Hi Everyone,

Easter Raffle needing your support: Due to the cancellation of our first Parent and Citizens Association fundraiser at Bunning’s last week because of the torrential rain, I am strongly encouraging the children to get behind our Easter Raffle. If you have a small item appropriate for an Easter Raffle prize basket, please have your son or daughter bring it into the office where we can pass it on to our fundraising chairperson, Marjory Maddon. With less total students than past years, the P&C budget has diminished considerably. The Easter Raffle is an excellent way of raising funds if well supported. All money raised across the year is used to benefit the learning of our students. This includes reward days, vital equipment and other beneficial learning programs like bike education.

I am reminded how kind the human spirit can be when volunteer parents put their hand up to take on Committee roles to support all of our students. Every school needs a productive positive hard working P&C to help in managing the school across the year. Thank you Michael McGrath, Requel Kentwell and Marjory Madden for taking on the four critical executive roles. Michael has accepted the position of Secretary as well as President until a new secretary comes forward.

Schools Annual Clean Up Day successful despite rain: I would like to congratulate Miss Armstrong, the parents, staff and most importantly the students for helping out on what was looking like a miserable day, turn out to be very successful. Miss Armstrong and the children featured on channel seven news spreading a powerful community message. With over 10 kg of waste collected the kids participated in a valuable learning experience identifying and sorting the articles into recyclable piles.

This Friday at 2pm, the year 5 and 6 students are hoping to clean up our park across the road and the mangrove foreshore nearest the school. Parents and community members are encouraged to come and join in. My tip, bring a hat, shoes, sunscreen and mossie repellent.

Writing competition – only two weeks left: Our school improvement focus this year is student writing. To encourage our students to write more I believe writing should be fun. Hence, I have found a writing competition open to all students with free entry and no set topic. The children can write a poem or short story. To enter encourage your child to seek an entry form from the library. First prize is a thousand dollars and other really cool prizes. The competition can also be done online 'www.write4fun.net' but I would need to see a copy of your finished piece. Competition closes in two weeks so happy writing.

Pounding rain cancels P&C first fundraiser: Unfortunately the heavy rains felt at the weekend meant Bunnings had to cancel our sausage sizzle P&C fundraising event. I would like to thank the staff, many parents and dedicated members of the association for putting their hand up to help out on the roster. We are hoping to have another chance late in the year.

School weekly attendance figures as ‘Every Day Counts’: Mr McDowall reported we were over our target of 50 total absences again last week. With the end of the term coming I would like to remind the children that our McDudge Attendance Lunch in the last week 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 a special note will be given to you early in the final week of term. Attendance Lunch is planned for the last day Thursday 24th March of term.

School PBL expectations: 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. A 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. Breaches of the PBL program are treated in accordance with our School Responsible Behaviour Plan For Students. It is the staff and my intention to always try and encourage students to recognise their inappropriate behaviour and improve. Yellow warning cards are first issued followed by an orange depending on the severity of the child’s actions. Major behaviours warrant a red card being issued. Three orange cards requires an afterschool detention and red card major behaviours can mean removal from class or suspension from school. School representation for sporting or cultural activities are governed by the PBL program and School camping and excursion policy. Any child receiving a red card, two or more orange cards in a relatively short time will not be allowed to represent the school. Recently I was asked to reconsider this policy and I reiterated that all schools have similar School Representative Policies supported by their school P&C Associations. I try to lead by example for your children and believe high standards make for a better citizen. Students like adults make mistakes from time to time and act inappropriately but it is how we learn from these mistakes that determines the impact we have caused. Your children deserve my understanding and compassion but they also deserve a leader that sets high expectations of learning in all areas. Positive learning to all.

Rod Finney
Principal
**STUDENT AWARDS**

James, Jasmine, Amiteal, Xander, Ernestine, Reon, Dylan, Jordyn

**ATTENDANCE — ICE-BLOCKS**

Week 6: 4A! Well Done!

**COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1**

* Brave hearts — Thursday 10th March Prep — Year 4.
* Choral Festival — Monday 14th March MECC
* Monday Munchies — Monday 21st March Notes home prior to this day. Ham & Cheese on this day only
* Rewards Day Emerald Award — Wednesday 23rd March
* Attendance Lunch — Thursday 24th March at 11:15am — notes will be sent home to who has reached 95% or more!

**CHORAL FESTIVAL—MUSIC**

**Sunday** March 13th (MECC) — 11.00 – 1.30pm

**Monday** March 14th — meet at school before 8am. Bus leaving at 8am.

**Concert** — Monday March 14th (MECC) — 7pm.

**BRAVEHEARTS**

Brave hearts “Ditto’s Keep Safe Adventure” will be here tomorrow Thursday 10th March in the hall for the following classes: Prep — Year 4.

**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, otherwise when the shirt arrives next term it will remain in the office until we have received full payment.

**PLAYGROUP**

Playgroup is every Wednesday 9am until 11am in B Block classroom downstairs. Children age from 0 – 5 are welcome to attend. Grab an enrolment form from the office or at arrival. Hopefully we will see you next week!

**SCHOOL BANKING**

School Banking is every Thursday. You can drop in your bank book any day before or on Thursday morning in the green box in the office. Any new customers would like an application form please come to the office to collect one or you can open up an account at the Commonwealth Bank.

**STUDENT ABSENCES**

It is an Education Qld requirement that all students are accounted for each and every school day.

If your child/ren is going to be absent for any reason for any part of the day you must notify the school. Please ring the student absent line on 49657 360. Admin will be contacting parents/caregivers daily after 9:30am if you haven’t contacted the office if your child/ren are absent. If you got a missed call, please write a note to the class teacher for the next day explaining why they were absent.

If your child has an unexplained absence you will receive an unexplained absence letter from your child, please complete the form and return it to the office. Thank-you Admin

**BRAKEFAST PROGRAM**

Breakfast club is in the hall every day from 8am—8:30am.

**ATTENDANCE LUNCH**

Invitations will be sent home soon for this term’s attendance lunch — Thursday 24th March in the hall at 11:15am

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to Night Owl at Slade Point for donations for our Breakfast program.

**CHAPLAIN NEWS**

Anxiety in children is an increasing phenomenon. The world is a complex place for children to navigate. A crowded School Curriculum, lots of time in front of TV and digital games and not enough time just having fun being kids and enjoying relaxed family activities are all contributors. Well-known author of parenting books, Michael Grose had some interesting points in his Parenting Ideas Newsletter.

“Macquarie University psychology lecturer Dr Carolyn Schniering has stated that anxiety problems are the most common emotional disorders that children experience. It’s important to understand that anxiety is not something to be afraid of. As Dr Schniering says, “it’s a normal emotion and an important part of how we engage with the world.”

Experiencing some anxiousness in new social situations or some specific situations such as around water is quite normal and, in some regards, healthy. It’s not healthy when anxiousness stops kids doing things they want or are able to do or interferes excessively with their school or pre-school experiences.

Some practices that are unhelpful for parenting anxious kids:

* Fixing kids’ problems.

Jumps in too soon only increases anxiety and doesn’t enable kids to build their capabilities.

* Allowing avoidance.

Letting kids escape new or fearful situations validates their fears.

* A ‘get over it’ attitude.

There’s a difference between “You can do this!” and “For goodness sake, get over it!” The latter often comes from parent impatience and stress.

If you are concerned about your child then please feel free to discuss this with their class teacher, Mr Finney, or our Guidance Officer or me. Any of us are only too happy to talk with you and help establish some strategies. 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