Congratulations to our Sports leaders

Sean Baker, Queensland Champion in Shot put

Sean recently returned from representing Capricornia at the Qld Primary Schools Track and Field Championships. He competed in the Boys 12yr Shot put and Discus, coming 1st (out of 30) in the Shot put with a throw of 13.36m (his P.B) and 14th (out of 30) in the discus with a throw of 31.18m (also a P.B). Sean now goes on to represent Queensland at the National All Schools Championship in Penguin, Tasmania from the 27th November till the 1st December. Well done Sean!

Jessica Grech, Sports Scholarship winner for Mirani State High School

Acting Deputy Principal from Mirani State High School, Michael Post, visited the school last Friday to award Jessica her Sports Scholarship for Mirani State High School. Jessica is one of only three Year 7 students in the Pioneer Valley to win a scholarship from Mirani High. Jessica’s application stood out above all other candidates by clearly explaining how she successfully manages to balance both her sporting and academic commitments, and works hard to achieve her goals. Well done as well Jessica.
Principal’s Report

Interim Reports Review

Last week students received their Interim Reports. These reports give parents and caregivers an idea of the progress their children have made by the end of Term 3.

With our Greater Results Guarantee focusing on students’ success in literacy and numeracy, our attention naturally falls to looking at how our students are progressing in English and Maths. From the start of the year, our Greater Results Guarantee was that we would end the year with 75% of students passing English and Maths.

At the end of Semester 1, we had 69% of students passing English, and 79% of students passing Maths. I’m pleased to announce that the percentage of students getting a C or higher for English has increased to 73%, while Maths has dropped slightly to 78%.

All up, 15 more students are now passing English than were at the end of Semester 1. This improvement is the direct result of the hard work and focussed support of our teachers, and the students responding in a similar fashion to lift their game when it comes to completing assessment.

Students that managed to improve their results in two or more of our Core subjects, English, Maths and Science, received recognition for this at our last parade. The recipients of these Principal’s Awards are listed in this newsletter.

Well done staff and students, our goal now should be to keep up this rate of improvement so we definitely meet our end of year target.

How to resolve problems appropriately

I’ll move on now to a very serious matter, but do so by first highlighting a real positive. Over the past week I’ve had my attention drawn to instances of conflict between students. In each case, the teacher of one of the students involved was notified about the problem via a letter written by a parent or caregiver.

I would like to commend any parent who has done this. By putting concerns down on paper, it allows the parent time to compose their thoughts, and ensure the information they receive from their child is as accurate as can be. In at least two instances, this has allowed the school to conduct interviews with the children and parents concerned, and begin mediation processes and/or warnings regarding behaviour.

However, there can be times in which parents/caregivers decide instead to take matters into their own hands, and attempt to resolve problems by directly approaching the student with whom their child is in dispute. Unfortunately, in these situations it is very easy to be overcome by both the heat of the moment and the innate desire to protect one’s child, and so let emotions get ahead of rational and reasonable thinking.

Anyone who engages in this sort of behaviour runs the serious risk of verbally abusing a child, and/or inflaming a situation and making it worse. Parents or caregivers acting in such a way can be classified as ‘hostile people on school grounds’, and Principals are given special powers via the Education Act to deal with such people. This may result in a decision to restrict the access that a parent or caregiver has to the school grounds for a definite period of time. Any breach of this restriction could result in the person being fined by the police.

This needs to be stated directly: If you are upset with the actions of a child, the only reasonable course of action to take is to approach your child’s teacher, or a member of the school administration, to discuss the matter. Moreover, it’s my view that if any parent or caregiver engage in an argument with a child, other than their own, about their conduct, the adult has already lost the argument.

Indigenous Parent Education Reference Group

Our school has been invited to nominate two parents/caregivers of indigenous students to attend the next Indigenous Parent Education Reference Group meeting. The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20th, at Victoria Park State School from 1:00 to 2:30pm. At the meeting, participants will have the opportunity to come together and share ideas and discuss relevant topics relating to Indigenous education. If you are interested in participating, please let me know.
**Student of the Week Awards for Term 4 — Weeks 1 & Week 2**

**Prep A**  
Zoden Crowe for always working well with others and being a kind and considerate class member.

**Prep B**  
Peter Schatkowski for outstanding work with his Rainbow facts.

Chloe Hemley for working hard in literacy with her sentence

**Prep C**  
Aiaki Ghee for doing some wonderful story. Keep up the great work Aiaki!

Tahlia Vella for putting a lot of effort into her handwriting which is always neatly presented.

**Class 1A**  
Brendan McCowat for being a caring and thoughtful class member.

**Class 1B**  
Stella Collins for being a polite, friendly student who always tries her best and works hard. Well done Stella!

Rhyley Hart for working extremely hard on his sentence structure during writing. Well done Rhyley!

