**EVENT CALENDAR**

**Cross Country Training**
8am to 8.30am Monday & Wednesday

**REMINDERS**

Photocopy and Consumables Fees are now due for payment at the school office.
Eftpos Facilities available.
Full payment is required by Friday 2nd March

**UPDATE STUDENT DETAILS**

Please remember if any of your current details change to notify the school office.

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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**SCHOOL CAPTAINS.** Congratulations to our new school captains Bailey Cocup and Clare Pullen. Congratulations also to our vice captains Porcia Dryden and Georgia Legge. We have already had a planning session and they are off to a leadership seminar this week.

**HOUSE CAPTAINS.** Well done to our newly appointed house captains. One of their first duties was to meet and chaperone our Cowboy visitors. Louann Kucks, Kendall Bates, (Trecey House) Mary Vollmerhause, Brodie Pullen (Fadden House) and Rhys Head, Mikela Fair (Ross House) were all very happy to perform this duty.

**NEW BUILDINGS.** The students are happily ensconced in the new buildings and learning is occurring at a great rate. While there is still work to be done, the disruptions to learning is minimal. The temporary building will be removed shortly and the oval repaired.

**PROJECT 600.** In keeping with our school improvement goal to extend our students, five of our year 5 students are enjoying an online virtual classroom experience at set times during the week. These students were selected by the project organisers based on their good results in the year 3 NAPLAN test.

**COWBOYS VISIT.** We hosted Dean and Aaron Payne as well as Jason Taumalolo at Walkerston S.S. last week. As well as talking to the children about their careers they also emphasised a healthy lifestyle and the opportunities for girls in sport. The senior boys who play rugby league for the school this season were very interested in their comments.

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS.** Last year’s data has told us that we have moved students from the bottom bands of achievements which is a good achievement. This year we will be moving students to higher bands especially the Top 2 Bands (T2B). We are setting a target to have 30% of our year 3/5 and 7 students move into this band after the NAPLAN tests. Our two focus areas will be Reading and Numeracy. You can help the children achieve this target by making sure they are reading at home and ensuring that they are learning their multiplication tables.

**YEAR 7 CAMP.** Letters have been sent home with the essential information regarding this year’s camp. Unfortunately because of a change in the service provider the date set was the only date available. Costing was based on a worst case scenario and if at the end of the day it worked out cheaper. The big unknown is flight costs which may jump dramatically or decline. Year 7 parents please consider sending your child on this rewarding experience because a minimum number of students of 30 has been set for the trip to go ahead.

**THANK YOU.** Parents have been giving great support on a number of issues including behaviour, parent help, tuckshop and homework. I appreciate this support.

*Phil Wilson*
*Acting Principal*
P&C NEWS
At last night’s P&C meeting we farewelled our hard working and successful executive team from 2012 and welcomed a keen and committed new executive. Congratulations to the executive.

President : Andrea Pinkard
Vice President : Toni-Maree Dodd
Secretary : Michelle McCulloch
Treasurer : Wendy Windsor

Please give them all your support not only in words but whenever you can lend a hand.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WESTS TIGERS
Always taking registrations
Season starts 24th March
Please contact -Jon 0428 987 898
Or secretary.wdjrlfc@hotmail.com.au

North Mackay Little Athletics- Sign On/Try-out.

We are looking for girls and boys aged 3 to 17 to ‘have a go’ in developing the skills for running, throwing, jumping and walking, in a fun and social environment. Come along to our 2012 sign on/try-out days from Sunday 4th March, 9am-12pm, at Pioneer High School Oval, accessible from Celeber Drive.
No experience needed, however closed-in footwear must be worn. We look forward to seeing you.

Mackay Touch Football Association
are holding a Junior Mixed Competition this year starting on 16th March - 1st June for U10, U12, U14 & U16. Sign-On Day Sunday, 26th February at Touch Fields 9.00am - 3.00pm.
All details and nomination can be found on our website.

Interested in joining the Mirani SES
Information nights will be held on Monday 20th & Monday 27th February
At the Mirani SES Shed on Leichhardt Road
For more information please contact 0438700752

PIONEER RIVER VALLEY
HACK & PONY CLUB
OPEN DAY
Always dreamt of owning your own pony but not sure where to start? Too concerned about the financial aspect? Then Pony Club is a great place to get going. Come along to our Open Day on Saturday 3rd March at the P.R.V Clubhouse on Pleystowe Connection Road, Balnagowan to discover what we are all about.
Starting at 3:00 p.m., our very own instructors will show you what is involved in owning a horse. Learn about the costs involved such as agistment costs and equipment costs. Learn how to groom a horse, the basic handling of a horse and etiquette around a horse. Learn the standards for your equipment that are required for Pony Club. But most of all, come and see the fantastic horses we will have on display, to show you that you don’t need to spend big to become a horse owner.
Refreshments will be available on the day. If you have any enquiries please feel free to contact:
Ivan Connell: (07) 4959 8734
Robyn Rawson: (07) 4954 3929

VALLEY GIRL GUIDES is now being held on a Monday afternoon from 3.30-5.30pm at the Mirani CWA hall. Phone Barb Schusser on 49591003 for more info.

UNIT LEADER NEEDED FOR
VALLEY GIRL GUIDES
Guiding is about empowering girls and young women to be their best. We encourage girls to try new things in a non-competitive environment, experiencing adventure as they step outside of their comfort zone. We encourage teamwork, help girls to grow in confidence and inspire girls as young as five to speak up and be heard. We are currently looking for someone to take on the rewarding role of Unit Leader. If you are over 18, caring, enthusiastic, have a great sense of humour and enjoy working and having fun with young people, then you are the kind of woman who would make a great Leader. If you’re interested in joining the largest voluntary organisation for girls and young women in the world we would love to hear from you. For more information, please contact our Regional Leader Karen on 49426177 or check out the website www.girlguides.org.au