DATE CLAIMER
P&C Working Bee – 7 August (9am – 12)
Trade Centre Opening – 9 August (9.30am)

DATE CLAIMER
P&C Meeting – 9 August
Trade Centre Opening – 9 August (9.30pm)
Year 9 Movie Night – 10 August

DATE CLAIMER
Dimbulah SS Year 10 Transition Day – 16 August

ISSUE No. 7
4th August 2011

“building a better future together”

NEWSLETTER

MATHS CAMP

“The camp was great. At first I was nervous because I didn’t know anyone but I made some new friends and met up with some old ones. I love the canoeing. I got some great tips on how I could improve my skills. The teachers/supervisors were great and extremely friendly. The navigation challenge was really fun! The towers challenge was fun and I loved the chocolate bribery. Thanks for having us”

“I really enjoyed the code-cracking station, the tessellations were fun! Actually, I really enjoyed ALL the activities! It was very enjoyable and ‘camp like’ to have the activities at dinner time. I would really want to do this again!!! I met heaps of friends and had loads of fun, learnt a lot and LOVED it”

“This has been a great maths camp. This has been the first time I’ve been on a maths camp. I’ve achieved a lot more than I expected on this camp and if I could come again I would. The variety of activities were good. I really enjoyed it. Thanks”

Jasper Street, Mareeba Qld 4880 • P.O. Box 1079, Mareeba Qld 4880
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As the last student was picked up from Tinaroo Environmental Education Centre, Camp Coordinator - Terry McClelland scanned the evaluation sheets and reflected. The formula works. Select and then invite fifty above average mathematics students from Tableland schools, assemble a dedicated bunch of teachers from local schools, nurture a stimulating program boasting variety, extension and a liberal dose of physical activity and then place them all in what has to be one of the best educational settings in our region—TEECC.

Parents collecting students often jokingly ask “How do we do it? The student feedback comments don’t quite answer this question, but they do give an insight as to why teachers will be queuing up to staff next year’s 20th Year 9 Tableland Maths Enrichment Camp.
Visiting Author:
Award-winning Author JC Burke (Jane to her friends), author of *Pig Boy, Ocean Pearl, The Story of Tom Brennan* (2006 CBCA book of the Year for Older Readers) and more was the Author-in-Residence on Tuesday 2nd August. Jane delivered Short Course Workshops to some of our top Year 9 and Year 10 English students and offered some very useful writing tips to the Year 12 QCS students. The students were enthralled by her lively and intense delivery and learned a great deal in a short time. Go to [www.jcburke.com.au](http://www.jcburke.com.au) to learn more.

**THE ENGINEERING LINK GROUP Camp**

The Engineering Link Group hosted an engineering camp at James Cook University in Townsville from the 17th - 20th July 2011. Students from over 20 schools across North Queensland attended the event, including seven Mareeba High School students. Amber Coyle, Brenden Crago, Daniel Hudson, Elijah Ibell, Rebecca Martens, Jacki McNab and Alyssa Tieppo where treated to a range of engineering modules which included: civil, mechanical, aeronautical, electrical, environmental and structural engineering. Each of these modules was run by an engineer in the field and involved designing, building and testing a solution to a given situation. These included a retaining wall made of sugar cubes, a water filtration system and a crane which could hold 500g without breaking a jelly floor. This camp not only allowed students to gain a greater understanding of how Physics and Mathematics B & C relate to the real world but also gave students an insight into living and studying at university.

Above: Elijah beginning construction of a lego car that can cover 2m in 10s.
Right: Amber tests her group’s 2m string bridge

The first four weeks of term 3 have been a busy time in the Music Department. In week one, we had a day of vocal workshops with the nationally renowned singer and teacher Jackie Cooper. Ms Cooper worked with students over all year levels throughout the day. She taught them about vocal technique and each group learnt a different song.

