Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to our Mackay North families for the last term of 2016. I would particularly like to welcome the new families who have joined our school community during Term 3 and during the first week of Term 4. You have certainly come at a busy and exciting time of the school year. I wish you and your child/ren a successful and positive relationship with the school.

As many of you know, Term 4 is always busy and hectic as there are many events that happen during this time.

Please keep an eye on our ‘date claimer’ section of the newsletter each fortnight so that you don’t miss out on anything that’s happening.

**Mackay North State School Improvement Agenda 2016**

*SPELLING*

*NUMBER*

and always focused on

*READING AND WRITING*

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**date claimer**

**WEEK 2**

BooK Fair ......................................... Thurs 13th Oct
P&C Meeting .................................... Thurs 13th Oct

**WEEK 3**

Pupil Free Day .................................. Mon 17th Oct
Book Fair ........................ Mon 17th Oct & Wed 19th Oct
Eisteddfod ........................................ Thurs 20th Oct
Eisteddfod ........................................ Fri 21 Oct

**WEEK 4**

Day for Daniel ................................. Fri 28th Oct

**WEEK 5**

Year 4 Camp .............................. Wed 2nd-Fri 4th Nov

**WEEK 6**

Life Ed ‘Talk About It’ .................. Thurs 10th Nov
Remembrance Day ......................... Fri 11th Nov
Life Ed ‘Talk About It’ .................. Fri 11th Nov

**WEEK 7**

Years 3-6 Swimming ...... Mon 14th Nov-Wed 16th Nov
P&C Meeting ..................................... Wed 16th Nov
School Concert ............................. Thurs 17th Nov

**WEEK 8**

Years 3-6 swimming .... Mon 21st Nov-Thurs 24th Nov

**WEEK 9**

Years 3-6 Swimming ..................... Mon 28th Nov
Years 3-6 Awards Night ............ Tues 29th Nov
Christmas Carols Evening ............ Thurs 1st Dec

**WEEK 10**

Year 6 Graduation ......................... Tues 6th Dec
Years 3-6 Swimming Carnival ....... Wed 7th Dec
Behaviour Rewards Day ................ Thurs 8th Dec
Last Day of School 2016 ............... Fri 9th Dec

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

**TERM 1**

First Day or School 2017 .......... Mon 23rd Jan
PLANNING FOR 2017

It’s that time of the year again when we start to look at what our school numbers and class groupings are going to look like for the upcoming year.

If parents would like to discuss the issue of where their children may be placed in 2017 please make an appointment with the front office and discuss it with me. These meetings are not about parents requesting specific teachers for your children but rather an opportunity for you to pass on information that may be relevant to us when we are looking at our class grouping mixtures for the upcoming year.

If you are planning to leave our great school at year’s end please let the office know as this helps us build a clearer picture of our class and school makeup for 2017.

Likewise if you know any families looking to enrol their children please recommend our great school and the many things that we have to offer. We would love to have new families join our school as our Mackay North family continues to grow.

In particular if you know of families who have a little one who is turning five by June 30 next year please have them contact our school to enrol for Prep in 2017.

We are seeing a strong enrolment interest in prep for 2017 but as always accurate numbers help us to plan effectively for the upcoming year. If you know families who have prep aged children please give them a reminder to contact the office to enrol their child for prep next year.

NORTHERN STAR SCHOOL CONCERT

Our bi-annual Northern Star School Concert is being held on Thursday evening 17th November at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre.

Seating ticketing order forms sent home this week must be returned to the office no later than Tuesday 25th October if you wish to order your seating tickets through the school. Written confirmation of your family’s ticket allocation will sent home on Monday 31st October. You must take your ‘Ticket Confirmation Letter’ to the MECC when purchasing and collecting tickets between 9:00am Wednesday 2nd November and 5:00pm Wednesday 9th November.

Any tickets you wish to buy after 25th October can only be purchased directly from the MECC box office from Thursday 10th November.

Only send money to the school for the years 4, 5 and 6 students who will be performing on the night.

2016 NORTHERN STARS TICKETS AVAILABLE

$18.00........Adults

$ 8.00........ALL Mackay North State School students, North Mackay C&K Kindergarten students and younger siblings

$10.00........High School and non Mackay North State School students
Mackay North SS News

ready, set, go

MACKAY NORTH STATE SCHOOL

READY SET GO.... A transition to Prep

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 to all students.

