Good afternoon Parents and Caregivers,

There are only 70 School Concert tickets left for sale at the MECC.

EVERY DAY COUNTS - This has been an ongoing message all year to remind families about the importance of attending school every day during the year. As you can see below, the school attendance for the year is at 91.7%. This result is short of our target of 95% attendance. Can I ask that we all work hard for the last few weeks of the year and ensure school attendance is a priority in your household?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Term 4 Attendance Percentage</th>
<th>Placing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>94.4%</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>92.2%</td>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>91.7%</td>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>91.4%</td>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>91.2%</td>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On a very positive note, the table below is an up-to-date attendance record for Term 4 this year. Well done Year 7, Prep and Year 3. Your attendance this term has been fantastic.
REMEMBRANCE DAY
On Tuesday at 11:00am, our school community observed one minute’s silence in memory of those soldiers who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

This year, the 11th November represented the 96th anniversary of the armistice in 1918 which ended the First World War. This was also the 21st anniversary of the internment of the ‘Unknown Soldier’ at the Australian War Memorial’s Hall of Memories.

As part of our Year 6 trip to Canberra earlier this year, our students visited the ‘Tomb of the Unknown Soldier’ and many were very moved by the atmosphere that surrounds the place where so many very brave Australian soldiers are honoured.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP
Last Friday our Year 5 students attended a Leadership Activities Day at the Andergrove Community Centre. All students who attended participated appropriately. Hopefully they have learnt some skills about working in teams and becoming leaders of our school in 2015.

From this leadership day and from information gained throughout the year students are asked or nominated to run for the position of School Captain in 2015.

As with every year it is ideal to have both genders represented as School Captains and Vice-Captains, however in some years this is not possible and therefore we could have two male or two female school leaders in these roles. This can happen and parents need to be aware that this is a situation that could happen in any year that we have School Captains at our school.

The nominees for the School Captains’ positions will be presenting speeches to the Year 4, 5 and 6 students on Friday 28th November at 9:30am. Immediately following the nominees’ presentations, the staff, and the students who view those speeches will vote.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL NOMINEES

All other student leader positions such as House Captains, Cultural Captains and student council members will be selected at the beginning of the 2015 school year.
2015 SCHOOL PHOTOS

Next year is our school centenary. We would like to have the photos of our 2015 students available for the Centenary Book, as they are the students attending our school in the 100th year of operation. To enable this to happen, we have organised to have our annual school photos taken very early in the year. They have been booked for Friday 13th February.

We will be sending information about school photos home in the first week of school 2015 with regards to ordering. This process will be able to be done online or by using the envelope that will be supplied.

Students will need to wear their school uniform on photo day – black and gold t-shirt with black shorts/skirt/skorts, closed in black or white school shoes or joggers (no coloured shoes or coloured laces), hair tied back with black or gold/yellow hair accessories.

PREP 2015

Enrolment interviews for 2015 prep students are currently being done to ensure a smooth transition into the start of school for our new students. If you have a child who is starting prep in 2015 or you have a friend who has a prep child for next year, please phone the office on 49 400 333 to make an appointment for your interview if you haven’t already done so.

CLASS WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARDS

TERM 4

Week 3 – 2/3MH
Week 4 – 2/3MH& 1J

CONGRATULATIONS

Di Schmidt
YEARS 4/5 CAMP

Last week we had many students attend the year 4/5 camp at Kinchant Dam with their class groups. All students have been positive about the camp and reported what a rewarding experience it was which is a huge credit to themselves and their accompanying teachers and staff. Camps can be very challenging for our students for many reasons including:

- New/different environment
- New/different routines & expectations are in place
- New/different food options are offered
- Limited ‘down time’ is available
- New/different staff members giving directions
- New/different student groups than they may be used to
- New/different sleeping arrangements
- New/different experiences on the program which may cause concern
- Transitions between activities are numerous and can be unpredictable
- Instructions may be missed when they are given in a new environment
- Peer interactions may be different in the camp setting and may require support
- Time may be limited to support students with attaining social goals and skills because of the schedule
- Sensory distractions (such as noise, movement, smells, touch) may be new and overwhelming

Despite all of these factors, our students have overcome any apprehension and have managed to participate in all camp activities to a level they feel comfortable. This was enhanced by the wonderful staff who supported them during the week so congratulations to all campers and a huge thank you to the staff!

