Good afternoon Parents and Caregivers,

OPTIMINDS

On Sunday 24th August we had 3 Opt-MINDS teams participating in the Regional Opti-MINDS Creative Sustainability Challenge. During the six week time frame leading up to the Opti-MINDS Challenge Day, the students had to work together in their teams to solve a problem. This solution was then presented in the form of a short drama to a panel of judges. They were also required to work as a team to solve a spontaneous challenge presented to them on the day. All teams performed admirably and should be congratulated on their commitment and presentation. The overall performance of our Science Engineering team at this event has resulted in them being invited to participate at the State Final.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our team members to work together to be creative and imaginative to solve a challenge together. They get to present to and receive feedback from an experienced panel of judges. There is also the chance to meet with likeminded students in a social setting.

If our team is successful at the State Finals, they will have the opportunity to participate in the National Finals which will be held in New Zealand.

Our winning Science Engineering Opti-MINDS team
Timothy Keyter, Angel Edwards, Dylan Johnston,
Cameron Hollis, Zane Cavaliere and Jordan Bonaventura

Our team consists of five boys (Timothy Keyter, Zane Cavaliere, Cameron Hollis, Jordan Bonaventura and Dylan Johnston) and one girl (Angel Edwards). They will be accompanied by the team facilitator and another teacher when they attend the State Finals at the University of Queensland, St Lucia in Brisbane on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th October.

To reduce the burden of the cost on families, as it will be approximately $800 per person, we are planning to fundraise and source willing sponsors. If you, your workplace or a contact that you have are able to provide sponsorship or make a donation, we would be extremely appreciative. Please contact the school if you are able to help.

(Cont’d)
SCHOOL PHOTOS

School Photos will be taken on Tuesday 9th September.

**Students are required to wear full school uniform on that day. This includes seniors who are to wear school uniform, NOT senior shirts.**

Photo envelopes are to be brought to school on the day that photos are being taken (Tuesday 9th September).

To purchase school photos a separate envelope must be completed for every student.

Correct payment must be included, even if payment is in another family member’s envelope, as change cannot be given from the school office.

If you would like a sibling photograph of siblings who are attending this school, please collect a Sibling Envelope from the school office.
This week (1st-5th September) is School Support Staff Recognition Week and Friday 5th September is Teacher Aides’ Day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our support staff and teacher aides for the superb job that they do at our school. We are extremely fortunate to have a team of such dedicated staff who consistently put the best interest of our students, your children, first. Please take the time to thank members of our Support Staff and Teacher Aides for their commitment and hard work.

CLASS WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARDS

TERM 3
Week 5 – 2/3MH
Week 6 –

CONGRATULATIONS!

1B

Di Schmidt

WANTED

BY THE CLEANERS

4Lt ice-cream containers with lids

10Lt buckets or similar
(new or used)

Kindly leave any of these items at the office.
Mackay North SS News

congratulations

Amy Brooks - Prep

Ocky Goss - Yr 1

Jorja Sproule - Yr 2

Kanav Kaushik - Yr 3

Jahnna Babijes - Yr 4

Cameron Hollis - Yr 5

Robert Young - Yr 6

Angel Edwards - Yr 7

WINNERS
Last week was **Speech Pathology Week**.

Our Speech-Language Pathologist, Miss Lauren McIntosh has joined us from Sydney in May this year. Lauren visits our school weekly to support teachers and students in a variety of programs and strategies that address speech and language delays and improves our students’ access to their curriculum programs. Lauren’s role also includes working with parents where required.

To highlight Speech Pathology Week here are some important communication impairment statistics:

- **20% of four year old children** have difficulty understanding or using language.
- **28% of teachers** take time off work each year because of voice problems.
- **At least 30% of people post-stroke** suffer loss of language (aphasia).
- **85% of those with Parkinson’s disease** have voice, speech and/or swallowing difficulties.
- **13,000 Australians** use electronic communication aids to get their message across.
- **Children with a language impairment** are six times more likely to have a reading problem than children without.
- **46% of young Australian offenders** have a language impairment.
- There is a high correlation between communication difficulties and poor mental health.
- **Three in every 1,000 newborns** have hearing loss, which without intervention can affect their speech, language and literacy.
- **Indigenous children** have three times more hearing problems than non-Indigenous children.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lauren for the wonderful work that she does in our school and the support she offers to our staff, students and parents. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and supportive Speech Pathologist on our TEAM!