PRINCIPAL
Mr Stephen Bobby

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
Mrs Di Schmidt

Mackay North Primary School
Harvey Street
Phone: 49 400 333
Fax: 49 400 300
Webpage: www.macknortas.eq.edu.au

EVERY WEDNESDAY
1:30 TILL 2:45

TERM 3
August 10th
August 17th
August 24th
August 31st
September 7th

TERM 4
October 19th
October 26th
November 2nd
November 9th
November 16th
November 23rd

Ready Set Go is a pre-prep program to assist our 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 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 grand-parents or other parents that are attending.

We look forward to meeting you and your child!

Prep Team
TERM 4

It was lovely to see such a settled start to term 4. Thank you
for the work you do to ensure your child/children are ready to
start the term and their learning on the first day back.

UNIFORMS

Our students have been wearing uniforms well and with
pride this year, which is one of the criteria for receiving a
merit award at the end of semester. Thank you for supporting
them and enabling them to do this, as on enrolment, every parent/
carer discussed with an Admin person and signed our Enrolment
Agreement stating that you were aware of and supported our student
dress code. This means you are in agreement with our uniform policy and
the importance of our students wearing the correct uniform every day. This
is certainly reflected in your child/children as they present each day at
school with our gold and black uniform and black or white shoes.

PUPIL FREE DAY

Monday 17th October is a pupil free day where teachers are engaged in planning and
professional development activities. You will need to make alternative care arrangements for
your children on that day.

YEAR 4 CAMP

Year 4 camp will take place on 2nd, 3rd and 4th November at Kinchant Dam. Those
students who are unable to attend for any reason will be supervised at school.

YEAR 5 LEADERSHIP DAY

All Year 5 students will be taking part in a leadership day on Friday 4th November. We will spend the
day away from the school engaged in team building and leadership activities. Our Year 5 students also
work as a team to choose a design for their Year 6 senior shirts.

SWIMMING LESSONS

Swimming lessons for all students in Years 3-6 will take place in week 7, 8 and 9. Students
take part in eight lessons at the Pioneer Pool. They are grouped according to their level of
ability and taught by swim instructors. More information about these lessons will be sent home
soon.

BUSY BUSY BUSY

As well as the activities mentioned above, we have events such as Year 3-6 swimming carnival, Year 3-6
Awards Night, Awards afternoons for Prep-Year 2, Year 6 Graduation and Christmas Carols Evening to
look forward to this term. It is another busy term, so please keep an eye out in your child’s communication
book, the newsletter, school sign and our Skoolbag app for more information as events are occurring.

DAY FOR DANIEL

Day for Daniel is a National Day of Action to raise awareness of child safety, protection and harm
prevention. It is about educating children and adults with regards to keeping kids safe through child
safety and protection initiatives. It aims to help empower our children to Recognise, React and Report if they feel something is not right.

We encourage our students to wear a red shirt on that day, Friday 28 October, to raise
awareness of the importance of safety. We ask that they also bring a gold coin dona-
tion to contribute to helping the Daniel Morcombe Foundation continue the important
work that it does.

(Cont’d)
CLASS WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARDS

With so much illness last term, student attendance did get quite low at times. We are hoping that having a holiday break has allowed people to rest, recover and become more resilient to infections. This should see a rise in our attendance rates this term.

Our target is to have 95% attendance or better for each class across the school each week. Have a look at the attendance rate for the class that your child is in in the tables below.

Well done to 5/6H for their great attendance in week 10 of last term and to 2HB for beginning term 4 with such high attendance. The more our students are attending and in class, the greater the opportunity for them to learn and develop to their full potential.

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**WEEK 10 ATTENDANCE**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PM</th>
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<th>1B</th>
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<th>1/2M</th>
<th>2HB</th>
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<th>3MJ</th>
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<th>3/4M</th>
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<th>5/6H</th>
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**WEEK 1 ATTENDANCE**

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<td>97.4</td>
<td>94.2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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*Di Schmidt*

**Attendance Award**

**Week 10 – 5/6H**

**Week 1 – 2HB**
Hello again Mackay North families

The Department of Education and Training has revamped its website. It has recently been updated with a new-look design and easy-to-navigate menu structure to help users find all the information they need. You can navigate the site from the Education home page and go to the link.

New DET website launched featuring a mobile-responsive design and easy-to-navigate menu structure

Information and Technology Branch and Community Engagement and Partnerships have been working with business units on this project to deliver refined content and a fresh, mobile-responsive corporate web presence that is intuitive and user-friendly. Looking ahead, the website will undergo performance enhancements based on user feedback and ongoing content review to ensure it remains an engaging and useful information tool.

Department of Education & Training apps

Our useful range of mobile device apps includes school information finders, a language development app, and an iPad story app to help children with their social and emotional development.

Look out for new additions as we continue to develop interesting and relevant apps for both children and adults.

