On Tuesday 21 April, Year 5 and 6 students visited the 100 Years of ANZAC Display at the Mackay Showgrounds. Students were fascinated by the many stories and thousands of items on display including photos, letters, medallions, personal articles, weapons, vintage cars and other war memorabilia. The students got to experience a recreation of a WW1 trench similar to those used by the ANZACS and viewed a life-size example of a soldier and horse from the Australian Light Horse Brigade. The students were particularly interested in the military vehicles and the range of weaponry on show. The opportunity to view such a thorough collection of war memorabilia, no doubt enhanced students’ knowledge and appreciation of Australia’s involvement in past wars.
PRINCIPAL’S NEWS
Week 2 Term 2 2015

“They gave their tomorrows for our today”

Thank you
This year marked 100 years since the landing at Gallipoli during the First World War. The accompanying illustration explains why we celebrate ANZAC Day more than any words can.

Our school was invited to take part in the Australian War Memorial Commemorative Crosses project. This has involved writing a message of thanks or hope on a wooden commemorative cross. Our cross was then assigned to one of 70 Queensland high school students who will witness the historic ANZAC Day centenary commemoration and visit the Western Front battlefields in France and Belgium. Each student was assigned a soldier and they will place a cross on the grave or memorial sites of that fallen Australian soldier whilst on the tour.

The person who will represent our school and who will place the cross on our behalf is Rhiannon Hassets of Wavell State High School. She is in Year 12. Rhiannon will be commemorating our service person on Tuesday 28th April. Photos of our cross along with a poppy and Australian flag placed on the grave or memorial will be available for viewing for two days after on the following sites:

The Premier’s Anzac Prize website http://www.education.qld.gov.au/students/grants/scholarships/anzac/index.html

The Australian War Memorial Commemorative Crosses Flickr site https://www.flickr.com/photos/australianwarmemorial/sets/72157644424267093/

The service person we have adopted is:

Private Thomas West

Gallipoli, Lone Pine Memorial, Panel Reference: 39

Our annual school ANZAC ceremony was well attended by parents, carers and family members last Friday morning. Unfortunately Mr Alan Thompson who has been our guest speaker for the past 28 consecutive parades was unable to attend due to ill health. We wish him a speedy recovery.

―Lest we forget‖ is the aim of our school’s ceremony. Ensuring that the sacrifices of the past and present generations of Service men and women are not forgotten and to remind us all of the values that are held sacred in the Australian society.

Victoria Park had a strong representation of students, staff and family members participate in this year’s Mackay ANZAC Parade. Mrs Milles and the school’s Recorder Band lead our students throughout the parade. Our school captains Charlotte Odger and Colby Thredgate laid a wreath on behalf of the school during the ceremony.

I would like to extend my appreciation to all parents, carers, staff and students for your support in attending and participating in these two important events.

Wayne Butler Regional Director of Education Retires

Last Friday Central Queensland Regional Director Wayne Butler announced his retirement from Education Queensland after some 41 years of service. Many families past and present will remember that Wayne was Principal of Victoria Park State School before being appointed to the position of Regional Director. Wayne was appointed Principal of Victoria Park SS in 1995. One of Wayne’s projects was the amalgamation of the Victoria Park Infants and State Schools which not only required the physical relocation of students and staff but also the provision new buildings.

Wayne saw social justice as a major issue for students and he worked tirelessly to ensure all students were able to access all educational opportunities no matter their background or family circumstance.

In Wayne’s message to the region he states “When you do something you like and believe in, it doesn’t really feel like work and that’s the way it has been for me. I will miss my interactions with all of you, the children, the office staff, teachers and principals in schools and I wish everyone success with your continued work. Our schools do some incredible work for children and I hope you celebrate your success with them as you strive to improve.”

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy) - Tuesday 12 May to Thursday 14 May

This year’s NAPLAN assessments for students in Year 3 and Year 5 are fast approaching. Over three days students will be assessed in reading comprehension, spelling, punctuation and grammar, writing skills in either a narrative or persuasive text type and numeracy.

Parents who would like to withdraw their child for one or more of these assessments for religious or philosophical reasons are welcomed to contact Mr Shepherd to request a withdrawal.

Term 2 Staffing Changes

Mr Greg Klessie (3B) has taken leave for the remainder of this year and Mrs Kathy Douglas (4A) has relinquished her position due to health reasons. Ms Ashley Cox will be teaching the Year 3B class for the remainder of the year and Mrs Deborah Popham will teach the 4A class for the remainder of this semester.

National Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Dear parents/carers,
Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability.

All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability.

All Australian schools participate in this annual data collection.

