I DREAM A SCHOOL

I dream a school where what I read in the Gospels comes alive in our community.
I dream a school with new and better ways of teaching and learning and where each person’s needs will be met.
I dream a school that is child centred, community oriented, and enriched by parents and culture.
I dream a school where all differences will be accepted and where each person will be valued and challenged to be who they are.
I dream a school where girls and boys have equal access to the teachers’ time, the class resources and the vast opportunities that life provides.
I dream a school where the youngest and the weakest will be guided and encouraged and supported by the rest of the school. And where the gifted and talented will find scope and challenge.
I dream a school especially to enrich the poor, the disabled, the lonely: those with problems and all who struggle to learn.
I dream a school where education is for all with enough discipline, enough freedom and enough pragmatism to make it work.
I dream a school in harmony with the Earth, a school that promotes peace and justice for all.
I dream a school where each member will read and write and compute and pray and grow each day in faith and hope and love and respect for each other.
I dream a school where parents are valued as partners in the whole educational enterprise. Where their role as first educators is recognised and who are co-labourers with staff.
I dream a school where each one of us will give to God the first place in all we have, and are, and do. And where everyone will use their talents for others.
I dream a school that is freed from injustices and open to the future that is God coming to us.
I dream a school transformed by gospel values.

Sr Margaret Bentley, fma – St John Bosco’s Primary, Engadine.

What a challenge this reflection poses for our school community. We already do many of these things but let us try in 2016 to do all we can to make this dream school a reality at MacKillop. Parents, one way you can assist in achieving your ‘dream school’ is by becoming involved in an important group within the school – the P&F Association. The annual general meeting for our P&F is next Monday night at 7pm. I thought I would take this opportunity to provide some information about this group and its function in the school.
PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Each Catholic school in Queensland has a P&F Association, all parents and carers whose children are enrolled at the school are automatically members of the P&F. The Parents & Friends Association is an integral part of the Catholic school and provides a formal structure and support network for parents to participate in the activities and decision making processes at the school and to work for the benefit of the school and their children. The P&F represents the interests of the whole parent body. It helps parents engage with the school and the education of their children. It works to support the school.

This means that parents are partners with the teachers and the principal in the education of their children and consequently parents share the responsibility of educating their children with the teaching staff. Parents and families are the first teachers of their children and have the right and the responsibility to be engaged with their children's education. Research shows that children do better at school when parents continue to be engaged throughout their children's years at school. The P&F can facilitate this engagement. The P&F must operate within its constitution and is obliged to adhere to the aims, objectives and general principles which are written into the constitution.

Some activities of the P&F as taken from the website www.pandf.org.au includes:

a) to develop a Community spirit - with a Christian ethos
b) support and work in partnership with Principal and staff
c) promote interaction between home and school, parents and teachers
d) encourage parent participation in teaching and learning activities and school life
e) assist parents to appreciate teaching and learning programs
f) promote the School in the wider community
g) Attention to faith education activities
h) create a forum for discussion
i) assist in providing resources to the school when necessary
j) planning and organising of functions approved by a P&F Meeting and the Principal
k) work with parish and school board in pursuit of common goals - harmony.
l) participate in decision making

The P&F AGM will be held in the library on Monday 7th March at 7.00pm. It would be wonderful to see some new faces. A normal meeting follows the AGM. If you wish to be involved in setting future goals for the school and to work towards achieving them then this is the ideal venue for you to have your say. Please come along on the night and have your voice heard.

If you are interested in taking on an executive role - President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer please see myself, a member of the current P&F Executive or complete a nomination form from the office.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent - teacher interviews will be occurring next week. Appointments are to be made on-line via PARENT LOUNGE which can be accessed on the MacKilcop website. www.mnmrok.catholic.edu.au and then click on the PARENT LOUNGE icon. Appointment times For Prep to Year 6 will be available from 8:00am on Monday 29th Feb and will close at 9:00pm on Sunday 6th March. If you have misplaced your login details please email us at: MNM_Office@rok.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

In today's climate of unemployment, busy life styles and home lives, life can sometimes be overwhelming for the young ones in our care and at times a neutral 'listening ear' is all they need to 'get them back on track'. Should you wish a counsellor to see your child - Mrs Maxine Giles from Centacare visits our school fortnightly. A referral form is needed if you wish your child to attend counselling sessions. These can be obtained from the school office.

MAXINE GILES

Hi, I'm Maxine Giles and I'm the school counsellor. I attend the school one morning a fortnight to talk to students about any problem they may be having such as anxiety, family changes, relationships with other pupils etc. A referral form needs to be filled out before I can see a student and I always talk to parents before seeing a student—please see the Principal or office staff who can give you this form. I can also see students at my place of work—I am employed by Centacare and work at 35 Milton St, Mackay, phone No. 1300 523 985

I have been a Marriage and Family Counsellor in the non-government sector for over 30 years. I am also an accredited mediator and facilitator/coach with the Department of Justice. My qualifications include studies in relationships, children and family life stages, disabilities, domestic violence and workplace conflict. I have three adult children and I live at the beach. I enjoy swimming, yoga, dancing, singing and I love to travel whenever I can.

URGENTLY NEEDED PLEASE!

