NEWSLETTER NO.24 - 28th August 2013

Staffroom Makeover
Help us win a $20,000 staffroom makeover!
Thanks to QT Mutual Bank we have the chance to win a $20,000 staffroom makeover as part of their “Staffroom for Improvement” competition. The prize is a complete makeover of our school’s main staffroom and even better is the chance for individual voters to win one of five $1,000 QTMB bank accounts. The winning school will be the one with the most votes weighted against the number of students, so any school, small or large has an equal chance to win. We need as much support from our local school community as possible. Simply visit www.staffroomforimprovement.com.au to read the terms and conditions and register your interest today. The competition kicks off on 28 August so spread the word and get as many people as possible to vote for our school.
Please, please help us win this, I love winning grants and we have won so many for the school, it would be lovely to win one for the staff!

FOOTPATH FOR THE STOP, DROP, GO ZONE
We need a draftsman to draw up the footpath to council specifications as it will join the concrete council footpath. Is there anyone who knows anyone in the school community who can assist with this? I would be very appreciative and so would the parents of children who go home with wet and muddy footwear during the wet season.

STAFF CARPARK
Please talk with your children regarding entering and leaving the school via the staff carpark. The safety to students cannot be guaranteed and children need to leave via any of the six other gates in the school. Having the children in the staff carpark during high traffic times is always a risk. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

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. With this App you can access the latest school news and calendar events; receive emergency announcements and information around school closures; search for the nearest school by current location, postcode, school name or suburb and view school contact details; follow multiple schools.

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Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support
Our STAR rule for this week is in regard to: Safety – toilets – use appropriately; they are not a place to play, use them for what they are designed for, wash your hands well and then leave. This is a very real health issue as some children consider the toilets extended play areas.

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:

Rhetorical
Rhetorical [rhet-ə-rəl] adj. Of or relating to rhetoric. Characterized by language that is elaborate, pretentious, insincere, or intellectually vacuous. I bet many of your children have used rhetorical questions in their persuasive texts!

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/
Bellinda Eckford,
Principal

Fun Run
Dust off your running shoes because the school fun run is on next week, on Wednesday 4th September!! Everyone should have received a sponsorship form by now (if you haven’t there are spares in the office), so it’s time to start hassling the neighbours, the relatives, mum and dads work mates and friends!! Each participant will receive a certificate and be in the running for some great prizes. The money raised will go directly to the school for things such as equipment for PE or resources for the library and for classrooms.

Library Notices

Overdue Notices
Students who receive “Overdue” notices are asked to return listed books to the library as soon as possible. Occasionally the scanner for the library computerized sign-out/check-in does not scan the barcode properly, and a student’s returned books does not check-in. In the event that a student receives an overdue notice for a book he/she knows has been returned, please notify the teacher-librarian. Lost or damaged books need to be replaced. A book of equal value and content may be donated, or replacement cost may be paid. In the event of a book remaining overdue for a period of eight weeks or more, students will be placed on a ‘restricted borrower’ list whereby they will only be given access to a borrowed book in class time (i.e. silent reading).

Book Coverers
We need some volunteers to cover books in the library. This is to extend the life span of our books for your children. If you can help please see Sue Drew in the library.

P&C Notices

Father’s Day Volunteers
Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who have given up their time so far for the father’s day stall, whether wrapping or offering their time this Friday. Orders have to be in by tomorrow morning at 9am – NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE

TAKEN ON THE DAY. We would also like to thank those who have donated gift wrap, curling ribbon and sticky tape.

Next P&C Meeting will be held Wednesday 11th September 2013 at 7.00pm in the school library. New members are always welcome.

School Disco
All we can say is WOW. What a wonderful event thank you so much students, teachers, and parents for all of your participation. We even had some high school student pitch in and help out on the night which was great to see. If you haven’t heard about illuminated water by now – where have you been? We did not expect to sell out so quickly, but do not fret, we are in the process of ordering more for our next function so be on the lookout.

Northern Beaches Community Day – Sunday 1st September.
We still need volunteers for this between 11am and 2pm down at the Northern Beaches Community Day on Bucasia Esplanade. We are only asking for an hour of your time and we do realise that this is Father’s Day, but if we all share the load then we will all get to enjoy the day. This stall will be for supervision of children only, both for the making of fairy bread and the giant games tent. There is no cooking at our stall. There is a volunteer roster on our P&C noticeboard in the office that you can put your name and phone number on.

Election Day Barbeque – Saturday 7th September
For those of you who love the smell of cooking onions and sausages on a hot barbeque, then this event is for you. This will be held at the front of the school. Once again we are only requesting an hour of your time, so if you are available between 7.30am and 6.30pm please put your name down on the volunteer roster on the P&C noticeboard in the office. We are requesting that the volunteers for this come from the non-senior parents of the school please.

