

Newsletter No. 17 - 14 November 2008

Our optiMINDS team has left for New Zealand and we wish them luck. Can I thank our major sponsors. These are: Rio Tinto who are great sponsors of optiMINDS in our district and of our school team. As well as providing substantial financial support they also provided travel bags for each student. The two Rotary clubs of Mackay both provided excellent support as did the Mackay Regional Council and our P&C. Thank you to all and good luck to Mrs Lyons and the students.

PRINCIPAL

Mr Matt O'Hanlon

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Ms Donna Drinkwater

Ag/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

Caitlyn Dinsdale

Patrick O'Hanlon

SCHOOL VICE CAPTAINS

Maggie Webster

Matthew Tandy

SPORTING HOUSES

CHATAWAY

DENNISS

FORGAN

MACKAY

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Monday - Friday

8:00am - 11:00am

Our Seniors of 2008 finish school next Friday and I looking forward to attending both the Graduation ceremony on Friday and the Formal on Wednesday evening. A special thank you goes to Ms Garvie and Mrs Sumpter who organized the night and work with this fine group of young people. Over their High school years many of these young people have contributed to their communities as active citizens. I look forward to speaking with many parents at both of these events. Parental support is essential in giving your young adults the opportunities that now await them.

Our Performing Arts and Art Departments were prominent at the Soiree last Wednesday. Hours of hard work goes into these productions and I am sure, like me, any of you who were there would have enjoyed the level and quality of performance. Our Art work and performances, both live and the Film and Television Movies were excellent. Coupled with the music it was an excellent night. (see inside for details). Congratulations students and teachers.

Our Year 12s finish next Friday and parents are reminded that students must attend on that day where a presentation will take place. Parents are welcome so please see information inside.

Six of our Year 11 students are attending a leadership course in Brisbane today. Thank you to Mr Little for providing this opportunity. Our Prefects have been elected for next year and we had a shared morning tea last Thursday where the outgoing prefects welcomed the new. The Year 11 will head to camp at Magnetic Island on Monday 24 November.

Finally, school for Year 10 and 11 finishes on the 28 November and the Year 8 and 9 students finish on Friday December 12.



M J O'Hanlon

- 21 November—Final Day
Year 12
- 28 November—Final Day
Years 10 & 11
- 12 December—Final Day
Years 8 & 9

Salvation Army Appeal

The Festive Season is fast approaching. Along with the joy of the occasion comes sadness for many of our local families who can't afford the little extras that go along with Christmas.

Mackay State High School students have a tradition of giving to the Salvation Army Appeal at this time. We ask each family to help someone less fortunate by giving one or two of the usual non-perishable Christmas items suitable for a hamper or a child's toy (unwrapped). These items are passed on to the Salvation Army to be distributed in Hampers to local families at Christmas.

Last year we had a fantastic response from our families and we hope to be able to do the same this year. If your family is able to help, please send the items along with your child to the Year Co-ordinator's room (E6) before the end of November.

Bob Rowlinson—Organiser

Work Experience Awards Ceremony

STUDENTS RECEIVE RECOGNITION AT AWARDS CEREMONY

Mackay State High School students who have excelled during work experience have been recognised for their achievements at **The 2008 Daily Mercury/School Industry Links Vocational Placement Awards** last Monday (27 October) evening. **Jesse Motteram** was nominated for the Retail award, **Ryan Jacobson** was nominated for the Engineering - Fitter/Machinist/Fabrication award. Both **Claudia Attard** and **Emma Brooks** were nominated for the Community Services, Health and Education Award, while both **Jake Polkinghorne** and **Letitia McFadzen** were both nominated for the Business, Office & IT Award. Jake now works part-time at his work experience employer, The ANZ Bank, while completing his senior studies. **Tyrone Thompson** was nominated for the School Based Apprenticeship Award, as he has now begun a school-based apprenticeship with Werner Engineering after his work experience placement.

Many students excel in their work experience, but few are nominated for an award. These students should be very proud of their efforts. On behalf of the staff at Mackay State High School, I would like to congratulate all of these students on their achievements.

Robyn Robinson, HOD – Senior Schooling.

Free Internet Content Filter

Parents are advised they can obtain a fully subsidised PC Internet Content Filter under the Federal Government's NetAlert scheme.

Internet content filters provide a range of capabilities to block, screen or monitor unwanted material on the Internet.

The fully subsidised program is due to close for new users later this year with existing users able to use the filters through to end June 2010, so anyone wanting a free filter should download as soon as possible. Visit www.netalert.gov.au

Starlight Concert

The annual Starlight Concert held last Wednesday evening at the school became an Arts Festival with all areas of the Arts Department contributing.

The P&C Art Show displayed the talents of our visual art students from years 8 to 12. Thanks to our judges Billie-Jo Obst, Cathy Knezevic and Graham Connors who provided some valuable feedback to the winning artists. Congratulations to Maggie Webster, Jasmine Heading and Deanne Mateo whose work was selected and to Robyn Hearne who won the People's Choice. Thanks to Leanne Comelli who organised the show and to Peter Rounsevell and the P&C who provided the prizes and the refreshments.

