Dear Parents and Carers,

STUDENT SAFETY

The drop-off and pick-up zone is a very busy place, especially in the afternoons. Please use this zone safely and always think about the safety of all the children in our school.

If you know you have to wait for your children to come out, find a park in the parking area and meet them at the gate so that you can walk them safely across to the car. Children walking on their own between cars are difficult to see and could quite easily be accidentally hit.

The drop-off/pick-up zone is not a designated parking area. To use this area effectively, drivers need to remain in their cars, move forward as the vehicle in front departs and only remain in the zone for a few minutes. If your child hasn’t arrived during that time, drive around the car park and come back through the zone in the same manner. The Mackay Police have been in contact with schools letting them know that they will be patrolling school zones at peak times.

The disabled zone is only to be used by vehicles displaying a disabled parking sticker.

Please be mindful of our students, set a good example and keep them safe. We thank you for your consideration.

YEAR 5/6 CAMP

Last week I had the great fortune of attending the Year 5/6 Sydney/Canberra Excursion with a group of forty-nine Year 5 and 6 students. I would like to say from a school point of view what wonderful ambassadors these students were for Mackay North State School. As a school and as parents we can be very proud of these young people. They received numerous compliments on their behaviour and their manners, both in public and when we were visiting specific attractions.

A specific thanks needs to go to Mrs Neralyn Finch who was the main organizer behind this camp, and also to Mrs Grant, Mrs Dorante and Mrs Day for their professionalism and organization that made this camp a wonderful experience for all involved.

The children who remained at the school participated in an interesting week of activities with Mrs Saunders and Mr O’Donnell. Thank you to everyone who helped the week run smoothly.

(Cont’d)
WAKAKIRRI

Last Thursday evening I attended the regional Wakakirri finals at the MECC. Our school was one of 11 schools performing on the evening. It was a very enjoyable evening, with all schools performing fantastically on the night.

Our team performed a story called the ‘Peasant Prince,’ which is about a poor Chinese boy who was chosen from obscurity, followed his dream and became a star dancer in New York. The story is quite relevant for everyone – follow your dream, be tenacious and you will be successful.

It was pleasing to hear from staff at the MECC, who were the Wakakirri organising team, that the students from our school were the best prepared, most well-mannered and organised of all the schools in attendance. In fact our students performed last on the evening which meant that they had to wait almost 5 hours from the time they arrived to going on stage and they did this in a magnificent way. This was recognised by the judges who awarded our school the “Best Teamwork Award” on the night.

Congratulations need to go to Mrs Daniel and Mrs Scott for their ongoing efforts in preparing the Wakakirri team and performance for 2015.

Congratulations also to the many helpers who made this event such as success.

SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY

Parents/Caregivers, school staff and the representative sample of students are encouraged to take part in this year’s School Opinion Survey and share their opinions about what this school does well and how this school can improve.

Access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey have been sent home with students (oldest in the family). These are not linked to individuals, and you cannot be identified in the survey results that will be reported back to the school, or by the department. The access details are contained on the BLUE letters your oldest child brought home a couple of weeks ago. This is a great opportunity to inform the school about your satisfactions levels with the service we provide.

Parents and caregivers are welcome to complete their survey online at the school. School computers will be available in the mornings in the library. The survey will remain open until 14 August 2015.
BUILD UP FREQUENT FATHER POINTS

Michael Grose looks at the importance of topping up Frequent Father points, and the benefits for both dads and for kids.

A good friend enthusiastically told me how he was looking forward to spending a few days away on his own with his two kids, aged 10 and 13. He was feeling quite chuffed.

He was having some ‘dad time’ with his kids. Good on him!

He was doing some memory building & relationship building, as well as having some fun.

He told me that he was aware that his kids were getting older and he knew such opportunities were diminishing.

Gone are the days when the only relationship many men had with their kids was through their wife. She would explain him to the kids (‘Your dad’s very busy but he would love to see you play sport but he can’t make it.’) As well, she’d keep him up-to-date with the children’s lives.

Blokes, it seems, are valuing the time they spend with their kids on their own.

Or at least the dads I mix with are. Spending time alone with kids is a great way to build confidence in dads.

