ANZAC DAY PARADES

Students and staff were well represented at community ANZAC Day parades in Mareeba and Dimbulah. Student Council members, Nathan Fregona and Kirilyn Batchelor laid the wreath.

On Friday 29 April, the school celebrated its own ANZAC Day reflections with a full-school parade. Guest speaker, returned serviceman, Mr Craig Reedman spoke passionately to the parade about the values of the Australian defence force, including the courage and commitment it takes to stand up for the rights of others. Mr Russell Clarke led a stirring prayer on the sacrifices made by those who left for war, and those who were left behind.

The School Concert Band performed the national anthem and stirring hymn, Abide with Me. Traditional poems, In Flanders Field and For the Fallen were recited by Rhys Greer and Aleshe Kostuch, while Ryan Searle played the last post. Mareeba Air Cadets presented the commemorative wreath, which was laid at the memorial by Student Councillors, Kimberlee Fowler, Nathan Fregona, Rhys Greer and Kirilyn Batchelor. Lest we forget!
Welcome back to Term 2. It was a long term for both students and staff and I hope that everyone is well-rested and ready to continue learning. Thank you to the parents who attended the parent-teacher interviews late last term. It was great to see so many parents taking an active interest in how their child is progressing. If you were unable to attend and would like an update on your child’s progress, please contact your child’s year coordinator who will be able to arrange a suitable time to meet.

On Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 May, our Year 9 students will undertake the 2011 NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children. All students are encouraged to participate in the tests. Students with a disability may qualify for special provisions that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern.

In preparation for the school becoming a National partnership school in July, we are collecting some additional information about your views of the school through a short on-line survey. The purpose is to use this information as a guide for the direction the school needs to take to further improve in the future. The school has been working with Dr Mark Dawson from the University of Southern Queensland and is using a web survey to collect this initial information. The survey should take no more than 20 minutes to complete. To complete the survey, go to the following web page and complete the survey. The link is: http://disasurvey.acelleadership.org.au/survey/f4a35b80

Please complete the survey before next Friday 13 May. The results will be collated and an analysis will be completed over the next month or so. If you have any questions about the survey, please don’t hesitate to contact me via email or through the school.

Congratulations to the following students on their outstanding achievements:

Alan Schaul (ex-student) who has received the Australian Student Prize. This is a $2000 prize awarded to the top 500 students in Australia each year.

Shaquille Chong – who has received a scholarship with the ACTAS and to train with Canberra United a W League Soccer team next year

Shaquelle Banjo – Australian Electric Boogie champion. Shaquelle is fund-raising to go to Germany later this year

Eliza Michael – our school captain has received a prestigious International Air Cadet Exchange Scholarship. Eliza will be flying to the UK early in Term 3

Warm regards to all families

Jo Soothill
Acting Principal

DATE CLAIMER REMINDER:

**2011 Mareeba State High School Musical**

**Where:** Mareeba RSL

**When:** Wednesday 1st June, Friday 3rd June and Saturday 4th June

**Time:** 6.00 pm

*Be Prepared to be Amazed … and Horrified (in a good way)!*
Beacon is a non-profit organization that employs the leadership skills of a group of grade 10 students from each community. Their aim is to encourage peers to work towards a positive career pathway plan and stay in the schooling system or consider an apprenticeship, traineeship, TAFE or work, therefore, maximizing opportunities as opposed to simply dropping out of school.

Earlier this year, 8 students were nominated to become the Ambassadors for the Beacon Program at Mareeba State High. These are Katie Nastasi, Alessia Aloia, Jennifer Apel, Dillon Quintieri, Alexander Woffenden, Lauren Aloia, Jacinta McDonald, and Julian Kath.

On Wednesday the 2nd of March, the group visited Atherton State High School for the Beacon Ambassador Training Day. The day was a success with many ambassadors from schools on the Tablelands in attendance. The day was to teach all the attendees about the year ahead and developing skills in leadership, teamwork, communication, and accountability.

Current statistics show disengaged students from 15 to 19 years old are now at a staggering 24.7%. Therefore, the primary focus of the Beacon Program is to affect change by engaging local industry with the school aiming to re-connect with these students and show learning in a more positive light. In addition to the standard work experience week traditionally supported by the school, all year 10 students will be encouraged in many different ways such as mock interviews, speed career days, site tours, and for the first time this year in the classroom and within the curriculum.

Throughout the year, there will be many events to promote the opportunities of choosing a positive career path alongside support and assistance of our local businesses. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Mrs Jenny Walker or Miss Catie Peters, teacher co-ordinators of the Beacon Program at the school.

NOTE: the ambassadors will be receiving their official name badges in the full school parade on Tuesday 10th May 2011.

**Sports Presentation Award Night News!**

**Susie O’Neill**  
Guest Speaker at our Sports Presentation Night

At Mareeba International Club, Friday 21st October

One of Australia’s most successful swimmers ever, Susie O’Neill holds a record 35 Australian titles, eight Olympic medals, and a string of victories at international level. She was Australia’s only female world record holder, after breaking Mary T Meagher’s 19-year-old record in the 200m butterfly.

Susie came of age at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, a gold, silver, and bronze medal. She was Australia’s most outstanding Olympic performer since Shane Gould in 1972. In September 1998 Susie won a record eight medals at the Kuala Lumpur Commonwealth Games including six gold. In all she won ten gold medals at Commonwealth Games, the most ever for an Australian.

At Sydney 2000 Susie affirmed herself as one of Australia’s all time greats. Having won one gold and three silver, Susie now has eight Olympic medals, equaling Dawn Fraser’s Australian record of the biggest medal aggregate. At the closing of the Games, Susie was officially appointed by the IOC as one of a number of new delegates who are recent Olympians.