Sally and Possum app

Sally and Possum Season 1 (ipad only version)

Sally and Possum Season 1. The world's first app exclusively in Australian Sign Language (Auslan). Join TV's Sally and Possum as they combine Auslan and game-based learning to improve literacy and numeracy in deaf and hearing-impaired children aged 4-6.

Sally and Possum Season 2 (ipad only version)

Sally and Possum Season 2. Sally and Possum are back! Join them as they continue their quest for knowledge and adventure using Australian Sign Language (Auslan) in a series of challenging and rewarding games.
**QSchools app** (Mackay North SS uses the Skoolbag app)

Interact with your favourite Queensland state schools through the QSchools app or Skoolbag app and receive up-to-the-minute updates. The app integrates with the department’s preferred school website platform to allow users to see when news, events and newsletters are posted to their favourite school website. Users can also see other useful information provided by the school such as tuckshop menus, uniform shop information, class times and social media feeds. The app will enable the school community to receive real-time notifications about state-wide emergency alerts as well as school push notifications through the app.

**Queensland schools app**

Queensland schools app lets you access information about Queensland state schools, independent and Catholic schools. Locate your nearest school and their contact details, website addresses and other related information. Filter results based on your selection and save your favourite locations.

**SPEAK app**

SPEAK app (Speaking Promotes Education And Knowledge) provides lots of fun, free activities, ideas and information for parents, carers and educators to support and nurture language development in children from 0-6 years of age.

**Take a Stand**

Read up on tips and advice about bullying through the Take a Stand browser-based app.

**The Allen Adventure iPad app** (which I posted in a previous newsletter)

This story is about Allen, a young visitor from another planet, who is new to school and learning how to get on with his Earthling classmates. It is suitable for children from 3 to 8 years of age. The Allen Adventure iPad app explores social and emotional skills that children need to make friends, to get on with others and to deal with unpleasant or difficult behaviour from other children.

**Out and About app**

Give your child a flying start in literacy by helping them practise their sight words when they are ‘out and about’. The Out and About app is aimed at Prep to Grade 2 students to help them master the first 100 sight words.

If you try the site and the apps and have any feedback you are able to respond via the “Contact Us” link at the top of the website.

Until next time, Helen Parker, for the SEP Team
2016 Beginner Students
The end of the year is drawing near and decisions will soon have to be made with recruiting for the instrumental program. Your son/daughter has enjoyed the year on a school instrument and it is now time to consider your options for 2017 and your child’s continuation in the program. Students who continue in the program next year will become part of our school string ensemble/concert band. The ensembles will further your child’s musical experiences and provide them with the opportunity to experience playing in a larger group of musicians as well as the chance to perform in public performances and represent their school at events such as the Mackay Orchestra and Bands Competition and the Mackay Eisteddfod.

If you choose for your child to remain in the program then you will be required to either purchase or hire privately an instrument for your child to play. The only instrument that students are not required to purchase is the bass clarinet, as it is priced upwards of $2,500. Therefore students who have begun on a school bass clarinet will have use of the school instrument until they leave the school if they choose to continue in the instrumental program.

2017 Recruitment
Term 4 is Instrumental Recruitment term...
We are recruiting from current grade 2 students for the Strings program including:

- Violin
- Cello

We are recruiting from current grade 3 students for the Brass, Woodwind and Percussion program which includes the following instruments:

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Bass Clarinet
- Alto Saxophone
- Tenor Saxophone
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Percussion / Drums and Glockenspiel

There are a number of criteria used to create a shortlist of students for possible recruitment including for example: music results, Selmar Test, ability to work independently, and regular completion of homework. Students on the shortlist will receive an invitation to a parent information session. Attendance at this meeting is noted as a sign of your commitment and support for your child to participate in the instrumental music program. This meeting is mandatory for your child to continue along the recruitment process.
Eisteddfod Times – CONFIRMATION

Below are the dates and times for all our groups Eisteddfod performances. Families and friends are encouraged to come and support their children at their performance. Tickets are available from the MECC. You will need to request seats for the session indicated for each group.

