NEWSLETTER NO.22 - 14th August 2013

Changes to staffing
First of all, my apologies for not having this in the newsletter last week. Affected classes, students and parents were notified. Congratulations to Ms Benjamin who has taken the opportunity to act as deputy principal at Marian State School. Thank you to Mrs Peltonen who has undertaken the challenge of full time work and providing continuity for the 2/3 class. Thank you to Mrs Morgan who has taken the opportunity to act as head of curriculum at our school and thank you to Mrs Wicks (who is almost a permanent staff member) for working with year 4. Mrs Wicks is well known to the students and will also provide continuity for the class.

Travelling safely to school
There have been some incidents reported to me regarding students not checking for traffic or dismounting from their bike when crossing Mackay Bucasia Road, and also riding without their helmets done up. Could parents please have a safety chat with their children regarding these things? As I have stated on parade, we do need our children alive and well for learning, not squished!

Moderation
As part of teacher professional development, teachers in schools in our locality (Eimeo Road, Beaconsfield, Andergrove & Slade Point) met and moderated students’ writing in their year levels. From my conversations with teachers today I am very pleased to hear that they are ‘walking on air’ regarding our students performance. Our children are producing work of an extremely high standard and our teachers are feeling very validated about how they are teaching and how the students are learning. I would like to say congratulations to our teachers and our students for their outstanding commitment to teaching and learning – it is wonderful to be hearing such positive feedback!

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.

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How to help your child learn - Family mood and outlook
Your child’s mood affects how well they learn. A positive outlook is the best thing you can inspire in your children to keep them performing well at school and willing to tackle their homework. Computer and TV screens can tire some children out cognitively and visually, so limit viewing and computer time to certain times every day to keep your child free for homework.

Tuckshop Menu
The menu is on the website under the forms and documents tab – I haven’t worked out how to include it in a new page yet! I will endeavour to work that out in the near future.

Books4schools.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.

Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support
Our STAR rule for this week is in regard to: Attitude – Be prepared for learning by having a drink and going to the toilet before class time commences. Losing 10 minutes of learning each day will equal 50 minutes a week and that equals 33 hours a year! This is a lot of time that is wasted and is impossible to regain.

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: 

Dexterous
Dexterous adj. Skillful in the use of the hands. Having mental skill or adroitness; clever. Done with dexterity. “A dexterous wood craftsman.” I am being constantly amazed at how dexterous the children are becoming with their handwriting.

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

P&C Notices

Next P&C Meeting will be held tonight, 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/dance 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 Marike, Kerry or Sarah-Jane.

Safe Food Handling Course
This will be held on Monday 19th August in the school library (computer room) from 1pm-2.45pm.

Father’s Day Stall
The Father’s Day Stall will be held on Friday 30th August. More information will be in next week’s newsletter.

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 kcarv3@eq.edu.au.

Library Notice

The latest Book Club catalogues have been issued. Any orders and money are due back to school by Friday 23rd August. Thank you. Sue Drew, Teacher Librarian

Music News

On Thursday 1st August, students from years five and six travelled to the Central Queensland University to watch a live performance by Conservatorium of Music students of the musical “42nd Street”. The students had been discussing musical theatre and viewing examples from movies in music lessons for several weeks. Seeing a live stage performance, complete with orchestra, tap dancing, costumes, singing and acting, was a wonderful experience for all of the students. The students enjoyed the excursion, and comments from students afterwards included awesome; unbelievable; I will never forget it; enjoyable; exhilarating; wonderful show. Many thanks to the P & C for contributing to the cost of the bus trip.

Jeany Elliott Classroom Music teacher

Position Vacant

Administrative Officer (AO2)
Permanent Part Time Position
(18 hours per week plus ADO)
Bucasia State School

Applications are sought for the above position. To apply please get an Application Package from the school office, and address the selection criteria specified. Submit your completed selection criteria and a current CV to address provided. The closing date for applications is 3pm Wednesday 26th August 2013.

Completed applications are to be submitted to:-
The Business Services Manager
PO Box 59
Rural View QLD 4740
Or email to kcarv3@eq.edu.au
Congratulations to the following students for achieving Student of the Week last week:

| Prep B  | Prep C  | Yr 1/2S  | Yr 1S  | Yr 2L  | Yr 2/3B Miss Benjamin & Mrs. Pettonen | Yr 30 Mr O’Hara | Yr 3S Ms Swift | Yr 4M Mrs Morgan | Yr 4/5B Mr Brandon | Yr 5/6B Miss Brooks | Yr 5/6 Mr Stafford | Music Ms Elliott | PE Ms Lloyd |
|---------|---------|----------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| Mrs Becker | Mrs Clarke | Ms Smith | Ms Sweeneyham | Miss Lorenz | The whole of 2/3BP!! | Bohde Norton | Jade Bounden | Dane Robertson | Jacquiynn Winnocott | Daniel Walton | Katie Turnbull | Aayyan Akhtar | Hayden Drabsch |
| Lily-Grace Haycraft | Jaxon Jones | Warreisha Akhtar | Rylan Smith | Ruby Tomarra | For being awesome learners and making it enjoyable to teach you all. Keep being confident!! | For always being a positive role model!! | For always having an amazing attitude. You are a STAR!! | For your amazing efforts in maths. It is great to see you improving. You rock!! | For working well in class, assisting those around her, and having a positive attitude. | You are on fire in English this week! You really know your verbs and adverbs! | For always being ready to work. | For showing excellent understanding of musical concepts. | For speedy football play. | For excellent attitude and effort in PE. |

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

Gargett State School Cent Sale
This will be held on Sunday 25th August at the West Leagues Club. The doors will open at 12noon with the Cent Sale commencing at 1pm. There will be raffles, prizes and free tea and coffee. Come along for some great family fun. All proceeds will go towards the 2014 School Centenary.

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 28th 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 as links to other rugby sites http://www.mackayjunior.rugbynet.com.au/

EXPERIENCE A NEW CULTURE, MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE AT HOME

In January 2014 students from over 20 countries around the world, will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 2-10 months.

Opportunities exist for families to host a host family, in a voluntary capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia Call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student