Congratulations to all Mackay and District Ensemble groups who performed at Fanfare last Tuesday 10th June. Congratulations to Victoria Park String Ensemble for being awarded the most outstanding primary ensemble in Central Region. Many thanks also to the dedicated staff at North Mackay High School for hosting the event. Best overall CQ Region Primary School Ensemble: Victoria Park State School String Orchestra, Mackay (Gold award). Photo below.
Thanks to those ensembles who participated and for the support of everyone involved.
Warm regards
Jill
Jillian Green
Instrumental Music / Music Coordinator
Mackay
Central Region

It is imperative that students are NOT on school premises until AFTER 8am.
There is NO supervision on campus and it is parent’s or guardian’s responsibility to arrange before school care if you cannot stay with your child before school begins at 8:30am.
This is a SAFETY ISSUE
Thank you.

Attendance Cup winners this week were:- 2C

Attendance Cup winners last week were:- 5C

Gotcha card total for the fortnight: 177
Total for the year so far: 3037
PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

Only a couple of sleeps to go until Friday, the last day of school for Term 2. It only seems like yesterday that we began the term with our focus on what was planned for students to learn across the school’s curriculum.

Term 2 contained a number of significant events including
- NAPLAN tests which came and went by the end of week 4
- Our Interhouse Athletics saw many athletes perform to their personal best over many events with Neptune making a clean sweep of both the Junior and Senior trophies
- Our school’s String and Concert Band Ensembles were recognised for their performances receiving Gold and Bronze awards respectively. The great news was that the String Ensemble was judged to be the Most Outstanding Primary Ensemble in the Central Queensland Region. (That’s a Personal Best & something to brag about)
- Under 8s Day “Everyone can play” was a celebration of hands on learning through play
- Sophie Dinsdale received the Runner’s up prize for her entry into the Whitsunday Voices Short Story

Term 3 is looking like another busy term of learning with some major events throughout the term including the Year 6&7 Sydney Canberra trip, Year 5 camp to The Caves at Rockhampton, our School Concert and NAIDOC Week.

Congratulations to all our students on a Semester of productive learning and engagement in school life. The holidays are a time to rest, relax and recharge for an exciting and busy term 3.

Farewell

Ms Sally Willcox will be transferring from Victoria Park SS at the end of this term for family reasons. Sally has been with our school for a short period of 6 months. I know the children in Sally’s class are very fond of her and have progressed well in their learning with Sally. I wish to personally thank Sally for her commitment to the children of her class and the school and wish her and her family all the best for their future. Mrs Elizabeth Doyle, who is well known to the Prep/1 class, will be teaching the students for the remainder of this year from the beginning of Term 3.

Semester 1 Report Cards

On Friday 27 June students will receive their Semester 1 Report Card. Sitting with your child and reading through the comments will reinforce with them the value you place on their learning. Acknowledging improvements/gains in academic learning, industry/effort and behaviour is invaluable. Identify and discuss with your child one or two goals you will support them to achieve by the end of the year. An individual attendance report will be attached to each student’s report card informing you of your child’s attendance % compared with the cohort (Year Level) attendance % and our school’s attendance target of 95%. Every Day Counts! Non-attendance adversely impacts on a child’s learning. (Improved attendance maybe the goal you and your child identify for Semester 2.)

Fanfare 2014

Congratulations to both our Senior Strings Ensemble and our Senior Concert Band on their performances at the recent Fanfare 2014. Fanfare is the state-wide, biennial festival for bands and orchestras in Queensland State Schools. Both ensembles were awarded Silver Awards for their stellar performances in each section. Well done to you all. A huge thank you must go to Mr Matt Johnston (Concert Band), Mrs Susan Mora (String) and Mrs Jenny Milles for the many hours spent in preparation for the event. Thank you too, to all parents and family members who are “instrumental” in our success at events like this.

