/Tourism; Retail; Sampling & Measurement; Warehousing Operations; Engineering; Electro technology;

MACKAY ENGINEERING COLLEGE 2014

- Students in Year 10 who are interested in being involved in the MEC program in 2014 can now apply. Applications are available online at www.mec.eq.edu.au please complete the forms and return to Mr Puddicombe in H Block staffroom. Applications for the 2014 MEC close on Friday the 25/10/2013

- gogettajob.com.au is a new job website aimed at 14 to 20 year olds. Check it out!
  It is new to the Mackay region but give it time and this will be an excellent tool for job seekers whether it be that you are looking for casual work while at school or for school leavers.

Mrs Andrea Dearden’s office is in P09
4957 9152
dear20@eq.edu.au
Vocational Education Training Co-ordinator

Mrs Sharon Barnard’s office is in P08
4957 9134
sbarn53@eq.edu.au
HOD Senior Schooling

THANKS TO BRUMBY’S SYDNEY STREET
FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF MACKAY STATE HIGH SCHOOL BREKKY CLUB
Sports Award Night
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.

Child and Adolescent Oral Health Services Mackay

(School Dental Service)

Victoria Park School Dental Clinic (Goldsmith St) is still offering dental services to students enrolled in year 8, 9 and 10, who have not yet been treated this year.

Parents can contact the clinic on 49514745 to arrange an appointment.

If the phone is unattended please leave details including your students name, DOB, and contact number.

For further information on this service, refer to website:

2 days with Lisa Carry

A Night with Lisa
Monday October 28, 6 to 8pm
Virgin Australia Airlines Motivational & Weight Loss Seminar
Pre-registration required visit www.oneroadtrip.com.au

Core & Try Session at Seaforth
Monday October 28, 6pm - 7.30pm
Seaforth Community Hall
Join a free fitness session thanks to Healthy Rural Communities Mackay.

Swim Workshop in Mureri
Tuesday October 29, 8.30 - 9.30am
Mureri Swim Centre
Tips to get the most out of swim sessions
Pre-registration required contact heg@mackay.qld.gov.au or 4961 9408.

Coach Carry gets Active in the City
Tuesday October 29, 5 - 6.30pm
Bluewater Quay
Lisa leads a open group session - everyone welcome, from beginners to advanced. Funds to Active in the City.

Global Grooves Festival

Sunday, October 27 from 9am to 8pm
Queens Park, Goldsmith Street
Celebrate 150 years of Australian South Sea Islander history!
- Delicious food from around the globe
- Dance to the incredible Latino band, Cali Sabor
- Performance by the Brisbane Babas Band
- Dance performances from around the world
- Filipino, Fijian & Cook Island village displays
- FREE lamp making workshops
- Diwali Festival of Light FIREWORKS display
To view the full program visit: www.festivalmackay.org.au

Social Media

Social Media for Parents, Beginners and Business

CQTAFE
TAFE Queensland
Queensland Government

iCommunity in Photo Competition

Use your mobile phone, iPad, iPod to take a photo of someone important in your local community.

$10 entry fee payable to your school chaplain or Northview State School.

“IT takes a village to raise a child”
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 Optimands, Rock Pop Minis, Debating, ICAS, Eistedfodd
- Community engagement

Junior Secondary Leaders

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