Dear Parents,

already we are into the third week of term and I am pleased to report that children have settled well into their new classes and are fully engaged in curriculum programs.

Yesterday we presented our 2015 Student Leaders with their badges of office in a special ceremony. Our invited guests included Mr Matt Horton (Acting Principal, Mirani SHS), Angel & Bennett (Mirani SHS School Captains) and Snr Constable Marshall Roper on behalf of Sgt Bill Feldman (our school Adopt-A-Cop). Congratulations and best wishes to our 2015 Student Leaders.

Marian SS Captains: Rachael Norman & Kareem Bayad
Marian SS Vice Captains: Isabella Byrnes & Ben Aslette
Bolden House Captains: Rachael Norman & James Anderson
Hamilton House Captains: Eylah Hoban & Riley Mackay
Nabilla House Captains: Rhianna Metcalfe & Bailey Jeffs
Cultural Captains: Emily Jacobsen & Kareem Bayad

Our student leaders will join with other young student leaders from district primary schools at a workshop next week, where they will have time to reflect upon what leadership skills they will need to fulfil their responsibilities this year.

This week teachers have provided opportunities for parents to attend Class Information Sessions. I thank teachers for their preparation and parents for their attendance at these important meetings. Students will certainly appreciate the importance parents place on their schooling if they found the time to attend these information sessions.

During these meetings, teachers will have talked with parents about our whole school 2015 Curriculum Priorities:

- Writing … The Australian Curriculum requires students to develop proficiency in the writing of Persuasive, Imaginative (eg narrative) and Informative (eg Reports) Texts. This term our whole school is focussing on the skills required to write Persuasive text which is often the writing task required of students during NAPLAN testing.

Our Student Leaders: Eylah Hoban, Emily Jacobsen, Rhianna Metcalfe, Riley Mackay, Bailey Jeffs, James Anderson, Kareem Bayad, Ben Aslette, Isabella Byrnes & Rachel Norman—reading the School Oath
• **Problem Solving in Maths** … Our Maths Problem Solving strategy is summarised as **SCOPE:**
  - **S** = Skim, scan and see information and detail that helps understand the question being asked;
  - **C** = Connect & question seeking relevant detail
  - **O** = Organise your thinking about what subtasks might be needed to be done and what strategy will best assist in solving this problem
  - **P** = Practice & produce a draft answer by doing the problem, checking if the strategy was correct
  - **E** = be the Expert … check your answer, does it make sense, provide your answer in the correct format

**Social skill development via Program Achieve.** Program Achieve aims to develop “5 Keys to Success” important for all of us.

**Getting Along** … working co-operatively, resolving conflict, showing tolerance.

**Organisation** … putting things where they belong, setting goals, planning ahead.

**Confidence** … not being concerned about making a mistake, trying different things, being independent

**Persistence** … trying hard when work is difficult, keep going even rewards are small, rising to new challenges

**Resilience** … staying calm when upset, bouncing back from difficult situations, remaining positive when the going gets tough.

Lessons are available for all year levels from prep to Yr 6 and this program is seen as a further enhancement of our whole school Positive Behaviour Program.

While the grass on the oval is growing well, we are not yet in a position to allow children to use the oval for break time play. We are hopeful that with the right ‘grass growing conditions’ children will soon be using a vastly improved oval surface to play. Phys Ed lessons and sporting activities. Our patience will be greatly rewarded in the long term. Current advice is that we are still a few weeks away from giving children full use of the oval space.

Thanks to our Yr 4, 5 & 6 classes who have spent a little time picking up thousands of small stones uncovered during oval works. A classic case of ‘many hands make light work’ has resulted in another play space eventually being open to students. I was impressed with students willingness to ‘help out’.

Elsewhere in this newsletter I have included some information about changes to legislation that effects state schools. I particularly draw to your attention the change in policy with regard to smoking no closer than 5 m from school fences, etc.

Please remember our **P&C Annual General Meeting will be held at 7pm in the school Library on Tuesday Feb 24.** Thank you to parents who are considering accepting Executive roles on behalf of the P&C this year. I would encourage parents to get involved in P&C affairs this year … by attending meetings, volunteering their time or supporting activities. Your children will appreciate your contribution to our school.

Best wishes, Peter Mandryk (Principal)

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**From the Deputy**

**Invitation - Edward Lloyd Park Official Opening**

Marian State School Students and Parents/Guardians are invited to attend the Edward Lloyd Park Official Opening on Thursday 19 February, at 3pm. The official opening is to celebrate the construction of the new playground facilities and infrastructure at Edward Lloyd Park, Marian. The official opening with be followed by afternoon tea.

**RSVP by Friday 6 February** by calling Lyneale Thrupp on 4961 9618 or email lyneale.thrupp@mackay.qld.gov.au. The project was funded by The Australian Government and Mackay Regional Council.