In week 4, at Tuesday lunchtime, the school was entertained by the band “Floating Bridges”. Aside from public and school performances, part of their national tour involved providing workshops on drums, guitar and bass guitar in local schools. After the bands performance, selected students were engaged in stimulating activities that extended their skills and knowledge. They split into small groups led by the band members to receive specialist instrumental instruction. The instrumental groups then regrouped for the final 20 minutes and practised as a large ensemble. This included developing an original composition by Jackson Hall into a multi instrumental arrangement. The band members also provided useful information about the current music industry and life as a musician.

Week 4 also sees the continuation of the DRUMBEAT programme. In Year 8, students have the opportunity to take part in the DRUMBEAT programme (Discovering Relationships Using Music Beliefs Emotions Attitudes & Thoughts). Drum Beat has been specifically created to address the needs in adolescent social and emotional development.

“The DRUMBEAT programme was developed to combine the benefits of the group drumming process with cognitive behavioural therapy so that young people can transfer some of the lessons from the drum circle to everyday life. Analogies are used to create creative awareness of the links between social skills developed as part of the music group and those required to form healthy and supportive relationships with others. In the programme, young people also look at social issues as such peer group pressure, bullying, dealing with emotions, tolerating diversity, identity and social responsibility.”
Mareeba State School students Joshua Pin U14’s & Nicholas Panetta U13’s have just been selected in the State Country Football (soccer) team for their respective age groups. Two trials were held in Townsville in April & June this year. They are both now heading to Coff’s Harbour in the first week of October to compete in the national titles.

Year 12 student Luigi Formoso successfully auditioned a few weeks ago to work with world renowned company Disney. The Year 12 senior drama student said there were over 800 people at the audition and only 8 were selected. Luigi has demonstrated his talent as a performer in drama class and has participated in productions since he was in primary school. Congratulations Luigi!

The Parents and Citizens Association is holding a working Bee here at the school on Sunday 9th August. If you can help in any way it would be greatly appreciated. Come along and lend a hand. Morning Tea provided.

Classes, and teachers, are working on a range of business and computer topics this semester. Some of the highlights include:

- Year 10 Business students will produce professional standard multi-page reports using data gathered while on work experience
- IT students throughout the school will toil over entries for the annual Digital Showcase. (Who will be the fastest typist in the school this year? Last year, Rebecca Harnischfeger topped, with a speed of 75 wpm with 98% accuracy.)
- Our first ever class of Year 12 students will complete the QSA subject BOM (Business Organisation and Management). Their current task is to produce an authentic business plan. These students can be proud of their progress over the duration of this course.
- Subject selection: two new subjects will be introduced for Year 11 in 2012—Business and ICT. These are courses of study approved by QSA, and will cater mainly for students interested in vocational pathways.
- Year 7 students visited the school and were rostered to lessons in our computer rooms—always interesting to see the positive reaction of these visiting students and the work done by keen Inter-year leaders.

Finally, a question for all students:

My education—an inconvenience or a privilege?

Stay motivated, and always keep your goals in mind,
Mrs F McGrath
Head of Dept.—Business & Technology
Twenty Year 10 students boarded South Passage – Adventure Under Sail on the first Tuesday of this term for a 2 day – 2 night voyage in waters off Cairns. The students sailed the ship themselves under the watchful eyes of the South Passage crew and by all accounts (even those with sea-sickness) they had a wonderful time. Lessons were learnt in sail craft, navigation, knot tying and living in close quarters. The journey was a fabulous one and we look forward to sailing with South Passage again next year.

Lunch with the girls

Letters have been distributed about this free, one day program that is specifically designed for all 15-16 year old females. It comprises a number of interactive group workshops on the themes of happiness, gratitude, emotional intelligence and goal setting as well as a formal lunch and one-on-one mentoring time.

The aim of the "Lunch with the Girls" is to empower young women to recognise their own role in shaping their life.

When: Friday 12th August 2011  
Where: Mareeba RSL  
Time: 9:00am – 2:50pm

We would like to acknowledge the Beacon Foundation, Mareeba RSL, Annie Danks Trust and Subway for their kind support in making this event possible.

Spinal Injuries Association

Award-winning injury prevention program, the Spinal Education Awareness Team (SEAT) inspired students at our school to stay safe recently.