Seniors Bunnings Barbeque – Sunday 8th September
The senior students are holding a barbeque at Bunnings Warehouse Mackay to raise funds for their graduation this year. So, parents of the senior student who are available to offer their time please see Lauren Brooks for more details if you have not already.

Tuckshop Menu
An updated Tuckshop Menu is enclosed with this newsletter (Green). There are now hamburgers available every day, as well as a hamburger meal deal on Wednesdays.

On a personal note – I would like to wish a very Happy 4th Birthday to my daughter Rayne-Elizabeth today 😊. If you have any queries about any P&C matters please contact myself on 0429613249. Have a great week. Sarah-Jane Thompson, President P&C

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 chat and morning tea while your child is eating lunch and having a play.

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 kcarrv3@eq.edu.au.
Congratulations to the following students for achieving Student of the Week last week:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep B Mrs Decke</th>
<th>Taryn</th>
<th>For creating excellent growing patterns. Oh! And don't forget your outstanding behaviour too, which makes teaching you a total pleasure!</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep C Mrs Clarke</td>
<td>Jeremy</td>
<td>For being an enthusiastic learner. We love having you in our class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 1/2S Ms Smith</td>
<td>Dale and Emma</td>
<td>For wowing Miss Smith with your improved reading skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 1S Ms Swettenham</td>
<td>Leon</td>
<td>For an excellent job at reading time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 2L Miss Lorenz</td>
<td>Blake</td>
<td>For fantastic writing this week! Keep up the awesome work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2/3P Mrs. Peltonen</td>
<td>2/3P On excurs - no student of the week</td>
<td>For his great improvement in reading. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 30 Mr O'Hara</td>
<td>Charlie</td>
<td>For following instructions and being an awesome listener! Fantastic effort!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3S Ms Swift</td>
<td>Luke</td>
<td>For your amazing efforts this week. Keep it up! You are a Super Star!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 4M Mrs Morgan &amp; Mrs Wicks</td>
<td>Cameron</td>
<td>For working hard in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4/5B Mr Brandon</td>
<td>Clara</td>
<td>For attitude: for trying your best in English this week. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6B Miss Brooks</td>
<td>Calvin</td>
<td>Working hard on reading cards.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6 Mr Stafford</td>
<td>Colby</td>
<td>For excellent recall of activities completed in previous music lessons.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Ms Elliott</td>
<td>Bailey (1S)</td>
<td>For trying her hardest and giving her best in PE.</td>
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Helping Hands

Helping Hands Bucasia Outside School Hours Care – Your child’s “home away from home”. Helping Hands Bucasia offers a quality childcare service for the families in the local school community. The service is located on school site and is operating out of the school hall. Opening hours are: Before School Care 6:30am – 8:50am, After School Care 3:00pm – 6:00pm, Vacation Care 6:30am – 6:00pm. We currently have vacancies for Before & After School Care and Vacation Care. For more information, enrolments and bookings contact Amy on 0427 007 113.

Community Notices

Elume Surf Life Saving Club
Get a group of your friends together or join by yourself! 1st Sign On Day @ Memorial Pool, Sunday 15 September, 9am-12noon. 2nd Sign On Day, Sunday 29 September, 9am-12noon @ Elume SLSC. Please bring a parent along! If you can’t attend on either day but would still like to join, please ring the club on 49696680.

Mackay Oz Tag Summer Comp
Sign ups are now on for the Jnr, Mixed, Mens and Overs 30's. The games will be played on Wednesday afternoons at Abbot Park, Souths, starting on 4th September. If you would like to join up contact Mel on 0419177654 or email mackay@oztag.com. You can also find more info on the website www.mackayoztag.com.

Applications for Enrolment and Scholarships
Applications for enrolments for 2014, for yrs 7, 8 & 9 need to be submitted by 13th September. Do applications for scholarships. For more info please phone 48421333 or visit the website www.macknorthbeaches.eq.edu.au.

Opti-Minds

The Opti-Minds Team (M&M's) from Bucasia State School travelled to Whitsunday Anglican School on Sunday 25th August to compete in an extreme Language Literature challenge. The team had to act out the solution for the challenge, and performed extremely well. They did a spontaneous challenge and scored highest for hit, and also scored highest for the challenge. They got 1st place and they are going to represent the region in the State Finals to be held in Brisbane at the University of QLD. They will be doing a number of fundraisers to provide the money for accommodation and airfares. For example – Jellybean Jar/M&M Jar (guess how many), a Raffle (at the school on election day, a Free Dress Day, and at the Northern Beaches Community Day. They will accept any other donations!! Please support them. Congratulations guys!!