06/13
02 May 2013

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 2 2013

Thurs 9 May
2.30pm Creative Communities – Coffee and Chat.

Friday 10 May
P&C Free Dress fundraiser

Monday 13 May
CQU Mobile Education Unit visits for Year 6&7 students.

Tuesday 14 to Thursday 16 May
Yr 3,5,7 Naplan testing

Tuesday 14 May to Friday 6 September
Premier’s Reading Challenge

Friday 17 May
VPSS Cross Country and P&C Fun Run.

Tuesday 21 May
Mackay McDonald’s Maths competition

Thursday 23 May
Year 3 Safety Circus presentation (free)

Sunday 26 May
P&C Cent Sale.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Sport Trials’ Success
Congratulations to the following who made the Southern Suburbs Cross Country team:
Charlotte Hoyle  Casey Manzelman
Will Morgan     Mitchell Ruhle
Emma Manzelman  Hannah Morgan
Rhys Neale      Mayson Armstrong

Mackay Netball:
Kara Boys       Kaylah Doherty
Bella Green

Mackay Tennis:
Hannah Morgan

Mackay Interschool Debating
Congratulations to both teams on winning their first debate and being placed in Pool A. Good luck in your next debate on Tuesday night – ‘Students should be allowed mobile phones at school’.

Mathletics Champion Learners
The following five students are our school’s top Mathletics learners so far this year. This rating is achieved by comparing the number of new concepts they have attempted on Mathletics and the number for which they have achieved mastery.

1. Lorna Edwards (3B): 53 different concepts attempted with 50 being mastered.
3. Wayne Alderton (5/6) – 42 attempted, 38 mastered.
5. Libby Hood (2/3) – 33 attempted, 33 mastered.

Gotcha card total for the fortnight: 546
New total for the year so far: 1477
PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

“Success is the good fortune that comes from aspiration, desperation, perspiration and inspiration.” ~ Evan Esar

ANZAC Day
Victoria Park students were well represented at the Mackay ANZAC Day march last week. The number of students marching increases each year. Remembering and recognising the sacrifices of Australia’s Service Men and Women who have and are currently serving overseas in Australia’s Defence Forces keeps alive our national identity and values. Thank you to the many families who joined with our school and the various community groups to march proudly behind the school’s marching band led by Mrs Milles.

Our annual School ANZAC Ceremony drew many congratulatory comments from the families who were able to attend. Our guest speaker, Mr Alan Thompson, delivered a sincere message to the students about what ANZAC Day means to Australia and to him personally. This was Alan’s 27th ANZAC Ceremony address to the students of Victoria Park.

Congratulations to Mrs Kate Duffy and the many staff members of our school who each year arrange the ceremony and prepare students to participate in our school ceremony. A special thank you to the Mackay SHS 122nd Army Cadet Unit, Buglers and Ambassadors for attending the ceremony and adding so much to our school’s ceremony.

Fun Run- Cross Country
All classes are out on a daily basis preparing for this year’s school Cross Country Race. The recent change in the weather will no doubt be an encouragement for our runners. This year the cross country is being run in conjunction with the Adidas School Fun Run. Students are encouraged to participate, raise funds for the school’s P&C and to win prizes for their fund raising efforts.

The Fun Run will be held on Friday 17 May with sponsorship money due back at school by Monday 13 May.

Creative Communities-Coffee & Craft Afternoon
Wanda Bennett will be holding a workshop focussing on Button Jewellery and Postcard Making. Come along, meet new people and be a part of our school community- 2:30 to 3:30 on Thursday 9 May in the Hall.

NAPLAN
This month our students, along with fellow students across Australia, sit the annual NAPLAN tests. The tests in Reading Spelling & Grammar, Writing and Number provide us with an opportunity to gauge our students’ progress and to help set plans for future teaching practices. It is important to remember that the tests are only aspects of Literacy and Numeracy and do not cover the whole curriculum. The assessment practices occurring in every classroom provide a more detailed picture of student progress.

I thank teachers and parents for preparing students for the upcoming tests. The results of which will be available later in the year in Term 3.

The tests will be conducted in all state and non-state schools across the country from 14–16 May.