And the kids usually just love it.

Mothers can play a role here by not getting in the way if their husband or partner wants a little time alone with kids. (Most mums I meet welcome this!)

Children usually associate their fathers with activity. When I ask children to tell me about their dads they usually talk about the things that they like to do together with their dads. Playing, walking, fishing, wrestling….the list goes on.

It’s through shared activity and involvement in kids’ lives that dads build up frequent father points. It’s hard to build good connection with kids when you are not there!

(Cont’d)
DON'T WAIT UNTIL ADOLESCENCE

These relationships are best built in childhood, when kids just love their dads to bits and want to be around him. It gets trickier in adolescence, but having shared interests developed in childhood gives you a connection point during these sometimes turbulent times.

Dads also benefit from spending time with their kids. Most health scales state a healthy relationship with their children is a predictor of good health and longevity for men. I’m not sure where the health benefits come from, but I suspect there is something relaxing and de-stressing about getting into a child’s space. There is a big kid inside most men just busting to get out.

These days we take parenting pretty seriously and it’s easy to forget that one of the fundamentals of raising kids well is to spend some time in your child’s space, doing stuff, or not doing stuff, whatever the case maybe.

So how are your (or your partner’s) Frequent Father Points going? If they need some topping up then you can start by doing something together that they enjoy.

Having a bit of fun together is the best place to start.

Author’s note: Sole mums can take these ideas on-board to have a NO RULES weekend with your kids, where you have a change of routine and activity that can give kids the chance to see you in a different way.

READER’S CUP TEAM

ICY CUPS FOR SALE

at the LIBRARY

WEDNESDAYS at 2:45pm
CELEBRATE DISABILITY ACTION WEEK

Disability Action Week is held in September each year, with the aims of:

- empowering people with disability
- raising awareness of disability issues
- improving access and inclusion throughout the wider community

This year people and organisations across Queensland will come together to celebrate Disability Action Week from Sunday 13th to Saturday 19th September 2015.

With one in five Queenslanders having a disability, and disability touching the lives of most Queenslanders in some way, the week is an important celebration.

Keep your eyes out for some of the fantastic events that are held in every region across the state. There is a choice of about a hundred community events in Queensland, including art exhibitions, seminars, lunches, dinners, dances, morning teas, library displays and organised walks.

Attending community events can encourage positive attitudes towards people with a disability, improve access and make our community a better place for everyone.

If your child has a disability or you just want to celebrate diversity or applaud the ability in every disability, then it would be great if you could support local events.

For more information or to check the events in your area visit the website at: www.disability.qld.gov.au/actionweek or contact the Disability Action Week State Planning Committee on phone: 1800 010 222, email: actionweek@disability.qld.gov.au

If you would like to make a suggestion of how our school could celebrate Disability Action Week please let me know as I would really value any help in coming up with a great idea that celebrates diversity.

Helen Parker

BRAINTEASER

A man leapt out of an aeroplane and was not hurt, though he had no parachute.

How was this possible?

The plane was on the ground when he leapt.
Mackay North SS News

OPTIMINDS
On Sunday 23rd August at Northern Beaches State High three Optiminds teams will be participating in the regional finals. One team has been entered in each of the Language Literature, Science Engineering and Social Science sections. Each team is supplied with a problem for which they need to come up with a solution, make up a play and perform. We wish the 21 students all the best for the finals.

MUSIC
MACKAY ORCHESTRA AND BANDS COMPETITION
Venue: Faith Centre, Mackay Christian College
9 Quarry St, North Mackay, Qld

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concert Band</th>
<th>String Ensemble</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 22nd August</td>
<td>Sunday 23rd August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet: 6:00pm in the foyer</td>
<td>Meet: 4:30 in the foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance: 7:00pm</td>
<td>Performance: 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick up: 7:30pm from the foyer</td>
<td>Pick up: 6:00pm from the foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform: Black pants/white shirt and school vest</td>
<td>Uniform: Black pants/white shirt and school vest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring: Instrument and Music</td>
<td>Bring: Instrument and Music</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Permission forms will be going home on Thursday now that our times have been confirmed.

