Dear Parents,

Last week a representative from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority attended our senior school assembly and presented our school with a Learning Legends Award in recognition of sustainability activities during the 2014 school year. Last year our sustainability program was led by Kent Lyons and I wish to take this opportunity to recognise Kent’s great work in engaging students in activities that raised their awareness of how various school based activities (recycling, worm farm, ‘power police’, etc) can ultimately minimise our human impact on the Great Barrier Reef. This award came with a $1000 grant to fund support sustainability projects within the school. Our student Council will consider expending funds to support various projects such as solar lighting in the car park, vegetable gardens, recycling activities, etc. A sincere thank you to Kent for making this grant application on our behalf.

This week parents will receive an invitation to participate in Parent/Teacher/Student Discussions to be held in the last fortnight of the term. Your child’s Term 1 progress will be discussed at these meetings and collaboratively parents and teachers will determine future learning goals for each student. Parents who attend these discussions will give their children a powerful message about the importance of schooling and your interest in their education. Please return your invitation so that teachers can prepare a schedule for these discussions and confirm times with families as soon as possible.

Thanks to parents who recently attended our P&C AGM and February P&C Meeting. A sincere thanks to our hard working P&C volunteers and 2014 Executive. Much was achieved last year and this will be a lasting tribute to the efforts of the 2014 P&C team.

A very special thanks to those parents who have accepted nomination and election to executive roles within the P&C for this year. Many of these people are continuing their voluntary efforts on behalf of the school community and for this we are sincerely grateful. Please give full support to our 2015 P&C Executive … names have been listed in our P&C Report.

We are fortunate to have a number of other parents committed to the work of our P&C by way of meeting attendance, event organisation and volunteer work. Thank you all for your efforts.

P&C have asked that children been given the opportunity to wear “Free Dress” this Friday (March 13) with their gold coin donation contributing towards covering costs for their Easter Raffle prizes. Please check that your children wear sun safe and sensible clothing on Friday if they wish to join the Free Dress activity.

Our Term 1 P&C Discos will be on the evening of Friday March 27. Please note that in light of Yr 7 moving to High School, we will make a minor change to the year levels that will attend each disco. Prep, Yr 1 & Yr 2 students will be invited to attend our Junior Disco, with Yrs 3 – 6 invited to participate in the Senior Disco. The Pre-Yr 2 Disco will run from 5:30-7pm and the Yr 3-Yr 6 Disco from 7:30 - 9pm. Please support this event by volunteering to assist on the night and ensuring your children are ready to ‘dance the night away’.
While managing to avoid any illness associated with the recent Qld Principal’s Conference, it was a great opportunity to hear from our Director General about how Queensland is making the greatest improvement amongst all Australian states in a range of significant learning outcomes for our students. Our new Education Minister spoke with great passion about her belief in state schooling and the educational service being provided to young Queenslanders.

Best wishes, Peter Mandryk (Principal)

WITHDRAWALS FROM 2014 NAPLAN TESTING:

Year 3, 5 & 7 NAPLAN Tests will be held from May 13 – 15 (Term 2 Week 4). Parents of Yr 3, 5 or 7 students who wish to withdraw students from this year’s NAPLAN testing are asked to contact Mr Mandryk urgently.

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. Students in these year levels participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process, and do not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. A result at or above the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate in curriculum programs for that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

A NAPLAN report will be issued later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent home. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

Student Council Report

Last week Mr Mandryk worked with the Student Council to prepare a Centenary of ANZAC Commemorative Cross. These crosses will be taken by the 70 Queensland High School students who won a Premier’s Anzac Prize when they visit Turkey and The Western Front in April. Students will place crosses prepared by primary school students on the graves and at memorial sites of fallen Australian soldiers at Gallipoli, France & Belgium.

Our Student Council came up with the following message for the Marian State School, 2015 Student Council Commemorative Cross … “Thank you for fighting for freedom and peace in Australia. We hope you look down on us and pray that Australians never again suffer from World War.”

Later we will be provided with a photo of the soldier’s grave at which our Commemorative Cross has been placed, along with a certificate and a small container of sand from Anzac Cove.

Congratulations

Many sports trials are held in the first half of the school year. We aim to acknowledge students as we are advised of their selection at representative sports level.


Mackay AFL: Hayden E

2015 International Competitions & Assessments for Schools – Academic Competitions: This year we would like to offer ‘more able students’ in Years 3-6 an opportunity to participate in the Uni of NSW “International Competitions & Assessments for Schools” (ICAS).

