MCKINLAY WINS 2015 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Thursday 26th February we hosted our interhouse swimming carnival, all houses were well support both in numbers and participation. Our year 7s set records for others to beat and Joshua Theakston broke a 14 year old record in the 50m freestyle with a time of 28.75s. Our house captains lead their teams well both in spirit and in the pool. Well Done. Congratulations to Mighty McKinlay house who were champions on the day winning Sun safety, Boys and Girls aggregate as well as overall champions.

Thankyou to all the staff and the house captains that assisted in the organisation and running of this successful event.

See page 2 for full list of Age Champions.
NEW STAFF FOR 2015

Name: Darrin Pearson
Teaching Subject(s): Senior Graphics, Furnishings, Industrial Technology and Design, Media and English Communication
Background: I have been teaching in the manual arts area for 8 years.

Name: Cassie Watson
Subjects: Science, Biology, Early Childhood Studies
Background: This is my first year teaching. I have a Bachelor of Science (Microbiology) from University of Queensland and have just completed my teaching qualification through Qld University of Technology.

Name: Leesa Gray
Subject(s): Project Languages, Learning Support, Multi-Learning Centre
Background: I am a new graduate teacher, with a background in Occupational Therapy (previous occupation). I enjoy working with children with learning difficulties and disabilities, as well as being involved in performing arts and sports in spare time.

Name: Gary Davis
Subject(s): Physical Education and Health, Recreation Studies and Science
Background: I have taught in Country N.S.W., Bathurst (1988-1991), Maroochydore HS, Sunshine Beach, Beerwah HS and Kunranda SHS in 1998 to 2007. I returned to teaching in 2013. I saw this as a great new challenge and I’m glad to part of the Mareeba SHS Health faculty

Name: Janet Van Rijssen
Subject(s): English, Business and Tourism
Background: I have taught English and Business in Queensland secondary schools for over 10 years and I spent the last six years at Malanda SHS. Prior to this I worked in Cairns in various recruitment and human resource roles for the tourism industry and private sector. I look forward to working at Mareeba SHS.

PRINCIPAL’S WORDS

This is the first newsletter for 2015. It was great to see new faces (and some old) at the recent Year 7&8 parent welcome BBQ. The students have settled in well and are getting on with the business of learning.

The focus of my newsletter article is on communication. As a result of the communication survey with parents last year, the school is implementing a number of changes to hopefully keep you more up-to-date with what is happening at the school. We are already using the parentnet email list and parents want more regular information provided this way. I have a team who are updating parent emails to add you to this list. If you have recently changed your email details, please email the school at info@mareebashs.eq.edu.au and we can include you in this email. The school has also started a Facebook fan page. The page is called “Mareeba High”. The intent is to provide weekly short updates about what is happening at school.

The school website is where the events coming up will be posted and already has most of the print information that parents need. The Q schools app links to the website and an alert notification will be sent when we update either the website or Facebook. Other online improvements we are trialling are emailing of assessment planners to students – ask your child to email it to you or alternatively, you can watch them log onto their school email at home and then print off the planner. We will also trial emailing report cards home.

The counter side to the survey results is that the radio broadcasts have ceased and we will only produce one printed newsletter each term which will coincide with other printed material. The Express newspaper newsletters will continue.

I also need to talk about concerns you may have about aspects of your child’s education. Parents are critical partners in the success of the children at school so if something is not right, we need to know. If your child has a concern about something in class, then parents need to contact the child’s teacher. If it is a welfare or playground matter, then your child’s year coordinator is the first point of call. All staff have emails and the list of these are on the school’s website. Schools are busy places. All teachers teach and my leaders are in class regularly coaching our staff so they are often not available to speak with you immediately. As far as possible we will try to address your concern within a week. You can also make an appointment to see staff through Student Services. It is important that you need to be calm and respectful when discussing your concerns either in writing, on the phone or face-to-face. Our school value of Respect is for all people at the school not just the students. There is more information about our process to deal with concerns on the website on the “Getting Things Right” page.

