Principals Report

Setting Goals around the achievements each individual is seeking to realise, is important for everyone. Alternatively we can simply “float along” aimlessly and waste the many opportunities available. Whether you are a student in Year 8 or Year 12, a staff member or even a caring parent, it is important to know what you are seeking to achieve. Set these realistic goals and write them down so that they are real. Talk to a friend so that they can support you, but be true to your commitment.

ICAS Schools Competitions are convened by University of NSW for students from Year 5 – Year 12 across Australasia. Our school encourages many of our high performing students from Year 8 -12 to nominate for one or all of the tests to challenge their ability on unfamiliar problem solving situations. Mackay State High offers Science, English and Maths tests and even subsidises students who nominate. Usually each of these tests is $8.80 each, but students pay only $4 to compete against other students of the same age. I encourage your child to collect a form and nominate before the Easter vacation. Year 8 Scholarship winners are afforded free entry to these competitions, but must still complete a nomination form and submit.

Our Parents & Citizens Assoc held their first meeting for the year this week, however due to a delay with release of some Qld Treasury information, Audit reports were delayed. This means that our AGM will now be held on Monday 24 March commencing a little earlier at 7pm. Please come along and play an active part in this positive group of parents and staff.

One of our key targets for the 2014 school year is to improve our student attendance rate across all grades. Last year it slipped to a disappointing 83%, and we want to make this rate at least 90% for the first semester. Every student should be at school every school day, unless they are sick. If this is the case then please call the school and leave a message explaining all absences or send in a note. Please help your child to get the best chance to achieve their best results – Every Day Counts.

A large number of our Year 8 group will depart for our Annual Leadership Camp held at Lake Fairbairn outside Emerald. Those attending build their confidence in their own capacities as well as learning a great deal about other students. As well as the staff supporting the students, several of the Year 11 Buddies will also attend to further develop the relationships. The students have a very busy program during the day as well as activities into the evenings.

The Arts students in our school have a variety of opportunities in which to invest their high skills. The Instrumental practice and coaching is underway with quite a few new students joining the ensembles and bands. This year there is also early auditions for a School Musical which will be performed early in Term 3. All students who would like to be involved are encouraged to speak with Mr Neil or Ms De Brueys. Our P&C Assoc is intending on supporting our young performers with some developments inside our School Hall.

Our Year 12 students have the opportunity to be a part of the annual Mocktail dance at the MECC in early March. Tickets were allocated to all of the schools which have Year 12 students, and the students from all of these schools come together at the MECC for a wonderful evening together. Mrs Dell and several of the teachers will host a Year 8 disco at our School Hall on Tuesday 11 March. Students have received a letter explaining the arrangements and we hope that many of our Yr8s come along to be a part of the fun.
**DATE REMINDERS TERM 1 2014**

**March**
- Mon 3 ................. MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Tue 4 ....................... Yr 8 Leadership Camp
- Tue 4 ..................... MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Wed 5 ........................ Yr 8 Leadership Camp
- Wed 5 ..................... MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Thur 6 ........................ Yr 8 Leadership Camp
- Thur 6 ..................... MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Thur 6 ........................ Cap Volleyball
- Thur 6 ........................ Cap Hockey
- Thur 6 ........................ Cap Soccer
- Fri 7 ....................... Yr 8 Leadership Camp
- Fri 7 ..................... MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Mon 10 .................. MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Tue 11 ..................... MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Tue 11 ........................ Yr 8 Disco
- Wed 12 .................. MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Thur 13 ..................... MEC Yr 11 & 12 Work Experience
- Thur 13 ........................ Cap Squash
- Fri 14 ............................... Yr 12 Mocktail
- Tue 18 ............................... Yr 9 NAPLAN Practice
- Wed 19 ............................... Yr 9 NAPLAN Practice
- Wed 19 ............................... Yr 8 Immunisations
- Wed 19 .................. National Ride2school Day
- Wed 26 ......................... Yr 8 Parent Success Evening
- Wed 26 ............................... Super 8 Rugby League
- Thur 27 ............................... Yr 11 & 12 Block Exams
- Fri 28 ............................... Yr 11 & 12 Block Exams
- Mon 31 ............................... Yr 11 & 12 Block Exams

**April**
- Wed 2 ............................... Yr 10 Immunisations
- Fri 4 ............................... Term 1 ends
- Tue 22 ............................... Term 2 starts

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**Conveyance Allowance Assistance**

Conveyance Allowance is an assistance provided by the Department of Transport and Main Roads to eligible parents/guardians who drive their students to school or to the route of a school bus.

There are several types of Conveyance Allowance available. These are determined by the type of school attended, distance driven to school or bus route and the type of school bus service (if any) provided in your area.

Application forms with further details are available by calling into the Translink Division of the Department of Transport and Main Roads in Nelson Street, Mackay or by telephoning 4951 8673.

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**MSHS Class of 1994 - 20 Year Reunion**

Save the date of 7 June 2014 for the MSHS Class of 1994 - 20 Year Reunion at the Mackay Grande Suites. We are in contact with 150 students and teachers but there are more of you out there that we've lost contact with.

