NEWSLETTER NO.21 - 7th August 2013

Booms4schools.com.au
Please register at the website above so we have as many chances as possible to win one of three $5000 grants! PLUS the school with the highest number of registrations will win a massive pallet of stationary products.

Children playing on the fort after school
Please ensure your children are leaving school for home straight away. We have some children playing on the fort unsupervised and this is causing an issue for staff as we don't know whose parents are there or not. I have spoken to a number of parents about this issue, so please spread the news!

Every Day Counts
Every Day Counts is a statewide initiative that aims to assist in improving student attendance at school. It is designed to change parent, community and student attitudes and foster a shared commitment to improving school attendance.

Every Day Counts promotes four key messages:
- all children should be enrolled at school and attend on every school day
- schools should monitor, communicate and implement strategies to improve regular school attendance
- truanting can place a student in unsafe situations and impact on their future employability and life choices
- attendance at school is the responsibility of everyone in the community.

Research shows that higher rates of attendance at school are related to higher achievement. Please send your child every day they can be here for the whole of the term.

.../2
How to help your child learn
Create an environment that they will learn best in. Their study area should include an appropriate size desk with drawers, a chair that’s comfortable, and good lighting. It doesn’t necessarily have to be in the child’s room: try the living room, a nook, or the family room.

Work with your child to set up a homework time frame that matches his rhythm. After a post-school snack? Is it better to wait until after dinner? Keep the time free of other commitments and phone calls. Make it a family “study” time: read the newspaper while your child studies. Try to check finished work to show you care and offer your child the chance to ask you any questions.

Don’t do the kids’ homework for them. Teach them how to use the dictionary, the library, and find online resources rather than look up the question for them. It is much more beneficial for them to learn how to do the work on their own than have you fill in the blanks for them too quickly.

From the school library:
Our Bucasia State School Library catalogue is now available 24 hours a day through the following link: http://bucasias.smeweb.libcode.com.au/index.php?node=normal_0 This link also provides access to a range of online resources including e-books, book trailers and fun videos in the ‘Library News’ section. Currently, students are encouraged to read the CBCA shortlisted titles for 2013 and try the shortlisted book activities as we count down to Bookweek in week 7 of this term.

New QSchool app
You can now download the QSchools app and subscribe to receive the latest news from our school on your smart phone or tablet. QSchools is free and available from the iTunes store and Google Play.

Schoolwide Positive Behaviour
Our STAR rule for this week is in regard to:

Teamwork – everyone at the school needs to work together to solve problems. Using the ‘high 5’ to manage conflict and negotiating solutions to issues that arise between children is a necessary component to teamwork.

Principal Word of The Week
A great predictor of success in literacy, particularly reading, is a wide vocabulary. Most classes have instituted a ‘word of the week’ and to support this, I thought I also could have a word of the week. Many of these words will come from http://www.wordthink.com/ which focuses on words that can be used every day. My word of the week this week is:

Tempestuous

Tempestuous adj. Tumultuous; stormy. “A tempestuous relationship.” I have a tempestuous relationship with children who do not obey school rules!!!!

Another dictionary that I often use is the cobuild dictionary because it is very up to date with current idiom or words that become ‘the flavor of the month’. See below for the address:

Cobuild Dictionary website:
http://dictionary.reverso.net/english-cobuild/

Belinda Eckford
Principal

Head Lice

There have once again been many reported cases of head lice throughout the school recently. Please ensure that you check your child’s hair thoroughly and treat if necessary.

Next P&C Meeting
The next P&C meeting will be held Wednesday 14th August 2013 at 7.00pm in the school library. New members are always welcome.

School Disco
Come and join us on Thursday 22nd August for a fun filled afternoon of games and dancing! The P&C Disco will be held in the school hall in 2 sessions: Juniors (Prep-2’s) from 4pm to 5.30pm and then Seniors (Grades 3-6) from 5.30pm to 7pm. Entry is $2 at the door or $5 for a prepaid meal deal/entrance combo. As the Junior disco ends early, only a snack will be provided. Pizzas will be served to the Seniors at about 6pm.

To ensure your child’s safety please collect them from the door after their session ends. Prepaid order forms and money must be handed into the office by Tuesday 20th August. Parents are welcome to attend and if you are able to assist in any way on the evening please speak to Marika, Kerry or Sarah-Jane.

Safe Food Handling Course
The Food Safety / Food Handling training session will now be held on Monday 19th August in the school library (computer room) from 1pm-2.45pm. It will be presented by Mackay Regional Council and there is no charge. This is an interesting course for anyone who would like to assist with any barbecues or other food event for the school. You will receive valuable knowledge and also a Safe Food Handling certificate which can add to your resume to impress future employers. Please let Kerry Hapgood-Strickland know by the end of the day on 14th August if you would like to attend as she needs to give the lady presenting the course the attendance figures on the 12th.

As always, if you have any queries about any P&C matters please contact myself on 0428613248.
Have a great week. Sarah-Jane Thompson, President P&C

A Day With A Scientist

Students in Years 4-7 are invited to register for the Day With A Scientist program to be conducted at Andergrove State School, Mackay on Friday August 23, 2013, 9.30 a.m. till 2.30 p.m. This program provides a wonderful enrichment learning experience for students with an interest in science.