Parents are asked to consider if your child would benefit from participating in these challenging
assessments. Some students might be better suited to some subjects more than others.

All of the tests are completed at school, in school time and our school will subsidise the costs of tests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>Tues 19th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>Wed 3rd June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Tues 16th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>Between 15-19 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>Tues 28th July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>Tues 11th August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Should you wish to have your student participate in any competition test/s, please ask for a nomination form from the school office.

Nomination forms with money need to be returned to the school office in a named and sealed envelope by Friday 20th March, 2015. Students’ test participation is registered online, so no late nominations can be accepted.

**MOBILE LIBRARY**

Students have been advised that use of the Mackay City Mobile Library is only allowed...
- ... after they have sought permission from an adult staff member to leave the school grounds (ie. permission from their class teacher, or staff member on Playground Duty). Children should then report their safe return to the same adult after borrowing.
- ... during the play time (10:50-11:15am) at first break.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY ALERTS**

1. Parents have expressed concerns about other parents driving in to the ‘turn-around area near the Administration building when dropping off or collecting students. Please note that only administration staff and parents with formal “Disability Access Permits” are the only vehicles to use the Administration Car Park at any time.
2. We remind drivers that it is illegal for cars to be queuing between the flags on the crossing in Kenny’s Road. Our Crossing Supervisor will report motorists who engage in this unsafe practice as it is a danger to students. Drivers may be fined. Cars are not allowed to stop in the area between the crossing flags at any time if the flags are in place.

**PARKING REQUEST**

Parents attending our P-2 Assemblies on a Friday afternoon are asked not to park in the Kindy Car Park.

Only parents collecting children from Kindy should make use of these car parks.

**PLEASE LOCK BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS**

Unfortunately we had a number of scooters reported as stolen from the Kenny’s Road bike racks last week. It is sad to have to make this request but we would ask that parents provide children with locks so they can secure their property while at school.

**From the Deputy**

**Prep Parents**

Each year the Daily Mercury does a special, ‘My First Year’ feature in the Daily Mercury. This year you will see your Prep child with his/her Prep class in the Daily Mercury on Wednesday 25 March. Please ensure you purchase the Daily Mercury on Wednesday 25 March for your own copy of this memorable moment.

**Smart Phone Parent Communication**

Over the next 2 weeks Marian State School will transition from the use of the SkoolBag app and begin using the QSchools app. Similar to SkoolBag, you can access the latest school news, calendar events, newsletters, annual reports and documents. Marian State School is still able to send push notifications, should there be any important and emergent school messages to be shared with parents. The QSchools app is free to download via the Apple iTunes, Google Play and Windows stores.

**Safety Circus**

Thank you to our Year 3 students and families for supporting the ‘Safety Circus’ performance, on Wednesday 25 February. The audience were taken on a safety journey by Lola the acrobat, Monty the magician, Buster, Bozo and Buddy the clowns and Sam the ringmaster. On their safety journey, the audience were exposed to important safety messages related to home, school, roads and the community. The Safety Circus performance was proudly brought to us by the Qld Police Service, Mackay Council and CQU. Thank you again for your support.

**Sustainability Program**

Thank you to a number of committed Year 3 - 6 students who each week ensure every eating area has access to compost and recycling bins. These students also use their own time to remind and teach their peers about the importance of using the correct bins for our waste. Should your child be interested in sustainability and would like to join our sustainability team, please see Mrs Harej. Again, thank you to those students who are already involved.

*Casey Harej, Deputy Principal*
From Our Guidance Officer

Investing in Parents: What parents need to know and do to support their children’s achievement and social-emotional well-being.

The school is planning to hold a series of parent education sessions to provide our parent community with the very latest information on what parents can do at home to help their children be successful in their school work and to have positive social and emotional well-being.

The Investing in Parents parent education program is intended to enable parents to empower their children so that they can cope with the ever-increasing demands of school, the curriculum and instruction. The content of the program will be covered over two information sessions.

The first will be held on 17th of March at 6pm in the school library. Topics to be discussed include:

- Parenting Today: What you need to know and do
- Avoid common mistakes that ‘Good’ parents make
- Develop positive relationships with your child
- Be involved in your children’s education

Regards

Jodie Ballard

P&C Postings

Did you all know that at Marian State School we have an AMAZING P&C team? We are very lucky to have regular attendance by 10 – 15 parents at nearly every monthly meeting! Our large core group and our ability to fill our executive roles at the AGM is envied by quite a few schools in the central district. I would say that we are luckier still because we have even more parents that come and help us out with the practical stuff at our fundraising events! But who am I to say anything???