Please email sjhill@resultslegal.com.au so we can gather email or postal addresses for getting the invitation to you. If your name was different in 1994 or isn't obvious from your email address, please include it in the email.

Look forward to seeing you at the reunion.

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**Teacher Spotlight**

Mrs Helen Robinson  
Teaches Business Studies  
I have been at MSHS since 1998!!!  
My favourite TV show is “Downton Abbey”  
My favourite holiday destination is Hawaii.  
My favourite food is grilled chicken.  
My star sign is Taurus.  
My most embarrassing moment at school was coming last in the 100 metre Freestyle race.  
My fondest memory of school is meeting up with my friends.
At the end of last year Mr Alan Hayes of Fruition Tuition approached Mackay SHS about offering help to 2 students from Year 9 of 10 who had just arrived in Australia and who could benefit from extra support to improve their English skills.

Two Year 10 students Gerry Li and Jason Yin arrived in Australia from China in 2013. These boys were presented with a scholarship to pay for an hour’s tuition each week with Fruition Tuition.

On behalf of Gerry and Jason and their families and Mackay SHS, I would like to thank Mr Alan Hayes and Fruition Tuition for the generosity.

Mrs Ann Wall

On Friday 14 February five grade 12 students from Mackay State High School joined with high school students from across the region to attend the Constitutional Convention at the MECC. This year’s topic, ‘A Bill of Rights for Australia, constitutional, statutory or not at all’ was most interesting. Participants got to hear from a range of high profile guest speakers, including practicing legal experts and respected civic leaders. I am pleased to report that our young people didn’t pass up the opportunity to actively engage, question, debate and have their voices heard. Kobi-Lee Ramsamy was our schools speaker in the speeches round and put forward an excellent, articulate case in favour. If the calibre of the young men and women who represented Mackay State High School is any gauge, then we can be assured that the future of our democratic institutions is in good hands. As a community we can share in the pride of the fact that our students conducted themselves in an exemplary manner, were a credit to the school, their community and to young people in general.

Deputy Mayor Kevin Casey, Tye Routh, Jenny Goode, Brianna Nixon, Kobi-Lee Ramsamy, Cheyanne Twidale and teacher Mr Andrea Pozza.

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.

THANKS TO BRUMBY’S SYDNEY STREET FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF MACKAY STATE HIGH SCHOOL BREKKY CLUB
**SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE HAS RECENTLY CHANGED**

As from 1 January 2014 the Federal Government introduced the Child Dental Benefit Schedule. The Qld School Dental Service funding has now changed to accommodate this scheme. This will affect the way the School Dental Service operates.

For any queries please contact the School Dental Service on 49514241 North Mackay School Clinic or Victoria Park School Clinic 49514745.

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**A message from the office**

**Statements**

Welcome to 2014 it is great to see everyone again.

Statements for students’ outstanding accounts are being sent to parents and carers. If you have not received yours, please contact the office.

Are you aware you can have your Centrelink payments paid directly to the school to cover your student’s fees?

If you pay accounts through Direct Deposit to the schools bank account could you please include your **student's name** as reference for the payment.

Should you wish to query anything please either drop in, phone (4957 9179) or email admin@mackayshs.eq.edu.au.

The discount period for the Student Resource Scheme is the beginning of Term 2. There will be an additional $20 due if accounts remain unpaid.

Please contact Marg Brown in the office if you wish to discuss your payments.

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**Camp Eagle**

**Secondary Camp Eagle** is coming up on **May 1, 2, 3, 4**. It is open to all high school students through the Chaplains.

**Cost:**$40. **Registration Forms** are now available at the Chaplains Office E5. For enquiries about Camp Eagle and registrations contact Chaplain Phil Hall. 49579107 (W)

We camp in tents at the campsite (Camp Eagle Mountain Retreat), which is at Rowallan Scout Park. Some of the highlights are Survivor Day, Day trip to Finch Hatton Gorge, Saturday Night Challenge, Meet new friends, Cooking and eating, Camping in tents, Scenic drive, Bush walking, Small Groups, Campfire, Relaxing, Fishing, Games. Camp Eagle has been running since the year 2000.

Camp Eagle has four major goals it uses to build resilience and impact the students in positive ways. Fun activities to engage them, Relationships building with Leaders and peers, Chilling out the students using natural father & son type activities, and Introduce the Christian faith in a natural and non threatening way. Some students have not only found who they are, but it has helped them through the tough times.

Camp Eagle is a community program run on Christian values and is a joint venture of the Iona West Uniting Church, Mackay Schools Chaplaincy, and supported by the Churches of Mackay, Scouts, Rotary and community sponsors.
MACKEY LANGUAGE COLLEGE

Mackay Language College is looking for homestay families who live close to the CBD or have access to public transport to host international students. Homestay provides students the security of living with an Australian family and the chance to practice their English skills at home. Families are to provide a fully furnished bedroom and two meals a day in food, breakfast and dinner. Homestay is normally for a minimum of four weeks but may be longer depending on the student. Families will be paid $210 per week. If you are interested please contact Melissa on 4951 1300 or info@mlc.qld.edu.au for an application form.