The data provided to the Australian Government is aggregated data only. Please be reassured that the Department will not provide on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

● number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;

● level of adjustments we provide for those students; and

broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you.

While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, please let me know.

Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:


Mackay’s Under 8’s Celebration – Morning in the Park

When: Saturday 16th May 2015
Where: Queens Park, Goldsmith Street, Mackay
Time: 9.30am to 11.30am
Who: Children 0 to 8 years and their families
Bring hats, water, and food for morning tea as there will be NO food stalls at the park.
Contact details: 0417191463 - linda.vella@dete.qld.gov.au
LET’S LOOK AT MATHS!
Kristi Elworthy, Emma Goodman-Jones, Nicola Edmonds, Leonie Knuth, Michelle Hansen and Faye Boys went to Oonoonba State School in Townsville to be part of the YuMi Deadly Maths North Queensland Cluster group. YuMi Maths is a Research Centre within the QUT Faculty of Education. YuMi Deadly Maths is an approach to teaching maths (not a text book) and works around the RAMR cycle - REALITY, ABSTRACTION, MATHS and REFLECTION. The presenters focused on sharing activities that allow students to use their bodies, hands and minds to explore and practice a concept before focusing on the formal mathematics. This approach to teaching maths is fun, inclusive and empowering. YuMi Maths aims to empower teachers and students to improve mathematics learning to enhance employment and life chances of all students but in particular Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and low Socio-Economic Status students.

Three areas of maths were the focus, Measurement (Capacity, mass, length, perimeter, area, time and angle), Statistics and Probability and Geometry (Projective and topology (visualising), coordinates and graphing, Flip, Slide and Turn, 2D and 3D shapes). All activities that were presented catered for early, middle and later years and our teachers have come back ready to share their new knowledge with everyone and to implement the strategies into teaching maths in the classroom.

### Fractions at home – the concept of fractions can be a difficult one for students to understand. The home environment is the perfect place to discuss and model fractions in the context of real life.

A chocolate block is a fabulous motivator and the rows and columns are useful in the discussion of fractions (and multiplication arrays). Count throws (for example 10 rows). You would eat 1/10 of the chocolate bar if you ate one row. Ask，“How many rows would be ½ of the chocolate bar?” Then discuss that the same quantity could also be shown as 5/10. Look at the individual squares. There may be 40 squares. If you eat one square you would have eaten 1/40 of the chocolate bar. Discuss how the ‘unit’ or the ‘whole’ of the fraction can alter. In the first example the ‘whole’ amount was the 10 rows. In the second example the whole amount was 40 squares.

Pizzas can also be used to discuss fractions. We can find all of the ways we can EQUALLY divide the pizza into slices. If the pizza has 12 slices and you need to have one slice for 14 people, discuss how that fractional amount is 14/12 or in other words ane whole pizza (that has been cut into 12 equal slices) and 2/12 of the second pizza – improper fractions converted to mixed number fractions.

As well as the measurement aspects such as millilitres and litres that can be discussed at home when milk is poured from a bottle or used in a measuring jug in cooking, don’t forget the fraction implications. Your child can estimate what fraction of the jug is filled – it could be approximately ½ full or maybe ¼ full. Discuss how you divide the whole amount (i.e. the whole amount the jug can hold or its capacity) into equal parts to determine the fraction that is filled or unfilled.

Fractions of a collection is an important idea also to build with children. In the previous example the whole was one item, however when we talk in terms of collections, the whole is the individual items that make up a group. Grab a handful of smarties, there may be 2 red, 3 blue, 5 green. This is a perfect opportunity to demonstrate 2/10 being red, 3/10 being blue and 5/10 (or ½) being green. If 2/10 are red, what fraction of the collection must be not red? In this example it is easier for children to see the important connection between fractions and division and the inverse of multiplication. Divide the smarties into groups of 4. You have now divided the collection into quarters.

We talk in fractions a great deal – we say we are half finished something, or we are halfway across the room. We may say we are 50% sure or 100% certain. We talk about 50 – 50 and use other words with connotations to non-standard fractions – bit, smidgen, chunk, part and piece. Fractions are all around the home and the home can definitely help with a child’s real life understanding of where fractions fit into our world.

Are you a glass half full or a glass half empty person?
In this photo Mr Bromiley’s Year 5 class are exploring the circumference of a circle and its relationship with the diameter of a circle using paper to measure and then showing that on a line graph with the paper. Year 5 have also been creating different shapes using 12 squares.

In the photo below Ms Knuth’s Year 3 class have been learning about different views of an object. One student asked if the view from the bottom up was an ‘ants view’!!! Using real life concepts to learn is working.

