Good afternoon Parents and Caregivers,

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is the annual assessment of all Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students across Australia. It tests the types of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. The tests cover skills in reading, writing, spelling, grammar, punctuation and numeracy.

Between the dates of May 13 and May 15 students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will take part in the NAPLAN testing of 2014.

It is essential that you support your children by ensuring they are well rested the night before and have a healthy and substantial breakfast and come to school calm and ready to try their best.

At school we will be providing them with a healthy morning snack of yoghurt and fruit just to ensure they have a nice full tummy ready to sit through the exams.

Please help your children by encouraging them to do their best and be supportive of any effort they put into their NAPLAN tests.

WINTER UNIFORM

As the weather cools down, just a reminder about adhering to our uniform policy. Students should wear a black or yellow pullover or jacket. School jackets are available at our uniform shop but other brands that are plain black are acceptable.

Girls who wish to wear BLACK stockings or tights, MUST wear them under their skirts, skorts or shorts. White, pink and other colours are not acceptable.

We appreciate your support of this policy as it shows respect for our school uniform and our school rules.

(Cont’d)
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENT/CARER

Nationally Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability.

All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability.

In 2013, 10% of Queensland state schools participated in the first year of implementation. In 2014, two thirds of Queensland schools will participate and all schools will collect data from 2015. Our school will be involved in the nationally consistent collection of data from this year.

Please be reassured that the Department will not provide on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability
- level of adjustments we provide for those students
- broad category of disability

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you.

While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, please let me know.

Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:


Alternatively, if you have any queries about the collection or use of this data I encourage you to contact me directly.

Stephen Bobby
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

Our volunteers at Mackay North are both valued and appreciated all during the year. This week being National Volunteer Week is a chance to acknowledge the great work and the dedication of our volunteers. We thank you all for being a positive part of our school community that enriches the learning and lives of our students.

For those who would like to become involved, there are many ways to help out within the school, from reading with students before school, to helping with group activities during class time, to volunteering some time in the tuckshop or even becoming active on the P&C.

Being a volunteer within the school community brings with it not only the sense of helping others but some responsibilities as well. While working within the school you may see or hear things from or about others that is required by the code of conduct to be kept confidential. Student progress, achievement and behaviour are also privileged information that does not get shared with others. If you hear or see something that bothers or worries you, please discuss it with your child’s class teacher in the first instance. Information about or the property of others is not to be discussed, shared or viewed by volunteers.

We welcome all volunteers into our school and thank them for the time and energy they put into making our school the caring community that it is.

HOMEWORK

Regular homework plays a significant role in the teaching/learning process. It serves a range of purposes including:

- Provides an opportunity for consolidation of the content, processes and skills experienced in class.
- Creates a tangible link between the school and the home by familiarising parents with and encouraging active participation in their student’s learning.
- Fosters a methodical, organised approach to work and develops good study habits.

Our school expects students will do some homework on a regular basis. The amount of homework is determined by, in most instances, year level teachers.

Homework may take the form of completing a class project, study for a test, private or required reading, sight word practice or working on an assignment.

If your child appears to be doing too little/too much homework, please contact the appropriate teacher.
**UNIFORM**

Students are to be congratulated on the pride they are showing in being Mackay North State School students by wearing their school uniforms correctly and adhering to the school colours of black and yellow.

A reminder that hats are a part of the school uniform and should be at school every day. Students are encouraged to always have their hat with them whenever they leave their classroom.

**CLASS WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARDS**

**TERM 2**

Week 1 – 7F
Week 2 – 1J

**OUR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TARGET**

- 100% Attendance
- 95% Attendance
- 92.5% Attendance

So far this term we are achieving a 92.5% overall attendance rate. Let's see if we can improve that in the coming weeks.

Remember—Every Day Counts!
If you access the School Street entrance to our school, you may notice the gardens have been weeded and some additional work has been done to the garden path. This term’s Garden Club have been working hard to beautify the gardens in this area and are very proud of the results! We have weeded the courtyard also and look forward to preparing our soil in preparation for some planting in the next couple of weeks.

VISUAL SCHEDULES WORK AT HOME TOO!

