PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT. Our focus on improving maths and reading/comprehension results is producing dividends. We recently tested Y3/5/7 before WAVE and after WAVE (term 1) on key reading and NAPLAN items. We found overall improvement for the students was over 26%! A great effort all round. The Courier Mail’s web site showed Walkerston S.S. ahead of state averages of improvement for students Y3 to Y5 and for students Y5 to Y7. A good result indeed.

MATHLETICS. In order to keep our Improvement Agenda as a focus, the school has purchased the Mathletics Program. This program responds to your child’s individual strengths and weaknesses. Teachers can control the content to improve or extend a child’s skills. This can also be geared to the child’s own rate of learning. Logins provided allows students to use this resource at home.

UNDER 8’s. On May 18th Walkerston will host the Under 8’s day from 9am to 11am. There are around 15 organisations involved in the action packed day. Our Preps to Year 3 students will be involved. Keep the date free as it should be a spectacular day.

ACTIVITIES. Well done to our cross country runners who all performed magnificently last week. Congratulations to Ms Henshaw, Ms Kay and all our spectacular MEGABAND players. What a performance! Good luck to our chess players on Friday and also to our ARL Development Cup players who play the knockout on Friday.

LANTERN PARADE. We were given a wrong date. The parade is on next Friday 11th May.

LIGHTHOUSE PROJECT. The program kicks off next Friday.

PROJECT 600. This very successful program ends shortly. Congratulations to the year 5’s and the staff who were involved.

SCHOOL OVAL. We finally had the temporary building moved (after four postponements) the operation cut up part of the oval which has now been levelled and top dressed. We had been talking with staff and P & C regarding moving our 2012 athletics carnival to Mirani High School because of the size of our grounds and not being able to provide for all our children. The resurfacing of the oval is yet another reason to take the carnival of site in 2012. There are several positives in the trial; all students can be catered for, the carnival can be run over one day, MSHS students can help with activities and events and our better athletes will have a regulation track to perform on. The P & C have indicated that they would look at subsidising the buses.

ODDS AND ENDS. The concrete in the work area should be poured on the weekend now that the drainage has been addressed. The fence line can now be mended as the building has been removed. Thanks to Toni-Maree Dodd and Susan McLennan who are providing a truck next Thursday to remove materials too large to be moved by trailer. Turf will be laid on the bare patch that was left by the modular removal.

JOHN WESSEL- Assistant Regional Director. Mr Wessel visited the school last week and was impressed by the students, staff and School Improvement Agenda. He praised the efforts of the school community.

Phil Wilson - Acting Principal
**SCHOOL NEWS**

**WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN FOR OUR SCHOOL**

COMMENCING FROM 9TH MAY 2012 TO 1ST JULY (Close)

We are excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & learn program this year. From 9th May until 1st July, you can earn one Earn & Learn sticker for our school for every $10 you spend at Woolworths (excluding the purchase of cigarettes, alcohol and gift cards or purchases made through Woolworths online or at Caltex Woolworths co-branded fuel outlets). You will earn 1 sticker for every $10 spent.

Once your sticker card is completed bring those sticker cards to school (Woolworths have even given us a special collection box). More sticker cards are available from the School Office if needed.

The more points you bring in, the more we can redeem from a choice of more than 7,000 educational resources including library books, classroom equipment, art & crafts materials and much, much more! Help Woolies to help our school. Collect as many Earm & Learn points as you can!

**CHAPLIANCY NEWS**

I would like to invite all students to help me re-establish the Pauls Collect-a-Cap program. I encourage every family to start collecting their caps to support the continuation of the Breakfast Club program, which runs every Tuesday and Thursday, and it’s good to see that some classes already have quite a collection! The first batch of caps will be collected from classrooms personally by Chappy Amie on Thursday May 24, which will be part of Chappy Week (May 20-27).

Amie O’Callaghan - School Chaplain

**PE NEWS**

**Cross Country**

Congratulations to all the students who presented our school at the PV Trials last Friday. Well done to-

- Ashton Scriha - 1st Under 10
- Alexandra Gall - 3rd Under 10
- Kortney Degauna - 5th Under 11
- Sean Baker - 3rd Under 10
- Keeley Barbeler - 1st Under 11
- Kendall Bates - 2nd Under 12
- Jimmy Watkin - 4th Under 10
- Connor McDermott - 4th Under 11

These students will travel to Sarina Golf Course on Friday 11th May at 8.45am to represent Pioneer Valley. Cost is $3. (Please note the change in date and cost.) Good Luck!

**Rugby League**

Wednesday School Boy’s game was postponed due to illness within the other team. The game will be made up at a later date.

All the best to our school team participating in the carnival on Friday.

**Touch Trials**

Touch trials will now be next Friday at our school from 1.30pm-2.45pm. All interested 11 and 12yr old boys and girls please come and see me.

**P&C NEWS**

**REMINDER OF OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Uniform – Boys and Girls</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skirt / Skorts / Shorts - Black (plain)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirt - Spliced Royal Blue and Red polo shirt with Walkerston State School collar and pocket</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Winter Uniform**

Winter Jackets – available for purchase from office – Cost $35.00

Bottoms are to be black (eg. trousers, slacks). Coats, sweatshirts and the like are to be either royal blue or black

Shoes - closed in shoe or jogger with white socks

**SECONDHAND UNIFORMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SALE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE**

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Stay Safe at Cane Railway Crossings**

Mackay Sugar urges all motorists to be alert when approaching cane railway crossings, even when the sugar mills aren’t crushing. At times, during the non-crush period (November–May), locomotives are using the cane railway lines as part of Mackay Sugar’s maintenance works program, so drivers are asked to please be alert and stay safe at all cane railway crossings. The 2012 Crush will commence in May, so be prepared for increased cane train activity and stay safe! For all community enquiries – contact Mackay Sugar Communications department on 4953 8339.

**AUSTRALIA’S BIGGEST AFTERNOON HIGH TEA**

SUNDAY 27TH May
St Francis Hall
Holland Street Mackay at 2pm
RSVP 14/5/2012
Phone 49524856
Rosechapman57@hotmail.com
Entry $5 – Table of 10 - $45
Lucky Door Prizes, Raffles, Entertainment, St Vincent De Paul Fashion Parade

**WALKERSTON ROTARY MAY FAIR**

Walkerston School Grounds
Saturday 12th May
Starting at 6pm
Rides for the kids
Entertainment
Food ~Drinks ~Delicacies & many Stalls
Cent Sale & Ham wheel

**ST JOHNS PARISH**

Sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation Programme for Year 3 or older for St John’s Parish, will begin with information meeting, on Wednesday 9th May 2012 in St John’s school hall at 7pm. Rite of Commitment will be 12th May 2012. A copy of your child’s Baptismal Certificated will be required.
For more information please contact Trish Hardy o 49541313 or Parish office on 49592241