(Cont’d)
SCHOOL CONCERT

Over the past few weeks our students have been rehearsing for the school concert coming up in Week 7. Staff are working hard to prepare your child/ren for this experience, discussing costumes, dance moves and expectations of the night. You can also support your child/ren in this experience by:

- Adding the date/event to your family ‘calendars’
- Count down the ‘sleeps’ until the concert
- Make a story about the day (eg travelling on a bus to the Entertainment Centre for rehearsals, dancing on the stage)
- Look up pictures of the Mackay Entertainment Centre on ‘Google Images’ and discuss the venue
- Drive past the venue several times and discuss the concert if possible
- Explain the concert will be at ‘night’ after they have been at school
- Discuss the costume and have your child practise wearing it at home if possible
- Ensure your child has a sufficient dinner on the night of the concert so they have full tummies and don’t fatigue too early
- Be positive about the concert and talk about how proud you are of them performing in such an exciting event
- Enjoy celebrating your child’s talent and sharing it with family and friends
END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES

While most students are waiting in anticipation for the last few weeks of school so they can enjoy the variety of events including Graduation, North Idol concert, Christmas Carols Night, School Concert and Rewards Day Celebrations, some of our students fear this end of year period because it can be unpredictable and involve a lot of change. Remember to add these events to your calendars and discuss them with your child/ren, count down sleeps until they occur, assist your child in planning for these events, discuss the activities and what is expected, share any concerns with your child’s teacher and acknowledge any effort your child is making to participate. Photograph/video these events if possible and make up books/videos for your child to look back on and share with friends and families. They will become treasured memories in years to come.

Mondy Daniel
yr 4/5 camp (cont’d)
HAVE YOU PAID?
As the end of the school year approaches, we need all accounts to be finalized.
Please check with the office to see if all your child/ren’s school fees, excursions, camps, leadership day, concert tickets, concert costumes, Canberra trip, swimming and A+ Day fees have been paid and are up to date.

LOST PROPERTY
- Lost property is in a large, fluro green box under the classroom closest to the hall.
- There is a HUGE amount of lost property.
- Every Friday lost property will be displayed under the hall.
- If your child has lost anything throughout the year PLEASE come and have a look.

ANYTHING LEFT BY THE LAST WEEK WILL BE DONATED TO CHARITY

I am helping put together memories of former students and teachers as we head towards our 100 years in 2015.
We also have a Facebook site.
If you have a story or photos please contact the school or me at baileyinmackay@hotmail.com
Car Boot Sale and Market Day
Thank you to everyone who participated in our Car Boot Sale on Saturday. We raised almost $700 for the school and had a wonderful morning.
Our next one is planned for April 2015, so if you missed out be sure to make the next one!

Calendar:
P & C Meeting – 9am, Tuesday 18 November – In the meeting room near the office
Christmas Carols Evening – Dinner from 5.30pm, Carols start at 6pm, Thursday, 4 December
Bar-b q tea and soft drinks available, as well as a Christmas stall with cheap Christmas cards, a Bookstall and little gifts.
Donations and volunteers welcome!

Booking a Holiday at Christmas?
If you are booking accommodation, go to www.quickbeds.com and enter our unique Grassroots ID 1172 – you’ll be helping our school raise funds!

Uniform Shop Open Tuesdays 8.15 to 9am
or fill out an order form and pay at the tuckshop.
Let us know your views about the proposed re-introduction of a dress in the uniform – voting forms out soon!
Contact the P & C by email - pandc@macknortss.eq.edu.au

This term the last day for Tuckshop will be on Monday 8 December.
Some menu items may be out of stock by then, but we will do our best to replace them with a similar item.

Concert – 20 November 2015
DVDs will be available at the end of November for $30 each

The Mackay North State School P & C Facebook page is now online – go to - https://www.facebook.com/pandcmackaynorthprimary
Add 2 to 171 to make less than 18.

THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER
@ THE MECC
SOLOMON ISLANDS DONATIONS

Mrs Jan Bell a former SEU teacher aide at our school, travels every year 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)
- plastic bread bag clips

There is a box in the office for all donations which will be gratefully appreciated.

GYMNASTICS

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

- Wednesdays & Fridays
- 7th, 9th, 14th & 16th January 2015
- Snow Wright Court 9.30 a.m. – 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 4942 0032 or email admin@mackaygymnastics.org.au
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