Approximately 65% of the population are VISUAL learners. ALL of us use visuals to assist our memories EVERYDAY including calendars, to do lists, recipes, road signs, catalogues, advertising and maps. 80% of children with ASD are visual learners or have strengths in visual areas compared to other areas. Students with ASD often have an auditory processing issue which means they hear perfectly BUT they do not process auditory information as well as their peers. Students with Intellectual Disability and Speech Language Impairment also benefit from a VISUAL approach to learning new skills.

(Cont’d)
Visual strategies are used to help students UNDERSTAND better.

Visual strategies help in the following ways:

- Helps students understand what we are telling them
- Helps students comprehend what is happening in their lives
- Helps students with memory and organising thinking
- Increases engagement and participation in a range of activities
- Helps students understand sequencing, rules, time, rewards systems, regulate special interests, organisation, communication and more.

**SCHEDULES** are one of the key ways to use visuals. Sequencing is very difficult for many of our students and visual schedules help break down tasks into a series of steps and show the order to complete tasks (e.g., toilet, wash hands, dry hands). Schedules are very effective for transition between activities as they pre-warn students the order of the activities and are vital to help move from one activity to the next.

They **INCREASE INDEPENDENCE** as they remind about routines, expectations and how to do activities.

**Visual Schedules** are very successful in assisting students who have ‘highly desired’ activities, move or transition from one activity to another (e.g., moving from iPad to reading a book). Without this strategy the students will often refuse to move onto the next activity or have a meltdown when we insist – DOES THIS SOUND FAMILIAR?

Using a visual schedule can show the student a sequence of activities and most importantly what they need to do before they go back to the desired activity.

Using a timer with your visual schedule is also recommended so the students can see how much ‘time’ they have left before moving on.

*Information based on – Visual Supports and Schedules, Term 1 2014 Newsletter – Sue Larkey*

If you would like further information on developing or using these schedules in your homes, please come and see us as we are more than happy to assist you in this area. There are a number of free resources you can access online also. I have included a schedule which could be used in the home environment to help prepare your child for a successful day at school.

Mondy Daniel
Dress in your PJs and come to the library to share a bedtime story. Come along and share a great read with your family and friends. There will be stories for all ages.

When: Wednesday, June 4 (5:30pm to 6:30pm)
Where: School Library, Mackay North State School

CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Please RSVP by May 30
to the School Office
or ring 49400333

Cherie Sherley
Hi Five to everyone,

Recently your school adopted me as their new ‘Chaplain’ and I am really privileged to be able to get to know all your beautiful children, staff & parents. Many have asked me, “What does a Chaplain do?”

A School Chaplain’s role is to provide social, emotional and spiritual support to students, parents and staff. Another aspect of my role is to look at specific needs of the school and do my best to meet them. This includes active programs that will soon be introduced. The first one will be a 4 week program for Years 5 – 7 in first break from 11:00am – 11:30am every Tuesday, starting 20th May. (Activity to be announced).

I am available to talk to on Mondays, Tuesdays and every even numbered calendar date on Wednesdays. Feel free to make an appointment through the administration office or Principal’s Office. I am situated in the Guidance Officer’s room near the Administration block upstairs.

THANKSGIVING DAY

Thanksgiving Day is coming up soon, and there is going to be a yearly Thanksgiving Festival put on by all the community churches in Mackay. The fun festival will be on Saturday 30th May from 10:00am – 5:00pm. There will be face painting, balloon making, other stalls and great activities for all the family. Everything is free including food and drinks. This event will be held behind the Mackay City Council near the library.

All are welcome to come and wander through and enjoy this family fun filled day.

A QUOTE TO ENCOURAGE YOU ALL!

Quote: Douglas Wood, Secret of Saying Thanks

“The heart that gives thanks is a happy one, for we cannot feel thankful and unhappy at the same time. The more we say thanks, the more we find to be thankful for. And the more we find to be thankful for, the happier we become. We don’t give thanks because we are happy. We are happy because we give thanks.”

Signing off until next time,

Jacquie McIlwraith (Alias to children: Ms Mack)
On Friday 6th June, we will be celebrating Queensland Day with a Cooking Competition.