The Concert Band, String Ensemble and Stage Band provided a concert showcasing the work and talent of our Instrumental Music Program. Thanks to all members of these groups for their great performances over the year. Thanks also to Mrs Kristen Boyd, Mr Matthew Johnston and Mr Ray Agius for their work with the

Instrumental students.

The evening was rounded off with a screening of a selection of films and documentaries made by the Year 12 Film, Television and New Media students and a presentation of "Bottom's Dream" by the Year 12 Drama students. Thanks to Mrs Pelletier and Mrs Veney for their contributions.

The Festival format was very popular and we are looking forward to next year.

Health News

Schoolies Week

Schoolies week is a time of release and celebration for graduating Year 12 students in Australia. It can be a liberating but also a risky time, particularly in the context of exposure to alcohol and other drugs. Preparation and planning by students and their families can help them have a safer and more enjoyable time.

Traditional destinations for schoolies week include Airlie Beach, the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast. These destinations typically offer activities and events, many alcohol-free, to provide safer environments for young people to celebrate.

Useful websites

You can find more information on schoolies week on these websites:

- Schoolies page on YouthCentral (<http://schoolies.youthcentral.vic.gov.au>)
- National Schoolies Site (www.schoolies.org.au)
- Schoolies, Queensland Government (www.schoolies.qld.gov.au)

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club continues at the school every Monday – Thursday morning between 8:10am and 8:45am. Everyone is welcome to come along.

It is all free, with bread donated by Brumby's Bread (Sydney Street & Canelands stores), milk donated by the P & C, vegemite, jams etc donated by Mackay Youth Support Services, and cereals donated by Mrs Brown.

We have had a lot of special breakfasts this year, and 3 big breakfasts at the start of this term. Thanks to all our volunteers, helpers and team members, especially the Student Council. We are a great team!

Anne Crowley

(School Based Youth Health Nurse)

How Does Queensland Sound to You

To celebrate next year's 150th anniversary of Queensland's statehood, an exciting new project wants you to help compile the sounds of Queensland.

Project '150 Sounds of Queensland' is asking all Queenslanders to nominate a sound unique and important to a local place or our community.

Have a think and listen, and make a list of:

- ✦ living sounds – sounds you hear today, or everyday
- ✦ sounds that are changing, endangered or being lost

sounds in memory – sounds from the past.

The sounds should have social, cultural, historic or environmental meaning. You need to explain why they should be saved for future generations and how you might do it. Nominations are open to all individuals and groups and close in March 2009.

Selected sounds will be professionally recorded with a plan to become part of the Queensland sound archive.

For more information, visit: www.ecco.org.au/150sound or email: 150sound@ecco.org.au

The project is funded by Queensland's 150th Celebrations 2009 (Q150) Department of the Premier and Cabinet: www.q150.qld.gov.au





School Based Plumbing Apprenticeship

School Based Apprenticeship

Certificate III in Plumbing

Get Paid for the days you work - Minimum one day per week

Get a head start for a Trade Qualification

The Job

- Prepare and study drawings, plans and specifications
- Establish the layout of plumbing systems and materials needed for the job
- Measure, mark out, cut or bend pipe into position for connections
- Cut holes through walls and floors to lodge pipes
- Assemble and install piping, valves and fittings
- Test lines as required by local plumbing regulations and report findings
- Assemble and install plumbing equipment and appliances
- Maintain and repair plumbing systems

The Skills

- An interest in practical and manual work
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to work at heights
- Initiative to complete the 4 year Apprenticeship

To Apply

P: 07 4957 9826 F: 07 4951 4902

M: PO Box 643 Mackay QLD 4740

E: aes@mrael.com.au W: mrael.com.au

- ◆ Hospitality Traineeship
- ◆ Business Traineeship
- ◆ Retail Traineeship
- ◆ Mechanic (Light Vehicle) Apprenticeship
- ◆ Boilermaker Apprenticeship
- ◆ Glass and Glazing Apprenticeship
- ◆ Plumbing Apprenticeship
- ◆ Mechanical (Fitter) Apprenticeship

Car Detailing Traineeship

Do you love cars? Gain a Certificate II in Automotive

Vehicle Body (Vehicle Presentation)

If you have a keen work ethic, good attitude and want to learn the skills of the trade, Apply Now.

Tyre Fitting Traineeship

Working with a local Mackay company learn how to inspect, change and repair tyres.

Along with selecting tyres & rims for vehicles.

This would be a great opportunity for someone wishing to pursue a career working with cars.

OTHER FULL TIME POSITIONS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

Traineeships

- ◆ Warehouse and Storage
- ◆ Tyre Fitting
- ◆ Sales / Estimator

Apprenticeships

- ◆ Glass and Glazing
- ◆ Spare Parts Interpreter
- ◆ Civil Construction - Plant Operator
- ◆ Fitter and Turner

Out of Trade Apprentices - if you have previously commenced an Apprenticeship and are now

keen and dedicated to complete your trade - please contact our office on 4957 9826.

To Apply

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- ◆ Spare Parts Interpreter
- ◆ Civil Construction - Plant Operator
- ◆ Fitter and Turner

Traineeships

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- ◆ Window Tinting
- ◆ Sales / Estimator
- ◆ Car Detailing
- ◆ Tyre Fitting