GOOD NEWS!

14/12
6 September 2012

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 3 2012

Friday 7 September
5.30pm Rats of Tobruk Ceremony.
World Teacher’s Aide Day.

Monday 10 September
Parent Teacher interviews offered this fortnight

Tuesday 11 September
9.30am Prep C– Food for Smiling program.

Wednesday 12 September
6.30pm P&C meeting

Friday 14 September
MSHS Year 7 Sports Gala Day.

Tuesday 18 September
School Concert rehearsal
6pm School Concert

Friday 21 September
Last Day of term.

TERM 4 2012

Monday 8 October
School resumes– NOT A STUDENT FREE DAY.

CONGRATULATIONS

Mackay Science Engineering Opti-Minds Champions

Building upon the success of our school debating team and Chess teams, our Science Engineering Opti-Minds team defeated 20 other teams to become this year’s Mackay Primary school champions and win the invitation to the State finals in Brisbane in October.

Mariska Pretorius, Purav Bhandare, Paige Lewis, Tamika Brecknell and Zac Rowen wowed the audience with an entertaining ten minute skit and a Colour Blending Device that achieved all design requirements. Their response to the spontaneous challenge was reported to be highly creative and clever. Well done team! We also wish them luck with their fundraising efforts to pay for the trip away.

Gotcha card total for the fortnight:
New total for the year so far:

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PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

The Entire World is a Stage
Victoria Park State School’s very own The Awesomely Amazing Race is generating keen interest from students, staff and families. Rehearsal performances are looking sharp and sounding wonderful. Your children have been displaying their academic, sporting and musical skills throughout the term. The thespians amongst the staff and students now have their opportunity to strut their stuff on the stage and entertain us all. Tickets are on sale at the MECC for what will be a night of music, drama and laughs for the whole family.

Parent, Teacher and Student Interviews
Education theory identifies the provision of accurate and timely feedback as one of the most effective supports to promote and support student learning. Feedback is the process of informing the learner of what they learnt, how well they have achieved and identifying of what is the next step. Another practice that supports student learning is ensuring that parents, students and teachers have agreed goals and expectations. At Victoria Park we strive to assist students achieve their personal best and base our actions on sound education theory.

We provide parents, students and teachers the opportunity to participate in formal feedback four times a year. In Terms Two and Four we provide written feedback in the form of the Student Report Card. In Terms One and Three we provide the opportunity for parents & students to meet face to face with the class teacher to discuss progress and to set goals and expectations.

I encourage all parents and carers to make the most of the opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher during the upcoming weeks. Class teachers will send home appointment forms to arrange mutually agreeable times to discuss and plan for your child’s future learning.

Voluntary Family Contributions

$20 Voluntary Financial Contribution
A voluntary financial contribution scheme exists at Victoria Park State School on an annual basis. This scheme is endorsed by the Parents & Citizens Association.

It is a request from the school to parents/carers, to make a voluntary financial contribution to supplement government funding for students to have a range of relevant teacher prepared resources, appropriate learning materials and facilities for the education of students at our school. The focus of support is reviewed on an annual basis. For 2012 the voluntary contribution funds are used to provide students with access to a variety of educational programs including Mathletics, provide consumable materials including printer cartridges, additional printing and photocopying material and art materials.

The current contribution for each student is $20 per year with a maximum family payment of $60 for families with 3 or more children attending the school. Whilst this financial contribution is voluntary and there is no obligation to make all or part or more of the contribution, we ask all parents/carers for your support.

Please complete the form accompanying this newsletter, paying particular attention to Payment Arrangement and Payment Method on pages one and two. This form can then be returned to the Office.

Thank you for your support.

Attendance Update
Our goal this year is to raise our student attendance to 95%. This target is an increase on last year’s average attendance which was 91%. The table below has our attendance data for each year level for each term.

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Term 3 attendance is historically lower on average to the remainder of the year due to the significant increase in illness amongst not only the school community but across the Mackay community. I am confident that the students can improve our 2012 attendance above last year’s 91% and strive to reach our goal of 95%.

