Beaconsfield News
FORTNIGHTLY EDITION
7 May 2014

Coming Events

Dear Parents, Staff & Students
ANZAC Day Ceremonies 2014: Close to 75 students and staff represented the school in the Mackay City ANZAC march. Our students were wonderful ambassadors for our school and marched proudly behind our banner. Thanks to all parents and staff who attended and supervised students during the morning. Special thanks to student leaders Sha Robison, Bronne Allen and Emma Reeves for remaining after the march to represent our school at the official ceremony and wreath laying. Photos from the school ceremony and the march are on display in the school admin foyer.

National Testing Literacy & Numeracy 2014 (NAPLAN): This will occur next week for all year 3/5/7 students on May 13-15. Tuesday literacy will involve testing of Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling during session one with the writing task during session two. Wednesday will involve Reading and Comprehension with Thursday being Numeracy based. Friday is allocated as an alternate catch up day if a student is absent. School staff will provide a light snack breakfast of toast, fruit and muesli as an extra brain boost for those mornings outside the turclipshop. Parents please ensure students are well rested and at school by at least 8:30am each day. This will ensure each child has the opportunity to demonstrate their full potential and capability in numeracy and literacy tasks. Our school bells will change on these days so as not to distract or interfere with test session times.

Semester 1 Student Reports: To ensure our students have been taught and assessed thoroughly on all planned units we have expanded the reporting timeline for this year. Teachers will have all individual reports completed by the last day of school, ready for delivery to parents immediately after the holidays. To support this detailed information, teacher/parent interviews will also be conducted at this time.

School Attendance & Arrival Times: Champion class for last week were the Year 2 Koalas who had no unexplained student absences or late arrivals. They were presented on assembly with the weekly trophy to acknowledge this achievement. At school every day, on time and ready for learning contributes considerably to a child’s ability to be successful at school.

Mother’s Day Stall: This Thursday our P&C team of volunteers will provide a school stall with gifts from $1-$50 for students to consider for the special mums, aunties, carers or grandmothers in their lives. A class roster will be in place throughout the day. Parents please secure any money you provide your child in an envelope or purse. Any parents who could spare some time to assist with the stall, set up in the library would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the office if available.

School Photos: Advanced Life photography have made contact and advised that our delivery should shortly after the 12th May, printing issues have slowed the process for which the company apologises.

ICAS International Academic Competitions: (Maths/English/Science/Spelling/Writing) As mentioned previously, parents can nominate children to take part in these competitions by notifying the office. A nomination fee does exist for each entry. Nominations close soon.

Wakalari 2014: Teachers Kristan Sven and Carmel Pyatt with assistance from all staff and classes will enter a school team in this music and dance extravagana. Students from years 3 to 7 have been asked to nominate their interest and commitment to be involved. Some rehearsals will be conducted outside of school hours on weekends as well as a $20 entry fee will be required. Please return these forms asap or collect from the office.

Winter Uniforms: While our uniform shop does not sell jumpers or jackets these can be purchased from local stores. Plain black is the preferred colour to match our current uniform. Please ensure all items including hats are clearly named.

P&C Meeting this Thursday afternoon with updates including upcoming camps and excursions, Sports Day planning. Ladies Twilight Evening Function. Fundraising ventures for the term and school academic priorities.

Regards
Brendan Smith
Principal

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Trailer Art Competition
Now open!

It’s time to get creative!
Mackay Regional Council is welfareing young people to show us what they are about with the 2014 Mackay Regional Trailer Art Competition.

For full competition terms and conditions visit mackayregional.com.au

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TWILIGHT CONCERT to be held in the HALL on Thursday 12th June at 6pm. String Students will need to be at the hall at 5.30pm to allow Miss More to tune the instruments. Mr. Matthewson students need to be at school by 5.40pm. Choir students need to be at school by 5:50pm.

YEAR THREE: CHORA practises every M ONDAY second break.

SENIOR CHORA (Years 4 to 7) practises every TUESDAY second break.

WAKAKURI – Those involved will be on THURSDAY second break. The Pennington Note must be returned to the office by THURSDAY 12th May, if you wish your child to participate. Students from Years Three to Seven are eligible to participate.

