Principal’s Message

Dear Parents,

All parents should by now have received an invitation or advice about how they can participate in “Goal Setting Discussions” to be held over the first few weeks of Term 3. During these meetings, every parent should join with their child’s teacher (and their child) in reflecting upon Semester One outcomes and establishing some agreed goals and priority areas for learning in Semester Two. I urge all parents to make this meeting a priority because it is an important opportunity to maximise your child’s educational outcomes. This will be the last formal opportunity for parents to discuss student progress this year.

A number of teachers have asked me to provide parents with an explanation about what constitutes a ‘good reader’. Parents may hear their child reading well, and so question why their child has not been given an A or B for Reading on their report card. The most important reading skill is not an ability to read fluently, but a higher level skill of being able to comprehend, understand and interpret what they have read.

Reading is a very complex process in which a wide range of knowledge and skill is utilised to comprehend what is being read. Beginning readers need to develop letter-sound and phonic knowledge. Building on these basics, readers become proficient at blending and segmenting sounds and then the continuous development of a growing bank of known ‘sight words’.

Improving vocabulary knowledge increases the number of words students can automatically read and know their meaning. Vocabulary knowledge and the skills to work out unknown words are the cornerstone of improving fluency. Good fluency means that readers don’t have to use all their ‘brain power’ working out words, so they can focus on understanding what they have read.

A ‘good reader’ then is someone who can read fluently, but more importantly, can understand and interpret what they have read. Understanding what you read is what it’s all about.

A student who reads fluently but without understanding, is never going to get an A or B and may struggle to get a C for Reading. For this reason teachers always encourage parents to listen to children read at home, but to always follow up by asking your child to re-tell what they have read or to answer some questions to check that they really did understand what they read.

These few short paragraphs is an attempt to summarise some of the key aspects of reading - a skill many people have written books about over the years. Contact with your child’s teacher during our current Goal Setting Discussions will allow you to explore what your child’s next priority is in their reading development.

Today 23 students selected as members of the Marian SS Athletics Team competed at the Mackay District Track & Field Trials following the Pioneer Valley trials last week. Marian was awarded the Aggregate Trophy for most points won during the PV carnival. Mr Lyons

Making a difference
Achievement focused
Relationships matter
Inclusive
Altogether
Never give up.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS:
EVERY MORNING
8:30AM TO 9:00AM

ABSENTEE PHONE LINE:
0749594460
provides more details elsewhere in this newsletter. Best wishes to our students selected in the Mackay Athletics team to compete at Capricornia trials.

Last week we received some Interim NAPLAN Reports for tests completed last May. The early release of this information is in a format that will enable teachers to see which questions their students were successful with and which concepts may need particular attention to improve student understanding during Semester 2. Full student and school reports are anticipated by the end of this term.

Best Wishes,

Peter Mandryk

The Importance of Regular school attendance:
Parents and caregivers must send children to school every school day under Queensland law unless there is an acceptable reason such as illness or competing in school sporting events.

If your child is going to be absent from school, you must let the school know why the absence has occurred within two school days of their return. If possible, it is best to advise the school beforehand.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for reasons such as: birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, haircuts, the last day of term.

Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

Establishing good routines around school can assist with regular school attendance. These include: have a set time to go to bed & have a set time to get out of bed; have uniform and school bag ready the night before: have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast; set a time for daily homework activities; speak about school positively; send your child to school every school day from Prep.

If you are experiencing difficulty in sending your child to school, contact the school principal for advice and support.

NUT ALLERGIES: Parents are reminded that some children at our school may have allergies to nuts and contact with nuts may result in a serious anaphylactic reaction we are all keen to avoid. We would be grateful if parents would carefully consider how they might avoid sending nuts or products with nut in them (eg. peanut butter, nutella) should you ever receive notification that a student in your child’s class or year level has a serious nut allergy. Your co-operation in this regard is sincerely appreciated.

WINTER UNIFORMS: Our school does not enforce the wearing of a particular ‘winter school uniform’. However if parents are making choices or purchasing winter clothing for children to wear to school, we would request that parents choose ‘blue’ jumpers, jackets and track pants so that clothing matches and compliments our school predominant uniform colour.

ENROL NOW FOR PREP IN 2015: Children must have completed a Prep Year before they can begin Year 1. We would appreciate early notice from parents who have Prep aged children enrolling at our school in 2015 so that we can best plan staffing and resourcing to meet their needs. Please contact our school office staff as soon as possible to complete enrolment requirements. We will need to sight your child’s birth certificate, so please bring with you.