Rats of Tobruk Service
On Friday 7 September at 5:30pm a commemoration ceremony for the Siege of Tobruk will be held at the Rats of Tobruk Memorial in Queens Park. Class captains and School leaders are expected to attend, dressed in their school uniform. Other interested students and families are also welcome to attend this moving service.

This ceremony honours the Australian, British and Polish soldiers who in 1941 prevented the Germany Army from sweeping the Allied Forces out of Africa.

For 8 long months the Rats defended Tobruk on the coast of Libya. Despite the heat, daily bombings by the German Air Force and regular attacks by German Panzers and troops, the soldiers at Tobruk never surrendered.

THE Mackay RATS OF TOBRUK Schools, St Patrick’s College, North Mackay Primary, Whitsunday Anglican and Victoria Park State School, will all take part and play an active role in the service.

A National Year of Reading initiative.
Kids who read 10 minutes a day, one hour a week succeed!
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Prep B: Bailee Brotherton - For using her awesome thinking skills to produce wonderful writing.
Prep C: Zachery Meredith - For always trying his best and having super neat handwriting.
Prep D: Caleb Newstead - For a great improvement in classroom behaviour.
1C: Nijole Farmer-Teava - Congratulations on always producing the most beautiful handwriting we have ever seen.
1D: Keelan Chapman - for making a big effort to improve his behaviour. Keep it up Keelan.
2C: Shaheen Ali - For being a hard working and enthusiastic learner.
2/3: Tyler Morris - For sensational spelling each week. Well Done.
2/3: Larz Maharaj - For always working hard and being a good role model for his peers.
3A: Joel De Jong - For stepping up as class spelling champion.
3B: Lachlan Kent - For working hard to learn his weekly spelling words.
3/4: Jessica Austin - Making our class proud in the Spelling Bee.
3/4: Flynn Shepherdson - Representing our class to become the Year 4 champion in the Spelling Bee.
4A: Lachlan Inkson - Perfect Friday test results in maths and spelling this term.
4B: Lillian Wilkinson - Being a conscientious and cooperative class member.
4C: Halle Oosen - For being a helpful and considerate class member.
5A: Shardae Abbott - For her enthusiastic approach to learning.
5A: Cody Hilton - For trying hard in class and achieving results.
5B: Cody Gunston - For extra efforts with trying to improve her maths results. Keep up the good work!
5C: James Conway - For improved effort and results in Maths Mentals.
5D: Gabriel Besa - For working hard towards achieving his Maths goal.
7A: Ramjay Galvan - Outstanding effort, attitude and results in all areas.
7B: Lauren Morgan - Fantastic effort in your genre writing about Ned Kelly. It is some of the best writing you have ever done. Awesome effort!
7C: A fantastic effort on his persuasive text on Ned Kelly. Congratulations Anton, you have put in the effort and reaped the reward.

This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers go to:

Prep A: Lani Fetherstonhaugh - Excellent listening during concert practice.
Prep A: Ella Frost—Excellent counting.
1A: Max Morrison - Being responsible.
1C: Ryan Vincent - For being safe & friendly at school.
2/3: Taylor Gutteridge - Working well.
2/3: Jake Ireland - Working well.
3B: Jack Sun - 100% Spelling & Number Facts.
3C: John Agustin - Working hard in SOSE.
4B: Mark Padrigano - Fanfare participation.
4C: Mynaiha Hunt - Being honest with money.
5B: Jireh Corpuz - Wonderful poetry presentation.
5B: Griffin Mietzel - Being a supportive & caring class member.

MARVELLOUS MATHEMATICANS

Gold Mathletics awards
Hannah Morgan

Silver Mathletics awards
Karrah Crozier--Graham Colby Threadgate
Chelsea Bycroft Patrick Wickins
Joel De Jong Sienna Neil
Alisha Smith Cyramae Bandibas
Emily Wilson Eden Dwan– Dillon
Dylan Ringwood Jay Mc Naughton

SPORTING NEWS

Victoria Park Hockey Club
Vic Park Panthers Hockey Club has had great success this weekend at School Hockey Grand Final, winning the U12 girls division 3 game as well as the U10 Girls game. The Vic Park Hockey students who played up in the higher division who also won. A big thank you to the parents of the students for bringing their children each week to training and the games.