**New Trees – Thank You**

Thanks to Kevin O'Reilly, Peter Lane & Graham Veivers for their time and effort in relocating and replating several native trees to the North boundary of the school. Also thank you to Lionel for digging the holes. Peter Lane was instrumental is the organisation of the this project, while Kevin O'Reilly and Graham Veivers put in many hours of ground preparation and watering to ensure the trees were successfully replanted.

Casey Harej
Deputy Principal

**WANTED: Adult Volunteers … to support children in classes !!!**

At last year’s Grandparent’s Day, a number of people indicated interest in becoming an adult volunteer to support our students. We are now calling on **anyone who would like to volunteer** (not just Grandparents of course !) **to register your availability by contacting one of our teachers or the school office as soon as possible.**

The most obvious way people can help is to be a ‘Reading Volunteer’. This would involve a commitment to come to school for a minimum of 3 times each week to read to and listen to children read. In 30 minutes of volunteer time, an adult might support 2 or 3 children. Volunteers would be provided with some ‘basic training’ and may require a ‘Working With Children’ Blue Card (we can help you complete this application and endorse you as a ‘school volunteer’).

We would love to hear from you.
School Uniforms/Dress Standards

We congratulate all of our students (and a huge thank you Mums and Dads) for your wonderful support in having our students looking so neat and well presented in their uniforms.

Part of keeping this standard also includes being sensible about the “extras” that children may wear to school. We refer to the departmental guidelines that explain: apart from a watch, signet ring, sleeper or stud earrings or necklaces pertaining to religious or medical conditions, other jewellery or extras are NOT ALLOWED—safety for our children and presenting themselves respectfully is our primary concern.

Other extras NOT ALLOWED include: ankle or wrist bands, dangly or obtrusive earrings, coloured nail polish (flesh coloured or clear is fine), body piercings (eye, nose, tongue, etc).

To Give Away on an “as is, where is” basis: 30 weather affected vinyl covered mattresses previously used for Preschool ‘rest time’. Collect from outside store shed on walkway near Prep/Yr 1 play area.

Changes to Queensland Legislation that effects Schools

1. Smoking now Banned within 5 Metres of School

From 1 January 2015, smoking is banned at all Queensland state and non-state schools, and for 5 metres beyond their boundaries. The law applies at all times—during and after school hours, on weekends and during school holidays. It includes the use of all smoking products, including regular cigarettes and devices commonly known as electronic cigarettes.

The buffer is a 5 metre no-smoking area around the perimeter of the school, beyond the school land boundary; including all structures in this area, such as bus shelters and car parks. This area does not extend into residential or business premises that share a boundary with school land.

If you see someone smoking within the 5 metre buffer, tell them that it is illegal for them to smoke in this area. If you wish to report a breach of these tobacco laws, contact 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

2. Student Protection: Mandatory reporting

In Queensland, under sections 365 & 365A of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 (PDF, 1.0MB), it is mandatory for any school staff member to immediately make a written report when they become aware or reasonably suspect the sexual abuse or likely sexual abuse of a student under 18 years. From 19 January 2015 it is also mandatory, under s.13E of the Child Protection Act 1999 (PDF, 1.1MB), for a teacher or registered nurse to make a report to Child Safety when he/she reasonably and honestly suspects a child has suffered, is suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm caused by physical or sexual abuse and may not have a parent able and willing to protect the child from harm.

3 Hostile People At School

In response to these concerns the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 was changed in November 2014 to give more power directly to school principals and to make taking action easier and more timely. These increased and improved powers to deal with hostile people on school premises will take effect at the start of this school year.

The main changes are that from 27 January 2015:

⇒ state school principals will be able to give an verbal direction to a person to leave school premises for 24 hours (this replaces power to give a written direction)
⇒ state school principals will be able to issue a person with a 60-day prohibition (s.340) from entering school premises (previously, this could only be done by the Director-General)
⇒ where state school principals are unable to issue a s.340 direction, there is a new power to ask the Director-General (or delegate) to make the direction
⇒ it will take less time to obtain a 12-month prohibition for a person from school premises, as the Director-General can now issue a prohibition notice without reference to the Queensland

What does a Guidance Officer do?

As a Guidance Officer, I am a trained teacher and a registered counsellor. My primary focus is assisting students, parents and teachers to ensure each student is able to learn to their full potential. I can help with:

- learning difficulties/gifted and talented
- behaviour
- social/emotional troubles
- health and wellbeing
- social skills/friendships
- Triple P Parenting
- careers
- anger management/resilience
- grief and loss
- access to community services
- Counselling

I work with students one on one, in small groups and within the classroom. The guidance service is confidential and parent/caregiver permission is sought prior to students working with me. If you have any concerns regarding your child please speak to your child’s class teacher, otherwise contact me through the school office.