**The Future is Robotics!**

Our visiting experts program continues this year with a fantastic line-up of experts coming into this school. First up this year is a Robotics Workshop on 26th May.

This workshop introduces students to the exciting world of robotics. Selected Year 8 & 9 students will spend an entire day constructing and programming Lego robots. This program complements the new Technology curriculum through its project based learning.

The workshop will be presented by Marie Boden, a PhD scholar at the University of Queensland. Marie has previously worked in Sweden, organising information Technology courses for teachers and librarians. Marie is now researching the integration of technology and education. She will be assisted by Elizabeth Alpert, a university tutor and researcher.

This workshop will be free to Mareeba SHS students thanks to sponsorship by the Business Liaison Association of Cairns, and support from the Gifted & Talented program at Mareeba High.
Our 2011 school cross-country was run in fine conditions on a heavy track traditionally on the last day of Term 1. Over 280 walkers flattened the track for another record breaking female race which saw 14 year old Tjana Furnari-Southam take the record down a huge 1 minute 28 seconds to sit at 15.05. Tegan Parker and Beth Crowley managed to cement podium positions ahead of a fast finishing 13 year old Carla Newlands.

The Male race saw Ben Fresta produce a fine 14.41 to edge out favourite Brock Hawke for first. A show down is looming for next years race where the 2012 15yrs are begging for a single sex race. Ryan Knopke had a great race for 3rd with a 15.24 for the traditional sub 4km course. Special mention was made during the presentation ceremony of the most improved runner of the meet, none other than our school Captain - Pier Portella, who edged into 6th place overall with a sound sub 16min run.

Runners have been training towards District Trials (May 6th) and then the Regional Trials (May 24th) both of which will be held at Mareeba State High School again this year. First races begin at 11.15 am this Friday on our High School Oval. Parents and spectators are requested to sign in at the office if they are viewing the races within our grounds.

Mr Weaver and Mr McClelland (Coach/Manager of 2011 Peninsula Team) are excited with the prospects of once again setting up the Matthew Hawke showcase Cross Country circuit course for the District and Regional Trials.

Chris Keating, Sports Co-ordinator

Terry McClelland, School Cross Country Co-ordinator

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<tr>
<th>MAREEBA STATE HIGH SCHOOL - CROSS COUNTRY 2011 TOP 10</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MALE</strong></td>
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**2011 AGE GROUP PLACES**

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<th>Years</th>
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<th>Male</th>
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Industry White Card Induction Course

- 19 participants successfully completed the first white card course for 2011 on 13th April.
- 2nd course will be held on 22nd June in time for Year 10 Work Experience block.
- Last course will be held on 14th September – good opportunity for Year 12’s to get their Industry White Card at school rate.

The cost to school students is $45.00 (normally between $70-$180). Paperwork will be sent out to interested students closer to the dates. Any question, please call Mrs Tessaro (Senior Schooling Assistant) on 40862703 on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

School-based Apprenticeships & Traineeships

- Current figures are 52 School based apprenticeships and traineeships for 2011 – few more to sign up in the coming weeks.
- Any parents/guardians/employers wanting to discuss School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships please call and make an appointment to see Mrs Tessaro on 40862703. Mrs Tessaro is available on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

Thankyou to our parents and employers who continually support Mareeba State High School and students.

Yr 10 Work Experience

Work experience week 25-29 July. This programme is compulsory for year 10 students at Mareeba State High School. Placements will need to be finalised on or before 27th May, 2011. Students will be bringing information home next week regarding this programme. Any questions, please call Mrs Walker 40862777, or Mrs Tessaro 40862703 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday).

Shaquille Chong (Year 12 student) has received an ACTAS Scholarship for 2012 to undertake training with Canberra United which is in the Women’s League.

Free anti-bullying seminars for parents

A second series of free anti-bullying seminars delivered by leading psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg will be held for parents in 2011.

The Working Together Against Bullying seminar series will be held in 11 locations across the state from February to September.

Details of the seminar for parents in the Cairns area are below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Evening Session</th>
<th>Registration Closes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Club, Cairns</td>
<td>16 May</td>
<td>9 May</td>
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The seminars will focus on building resilience and self-esteem in children, as well as offering practical strategies for dealing with bullying in school communities.

Seminars for parents will be held in the evenings at each location. To register your interest, visit [http://education.qld.gov.au/studentservices/behaviour/worktogether.html](http://education.qld.gov.au/studentservices/behaviour/worktogether.html) or call 3235 9072.

...helping parents teach their Learner driver

As a parent you may be a good driver; but being able to teach your Learner is not an easy task.

A recent national survey of more than 1,250 parents of Learner drivers found that almost half (45.5%) were nervous or apprehensive when they began teaching their teen how to drive.

keys2drive is a federally funded program that has been developed by the Australian Automobile Association which aims to take the drama out of learning to drive. It helps parents to prepare for their role as a supervising driver and to ensure that any time spent in the car with their Learner is successful and effective.

keys2drive offers a free lesson (involving theory and on-road) delivered by an accredited professional driving instructor to any Learner who is accompanied by their supervising driver – most often a parent.

This program, the single largest Learner driver safety program undertaken in Australia, represents a unique and valuable experience for parents and their Learner drivers.

To register for a free lesson or to learn more, visit [www.keys2drive.com.au](http://www.keys2drive.com.au)

The Australian Automobile Association constituent members are the motoring clubs in each State and Territory.