



Issue 19
23 November 2023

WALKERSTON STATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

PUTTING LEARNING FIRST - EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY

Date Claimers

November

23 St Patricks Orientation Day
23 CMC Orientation Day
29 Mirani SHS Orientation Day
30 Awards Night

December

1 Colour Fun Run
4 Step up day
4 Mackay SHS Orientation Day
5 Christmas Concert
7 Year 6 Graduation Dinner
8 Last Day of Term 4
25 Christmas Day
26 Boxing Day

January

22 First Day Term 1, 2024

Spotlight

30/11—
Awards Night

5/11—
Christmas Concert

General Information

Office Hours 8am—3.30pm
Parade Every Monday at 9am
Newsletter every 2nd Wednesday
PCYC After School Care 4942 3296
Absence Line: 4959 4366

Whole School Behaviour Focus

**Respecting Others Right to Learn and Respect Property & the Environment –
“Leave area neat and tidy, even if it was messy when you entered”
and “keep work space tidy”**



Principal's Report— Mr Darren
Russell
T4Wk8

Attendance

Attendance over the last fortnight has remained steady at 91.5%. While this sits below our aspirational target of 94%, it still is considered above expectations for the State and Relative (Like Schools/Expected performance) attendance performance measures of 90%.

As part of our Student Awards Program our Attendance Award is returning this year and will be presented to those students who have achieved or exceeded our school target of 94%. These Awards will be presented to students at next week's Awards Night with final attendance rates calculated as at the end of this week. Congratulations to the following classes in their outstanding efforts with attendance over the last fortnight:

Term 4 Week 6 Attendance Champions – 6B (100%)
Most Improved Class Term 4 Week 6 – PA (11% improvement)
Term 4 Week 7 Attendance Champions – 2B (98%)
Most Improved Class Term 4 Week 7 – 2B (4% improvement)

Behaviour Focus – Our whole school behaviour focus for the next fortnight is about Respecting Others Right to Learn and Respect Property & the Environment– “Leave area neat and tidy, even if it was messy when you entered” and “keep work space tidy”.

Staff have been explicitly teaching and reinforcing this expectation focused on all of the areas in

which they work and play in the school (classrooms, playgrounds, eating areas, library etc). Our expectation is that we respect our school and those who learn, play and visit it and an important way that we show this respect is by keeping our school neat, tidy and free of rubbish. If we walk past a piece of rubbish, we pick it up (regardless of whether it was ours). The expectation that we walk past is the expectation that we accept. Our expectation at Walkerston is a school that is neat, tidy and rubbish free.

There have certainly been ample opportunities for staff to observe and acknowledge students achieving our behaviour focus through the distribution of happy tickets. We encourage parents to also talk to their children about this expectation and what actions they have been taking to achieve it over the last fortnight.

The Resilience Project

We have now concluded our school enquiry focused on using The Resilience Project to support our student Social-Emotional Program and have made the decision not to continue this program in 2024. Unfortunately for the financial commitment involved, we didn't achieve the results that we were hoping for in regards to student wellbeing. The Department is investing significant resources in schools to implement the 'RESPECT' Program as part of the Respectful Relationships Education suite which is included as part of the Health Program aligned to the Australian Curriculum. Our staff are now committed to focusing on undertaking PD and utilising this program to support the social emotional development of our students as we continue implementing the 'General Capabilities' strands of the Australian Curriculum.



(Continued on page 2)

RSL Bursary Presentation

Congratulations to our Yr 6 RSL Bursary Winner Maddie R. who recently was presented with her award at the community Remembrance Day Service. All three students did an outstanding job with their presentations held recently, commemorating the life of former Walkerston soldier Thomas George Stoddard.



Yr 5 Student Leader Speeches

Our shortlisted Yr 5 student leader nominees are to be congratulated on their speeches which were delivered last week. All positions have multiple candidates and the nominees have certainly given our students and staff plenty to think about. We wish them the best of luck and look forward to the 2024 Student Leadership Team announcement at next week's Senior Awards Night.

Annual Awards Evening

Invitations to students to attend our annual awards evening were sent home yesterday. Students are reminded to meet upon arrival at L Block (Yr 1 classrooms) in full school uniform. Our Junior Awards Evening commences at 5:30pm with students meeting in L Block at 5:15pm. Our Senior Awards Evening commences at 7pm with students meeting in L Block at 6:45pm. We look forward to our annual awards evening where we celebrate and acknowledge the wonderful achievements of our students with their academic, performing arts and sporting endeavours.