(Cont’d)
TEACHER AIDE DAY

This Friday 5th September is Teacher Aide Day. Again we are fortunate at Mackay North State School to have a number of highly skilled and committed teacher aides who go above and beyond their duty each and every day. Our school community is enriched by the variety of experiences and talents our teacher aides bring and we wouldn’t be able to achieve the results that we do without their support and contribution.

So to acknowledge and celebrate our wonderful Teacher Aides, I have included a short profile on each and every one who work with us in the SEP.

Name: Mrs Toni Day
Time working at North Mackay: 9 years
Time working for Education Queensland: 9 years
Something you may not know: Mrs Day holds the Javelin Record at her High School since she threw over 27 metres in 1987.

Name: Mrs Debbie Smith
Time working at North Mackay: 14 years
Time working for Education Queensland: Worked at ECDP before coming to work at North.
Something you may not know: Mrs Smith walked the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2008.

Name: Mrs Trish Fenech
Time working at North Mackay: 15 years
Time working for Education Queensland: 15 years
Something you may not know: Mrs Fenech is very artistic and was the creator of our Giant’s head in this year’s Wakakirri performance.

Name: Mrs Louise Stander
Time working at North Mackay: Commenced beginning of 2013
Time worked for Education Queensland: 6 years
Something you may not know: Louise enjoys fishing, walking on the beach and reads every newspaper she can get her hands on. She loves news!

Name: Mrs Hayley Langridge (Relief teacher aide)
Time working at North Mackay: 6 years
Time worked for Education Queensland: 6 years
Something you may not know: Mrs Langridge broke her big toe while running in the staff relay race during Sports Day a couple of years ago. What commitment!

(Cont’d)
DEVELOPING A GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL

In order for our students to experience success in school, we can’t underestimate the value of a positive working relationship between home and school. We are constantly looking at ways to further develop our relationships with families to ensure our students have the best opportunity to achieve whilst they are at school.

This process may be enhanced by:

Team Work
We are all on the same side and have the best interest of the child in mind
By sharing information and brainstorming ideas we learn together
Ask questions
Be honest and realistic about the child and their requirements
Remember the child may act differently at home and at school
Respect each other and be appreciative of each other’s efforts

Communication
Have a clear system in place (eg communication book)
Be honest, open, non-judgmental, make no assumptions
Ensure all key people have access to relevant information
Work toward common goals (eg. IEP goals)
Discuss successes followed by challenges and include strategies that have been effective
Communicate regularly

Share and Celebrate Success!

* Adapted from Making it a success with Sue Larkey Newsletter Term 3/2013

Mondy Daniel
FEES
There are a number of families with outstanding fees from the beginning of the year. As we are nearing the end of the year we ask that all families contact the school to ensure that fees are up to date. If you cannot pay your child/ren’s fees in full please feel welcome to make progressive payments each week. Even a small fee of $5 per week will help to reduce your outstanding payment amount.

Deduction forms can be obtained from the school office or you can contact Centrelink by phone or internet to arrange deductions. The school accepts payment via cash, cheque (made payable to Mackay North State School), EFT (fill out bottom section of invoice and include CCV number), direct deposit and Centrepay.

Our school now uses Centrepay

Our Centrepay provider number is 555-107-065-L

When making a direct deposit PLEASE INCLUDE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING as the reference:

* Student name
* Invoice number
* Students EQ ID

Including one of the above as the reference when making a payment will enable us to receipt the payment to the correct student. Use the student’s or parent’s surname if making a direct deposit for more than one student.

Parents are welcome to send in the bank receipt with students or email the school at admin@macknortss.eq.edu.au letting us know that a payment has been made, date the payment was made and what the payment was for.

5 WAYS TO PAY

☺ CASH
☺ CHEQUE
☺ EFT
☺ DIRECT DEBIT
☺ CENTREPAY

Fees are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>$39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>$63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>$35</td>
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<td>Year 7</td>
<td>$33</td>
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Thanks to the fantastic efforts of our students we have raised $117.68 for our school through School Banking commissions in Terms 1 & 2. Our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

Saving regularly is an important habit to get into, whether you’re saving a little or a lot. Keep up the great work and remember to bring in your School Banking deposit each Wednesday.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Our U10 North White netball team were one of four teams that played every Saturday at the Casey Avenue courts.

