Good afternoon Parents and Caregivers,
Welcome back to our Mackay North families for the last term of 2014. I would particularly like to welcome the many new families who have joined our school community during term 3. 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 this term.

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.

PLANNING FOR 2015

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 student may be placed in 2015 please make an appointment with the front office and discuss it with me. These meetings are not about parents requesting specific teachers for their 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 2015.

Likewise if you know any families looking to enrol their children please recommend our great school and the many things that it has 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 next year please have them contact our school to enrol for Prep in 2015.

We are seeing a strong enrolment interest in prep for 2015 but as always accurate numbers help us to plan effectively for the upcoming year. If you know families that have prep aged children please give them a nudge and have them contact the office to enrol their child for prep next year.

Stephen Bobby
WELCOME TO TERM 4

I trust that the holiday period was relaxing and restful for all of our families. Welcome back to a very busy term with a special welcome extended to our new families who join our school community.

With such a busy term, it is essential that your child is at school every day. This means arriving on time to enable learning to begin at 8:45am and staying for the entire day – until 2:45pm.

CLASS WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARDS

TERM 3
Week 9 – 4H
Week 10 – 1J

ATTENDANCE

We all want the best for our children and the greatest thing we can do for them is to ensure that they have the best education we can possibly give to them. This means getting them to school every day.

It is critical for students to be able to learn and improve to the best of their ability that they attend school every day that is absolutely possible. Of course, if they are unwell, it is best to keep them at home to enable them to recover as quickly as possible and to reduce the risk of others becoming ill.

If your child misses just 1 day of school every week, that is equivalent to 40 days of missed learning in the year, or about 8 weeks! That’s almost an entire term. If this pattern continues throughout all 13 years of schooling, your child has effectively missed about 2 ½ years of education. That’s like finishing school in the middle of year 10 instead at the end of year 12!

Education is something that can’t be taken away from a person. Ensuring our children have the best possible education allows them to have the maximum amount of opportunity to do well and succeed in life. If they’re succeeding they are happy and as a parent that’s how we want to see our children.

Education (every minute of every day at school) = Success = Happiness

Attendance also means arriving at school on time every day so that students are ready to learn and able to use all of the learning time within a day to learn and improve.

(Cont’d)
Just a little bit late doesn’t seem much but…….

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/ She is only missing just…...</th>
<th>That equals…....</th>
<th>Which is.....</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s…....</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>Half a year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 Weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1 year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 Weeks per Year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1 and a Half years</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 Weeks per year</td>
<td>Over <strong>2 and a Half years</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Did you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day?**

**That’s when every minute counts the most!!**

**School Starts at 8:45am!!**
We have commenced the busiest time of the year for staff and students. Our students from Grades 6 and 7 will be attending high school this term. Most of our students have enrolled at North Mackay High and will be participating in lessons every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00—2:30pm. There are also two of our students who will be attending Pioneer High every second Friday morning from 9:40—11:00am.

Swimming lessons commence this week and continue for another two weeks for students from years 3 to 5.

Our year 6 students are participating in cooking lessons every Friday and years 4 and 5 students are working on gardening projects every Thursday afternoon.

Mrs Mondy Daniel is currently on three weeks leave and has been replaced by Mrs Andrea Fletcher.

Iona Fettell

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**Ready! Set! Go!**

Dates for term 4 are as follows:

- October 22nd
- October 29th
- November 5th
- November 12th
- November 19th
- November 26th

Every Wednesday
WHERE: In the library

WHEN: Tuesday 21st Oct - Friday 24th Oct

TIMES: 8.00am - 9.00am
        10.45am - 11.30am
        1.00pm - 1.30pm
        2.45pm - 3.30pm

Classes will be offered the opportunity to visit the library during the week and fill out a wish list to bring home for you to see.

Books make great gift ideas for Christmas and a percentage of book sales go to our library to purchase new items for the school.

Please come and support our Book Fair. Many items are reasonably priced with novelty items on sale too.

Payment for books can be made in a few ways - cash (preferred), phone payments and online.

Hoping you can drop in and check out all the exciting titles for sale and help out our school.

Jacqui Maunder
On the 11th and 12th of October, our science engineering Optiminds team participated in the finals in Brisbane. Saturday was marketplace day, where every team presented a solution to a current world problem. Angel, Timothy, Cameron, Zane, Dylan and Jordan’s project was stopping the spread of diseases through handshakes; swapping it for the ‘Booty Bump’. Saturday night saw all teams dress up to attend a disco, where they were able to relax after their hard work. On Sunday was the long-term project, where all teams were given three hours to solve a problem using only materials that were supplied. Each team then had to present their solution to the judges and audience in a packed theatre. It was then time to head back to the airport, but not before visiting Brisbane city by the City Cat. The flight back to Mackay marked the end of the Optiminds weekend, with proud parents waiting to hear all the news. It was a fantastic weekend with all team members representing our school well.