CQ Rescue Colouring-In Competition

Congratulations to Esme W. who was awarded 3rd prize in the CQ Rescue 'Colouring in Competition' that all Mackay schools were encouraged to enter recently. The CQ Rescue Chopper provides a valued local service that our school community supports each year and it was great to see one of our students recognised for their efforts with this particular promotional activity. Esme received as part of her 3rd place prize, a karaoke machine, some Moana Lego and a CQ Rescue pack! Great work Esme!



Report Cards

Staff are submitting report cards to Admin this Friday for reading as the editing process begins in readiness for reports to be emailed home to parents on Monday 4th December. Parents are encouraged to make contact with teachers during the last week to discuss any concerns or questions that they might have regarding their child's progress after reviewing their report card.



Christmas Concert

Plans are being finalised for our annual Christmas Concert to be held on Tuesday 5th December. To maximise student engagement with the event, to enhance the performances of our students and to showcase our performance hall, we are deciding to run a Junior and Senior Concert (similar to our Awards Night Ceremonies) in the hall.



Details are as follows:

5:15pm – 6pm Junior Concert (Prep – 2)

6pm – 6:15pm (Interval – Please note that no food will be on sale. P&C will sell drinks only).

6:15pm – 7pm Senior Concert (Yr 3-6)

Students will receive their P&C donated Christmas Books at the conclusion of the last performance of each concert.

Teachers will then take students out to the basketball court to be collected by parents.

2024 Predicted Numbers and Class Structures

Current numbers are situated at 309 however we would expect this to grow up to 320 by the time Day 8 2024 arrives and student numbers are submitted to the Department. At this stage we will be running a 13 class model with all classes having room for new enrolments except for Prep, as we have currently 2 full Prep classes (50 students in total). At this stage we have only two composite classes in this model, a 5/6 class and a 2/3 class.

We look forward to Step Up Morning on Monday 4th December when students will spend the morning session (following assembly) with their 2024 teacher and classmates.

Student of the Week Awards for **Week 6 & Week 7**

Class PA	Riley —For the wonderful work you did with your handwriting last week! We are proud of you Riley! Odie —For consistently following school rules and being respectful to everyone you meet. Thank you Odie!
Class PB	Gus —For always giving 100% effort in Reading and always looking for ways to improve his skills. Hunter —For giving 100% effort to improve his reading and always having a great 'I-can-do-it' attitude.
Class 1A	Rivah —For trying extra hard to listen and complete tasks with improved efforts. Well done! William —For great listening and fantastic efforts.
Class 1B	Eleanor —A fantastic start in 1B! Eleanor is working hard and striving to achieve her best. Keep up the Great work! Cohen —Being actively involved in all our learning experiences in 1B. Cohen always presents his work neatly.
Class 2A	Kody —For being organised and independently working to complete tasks to a high standard. Well done!
Class 2B	Charlie —For your wonderful efforts in reading quietly and independently every afternoon.
Class 3A	Rhylee —For working quietly and conscientiously on all class tasks. Great effort Rhylee! Shelbi —Always displaying a quiet independent work ethic! Great learner, Shelbi!
Class 4A	Briella —For continuing to be a positive role model in our classroom and working hard towards your learning.
Class 5A	Ndeesha —For respecting others by being kind, considerate, well-mannered and helpful. Thank you! Heath —For demonstrating much enthusiasm, persistence and skills in solving mathematical problems.
Class 6B	Frankie —For using relevant quotes and sources to support your justifications. Well done, Frankie!
PE Junior	Dustin —For always being a good sport in every target game and helping others to follow the rules. You are tops!
PE Senior	Jaxn —For a huge improvement in his effort and involvement to promote fair play when playing cricket. Great to see.



Cultural News

Awards Night

The concert band and choir are performing at Awards Night on Thursday 30th November. Students will be required to wear their normal school uniform. This will be the final performance for 2023 for both ensembles.

End of Year Concert

This year our end of year concert is being held in the hall. There will be a Junior Concert and then following will be a Senior Concert—times to be confirmed. Students will meet their classroom teacher on the basketball court and sit in front of the stage in the hall for the concert. Students can be collected from the basketball court at the conclusion of the concert.