Carmel Pyatt – Music Teacher

P&C Meeting Thursday May 8th @ 3:20pm, all welcome and encouraged to attend

- Mothers Day Stall on Saturday June 7th from 9 till 8pm.
- Fundraising Sausage Sizzle for school camp @ Masters on Saturday June 14th

SWPBS – Supporting Positive Behaviour

Term 1 was a busy one for recognising expected behaviour with our students with 80 567 PATs distributed over the term (218 per day). We finally had a class topple Lawrence Learning group with congratulations going to Miss Ramall’s Year 5 class who had a big finish to the term, receiving 261 PATs for the term! Special congratulations goes to the Griffiths and Eihalna class groups who were the most consistent PAT earners across the school in Term 1, having achieved our school goal of 100+ PATs for 7 out of the 10 weeks! Great work students!

We look forward to seeing these figures improve even further this term.

At the last parade for the term we had 44 Buzz recipients with another 42 students receiving a Buzz Award at last week’s assembly for being respectful, responsible and safe learners.

Congratulations goes to Douglas Kidd who is the latest student to reach the ‘100 Club’ and receive his SWPBS wristband having received 100 PATs. Special congratulations goes to Tinaspa Locke, Heather Jones, Haye Cowley and Trinity Keane who have all received their 4th Buzz Award having earned 120 PATs. Great work girls!

Our whole school behaviour lesson focus for this week is from our Be Responsible list of expectations – ”Complete set tasks”. By working on this expected behaviours, students develop an understanding of one of the key factors that helps them maximise their learning outcomes in the classroom. Our behaviour focus for next week is from our Be Respectful list – “Use respectful language and tone and use your inside voice”. This expectation is one unfortunately where standards seem to have slipped in wider society in recent years, particularly with our younger generations. Speaking to each other respectfully is an expectation that we value greatly in our school and is one that we emphasise with our students on a daily basis. I encourage all parents/carers to discuss and reinforce these expectations with their children to help them understand the importance of meeting these behaviour standards each and every day. We look forward to seeing our students demonstrate these expectations over the next fortnight, as they embrace our school values of being safe, respectful and responsible learners.

Darren Russell – Deputy Principal

TRANSITION TO SCHOOL FROM KINDERGARTEN

Starting school is a major life transition for families and children. Managing this change is best done if information is shared between parents, current children, principals and early years’ teachers in schools and kindergartens. By managing the transition to school in a supportive way, children’s continuity of learning is maintained.

A positive start to school means children and families have a greater and ongoing connection with the school community. Have a look at the Step up into education website (http://www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/stepup/) for more information and resources.

BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER

Thank you to the parents who have paid the Student Resource Levy - 2014, statements for outstanding accounts have recently been sent home. These text books are not funded by the government but are essential for the education of the students. All students have been given these books so that no student has been left behind in their school work and if the school has to make the difference in the cost of the text books it becomes a financial cost to the school and other areas which require funding will miss out. Please help support your school and your child.

Sandra Lansdowne – Business Service Manager

IRWIN LEARNING GROUP

Irwin Learning Group has been working hard on their writing skills by following the Seven Steps to Writing guidelines. This format has helped students to plan and develop the structure of their narrative and persuasive texts as well as create interest. Students have learnt how to begin their writing with impact using Sizzling Starts to engage the reader. Here are some examples:

SLAM! The door closed behind Alex. He felt something on his head, crawling along his neck. Alex felt horrified. Then he heard something rustling and hissing near him.

Ellas

Imagine someone was breaking into your house and you were scared. What would your cat do? It would probably hide. Your dog would warn you a thief is entering your home. It would protect you! That’s why I prefer dogs over cats.

Chloe

I am sure you’ll agree this is impressive writing from year 3 students.

Our assembly presentations included a dance called Gallepyte which was popular in Victorian England. The dance is part of our Health Unit with Mrs Pyatt and promotes coordination and cooperation and also its lots of FUN!

Maggie MacPhee – Teacher

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC – The String Ensemble is preparing their pieces to perform at the FANFARE COMPETITION on Tuesday, 10th June at the MIECC. Unfortunately, the Concert Band will not be participating due to low numbers attending before school practice.

Mr. Matthewson is working with all the HPE students preparing pieces to perform at the Twilight Concert on June 12th.

TWILIGHT CONCERT – ALL INSTRUMENTAL (including beginners) and CHOIR GROUPS will be performing at the