Children born between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010 are eligible to enrol in Prep for 2015. Prep is an early education program, only offered in primary schools. Prep is a full-time program and children attend from Monday to Friday during normal school hours. Prep is fully integrated into the rest of the school. Prep provides the foundation for your child’s success at school by developing:

- A positive approach to learning
- Independence and confidence
- Thinking and problem-solving skills
- Oral language skills
- Early literacy and numeracy
- Physical abilities, gross & fine motor skills

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.

3PM PARKING PROBLEMS: Could families of older children (Yrs 4-7) delay their collection of students until approx. 3:10pm. ??? You will be amazed at the reduced traffic density you will encounter by arriving at school at 3:10pm each afternoon. Children are welcome to sit with our supervised "bus children" or wait quietly inside the school fence for these extra 10 minutes in the afternoons.

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.
Skoolbag is the ultimate school to parent communication tool. It provides schools with an easy way to tell parents/carers everything they need to know, and it provides parents with the most convenient way to receive school notifications. No more lost paper in school bags!

Marian State School has signed up for a 30 day trial of the Skoolbag Smartphone school to parent communication tool. The trial will be offered to iPhone users. Should Marian SS go ahead with the full roll out of Skoolbag it will then be available on both Android and iPhone systems.

The iPhone App for our school is still being created by the Skoolbag team, when the App is live we will advise all families so that you are able to download the free App and begin the trial. Once the trial is complete, we will be seeking your feedback.

If you would like to read more about Skoolbag, please visit www.skoolbag.com.au

**School Opinion Survey**

Students across Years 4 - 6 have now completed the 2014 School Opinion Survey. Thank you to those parents who have already completed the online survey about Marian State School at home.

If you don't have access to the internet at home, the computer lab will be available on the following days for parents to complete the online survey. Mr Mandryk will be available to assist.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30 July</td>
<td>9.00 - 9.30</td>
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<td>Wednesday 30 July</td>
<td>2.30 - 3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 31 July</td>
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**NAIDOC Celebration & Assembly**

Marian State School will be celebrating NAIDOC week during Monday 11 August - Friday 15 August. Classes will work together collaboratively during this week to present a NAIDOC item at a special assembly on Friday 15 August at 2.00pm. We would like to invite all parents and community members to take part in this special celebratory assembly on Friday 15 August.

**Life Education**

Thank you to all families for your support to ensure your child/children were able to attend the Life Education lessons with Stephanie and Healthy Harold over the past 2 weeks. These lessons are very beneficial for your child/children's growth and development. Also, don't forget about the Life Education Competition, your child/ren should have brought home a pamphlet with instructions regarding this.

**Health & Safety Advisor Training**

I will be away at Health & Safety Advisor training Monday 28 July - Friday 1 August.

P-2 Assembly on Friday 1 August (2H to present) and 8 August (Prep I to present) @ 2.30pm

**Interschool Athletics**

Our school's excellent performance last Monday and Tuesday at the Pioneer Valley Track and Field trials resulted at Marian State School being awarded the Aggregate Trophy for most points. We had 3 students being awarded age champions: 13 yrs boys – Jayden, 10 boys – Namen, 9 boys – Connor. From our results, we have 23 children who will now proudly represent our school at Mackay District Trials on Tuesday, 29 July at Pioneer High School.

**Public Speaking Competition**

On Wednesday, 13 August, we will be privileged to have several children from our years 6 and 7 present themselves in a public speaking competition in the hall. They have chosen some interesting topics and after coaching sessions and lots of practice, we will see some impressive efforts. 2 students will be chosen from our school competition to represent the school at the Pioneer Valley Public Speaking Competition at Walkerston State School on Tuesday 26 August.
Optiminds
We have nominated 3 teams for this annual state wide activity to be held on Sunday, 24 August at Pioneer State High School. All children involved are spending lunch hours and after school time to prepare and plan. We wish them well with their preparations.

From Kent Lyons

MSHS Junior Secondary Transition 2015
Mirani State High School will distribute enrolment packages to the Pioneer Valley cluster feeder primary schools during visits in Weeks 9 & 10 of this term (Term 3). Below are the enrolment interview and orientation day dates for students transitioning to Mirani SHS:

Enrolment Interviews
- Year 8 (current Year 7) Weeks 4 and 5 of Term 4 (27th Oct-9th Nov).
- Year 7 (current Year 6) Weeks 7 and 8 of Term 4 (17th Nov-30th Nov).