**Class 2A**  
Mark Schlitter for always working conscientiously on all Maths activities. Keep up the good work Mark!

Toby Hill for always working conscientiously on all Maths activities. Keep up the good work Toby!

Charli Woodhouse for always having a positive attitude towards all her class work.

Imogen Kennedy for always works on her class tasks with a positive attitude.

**Class 2B**  
Ella Prattfuss for a great effort towards your learning. Keep up the good work!

Haylee Moss for being a diligent, hard worker during all given tasks.

**Class 3A**  
Jayden Richards. Jayden you are a Maths wiz! Your application of knowledge is stupendous. Bravo!

Sonny Ferguson Sonny you are amazing! You continually tackle your work with great determination. Bravo!

Damian White because I am so impressed with your reading and comprehension skills! You are a fabulous MEGA STAR!

Zoe-Lee Christie, your sparkling smile brightens our classroom! Keep up the positive attitude & brilliant smile.

**Class 3B**  
Ahrielle Spencer for a fantastic start at Walkerston S.S. You are working SUPER hard. Welcome to 3B.

Laura Brett for Exceptional effort and enthusiasm towards all tasks. Your work is always of a high standard.

Mason Payne for Producing a FANTASTIC piece of persuasive writing. Well done Mason!!

Flynn Proctor for always working conscientiously with a positive attitude towards his work. Well done Flynn!!

**Class 4A**  
Lauren Jones for writing a clever, well constructed explanation for her end of term English assessment.

Paige Dodd for being a responsible student who can always be depended upon to make right choices.

**Class 45B**  
Lydia Jones for her dynamic and cheerful disposition to learning. You’re awesome!

Chelleah Single for a great effort in reading with Mrs C. You're awesome!

**Class 5A**  
Bryce Hart for a wonderful improvement in your reading. Keep up the great work, Bryce!

**Class 67B**  
Tristen Rawsthorne for having an excellent start to Term 4. Keep it up!

Billy Smith for always contributing extremely well in class discussions and working to the best of his ability

**Class 7A**  
Alexandria Gall for putting in the effort and commitment needed to improve her English results. Well done!

Ethan Reid for actively participating in class discussions, especially in History.

Tait Poli for achieving excellent results in Maths.
PRINCIPAL AWARDS For Term 4

Colby Aleman—is now passing English, and has improved Science to a B

Emily Austin—Has improved English to an A, and Maths to a B

Kayla Austin—Has improved English and Maths to B’s

Charli Bostock—Has improved her results for English and Science to A’s. Charli now has all A’s for English, Maths & Science.

Bianka Butt—is now passing English, and has improved Maths to a B

Charisse Evans-St John—Has improved both English and Science to B’s

Toby Falconer—Has improved English to a B, and Science to an A

Ryan Fontelera—is now passing both Maths and Science

Bailey Haines—Has moved up one level of achievement for both Maths and Science

Campbell Harder—Has improved all of his results for English, Maths and Science up to A’s

Madeleine Harvey—Has improved Maths to a B, and Science to an A

Carson Janke—Has improved English to a B, and Science to an A

Kaye Murphy—Has improved his results for English and Science to A’s. Kayde now has all A’s for English, Maths & Science.

Tatarnya Poli—Has improved both English and Science to B’s

Cade Ryland—is now passing English, and has improved Maths to a B

Ashton Scriha—Has improved his results for English and Science to A’s. Ashton now has all A’s for English, Maths & Science.

Billy Smith—Has improved English to a B, and Science to an A

Kyal Sorensen—is now passing English, Maths and Science

Gus Southwell—Has improved both English and Science to B’s

Damien White—is now passing English and Maths

Jordan Whittaker—Has improved English, Maths and Science to B’s

Rudy Whittington—is now passing English and Maths
A NOTE FROM YOUR SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

Recently on photo day we took the following special group photos:

- School Captains with Principal
- House Captains with Principal
- Student Council with Principal
- Senior Concert Band
- Junior Concert Band
- Capricornia Representatives
- Age Champions
- Chess Club

These presentations are a group photo presentation with the children standing together with their individual portraits below.

These special group photo presentations are available for purchase for only $27 ea by collecting a special group envelope from the school office.

You have until Friday, 21st November 2014 to purchase at this price (orders placed after Friday, 21st November 2014 will incur a $20 search fee as the images will then be archived).

Class photo orders will be delivered to the school in approximately 28 days.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of your photo day experience with us, we would love to hear your feedback on 4921 3355 or by email at schoolphotos.cq@msp.com.au

Keep smiling!!

P&C NEWS

The next P & C Meeting will be at 1pm on Friday 31st of October at 1pm in the Hall. All are welcome. The P & C plays a vital role in supporting the school community. At the moment we are subsidising the bus transport for swimming lessons. We are currently in the process of organising a shade for the playground near the prep building. All money raised by the P & C goes into school improvements.

