Good afternoon Parents and Caregivers,

**EVERY DAY COUNTS**

Children are required to attend school every day unless they are ill. Missing days from school has a significant impact on student learning. Students have ten weeks holiday a year so it is important to schedule family holidays in this time. The Australian Curriculum is rigorous and students missing days at school miss significant chunks of their learning. As both educators and parents we want our children to have the best opportunity to learn and be successful, so attending school every day is critical.

Our goal as a school, is to ensure our attendance rate is above 95%. We appreciate parents’ support in ensuring their child comes to school on time every day. As we are required to record all absences with explanations on the Education Queensland database please advise us either by phone, email or note when your child is ill.

**CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR**

This term Education Queensland determines all the transfers and staffing for schools. As this is quite a mammoth task it is not expected that staffing will be confirmed until late in the term. Once the school has its staffing confirmed we will be able to release information on how classed will be organised and teachers. Student class grouping will be released at the beginning of 2015. In the meantime if you have a particular request please provide that in writing (marked confidential) to the Principal. Please remember that requests for specific teachers will not be accepted. The particular requests need to relate to personal/family information that should be considered in class organisation.

We also request any families who may not be returning to Mackay North next year, due to various reasons (job transfers, moving house etc) to kindly inform the school office.

(Cont’d)
This Friday 31st October is World Teachers’ Day. Celebrated in more than 100 countries, World Teachers’ Day acknowledges the efforts of teachers in an increasingly complex society. Every day teachers are building skills that translate into future careers. Parents and community members are invited to help demonstrate their appreciation by sending in a message of thanks to our teachers in the communication books. I know they are not looking for this but it would be a nice gesture.
DAY FOR DANIEL

Friday 31st October is a National Day of Action to raise awareness of child safety, protection and harm prevention. It is about educating children and adults by 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.

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation website states:

The objectives of Day for Daniel are:

- To raise awareness about child safety and protection and to promote a safer community for children.
- To educate children regarding their personal safety and empower them to ‘Recognise, React and Report’.
- To provide FREE safety and educational material.
- To honour the memory of Daniel Morcombe.
- To have over 1 million people Australia Wide to participate in Day for Daniel.

All classes across the school will acknowledge this day and visit the important messages of child safety throughout the week.

We are encouraging everyone to wear a red shirt to school on Friday to show support for this very important cause.

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CLASS WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARDS

TERM 4
Week 1 – Prep S
Week 2 – 2/3MH

CONGRATULATIONS
School Starts at 8:45am!!

All students should arrive at school no later than 8:30am.

TUCKSHOP DAY

Friday 7th November is Tuckshop Day. It’s a day to say a special “Thank you” to Rebecca and her band of volunteers who do an amazing job providing delicious, healthy food to our students.

Our tuckshop is always looking for volunteers to help out, so if you’ve got an hour or two free on a Monday, Thursday or Friday, contact Rebecca in the tuckshop.
ARE YOU READING WITH YOUR CHILD?

Although the life of a parent is often hectic, you should try to read with your child at least once a day at a regularly scheduled time. But don't be discouraged if you skip a day or don't always keep to your schedule. Just read to your child as often as you possibly can.

If you have more than one child, try to spend some time reading alone with each child, especially if they're more than 2 years apart. However, it's also fine to read to children at different stages and ages at the same time. Most children enjoy listening to many types of stories. When stories are complex, children can still get the idea and can be encouraged to ask questions. When stories are easy or familiar, youngsters enjoy these "old friends" and may even help in the reading.

Taking the time to read with your children on a regular basis sends an important message.

Reading is worthwhile

Even after children learn to read by themselves, it's still important for you to read aloud together. By reading stories that are on their interest level, but beyond their reading level, you can stretch young readers' understanding and motivate them to improve their skills. Our goal is to motivate children to read so they will practise reading independently and become fluent readers. That happens when children enjoy reading. We parents can do for reading what fast food chains do for hamburgers..........................ADVERTISE!

We can help our children find the tools they need to succeed in life. Having access to information through the printed word is an absolute necessity. Knowledge is power, and books are full of it. But reading is more than just a practical tool. Through books we can enrich our minds; we can also relax and enjoy some precious leisure moments.

With your help, as your children begin a lifelong relationship with the printed word, they can grow into adults who read easily and frequently whether for business, knowledge, or pleasure.

(Extracts from Authors Bernice Cullinan and Brod Bagert)
AFTERNOON TEA PARTY

During the last week of Term 3 the Year 4/5 cooking class planned, catered and hosted an Afternoon Tea for some very special guests in our school. Students devised a guest list, wrote out and delivered the invitations and decided on a menu for the occasion. Students were proud to present a wonderful display of chocolate slice, savoury and sweet muffins, biscuits and banana bread that they had prepared leading up to the event. Students were confident in greeting guests, welcoming them and serving food and beverages throughout the afternoon. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to showcase their culinary and social skills in such a natural and rewarding way. Congratulations to those students involved who were both courteous and confident throughout all stages of the event.

