NEWSLETTER NO.7 – 11 March 2015

Principal Conference
I had an enjoyable two days in Brisbane at the Principal’s conference where the themes of learning together (part of our school motto) figured prominently along with ‘Every state school has a great school down the road’, which is too true! Unfortunately the week following the conference wasn’t as enjoyable as I spent time recovering from a bout of salmonella. I was not nearly as sick as some people were, but I have to say, food poisoning is not an enjoyable experience.

Stop, Drop & Go
There have been various complaints from parents regarding the use of the ‘stop, drop & go’ facility. Please observe the maximum 2 minute wait rule. I know it is painful to have to drive around the block, and holding up everyone in the line makes it painful for everyone else. Also, please keep the line moving – if there is a space ahead of you, please keep moving because again, it makes it less painful for all involved. Usually all children have left the school grounds by approx. 3:10 pm, so the time it takes to pick up is not unreasonable. Staff have been very conscientious about having the children ready to be picked up.

Learning
At this school, we strive for excellence and it can be seen in student behaviour and achievement. Students pursue their best in academic, vocational, cultural and sporting pursuits. Unfortunately some students do not have the opportunity to reach their full potential due to lack of attendance. Research shows a clear correlation between school attendance and achievement at school. Maximise your child’s potential and future opportunities by ensuring they attend school every day.
From the Principal cont.../

We believe that every lesson counts. That belief is tested every day, as we manage the competing demands of a busy and high performing school. We are making a concerted effort to ensure that students maximise their time in class and their focus on learning.

We are asking for your assistance. Please work with us to have your student attend every day and for every lesson unless they are medically unfit to do so.

You may be interested to know that under the Education (General Provisions) Act, there is an obligation to ensure that 'the child' attends school on every school day, for the education program in which the child is enrolled unless there is a ‘reasonable excuse’. The number of ‘reasonable excuses’ is quite limited. They include ‘the child is too ill to attend’; a child who is subject to a direction about a contagious disease; there is an application for enrolment pending or an arrangement has been made for the child for an apprenticeship.

We appreciate your assistance in making the most of the short time available for education.

Vocabulary
One of the major predictors of success (adult employment and relationships) is the amount of words/vocabulary children and adults have to express themselves. A good vocabulary will enable children to have their needs met by expressing themselves better and more explicitly. Teachers at Bucasia actively teach vocabulary and encourage children to attempt to say and spell great words. One great site for learning new words is: http://www.wordthink.com/ My word of the week is:

Ravenous
Ravenous (rav-en-ous) adj. 1. Extremely hungry; voracious. 2. Rapacious; predatory. 3. Greedy for gratification: “Ravenous for power.”

Have a great week,
Belinda Eckford

From the Office

From the Library
Book Club Issue 2 brochures have been distributed to teachers. The due date for orders and payment to be handed in to the school office is Friday, 13th March 2015.

Position Vacant
We currently have a cleaning position vacant within the school. The position would involve 30hrs a week with split shifts between the hours of 5am – 8am & 3pm – 8pm Monday – Friday. Please contact the office for an application package.

Life Education
The Life Education Van will be visiting our school from March 19th – March 25th. All students from Prep – Year 6 are invited to attend with the cost being $6 per child. Life Education motivates and empowers young people to make smart life choices for a healthy future. The Life Education Flyer with this newsletter outlines what each year level will be covering in their session.

Please return the permission form and money to the office by Friday the 13th of March.

Freaky Friday for Fridges
The student council is organising a free dress day on the 13th of March. Wear a freaky outfit to school and bring a gold coin donation to raise money to buy new classroom fridges.

Resource Fees
Resource fees are now due. Please hand them in to the office as soon as possible.

Japanese Excursion
Year 5 & 6 Japanese excursion money is due by March 10th. Please pay to the office as soon as possible.

School Sores
Please ensure all sores are covered as it appears there may be an outbreak of school sores happening. To reduce the risk of cross infection, covering is necessary.

Students of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students of the Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep B Mrs Becker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep C Mrs Clarke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep M Mrs McAuley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Z Miss Zaghoresos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1W Mrs Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ZS Miss Swettenham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2BG Mrs Berts &amp; Ms Goodes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&C Notices.

General Meeting
The next general meeting is being held on Wednesday 18 March 2015 at 6:30 pm in the school library. It was awesome to see so many faces at our last meeting and it would be great to see you all again. The P&C would like to invite any parents who have thought they might want to get involved to come and meet the committee and current members. Please feel free to call me, Stacie Forbes P&C President, on 0408181221.

Tuckshop News

Tuckshop Volunteers
Do you have three hours to spare – whether once a week, once a month or once a term, we want to hear from you! Our Tuckshop is now calling for volunteers to help out, so if you are available please see Marika in the tuckshop. And yes the tuckshop is air-conditioned for your comfort 😊
2K Ms Kirkpatrick | For being a ‘super speller’ and always trying your best. | Taryn

3AM Mrs Aldridge & Ms McLean | Trying extra hard with his behaviour this week – No yellow faces. | Dominic

3P Mrs Peltonen | For having an amazing attitude towards learning. | Dakota

4A Miss Armstrong | For working well on set tasks. Well done! | Dillon

4B Mr Brandon | For displaying excellence in her school work and classroom attitude | Mackenna

5S Mrs Stonys | For being a fantastic class member and always trying really hard every day. | Alex

5O Mr O’Hara | Fantastic effort in math, Well done! | Kate

6M Mrs Miller | For outstanding behaviour at school, you always follow the STAR rules! | Jacqulyn

6S Mr Stafford | For being a helpful student | Braydon

PE MR Hamilton-Smith | For great work in P.E | 6S

Music Ms Elliot | For excellent singing and ukulele playing. | 2K

Mackay Recreational Fishers Alliance Inc. in partnership with Tackle World Mackay will be conducting its 16th Annual FREE to the community TAKE A KID FISHING DAY at Shoal Point on Sunday the 8th of March 2015 commencing at 9 am. For further information please contact Russell Manley on 4942 6822 or Lance Murray 0411 550 684.

**Mackay Gymnastics Fun Day**

Come and have fun with Mackay Gymnastics ‘School Holiday Fun Days’

**When:** Wednesday 8th April, Friday 10th April Wednesday 15th April, Friday 17th April

**Time:** 9.30am-11.00am (1.5 hours)

**For:** Boys and girls aged 5 – 12 years (primary school age)

**Where:** at Mackay Gymnastics, Snow Wright Court, Beaconsfield

**Cost:** $16.50 per child, per session

**Bookings:** email admin@mackaygymnastics.org.au or phone 49420032

---

### Helping Hands Before and After School Care

**HELPING HANDS BUCASIA: YOUR OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE SERVICE**

**Quality Childcare** for your children

Located on school site Enrolment is FREE

Prep & Grade 1 pick-up and delivery to classrooms

Casual Bookings for **just in case** emergencies

Fun flexible program includes

- Outdoor and indoor activities daily
- Homework club
- Qualified Educators

For all enrolments, bookings or enquiries phone 0427 007 113.

### Community

**Piano Lessons**

A Registered Music Teacher who has been teaching for 34 years with the Australian and New Zealand Cultural Arts is offering piano lessons for all ages. All tuition books and music supplied free and exams are available in all categories of music. $18.00 per half hour for all families who are doing it tough. All ages are welcome.

Phone Jennifer on 4959 8279

**Take a Child Fishing Day**