**Principal’s Report**

**WALKERSTON S.S. ON TOP.** The Walkerston rugby league team has won the Mackay knock out Development Cup round. They were undefeated and on the way to victory they comprehensively beat Northview, Fitzgerald and St Annes. They shortly travel to Moranbah for the Regional semi-finals. The team is also undefeated in the John Paap Shield. Well done to all.

**ODDS AND ENDS.** We have a list of projects that we have earmarked with QBuild. These include; upgrading the water system in the senior boys toilets, putting in safety railings near the drain at A block, fixing the eastern fence, carpeting the year 6/7 block, fixing the purlins on the undercover area and minor maintenance in the library. Some jobs will be attempted this term and others may take a lot longer.

**PARKING.** I have passed on to the council, complaints I’ve received regarding the parking on the grassy area near the water tower. There have been a number of near misses with students not looking for cars or students not being able to be seen by the driver. Apparently there used to be large rocks in the area presumably to prevent these types of incidents. It’s now in the hands of the council.

**UNIFY.** Our students (and staff) on this project have received a glowing ‘rap’ by the state wide organisers who have praised the standard of work being produced by our students. Students involved were Tyler Nicholas, Riley Nicholas, Ashton Scriba and Jessica Grech. The next UNIFY program is starting in a week or so. The program gives our students a virtual online classroom access to university lecturers who guide them through high level tasks.

**CHESS.** Once again our chess players have competed strongly in the Mackay competition. Students involved were Payton Bugeia, Annalese Jacobson, Sean Baker, Jai Barker and Joshua Harding.

**MACDONALD MATHS.** Our students have completed the challenge against other schools and have performed strongly just missing out on receiving a medal. Competing in the Maths competition were Nathan Giles, Riley Nicholas, Mason Clifford, Jamison Harder, Joshua Harding, Cody Nicholas, Tyler Nicholas, Malachy King, Jessica Grech and Tygah Wilson.

**PERFORMING ARTS.** Next week we have our Performance Tour show called ‘A Swag of Tales!’ This is an informative romp through our early days. The school is using some of the money raised at the Book Fair to provide this stimulating experience.

**LONG SERVICE LEAVE.** I will be on leave for the remainder of the term. We are very lucky to have Mr Howard Frost, a very experienced principal and teacher who will be filling in for Mr Hurley who will be the acting principal.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

*Office Hours* 8am—3.30pm
*Parade Every Friday at 8.50am*
*Newsletter every 2nd Thursday*
*PCYC After School Care 4942 3296*
*Absence Line: 4959 4366*

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**Spotlight**

**MATHLETICS CONTRIBUTIONS $20 PER STUDENT PAYABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE**

**HEADLICE**
Please check your child’s hair regularly for headlice.

**EARN & LEARN**
Please place completed sticker forms and place them in the box located in the office foyer.

**STUDENT LUNCH BOXES**
Could parents please remind and encourage all students to collect and put away lunch boxes after finishing their lunches.

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**VISIT FROM THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR.** Mr John Wessell recently visited the school to look at our progress, strategies and student improvement agenda. He was very satisfied with what he saw. That is a great reflection on the staff and students of the school. One of the things we discussed was the raising of the benchmarks for our students. Mr Wessell saw first-hand the improvements our students are making and agrees that by lifting the expectations for results we will see long term benefits for our students. In the last newsletter I stressed that our students are improving and learning but it is more difficult to attain a ‘C’ standard because of the lifting of standards/benchmarks with the introduction of the Australian Curriculum into the Prep year.

**ASHTON SCRIBA QUALIFIES FOR WORLD UCI BMX CHAMPIONSHIPS.** Congratulations to Ashton who recently qualified for the Australian team to compete at the world titles. WOW!! We wish him all the best in July when the championships are held.

**WORKING BEE.** A number of people have said that next Friday does not suit for the Working Bee due to a number of factors including; a long weekend and the Regional Development Cup semi-final. As a result we’ll drop it back to the following Friday (14th) Apologies for any inconvenience.

**NAPLAN.** NAPLAN has come and gone for another year with very little evidence of stress shown by our students. NAPLAN however does not go away and our staff and students have plans for the next 12 months so that we continue to improve our results.
Expressions of interest are being sought for the position of Tuckshop Convenor - Commencing Term 3 2013.

The school is seeking an experienced, suitably committed and enthusiastic person for the position of Tuckshop Convenor. This is a continuing term position commencing Term 3 2013.

Key functions include:
Management of the school Tuckshop.
Supervision of part-time staff.
Implementation of Workplace Health and Safety procedures.
Coordination of volunteer helpers.

Applicants must be self-motivated, hold a current drivers licence, and ideally have previous experience in the catering industry. Applicants must hold or be eligible to hold a ‘Working with Children’ Suitability Card and have a Food Handling Certificate from a recognised training organisation.

Application information can be collected from the school office from Monday June 3 2013.

School Bus Assistance for Lower Income Families

The State Government has a Bus Safety Net Scheme for some students who do not receive other forms of School Transport Assistance and are members of lower income families. There may be some families who are eligible for assistance but unaware of the scheme.

Who may be eligible?
To be eligible for assistance under the Safety Net Scheme, students must be in one of the following categories:
- Students of families eligible for a Health Care Card
- Students eligible for a Health Care Card
- Students of families eligible for a Pensioner Concession Card
- Students of families receiving Veterans Affairs Pension or
- Students placed under a Care and Protection Order

Application forms with further details are available by calling into the Translink Division of the Department of Transport and Main Road in Industrial Street, Mackay or by telephoning 4951 8313.

Conveyance Allowance Assistance

Conveyance Allowance is an assistance provided by the Department of Transport and Main Roads to eligible parents/guardians who drive their students to school or to the route of the school bus.

There are several types of Conveyance Allowance available. These are determined by the type of school attended, distance driven to school or bus route and the type of school bus service (if any) provided in your area.

Application forms with further details are available by calling into the Translink Division of the Department of Main Roads in Industrial Street, Mackay or by telephoning 4951 8313.

10th Birthday Party for 10 year olds

Sunday June 9th 10.00am to 12noon

The Botanical Gardens turn 10 in 2013 and we want to celebrate with all the 10 year olds in the Mackay Region. Join us for a fun-filled day of outdoor activities and adventure.

- Receive a certificate and a special gift
- Mini Masterchef and birthday cake
- Gardens treasure hunt, giant maze and much more!

Register online before May 31st, visit:
www.mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au

For further information -
Phone 1300 MACKAY (622 529) or
Email info@mackay.qld.gov.au

New to Mackay? The Welcome to Mackay Centre offers information on everything you might need to know about setting up and adjusting to life in the Mackay region. We would like to welcome you to a FREE Welcome to Mackay bus tour so you can get to know a bit more about Mackay and the local community.

Saturday 22nd June 2013

10.30am for 11.00am departure. Departs Old Town Hall in Sydney Street at 11.00am to return at 1.00pm. Cost - It’s FREE!!