Recorder Band
We will be performing at the upcoming evening service for the Rats of Tobruk at 5:30pm on the 28th August - more information and permission forms to come.

2/3 Choir
Rehearsals are going well and we are enjoying learning our two pieces for the Eisteddfod. Some students still need to return their permission forms.

Twilight Concert – Wednesday 2nd September
We know that families are very busy and have a lot of demands on their time. Therefore this year we have decided to have one Twilight Concert showcasing all of our school music groups. The Twilight Concert will include performances by our string, brass and woodwind students, Recorder Band, Junior Choir and Senior Choir. We realise that some of our Cultural students are involved in two or three different groups and therefore the program for the evening will be devised to give these students the smoothest change over possible between performances.

Term 3 Rehearsals
Senior Choir (Grade 4-7) – Wednesday 1st lunch.
Recorder Band – Thursday 1st lunch.
Junior Choir (Grade 2 & 3) – Friday 1st lunch.

“I would teach children music, physics and philosophy, but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning” - Plato

Jodie Hunt
On Thursday 6th August our school performed at the Mackay Entertainment Centre in Wakakirri 2015. Our story was The Peasant Prince which is the children’s book based on Mao’s Last Dancer. We were so proud of our students who had to wait until the end of the night to perform after ten other schools. Our team performed exceptionally well on the night, as well as conducting themselves in an exemplary manner throughout the rehearsals during the day. Our school was the proud recipient of the ‘Best Teamwork’ Award. We are still waiting on news of any further awards but we believe the students were all winners on the night!

Congratulations
Wakakirri Team!!

Mrs Scott, Miss Kyra, Mrs Daniel and Mrs Day
This event wouldn't have been possible without the support and assistance from our many helpers. So we just want to say……..

THANK YOU

Kyra Geoghan – Choreography
Toni Day – Costumes and support
Danell Keyter – Props (that amazing portrait of Mao) and support
Sarah Mantann – Props and support
Sue McGann – props and support
Judy Heel – Costumes
Erin Daley – Costumes
Mrs Lovi – Costumes
Mrs Falzon – Costumes
Simon Korneliussen & Dedan Daniel – Props
Gary Popperwell – Handyman skills
Hayley Langridge – Photography
Staff and Families – donations of props and materials
Families – Getting your children to rehearsals!
Admin Team – Assistance with purchasing & support

SCHOOL BUS ASSISTANCE FOR LOWER INCOME FAMILIES

The safety Net Scheme was developed by the State Government to assist students who do not receive other forms of School Transport Assistance and are members of lower income families.

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
- 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 Roads in Nelson Street, Mackay or by telephoning 4951 8673.
Ready Set Go is a pre-prep program to assist children and parents to best prepare for the curriculum and learning expectations of the upcoming Prep Year. Any children starting Prep next year are welcome to attend regardless of which school they will be attending.

**Purpose of the Program:**

- To provide an orientation and skill based program to help prepare our future students for the Prep Curriculum in the year ahead.
- To model and provide activities and ideas for parents to work on with their children at home to ensure that they have the best opportunity to succeed in the Prep Year.
- To foster and build relationships between teachers, students and parents prior to the commencement of the school year.
- To provide opportunities for our future Prep students to interact with one another and build relationships prior to commencing school.

If you are interested in attending please complete an enrolment form and return it to the school office. You do not have to attend every session. Please remember that students must attend with an adult, but this may be grandparents or other parents who are attending.

We look forward to meeting you and your child!

Prep Team

---

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

1:30 TILL 2:45

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 3</th>
<th>TERM 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 19th</td>
<td>October 21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 26th</td>
<td>October 28th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2nd</td>
<td>November 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 9th</td>
<td>November 11th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 18th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 25th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We offer....
- Experienced and welcoming staff
- A well-resourced centre.
- Activity/Information packs
- Involvement with specialist lessons

Technology including interactive whiteboards and ipads.

An educationally rigorous and stimulating program that caters for all

PRINCIPAL
MR STEPHEN BOBBY

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
MRS DI SCHMIDT

Mackay North Primary School
Harvey Street
Mackay Q 4740

Phone: 49 400 333
Fax: 49 400 300
Webpage:
www.macknortss.eq.edu.au
Young Athletes Travel Subsidy

Fact sheet

What is the Young Athletes Travel Subsidy?
The Young Athletes Travel Subsidy (travel subsidy) aims to foster the development of young athletes and support elite athlete pathways.