I am at school alternate Mondays and every Wednesday and Thursday.

Jodie Ballard
Android Users

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.
1. Click the “Play Store” button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the “Install” button.
5. Click “Accept” for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click “Open” when installed.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Parking & Traffic About Our School

A number of parents have again expressed frustration at the selfish or dangerous practices of some motorists about our school. Please note …

1. Park as close as safely possible to the vehicle in front of you when using the ‘pick up/drop off’ zone. Some people are leaving large gaps between cars resulting in cars being backed up onto the main road.

2. Never double park and call your child/children to run between cars to get into your vehicle. Not only does this hold up traffic but there have been several near misses as drivers try to leave the ‘drop off’ zone.

3. If at all possible, delay collecting children until 3:10pm. You will find much less traffic and it is safer for your children.

4. If collecting children from the Hall area, please do not park in the C&K Kindy Car Park. This is particularly important on Friday afternoons when we have Prep – Yr 2 Assembly in the Hall.

Sports News

Congratulations to Riley Mackay and Connor Munchow on their selection in the Mackay District Swim team to contest the Capricornia Swimming Trials in Rockhampton on Monday 16th Feb. It takes a big effort to have swum the qualifying times to make that team. Best of Luck, Fellas.

As we said in the last newsletter, over the next few weeks, we will be asking for nominations for athletes to make Representative sporting teams. A short list of upcoming events is as follows:

18 Mar  PV Hockey (noms)
25 Mar  Mackay Basketball trials
26 Mar  Mackay Netball trials
30 Mar  PV Tennis trials
31 Mar  PV Soccer trials
1 Apr    PV Touch

These trials will be announced through this newsletter, PE classes where possible and Parade announcements. A couple are by nomination, i.e. we do not have a physical trial but get an expression of interest from those who are adept at that particular sport.

Whether nominating or attending a trial, we ask that the athlete possess adequate skills to represent the particular level, so those trying out for the Pioneer Valley should be among the best in the Valley, while those nominating for Mackay level, should be able to hold their place in a Mackay representative team to play teams from Rockhampton, Gladstone, etc.. From 2015 onwards, those students in Secondary School who turn 12 years in that particular year will still be invited to participate in the 12 yrs and Under trials.

Just after Easter, we’ll be looking at the PV Cross Country trials. We’ll need to start training early for this and we’ll look to start training before school (just after 8 o’clock) around the end of the month. At this stage, I’m looking at the 23rd Feb to commence trainings. Previous years have seen a dwindling representation but, hopefully, we’ll have this year’s athletes demonstrate a revived level of pride on the school and commitment to school activities. Previously, we have had some 9 Years students run and train with us. Those people born in 2006 are quite welcome to train with us and, if we have enough still with us at the end, we will have a Marian SS Cross Country event, although they will not represent at the next level.

Aussie Rules nominations are due next week, so any athletes who play and have adequate skills to play for a Mackay District representative team, please see Mr Schmidt for the complete information.

Bye for now

BR Schmidt  (PE)

Special Education Program

Our SEP unit have been given a beautiful big dolls house for the students to play with but are in need of dolls and furniture. If you have any dolls or furniture that your child does not play with anymore please drop into the office.

Linda Groark
SEP Unit
From the P&C Association

Hello everyone,

Just a reminder that our AGM and first P&C meeting of the year will be held on Tuesday 24th February from 7.00pm in the Library. The AGM is where our executive and subcommittee members are elected and all positions will be up for nomination: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Uniform Convenor, Tuckshop Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Grounds Committee, Management Committee, and Fundraising Committee. Please see below the position descriptions for the main executive roles. I can’t stress how important it is that we fill these roles in preparation for another super successful year. And really, everyone can do it!

EXECUTIVE ROLES

The President
- is the accountable officer for the Marian SS P&C and Sub-Committees
- provides leadership, develops a sense of belonging and delegates
- acts as representative of the P&C
- promotes participation and communication between P&C, School Administration and Community
- chairs meetings

The Vice-President
- in the President’s absence will Chair meetings and carry out duties delegated by the President
- provides essential support for the President and other executive members
- attends QCPCA meetings as the QCPCA representative

The Secretary
- prepares meeting agendas and records meeting minutes
- maintains up to date membership records
- records and maintains information pertaining to the activities of the P&C
- has safe custody of P&C association documents
- clears mailbox regularly

The Treasurer
- has the overall responsibility for the financial management of the P&C
- keeps accurate accounts of receipts & expenditure & reports monthly to P&C
- keeps cashbooks up to date and balances bank a/c
- supports all payments with invoices, receipts and dockets
- arranges audit of annual financial statements.

Straight after the AGM we will have the first general meeting for the year where we will discuss our goals and aspirations for the year.

Did you know…. that the tuckshop and uniform shop is run by the P&C? Which means if we don’t have our committee, we can’t operate!