Orientation Days
- Year 8 (current Year 7) Wednesday December 3rd
- Year 7 (Current Year 6) Thursday December 4th

Parent information sessions will be held at Mirani State High School at a date yet to be confirmed. The date of these sessions is dependent on the completion of the construction of the new building as the school currently does not have a space large enough to conduct the sessions.

Student Council
Don’t forget – this Friday the 1st August is JEANS FOR GENES DAY.
Wear your jeans or denim shorts with your school shirt. Please bring a gold coin donation.

Thank you everyone for having Myself and Healthy Harold at your school. Life Education Queensland is giving family’s the opportunity to win a family holiday to Fiji. Life Education is asking parents/carers to go online and fill out a short survey regarding the students experience in the Life Education van. All information is in the pamphlet that went home with your child. This will automatically put them in the draw to win the holiday. Our goal is to collect feedback from parents and students with regards to their visit. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

From the Guidance Officer

Bullying at School
Bullying at School: Parents may wish to discuss this issue as a preventative measure should your child ever report concerns of this nature.

Bullying is when another person, or group of people, more than once, behaves in a way that is cruel or hurtful to you. If a child experiences an isolated unpleasant social interaction, that is an ‘incident’ and should not be regarded as “bullying.” Unfortunately people often incorrectly use the term ‘bullying’ to describe every problem a child might encounter.

Bullying can happen in the playground, in the classroom, in the toilets or going to and from school. Bullying in social situations is not uncommon. Research has shown that 1 in 6 Australian children are bullied every week. There is not much difference between the number of girls or boys who suffer from bullying. The size of the club or school or whether the school is a government or non-government school makes no difference to the amount of bullying going on. If children are being bullied at school or outside school, they should be encouraged to tell someone what is happening to them. Children do not have to handle it on their own.

Children should be taught they can do any of the following if they think they might be being bullied: - Tell your Teacher or Principal, so they know what is happening and can take action.
- Talk to the School Guidance Officer and ask them to do something about it. - Tell your Parents so they can talk to the School about it. - Keep telling people until someone helps you.

If necessary children or parents may wish to contact Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800
Jodie Ballard Guidance Officer Mon/Wed/Thur

Rookie Reporters
School Productions
School production was a great success; we couldn’t have done it without Miss Brett and all the performers and teachers who gave up their lunchtimes. The plays included: Con’s Milk bar, the Bigger They are, the Magic Fishing Line, The Very Last School Play and Rocky and Moose Meet the Bunch of Weirdos. The performers enjoyed acting in the plays and the audience enjoyed watching it.

Prav & Quinn
The New Xo’s

Fun and education linked as one. The new xo’s have given the years 6’s more learning opportunities for they are filled with many educational and enjoyable activities. The xo’s have been given lots of feedback such as:

“The xo’s have made learning a lot more fun, because they are able to turn into iPads which is really cool.”

“I like the xo’s because they have internet and you can play cool games on it.”

The year 6’s are really enjoying their new learning source and have started the term with a thumbs up.

By Zahlee & Kanticha

Canelands Central Lunchbox Concert

Hosted by the MECC and Hot FM

Marian State Schools Choir, Drumbeat Group, Instrumental and Recorder Band travelled to Canelands on Thursday 17/7/14 to perform at Jack Sturgesons lunchbox concert. All the musical groups in our school were last to perform. The choir sang, drumbeat hit and the instrumental and the recorder band played.

Overall we had a great day and are ready for our next concert!!

By Kirra & Aimee

...6/7 Sydney/Canberra Camp 2014...

On the Sunday the 3rd of August 2014, the Marian State School 6/7 participants will finally be heading off to Sydney… In Sydney, we will be hanging out with the awesome animals that Taronga Zoo has to offer… followed by an amazing ferry ride over- looking the major Sydney icons. Then, we are off to Canberra… There, we will go to the Australian Institute of Sport, Questacon, where we will be attending science interactive activities, experience the war memorial and both the new and old Parliament houses where we will learn a little about leadership skills and law…Then finally, the most exciting part of all… THE SNOW, where we will go tobogganing, and have a heap load of snowball fights and making wicked sculptures etc., in the snow!! We will then arrive back at Mackay airport on Friday the 8th of August 2014… We are definitely expecting the weather conditions to hit at least -5 degrees. We are all expecting to have a truck-load of fun at both Sydney and Canberra and absolutely can’t wait until the 3rd of August arrives… and the fun begins!!!