Lastly, I cannot stress enough the importance of being at school everyday. Our data shows that students who attend more than 90% get As, Bs and Cs meaning they are learning, achieving and passing. Students who are below national minimum standards receive additional support to assist them to accelerate their learning. Our Year 12 outcomes data show that we make a positive difference in the lives of students. In 2014, not only did we have an excellent academic result with our OPs, we also had the highest percentage of students graduating year 12 with a QCE, OP and/or VET qualification (93%).

Warm regards to all families.

Jo Soothill
Principal

SWIMMING AGE CHAMPIONS

Competition was fierce with many students vying for age champion. Congratulations to the following students who received age champion for this event.

2003 Girls: Tracy Martens, Boys: Kyle Hastie
2002 Girls: Shenika McDowell, Boys: Zac Myrteza
2001 Girls: Danika Prizmic, Boys: Joshua Theakston
2000 Girls: Sarrah Myrteza, Boys: Ben Dickinson and Bradley Newlands
1999 Girls: Katelyn Dickinson and Erin Phillott, Boys: Omar Myrteza and Bradley Davies
1998 Girls: Zoe McDermott, Boys: Jackson Brown

Michelle Cifuentes—Home Economics Teacher

“Building a Better
Mareeba & District Bank Community Bank® branches

Bendigo Bank

NON NOBIS SOLUM
LIESEL ZINK WORKSHOP

Dance students had the opportunity to participate in a Contemporary Dance workshop with Liesel Zink, a Brisbane based choreographer who has created several independent works for venues and festivals, and has been commissioned by Australian dance companies including Expressions Dance Company and LINK. Students were very enthusiastic and enjoyed working with Liesel in the workshop, learning about Contemporary technique and Counterbalance exercises.

Melanie Smart — Dance Teacher

ACADEMIC CAPTAINS

This year’s Academic Captains are: Gregory—Joanna Penn, Kennedy—Caitlin Goodhew, Leichhardt—Jordan Moreno, McKinlay—Daniel Waterman. They will be hosting board games for our year 7/8 students in the Library, promoting competitions on parade, attending Academic Morning teas and acting as hosts at Presentation Night in Term 4.

Christina Ellacott — Gifted Education Mentor, Coordinator and Senior Teacher

JET PLAN) JUNIOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING PLAN

Over the past month, Year 9 students have reflected on their achievements from Semester 2, 2014 and formulated goals and strategies for improvement. This culminated in a formal Junior Education and Training Plan (JET Plan) interview, conducted by their Positive Behaviour for Learning teacher and overseen by the Head of Junior Secondary. Post interview, students will update their plans using feedback from the interview and revisit later in the year. Positive Behaviour Teachers will also check in on a weekly basis.

Chris Keating — Head of Junior Secondary

(SWPBS) SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support signs have been developed and placed on visible walls around different areas of our school. These signs reflect our school values and remind students about expectations and are area specific. Reminding and re-enforcing our school expectation and what we value as a school community is vital in creating a safe and supportive learning environment.

Chris Keating — Head of Junior Secondary

NEW STAFF FOR 2015

Name: Stacey-Lea Lucas
Subject(s): Business
Background: Taught previously in North Brisbane and moved to Mareeba half-way through last year to teach within the Business department.

Name: Danielle Kelly-White
Subject(s): English & SOSE
Background: I have been teaching in primary and high schools around Cairns and the tablelands for 5 years.

Name: Satya Singh
Subject(s): Graphic, Industrial Design & Technology
Background: Taught Graphic, Industrial Technology & Design, Certificate II in Furniture Making at Townsville State High School for 10 years.

Position: HOD - Technology.

Name: Lurelle Hodge
Role: Master Teacher at Mareeba High School and Mareeba Primary School—working with teachers to improve their teaching skills using the Explicit Teaching Model.

Previous Role: Primary Classroom Teacher at various primary schools on the Atherton Tablelands and Cairns area for the last 17 years.

Name: Jillian Duncan
Subject(s): English, Math and Drama
Background: I have taught in schools in Herbert Bay and Mackay. I have taught Drama, Art, SOSE, English and Math and in the classroom from prep to year 12.

Name: Leanne O'Neil
subjects: Science, Physics
Background: I have taught in a Remote Indigenous School in Gapuwiyak, Northern Territory for the past 2 years. Before that, I was teaching Physics and Science in New Zealand.

