

# Newsletter No. 01 - 05 February 2009

Welcome back to Mackay SHS for 2009 and I hope you all enjoyed your break.. I had an enjoyable break spending time with my family in Mackay and visiting Sydney to get our youngest son Patrick started in the next stage of his life. Otherwise I just took it easy. As many of you may have heard I am moving later in the year but until then it is business as usual and I will inform you all when the time comes. It is an especially big welcome to our new Year 8 students and all the new families to our school community. It was great to see the full school on assembly on Wednesday in full uniform.

## **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

We also have a major new addition to the hall with our new electronic scoreboard in place. The scoreboard was donated to the school by Paul and Helen Bartolo of Barcam Electrical. Paul and Helen's children Hannah and Sam both attended the school and were active in their academic work, their sports and were school leaders in their senior year, Hannah as School Captain in 2003 and Sam as Vice Captain in 2007. As well, the Bartolo family has links with Mackay High that go back to the first enrolled student in 1912, W J Archbold. So not only will the scoreboard be a great asset it will also have a link to the school's history. A teacher/student volleyball game will be held to start the use of the board. Again, thank you to Paul and Helen for providing this excellent asset to the school.

All staff participated in a program of activities during the student free days before school started looking at our 2008 data. Over 60% of our students achieved an OP of 15 or better and most of those received positions in the university course of their choice. Many others are in apprenticeship and the like. This is pleasing and the preparation of our 2009 Seniors will start almost straight away. I put to staff the importance of a good relationship between parents and staff to the benefit of their children. I hope that in 2009 we can build a strong relationship so that parent's can assist in the education of their children.

I urged staff to put energy into their classrooms because students do respond to teachers who enjoy their work. Likewise on parade I put it to students that not only should they commit to the best school work that they can do, but that they should also commit to behavioural accountability which includes high standards in appearance and personal behaviour and respect for our community and the broad range of activities that we engage in.

Year 11 and 12 students ONLY are currently involved in the subject change process, final day for subject changes is Monday 16 February, 2009.

Can I also welcome to MSHS our new teachers for 2009. Kylie Anthes-Cole, Crystalyn Bennett, Katherine Laurance, Glenn Ottaway, Anthony Puddicombe, Sandy Scott, Tracy Soward-Amalfi and Courtney Thompson. I would also like to welcome back Allison Blines, Iris Harvey, Mick Virgo and Paul Sumpter who have been on leave.

## ***Middle School Happenings***

There has been lots of activity in our Year 8 and 9 community for the start of 2009. A big thankyou to Mrs Barnard and Mr Doyle our Year Coodinators who have done a fantastic job making the transition into the new year a smooth and enjoyable one. Most students now are settled into their class work and getting down to the business of learning. We have some exciting events happening soon for our Year 8 students starting with the Year 8 BBQ on Friday 20th February . By now you should have received the paperwork from your child regarding the BBQ. This is an opportunity for all to meet with teachers in a relaxed atmosphere. Our Annual Year 8 camp begins on 23rd February and as numbers are finalised we will organise the form groups into the days they will be attending. One of the highlights of this camp is seeing our Principal and Deputy Principals at the mercy of the students at the top of the giant swing.

After the Camp we will start the process of electing our Middle School leaders. Four students from Year 8 and Year 9 will be selected to lead the Middle School . This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to display and develop their leadership skills throughout the year and an investment for the future student leadership of our school. Finally, I look forward to seeing you all at the Year 8 BBQ on the 20th. Don Saunders, HOD Middle Schooling.

**P&C news**

*On behalf of the P&C, welcome back to all members of our school community - students, parents and staff. A warm welcome to those of you who are new to our school.*

Mackay State High School has an active band of parents working with the staff and students towards providing the best possible environment for your student's education. We encourage everyone to become part of our P&C. Demands placed on families in this day and age are many, yet the rewards of being involved in your child's school are great and any time you can give is really appreciated.

Benefits include getting to know other parents and staff, having influence on decisions made about our students, sharing ideas, airing your grievances and finding solutions, and of course deciding how to spend money!