Please contact the school if you have any questions about your child participating in NAPLAN testing. Further information is available on the ACARA website. (http://www.nap.edu.au/)

The Queensland Plan-A plan for Everyone
School Captains, Mariska Pretorius and Jack Fuller, have been invited to participate in the Mackay Summit to begin the development of The Queensland Plan. The plan will guide the development of Queensland over the next 30 years. The plan is being developed in consultation with community members, business and industry representatives, state and local government officers and Members of Parliament.

Expression of Interest
Full time cleaner position available from 3 June to 14 June to cover for long service leave. Please drop your resumes into the office by Friday 10 May 2013.

LIBRARY NEWS

‘Books On Tour’ Book Fair
Our Book Fair continues with the Purchasing Days (Thursday 2 May and Friday 3 May from 8:30 – 3:30). Book Fair Competitions close on Thursday 2 May. The winners will be announced on parade on Monday 6 May. As a prize, each winner will be able to choose a book (of their choice) to the value of $15.

2013 Premier’s Reading Challenge
Our school is registered to participate in this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge. Reading for the challenge begins on Tuesday 14 May and closes on Friday 6 September. More details to follow soon.
P&C NEWS

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

OPENING HOURS of the uniform shop are:
Tuesday morning from 8:30 to 9:30 am
Wednesday morning from 8:30 to 9:30 am
Thursday afternoon from 2:30 to 3:00 pm
Friday afternoon from 2:30 to 3:00 pm

FLEXISCHOOLS - ONLINE ORDERING SYSTEM.
This is a system set up by the P&C to make it easier for parents to do tuckshop and uniform shop ordering at any time.
Please go to www.flexischools.com.au and type in Victoria Park SS to see a demonstration of how it works and then register yourself to start ordering from home. If you have any questions please contact Flexischools on 1300 361 769 - they will be more than happy to assist. (There is also an app that is very easy to download and use if you are a smart phone user.)

COMMUNITY NEWS

ADVANCE NOTICE
Information Evening for Parents of Year 7 Students
6.30pm on TUESDAY 4 JUNE 2013
Mackay North Community Hall Valley St., North Mackay
Mackay North State High School will be conducting a short information evening and a tour of our school for parents of Year 7 students who are considering enrolling here in Year 8 in 2014. Application forms for enrolment and scholarships will be available on the night. Applications for enrolment at Mackay North High School open on 8 July 2013. More information will be provided in future newsletters.

National Day of Thanksgiving Community Festival
‘A time to celebrate and appreciate our blessings’
Date: Saturday 25 May
Time: 10:00am to 3:00pm
Where: Jubilee Park, Alfred Street
Cost: Everything is FREE
Entertainment, Food, Drinks, Activities for kids, teens and families.
www.mackay.thanksgiving.org.au

MERCY COLLEGE MACKAY 2014
Year 8 Enrolment Night
Wednesday 15 May 2013
From 5.00pm to 7.30pm
‘A wealth of opportunity at Mercy College Mackay’

To enrol your student for Year 8 in 2014 you MUST collect an Enrolment Pack on the evening. Enrolment forms and supporting documents must be returned to the College Office by 24 May 2013. Enrolment interviews will be made upon receipt of completed documentation. Following the interview, you will be formally notified of enrolment outcome by early July.

*Siblings of current students are required to follow this enrolment process also.
If you are unable to attend this night, please contact our office and arrangements will be made for you to collect an Enrolment Pack after 15 May 2013.
MERCY COLLEGE MACKAY | PENN STREET, MACKAY PH: 07 4969 4199
www.mercymackay.qld.edu.au

HAVE YOUR SAY AS PART OF THE WORKING PARENTS RESEARCH PROJECT

Researchers from the University of Queensland are looking for working parents to take part in a survey looking at the effects of working life on Queensland children and families.
We are particularly interested in Fly-in/Fly-out (FIFO) and Drive-in/Drive-out (DIDO) workers but value and encourage input from all kinds of working parents. The survey will only take around 30-45 minutes to complete. Your involvement will help the field to learn more about the effects of different work circumstances and settings on children and families. Your participation will also assist in developing ways to properly support working parents in the future.

Are you a working parent?
Do you have a child aged between 2 and 12 years?
Are you willing to provide 30-45 minutes of your time?

For further information and to take part in the survey, please visit: https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/workingparents

All participating parents will be eligible to enter a draw to win 1 of 10 $100 Coles/Myer gift cards!

CONTACT DETAILS
Reminder to parents to keep the school office up to date with changes to address and phone contact numbers. Thank you.