All students have prepared a dance and some carols for this concert. Students may wear free dress. We do ask they wear their school shoes for safety.

The wonderful P and C will be selling drinks during the evening.

RSL 75th Commemorative Service

On Saturday 18th November the recorder band was a part of the celebration service for the local Walkerston – Pleystowe sub branch. This service commemorated 75 years of the RSL sub-branch in Walkerston. It was very humbling to be a part of the service and do our part to contribute back to the community.





SUMMER HOLIDAY ENGINEERING, ROBOTICS & ELECTRONICS 2 DAY CAMP WONDER KIDZ

CQUniversity Campus Ooralea

Wednesday 20th December - Thursday 21st December

Eligibility	Date	Time	Fee	No. of Days	Book online*
Yr 1 - 6	20-21 Dec	9:00am to 3:00pm	\$176	2	www.trybooking.com/CNEUG

*Always consult the booking link for any changes. Every effort is made to ensure this brochure is accurate but all changes are reflected online.

From Sustainable Farming to self-driving cars, **Advanced Engineering & Robotics** model a range of real-world situations that teach students a complete understanding of how the technology works and used to solve the issue at hand. The engineering lessons engage kids with a hands-on learning environment and immerse them in the applications and possibilities of modern technologies. Through PBL (Project-based learning), students combine hardware, LEGO compatible building blocks, and coding to create a prototype and solve real-world problems. The projects are designed to encourage students to input other viable solutions to these real-world issues and explore ways to utilize existing technology. The completion of these projects will boost confidence and create problem solving ability in students to overcome any challenge from working in their future jobs to solving our world's current or future problems. **All activities are adjusted to the student age and we tackle different challenges on each day.**



**STEM
EDUCATION**

Limited spots available!
Early bird discounts
apply for a short time.



**YOUNG
ENGINEERS
Australia**

Build Your Tomorrow. Today!

Are you traveling through Central Queensland these holidays? Check out our other locations on our main web page.

For more information
please call 0424 985 172
pavle@young-engineers.com.au
cq-young-engineers.com.au

Engineering & Robotics Program provides theoretical knowledge in software and mechanical engineering combined with mathematics and physics.
Electronics Our electronic kits are specifically designed to minimise assembly time which creates more opportunity to explore the learning's behind how each experiment works. Learn to build circuits in the classroom.
Build-Up Program is designed for little children where they start from learning the basics of building Lego Models including improving them and end up building models independently with a friend and enjoying group game.

MACKAY STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Uniform Shop

10% OFF

FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

Opening hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
8am - 11am

Order Online @

[https://schoolshoponline.net.au/
mackayshs/index.aspx](https://schoolshoponline.net.au/mackayshs/index.aspx)



Disaster Emergency Preparation



For information visit:
getready.qld.gov.au



MACKAY REGIONAL DASHBOARD

Save this on your home screen to keep updated
<https://disaster.mackay.qld.gov.au>



HOW TO PREPARE & WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Share this information with others
<https://www.getready.qld.gov.au/check-out-what-you-need>



CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS & SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Make sure your House Insurance is up to date
<https://www.fcfnational.com.au/blog/extinguishing-fires>



DO YOU AND THOSE YOU LIVE WITH HAVE A SAFETY PLAN

Make sure you and others are safe
<https://www.getready.qld.gov.au/plan>

Contact The Neighbourhood Hub
for more information:
PH: (07) 4957 2626



Help our Kids get Safely to School

Become a School Crossing Supervisor
and make a real difference to the lives
of school children.



Working with us you will:

- be paid a generous casual rate of pay with leave loading
- be entitled to long service leave
- have access to the government superannuation scheme



Where: Walkerston State School – Dutton Street & St John's Creek St

Hours: Up to 15 hrs per fortnight- Crossing times are as follows
mornings 7.50am to 8.50am & afternoons are 2.45pm to 3.15pm

Pay: Casual relief rate: \$32.70 per hour

Duties: Assist children crossing roads at local schools

- Training is provided
- You will be required to undergo a medical & working with children Blue Card check provided by the Department of Transport & Main Roads

Contact: The School or Road Safety Officer Karen Cantoni on 0409 511 542
for application forms