Hi Everyone,

**Sladie Singers lift the roof in recent performance:** Well what a spectacular evening last Monday night at the Entertainment Centre. The annual Coral festival featured over 600 students and music teachers from local schools performing in combined choirs to produce an inspiring performance to the sell-out crowd. Well down Mrs Miller and the Sladie Singers.

**School PBL Reward Day Term One:** This year we have started with an unusually short term of only nine weeks. Therefore we have decided to run our cut-off date for the 25 token Emerald Reward Games Extravaganza to the end of week one term two. This will allow the appropriate amount of weeks to achieve their first award for the year. Reward day has been set for Wednesday afternoon April 20th, the same day as cross country. The school Positive Behaviour For Learning Program relies on establishing and teaching our three school expectations. Children receive green tokens regularly for consistently demonstrating these three expectations. An administration data tracking tool allows token milestones of 25, 50, 75 and 100 tokens to be awarded throughout the year and celebrated at the end of each term. Special letters are sent to parents or carers inviting them to present the award on parade if available. Thank you to the many parents who have been able to make this important milestone.

**Writing competition – only 5 school days left to enter:** With our school improvement focus on writing this year I am encouraging the children to enter a fun writing competition on the internet. The writing competition is open to all students with free entry and no set topic. The children can write a poem or short story. The winning prize is a thousand dollars and is in several categories. To enter encourage your child to seek an entry form from the library. The final copy has to be typed and students can utilise the library computers at lunch if they so desire. The competition can also be done on line ‘www.write4fun.net’ but I would need to see a copy of your finished piece. Competition closes next week as we are on Easter vacation. Happy writing!

**End of Term Attendance Lunch:** With the end of the term coming I would like to remind the children that our Attendance Lunch is on the last Thursday and is by invitation only. If you have missed no more than three absences which includes late or early departure notes or whole days during the first term, then you will receive a special note early next week. Sporting representatives best wishes. Best of luck to our wonderful school representatives taking part in Cumberland sub-district trials in several sports this term and early next term. Thank you parents and teachers for providing our students with these important life opportunities.

Rod Finney  
Principal
CLEAN UP SCHOOLS DAY
The whole school participated in Clean Up Schools Day. The children donned their hats and gloves and picked up rubbish in their designated area. We were very happy to see that inside the school grounds the children’s efforts to keep our school grounds clean and tidy is working. However outside the school in our community needs more of an effort from everyone. The Year 4’s were seen on the Channel 7 News and we found nearly 10 kgs of rubbish around the perimeter of our school. The children were disgusted and when we looked at the types of rubbish most of the things that we found could have been recycled. So the message is PUT YOU RUBBISH IN THE BIN and try to RECYCLE MORE. Many thanks to the parents and teachers that helped the children to participate in this very worthwhile activity.

SCIENCE EXPERIMENT
The year 4 children participated in an Erosion Science Experiment this week. We walked to the beach to build our own sand castles. The children built some amazing structures with moats, sand banks and rocks to alter the course of the flow of the water. We found that we have some budding engineers, builders and planners in our school because they did such a good job that there was little or no effect of erosion on their sand castles. Well done 4A and thank you to the parents that helped out too!

STUDENT AWARDS
Nate, Bodie, Ryder, Kingston P, Kody, Vin, Anjelina, Chloe F

ATTENDANCE — ICE-BLOCKS
Week 7: 6A! Well Done!

COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1
∗ Monday Munchies — Monday 21st March
∗ Attendance Lunch — Thursday 24th March

YEAR 6 SHIRTS
We have ordered the Year 6 shirts and will arrive some time in Term 2. If you have only paid a deposit, please keep paying instalments. The shirts will not be given to the student unless we have received full payment.

THANKS—NIGHTOWL
Thank you for the continuous support for our breakfast program!

AMART ALLSPORTS
Thank you to all families who purchase goods at AMart Sports store and give our school their rewards points. Last year our school was able to purchase approx. $850 in sports equipment with this reward system. Thank You!

MONDAY MUNCHIES
Ham and Cheese pizza is on Monday 21st March.

CHAPLAIN NEWS
There is an interesting blog by Justin Coulson in this week’s Generation Next Newsletter. He conducts seminars for parents concerned about their children’s usage of gaming devices. I thought I would share some of it with you as there are some good tips in it.

‘At a recent seminar a concerned parent shared with me the following:

‘My son is actually scaring me. I can’t even talk to him about his gaming, or his school work or friends or anything, without him yelling. He’s so reactive and aggressive. I don’t know how to handle him.’

Rhyan had become angry, even violent, towards his parents whenever they suggested he switch off his computer games. He had begun playing Minecraft and, as he and his friends matured, he had progressed to WOW, and on to COD and GTAV. His parents did not approve but they gave in to his pleading and purchased each new game based on his promises that he would “keep the rules”. The promises were always short-lived.

Over the past decade our families have been swept up by a screen tsunami. Children and adults are walking around with screens in our bags and backpacks, our pockets, and our palms. We are always turned on, and neuroscientists are discovering that it is rewiring our brains – and the new neural connections are not functioning as well as the old ones.

One group that is particularly affected by the internet invasion is our sons. Games are overtaking many boys’ lives, impacting their health, their relationships, their academic experiences, their sleep, and more.

Is my son addicted? Absence of a clinical addiction diagnosis does not mean things are not serious. The behaviour is compulsive. It draws our children in. It hangs onto them. But it’s rarely an addiction.

To be continued in next week newsletter. Some good advice to think on.
Chappy Lyn

COMMUNITY NOTICES
2 CLEANING POSITIONS VACANT at Mackay Northern Beaches SHS
1 x 24 hours per week position & 1 x 18 hours per week position
Mackay Northern Beaches SHS has 2 permanent part-time cleaning position available:
• 1 x 24 hours per week
• 1 x 18 hours per week
The above positions will commence on Monday 11 April 2016.
Mackay Northern Beaches SHS is seeking cleaners who can:
• Contribute to the efficient & effective operation of the whole environment of this unique new school site, by providing a high level of cleaning support
• Ensure that a high standard of hygiene and cleanliness is maintained
Applicants are required to obtain a copy of the Application Package either from our website www.macknorthbeachesshs.eq.edu.au or the school office. The package will give you details about the positions, a Role Description, and how you can apply. Please include your current resume with your application and provide the names and contact details of two current referees.
Closing date: close of business on Friday 18/03/16
Applications can be returned, marked “Confidential” to:-
The Business Services Manager, PO Box 430, RURAL VIEW QLD 4740 or email - vacancies@macknorthbeachesshs.eq.edu.au
• prospective employees must make application for, and be able to obtain, a suitability card from the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian
• the successful applicant may be subject to a probationary period.
“The Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000 requires the preferred applicant to be subject to employment screening.” Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

FREE TRIPLE P—POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM
Ever wondered: ‘why does my teenager do that?’ Find out how to get more of the behaviour you like… and less of the behaviour you don’t like!
Free seminars. Book now on www.triplep-parenting.net