OLD MCDONALD’S FARM DAY
Preps and Year Ones were fortunate to have a visit from Old MacDonald’s farm on Wednesday 22nd April. The children had the opportunity to interact with some baby farm animals. They were able to hold some chickens, feed some goats and sheep with special food mix and also bottle feed a goat or two! The animals and children all had a great time!

Rule of the Week: (Week 2)
Be a Learner in the Classroom.
- Do you work to the best of your ability.
- Submit assignment tasks on due date.
- Complete homework

Social Skill of the Week: (Week 3)
Asking for help
- Look at the person
- Ask the person if he or she has time to help you (now or later)
- Clearly describe the problem or what type of help you need.
- Thank the person for helping you.
Following these simple steps may also help you at home.
Give them a go today.

Rule of the Week: (Week 3)
Be Respectful in the Classroom.
- Use your manners when talking to peers, teachers and other adults in the school grounds.
- Respect others right to learn.

Social Skill of the Week (Week 3)
Following Written Instruction

Silver Gotcha Award Winners
are students who have received 24 Gotcha Cards during the year for following the 4 school rules. The students also receive a silver certificate on parade to recognise their achievements.

Having a great start to the term and receiving their Silver Certificates are:

2A Caitlyn & Dyson
3C Alex & Mischa

Bronze Gotcha Card Winners
are students who have received 12 Gotcha Cards during the year for following the 4 school rules. The students also receive a Bronze certificate on parade to recognise their achievements.

The following students received a Bronze Award in Wk 1 & Wk 2. Well done.

2A Nevaeh, Ally
3A Raiden & Billy
3B Matt, Brooke, Kaylani, Taylah, Cooper, Noah
3C Alex, Mischa, Brenden, Hamish, Lani, Darby
4C Jack, Charlotte, Zara, Sora
6A Kaitlyn, Tamika, Riley, Destiny
2015 Whitsunday Voices Youth Literature Festival Short Story Competition
Years 3 and 4: 300 – 400 words – 1st Prize - $70.00, 2nd Prize - $30.00 book voucher
Years 5 and 6: 300 – 500 words – 1st Prize - $80.00, 2nd Prize - $50.00 book voucher

- Word-processed on one side of paper – 1.5 spacing
- Stapled and attached to an entry form (see Mrs Arnold for entry forms)
- Within the set word requirements (please put a word count at the end of the story)
- No identifying details (such as the entrant’s name and school) on the story itself (included only on the entry form).

The winners will be announced at the Whitsunday Voices Festival Launch on Wednesday 15th July, 2015. The full list of winners and their short stories will also be published on the Whitsunday Voices website. Entrants will receive confirmation via email of the receipt of their entries. The closing date for the competition is 3pm on Friday 22nd May, 2015. All entries must be received by this date to be considered for judging.

If you have any questions about this competition please email me at larno21@eq.edu.au.

Mrs Lea ARNOLD (Literacy Coach)

Recently students have excelled in sports selections in Mackay. Our students who we would like to congratulate are:
- Denzel Bobongie - Southern Suburbs Soccer
- Will Morgan
- Casey Manzelmann
- Lorna Edwards
- Keeley Paskins
- Tasma Levitz

All for selections in the Southern Suburbs Cross Country

Tasma Levitz - Mackay Netball
Shanita Whirisky - Mackay Touch Football

We wish you all the best in future selections.

COMPETITION TIME
As you may be aware we have been in the process of making improvements to our tuckshop over the past 6 months and the food has been homemade and fresh. We would now like to do a makeover on the front of the tuckshop. We are on the search for a Funky new name for our Tuckshop and we would like it to be call something other than a tuckshop and we would like it related to the school Mascot Sid the Pig. For example Sid’s Canteen, Sid’s Munch out. The winner will receive a Tuckshop Voucher as their prize. ENTRIES CLOSE on Friday 19th June (week 9 of Term 2). The winner will be announced on Monday 22nd June on Parade. Good Luck and we can’t wait to see your original ideas.

VOLUNTEERS Needed in the following areas:
- Tuckshop - Tuesday to Friday
- Uniform Shop - Monday, Wednesday & Friday
- Garden Club (Every Day) 10.50 to 11.20am
- Cent Sale Helpers
- Food & Wine Day Stall
- Sports Day Food Stall
- Garden Party School Birthday Afternoon

If you would like to be involved please contact Tania our P&C volunteer coordinator on 0418151484 or email t.debrincat@gmail.com to go onto the Volunteer Register. Any help is appreciated and we encourage all parents to help out as little or as much as you can or would like.