Our Science Engineering Optiminds Team
Timothy Keyter, Angel Edwards,
Dylan Johnston, Cameron Hollis,
Zane Cavaliere and Jordan Bonaventura
Nesting magpies are swooping on the corner of Harvey Street and School Street. Avoid this area if possible.

When walking wear a broad-brimmed hat and sunglasses or shelter under an umbrella to protect your face (painting or sticking large ‘eyes’ on the back of your hat can also deter magpies) or keep an eye on the magpie as you walk.

When cycling attach zip ties to your helmet.

WANTED

CLEAN GLASS JARS WITH LIDS

PLEASE TAKE TO MRS SAUNDERS' ROOM
School group photos taken in September are on display in the office foyer.

* School Captains
* House & Cultural Leaders
* Wakakirri
* Student Council

If you wish to purchase any of these photos please collect an envelope from the office.

Last day for these photo orders is Friday 31st October.

## Northern Star School Concert

Our bi-annual Northern Star School Concert is being held on Thursday evening 20th November at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre.

Seating ticketing order forms sent home recently must be returned to the office no later than Tuesday 21st 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 27th October. You must take your ‘Ticket Confirmation Letter’ to the MECC when purchasing and collecting tickets between 9:00am Wednesday 29th October and 1:00pm Saturday 1st November.

Any tickets you wish to buy after 21st October can only be purchased directly from the MECC box office from Monday 3rd November.

Only send money to the school for the years 4, 5, 6 and 7 students who will be performing on the night.

### 2014 Northern Stars Tickets Available

$15.00........Adults

$ 5.00........ALL Mackay North State School students, North Mackay C & K and younger siblings

$10.00........High School and non Mackay North State School students
Welcome back everyone,
Hope you all had a fantastic holiday. Welcome to the last term of the year. So far 2014 has been an amazing journey.

The free to students “Good Start Breakfast Program” started on Monday 13th October. We started our morning with chocolate milk and toast with many spreads.

Thank you everyone for your kind donations. We are still in need of a four slice pop up toaster. I have written to some department stores regarding the toaster and am still waiting for some replies back from different supermarkets and shops in regards to fruit, yoghurt etc.

We are keeping breakfast simple for the time being. Next week there will be a great variety of cereal to choose from.

‘Good Start’ is on every Monday and Tuesday between 8am – 8.30am.

Boyz Business started this week. I am looking forward to the next get together on Monday 27th October and all the ones to follow.

As you can see from the photo taken at the end of last term our ‘Glow Girls’ club was a huge success. I am so proud of them all.

‘GLOW GIRLS’

Jacob: Why was the teacher wearing sunglasses to school?
Leonard: Why?
Jacob: She had bright students!

Submitted by Jacob B., South Bend, Ind.

Jacquie Mcilwraith (Alias Ms Mack)
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.

Next P & C Meeting
9:00am Tuesday 21st October
in the library
Everyone Welcome!

A car boot sale and market day has been planned for Saturday 8th November 2014 in the school grounds. Small home based business are also welcome!
Bookings open soon.

Check out this site for some great tips -

Did you know?
The uniform shop is open Tuesday from 8.15 to 9am, and order forms are available at the office and tuck-shop.

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

Deb Clark
The Mackay West Rotary Club Annual Christmas Fair is on Friday and Saturday, 24th and 25th October at Col Story Rotary Park, the City Gates starting at 6 pm.

This is the first Fair of the Christmas season and a fun night out for the whole family.

The Club has been running the Christmas Fair for over 35 years (since 1978).

Attractions include Ham Wheel (full size hams), Meat Tray Wheel, Cent Sale, Pick of the Shelf, Bottle stall, Lucky Dip and lots more.

The kids will love the merry-go-round, steam train ride, jumping castle, RSPCA animal farm, giant slide and face painting.

Santa will give away a bike each night to some lucky child. Entry forms available at the Fair or in The Daily Mercury on Friday and Saturday.

Food and drinks available and a Cake Stall as well.

The Mercy College Band will perform on Friday night and The Mackay City Band on Saturday night.

Rotary is a community service organisation and all proceeds go to local charities. Rotarians work on a voluntary basis. This is the largest fund raising event for the Rotary Club.

Come and join the festivities and support your local community by supporting the Christmas Fair.

See you there.
Win a $500.00 Bicycle Voucher!

Fill in an anonymous online survey about how the children in your family travel to and from school, to have the chance to win a $500.00 voucher for the Mackay bicycle shop of your choice.

Active Towns, a Mackay Regional Council and Queensland Government initiative and the Department of Education, Training and Employment’s CQ Sporty Schools project are working together to find the barriers to active school travel in the Mackay region.

Follow this link or copy and paste https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BRVZ9M3 to complete the survey by Friday November 7th 2014 to have a chance to win!
BreastScreen Queensland Digital Mobile Unit

Will be located at

SPOTLIGHT
Greenfields - North Mackay

From Monday, 20th October
To Saturday, 25th October

Women 40 years and over are eligible to join the BreastScreen Queensland Program

Phone 13 20 50 for your FREE BreastScreen appointment

Breast Cancer Awareness Month
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.