Everyone’s got a Bottom

Everyone’s got a bottom is a storybook for children aged 3 - 8 years. It is the result of collaboration between Family Planning Queensland, writer Tess Rowley, illustrator Jodi Edwards and experts from the early childhood and child protection sectors. It is a tool for teachers, parents and carers to gently start a conversation with children about self-protection. We all have bodies and we all want to keep them safe. Everyone's got a bottom is a picture book story about Ben and his brother and sister learning and talking together about bodies. It’s about children keeping safe in a style that is fun, positive and protective. Proper anatomical names are used throughout the story, and although this sometimes can be confronting for parents, it enables children to identify which areas of their bodies are actually their “private parts”. Children are taught that the wrong kind of touching is not okay. Children are taught that they shouldn’t agree to keep secrets about the wrong kind of touching and to tell a trusted adult – all done on a level that young children can identify with and understand.

“Everyone has private parts. Emma has a vulva and a vagina. Jack and I have a penis and testicles. These are our private parts. We have other private parts too. We all have nipples. And everyone’s got a bottom. “Bottoms are to sit on,” laughed Jack.” (Excerpt from Everyone’s got a bottom page 15)

As part of student wellbeing and the child safety curriculum the book Everyone’s got a bottom may be utilised by teachers. If you have any concerns about this book please talk to your child’s teacher or contact the school guidance officer.

Use it or lose it

The end of semester holidays are only a few days away and while two weeks may only seem a short period of time I would like to emphasise the importance of maintaining your child’s literacy, numeracy and thinking skills. Without practicing the skills and knowledge gained over the past semester will begin to fade from the long term memory. The skills necessary before reading and writing are the development of oral language skills including listening skills. While reading is a great skill to practise over the holidays, so is oral language. ‘Rich Talking’ with your children develops this oral language: discussing places you go, activities you participate in or even how you spend your day. Children retelling their day allow them to sequence events, use description and elaborate with details. Asking questions will encourage your children to develop more complex language skills. Great oral language skills will always further develop reading and writing skills, at any age. How can you help your child to maintain their learning? Have them practice their reading, always challenging their thinking with “why?” questions, set them projects at home that require them to plan, be hands on and to use their problem solving skills. Maintaining and servicing their bicycle, planning for a trip away or a sleepover or building a garden bed. All of these require children to apply their knowledge and skills. By talking through their plans with them, you will be helping your child to apply their learning and skills in practical, real life ways. Enjoy your holidays and the conversations with your children.

Does our tuckshop have the tastiest and healthiest sandwiches in Queensland?

