FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Key Priorities
Our key priority this year will be an unrelenting focus on improving reading, writing and numeracy in all students through a whole school pedagogical approach which includes explicit instruction. We also have an unrelenting focus on attendance.

Great results guarantee
A recent announcement indicated that state schools will be receiving a special grant – to better support our students in our early years and improve their outcomes. We are currently working on developing our Great Results Guarantee with evidence based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy. You can read more about the guarantee at http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/grants/state/targeted/great-results.html

NAPLAN questions answered
At 3.15pm on Thursday February 20 we will be having a NAPLAN information session here at school. We will cover what NAPLAN entails, what the children experience and have some test examples on hand for you to look at. All welcome.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Interviews will occur from Monday March 3rd to Thursday March 6th. Please complete the interview time sheet and return it to Mrs Fallon. Both of us will be present at all interviews and encourage you to book consecutive appointments if you have more than one student at the school.

Classroom news
Science
This week we will be checking how our beetles are faring. We set up our investigations last week and will be inspecting what conditions they survive in best.

Art and Marlborough Show work
Students have been working very hard on their art show pieces. This year the country study is Vietnam and work on the projects is well under way.

Prep – Year 2 room update

English
The students are busy working through the elements of a narrative. They have looked at designing characters and are now identifying the plot (beginning, middle and end) in stories. The preps are working on different sounds each week and writing their name neatly.

Maths
This week in Maths students are working on identifying 2D and 3D shapes in our environment. We created shapes monsters and are learning about edges and corners on 3D shapes. The preps have been busy counting up to 20 and ordering numbers from 1-10.

EYC
This term students are working hard on improving their fine and gross motor skills through obstacle courses, games, puzzles and drawing. We are also creating a ‘My Family’ book that they will take home at the end of term.

Library
Lessons are still on Thursdays. Sorry for the confusion last week.

Year 3 – Year 7 room update

English
In English this week we are looking at humour in short stories and the way in which authors catch our attention. We are exploring the short story Mission Impossible from Morris Gleitzman’s book ‘Give Peas a Chance’.

Maths
This week we are continuing to look at composite and prime numbers, multiples and factors as well as using estimation and rounding to check the reasonableness of answers to our calculations. We are studying our 4x tables.

Badge presentations
At 9.00am Monday morning, February 17, we will be having our badge presentations for our Sports Captains and Student Council representatives. All welcome.
Student leadership conference
On Thursday February 20 there will be a leadership conference in Rockhampton for our Year 6-7 students. It will begin at 9.00 and conclude at 2.30. Mrs Truelson will be transporting the students and attending the conference with them.

House Captains
Congratulations to our new house captains for 2014

**Delta**
- House Captain - Wallace Noakes
- Vice-Captain - Clayton Armstrong

**Kelso**
- House Captain - Logan Beak
- Vice-Captain - Henry Gray

Student Council News – Cadyn Murphy
As you may, or may not already know, we had a student council elections last week. After a long suspense filled 20 minutes we had our president, treasurer and secretary. Our treasurer is Hugh Truelson, our secretary is Wallace Noakes and our president is Cadyn Murphy.

This week we discussed what this terms fundraiser should be. After a vote, it was decided that we would have a Disco! The theme is gender change! So if you’re a boy, you come to the disco as a girl. If you’re a girl, you come as a boy. I can’t wait to see all of the embarrassed faces on the night!

Birthdays
No birthdays this week!

Student of the Week Awards
Awards this week went to:
- Cadyn Murphy for **Being Respectful** and helping the Year 3 students learn routines
- Taneeka Burgess for **Being Responsible** and working hard on her spelling

Bookwork Awards
Awards this week went to:
- Sally Noakes for a very neat homework book
- Jake Armstrong for working hard on the setting out of his English book

 Responsible Behaviour Plan

Be Respectful
- We treat people the way we like to be treated
- We use our best manners

Be Responsible
- We stop and think
- We keep our hands and feet to ourselves
- We always try our hardest

Be Safe
- We always play safely

We encourage students to utilise the "High Five" to assist them to deal with situations where other's behaviours may not be appropriate.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Talk Friendly</td>
<td>if someone does something you don't like, let them know using a friendly approach tell the person you don't like what they are doing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Talk Firmly</td>
<td>if talking friendly doesn't work, you might need to talk firmly keeping calm, let the person know you don't like it (using a firm voice)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ignore</td>
<td>if things don't change, ignore what is happening it is better to ignore rather than to say something you may regret later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk Away</td>
<td>if ignoring still does not change things, it is better to walk away it is better to walk away than to react and regret your actions later</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report</td>
<td>if things don't change, then you need to let someone know, report the situation, letting an adult know all the facts about the situation</td>
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Hi Marlborough friends,

I hope the start of 2014 has been a great one and you came back relaxed and well rested. Mr Powys and I had a wonderful wedding and we wanted to share some photos with you. Thank you once again for your well wishes and gifts.
We have settled into life in Mackay and I’m enjoying using my new Tupperware containers. All the best for the year ahead and I’m thinking of you guys, especially on Wednesdays when we would be doing science!

Kind regards,

Mrs Powys!

THANK YOU!!

A big thank you to Mr. Joe Olive for collecting and putting together our new filing cabinet in the office.
2014

February

**Tuesday 18** – Ms Saunderson & Mrs Polkinghorne – Parkhurst Budget Workshop
**Thursday 20** – GRIP Leadership – Year 6 & 7 Rockhampton
**Tuesday 25** – School Photos

March

**Saturday 1** – Bunnings BBQ
**Monday 10** – Cricket Queensland visit
**Saturday 15** – First Aide Course
**Wednesday 26** – District Cross Country
**Friday 4 April** – Last Day of Term 2