Monthly meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month unless notified otherwise via this newsletter. The AGM will be on Monday 23rd February in the boardroom, which is accessed via the staff car park at the back of the Admin building. The meeting will start at 7.30pm and you are invited to come along.

The main business of the AGM is the presentation of reports from the previous year and the election of office bearers for the year. All positions are declared vacant but some of these positions already have willing volunteers. Thanks to the entire executive and all members involved in 2008.

We invite you to come along to the AGM even if you are new to P&Cs. We look forward to a great year ahead and welcome your input.

**Tuckshop**

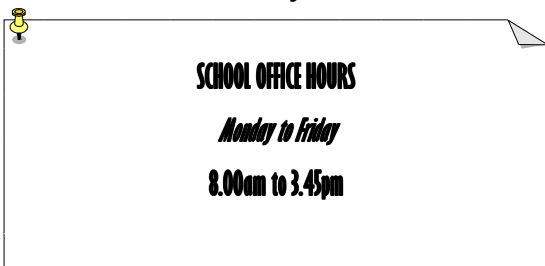
The tuckshop is up and running thanks to Judy and Sharyn and their helpers. The tuckshop is the main source of funding for the P&C. Volunteering in the tuckshop is very rewarding. Our tuckshop is air-conditioned and pleasant to work in during the hot months. Due to our convenors and existing helpers our tuckshop is currently running smoothly and profitably within the healthy school guidelines, but more volunteers are required. You may be able to assist once a month or perhaps fortnightly or weekly.

**School Uniforms**

The school uniform shop is situated at the Milton street side of P block, which is to the left of the admin building at the front of the school. It is open from 8.00am to 11.00am, Monday to Friday. The uniform shop convenor, Edna, and her band of wonderful helpers make this possible. Thanks to all of these volunteers for the work involved in the busy start to the school year and in particular to Edna for the enormous amount of time spent at the uniform shop at the start of the school year.

**Uniform shop  
Monday to Friday 8.00am to 11.00am**

**P&C Annual General Meeting  
7.30pm Monday 23rd February  
in the library annexe.**



**SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS**  
*Monday to Friday*  
**8.00am to 3.45pm**

**UPCOMING SIGN ON'S**

**WEST UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB inc**

**2009 SOCCER SIGN-ON**

Saturday 07 & Sunday 08 February, 2009  
10.00 am to 2.00 pm

West Mackay State School Senior Campus  
Undercover Area, Pinder Street entrance

**NEW PLAYERS ARE WELCOME!**

*New players please bring 2 copies of your Birth Certificate.*

CONTACTS: Robyn Liddlelow Ph. 49531221 or Jeannette Archer Ph. 49526071

**CITY BROTHERS FOOTBALL CLUB**

**JUNIOR SOCCER SIGN-ON**

**SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEB 2009**

**9.30 am – 1.00 pm**

St Francis Xavier Parish Hall

Holland Street, West Mackay

New players to provide 2 copies  
of birth certificate.

For further information, please  
contact Junior President,

**DEAN McCARTNEY – 0448 484200**

All Welcome!

**ANDERGROVE KANGAROO JUNIOR AFL**

sign on for Under 9's through to Under 18's

Saturday 7th February from 9.00am

Andergrove State School oval,

Fernleigh Ave, Andergrove

We welcome new and returning players.

Contact Paul Chatfield 0438 795 791.

**SOUTHS UNITED HOCKEY CLUB**

**Registration Day** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February

**Souths Leagues Club** 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

New Players Welcome



**Are you a PARENT or CARER**

unemployed or working less than 25hrs/wk?

**WE CAN offer YOU** - Skills to re-enter the workforce

Financial Assistance in enrolling in TAFE or any other

Accredited Training

**Accredited Training**

Certificate I in Business

Microsoft Word

Apply First Aid

Fire Extinguisher Training

Construction Blue Card

And MORE

**Eligibility: MUST be an Australian Citizen, Temporary Visa Holder or**

**Permanent Resident of Australia**

Next Course commences **17<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

(4-5 weeks \* 3-4 days/wk \* 9:30 – 2:30)

**CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Skills Training Mackay 4963 2700**

**Non-Accredited Training**

Interview techniques

Achieving your goal

Time management

Resume writing

Building Self Esteem

