03/13
7 March 2013

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 1 2013

Wednesday 13 March
6.30pm P&C meeting

Friday 15 March
National Day against Bullying– Wear orange free dress. No donation required. Funky Hair Friday.

Friday 22 March
Ride to School Day

Sunday 24 March until Tues 26 March
Mackay Choral Festival

Wednesday 27 March
School swimming carnival

Thursday 28 March
Reward Day
Last Day of term.

Monday 15 April
School resumes for Term 2

Tuesday 16 April
9.30am Rats of Tobruk service in Queen’s Park.

University for You (UniFY) course selection
Congratulations to Brittany Pattemore, Carl Hinschen, Tamika Brecknell and Kimo Viljoen for their selection into the Dotcom. Kids university linked program for talented Science students. They will be participating in an on-line course on Science and Sustainability for the next 12 weeks. We look forward to seeing the exciting independent projects they will be producing.

Sports Trials
Congratulations to Mark Sanchez on his selection into the Southern Suburbs Basketball team that will be competing at the Mackay Trials soon.

This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers go to:

PC: Hayley Dennis - Always ready to learn.
1A: Ahmad Khattab - Fabulous sight words work!
2B: Nell O’Brien - Great Work! Great Learner!
3C: Jake Nissen - Sentence writing champion.
4C: Julian Jarvis - Consistently working hard.
5B: Jaydan Mauger - Beautiful book work.
6A: Leila Vaka-Smith - Always ready to learn.
7C: Matthew Gallagher - Assisting to return school equipment.

Gotcha card total for the fortnight:
New total for the year so far : 448
The recent wet weather has signalled the beginning of the wet season. Monday morning’s deluge of about 50 mm in an hour presented us all with some new challenges. Our students are to be commended for their co-operation, flexibility with the change of routine and safe conduct throughout the day.

As the wet weather season continues, please take the time to warn your children about the dangers of playing in or near flood waters and stormwater drains. Queensland Fire and Rescue’s Swift water site can help you get this important message heard by your children or listen to flood stories told by young people.


United in Our Pursuit of Excellence – State Principal’s Conference 2013
In 2011 Education Queensland brought together the Principals of all state schools to begin the rollout Phase 1 of the largest reform to State Schooling in Queensland – United in Our Pursuit of Excellence. Phase 1 involved the implementation of the Australian Curriculum and the Curriculum into the Classroom.” what to teach”

This year schools will begin to implement Phase 2 of the reform which includes establishing the School Pedagogical Framework – “how best to teach the curriculum” and the Parent and Community Engagement Framework – to enable us to better work with you for the benefit of our children. I look forward to working with you as we progress on our journey of continuous school improvement.

2012 School Opinion Survey Results
We received great feedback about our school from students, parents and carers through last year’s School Opinion Survey. The following satisfaction measures were a highlight.

- 97.8% of students were satisfied/agreed that they are getting a good education at school.
- 95% of parents and careers were satisfied/agreed that their child is receiving a good education at school.
- The average student attendance rate for 2012 was 92.8% up from 90.8% in 2011.

The full results of the 2012 School Opinion Survey will be available on our school website.

School wide Positive behaviour
Thank you to all adults who helped ensure that students have walked more safely on pathways. Since making this a focus for our rule of the week last fortnight, there were certainly less students who reported to first aid for unsafe movement around the school. Thank you!

This fortnight we are focusing on students being responsible in dealing with issues and conflicts at school. Students are encouraged to firstly ignore or walk away from unwanted actions of others, secondly, tell the person their feelings about the unwanted action eg. Stop. I don’t like… and warn them that if they don’t stop, the behaviour would be reported to the nearest teacher, then, thirdly, report it to a teacher if the unwanted actions persist.

Parents can assist by encouraging their child to report any significant issues or concerns to their class teacher. Please find attached an article by Michael Grose, “When things go wrong at school, as some further advice on how parents can assist their child to build resilience and confidence.