During the day, students will work in pairs on engaging, hands-on activities designed to accelerate their understanding, further arouse their curiosity, stimulate their imagination, and foster their creative-thinking and problem-solving abilities. In addition, they will experience scientific demonstrations and other multiple Intelligence exercises (e.g., science poetry and song) and complete peer reports. For further information about the program content, as well as testimonials, please visit www.ScienceTime.com.au and use the “Day With A Scientist” link. Cost is $38.50 (including GST) per student. The presenter is Dr Peter Eastwell, an experienced science educator and author.

Parents please note: book directly by emailing the name(s) of the student(s) wishing to attend, as well as the name of your school, to mackay@sciencetime.com.au (bookings will NOT be taken through your school office). If places are still available, you will receive a subsequent message to facilitate payment. Places need to be filled on a first-in basis, so in the event that no further places are available you will receive a message indicating this. Finally, any parents wishing to join us and help for all, or part, of the day will be most welcome.
Student of the Week – 1st August

Congratulations to the following students for achieving Student of the Week last week:

| Prep B | Mrs Bockey  | Julian Zawada | For the awesome effort you are making to focus on your activities in class. |
| Prep C | Mrs Clarke  | Dakota Jackson | For an awesome improvement in daily writing. |
| Yr 1/2S | Ms Smith    | Darin Day     | For an improved attitude towards his school work. |
| Yr 1S  | Ms Swettonham | Seth Jackson | For practising his sight words and getting more correct. |
| Yr 2L  | Miss Lorenz | Emiley Dunn   | For an awesome attitude towards her learning. |
| Yr 2/3B | Miss Benjamin & Mrs. Peitonen | Stirling Cagliaba | For his positive attitude towards his learning. |
| Yr 3O  | Mr O'Hara   | Novella Koch  | For a great introduction to her retell. Well done!! |
| Yr 3S  | Ms Swift    | Charlie Upton | For being a STAR student. You are amazing!! |
| Yr 4M  | Mrs Morgan  | Owen Mallman  | For putting in a huge amount of effort into your learning. |
| Yr 4/5B | Mr Brandon  | Reece Mills   | For working well in class and putting in a great effort into all classroom activities. |
| Yr 5/6B | Miss Brooks | Jack Semini   | For always having a keen interest in every subject and bringing enthusiasm to the classroom. |
| Yr 5/6 | Mr Stafford | Sean Puddicombe | For great diary writing. |
| Music  | Ms Elliott  | Dominique Robertson | For enthusiastic participation and excellent understanding of concepts in music lessons. |
| PE     | Ms Lloyd    | Ollie Lunn    | For outstanding performance at athletics. |

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Community Notices

Mackay Junior Rugby Union
Get ready for our 2013 Season!!!!!!!!!
Our 2013 Mackay Junior Rugby Union season kicks off on Friday 30th of August and will run for 10 weeks with a three weeks break over the September school holidays. We will send more details soon about the 2013 season in the coming weeks but it is worth noting in your diary that sign on is on 5pm til 6pm on 21st and 26th August at Quarry Hill.
You can contact the club at secretary.mjru@gmail.com and stay up to date with news on the 2013 season by liking us on Facebook, search ‘Mackay District Junior Rugby Union’, or visit our website for information about the club as well links to other rugby sites http://www.mackayjuniorrugby.com.au/

Northside Uniting Church Community Fair 2013
The Northside Uniting Church Annual Community Fair will be held in the church grounds (cnr. Bedford Road and Fleurs Way, Andergrove) on Saturday 10th August from 9:00a.m. – 1:00p.m. There will be a wonderful variety of stalls (Homemade Goodies, Craft, Wooden Toys, Plants & Produce...), plenty of fun for children (Train rides, Merry Go Round, Jumping Castle, Face Painting, Lucky Dips & other games), Interesting Competitions (Chocolate Cake Cooking Competition for adults and children, Scavenger Hunt), Displays by Community Groups ( Pioneer Valley Spinners, Antique Bottles / Silent Auction, celebrating Mackay’s South Sea Islander 150 years) and a full programme of Entertainment ( Mackay Pipe Band & Scottish Dancers, Starlet Royales Baton Twirlers, The Choir of Unheard Voices, Country & Western Club Band).

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P&C Disco Meal Deal order form - yellow

Pre-Prep Program 2013

Book one of the following dates and come along with your 2014 Prep child to meet our wonderful team of educators. You and your child will go on a tour of the school, listen to a story in the library, participate in some outside activities and eat lunch with the Prep children. Parents will be invited to join our P&C for an informal breakfast and morning tea while your child is eating lunch and having a play.
Friday 9/8/13 9.30am – 11am or;
Tuesday 3/9/2013 9.30am – 11am
(Parents are required to stay)

Or attend our Meet & Greet Afternoon on 19th September 2013 from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.
(Session for parents and prep children)

Call the office to secure your preferred day on 49697888 or email kcarv3@eq.edu.au.