The advantages of joining the P&C? Not only do you get to feel the satisfaction knowing that YOU are making a difference to your child’s school (and we really DO make a difference), but you also have the opportunity to meet new people and make fantastic new friends.

If you want your say about your school, or there are issues that you want heard, being part of the P&C is the way to do it.

We’d love to see you there!

Nikki Glossop, P&C President 0439 77 22 17

Chappy Chat

Please make use of the Chaplaincy Service should you have the need to have someone walk alongside you through a difficult time in your child and family life. To do so, contact the admin staff to make an appointment to see the chaplain. However, please be aware that my own family circumstances require me to be away in South Africa from 14 February until 8 March. I look forward to seeing you when I return.

Can crushing takes place on Monday and Friday at second break. Do send in any soft drink cans you have for recycling. Also, Icy Cups are sold in the Undercover Area after school on Fridays at a cost of 50 cents. Monies raised support the Pioneer Valley Chaplaincy Service which oversees Marian State School as well as schools in the Pioneer Valley and Walkerston.

Thank-you for your on-going support! Warm regards

Chappy Liz

Consider this statement: **A tree is known by the fruit it bears.**

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Tuckshop News

A big THANK YOU once again to our small tribe of helpers who have returned again this year—allowing us to start the year successfully.

**We need more happy helpers!**

If you could spare one day a week, fortnight or even once a month, it would help our children and our tuckshop. Please see Bernie in the tuckshop for more info (it’s really not as scary as it seems—we can supply L Plates!)

**Tuckshop Helper Roster**

Wed—11/2  B Rewald, K Swift, J Suess
Thurs—12/2  B Rewald, L Oxenbridge, S Armbruster
Fri—13/2  B Rewald K Swift, S Armbruster, L Oxenbridge, T Swart
Mon—16/2  B Rewald, P Mogg
Tues 17/2  B Rewald, R Schneider
Wed—18/2  B Rewald, K Swift, J Suess
Thurs—19/2  B Rewald, L Oxenbridge, S Armbruster
Fri—20/2  B Rewald, K Swift, S Armbruster, L Oxenbridge & T Swart

**Meal Deal**

Tues  Fried rice $3.00
Weds  Bacon & Egg Burgers $3.00
Thurs Homemade Lasagne $3.00

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We'd love to see you there!
Parents who wish their child to prepare for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist (Communion) are invited to attend a meeting on Wednesday 11 February, at the Marian Catholic Church Hall at 7.00pm.

For further information please contact: Charlotte Tomlin 49543863 or Nola Agius 49585664

Math Tutor Available for term one
Call 04321 77601
One on One Math Tutoring
Based in Mackay.

Marian MARKETS
Church Grounds Marian
Sunday 15th February - 8.00am – 12 noon
A huge variety of great stalls
Sausage sizzle & refreshments available

CLARINET FOR SALE
Yamaha YCL 255 - Great quality student entry instrument. Beautiful sound, in brand new condition. Comes complete with padded carry case, Sheep skin neck strap, cleaning cloth and Hercules stand.

$550 ONO
Phone Rebecca 0407051309

A program of skills development for girls and boys
Term 2 – Years 1 & 2

Nominations for Term 2 at Marian State School (netball courts)

Wednesday, 25/3/15 – 3:15 pm
Sessions run at Marian State School on Wednesdays, 3.30-4.15pm commencing 29/4/15 (Term 2, week 2)
Net.Set.Go program runs for 6 weeks
Coach – Connie Evers (Term 2)
Further information – phone (a/h) 49591176

COST: $70

www.mackayathletics.com.au
for more information or call
James on 0431 973 129
New members to bring a copy of Birth Certificate for sighting.

Mackay Athletics Club
Sign-on and Information Day
Saturday 21 February 2015 from 10am-2pm
Mackay State High School,
Via English or Penn Sts, Mackay
Ages from 5 to Masters

1st club day, Saturday 28 February
Trial period only $10.00 for two weeks

Expression of Interest
During the past several months PCYC has received calls from parents from the Marian School community about the possibility of PCYC doing before school care and vacation care at our existing after school care facility.

Discussions with your school have indicated that they are supportive of PCYC offering this service to your school community.

The way our service works: Doors at PCYC Marian would open at 6.30am. At 7.00am children would be allowed to go to their classroom. (gym to go at 8am)

Vacation Care runs from 6.00am until 6.00pm. We provide breakfast and afternoon tea. Parents are to provide lunch.

If you are interested in this service please fill out the following form and return it to PCYC Marian or PCYC Marian so that we can start the process of providing this service in your school community.

Alternatively just call our PCYC and talk to one of our friendly staff who can walk you through the details on the phone.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

FOUND
Girls reading glasses, R&B brand frames. They were left at the office on the front counter.