Aiesha, Joshua, Ethan, Hannah and Kyan all busy preparing the afternoon tea

Special guests included Mrs McGovern, Mrs Day, Ms Borellini, Mrs Bromiley, Mrs Bell, Mrs McVean, Mrs Turvey and Mr Bailey
I would like to take this opportunity to thank Iona Fettell and Andrea Fletcher for filling in during my leave this term. They worked hard alongside all of the SEP staff to ensure the students and programs continued with minimal disruption and their efforts are very much appreciated.

Vincent, Jai and Deklin tackling their work stations during Fun Friday.

Lachlan, Alicia and Seth showing great concentration while completing their challenges
SOLOMON ISLANDS DONATIONS

Every year Mrs Jan Bell, a former SEU teacher aide at our school, travels to the Solomon Islands as a volunteer helping set up schools and school libraries.

This year Jan is hoping for donations of:

- reference and reading books
- toys suitable for kindergarten aged children
- stationery (even half used books and pencils would be used)
- plastic lids from milk and juice bottles (to be used as counters)

If you have anything you wish to donate it would be greatly appreciated.

There is a box in the office where all donations can be left.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SPECIAL CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Invitations will go home this week for the Special Children’s Christmas Party. These invitations are issued under strict criteria and are only applicable to students with a disability, however family members are very welcome to attend the event.

Please remember:

- The invitation MUST be presented on the day to gain entry to the venue
- If the child is ill and unable to attend, a third party is able to collect the gifts on behalf of the child but please make every attempt to take your child to this wonderful and generous event
- No invitations will be available for collection at the gate
- Only the child with the invitation is able to visit the ‘toy room’
- ALL members of the family are welcome to attend and enjoy the festivities of the day.
- You may choose to bring a picnic basket to assist with the catering quantities.

Wii CLUB

Wii Club will continue to operate during term 4 with the Senior students eligible to attend this Friday, first lunch. Students are able to attend Wii Club if they have earned Happy Faces in their communication books and homework and class work has been completed. Students are able to relax and engage in some rewarding ‘down time’ with their friends in recognition of their efforts of good behavior in our school.

Mackay North SS News

Sep (cont’d)
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.

World Teachers' Day was started on 5th October 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). Australia celebrates the day on the last Friday in October of each year (after school holidays).

As parents we may not always say it, but we hope they know we appreciate everything the wonderful teachers of our school do. If you do get the chance, why not say thank you to your child’s teacher this Fri-

Did you know?
The uniform shop is open Tuesday from 8.15 to 9am. Order forms are available at the office and tuckshop.

Next P & C Meeting
9:00am
Tuesday 18th November
in the meeting room

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

(Cont’d)
Mackay North Primary P & C
CAR BOOT
SALE & MARKET
Saturday 8 November 2014
9am to 1pm
North Mackay Primary School
Willis Street, North Mackay
Free Entry
Check out our Facebook page
All sites $20
Email pandc@macknortss.eq.edu.au to book.
Hello everyone,

Our **Good Start Breakfast Program** is held up in the school hall kitchen. All are welcome and yes it’s free.

We are still interested in receiving any donations of spreads, except peanut butter, for allergy reasons.

Before the end of the year we hope our full menu will consist of toast with spreads, fresh fruit, yoghurt and cereal (which is not so popular at the moment). I thought I might make some homemade breakfast bars and muffins out of this cereal.

The **African Drum Beat Program** is going well. I am looking forward to the performance, with a very African theme and food, at the end of the program. I hope you can come. Dates and times are yet to be set. It should be fun.

**Boyz Business** has started but as yet is not as popular as the Glow Girls. Come on boys! Come and find out what Boyz Business is all about! There will be another letter going home with the ‘boyz,’ which will be an extended invitation for all men and boys to attend the White Ribbon Day held by Relationships Australia. It should be a fun couple of hours. Details will be on the invitation. Please read it carefully. It is not until Tuesday 25th November but here’s an early tip: ‘Boyz’ will need to wear creative moustaches for the competition. Get your thinking caps on.

Jacquie Mcilwraith (Alias Ms Mack)

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**BRAINTEASER**

Two fathers and two sons enter a shop and spend $1.50 each. The shopkeeper takes $4.50.

What happened to the rest?
Mackay North SS Presents

NORTHERN STARS

THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER @ THE MECC
Does your child have a medical condition?

With a genuine MedicAlert® ID your child’s medical information and special needs can be quickly identified in an emergency.

SAVE $15 with our school code: MACBTU

Join online at medicalert.org.au, enter our school code at the checkout and the $15 registration fee will be waived.
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