The travel subsidy replaces the Young Athlete Assistance Program (YAAP). The principles of the programs are the same, but the new travel subsidy provides additional financial assistance through 3 event tiers.

The program supports attendance at specific events held at a state, national and international level that support elite athlete pathways.

Officials (such as coaches, referees and scorers) attending eligible events can also apply for assistance if they meet the program criteria.

What funding is available?
Eligible athletes and officials can apply for 1 eligible event at each tier, once every 2 calendar years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State or state school events</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National or national school events</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International events</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Who is eligible to apply?
Applicants eligible for support are those who:

- Compete or officiate (as a coach, referee or scorer) at an eligible Queensland state or state school event, Australian national or national school event or international event (Go to www.qld.gov.au/youth/sport-recreation-leisure/young-athletes-travel-subsidy/index.html to see if the event is eligible. If the event is not included in this list, please contact the state or national sporting organisation www.npsr.qld.gov.au/industry-information/contacts/organisations.html or the Queensland School Sport Unit on (07) 3634 1305 for state and national school events.)
- Have been residents of Queensland for at least 12 months preceding the event
- Are under the age of 18 at the start of the event
- Travel a road distance of at least 250km (one-way) from their place of residence to the event location (to check road distances visit www.racq.com.au/travel/trip-planner)
- Fly or travel by rail a radial distance of at least 250km (one-way) from their place of residence to the event location (to check radial distances visit www.qa.gov.au/cooky/distance.jsp)
- Have their participation at the event confirmed by their regional/state/national coach or manager.
Fact sheet—Young Athletes Travel Subsidy

How often can athletes and officials apply?

Eligible athletes and officials can only apply for 1 event per tier once every 2 calendar years. If an applicant is applying for 2 events in 1 year in different tiers they do not have to wait the 2 year period to apply for an event in a different tier. For example, if an applicant attends a state and international event in 2015, they do not need to wait 2 years to apply for a national event. If the applicant applies for all 3 event tiers in 2015 they must wait till 2017 before being eligible again. Funding tiers can be accessed in any order.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applicants who received funding for attendance at state, national or international events under YAAP for events held from 1 January 2014 to 15 December 2014 will not be able to apply for attendance at a state event for 2 calendar years (i.e. if your last approved event was held in 2013 you can apply for state event funding in 2015. If your last approved event was held in 2014 you can apply for state event funding in 2016).

You will still be eligible to apply for funding for attendance at one national and/or one international event from 1 July 2015.

Submitting an application

As funding is provided retrospectively, applications will not be considered before the start of an event. Applicants are required to use their own resources to travel to events. Applications must be received by the department within six months after the start date of an eligible event.

All applications must be submitted using the online application form. The online application form is NOT compatible with mobile or tablet devices. Any online applications must be made from a PC. You will also need the most current version of Adobe Acrobat Reader to be able to see and print your application offline.

Links to the relevant event application form are here:
- State event - https://portal.enquire.net.au/portal/applicant/srs?id=955

Before you begin the online application process, you will need to have your bank details available and the contact details of the relevant regional/state/national coach/manager to include in the application. The department will verify attendance with the relevant organisation.

Lodging an application does not guarantee funding. All applications and recommendations are based on eligibility and available budget. You will be notified of the outcome of the application within 6-8 weeks of applying online.

Need further information?

For more information visit www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding or email srsgrants@qld.gov.au.

Current as at 30/06/2015
These advertisers support us. Please support them.

ALWAYS TELL SOMEONE YOUR PLANS... (4Ws + H)

WHO... you are with
WHAT... you are doing
WHERE... you are going or have been
WHEN... you left
HOW... you are travelling

- FEELING UNSAFE: remove yourself. Always safety first.
- LISTEN to your body. Trust & act on your instincts.
- BE ALERT & AWARE: ditch your headphones & be aware of your surroundings.
- AVOID walking alone & shortcuts. Walk with a mate.

If you have any information call Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000