Matilda Daniel, Jessica Polglase, Shi-an Brown, Eva Nielsen, Jorja Fayers-Howroyd, Mackenzie Rebbeck, Reanna Heel, 

Clean glass jars with lids

Please take to Mrs Saunders’ room
VOLLEYBALL
Once again I bring you good news. We are having a ball with volleyball. The scores so far are Team Girls - 53 and Team Boys - 57. Unfortunately due to a busy schedule in term 4 volleyball games will finish at the end of this term. It has been my pleasure to host this for the children in grades 5, 6 and 7.

I encourage the children to continue to play in high school or endeavour to get the sport going at their new school. Volleyball is a sport that is recognized worldwide and played at the Olympic Games. Scholarships can be acquired to get into the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra where our Olympic contestants are trained.

GIRLS GLOW CLUB
The Girls Glow Club is going well. I have a nutritionist coming this week and then during the last two weeks there will be hair, nail and colour discussions. PCYC will be in the final week. On the 17th September we are going to celebrate the girls’ graduation from the club and invitations will be sent home. Please fill in and send back to the school the week before the 17th for catering purposes.

BIBS ‘N’ BOBS
Don’t forget our Bibs ‘n’ Bobs Box located outside the Office. I am looking forward to all those nutritious, delicious recipes. Your donations will be appreciated for our North Mackay School Community Recipe Book which will be used as a fundraiser for the school and will be updated each year.

CAMP EAGLE
Camp Eagle is coming up soon on 12th, 13th and 14th September. If you could please have your forms filled out and money back by Tuesday 9th at the latest it would be appreciated.

NOW FOR SOME MEWS
Words are singularly the most powerful force available to humanity. We can choose to use this force constructively with words of encouragement, or destructively using words of despair. Words have energy and power with the ability to help, to heal, to hinder, to hurt, to harm, to humiliate and to humble. Use them wisely!

Yehuda Berg

God Bless

Jacquie Mcilwraith
(Alias Ms Mack)
Don’t forget to bring a few dollars to buy a great present for Dad!
All gifts $10 and under!

Did you know?
There is a new slushie machine at the tuckshop! These slushies are based on
natural fruit juice and are rated Amber therefore they able to be bought every
tuckshop day.
Small $2, Large $3

Our Centenary Fair is set for Saturday, 6 June 2015!
We are hoping to make this a huge vintage-retro style fair and community event,
with market stalls, a classic car display and (hopefully fireworks) as well as
rides, traditional games, class stalls, music, food and entertainment.

Applications for outside entertainment and market stalls will open soon. We
would love to give preference to friends and parents of the school, so if you have
a small business or club you would like to promote, or have a band, dance group
or similar, please contact us or come to the next P&C meeting!

P & C Executives – email - pandc@macknortss.eq.edu.au

Deb Clark (President/Uniform shop)   Callista Butler (Vice President)
Jenya Loxton (Secretary)           Allison Coleman (Treasurer)
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. Please remember that students must attend with an adult but this may be grandparents or other parents that are attending.

We look forward to meeting you and your child!

Kristy Scott and Wilma Grant
GYMNASTICS

School holiday fun for primary school aged children at Mackay Gymnastics:

Wednesday 24 September & Friday 26 September
Wednesday 1 October & Friday 3 October

at Snow Wright Court 9.30 – 11 a.m.

Cost only $16.50 per child
A great way to get children active and out of the house
Numbers are limited so please book
Gymnastics – it’s FANTASTIC

Contact Mackay Gymnastics 49 42 0032 or email admin@mackaygymnastics.org.au
BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY FROM ROOKIE2RED NOW
REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.ROOKIES2REDS.COM.AU
OR CALL 1300 QLD REDS (1300 753 733)

LOCATION: Quarry Hill Mackay
DATE: 29/9/2014 - 30/9/2014
TIME: 9:00am - 3:00pm
AGE GROUPS:
5-7 Little Legends
8-9 Junior Champs
10-11 Future Stars
Children are invited to bring a parent along for a story-telling session in our Library!

In the Library with Mrs Maunder and Mrs Schmidt

Bring your pillow, teddy and wear your pyjamas, ready to listen to some great bed-time stories with us. Hot chocolate served as a treat after and the chance to borrow some great books to take home!

Hope to see you there!
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