If you think so, encourage our tuckshop staff or volunteers to enter the Smart Choices 2014 Queensland Tuckshop Sandwich Designer of the Year competition. Seven regional finalists will compete in the state final to be held in the Queen Street Mall, Brisbane during lunchtime on 20 October. The winner will receive a trophy and $250 to buy kitchen appliances for their tuckshop. Entries close 22 August.
Prep/1 Keira For exceptional behaviour and always setting a good example for her peers.
Zoyal For using adjectives to make her writing interesting.
1A Jenna - Fantastic four star learner at all times! Making your teacher smile!!!!!
Elijah Trying super hard to complete homework!
Meika A fabulous four star learner at all times!
1/2 Class of 1/2—Thank you for such an amazingly, brilliant, challenging and fantabulous term. You have all knocked my socks off!!
Connor I love how you are ignoring distractions and completing all your work to a high standard. Congratulations Connor!!
Keenan FAN-TAB-U-LOUS achievements with your writing Keenan. Keep trying your very best!
2A Hamza For excellent results and attitude towards learning.
Kurt For being responsible and ready to learn.
Levi For having a go at difficult work.
2B Zara and Christa For being a conscientious worker in the 2B classroom.
Todd For his fantastic participation on sports day.
Logan For awesome story writing ideas.
2C Gabriel For being a conscientious worker in the 2C classroom
Brenden For improved effort with independent writing tasks.
Carl For working hard in all areas of the curriculum
Taylah For excellent work on her History tasks
3B Ben For improvements in homework and spelling.
Reyan For great improvement in grammar and vocab work with Mrs Morrison.
Alicia For neat handwriting.
Zara For working hard since returning from holidays.
3C Sophie For an outstanding effort in being placed runner up in the Whitsunday Voices writing competition.
Imogen For being an outstanding student and excellent class role model.
3/4 Mark Working hard to improve his handwriting.
Jasmine A considerate student who always works to the best of her ability.
4A Eve Gemma and Sarah
For working independently to complete their technology task.
Sam Consistently working well to achieve learning goals.
4C Edward For working hard to improve his spelling and moving up a group.
Gracie For her fantastic participation and accomplishments on sports day.
Amber For always being a polite and conscientious member of the class.
5B Liam For being an enthusiastic student all term! Thank you for your positive attitude!
Kaitlin For being an exceptional role model during buddy reading activities. Well done!
Brandon For being a positive role model for his buddy and helping him with his sight words
5C 5C Being an AWESOME, STUPENDOUS and HARD WORKING CLASS all term.
Karmesha Awesome class member who always works to the best of her ability.
Yidi Persistence with completion of flag.
Chyna For always working to the best of her ability.
6A Ziluo For having an amazing semester in year 6. Awesome efforts
6B Tom Your improvement in effort has not gone unnoticed.
6/7A Paris For excellent effort in all areas throughout the semester.
Lukunda For fantastic improvement in her reading.
6/7B Raven Great focus in class and great work on his Science test.
Kayla For fantastic participation and accomplishments on Sports Day.
7A Leann Excellent work and effort in all areas.
Alec Excellent work, effort and participation in all areas.

This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers:
Reuben Prep C Maioha 1B
Ethan 2C Luke 3A
Fleur 4B Charlotte 5B
Emma 6B Nicole 7A Brianna 6B
Harrison 4B Jonte 1C Alyssa 6A
Ellie 1-2 Jack Prep B
Makeyla 3B Ben 5B Griffin 6/7A
Grace 5C Zoyal P1
Ebony 1C Anthony 2A
Mark 3/4 Sasha 4A

When MAKING PAYMENTS for school, please place the payment in an envelope and CLEARLY MARK the appropriate student’s NAME, CLASS and PURPOSE OF PAYMENT.

The requirement is to pay ALL monies to the classroom teacher BEFORE class commences.
If paying by DIRECT DEPOSIT PLEASE use student name, class, and reason for payment as reference.

Let’s get rid of HEADLICE
All you have to do are 2 TREATMENTS on each child over the holidays. So here are some tips.
You can buy Head lice treatments which do become expensive but we do have another option.
If using store bought Head lice treatments please follow the directions on the packaging.
It may seem a little weird but MAYONAISE or THICK CONDITIONER are options that you already have in your house. This is an option without using harsh chemicals but does take longer.

Step 1 – apply the product of choice, wrap in cling wrap or wear a shower cap for 8 hours (just before you go to bed is best) Using this method it must be 8 hours.
Step 2 – wash out and then comb with a wire Head lice comb in small sections until you find no more eggs or lice.
Step 3 – To guarantee you remove ALL head lice these steps MUST be repeated within 5 – 7 days just to make sure that the life cycle of the head lice does not start again.
**P and C News - Tuckshop Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Monday 14th July</th>
<th>9-10</th>
<th>9-11:30</th>
<th>9-12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deb Dennis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15th July</td>
<td>Jennifer Jones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th July</td>
<td>Rania Heke</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 17th July</td>
<td>Nora Tacang Letty Yuzon</td>
<td>Karen Munro</td>
<td>Crystelle Bressler</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18th July</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>PLEASE!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Monday 21st July</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>PLEASE!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd July</td>
<td>Rania Heke</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th July</td>
<td>Nora Tacang Letty Yuzon</td>
<td>Karen Munro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25th July</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>PLEASE!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tuck Shop News**

*Flexischools online ordering cut off is now 9am.*

**UNIFORM SHOP—Opening hours**

- Hours are 8:30am-9am Mondays
- 8:30am-9am Tuesdays
- 2:30pm-3pm Thursdays
- 2:30pm-3pm Fridays

**Flexischools online ordering system.**

Please go to www.flexischools.com.au and type in Victoria Park SS to see a demonstration and register yourself to start ordering. If you have any questions please contact Flexi-schools on 1300 361 769.

