Hi Everyone,

New parent text messaging and attendance procedures started: Today was an exciting start to the day with our very use of the new roll marking and parent communication system. The State government has mandated all schools to have ‘same day parent messaging’ and daily attendance checks. This has been supported with a one off school grant to purchase a system called ID-Attend and Media messaging. This system is the same as Pioneer High and our cluster schools. I am asking all our parents to ensure your phone is charged daily and that phone credit is available to text/phone the absentee line. If you change your number can you please leave a message and new number on our absentee line 49657360. It is a very parent friendly system that high schools have been using for several years.

Before and after-school care ready for 2017: This week I formally signed the contract licence and we are waiting for confirmation through email before releasing the name of the company and set up arrangements. I anticipate this will happen within the next couple of weeks.

Hearing tests supported with FM systems in every classroom: This week new students and catch up students were tested for hearing loss. As you are aware we have identified many of our students suffer fluctuating hearing loss due to a cold or wax build up. Our FM systems amplify the teachers’ voice to a set 10 decibels above the background noise of the classroom creating increased learning. We were successful in a grant application in term 3 and this has enabled us to install the systems in every classroom. I have been told we are the only school in Mackay region at present with this operating, Pioneer High is looking to spend the thousands needed to install some units in their rooms. I was reminded yesterday by some colleagues what a wonderful addition this equipment is for our teaching programs and fortunate we are.

We are proud of our new and old partners in 2016 going into 2017: I wished to inform our school community of the new strategic partners that have joined with us in developing this good school into a great school! I welcome and look forward to the on-going relationship with the following businesses in 2017: Before, after–school care and vacation care; Cummins Mackay; Slade Point Medical Centre; ATSICHS Mackay; Woolworths Andergrove; Uniting Care; The Neighbourhood Watch Committee; The Meteors Basketball and Family and Child Services. We are also very grateful to our local businesses that continue to ensure our students have the very best curriculum offerings in the State.

Recent New Zealand earthquakes a tragic event: With the very recent earthquakes hitting the south island of New Zealand I am reminded of all the things I should be grateful for. To our school families that have had relatives affected by this phenomena, I send my sincerest best wishes for a positive and speedy recovery. I pray the land settles and the many lives directly or indirectly impacted can slowly begin to be rebuilt.

Coming up this term:

- Christmas concert Wednesday night 5.00pm on the 30th November
- Monday 5th of December 9am School Annual Awards Parade
- Year 6 Graduation dinner at Mackay Surf Club – 7th December
- Best wishes with your final pieces of assessments this Semester

Rod Finney
Principal
**STUDENT AWARDS**
Sebastian, Kaylia, Jayvhan, Skylar, Slater Q, Beau, Lara, Wolfe

**ATTENDANCE — ICE BLOCKS WINNERS**
6th Week: 3B! Well done!

**EMERALD AWARD**
Josh, Violette

**SAPPHIRE BADGE**
Jay-D, Requel, Maureen, Xander P, Cluade, Balen, Ethan M,

**SILVER BADGE**
Sophia

**GOLD BADGE**
Nate, Declan, Josh A, Kleo, Rubi, Ryder, Tayella

**COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 4**
- Year 5 student leader speeches — Wednesday 23rd November in the hall at 1:30pm
- Mackay North SHS & Pioneer SHS — Year 7—2017 Orientation Tuesday 29th November. Please arrive at either of those high schools by 8:30am to the hall area.
- Xmas Concert — Wednesday 30th November 5:30pm
- Year 6 lunch @ Sorbello’s — Friday 2nd December
- Awards Day — Monday 5th December
- Reports Cards/ Book lists — Tuesday 6th December 2:50pm
- Rewards Day — Wednesday 7th December
- Year 6 Dinner — Wednesday 7th December at the Surf Club 6:30pm
- Attendance Lunch — Thursday 8th December 10:45am hall

**EISTEDDFOD**
Thursday 17th November —
Instrumental Program Parent Interviews – 7.30 – 11.30am

**P&C NEWS**
- The P&C has voted to run a Uniform shop in 2017 that will be the exclusive supplier of a variety of clothing items to the school. A full clothing range pricelist will be made available later this term. 400 of the new design school shirts have been ordered for 2017. They are scheduled to arrive in January. We have allowed for 2 shirts per student in the first order. Please get your orders forms and payment in by November 30. For 2016 the P&C can only accept cash payments or funds transfer via Internet banking. We are investigating other payment options for 2017. For banking details please email spspsanddcsec@y7mail.com 2017 will be the transition year for uniforms and all student will be wearing the new design shirts by 2018.

**TEXT MESSAGE SERVICE**
Parents/ Guardians: We have a new text message service which has commenced yesterday. Please make sure your mobile numbers are up to date. If your student/s are absent from school and no phone call has been made to the absent line/office, you will receive a text message. Please reply to the text with students name and reason. Please save this number 0428 264742 for future reference, you may also send an SMS for an earlier absence.

The text message service will help us if your child/ren have no lunch, forgotten homework or is in sick bay. Please contact the school if you receive a message regarding one of these matters on 49657 333. Thanks Admin

**PREP ENROLMENTS 2017**
If your child is born between 1st July 2011 and 30th June 2012 they are ELIGIBLE FOR PREP CLASS IN 2017. Please call to the office for an enrolment pack.

**‘Stop the Thief’**
In recent months the Slade Point Community has been victim to a large number of property crimes that have been committed by opportunistic thieves. These person are targeting vehicles and houses that are left insecure. The ‘opportunistic thief’ will move from street to street testing car doors and windows/doors of a house to see if these are unlocked. Once they have found an unlocked house or car door/window, they will enter the car or house for a very brief amount of time and will take any items of value they find, mainly cash, phones, cigarettes and keys. The offenders for these crimes are hard to detect as they are not usually causing damage to ‘break in’ to the house or car, so they are often not seen or heard committing these offences.

I would like to encourage all residents in the Slade Point Community to actively take ownership of their property and their community by doing the following:
1. Look: Look at your property (house/car) as a thief would. What is not secured that they could take. What is lying around your property that they could use to help them gain entry to your house/car.
2. Remove: Keep valuables out of view or reach; Do not leave items of value on the front seat of the car, or in easy reach of an open window or front door of the house. Do not leave items like cigarettes/tobacco on a table in front of your house.
3. Lock: Even when you are home or out in the yard, lock the doors. Where possible, install a lock handle guard to your security screen. Lock garages and sheds. Always keep car windows and doors locked, even when they are parked at your home.
4. Listen and Call: If you see or hear any suspicious activity, call either of the following: - 131 444 (Policelink) for non-emergency - 1800 333 000 (Crimestoppers) to report information anonymously or online www.crimestoppers.com.au

Avoiding becoming a victim of these crimes may be as simple as making sure you lock the front door of your house or locking the car doors. ‘Lock It or Lose It’.

Senior Constable Matthew BIGGS
Slade Point Police Beat
Ph: 4955 2755

THANK YOU
Thank-you to Woolworths and Mrs Nicoll for the food donation to the Breakfast program.

**‘YR 6 DINNER NIGHT’**
Year 6 dinner is on Wednesday 7th December, Surf Club at the Harbour at 6:30pm.
Invitations have been sent out to students.
Cost: $25 per adult and $8 per student.
*Remember no siblings or other children will be attending.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**
Please come and bring your family to the Christmas concert Wednesday 30th November at 5:30pm - meet on the grass area near CGA.
Hot food and cold drinks available.
Please bring a blanket or chairs to sit on.
Students to wear free dress, otherwise advised by teachers.
Christmas shirts if possible.

THANK YOU