Lost Property
Lost Property is out on display in the Tuckshop area, please check to see if anything is yours. At the end of term any unclaimed items will be given to Lifeline.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Mackay Gymnastics
School holiday fun for primary school aged children. Wednesday 3 & Friday 5 October 2012 at Swayne Street North Mackay. 9:30am - 11:00am. Cost only $15 per child. A great way to get children active and out of the house. Numbers are limited so please book. Gymnastics - It’s FANTASTIC! Contact Mackay Gymnastics 4953 1425 or Rosemary Haines 4957 8265 or 0414 354 920.

Exclusively for 5&6 year olds only-
Fun & Fitness for boys and girls. The GymMix class at Mackay Gymnastics Monday afternoons is a fusion of all gym sports (Artistic gymnastics, sports acrobatics, sport aerobatics, trampoline & cheer). Learn co-ordination and balance as well as having lots of FUN. Don’t miss out on a place in the Term 4 class. Bookings phone 4953 1425.

Water Polo
Water Polo invites new and old players to get into the splash! Come and try an Olympic sport that keeps you cool in the pool! There are competitions to suit all ages and skill levels with coaches on hand to help. Interested players of all ages and skill levels are welcome, so come along and enjoy the Fun and Fitness of WATER POLO!

Mackay Water Polo will be holding FREE Come’n-Try days on Sunday 2, 9 & 16 September from 2-6pm at the Memorial Pool. Everyone from all ages and skill levels are welcome to join in the fun. For further information please contact Kerrie - 0488 234 003 or email Kerrie.hughes@bigpond.com

Mackay Leisure Centre
Mackay Leisure Centre intend to hold a learn to play squash clinic for 7-11 yr old juniors, during the 2nd week of the school holidays. Dates will be 2 and 5 October inclusive time 9:30am to 11:00am each day. All equipment will be loaned free of charge to the participants. Total cost per player $12.00 to register. PH: 0432 572 712 and leave a message or email functions@mackayleisurecentre.com.au
The centre will contact you to confirm your registration.

Kindy Waiting List Open
South Mackay Kindergarten's waiting list for 2013 enrolments is open. The Kindy is well established with a teaching program aligned to the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines (QKLG). Please phone 49578 928 for more details or just drop in at the corner of Casey Ave & Leisure Ct (behind Virgin

Stadium) between 8:30 & 2:30 Monday - Friday.

Mackay’s Twilight Pyjama Party
Date: Friday 7 September
Time: 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Where: Mackay Surf Lifesaving Club
For more information please call 4957 7222

Australian Parenting Study (University of Qld)
As the parent of a child in grade 4, 5, 6 or 7 you are invited to participate in a study by completing a quick questionnaire. Share your parenting experiences and inform programs for parents, children and educators. Your child and one or both parents are welcome to participate and have their say. Responses will remain confidential and be coded anonymously. There are two ways to participate: online or by post.
Online: go to http://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/parent
By Post: ( reply paid envelope provided) : email your name and postal address to eden.bara@uqconnect.edu.au or call Eden on 0400 438 052.

Rent Connect Mackay
What is Rent Connect?
Rent Connect helps Queenslanders to find and secure a home in the private market.
Rent Connect helps people who are able to manage a tenancy but who are struggling to access the private rental market due to non-financial barriers, such as:
• Limited rental history
• A lack of skills, knowledge or understanding of how the private rental market works.
• A lack of documents required for private rental applications.
Special Rent Connect officers work together with clients to identify what type of assistance that may need. Rent Connect officers can:
• Advise on how to find a suitable rental home
• Show how the rental application process works.
• Help prepare a rental application and organise paperwork.
• Provide advice on how to make a good impression when submitting applications.
• Help access financial assistance offered by the Department of Housing and Public Works, such as a bond loan or rental grant.
• Link clients to community services and real estate agents.

