NEWSLETTER NO.33 - 20th November 2013

Next Week
This is a very busy time of year with students beginning to think about next year. Next week we will have prep students for next year visiting and we will also have year 6 students visiting MNBSHS, their future school. This is a very exciting time for both groups and it a time of celebration as well. I am looking forward to meeting our new preps and I know our year 6 students will make us very proud as they represent Bucasia State School next week.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
Although it is our policy to request that parents make an appointment for a parent/teacher interview on a needs basis, we also offer formal parent/teacher interviews. Please, make an appointment with the classroom teacher if you have any concerns regarding your child at school.

Prep 2014
If you know any parents with children who are of an age to attend prep next year, could you please encourage them to come and see us? We need as many concrete numbers as we can get for resourcing for 2014. I would also like to extend thanks to the parents who assisted with the Prep mornings so far – they have been an absolute pleasure with so many able helpers.

Stop Drop & Go
Thank you to the parents who are working together to make the Stop, Drop & Go Zone as efficient as possible. Yesterday, the zone was empty by 3:10! There were still kids waiting for a little while longer – and that's okay, the key thing was the children almost all left via the small gate and got into the cars at the end closest to the hall making for quicker and easier movement. I did have to keep checking that children were watching for their parent's car – and I will continue to do so. If parents could have a little chat too, that would be wonderful.

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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.
- 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
- available to download free via the Apple iTunes store and Google Play

Please consider using this app so you are able to receive the school newsletter, alerts (when we have set them up) and check out our website. It would be best to download the app when you are connected to wireless.

Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support
Our STAR rule for this week is in regard to: Attitude – staying on track/task, do your best. This is very important at this time of year when everyone is starting to get tired and irritable. I am very happy to be able to report to parents that the majority of students I see in the classrooms are certainly focussed on doing the tasks that they are asked to do. This is a credit to you, to them and to their teachers.

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:

Trepidation
Trepidation n. A feeling of fear or agitation about something that may or may not actually happen. “He entered the cave with considerable trepidation.” I would hope that none of the children in this school have any trepidation about being here! I would hope they look forward to each day with excitement and curiosity.

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

Belinda Eckford, Principal

P&C Notices

P & C News
Tonight’s P & C Meeting is on at 7pm in school library. New members are always welcome. This will be our second last meeting for the year. Our final meeting will be on Wednesday 4th December at Northern Beaches Bowls Club.

Preprep Playdate
The next playdate is scheduled for November 26th so if you have a child destined for prep next year please contact the office to reserve your place.

Barbeques
On Saturday 16th November Caltex Rural View held a Sausage sizzle, car window washing and raffles. I was informed that all proceeds were going to our school – I was misinformed. The day was to raise funds for all three schools (Bucasia, Eimeo Road and Mackay Northern Beaches State High School). I apologise for the confusion. I would like to thank everyone who helped out, by either donating time or actually supporting them by buying a raffle ticket or sausage. We would like to thank Caltex for holding this event to raise funds for our schools.

Barbeques coming up
Please keep the following day free and help out if you can. Only an hour of your weekend is requested as this is an all day event. This will benefit our school so please help if possible.

Saturday 30th November – Bunnings Warehouse – Sausage sizzle. Proceeds go to air-conditioning our school tuckshop. A schedule will be put up in the office for people to nominate an hour of their weekend where they would like to help out by selling or cooking sausages.

School Banking
Just reminding the parents who students do not yet have commonwealth school bank accounts – it is never too late to sign up. www.commbank.com.au/youthsaver is the link for you to get more information about school banking, and even the parents who do utilise the service offered by the school can use this link.

School Uniform Second Hand shop
If your student has had a growth spurt and you need a new uniform all items of clothing are $5 and we always accept uniform donations. We just ask they be in good clean condition please.

As always please do not hesitate to contact me or any P & C member with any enquiries or concerns you may have. Have a great week. Sarah-Jane Thompson 0429613249.

Pre-Prep Program 2013

Book one of the following dates and come along with your 2014 Prep child to orientate them to our wonderful school.

Ready for Prep Play Dates:-
Tuesday 26th November

Pre-Prep Orientation Classroom Visits:-
Monday 25th November 9.30am-11.30am
Thursday 28th November 9.30am – 11.30am

You can register for any of the above at the school office. Please pass this information on to anyone that you know that may have a child starting Prep next year.

Student of the Week – 13th November

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

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<tr>
<th>Prep B</th>
<th>Cassie and Maddison</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Becker</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep C</td>
<td>Luka and Swaran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Clarke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 1/2S</td>
<td>Dillon</td>
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<td>Ms Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 1S</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
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<td>Ms Swettenham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 2L</td>
<td>Lily</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Lorenzo</td>
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<td>Yr 2/3P</td>
<td>Sophie</td>
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<td>Mrs. Peltonen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 3O</td>
<td>Isabella</td>
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<td>Mr O’Hara</td>
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Salvation Army Christmas Cheer
With Christmas fast approaching The Mackay Salvation Army has already begun collecting food and gifts for the many families in need. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please remember we accept all non-perishable food, no alcohol or chocolate, and all food must be in date. Lots of people give toys but please don’t forget that these families need food as well. These donations can be dropped off at 48 Gregory Street. The smallest donation can mean so much to someone who really needs it. For more details please phone our office on (07) 4957 3576.

REMINDER TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS
Queensland Transport Bus Travel Assistance Application Forms for students commencing Year 7 in 2014 are required to be sent back to Mackay Transit Coaches by 06 December 2013. Enquiries please phone 49573330.

Early bird $190 each or attend both for $350 if registered and paid by 31st July 2013 thereafter $220 each or both $400.

For more information please phone (07) 4957 3576.