All students are encouraged to enter the Cooking Competition.

Each category is open to all students.

Students may enter as many sections as they wish.

Each entry will be awarded one point towards our Interhouse Champion Competition.

Who will be the best cooks? **BURNETT? HERBERT? PIONEER?**

**Sections are:**

- Fairy Bread (2 slices - may be cut or shaped)
- ANZAC Biscuits (4)
- Pikelets (4)
- Jam Drops (4)
- Patty Cakes (4)
- Packet Cake
- Slice (4)
- Damper
- Muffins (4)
- Biscuits (4)

*ENTRIES MUST BE ON A DISPOSABLE PLATE*

- as the plates will be thrown away
Each year, our school participates in the Wakakirri Competition which is a National Story/Dance competition. In an effort to keep costs down, we are asking the school and wider community for donations of materials that we are able to use. Listed below are some things we are looking for. If you can help in any way with donating any of these items, please drop them off to the SEU, Prep M, Prep S or 1M classrooms.

- Material pieces/scraps (earthy tones)
- Cardboard rolls (toilet rolls, cling wrap rolls or longer)
- Rope
- Rolls of masking tape
- Hessian bags
- 2 wooden pallets
- Plywood offcuts

Thank you in anticipation.

The Wakakirri Team
We are looking for information for descendants of the first 37 students who enrolled on 23rd March 1915.

We are asking anyone with information on the following people to contact the school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SURNAME</th>
<th>CHRISTIAN NAME</th>
<th>REG NO</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KURTZ</td>
<td>Roy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEDFORD</td>
<td>Audrey</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEDFORD</td>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRANT</td>
<td>Harold Ernest</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLEMING</td>
<td>James (Father Robert)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HILL</td>
<td>Roland</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’LOUGHLIN</td>
<td>Phyllis</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAMILTON</td>
<td>Alan</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRAKE</td>
<td>Hugh</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODLEY</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODLEY</td>
<td>Wilfred</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMITH</td>
<td>Dorothy</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FITZGERALD</td>
<td>Elsie</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODLEY</td>
<td>Harold</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRAKE</td>
<td>Effie</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEDFORD</td>
<td>Albert</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUTCHINSON</td>
<td>Marjory</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERNEST</td>
<td>Lily</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNGERER</td>
<td>Carl</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANDRIDGE</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRAKE</td>
<td>Harold</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODLEY</td>
<td>Erica</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESHMANN</td>
<td>Doreen</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FYFIELD</td>
<td>L (Lucy)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESHMANN</td>
<td>Frank</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FYFIELD</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUTCHINSON</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNGERER</td>
<td>Stanley Edward</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUDDEINGTON</td>
<td>Roy</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERNEST</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERNEST</td>
<td>Maud</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PETERSEN</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STOUT</td>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORMAN</td>
<td>Winifred</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORMAN</td>
<td>Vera</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTIN</td>
<td>Leslie</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRADFORD</td>
<td>Arthur</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Centenary Meeting - Monday 2nd June - 6:00pm - Library - All Welcome
School Fees

Class levies for all year levels are now due.

Payments can be received at the office by cash, cheque (made Payable to Mackay North State School) or eftpos.

Parents can send in Visa/ MasterCard payments with their child (fill out bottom section of invoice and include CCV number), phone the office and give Visa/ MasterCard details or direct deposit into the school bank account (details on the bottom section of the invoice).

The school now has Centrepay. If parents/guardians are interested in this payment option, forms are available at the school office.

School Account Details

BSB - 064707  Account Number - 00090722

Fees are as follows:

- Prep - $39
- Year 1 - $63
- Year 2 - $50
- Year 3 - $50
- Year 4 - $110
- Year 5 - $85
- Year 6 - $335
- Year 7 - $83

Please see the office to pay any outstanding fees ASAP.

Debbie Scott
NEXT P & C MEETING

P & C meetings are currently being trialled at a new time of a Monday afternoon at 3pm (monthly) and are held at the library. The next meeting will be on the 19th May. Your school needs the support of a strong P & C so please come along and be involved in the decision making process. Remember the P & C exists entirely for the benefit of your children.