Rent Connect eligibility requirements:
To receive one-on-one assistance from a Rent Connect officer, a client needs to:
• Meet income requirements for social housing eligibility or be leaving social housing.
• Be facing non-financial barriers to renting in the private market and be able to successfully manage a private rental tenancy.
Support the Walk for Juvenile Diabetes Mackay

The Walk for Juvenile Diabetes is on again in Mackay. This is our second year and we are hoping to partner with the schools in Mackay to raise significant funds towards finding a cure for this autoimmune disease that affects so many of our young people.

**How can you participate?**

Join the walk!

You are invited to join your community at the Walk to Cure Diabetes. It’s Australia’s biggest event for those who share the hope for a better life for people with Type 1 diabetes.

The Walk to Cure Diabetes Mackay will be held on Saturday 13 October 2012. The Walk site will open at 8:30am with the Walk starting at 9:00am. The 3km Walk will go from Caneland Park (next to the children's playground) to Ron Camm Bridge and back along Bluewater Quay. The Walk is pram and wheelchair friendly and dogs are permitted. There will be activities held after the Walk to be confirmed shortly. Parking is available in the Caneland carpark.

If you would like to participate in this Walk, please register today... [www.jdrf.org.au/walk](http://www.jdrf.org.au/walk)

Organise a gold coin donation day at your school! Any participation we can encourage from schools in the Mackay area would be very much welcome. Some schools in the area hold a “Dress as your favourite colour Jelly Bean” day and ask for a gold coin donation from those participating. If you think your school could organise this please ring Nic Willis on 0487 895 796 who is a part of the Walk for Juvenile Diabetes local Committee.

Let’s all get together to support a cure for Juvenile Diabetes and raise awareness of this disease!!

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North Queensland CSIRO Education in Partnership with
September/October
Double Helix Holiday Science
Townsville
Venue: NQ CSIRO Science Education, James Cook University, Building 054, Townsville
Times: 10:00 – 11:30 am / 12:30 – 2:00 pm
Cost: $12 for Double Helix Science Club members $15 for non-members. Become a member today. Ask how when you book!
Children 8 years and under must be accompanied by an adult.

**Tuesday 25 September Illusions** (ages 5-15)
Are you seeing things that aren’t there? This session will play tricks on you-you will see things that aren’t really there! Make your own optical illusions to take home, too!

**Thursday 27 September Slimology** (ages 8-15)
Back by popular demand! Discover the fascinating world of slime by making your own slimy creations to take home.

**Tuesday 2 October Blood, Guts and Gore** (ages 6-15)
A most popular event where you learn the techniques behind creating fake wounds that look very realistic. Just like wounds in the movies!

**Thursday 4 October Make Your Own Jitterbug** (ages 5-15)
Use the vibration of a motor to make a CD on legs jiggle across tabletops!
The best part is you get to take your creation home!!

Please book at [DoubleHelixNQLD@csiro.au](mailto:DoubleHelixNQLD@csiro.au) or phone 4753 8518 with your name, age, any medical conditions and contact details.

Bookings are essential!

If you cannot attend, please cancel your place, as there may be a waiting list.

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**UNIFORM SHOP HOURS**
Mondays: 2:30 - 3:00pm
Tuesdays: 8:15 - 9:00am
Wednesdays: 2:30 - 3:00pm
Fridays: 2:30 - 3:00pm

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

Insurance cover for students undertaking physical activities.

Physical activity and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the Department of Education Training and the Arts does not have Personal Accident Insurance cover for students.

Education Queensland has public liability cover for all approved school activities and provides compensation for students injured at school only when the Department is negligent. If this is not the case, then all costs associated with the injury are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver.

It is a personal decision for parents as to the type and level of private insurance they arrange to cover students for any accidental injury that may occur.