FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM FAY MCGRATH TO THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

After over forty years of teaching at Mareeba State High School, I am ringing on 19 July. I did not make this major decision because I have run out of energy or enthusiasm, but because it is me...

I will miss the challenges, the successes, the joys, the disappointments, and especially the teenagers. It has been a wonderful career which I started after gaining a scholarship in Form IV (Year 10) at Trinity Bay State High School.

I extend my best wishes to all of our school community, present and past. You have enriched my life. I will always remember fondly my me here as a teacher and a learner.

I have seen the school grow from three buildings when I arrived in 1966 to the complex it is today. I am proud of the part that business and technology, linked with vocational education, has featured in the curriculum of our local students over the decades. We truly do build a better future together at Mareeba State High School.

Long may this continue...

Fay McGrath

SOUTH PASSAGE TRIP

Early July, 16 students from Grade 9, 10 and 11 and two teachers completed a four day ‘Adventure Under Sail’ voyage aboard South Passage. This is a 30.5 metre gaff-rigged schooner based on the designs of the 19th century pilot schooners. The students were under the watchful eye of the Skipper, Sailing Master and 3 Watch Leaders. Over the four days, students participated in all aspects of sailing the South Passage, including the night watches which involved getting up in the early hours of the morning to record the boats position, weather, depth of the water and to plot the course on the chart.

It took a couple of days for some students to get their sea legs as the weather was rough with strong winds and rain and it was a certainty that they were questioning the wisdom of coming on board. Eventually all were able to enjoy the adventure as they sailed for Fitzroy Island on the 1st day, up the Low Isles on day 2 and then to Michaelmas Cay on day 3. Friday saw the weather calm and the morning watch spotted 2 whales and many dolphins.

The ship’s cook was a master of producing fine food in the most difficult conditions and there was always plenty for seconds. Knot tying competitions were conducted morning and evening and the rivalry was fierce amongst the groups. Mr Weaver and his group ended up the victors but the challenge is there for next year, so look out Mr Weaver.

All in all, the students came away from the trip with lessons in self-discipline, leadership, teamwork, and confidence in their new found skills and in the words of several of the boys, “it was awesome and we want to do it again.” This has been a memorable experience for the students and one that will hopefully continue to have a positive influence on the growth and development as they grow and move into young adulthood.

Denise Lambert —Teacher/Yr10 Co-ordinator

DATE CLAIMERS

31st July—2nd August
Maths Enrichment Camp
8th August
Beacon Lunch with the girls
14th August
Pathways Evening Year 8 and Year 10
15th August—17th August
Year 11 Biology Camp
22nd August
Beacon BBQ with the boys Year 7 Transition Days
24th August
Dimbulah SS Year 10 to 11 Transition Day
25th/26th August
Mareeba Multicultural Festival
22nd August
Beacon BBQ with the boys Year 7 Transition Days
27th August
Year 10 SET Planning

NEW SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The school office will be closed at 3.30pm Tuesday afternoons.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
8:00am—4:00pm
Tuesday
8:00am—3:30pm

P & C MEETING

14th August 5:30PM
Venue: School Library
Tea and Coffee available. Everyone Welcome.
CREATIVE GEN

Aer months of rehearsal and preparation, 50 Far North Queensland Students from Weipa to Townsville travelled to Brisbane on 17th July to perform as part of the state school production Creative Generation 2012.

Kiarna La Rosa, Baedyn McClelland and Tahlia Murador represented Mareeba SHS. Their week was full of rehearsals and performances with 1500 students from across Queensland making for a very exciting experience. The performances at the Brisbane Exhibition and Convention Centre were electric and our students made lots of new friends from all over the state. Our students also experienced an international performance when they saw the jaw dropping Cirque Du Soleil’s performance of ‘Ovo’. The students are already excited about the possibility of returning again next year.

Sally Levi—Teacher (Dance and Year 9 Co-ordinate)

YEAR 7 TRANSITION WEEK

In week 3 of Term Year 7 students from our local Primary Schools spent 2 days at Mareeba State High School as part of our Transition Program for 2012. Over 120 students attended the program from Mareeba SHS, St Thomas’s, Biboohra SHS, Walkamin SHS, Mt. Molloy SHS and Atherton SHS.