**SKOOLBAG and FLEXISCHOOLS...**

If you would like HELP downloading these apps please come into the P&C room Monday morning and we would be more than happy to help. Download the SKOOLBAG APP – This APP can be downloaded FREE from google play or the APP store. All you have to do is search SKOOLBAG Victoria Park State School and download. Keep as updated as possible with information from the school.

**Message from the School Dental Service**

Most students who have returned their dental forms have now had a dental check. For those that require further treatment a letter will be posted home requesting parents to call and make an appointment by a certain date. We have posted letters to parents of children with surnames beginning with A-O and in term 3 we will be posting P-Z.

Regards from Dental Staff PH 49514745
This term, six Year 6 boys have been participating in the Junior Schools Debating Competition. The boys are Ryan Young, Cooper Ringwood, Mark Padrigano, Lachlan Keates, Jayden Junior and Alexander Odger. Victoria Park placed fifth in this competition, narrowly missing out on a place in the finals. All the boys are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm and ability to get up in a room full of strangers and debate! The boys are all fantastic public speakers and can look forward to a budding debating future in high school. Well done! Mrs. L. Odger

FROM THE STUDENTS…Canberra Here We Come!! Year 6 & 7’s are so excited about the upcoming Canberra trip on 15 July. We depart Mackay airport at 8:30am and arrive in Sydney at approximately 12:30pm. The rest of the day is jam-packed as well as the rest of the week. The activities we are looking forward to are the Sydney Opera House, visiting the old Parliament House where we will learn about our government and debating, shopping, visiting the Australian Institute of Sport, going to the snow and getting revenge on the teachers with an awesome snowball fight. They had better watch out! The Year 7 trip is an initiative of the government to encourage students to visit Australia’s capital to participate in a variety of educational programmes focused on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist you in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government is contributing a set amount to eligible students under the Parliament and Civics Education Debate. The amount has been factored into the cost. We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this programme. So you better watch out Canberra, cause here comes VIC PARK!!!

What Sort of Start is Your Child Getting?

He/ She is only missing just….

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/ She is only missing just….</th>
<th>That equals….</th>
<th>Which is…..</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly Half a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 Weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 Weeks per Year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 and a Half years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 and a Half years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Holiday Fun
Mark these dates in your diary: Wed 2, Fri 4, Wed 9 & Fri 11 July, 2014

Gymnastics fun day for primary school aged children. A great way to get children active and out of the house. 9.30 – 11 a.m.
Cost only $16.50 per child. Mackay Gymnastics, Snow Wright Court, Andergrove. Bookings 49 42 0032.
Email admin@mackaygymnastics.org.au
Gymnastics – it’s FANTASTIC

MR MAGIC
Children from Prep-year 7 are invited to attend a magic show presented by local magician Mr Magic.
Tues 1 July – Walkerston Library 10-11am; Mirani Library 2-3pm
Wed 2 July – Gordon White Library 10-11am
Thurs 3 July – Mackay City Library 10-11am
Fri 4 July – Sarina Library 10-11am
Bookings essential—spaces are limited.

This week, the Year Fives took part in the ‘Colonial Goldrush Show’. After investigating life on the goldfields in the nineteenth century this term, students came face to face with an Irish Settler and his wife who had been miraculously transported through time to 2014. Students felt the fear which gripped travelers when confronted with a gang of Bushrangers and heard the barking orders from Sergeant Butler of the Red Coat Army. An amazing array of artefacts from this period gave students an appreciation for how different life was for early settlers and how resourceful people from that period had to be.
Dan Logan/Lynda Jordan Year 5