YEAR LEVEL LEADERS

Year 7
Captains — Clayre Girgenti and Kyle Hastie, Vice Captain — Madison Simonato and Cody Smith

Year 8
Captains—Roe Geraghty and Nicole Saunders, Vice Captains—Matt Shortjoe and Stacey-Lee Hetherington

Year 9
Captains — Shenett Makoti and Joshua Theakston, Vice Captains — Finnian Weaver and Orla Weaver

Year 10
Captains—Kiaa Cabassi and Damien Brcko
Vice Captains—Olivia Anderson and Mateen Latif

Year 11
Captains—Erin Phillott and Brett Girgenti
Vice Captains—Katelyn Dickinson and Kane Midgley

“NOT FOR OURSELVES ALONE”
NEW STAFF FOR 2015

Name: Samantha Manestar
Subject(s): SWAD; PLA; Positive Behaviour Teacher (formerly known as RBO); Learning Support

Background: In 2014 grad JCU B. Ed. (Primary: Special Education); mother of two teenage boys (Grade 7 & 10); lives Kewarra Beach; worked as Teacher Aide/Learning Support at Cairns West State School for 8 years (Early Intervention – Year 7); Speech/Language my speciality; Looking forward to doing hot air ballooning with my boys over the Easter break

Name: Dean Sullivan
Subject(s): HPE, Science and SOSE

Background: Have taught in Emerald for the past 5 years. I have a keen interest in all sports and a lot of outdoor activities.

Name: John Pitt
Subject(s): Engineering, Industrial Technology, Manual Arts and Science

Background: I have been teaching Manual Arts for 20 years, originated from Sydney and moved to Queensland 2001. I have worked at Ravenshoe for past 14 years. My interests are computers, gardening and watching cricket.

Name: Chantell Saddler
Subject(s): Year 7 (All subjects) and Year 8 SOSE (Geography).

Background: Graduate teacher. Teacher aide experience and primary background (Primary trained). Relocated from the Gold Coast, Brisbane with my family.

Name: Tracy Holman
Role(s): Admin Officer Student Services—Students and Receiving.

Name: Fionna Lane
Role(s): Admin Officer Student Services—Student Attendance

NAME NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM

Sam Harris returned late to school Term 1 due to his attendance at the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra, one of only 300 students across Australia who was selected to attend.

NYSF consists of two weeks of residential experience, staying at ANU, Canberra and participating in extension activities, working with real-life scientists and visiting company sites to gain insight into science in the real world. Other arduous activities included a formal dinner and meeting Australia’s Chief Scientist.

RSL YOUTH GRANT

Caitlin Goodhew was successful in her application for an RSL Youth Grant and received $2,500 which she immediately put to use by purchasing a flute — which will be put to good use since she is Leader of the Cairns youth Orchestra this year.

SPARQ-Ed

Caitlin also successfully applied to attend SPARQ-Ed, a science research immersion program run at the Translational Research Institute at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, where she will spend a week of her Easter holidays working alongside a Professor who is researching breast cancer — an amazing opportunity for one of our students.

To add to the sunshine in Caitlin’s life at the moment, she has also been awarded a Lions Scholarship to the value of $500 to help with travel expenses for SPARQ-Ed.

LIONS OF THE YEAR

Mareeba State High School was well-represented by: Caitlin Goodhew, Aiden Lowe-Brock and Carla Newlands. Carla was overall Runner-Up. Students had to compete in three sections — an interview, a prepared speech of five minutes on the topic of their choice, and two impromptu speeches of two minutes each in length. Thank you to Lions Mareeba for hosting this annual competition.

SENIOR INDUCTION

The Senior Induction Ceremony took place on February 17th at the International Club. This night recognises the beginning of the Year 12 student’s final year of high school. Badges were awarded to all students and our school leaders received recognition for their newly appointed roles. It was a great night and we are looking forward to an exciting year!

Kelsey Allen—Year 12 Co-ordinator and Acting Head of Senior Schooling

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ICAS Competitions – letter coming out soon!
- National Geographic Australian Geography Competition.
- Brain Bee Round 1, March 25th – done online at school.
- Rostrum Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition – entries close 20th March.
- Writers Group starts next week!
- JCU Brain Awareness lecture, at JCU, Wednesday 18th March.
- Chess in the Library every lunch hour.
- Australian History Competition - registration closes April 2nd
- Year 7/8 Board games in the library next Monday!