During the visit, Year 7 students were given a tour of the school, were taught High School lessons and experienced moving around the school using different rooms, as do the High School students. Our Year 11 Interyear Leaders did a wonderful job of guiding the year 7 students during their visit.

The year 7 students were excited about their first time at High School and enjoyed the visit. This early introduction to the High School will assist the students with a smooth transition into Year 8 in 2013.

Mrs Teena Seidenkranz—Deputy Principal

STAY ALIVE

Welcome back to Term 3! By now you should have received the semester assessment planner for your child. It is a good idea to put it on the fridge at home, so you and your child can see it and use it as a point of discussion about their child’s learning and managing time.

2012 is the national year of reading and our school focus under the National Partnership is Literacy and Numeracy, so I thought I would focus on reading for this newsletter. The ability to convert information to knowledge and understand the issues involved, requires effective reading skills. As students progress through their secondary education it is important for their reading and comprehension abilities to continue to develop. Also, the volume of reading increases with each year level and as such it makes sense for students to read smarter, not necessarily longer.

There are a variety of reading strategies available that students should access in order to improve the way they absorb knowledge and store it in their memories. This will enable them to retrieve information more accurately when they need to. There are also several different types of reading that can be used depending on the students’ purpose for reading, for example, locating information, memorising, summarising, etc.

Effective reading is choosing the most appropriate type of reading for their purpose. A proactive exercise for students to do is to research different ways to read so that they can be more resourceful in their learning, the internet has many reading strategies. The school diary on p88 has some practical strategies for parents and students.

Lastly, I do expect that students continue to read at home every day (even Saturday and Sunday) for at least 30 minutes. It can be a novel, newspaper or magazine – the important thing is that through regular reading, your child’s understanding will increase.

Warm regards to all families,

Jo Soothill
Principal

DEFENCE FORCE

A visit by the Defence Force personnel has red the ambitions of many of our students to follow a career pathway into one of the Forces. Warrant Officer Class 2 Herman Van Dulken, Chief Pay Officer Gerry Savage and Private Josh David were on hand to give our students firsthand accounts of their experiences in the Navy and Army. The presentation was ended by students from Year 10-12 during their Access lesson last week.

Hazel Bensted—Guidance Officer

PRINCIPALS WORDS

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Jo Soothill
Principal

TAYLORS

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NON NOBIS SOLUM
At 6am, the first day of Term 2, 16 Mareeba High students plus Mr Howe braved the cold and dark to set off on a five-hour bus trip to Townsville. For three days, the students would live as university students, staying in a university residential college, John Flynn and attending workshops and lectures in faculties ranging from Medicine to Visual Arts. Along with Year 12 students from various other North Queensland high schools, the Mareeba contingent embraced the freedom of university life as well as enjoying the different experiences offered by the many faculties. From participating in mock trials in the Law Department to handling and dissecting human specimens in Medicine to creating original visual presentations in Creative Arts, saw a diverse array of interesting activities. These also helped to make some decisions about 2013 when many will embark on real tertiary careers. All in all, a great time was had by all – not even experiencing the wettest July day in Townsville's history dampened the spirits of this hardy bunch. Certainly, Year 11 students contemplating a tertiary career should consider participating in this very worthwhile experience.

Mr Keith Howe - Senior Teacher

Mr Keith Howe - Senior Teacher

LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”. Volunteer to host an international high school student in February 2013 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in February for one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Canada and the U.S.A. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our booklet of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of

SCHOOL HATS FOR SALES

Be Sun Smart
Hats are available for purchase from the school tuckshop for $15.00. Reversible school and sports house colours.
P & C Association
WANTED

Used/Second Hand MSHS School Jackets

The MSHS P & C Association seeks assistance from former students or parents for the donation of any second-hand school jackets in the current design. This request will assist in making jackets available to students who are unable to source them due to a current shortage through commercial outlets in Mareeba. Jackets can be delivered to either the Administration office at the school or the Tuckshop. Any donations will be gratefully accepted and appreciated.