Frees Dress Day - Friday 31st October in aid of CQ Rescue Helicopters. Students are encouraged to wear yellow and blue and make a gold coin donation.

A reminder to return all orders from the Chalk catalogues with payment by Thursday 30th October. You can take the opportunity to stock up on school supplies for next year at great prices.

The P & C fundraising event for this term is the Walkerston State School Melbourne Cup Luncheon. This is held on Tuesday 4th of November at The Duke Hotel from 11am. Tickets are $30 and include a two course meal as well as an entry in the door prize. There will be sweeps, a cent sale, prizes for best dressed and best hat as well as spot prizes and raffles. Tickets can be purchased at the Duke Hotel. If you are unable to attend, please consider donating cent sale/raffle prizes. These can be left at the school office or at the hall any morning before school.

Our beloved treasurer will no longer to be able to continue in her position next year. If you are able to take on the role next year, Karen is happy to give you training. Please contact Andrea on 0427593384.

Book Fair

The library will be hosting a book fair from Monday 10th to Friday 14th November. Everyone is invited to come in and see what is on offer. It is a great opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping.

There will be a slight change to the way credit card payments are accepted this time. Scholastic has introduced the payment method used when ordering from Book Club – online or via mobile phone. Parents ring up or go online and write the receipt number on a slip which will be available in the library. This has been introduced because credit cards are now being issued without raised numbers, therefore they don’t work in the old swipe machines which we were given previously.

See you at the fair.

CHAPLAIN REPORT

Hi Everyone,

It’s a busy term and we are almost through Week 3 already! Congratulations to all who performed in the eisteddfod. You should be very proud of yourselves.

A quick reminder that Breakfast Club is on every morning from 8am. We stop serving at 8.40am so the students are ready to start the school day on time, I would like to thank Walkerston Bakery, Woolworths Walkerston and Kelloggs for supplying all our breakfast needs. Thanks also to the Reject Shop at Marian who recently donated an extra toaster. A big thank you to the dedicated volunteers who help at Breakfast Club. Remember all are welcome at Breakfast Club and parents and teachers are invited to pop in and say hello.

I am available at school all day Mondays and Wednesday and every other morning.

I’m looking forward to a great term.
National Bandanna Day 2014

National Bandanna Day is October 31st. We have sold out of the first order but will have more Bandannas for sale next week. All money raised through the sale of these goods will go to CanTeen Queensland which supports Young People Living With Cancer.

Bandannas - $4  Pens - $3
(on sale in the library)

HOMEBUSH STATE SCHOOL

TURNS 125 YEARS OLD!

Homebush State School is celebrating 125 years on Friday 24th/Saturday 25th October. A formal dinner will be held on the school grounds on Friday evening commencing at 6pm. Tickets are available from the office at $50 per head which includes a 3 course meal, entertainment and prizes.

The Saturday celebrations commence at 11am and conclude at 6:30pm. The formal ceremony starts at 12pm, followed by a fabulous family fun day. There will be a myriad of activities including a range of historical, art and dance displays as well as live entertainment and children’s rides and activities. A variety of hot and cold food and drinks will be available for purchase including a fully licensed bar.

Keep this date free and head out to Homebush School to join in and help celebrate this most auspicious occasion. For more information please contact the office on (07)49597286.

 Rotary Club of Mackay West Inc.
District 9570
PO Box 610
Mackay, Qld 4740
http://www.mackaywestrotary.com.au

The Mackay West Rotary Club Annual Christmas Fair is on Friday and Saturday, 24th and 25th October at Col Story Rotary Park, the City Gates starting at 6 pm.

PARISH FAIR

DATE: 1ST NOVEMBER , 2014
TIME : 6 PM
PLACE : ANN ST WALKERSTON
On the night their will be BBQ, HOT CHIPS, PASTIZZI, DO NUTS, DRINKS TEA & COFFEE BAR
HAM WHEEL, CENT SALE, BOTTLE STALL, SPUTNIK & RAFFLE
(FIRST PRIZE $1000.00 WORTH OF GROCRIES )
LOTS OF CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES & SANTA
Come along for a good night out
For further information call Doris on 49 593 338
Mobil 0487 593 338 Email vassalloflowers@yahoo.com.au

CAR KEYS FOUND

LEFT IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON TUESDAY
FORD CAR KEYS WITH A BLUE CLIP
CONTACT THE OFFICE ON 49594333

Western Districts Junior Rugby League

MONSTER CENT SALE
Sunday 26th October 2014, 1.00pm
- Over 200 prizes
- Jackpot prizes
- Major Prize: 1/2 a beast (worth $800)
- Lucky door prize
Tickets go on sale at 12pm Everyone welcome!