

Newsletter No. 08 - 12 June 2009

Mr Steve Paulger has been appointed as the next Principal for Mackay State High School. Mr Paulger will start here at the beginning of Term 3. His most recent position was as Principal of Yeppoon State High School and before that he was Principal at Hughenden. I met with Mr Paulger last week and he is keen to move to Mackay and work with our school community.

A personal thank you to the P&C for their presentation last week at our meeting. A lovely mounted school plaque will remind me of the 4 excellent years I spent at Mackay State High School working within a community with plenty of spirit-dare I say Milton Pride. A thank you to all parents for their support.

Congratulations to our Rock Eisteddfod team who won 12 awards at the Mackay Entertainment Centre last Friday night. A tremendous amount of work went into the presentation and the students both enjoy and benefit from their participation. Thank you to Mrs Tenni and her team and all the parent support for this excellent activity.

Can I ask parents to speak with their children about road safety. Some students are showing disregard for basic road rules and this can only lead to problems in future. Students need to obey directions around the school especially at peak hour. We have had some reports about foolish behaviour in, on and around the roads and I would again encourage you to speak to your child about basic safety.

We have a number of our students performing at a range of events over the next few weeks. We have sports representatives at National Championships and our Senior Ski Trippers are about to enjoy a great time in New Zealand and our Rugby League boys are competing in the ARLD Country Cup on the Gold Coast. All in all it is great to have students engaging in so many opportunities.

Exams are full on at the moment and all students should be in the process of completing their assessment. Please encourage your child to complete all work to the best of their ability.

Finally, good luck to the Open Girls Rugby Union tonight in their Grand Final. I am sure they will bring the cup home.

PRINCIPAL

Mr Matt O'Hanlon

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Ms Donna Drinkwater

A/DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Mr Matthew Skinner

REGISTRAR

Mrs Desley Livermore

GUIDANCE OFFICER

Mr Lindsay Hains

SCHOOL NURSE

Ms Anne Crowley

CHAPLAIN

Mr Phil Hall

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

COUNSELLOR/S

Gordon Quakawoot &

Val Wright

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Tereana Suhle

Jeffrey Southwell

SCHOOL VICE CAPTAINS

Kirby Mackelvie

Kelvin Nielsen

SPORTING HOUSES

CHATAWAY

DENNISS

FORGAN

MACKAY

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Monday - Friday

8:00am - 11:00am



M J O'Hanlon

School Bus Assistance

School Bus Assistance For Lower Income Families

The Safety Net Scheme was developed by the State Government to assist students who do not receive other forms of School Transport Assistance and are members of lower income families.

Who May Be Eligible?

To be eligible for assistance under the Safety Net Scheme, students must be in one of the following categories:

- ◇ Students of families eligible for a Health Care Card;
- ◇ Students of families eligible for a Pensioner Concession Card
- ◇ Students of families receiving Veterans Affairs pension; or
- ◇ Students placed under a Care and Protection Order.

Application forms with further details are available by calling into the Passenger Transport section of Queensland Transport in Endeavour Street, Mackay or by telephoning 49518313.

Conveyance Allowance Assistance

Conveyance Allowance is an assistance provided by Queensland Transport to eligible parents / guardians who drive their students to school or to the route of a school bus.

There are several types of Conveyance Allowance available. These are determined by the type of school attended, distance driven to school or bus route and the types of school bus service (if any) provided in your area.

Application forms with further details are available by calling into the Passenger Transport section of Queensland Transport in Endeavour Street, Mackay or by telephoning 4951 8313.

Vaccination Catch Up Clinic

We have another Catch Up Clinic for school vaccinations that were missed at the school on Monday 06 July 2009 during the school holidays. Parents can call into Mackay Community Health, Child Health Service, 12—14 Nelson Street, Mackay anytime up to 4:00pm on this day. If you cannot make it on this day please call 4968 3863 and ask for Yvonne or Lucy to arrange another day and time.

Students Leaving School

If you have a student who will be leaving the school at the end of this term to either attend another school or if they are moving to another town/city or interstate, or if they will be commencing work, could you please ring the school office on 4957 9179 and advise the ladies in the office of this. This enables the school records to be kept up to date.

Learning Network Queensland

Learning Network Queensland's Mackay is now offering its fully funded Back to Work course to people who wish to upgrade their skills in order to enter or re-enter the workforce.

The Back to Work courses will begin on 13 July 2009 and will run two days a week for two weeks and three days a week for another two weeks.

This program focuses on job seeking skills including writing resumes and addressing selection criteria as well as learning the basic computer skills of word processing and accessing the internet and email. The computing units are from the Certificate I in Information and Technology.

The Back to Work program is funded by the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations' **Skilling Queenslanders for Work** initiatives.

For further information phone Betty Marshall Coordinator LNQ Mackay on 4940 7405 or visit the centre at CQ University Boundary Road, Planlands.

Health News



Queensland Swine Flu Response—Prevention Tips

H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) is spread from person to person in the same way seasonal influenza and other common respiratory infections spread. The best way to protect you and your family from this flu is to take the following proactive seasonal flu measures.

- * **Stay home when you are sick;**
- * **Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol based hand gel**
- * **Wash your hands prior to touching your eyes, nose and mouth;**
- * **When coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose;**
- * **Don't share items such as cigarettes, glasses or cups;**

* **Maintain at least one metre distance from people who have flu-like symptoms;**

* **Consult your Doctor if you have a cough and fever and follow their instructions;**

For more detailed information about seasonal influenza please visit—www.health.qld.gov.au/flu

Marine Studies News

Marine Studies have had three successful excursions this term. The first was our excursion to Knuckle Reef out from Abel Point Marina. It was a long day but we all enjoyed the boat trip and snorkelling on the reef. The year 12 students then spent three days boating and camping around the beautiful Newry island group.

We were very lucky with the weather. Each day the storms moved passed us to rain on Mackay but we stayed dry. With calm winds we managed to boat around all the islands in the group and we caught enough fish for those who wanted to have a fish meal.

What was great to see was the improvement in boating skills and confidence of all the students who attended. Their willingness to load and unload the boats, and do as asked really helped make it a great camp.

The Year 11's spent a day at Shoal Point to gather data for a field report and to gain a greater appreciation for how much life there is on a rocky shore. Most students were surprised at how many marine creatures there were with the most exciting find being a small turtle trapped in a large rock pool for the last hour of the tide.



Students Requiring Medication at School

The following procedure must be followed without exception if students are required to take medication during school hours. This includes over the counter medication (ie Paracetamol).

Parents must present a letter/certificate from their General Practitioner to the Administration (Principal, Deputy Principal) for verification of medication to be given to student. Parents must also provide medical documentation to inform the school of any changes to medication (ie. dosage changing). Parents must ensure that the following information is clearly printed on the medication container by the pharmacist:

- the name of the medication;
- the dosage required;
- the times when medication is to be given;

The student must take the medication to the General Office where it will be stored in a secure place.

NOTE: The administration or office staff will give the medication to the student when they come to the office.

All medication will only be administered on Doctor's instructions which have been verified by the Principal.

It is the responsibility of the student to remember to come to the office to obtain the medication.