**Mackay Schools Chaplaincy Annual General Meeting 2014**

**Mackay Baptist Church, corner Brisbane and Shakespeare Streets**

**7 pm Wednesday 12 March 2014**

The School Chaplain is an integral part of your child’s school and adds immense value and purpose to our students and the wider community. A school chaplain is a safe person for children to connect with at school, providing a listening ear, caring presence and a message of hope. Chaplains run positive, fun activities for children, both in and out of school, and foster a supportive, caring school community. Please consider joining us on the Mackay Schools Chaplaincy Committee. Your participation and support would be very helpful.

For more information please contact Cr Frank Gilbert 0427 530 775 or email gilbertfj@westnet.com.au

**LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!**

As Abraham Lincoln said “The best way to predict the future is to create it”

Volunteer to host an international high school student in February 2014 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Help determine the future resilience, diversity and global awareness of your children and family.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July 2014 for one term, one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scce aust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.

**Change of Contact/Address Details**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year Level</td>
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<td>New Address</td>
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<td>New Phone Number</td>
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Please detach and return the Administration Office.

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Respect / Consideration / Dedication / Pride
We would like to welcome our new Mackay State High School students to Mackay Engineering College and a welcome to our continuing Year 12 students for 2014.

What does Mackay Engineering College offer students:

- Certificate I Engineering
- Certificate II Manufacturing
- Work ready skills
- Resume Writing & Interview techniques
- Industry standard workshop
- Spacious training rooms
- Strong links with industry
- Transport to and from MEC
- Three blocks of 2 week work placements

How can you be part of Mackay Engineering College:

To find out if you are a suitable candidate give the school’s TRY TRADE program a go. This program focuses on providing the students with a trial of Fabrication, Mechanical and Electrical Trade experiences associated with the Manufacturing and Engineering Industry. Students are selected via an application process through the school. This program is held in term 3 and more information will be provided to students in term 2 or you can ask Joe Slack or Andrea Dearden or phone Mackay Engineering College on 48980333.

If you want to know more about Mackay Engineering College you can call Frank Duthler (Head of College) or Sylvia Warren (Business Services Manager) of Mackay Engineering College on 48980333 or Mr Joe Slack, Ms Andrea Dearden or Ms Sharon Barnard on 49579179.

Applications to enrol at Mackay Engineering College and the Try Trade program are on the website www.mec.eq.edu.au - Support & Resources – documents – Forms & Documents – Documents.
**Cowboys School Girl Challenge**

In 2013, The NRL & the Toyota Cowboys successfully hosted a Rugby League School Girl Challenge, a first of its kind up in North QLD, Townsville with a total of 30 teams. This time, it’s Mackay’s turn!

The NRL & the Toyota Cowboys are again calling for girls of all ages & abilities to test their Rugby League Skills against other schools across North and Central QLD. It is TACKLE not tag or touch.

First Aid & referees are provided on the day & depending on your location we may be able to assist your team prepare for the carnival with coaching sessions by NRL staff.

**Friday March 21st, 2014**

Venue: JRL GROUNDS, Casey Ave, Mackay

Games: 9:30am-2pm

Age Groups: Under 13’s, Under 15’s & Opens

Numbers/Field: 9 a side (up to 15 in a team) on a slightly modified field.

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**Hawks Softball Club Sign On Day – Games played Saturday’s from 12pm – Season starts mid-May**

**When:** 16th March 2014

**Time:** 2pm – 4pm

**Where:** Theo Hansen Park (Softball Fields) Beaconsfield Rd, Mackay.

**We offer the following grades**

- T-Ball/Under 12 (4+)
  - C Grade
  - B Grade
  - A Grade
  - Men’s

For more information please contact Cheryl 0428 182 248

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**SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICESHIPS/TRAINEESHIPS AVAILABLE**

Reece Plumbing at North Mackay has a school based traineeship available. The successful student will undertake a is a Certificate II in Warehousing Operations. The position would suit students interested in the Plumbing Trade as well as those looking for Retail opportunities.

Mrs Andrea Dearden’s Senior Phase Officer
P09
49 57 9152

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**Sizzler**

Now you’re talking
Nationally Accredited Hospitality Traineeships!

Sizzler Mackay
is looking for enthusiastic, fun-loving students to work & train in hospitality

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY!

1. Upload your resume to: www.clubtraining.com.au/hireme or email for: Heather@clubtraining.com.au
2. Visit: http://jobs.sizzler.com.au & complete a quick online application
3. Attend Speed Recruitment at Sizzler Mackay @ 4:30pm Monday 17th of March Bring your resume, parent & dress to impress
4. Sign Up Day To be announced once successful Sizzler Mackay Sign up - Induction - R & S

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE:**

Certificate III in Hospitality

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Respect / Consideration / Dedication / Pride