### PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

**WELCOME BACK.** After a very busy and hectic term 2 we have all arrived back keen to move forward and to embrace the exciting term ahead. This term we have the School Fair (28/7/12), Twilight Concert, Junior Megaband, Battle of the Bands, inter school athletics, a school internal audit and QCAT’s to name a few. I would like to welcome Mr Ben Vonthien onto staff (y4) and also welcome back Mrs Alice Single and Mr Wayne Mezzen.

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT.** An analysis of last semester’s reports against last year’s data shows that overall achievement by students has risen slightly last semester and that the number of ‘E’ students for behaviour and effort have reduced considerably. I have interviewed the students who received an ‘E’ for behaviour (1 down from 2) and effort (4 down from 12) with the intention of lifting those results. The introduction of the Australian Curriculum has had some impact on our results namely, results have drifted towards ‘C’. Given that we thought results would drop with the introduction of C2C’s it gives us a good base to build from.

**AGRICULTURAL SHOW.** Wow what a wonderful result at the show. Walkerston S.S received the Neville Reck trophy from the show and we also received over $400 in money and vouchers for winning the Cane Growing section and placing in other events. A big thank you to our local community and the Mackay and District Agricultural Pastoral and Industrial Association.

**YEAR 7 CAMP.** The students have given me very positive feedback and an overwhelming vote of satisfaction with the recent trip to Brisbane and the Gold Coast. This term we will talk to the year 6 students and parents about the options for 2013.

**PARADE.** From week three we are going to trial having parades on a Friday morning at 9a.m. This hopefully will give more parents the chance to attend and the classes can come straight to the parade without waiting for lessons to finish.

**ODDS AND ENDS.** This week’s wet weather gave our new pathways and ramps a good test. It was great that parents and students could leave the school grounds in a ‘dignified manner’. The flooring and painting of the senior toilets will be finished today and I’m told the commencement of the painting of A and B blocks should start next week. Once that’s finished we can take a breather and enjoy the fresh new surrounds. The school environment is starting to look and feel good and we have a few other plans to make it even more inviting.

**CRICKET.** There are still some places left for after school cricket on Tuesday afternoons. Information and sign up forms are at the office.

**SHOP A DOCKETS.** With your fantastic support with the various promotions the school has received some wonderful ‘goodies’ already with the promise of more to come. We appreciate the efforts of you and our facilitators in gathering and collating the dockets, caps, stickers and cards. A huge amount of Sporting equipment has already been received by the school. A cross section of equipment includes; high jump mats and bars, touch kits, netball kits, minor ball equipment, bags and much, much, more. Thank you

*Phil Wilson*
*Acting Principal*
In May 2012, the Mackay Language Network of Teachers resumed the annual Handwriting Contest for students studying Japanese and Chinese in grades 6-12 in our region. Our students were given a Japanese Haiku poem written in the Japanese script alphabet called Hiragana. Students needed to copy this poem in their neatest Hiragana script writing. I then had the challenging task of selecting the five students with the neatest handwriting from each year level to enter into the competition. These students were Year 6 - Paige Pulman, Brooklyn Palmer, Taylah Irwin, Gareth Everett and Tyler Nicholas. Year 7 - Catherine Thompson, Renae Hill, Mary Vollmerhause, Conner Deguara and Porcia Dryden. A huge congratulations go to Taylah Irwin who placed first in the year 6 contest and to Tyler Nicholas who placed second in the year 6 contest. yokudekimashita! (Well Done!) Nicole Hoy - LOTE Teacher

PAULS COLLECT A CAP
LET'S GET CRACKING!!

The first half of the year saw over 3,500 Pauls collect-a-caps being brought in, which raises money for the Breakfast Club (on every Tuesday & Thursday) thanks so much for your help. I would love to see this support continue. Caps can be dropped off to the office OR your classroom (preferred), however if you want them to go towards your class total, they need to be clearly marked.

As an extra incentive, I have a surprise in store for the class who collects the most caps in Term 3. Let's get cracking!

Chappy Aimee

COMMUNITY NEWS

PARENT READY READERS WORKSHOPS
Learn how to encourage your child’s reading development ... a wonderful opportunity for parents, carers and educators of young children – toddlers to Year 3.

The Parent Ready Readers Program recognises that parents are a child’s first teacher and encourages parents to foster a love of reading in their children.

The program explores:
- A wide range of literacy experiences that happen on a daily basis and how these can provide opportunities for learning in exciting ways
- The knowledge that effective readers draw upon when reading
- Ways to engage your child with reading
- Strategies for supporting reading

Free workshops will be held at:

Gordon White Library        Saturday 4 August 9.30am – 12.00noon
Mirani Library              Monday 6 August 9.30am – 12.00noon
Sarina Library              Tuesday 7 August 9.30am – 12.00noon
Mackay City Library        Wednesday 8 August 9.30am – 12.00noon

Bookings are essential and may be made by calling your local library branch: Gordon White Library 4961 9300, Mackay City Library 4961 9387, Mirani Library 4961 9231, Sarina Library 4961 9297