Well, it’s March, and in the small world of school P&Cs that means the AGM is envied by quite a few schools in the central district. I would say that we are luckier still because we have even more parents that come and help us out with the practical stuff at our fundraising events! But who am I to say anything???

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Regards

Jodie Ballard
envelope marked P&C President and drop it into the red box in the school office.

How will you know what we want your input on? Or how will you know that we’ve listened? Keep an eye out for our section in the newsletters. And if you aren’t already a member, please ask to join our Facebook page! I’ll be letting you know the agenda of the upcoming meetings, doing call outs for feedback on current issues and most importantly, giving you a brief rundown of the meetings. Oh, and of course I’m sure there will always be information about upcoming events and fundraisers!!

Heartfelt thanks goes to Nikki Glossop, Corenne Jonas, Caroline Russell, Tammie Parish, Anne Maree Lambert, Sue Sant, Julie Tancred and Kylie Ryan-Ellul for leading the way over the last 12 months and more. And no less important, is the thanks for the rest of the P&C members and event volunteers who helped out big and small last year!! I can only hope that I will see your smiling faces and helping hands at future events this year 😊

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 17th March at 7pm in the library. Some items of interest on the agenda are:

- Identifying short and long term projects for the P&C (what do you want to fundraise for??)
- Calendar of Events Planning (If you have a great idea for a fundraising event…let’s hear it!)
- Junior Athletics Day – competitive/non-competitive

As we are still a week out, our agenda isn’t finalised quite yet so please contact me if you would like to add something.

Prior to our meeting, at 6pm, all parents (P&C members or not) are invited to attend a presentation by our Guidance Officer Jodie Ballard - “Investing in Parents: What parents need to know and do to support their children’s achievement and social-emotional well-being.”

I really hope you can make it and will see you there! Cheers,

Liz Akins
P&C President

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**Chappy Chat**

Dear All,

Having arrived at South Africa to be with my mum at the close of her life was a privilege. Her life was well lived as she showed great love and compassion for those in need. My hope is that I’ll take heed of the life she lived and do likewise.

A big ‘Thank-you’ to the P&C and Marian State School staff for supporting me whilst I work through my loss at this time.

To the Student Council, thank-you for selling Icy Cups during my absence.

Have a great week!
Kind regards to you all …………… Chappy Liz

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**Tuckshop News**

We are always after helpers.. more hands means less work... less work means less stress... less stress means A HAPPY TUCKSHOP!!😊😊😊

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 11/3</td>
<td>B Rewald, J Seuss, K Swift Volunteers welcomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 12/3</td>
<td>B Rewald, S Armbruster, N Thomas Volunteers Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 13/3</td>
<td>B Rewald, K Swift, S Armbruster, T Swart – Volunteers Welcomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 16/3</td>
<td>B Rewald, R Schneider Volunteers Welcomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 17/3</td>
<td>B Rewald, P Mogg Volunteers Welcomed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 18/3</td>
<td>B Rewald, K Swift, J Seuss Volunteers Welcomed</td>
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<tr>
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<td>B Rewald, S Armbruster, N Thomas Volunteers Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>B Rewald, K Swift, S Armbruster, T Swart – Volunteers Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 23/3</td>
<td>B Rewald, K Blair Volunteers Welcomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 24/3</td>
<td>B Rewald, P Mogg Volunteers Welcomed</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Meal Deals</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 11/3</td>
<td>Bacon &amp; Egg Burgers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 12/3</td>
<td>Lasagne</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Fried Rice</td>
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**BOOK CLUB**

Issue 2—Closing this Friday!
Issue 1- books outstanding are on their way
Uniform Shop News

Change to opening hours!!!
From Monday the 16th of March, the uniform shop will only be opening from 8:30 – 9:00 on Mondays and Thursdays!
If you cannot make it on those days the uniform order form is available on the school website or from the school office. Orders and payment (either by credit card details or cash) can be placed in the red box in the school office. Once your order has been packed, it will be returned via your child or collection from the school office.

News
Keep an eye out for the next newsletter as there will be photos and pricing of the new winter jacket that the P&C has approved for ordering.