Run by the Spinal Injuries Association and accredited by Education Queensland, SEAT has a proud 24 year history having reached more than 1.4 million students and counting!

At the heart of the program are the 18 volunteer presenters based throughout Queensland, who all have a spinal cord injury and use a wheelchair. Because there’s no cure for a spinal cord injury, they’re committed to educating young people on how to stay safe.

The SEAT team reinforce messages like always wearing your seatbelt, wearing a helmet when on a bike or a skateboard, the importance of playing sports fairly and walking into any body of water to check its depth. These simple tips could save young people from sustaining a permanent disability.

Thanks to the generous major sponsorship by BHP Billiton Cannington Mine, the program is free until 30 June 2013. The Mine’s assistance, along with the support of other sponsors – the Queensland Government, the Motor Accident Insurance Commission and the RBSM Foundation – means the SEAT presenters are on track to speak to more than 100,000 children throughout the state this year alone.

For more information on how the Association supports 2,000 Queenslanders with spinal cord injuries, or to support the Association yourself, please visit www.spinal.com.au
World Education Program (WEP) Australia is now accepting applications from students wishing to live and study overseas for a summer, semester or year. Students can choose from 26 destinations to study and experience life with a welcoming, volunteer host family.

Plan Ahead and Save $500!
For applications received before 30 November 2011, WEP is offering students in years 9 to 12 a $500 discount off the 2011/12 program fee towards a semester or year program to any of the following countries departing in August - September 2012: Brazil, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Norway, Turkey, Thailand or the USA.

Become a WEP Host Family!
Extend your family with a motivated international exchange student and make new friends from around the world. Students are arriving in January for a term, semester and year.

Request a FREE Information Pack!
Contact WEP to find out more about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Phone: 1300 884 733 (for the cost of a local call) Email: info@wep.org.au Online: www.wep.org.au

Upcoming Information Evenings:
Sydney: 3 August, 23 August
Brisbane: 3 August, 23 August
Townsville: 9 August

Note: Until 30 November 2011, WEP Australia is offering students wishing to participate in a semester or year-long exchange program (commencing in July-September 2012) a $500 discount off the 2011/12 program fee for a selection of countries.

Tips and Trends for Managing Your Child’s Behaviour

With a focus on Parenting Strategies of those with Toddlers to Teenagers

When: Wednesday 7th September 2011
Where: Mareeba State School Library
Time: 7pm – 9pm
Presenter: Mark Davidson

- “Why does my child challenge me?”
- “How do I get them to listen to me?”
- “Why don’t they do as they’re told?”
- “What’s the right way to go about telling kids off?”
- “They fight with their brother / sister all the time.”
- “What can I do?”

These are a few of the questions I have been asked over time.

This workshop is designed to:

- Engage participants in the demonstration and application of current skills and strategies that manage behaviour in today’s society.
- Demonstrate practices that enhance relationship with your children.
- Enable you to try strategies the next day that work with your children.

Participants will be given the opportunity to discuss issues and pose questions in relation to managing behaviour in an open forum.

I developed this workshop from concepts arising from being a father of 4 children for 27 years, 29 years of working with students and teachers, predominantly as a teacher, over 3000 classroom observations from Prep - 12 and completing a Graduate Certificate in Behaviour Management.

I look forward to working with you in the near future.
Mark Davidson
Behaviour Management Consultant
Mobile: 0418 718 329

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Ph: 4092 2922

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Message from the School Based Police Officer

LOCK IT OR LOSE IT (DON'T LEAVE VALUABLES IN YOUR CAR)

Recently Mareeba has seen an increase in crimes such as unauthorised use of a motor vehicle and thefts from with in motor vehicles. In an attempt to get the message out into the community and to assist PCYC with fundraising we are selling sunshades for your car, with our LOCK IT OR LOSE IT message on them. We all know how hot it gets in Mareeba during our summer months, so why not buy a sunshade to keep your car cool while it's parked up. The cost is $5.00 and all proceeds go to our local Police Citizens Youth Club. To purchase your sunshade please visit the Mareeba PCYC.