By Kirra & Aimee

Life Education

Every year for most schools the life education van comes and talks to classes from year 1 to 7 about life and good choices relating to their grade. This year the life education van came and not only talked to each class but also showed us a pet giraffe, Harold. At the end of each journey each boy/girl got a Harold sticker and a life education work booklet.

By Emma, Taylah & Saskia

P&C News

Our P&C aims to complete both Major and Minor Improvement Projects for our children. Recently we provided an extension of the cover over the main walkway into our school.

Our current Major Improvement Project is the top dressing and upgrade of the “School Sports Oval”. Major projects often require tens of thousands of dollars to be raised and therefore will take longer to achieve.

Our current Minor Improvement Projects focus on a “Playground Upgrade” and include … shade covers, handball courts, upgrade of Junior Play equipment, painting games and courts on cement areas, etc. We anticipate being able to complete these projects in shorter time frames.

50% of funds raised from every P&C activity will be allocated to our Major Project and 50% of funds to Minor Projects.

This term we will seek your support for our Father’s Day Stall and the P&C Spell-A-Thon. More details about these events in our next newsletter. Please do what you can to support your P&C as we aim to further improve our children’s school.

By Emma, Taylah & Saskia

Staff News

Kevin O’Riely our School’s Grounds Officer, had his birthday yesterday (28 July), so did his first born son, Matthew (residing in Brisbane) and yesterday Matthew’s first child was born – a son called Jack. All three generations have the second name ‘Thomas’ as well as sharing the same birth date! What a coincidence!
**Tuckshop News**

All our volunteers are welcome. If you would like to come in at anytime on any day and look around and see the ladies, how things are done, or lend a hand you are most welcome. It would be lovely to get some new faces in our tuckshop and your child will enjoy seeing you there. **Students collecting orders from tuckshop please line up in your grades to make it quicker and easier to get your order.**

**Brain Break Routines & Foods.** Parents should be aware of the following messages being given to our students about these short mid-session breaks.

- **Brain Breaks are no longer than 5 min duration** … it is not intended as a time for a walk around or use of toilets without teacher permission.

- **Foods to be consumed should be ‘dry finger foods’** … some fruit or vegetable (perhaps not a whole piece), half a sandwich, some nuts, etc – but not yoghurt, sweets or anything that needs ‘cleaning up after’.

- **Only water to be drunk** – leave popper juice etc to break times. Water to be accessed from students’ own water bottles or from nearest taps outside classrooms.

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<th>Volunteers</th>
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<td>Wed 30/07</td>
<td>B.Rewald, J.Seuss, K.Swift</td>
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<td>Thurs 31/07</td>
<td>B.Rewald, L. Oxenbridge, P. Mogg</td>
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<td>Fri 1/08</td>
<td>B.Rewald, K.Swift, J.Seuss, L.Oxenbridge, L.Hoban</td>
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<td>B. Rewald, N. Griffiths</td>
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<td>B.Rewald, R. Schneider, J.Tancred</td>
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<td>Fri 6/08</td>
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<td>Mon 11/08</td>
<td>B. Rewald, N. Griffiths</td>
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<td>Tues 12/08</td>
<td>B. Rewald, S. Munro</td>
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<tr>
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<td>POTATO WEDGES/SOUR CREAM/BACON AND CHEESE</td>
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<td>Tues 05/08</td>
<td>FRIED RICE</td>
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<td>Wed 06/08</td>
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<td>POTATO WEDGES/SOUR CREAM/BACON AND CHEESE</td>
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<td>Tues 12/08</td>
<td>FRIED RICE</td>
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**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 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 8.30am children would be allowed to go to their classroom. (Preps walked to room)

Vacation Care runs from 6.30am until 6.00pm. We provide breakfast and afternoon tea. Parents are to be provide lunch.

If you are interested in this service please fill out the following form

![Brain Break Routines & Foods](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

and return it to PCYC Mackay or PCYC Marian so that we can start to explore the possibility of this service to your school community.