Request
I have taken on the role of Uniform Convenor again this year, but this was mainly due to no-one else being at the meeting who wanted the role! But due to personal commitments I need to step back a bit and let someone else fill this position.
The Uniform Convenor is a great role for someone who wants to contribute to the P&C. It is okay if you cannot make the night time meetings and the shop is in the PCYC building where there are plenty of toys to keep any non-school aged children busy. We have scaled back the opening hours so we should be able to fill these with more volunteers than just you. Parents purchasing through the order form also allows flexibility to what times you need to be on hand. There is the behind the scenes work of placing orders and stocktake, however training is on hand and you have a committee that is willing to help where they can. I’ll be happy to fill in where I’m needed too!
If you think you might be interested in this role, or if you would like to volunteer your time in the uniform shop please contact me on 0427 729 670 or call Liz Akins (president) on 0427 852 357. Thanks, Kylie Ryan-Ellul

FREE DRESS DAY!!
Friday 13th March
GOLD COIN DONATION
All donations will help the P&C create some awesome fun-filled raffle prizes for families.
Raffle tickets will be on sale next week, please look out for a flyer!
$1 per ticket
Raffles drawn at the Easter Bonnet Parade on Thursday 2nd April.

REMINDER OF THE SCHOOL CROSSING BETWEEN 8.10AM-8.55 AND 2.55PM-3.25PM.

CHILDREN:
• DO NOT RIDE IN SCHOOL GROUNDS.
• DO NOT RIDE ON BIKES, RIP STICKS, SCOOTERS WHEN CROSSING ROAD.
• REMAIN ON THE FOOTPATH WHEN COMING AND GOING FROM OR TO SCHOOL.
• STAND BEHIND THE LINE ON PAVEMENT UNTIL SUPERVISOR BLOWS 2 WHISTLES TO CROSS ROAD.
• BEWARE OF CYCLIST ON PATHWAY WHEN LEAVING THE GATE AT SCHOOL.
• PLEASE ONLY MOUNT BIKES, SCOOTERS ETC AFTER EXITING SCHOOL GATE OFF RAMP.
• WEAR HELMETS ON BIKES AND IT IS ADVISED YOU WEAR ON SCOOTERS TOO FOR SAFETY.
• CROSS AT ALL TIMES ON THE STOP SIGN SIDE NOT BEHIND SUPERVISOR.
• BE CONSIDERATE TO PEOPLE WALKING ON PATH WHEN ON BIKES ETC.
• WHEN CROSSING ROAD BE ALERT AT ALL TIMES AND LISTEN TO THE SUPERVISOR.
• CROSS AT SCHOOL CROSSING NOT NEAR OLD RAILWAY LINE

MOTORISTS:
• 40KMS AN HOUR DURING SCHOOL CROSSING TIMES.
• DO NOT STOP BETWEEN CHILDREN CROSSING ORANGE FLAGS. THIS AREA IS TO REMAIN CLEAR AT ALL TIMES.
• DRIVING THROUGH CROSSING WHILE SUPERVISED INCURS $341 FINE AND 3 DEMERIT POINTS.

YOU ARE INVITED
ALL TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEERS (CURRENT OR INTERESTED)
TO OUR
WELCOME MORNING TEA
CUT AND FIND OUT WHAT WE DO TO PREPARE YOUR CHILDREN'S LUNCHES AND FIND OUT HOW EASY IT IS TO HELP
WE NEED YOU!!!
CAN YOU DO THESE DUTIES:
packing lunches
counting orders
making sandwiches
weaving children

WE WILL ALSO BE COMPLETING OUR REQUIRED OHS INDUCTION AT THIS TIME

Please see Bernie in the tuckshop if you are able to attend or drop in for more information.

Monday 16th March
9 am at the Tuckshop
We have until Monday 16 March to collect as many tokens as we can, so get them in this week. Thank you

MARIAN MARKETS

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

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

Learn about Your World

Volunteer to host an international high school student in July 2015 like Nele, who is 15, is outgoing and positive and who likes being involved in her community. Together with her school-mates, she had organised a fundraiser effort involving participation in a 300-km hiking trail into the Black Forest. Besides playing the piano and saxophone in a band, she also performs in street festivals and helps out at the ‘farmers’ market. 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.

Students arrive in July 2015 for one term, one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and Spain all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit our website www.scce.com.au, email us at sccaeust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501.

*photo of previous student