Cyberbullying...

As I mentioned in last months newsletter, this term we have introduced our STOP HARASSING ME postcard with the aim to reduce the number of incidents of cyber bullying from occurring. If a student is being harassed, bullied or threatened by another they should inform one of the deputy principals or their year level coordinator. Once they have viewed the messages, the Deputy Principal will then issue the bully with a postcard which asks them to cease their behaviour towards the victim, in the event that the bullying does not cease the matter will be forwarded to myself or the local police station for further investigation and charges against the bully may be laid.

I encourage all parents/caregivers to continually monitor their child’s activity on the internet and mobile phones to ensure that they are using it appropriately and are not being a party to bullying or using the internet inappropriately. If you would like any information or advice I can be contacted on directly on 07 40 303 306 or through the school administration and the local police station. Check out these great websites to obtain more information www.cybersmart.gov.au or www.bullyingnoway.com.au

Careers in Policing - During August our Recruiting officers and myself will be involved in the Speed Careering event as part of the BEACON Foundations 'No Dole' programs being held for year 10 and year 12 students. This will give the students the opportunity to obtain knowledge on the minimum application requirements to meet before applying to be a police recruit. Requirements for level of education, life experience, health and fitness, integrity/conduct, residency and driver's licence requirements will be covered.

Stay safe.

Sue Gill
Acting Senior Constable 254308
School Based Police Officer
Mareeba District

• (07) 40 303 306
• Sue.SusanA@police.qld.gov.au
Did you know that P Platers are most at risk of being involved in a traffic crash?

Driver education and training at high school can be of great assistance to school-leavers, having an early license and a better opportunity to gain employment and stay alive as a P-plater.

With the aim of reducing the number of traffic crashes involving young drivers, the Drive 2 Live course was initiated by Queensland Police Service (Mareeba), designed in conjunction with New Driver driving school. The course is primarily presented by New Driver, with members of the QPS attending as speakers.

The course is for Year 12 students who or without Queensland driver's licenses.

Those students with licenses actually drive a vehicle and those students without licenses are giving in-car experiences of the practical elements.

The course focus is on the fact that according to Australian transport road safety statistics, young drivers nationally are over-represented in road fatalities and crashes.

Through correlation with Queensland Transport the main causes are identified as follows:

- Overconfidence
- Inexperience, unable to drive to the conditions
- Youth and being young
- Dealing with challenging driving conditions – late night driving and passengers
- Alcohol and drugs
- Driving while fatigued
- Driving while distracted – mobile phones
- Disobeying road rules, particularly speeding, tailgating, seatbelt use and giving way

The course has theory components that concentrate on awareness and attitude towards these causes.

Drive 2 Live has a practical driving element which re-enforces a large portion of the classroom theory, such as threshold braking, emergency action plans, seating position/steering technique, road craft, vehicle control and an alcohol driving exercise. Students also get hands-on session for under bonnet maintenance.

Those students successfully completing both theory and practical components receive a Certificate of Achievement.

On some courses (depending on time restrictions) we have an slot for a guest speaker. We have had crash victims talk of their experience and showed wrecks to the students immediately afterwards with great effect.

COST The usual cost of the course per student is approx. $70. We feel extremely passionate about giving our young drivers every opportunity to learn the vital tools for safe driving and motor vehicle control. I refer to this knowledge at the 'tools of life' – literally.

We have been successful in securing funding to subsidise the course for all year 12 students across the Tablelands.

The subsidised cost of this driver education course is $35 per student.

This is a 50% saving.


If you would like to discuss details of this course or options available, please feel free to contact me.
Have Your Say!

Take part in a youth survey that looks at attitudes young people have toward pregnancy and parenthood. Make a difference by telling us what you think!

To get involved takes 3 easy steps:

1. Head to www.pregnancyattitudes.com
2. Ask your parent/guardian to complete the parental consent form
3. Use the automatic reply login details to fill out a survey

Close date: 31st August