Hi Everyone,

School evacuation practice this week: Living in the tropics we often can be faced with the threat of Tsunami’s, flooding, land slips or movement and other external impacts such as bomb threats. As part of our Emergency Plans it is necessary to practice once a year a full school evacuation. Our two safe sites we have identified include Cathy Freeman Oval and the vacant land site opposite the Mobil Service Station which is situated high above sea level. I wanted to inform you so as not to alarm you and for the purposes of a practice school evacuation, this Thursday just before second break, we will be departing through the large school gates and the prep/one entry following the footpath beside the school down to the crossing entering onto Cathy Freeman Oval. I have advised the kindy kids for this practice to remain inside the school fence and walk to furthest Eastern point of the school oval.

ANZAC Day ceremony 2pm tomorrow: Parents and community members are invited to join us as we commemorate ANZAC Day in a moving ceremony. The children will begin to assemble at 2pm with the ceremony commencing at 2.15am this Friday the 22nd of April in the school hall. Please also remember to plan for Monday’s public holiday ANZAC Day march in town. I urge you to march along with us on Monday April 25th at the Sydney Street car park in town assembling around 8.15am. Parents of the older children from year four up are asked to march with us at the rear of the school line with the year 6 students. The younger parents are asked to walk alongside our prep to three students in formation. Student’s names will be recorded and certificates will be awarded for those children representing the school in this important ceremony. Please ensure your child has a hat (preferably maroon colour) and full school uniform. A small water bottle is also advised if the weather is hot and humid.

Annual Cross country held today: With fair conditions as opposed to yesterday’s rainy squall, the scene was set for an exhilarating afternoon of competitive running and healthy exercise. Each year the cross country is held for all students with the 10 years and older students possibly gaining selection in our school team to compete at the Cumberland event next Tuesday. Well done to all runners, some part-time walkers and parents for supporting this important event.

P&C Mother’s day stall coming soon with the fundraising raffle: Some wonderful parents led by Mrs Donnelly have commenced selling raffle tickets each morning at the tuckshop for the mother’s day prize. I attempted to lift the basket on Monday’s parade and struggled with the sheer weight of prizes. Thank you to local companies for supporting our P&C raffle. As well as this each year some generous parents co-ordinate the students Mother’s day gift stall. Children can bring up to $5 to purchase a gift for mum on the allotted days.

School writing around school: With our school improvement agenda focussed on writing this year, I encourage the students to bring me a piece of their work they are pleased with and want me to read. At times I choose one of the writing pieces and place it in the display mounts around the school like the outside hall wall and the end of the senior girl’s toilets. I encourage you to take a few minutes and enjoy their writing.

Apple for the Teacher competition continues: Zinc 101.9 radio station launched the Vote for My Favourite Teacher last week. There are great Apple prizes to be won. Voting has started through to Thursday 5th May. To vote go to the Zinc website mackay.radiozinc.com.au and put forward your favourite teacher.

Games Extravaganza 25 token PBL reward day tomorrow: Emerald Reward day for our 25 tokens awardees will be held this Friday, the 22nd April in the morning at 9.15am. Keep bringing in your green tokens to earn your next PBL award.

Sharp pencil every day, rubber and a ruler are your tools of the trade. Happy writing all.

Rod Finney
Principal
STUDENT AWARDS
Kazia, Requel, Rubi, Jermaine, Jade, Rizia, Kiara, Ebani

ATTENDANCE — ICE-BLOCK WINNERS
1st Week: 2A! Well done!

EMERALD AWARD 25 TOKENS CERTIFICATE—TERM 2
Reece, Mayhem, Rubi, Nasir, Faith, Belle, Ryder, Josh A, Kahlia, Kleo, Kingston B, Blake, Fynn, Nathan, Matildina, Slaters, Tayella, Ammy, Seth V, Maleek, Bodie P, Dante, James M, Chlo M

COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 2
• ANZAC DAY — Monday 25th April (no school)
• Labour Day — Monday 2nd May (no school)
• School Photos — Thursday 5th May
• Monday Munchies — Monday 9th May ham and cheese only
• NAPLAN — 10th, 11th, 12th May—Year 3 & 5 students only

BIKE EDUCATION — YEAR 4 STUDENTS ONLY
Permission/medical forms will have gone home. Bike Ed is on Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th June. Cost is $13.50 per student. The P&C will cover half of the cost per student. If you wish to hand in the medical forms and money, please put money inside an envelope with your child’s name/class/bike Ed into the box in the office.

RELAY FOR LIFE—TRIVIA NIGHT
CANCER COUNCIL
Due to unforeseen circumstances the Trivia Night has been cancelled.

ANZAC DAY
Participation notes have been sent home. Please fill out the cream coloured sheet indicating if your child/ren are going to participate in the ANZAC Day March on Monday 25th April with the school. Please return the notes to the office by Wednesday 20th April.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School Photo’s will be on Thursday 5th May. Envelopes will be sent home when we receive them. Please make sure your child/ren are in correct school uniform. NO SPORTS UNIFORM!

SWIMMING LESSONS—2016
Swimming Lessons for Prep—year 4 will start in Term 3 on Tuesday 23rd Aug for 8 weeks until Tuesday 25th October.

Payment $78: If you wish to start making payments, weekly/fortnightly please put money inside an envelope with your child’s name/class/swimming into the box in the office. A letter has been handed out to those students with all the details.

CHAPLAIN NEWS
This week on Parade we re-visited “Have You Filled a Bucket Today”. It is a very visual way for children to understand the effect of their behaviour on others and themselves. They were told that everyone has an invisible bucket that holds all the good feelings and good thoughts about yourself. Being kind to another person deposits good feelings and thoughts into their bucket but the great thing is that it also puts a deposit into your own. Over the next few weeks we will learn about bucket dippers who are not feeling good about themselves and will attempt to dip into your bucket. They mistakenly believe by being mean to someone they can make themselves feel better. Then the children will learn to have a lid on their bucket to protect the good feelings and thoughts they have about themselves so people can’t dip into their bucket.

Fun Friends with Prep/1 and Year 1/2 started this week with the main focus of this week getting to know that we are all different on the outside but on the inside people the world over are the same - they laugh, cry, smile and have the same feelings. The children were encouraged to look past the external differences and enjoy the variety we have in our School Community. They started practicing being brave by telling the class about their family.

P&C NEWS
MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE
Tickets are now available from the tuck shop for .50c a ticket.

ANZAC DAY CEREMONY
All welcome to attend our ANZAC Day ceremony at our school in the hall on Friday 22nd April at 2pm.

SPORTS DAY — 15th & 16th June
Sports Day field events 15th June 1/2 day: 800m, Discus, Long Jump, High Jump.
Sports Day 16th June: Families welcome! Beginning 8:30am - Sprints, 200m, Shot Put, Relays, Ballgames.

TWILIGHT CONCERT
Will be in the hall on Thursday 2nd June at 5:30pm.

P&C NEWS
E M I L Y / P H O N E N U M B E R S / A D D R E S S
Parents/ guardian: If you have changed your contact details, please inform the office ASAP. In case of an emergency we need to be able to contact you.