

# Newsletter No. 08 - 06 June 2008

## **Rock Eisteddfod Victory!**

Congratulations to Ms Crocker and her large team who won the Rockhampton Rock Eisteddfod on Monday night. Nearly 8 months of practice went into the performance and over 80 students were involved. The performance, named The Corpse Bride, looked at issues around body image and self worth. I viewed the performance at school last Thursday with our students and was impressed by the professionalism of our students. I also received a phone call from a member of the audience in Rockhampton telling me that our students were fantastic. Well done to all and a big thank you to Ms Crocker and the staff who made this wonderful opportunity possible.

As you know our teachers are all using Laptops and working on their ICT skills as we embrace the digital world. With our current Laptop program for Year 8 working well we are now planning to bring on classes in our 2009 cohort. With funding from the National Secondary Schools Computer Fund soon to arrive we are really entering the digital age. Parents interested in the 2009 Laptop program will be given information through their primary schools soon.

The Bakers Creek Memorial Service for the US Airmen who lost their lives 65 years ago is on again this weekend. Our students add much to the service and I hope a number of students will represent Mackay State High School and the broader Mackay Community at this service. See Mrs Aprile for details.

The P & C Trivia night was a fun night and congratulations are due to the P & C members who help raise valuable funds for our students. Thank you to all who attended and supported the evening.

Our Year 8's completed their camps last week and it was a successful program for all involved. I was able to spend some time at each camp and both the students and staff really enjoyed the activities that were provided.

Exams start next week 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.

### **PRINCIPAL**

Mr Matt O'Hanlon

### **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

Ms Donna Drinkwater

### **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

Mr Bruce Heggie

### **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

***M J O'Hanlon***

- 09 June—Queens Birthday Holiday
- 27 June—School Holidays begin

## *Breakfast Club*

Mackay State High School celebrated the first birthday of its Breakfast Club on Wednesday 14 May. The Breakfast Club is an initiative of the School Based Health Nurse, Student Council, Guidance Officer and the Parent and Citizen Association.

Students from the Student Council staff the Breakfast Club on a roster supervised by Chaplain Phil Hall, Volunteers from Mackay Youth Support Services, School Based Health Nurse Mrs Anne Crowley, Student council teacher representative Mrs Chris Brown, Guidance Officer, Mr Lindsay Haines and the Parent and Citizen Association's Edna Beutel.

The success of this initiative has been made possible by the generous support and donations from individuals and business. Those regularly contributing are Brumby's Sydney St, who supply all the breads, Colleen from Big Bear Food store, Harbour Road, for the cereal and Milo, Dr Robert Brown and the P & C, for juice and miscellaneous supplies.

This project has forged positive links between the school and community. During the year, special breakfasts have been held to acknowledge the celebrations of our Multicultural community, with members of the school community coming together to partake in healthy food, juice and great conversation.

The measure of success is the degree to which the project is acknowledged. Within Support services in Mackay and the local community, the Mackay State High School Student Council's Breakfast Club is a resounding success, echoing good will and fellowship thorough out the community.



*(Staff and students enjoying the birthday BBQ for Mackay State High School's breakfast club.)*

## *Picnic in the Park for CQ Rescue*

Set aside some time on Sunday, 08 June 2008, for a **NO ALCOHOL** Family Picnic in the park to raise funds for CQ Rescue Helicopter.

The picnic will run from 10:00am – 2:00pm at John Breen Park and will include Live Music by **'MAGIC'**, Children's rides and face painting, sausage sizzle, drinks, mobile café and ice-cream as well as a Major Raffle, with all proceeds going to CQ Rescue.

Every day people are assisted by CQ Rescue, so come along and show your support for this very worthy cause.

For more information please contact Marcella Vella on 49 587915 or 0427370814.

## *Fanfare Festival 2008*

On Tuesday 03 June 2008 three Mackay State High School Instrumental Music groups competed in the Mackay Regional Fanfare 2008 Festival at the Mackay Entertainment Centre. Fanfare is a bi-annual competition and involves 10 regional festivals across Queensland. The Mackay secondary schools program of the festival featured 14 school groups from as far afield as Bowen.

The Mackay State High School groups represented the school and themselves well. In a very entertaining and competitive section Mackay High received 2 silver (String Ensemble and Concert Band) and 1 bronze (Stage Band) awards. Congratulations to all players involved.

Thanks to Mrs Boyd and Mr Johnston for their hard work with these groups. Also thanks to Simon Ward, a pre-service Music teacher from CQU, who assisted on the day.



*(Deputy Principals:- Mr Bruce Heggie and Ms Donna Drinkwater, cutting the celebratory cake.)*

## *Rock Eisteddfod*

On Sunday 01 June, 76 students and 5 teachers boarded a bus bound for the rock Eisteddfod Challenge in Rockhampton. Students had been preparing for 4 months and were eager to show the 5 other schools from the wider Rockhampton region what talents they had to offer.

On Monday 02 June students spent a fun packed day rehearsing and interacting with students from the other schools, ending a long day with the grand performance in the evening.

The competition was strong, but Mackay State High Schools' professionalism, discipline and performance skill secured them the top position on the night.

As well as 1<sup>st</sup> place students won no less than 10 performances awards including:- Excellence in Performance Skills, Costumes, Set Construction and Sound Track production.

The Rock Eisteddfod Team were well supported by many parents, teachers, businesses and friends and we are very grateful for their support.



## **SPORTS CORNER**



## *Athletics Carnival*

The Interhouse Athletics Carnival is coming up just after the holidays. Year 8 and Year 9 Physical Education classes have started practising some athletics events now.

Field events will be held in Week 1 of Term 3 on Friday 18 July and the whole school will be participating in Track events the following Friday 25 July.

Congratulations to Lucinda Rutland for making the Queensland Open Girls Hockey Team.

Congratulations to Shannon Willett, Georgia Bryant, Ryan Jacobson and Dylan Bell for being selected in Under 15 Capricornia Soccer teams.

WELL DONE TO ALL.

## *Sporting Results*

Open Boys Rugby Union—Defeated Mackay Christian College - 41—5. Still undefeated.

Open Girls Rugby Union—Defeated Proserpine State High School - Still undefeated.

Boys Basketball Team—Defeated Mackay Christian College. 72 - 45.

Under 15 Rugby League—Super 10—Defeated Whitsunday Combined Schools. 38—8

3 Boys have made Capricornia Basketball Teams:-

- \* Taylor Schmidt - Open Boys
- \* Hayden Wicks - Under 15
- \* James Ahwang - Under 15