For more information please see your Academic House Captains or Ms Ellacott.

CAIRNS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Lauren Elmes, Jordan Moreno, Sabrina Rofe and Celeste Petersen represented Mareeba State High School at the Cairns Constitutional Convention. The Convention requires our students to have read information about a referenda and to understand State Vs Federal rights. The issues under consideration this year were: whether the federal government should assume full control of water rights for river systems which cross State borders and/or whether the federal government should assume full control over the public hospital system. Lauren Elmes was our delegate on the day and she spoke very well about water rights. She was one of the highest scoring speakers on the day.

Thank you also to the teachers who helped our students prepare.

Christina Ellacott—Gifted Education Coordinator and Senior Teacher
PINK STUMPS DAY
The year 10 Health class hosted Pink Stumps Day on Friday the 27th February. The day was a success with almost $600 raised for the McGrath Foundation. The aim of the day is to raise awareness for breast cancer and increase the availability of breast care nurses around Australia. A huge thank you to the year 10s for their hard work, P&C for their donation and Rebecca Mauro for her help in the tuckshop. Thank you to everyone for your support and donations for Pink Stumps Day!
Jamie Gardiner—HPE Teacher

SPORTS CAPTAINS
Kennedy Captains—Austin Pell and Celeste Petersen, Vice Captains—Nicholas Turner and Katia Spena
Gregory Captains—Joshua Musumeci and Jasmin Anderson, Vice Captains—Zachary Adams and Sabrina Rafe
McKinlay Captains—Matthew Lep and Tara Phillott, Vice Captains—Zachery Sherry and Zoe McDermott
Leichhardt Captains—Jackson Brown and Jade Lankester, Vice Captains—Shaun Johnston and Danicka Fegatilli

Congratulations and good luck in your leadership role.

Christian Stewart—Head of Department Health

SPRINGMOUNT RACEWAY
Students and teachers were fortunate to get a close look at some of our local drag and raceway cars when the team from Springmount Raceway visited the school last week. The cars onsite were:
- Orange Ford Falcon XY Sedan, owned by Shane Shoj
- Orange Holden HQ Ute, owned by Richard Robb
- Red Holden Torana, owned by Brett Allgood
- Modified Dragster owned by Jeff Walters
- Junior Dragster owned by Alissia Walters.

CAMBODIA FUNDRAISER
This September our Year 12s will be travelling to Cambodia to volunteer their services at the New Hope Cambodia School and the ODA orphanage. As part of our fundraising activities, we are selling "Candles for Cambodia." These scented candles are made using natural soy wax and repurposed glass. If you'd like to support us by buying a candle please contact Lucy Daly (Ph: 40862752) or see us at the Mareeba Markets on the Mother's Day weekend. Thanks for your support
Lucia Daly—Teacher-Librarian, Senior Teacher

NOT FOR OURSELVES ALONE

HATS FOR SALE AT THE TUCKSHOP

PARENT REFUNDS
Parents/carers wanting to apply for a Refund or Credit must Complete an Application for Credit or Refund Form. (These can be collected from student services or are available on the school website.)
- Complete Students Name and Care Class, Excursion Description/Subject Fees, Amount Paid and Reason for request of refund
- Tick either “credit against my child’s account” or refund “to my bank account”
- If applying for a credit against school account students must take the form to be signed by the person/teacher in charge of the activity. (It is for left student the principal must sign.)
- If applying for a refund, complete parent/carer bank account details then students must take the form to be signed by the person/teacher in charge of the activity.
- Return form to Student Services

GET CONNECTED

The QSchools app lets you connect with your state school to get up-to-the-minute information including:
- push notifications and emergency announcements
- newsletters and documents
- calendar events and news
- tuckshop and uniform shop information
- school hours and contact details
- social media feeds.
Available for free downloads from iTunes Store, Google Play, Windows Store and Windows Phone Store.