FAMILY LEVY / FUNDRAISING

Due to a large shortfall last year limiting the P & C’s function in the school, a survey was sent home recently and the results were tallied from those that were returned. Thank you for your feedback. The consensus was again for the Family Levy that was introduced in 2011 to remain but there was also an indication of support for limited fundraising. Previous to 2011 there were many fundraising events held throughout the year and at this stage we are only planning on three. We consider that there are certain events/services that exist as a service to the school community ie. BBQ at Welcome Back Dance, the tuckshop and the uniform shop, and as such are NOT considered as “Fundraising”. We value your support for these events either by help or by utilizing what we are offering.

LEVY

The levy amount was decided at a P & C Meeting and is $20 per term per family. Payment can be made in cash at the school office, direct deposit (details below) or by EFTPOS at the tuckshop or Uniform Shop.

Account Name: Mackay North Primary P&C Association
Bendigo Bank: BSB: 633 000 A/c No: 149 261 356

UNIFORM SHOP

Thank you to our new volunteers in the Uniform shop. The uniform shop is now open three times a week. Monday and Friday mornings, and Wednesday before school finishes. There is a sign on the door with opening times. We have numerous second hand items which can be purchased for a gold coin donation. This does NOT include second-hand school jackets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRICE LIST</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Shirts</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Shirts</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Jumpers</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skorts</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hats (bucket and wide brim)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Bags (A4 size)</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sew-on Badges</td>
<td>$ 5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Hand Jackets</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Hand Items</td>
<td>Give away / gold coin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
By now all students should have received the new tuckshop menu.

**Tuckshop Days**

Monday Thursday & Friday

However if a public or pupil free holiday infringes on one of these days the tuckshop will endeavour to open on an alternate day. Notification of this happening will be given via the Skoolbag app and on the notice board.

1<sup>st</sup> Break ....................10.45am  
2<sup>nd</sup> Break ....................1.00pm

**How to order:**

Separate brown paper bags are required for 1<sup>st</sup> break and 2<sup>nd</sup> break orders.

Ice block orders can be added to your child’s Tuckshop order. Frozen items can be picked up from the Tuckshop when the “play bell” rings. Prep to Year 3 needs to order on bag and bring bag to tuckshop counter to collect ice-block.

Please do not use staples or sticky-tape as this can cause the bag to rip when opened; instead fold the bag to ensure money stays inside the bag.

Tuckshop orders should be placed in the Tuckshop Box located in each classroom. If your child is late to school, please ensure you hand the order/s directly to tuckshop staff. All 1<sup>st</sup> break orders must be received by 9:15 am and 2<sup>nd</sup> break orders by 10:30am.

We reserve the right to alter orders if insufficient money is received OR an item is unavailable.

Where possible please enclose the correct amount of money. Any change will be returned in or stuck to the paper bag that it was received in. Please ensure your child is aware of this: we are NOT responsible for change once it has left the tuckshop.

If you don't have a paper bag, they are available from tuckshop at a cost of 20c per bag. Please ensure you add this cost to your order.

Please remember we are only human, and occasionally, mistakes do happen. If your child notices any mistakes in their order, please encourage them to return to tuckshop with their food and paper bag, and we will endeavour to rectify the matter.

**Calling all volunteers!**

If you are interested in helping at Tuckshop, please feel free to drop in and see Rebecca on Tuckshop days, or leave a message at the school office. Dads are welcome too! Free morning tea OR lunch provided for our valuable volunteers! Give us a call.

**Tuckshop convenor:**  
Rebecca Fleetwood:  
0412114546
Post Separation Cooperative Parenting (PSCP)

Program

The PSCP program is a free service for separated parents, those contemplating separation, carers and extended family. It is for those who are not talking, who are unable to communicate without conflict, or who need support in managing cooperative parenting arrangements. For all enquiries, or to make an appointment, please call Uniting Care Community on 4944 2300 or email pscp.mackay-whitsunday@uccommunity.org.au

****************************************

Mackay North SS News
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.

If you have any information call Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000