Rehearsal timetable

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Strings 8am</td>
<td>4/5/6 Choir 1st lunch</td>
<td>Recorder 1st lunch</td>
<td>2/3 Choir 1st break</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>BWP 8am</td>
<td>Strings 8am Recorder 1st lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td>4/5/6 Choir 1st break</td>
<td>2/3 Choir 1st break</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BWP 8am</td>
<td>Strings 8am 4/5/6 Choir 1st lunch</td>
<td>4/5/6 choir 1st break</td>
<td>2/3 choir 1st break</td>
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Semester 2 Cultural Calendar

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TERM 4</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
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<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>Eisteddfod</td>
<td>Duets, Trios &amp; Quartets: Monday 10th Oct 1pm session</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eisteddfod</td>
<td>Concert Band, String Ensemble and Recorder Band: Wednesday 12th October 8:30am session</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eisteddfod</td>
<td>Senior Choir/Folk Group: Thursday 20th Oct 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eisteddfod</td>
<td>Junior Choir: Friday 21st October 8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Concert</td>
<td>All cultural groups and classes: 17th November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 3-6 Awards Night</td>
<td>Recorder Band: November 29th</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christmas Carols Evening</td>
<td>All cultural groups: 1st December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Duets
Session: 40
Section: 500
Date: Monday 10th October
Arrive: 12:30pm
Finish: 3:00pm approx
Uniform: Cultural shirt, Black long pants, Black socks & shoes.
Transport: Private Transport
Mrs Bell will be attending with the students

Trios & Quartets
Session: 40
Section: 503
Date: Monday 10th October
Arrive: 1:45pm
Finish: 3:00pm approx
Uniform: Cultural shirt, Black long pants, Black socks & shoes.
Transport: Private Transport
Mrs Bell will be attending with the students

Recorder Band
Session: 46
Section: 510
Date: Wednesday 12th October
Arrive: 8:30am
Uniform: Cultural shirt, Black long pants, Black socks & shoes.
Bring: Instrument, Music, School bag, school shirt to change into afterwards.
Transport: Private transport to MECC
Bus back to school at approx 10:30am (the school is covering the cost of the bus)

String Ensemble
Session: 46
Section: 509
Date: Wednesday 12th October
Arrive: 7:45am
Uniform: Cultural shirt, Black long pants, Black socks & shoes.
Bring: Instrument, Music, School bag, school shirt to change into afterwards.
Transport: Private transport to MECC
Bus back to school at approx 10:30am (the school is covering the cost of the bus)

Concert Band
Session: 46
Section: 506
Date: Wednesday 12th October
Arrive: 8:30am
Uniform: Cultural shirt, Black long pants, Black socks & shoes.
Bring: Instrument, Music, School bag, school shirt to change into afterwards.
Transport: Private transport to MECC
Private transport from MECC to school at approx 12:30pm

Folk Group
Session: 90
Section: 9
Date: Thursday 20th October
Arrive: 6:00pm
Uniform: Denim shorts/jeans and checked shirt or white button up shirt
Senior Choir is after Folk Group
Finish: Approx 8:30pm (We are in Section 5B)
Transport: Private Transport

Senior Choir (Yrs 4,5,6)
Session: 90
Section: 5B
Date: Thursday 20th October
Arrive: 6:30pm
Finish: Approx 8:30pm (We are in Section 5B)
Uniform: Cultural shirt, Black shorts/skirt, white socks and black shoes.
Transport: Private Transport

Junior Choir (Yr 2/3)
Session: 92
Section: 3A
Date: Friday 21st October
Arrive: 7:45am
Finish: Approx 9:30am (We are in Section 3A)
Uniform: Cultural shirt, Black shorts/skirt, white socks & black shoes.
Bring: School bag, lunch, water bottle, school shirt to change into afterwards.
Transport: Private transport to MECC
Bus back to school at approx. 9:30am (the school is covering the cost of the bus)
Books will be sold from 8:00-8:45am & 2:45-3:45pm on the following days ONLY
Thursday 13th October
Tuesday 18th October
Wednesday 19th October

• Come in and browse before or after school.
• Any student who has money may come and shop before school or at lunch times.
• Book Fair is a great way for us to add to our school library collection.
  • I will be packing up Book Fair on Thursday 20th October.
  • We accept Eftpos or cash.

Jacqui Maunder & Sandi Birrer
If you are planning on leaving our school, please check for outstanding library books and return them to the library. Thank you.
Mackay Family History Society presents

Pioneers of Mackay Charts Exhibition

Over 300 pre 1885 Early Mackay Families

(75 new family names since our last display in 2012 - many descendants remain in this area)

13th to 28th Oct 2016
10am - 2pm
Upstairs Old Town Hall
Sydney Street

Lift available
Parking at rear of Hall
The Student Resource Scheme was introduced to Mackay North State School for 2016 and covers the annual subscription fees to the ICT programs and reprographics supplied throughout the year. The purpose of the scheme is to provide parents with a cost-effective alternative through reduced prices gained from the school's bulk purchasing practices.

The cost is $50 per student. If you have opted or wish to opt for this scheme, **payment is due at the office now** and can be paid in full or in part payments.

Our Mackay North State School Centenary Book is a great gift at $30 for anyone who has ever attended our fabulous little school or is just interested in history.
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.