Hi Everyone,

HO HO HO, we wish you a merry Christmas: The words to the final song performed at our annual Christmas Concert reverberated across the night sky wishing you all a merry Christmas. I gave a talk to the P/1 class regarding this very thing yesterday and what Christmas means to me. I told them that receiving a gift is nice but the true meaning of Christmas is about bringing family and friends together. Last week’s concert did just that. From the blissful tones of our Sladey Singers through to the cleverly orchestrated exhilarating dance moves, the event should have left us with a feeling of festive cheer. This year we welcomed Slade Point Community through the involvement of the Neighbourhood Watch team putting on free ham and gift pack raffle draws throughout the night. Santa arrived handing out lollies and mixing with the children. The P&C Association which is made up of our parent volunteers, cooked all night providing very tasty healthy food. A special thanks to all my staff for your efforts leading up to and on the night particularly Ms Armstrong for coordinating the program along with Mrs Miller.

PBL parade message this week – best results since 2008: This being the second last PBL parade I congratulated all students and staff for the most successful year since National testing for literacy and numeracy commenced in 2008. We again won the Cumberland Cluster of schools Athletics Championship trophy for the 12th year in a row. We again won awards at the music Eisteddfod for choral singing and our strings orchestra is now larger than Andergrove, a school of over 350. Thank you parents for ensuring your child is at school every day and supporting them in all aspects of their education here at Slade Point School.

Community partnership with Slade Point Medical Centre in 2017: Last week, Mrs Bond and I met with Meaghan, the practice manager from our local school partner Slade Point Medical Centre. We discussed support programs and strategies unique to our school. Being the only school in Mackay with FM systems in every classroom, I wanted to further support our school and community with better access to health diagnosis, information and treatment. In order to engage in learning our students need their ears, eyes, speech and breathing all functioning to their highest potential.

School numbers slightly down on last year at this time: With only this week to go in 2016, I am busily trying to coordinate classes for 2017. We have given out many enrolment forms but have only received 13 in at this stage. We normally enrol between 30 to 40 children. I am hoping many more will roll in before the end of this year or when the school office opens on Monday the 16th of January 2017. Given the smaller numbers on the record at the moment, we will be staffing on one less class next year with 7 but hoping to be back at 8. At present some of our students are moving houses over the holidays and will be leaving us though a number of families have decided to make the short trip across each day and will be using the before/after school and vacation care starting next year in the hall. To those students departing we wish you and your family the very best for the future. You will be missed from our family school and I if you’re able to return someday, I will welcome you back with open arms.

Coming up this term:

- Reports cards can be collected by parents from the class teacher Tuesday 6th December
- Reward days on Wednesday the 7th December. Please have medical form returned!
- Year 6 Graduation dinner at Mackay Surf Club – Wednesday 7th December
- Attendance lunch Thursday 8th December
- Deadly Awards Thursday 8th December 2pm in the hall

Rod Finney
Principal
COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 4

• 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
• Last day of Term 4 — Friday 9th December

NO BREAKFAST PROGRAM / TUCKSHOP — FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER

This week, Tuck shop and Breakfast program will be only open on Wednesday and Thursday! Closed on the last day of school!

REWARDS DAY—GOLD BADGE

Students have received a medical form/ letter to attend to BG’s & Blue Water Lagoons who have reached 100 tokens last term and this term which is on Wednesday 7th December. Leaving school at 9am and returning by 2:15pm. The students are having one game of Ten-Pin Bowling and then off to the lagoons, pizza for lunch and a swim. Please return your medical forms to the office.

Any student who received a red card or suspension in Term 4 will not be able to attend rewards day!

AWARDS DAY 5.12.16

EBANI TAPIM AND DANIEL COLLINS RECEIVED THE HERLIHY BURSARY.

2017 SCHOOL CAPTAIN: SOPHIA MAU, SCHOOL VICE-CAPTAIN: LOCKE FORREST, SCHOOL VICE-CAPTAIN: BREE ATKINSON, SCHOOL CAPTAIN: LILLI IRELANDES

‘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: - 000 for an emergency - 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

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. School resumes on Monday 23rd January 2017. The office is open on Monday 16th January 2017 — the week before school starts. If you have any questions please phone 49657333 or come to the office. If you know of someone who needs to enrol their child/ren please let them know to come to the office in the week before school for enrolment forms.