Alternatively just call our PCYC and talk to one of our friendly staff who can take down your details on the phone. We look forward to hearing from you.
ATTENTION

If you would LOVE for you or your child to be involved in
BOOTCAMP (general fitness), STEP UP CLASS (using a step), LOOSE LIMBS
(stretching), THUMP BOXING (fitness boxing), ARCHERY, BADMINTON
ASPIDOWNS BASKETBALL (for anyone not suited to main stream basketball)
KARATE, KENDO, YOUTH FITNESS and LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMS
But can’t seem to stretch the budget... if you hold a health care card, we can help
you gain access to one of the above for each person on the health care card for the
entirety of term 3!!
Contact Tegan Philpott Tegan.philpott@pcyc.org.au or call 07 40 42 32 96 for
the information on how you can sign on.
You will need computer access to take advantage of this program, if you don’t have
it readily available, we can help you out at the PCYC main branch.
This process is part of the government GET STARTED grant and takes a little time,
but for a whole term ( maximum 15 classes ) of fitness, it is totally worth it!!

"The Mirani Girl Guides are urgently looking for an enthusiastic
volunteer to take over as the leader. Girl Guides Australia is part of a
world-wide voluntary organisation which promotes and encour-
gages girls and young women to grow into confident, self-respecting,
responsible community members. If you can spare a couple of
hours per week during school term, and want to help make a differ-
ence, we need you. Please contact Jo-Anne on 0749583445 or
0438335277 for more information."

C & K Marian Community Kindergarten has
just opened its second kindergarten unit. We
have kindergarten vacancies for children born
between 1st July 2009 and 30th June
2010 for further information, please contact
Kylie Goodwin on 49543089.

MELBA HOUSE NEEDS HELP!
Volunteers are urgently needed at Melba House

- Volunteers welcome visitors to the Pioneer Valley and
  promote its attractions
- Delightful and inspiring place to work
- Full training given
- Open 9am - 3pm, 7 days per week

Please contact Vern (Wed. & Sat) or Lyn (Sun. & Moa.)
07 4954 4299
email: pvida@qld.chariot.net.au

Primary Maths Tutoring Terms 3 & 4
Phone 0432 177 601 out of school hours for de-
tails.

Mackay Autism Support Group
Meets third Tuesday monthly for
a coffee and a chat
During school terms
9.30am - 11am
Monthly Newsletters, E-mail updates,
Facebook, Parent Register, sub-social groups, Group Li-rary, "Lego" Social therapy group and more.
For further information contact:
[a] autismmackay@gmail.com
Debbie [t] 4942 3458 Cheryl [t] 4969 5110

Save our Lantern Parade and Community Festival
It was with regret that the River Rock To Mountain Top Community Festival committee were unable
to stage this year’s Lantern Parade. This has been reflected through the community with the com-
mittee receiving countless comments of disappointment at the event not being held.
The costs involved in staging this event are significant and unfortunately we were unsuccessful in
securing sufficient funds through sponsorship and grant applications for the event to proceed.
Over the past 7 years the festival has been very fortunate with funding and the committee are very hope-
ful that the event will be able to be held in the future. For the Lantern Parade and the Festival to
continue to receive sponsorship and grants, we need to show community support for not just the
Lantern Parade but all the events which come under the Festival banner.

We are desperately seeking community members to become involved in the planning, administration
and funding of the Festival. The level of community support will determine the future of our Festival.
The committee needs revitalising to ensure that new events and ways of promoting the Festival are
introduced.
If you or someone you know has the desire to help promote our spectacular part of the world by
working to ensure the future viability of the River Rock to Mountain Top Community Festival please
contact Darlene West 49585194 or Wanda Bennett 49585030.

Is your child eligible for Kindy and not attending because of cost?
QKFS Plus Kindy Support is a new funding scheme to reduce costs for families.
QKFS Plus Kindy Support replaces the Health Care Card and multiple births subsi-
dies and extends support to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
To be eligible for QKFS Plus Kindy Support a family must either:
* hold a current Health Care Card, Veterans Affairs Card or Australian
  Government Pension Concession card with automatic Health Care Card entitle-
ments, OR
* identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (or have a child who
does), OR
* have three or more children, of the same age, enrolled in the same
  year.
QKFS Plus Kindy Support will be provided directly to services to help reduce out-of-
pocket expenses for eligible families.

Please contact your local Kindy to talk about your costs for enrolling your child.