“NOT FOR OURSELVES ALONE”
EMAIL COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS
As database systems become more elaborate and the ability to send information via email improves, it is important that your email address is updated. At present we have the ability to email parents/guardians, documents such as Student Report Cards and Individual Student Assessment Plans, however we need to ensure more email addresses are recorded correctly on our OneSchool database to do this. To assist us with the accuracy of this information could you please email Jan Godfrey (dgodf24@eq.edu.au) your preferred email contact to receive this information in the future. Please ensure the email has the following data:
Subject: "Email address confirmation"

In the main body of the email please include:
Preferred email address
Your Name: First name & surname
Your child's name who is attending MSHS: First name & surname

We appreciate that many of you have supplied email addresses already but some of the handwritten addresses are difficult to read, parts are missing, typos occur and addresses change.

“Parents of Past Students”
If your children have completed their education at Mareeba State High School and you no longer wish to receive school updates by email or you are a community member who wishes to cease receiving the regular “ParentNet” updates, please email Jan Godfrey (dgodf24@eq.edu.au) the following information:
Subject: “Please Unsubscribe from ParentNet”

Thanking you in advance.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT PLANS
Students Assessment Plans for Semester 1 have been distributed via student email addresses. “Please print off at home, show to your parents and then display in a prominent position to assist with your study routine.”

CANTATA PERFORMANCES
The Cantata “Holy Spirit, Breath of God” is currently being prepared for performances in Kuranda at the Cairns Hinterland Steiner School Friday, March 27th at 7.30pm, the Uniting Church in Atheron Sunday, March 29th at 4pm and St Thomas’ Catholic Church in Mareeba Sunday March 29th at 7:45 pm. There is no charge for admission but a donation towards expenses would be appreciated. The performance lasts approximately one hour. For more information please a Ruth on 4093 0303.

SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY NEWS
Our school has a new chaplain, Mrs Wendy KumYuen who has joined our Student Support Services team. Many of our students including year 7s and 8s already know ‘Chappy Wendy’ as she is also chaplain at Mareeba State School. Wendy is at our school on Tuesday mornings until 12:00 and all day on Wednesdays. Please feel free to come into ‘A’ Block (Student Services Building) to see Wendy or to say hi as she moves around the school.

What is my role at Mareeba State High School?
As your school chaplain, part of my role is to provide pastoral care, spiritual and emotional support to the school community. This involves walking students through life’s challenges and providing a listening ear and caring presence. With parental consent, I also provide spiritual support such as prayer, for those who are experiencing grief or loss. Together with the Student Services team, I enjoy supporting students to reach their full potential.

Chappy Wendy

CAMPING OPPORTUNITY
Cave Camp
Dates: 13/04/15 – 18/04/15
Grades: 8-12
Cost: $200 GST free (incl. Transport)

Cave camp is a fun and challenging camp that is sure to get your blood pumping. Imagine camping in the bush, bathing in the creek and exploring hidden wonders under the ground. We also do abseiling, obstacle courses, orienteering and lots more. All that in mind, we still find time to answer life’s big questions and talk about God and us. Come and join us at Chillaego in 2015!

Enquires: Julia Ayliffe & Alan Cummins/ 0487 907 493 & 4056 1083, Email: cavecamp@suucamps.org.au, Register online: www.suucamps.org.au

STUDENT TAX FILE NUMBERS
Students wishing to apply for their Tax File Numbers can now do so via an online form. Schools will no longer process bulk Student Tax File Number applications. Visit https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Ind/Apply-for-a-TFN-on-the-web/ for more information.

NEW PHONES
The school has a new answering service to assist in providing a more efficient service to parents. The options are:
1. Student Services (Enrolments, Absence, Behaviour, First Aid)
2. Student Payments (Excursions, Resource hire scheme)
3. Administration (Curriculum, Teachers, Laptops)
4. Accounts payable (External agencies)
5. Other

OFFICE HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
8:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday 8:00am – 3:15pm

MAREEBA ICEWORKS
• Crushed Ice • Block Ice

PHONE GRAHAM 4092 1016
10-12 HORT STREET, MAREEBA
Best block ice in North Queensland at competitive prices

"If opportunity doesn’t knock… build a door.” Milton Berle