Messages for Students
At times due to unforeseen circumstances, parents and carers find it necessary to contact their children for messages to be passed on. Both Samantha and Raelene attempt to accommodate these parent requests. To assist our hardworking office staff to manage the current volume of messages, we request parents ensure children are aware of after school arrangements before leaving for school each morning.

The Student Journalist team is back!
Please find included with this newsletter our first ‘From the Students’ newsletter for the year. Our roving journalists have covered a number of stories this fortnight, ranging from extra - curricular activities to classroom updates, some fun ‘Do you know?’ questions and the joke of the fortnight.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) nominations
Students from Year 3-7 are invited to participate in the annual ICAS competitions. If your child is interested in participating in one or more of the competitions, please list the nominated competition and place the entries into an envelope to be placed in the money chute in the office.

Computer skills (21 May): $7
Science (5 June): $7
Writing (17 June): $15
Spelling (18 June): $10
English (31 July): $7
Maths (13 Aug): $7

Nominations close Wednesday 27 March.

Newspapers in Education
Each week we hope to have a class set of Daily Mercury newspapers delivered to the school to enable real world literacy and numeracy activities to occur in classrooms. If you are in a business that would like to sponsor the delivery of our school newspapers, please contact Nicole Reekie at the Daily Mercury on 07 4957 0497. The Daily Mercury offer heavily reduced advertising packages for businesses who support the Newspapers in Education Program.
**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.)

**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

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**World’s Greatest Shave**

We are participating in the World’s Greatest Shave this year by holding a Funky Hair Friday. Dominic Venables who is our IT staff member lost his dad to cancer last year so he is going to shave his head. This will be done at 11:45am in the undercover area on Friday 15 March. If you come with your hair FUNKY then a gold coin donation would be appreciated.

**North Mackay Little Athletics - Sign On / Try Out:**

We are looking for boys and girls, aged from 3 to 17 to come along to our 2013 sign on / try out day on Sunday 3 March, anytime between 9am and 12pm at Pioneer High School Oval. No experience needed, however, closed-in footwear must be worn. For more information phone 0428 213 293 or visit www.nmla.com.au

**HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?**

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefited from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

1A: Nicole Padrigano - Always being a four star learner! Well Done!
1B: Brianna-Lee Johnston - For always taking great pride in the presentation of her work.
1C: Ava Peppin - Thank you for always being responsible and ready for every lesson. You are a star student Ava!
1D: Charlie Russell - For being a respectful and responsible member of our class who takes pride in his work.
2A: Noah Levitz - Always being responsible and ready to learn.
2/3: Libby Hood - For always being ready for work. Thank you.
2/3: Hayley Sullivan Freites - Great effort to get ALL of your spelling words correct - again!
3A: Marc Erron Cussay - For consistent work habits and being an excellent role model for his peers.
3A: Harley Thompson - For always working to the best of his ability, being ready to learn and a willing peer helper.
3B: Kyesha Nyitrai - For being a four star learner and setting a fabulous example for others.
3C: Tiffany Meng - For taking pride in her work and setting an excellent example for others.
LOTE: Kai Armstrong - For consistently trying your best in learning Chinese.
4A: Tilly Porter - For deep thinking in answering big questions.
4B: Tyson Cooper - For a fabulous start to the year - always being actively involved.
4C: Aimee-Rose Winsor - For planning and writing a very interesting and engaging first draft for her narrative.
4/5: Destiny Hansen - For helping out with classroom organisation and actively participating in discussions.
5B: Imani Buli - Consistent and focussed effort across all learning tasks.
5C: Jayden Bell - For his impressive listening skills and work habits during lessons.
7A: Brittany Pattemore - For being polite and helpful in class.
7B: Kadin Ballard - For encouraging fellow students and helping in all areas. Fantastic behaviour.
7C: Paige Lewis - Four star learner.
LOTE: Liam Neilsen - For consistently trying your best in learning Chinese.
LOTE: Cyramae Bandibas - For always being willing to participate in LOTE class activities.

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