P & C Association

WORK EXPERIENCE

Thank you to all local businesses that support our Work Experience Program.

1st Concept Salon
2 in One Coffee and Catering
Air First
Australian Barber Sanctuary
Bertoldo
Biboohra State School
Big Pete’s Plumbing
Cairns Beauty Academy
Caracalla
Central Veterinary Surgery
Coles Supermarket
Crea ve Photographic
Ergon Energy
Essen al Fitness
Floral Magic
Friends of the Animals TSPCA
G. V. E Cabassi (Gallary of Beauty
Garden Se lment Residen al Care
Graeme Ford Motors Pty Ltd
Green Cross Veterinarians
Grubers Becke
Hairworks
Hartley Bell & Co - Painters & Decorators
Holiday Cruise and Travel
Home-Fab Steel Truss & Frame
Howe Farming
James Cook University
Jenny Ius
Karl Srhoj Building
Leading Edge
Live FM
Mareeba Avia on Services
Mareeba Childcare and Kindergarten
Mareeba Children and Family Centre
Mareeba District Hospital
Mareeba Express
Mareeba Golf Club
Mareeba Leagues Club
Mareeba Library
Mareeba Magistrate Court
Mareeba Mazda and Mitsubishi Service Centre
Mareeba Police
Mareeba State Primary School
Mareeba Veterinary Surgery
Mark Thomas
Melaleuca Crocodile Farm
MILLAR TEITZEL - Accountants & Advisors
Mitre 10 Mareeba
Moro’s Auto Repairs
My Mareeba Den st
NQ Off Road Specialists
Our Favourite Physio
Priceline Pharmacy
Qld Police Service
QTV’s Early Learning Centre
Redheads
Reedmans Sheet Metal
Robert Ba n Builder
Ron Johnston
Russo’s Quality Meats
Savannah FNG Developments
Shane Smith Builder Pty Ltd
St. Thomas of Villanova Parish School
Sunlover Reef Cruises
Tableland Hon da
Tableland Veter inary Service
TGT PTY LTD
The Cairns Post
The Rej ect Shop
Timber Workshop
Travel Experience

Last week 116 Year 10 students participated in the Mareeba High School Work Experience Program. Students spent a week working with numerous local businesses receiving valuable hands on experience that will help them determine what employment or further education they might choose.

Jenny Walker —HOD Senior Schooling

“THE BEAUTIFUL THING ABOUT LEARNING IS THAT NO ONE CAN TAKE IT AWAY FROM YOU.” B.B. KING

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Host an International Exchange Student
+ Gain a new family member
+ Make a lifelong link to a family in another country
+ Learn about another language and culture
+ Share the beauty and culture of Australia
+ Contribute to international goodwill

By offering to host an international student visiting Mareeba for between one to two months you will provide an opportunity to help a young person learn about Australia and its culture.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today. For more information about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia call 1300 135 331 or visit our website: www.studentexchange.org.au

MAREEBA LEAGUES CLUB

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AUDITIONS

NARNIA

The Horse and His Boy

Auditions

Saturday 9 August – 9.30am – 4pm
Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 August 9am – 4pm

Production Dates

20 – 22 September and 6 – 8 December at APA Theatre, Silk Road Atherton

Wanted

David Potts, a young actor from Cairns, has been cast as the horse in this production of Narnia, directed by Paul Crouch. The role of the young hero will be played by a student from the Cairns Academy of Dramatic Arts (CADArts). We are now looking for a boy of around 12 years old to play the lead role of Peter, who will ride the horse in the production.

Audition details

Auditions will be held at the Mount St Patrick College Drama Centre on Saturday 9 August 9.30am – 4pm and Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 August 9am – 4pm. Children who are interested must be willing to come to the auditions held at the Mount St Patrick College Drama Centre in advance of the auditions.

Please prepare a short monologue from any play or film that you enjoy. If the audition is successful, you will be required to attend rehearsals and performances.

Contact

For more information, please contact the drama department at Mount St Patrick College on (07) 4095 1301 or email: drama@mspc.org.au