CLASS CO-ORDINATOR FOR 4C, 4S, 5D, 6M

2016

We still have a vacancy for a Class Co-ordinator in the following classes: Years 4C, 4S, 5D and 6M. If you can assist please contact the office. Thank you.
PARENT TOILET

Due to Student Protection and WHS issues, parents or adult visitors are not to use the same toilets as our students. For your convenience the disabled toilet near the Year 6 classrooms is available for parent use. We endeavour to open this in the morning, however if the door is locked please come to the office for a key.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS

This Friday we will have Mass at St Joseph’s at 9.30am. Children are required to wear their formal school uniform. Please come along and celebrate Mass with us.

PREP ENROLMENTS 2017

Enrolments for Prep for 2017 are now being taken. If you have a child due to commence Prep next year (born between 1 July 2011 and 31 July 2012), please complete an enrolment form available from the office or on our website. Enrolments for Years 1 -6 are also currently being taken for 2017. When returning the enrolment form, please ensure that there is a certified copy of your child’s birth certificate, baptismal certificate and immunisation records. It is essential that we have our current families accounted for so that we know the number of places available for new families.

We need to sight the original birth certificate or have a certified copy please.

SCHOOL SHOES

I am noticing some children wearing incorrect shoes to school. School shoes must be ‘jogger’ style shoes not ‘Mary-Jane’ style shoes. All shoes must be totally black including the sole of the shoe. I have included some pictures to help. I ask that you please ensure your child/children are wearing the correct shoes to school.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>These shoes are NOT suitable for school:</th>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="Shoe Image 1" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image4.jpg" alt="Shoe Image 4" /></td>
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<th>These shoes are acceptable for school:</th>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image7.jpg" alt="Shoe Image 7" /></td>
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VACATION CARE

If you are requiring a position at our Outside School Hours Care program for the holidays coming up, can you please contact Gaynor our Co-ordinator on 0417291439 to secure a place. Positions are starting to fill up and we are also getting enquiries from other Catholic Schools now also.

DESKS AND CHAIRS FOR SALE

We have some old desks and chairs (small and larger chairs available) for sale if anyone is interested in purchasing these. $5 each. Please see the office.

PRAYERS

† Please remember in your prayers anyone who is sick within our community. We pray for God’s healing and restoration.

Keep Smiling

A. J. Blakey

Allison Blakey
Principal
This Sunday is traditionally known as Laetare Sunday, when the church invites us to take a ‘break’ from the austerity of Lent and add to our liturgy instrumental music, rose coloured vestments, and even flowers to adorn the church. But this is not a time for lessening our vigilance.

In the collect prayer Christians are reminded to continue the ‘Lenten Campaign’ with the assurance that we are coming closer to the solemn celebrations of Easter.

Our Gospel this Sunday is John’s account of the blind man’s encounter with Jesus. In John the blind man doesn’t ask for healing. Rather the evangelist uses the man born blind to teach about God’s goodness. The Pharisees believed that sickness and physical disabilities were God’s punishment for sin. Jesus teaches rather that illness offers the possibility of God’s graciousness. This is a powerful message for our own times where many people in the world suffer from some kind of hardship, be it physical, mental or material. It would be simple to blame God for their misfortunes, but as Christians we know that their wellbeing depends not on God, but ourselves, who are disciples of Christ.

In Australia many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have become separated from their culture and struggle to find their identity. They are often ignored and marginalised in conversations and policies which affect their well-being. It is our responsibility to give back to our first peoples what our forebears have taken from them - land, dignity and freedom.

In remote Aboriginal communities, such as the one featured in Project Compassion this week, art, storytelling and ritual are important ways to preserve culture and so uphold the dignity and self-worth that is a basic human right. Jesus invites us to live the message of today’s Gospel, to be the missionaries of the word who reflect the goodness of God. We who have much, have the means to uphold the dignity of our first peoples by our generous giving of our resources.

First Australian Evangeline lives in a remote community that faces many ongoing challenges. She had a limited vision for her future until three years ago, when she started working at the Djilpin Arts Gnurnarn Culture Centre, a community-owned venture supported by Caritas Australia. Today Evangeline is flourishing, with new skills and a passion for the preservation and promotion of her Aboriginal culture.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help First Australians in remote communities of Australia gain new skills and renewed passion to preserve and celebrate traditional culture. You can donate through School boxes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Each class has a Project Compassion Box in which to make donations during Lent. There are also boxes located in the Office and Library.

Please Pray for all those who continue their preparation for the Sacraments.

God Bless,
Helen Privett
Assistant Principal Religious Education

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and pay respects to their Elders and all Elders, past, present and future.
Enrichment Maths Workshop

This year we have invited the "Fun With Maths" team to present Maths Workshops at our school on Thursday the 17th and Friday the 18th of March.

Fun with Maths offer a range of creative, problem solving activities suitable for your child's level of maths. All of their activities use "hands-on" materials to develop understanding and solve "real-life" problems. The children work in pairs and can move around to engage with each activity station.

The activities use "Thinking Mathematical" strategies from the National Curriculum and previous NAPLAN test questions.

All children from Prep to Year 6 will be participating in this experience. The cost is $5.50 per child. Please be advised that the $5.50 has already been charged to your Term 1 school fees.

"Using both sides of your brain, you have twice as much fun"

HOCKEY NEWS !!!

The hockey season starts this Saturday 5th March, and at this stage will go ahead if raining, with a wet weather draw. It’s not too late to join, just contact me on my details below.

U7 and U9 will play at 8.00am  Registration cost for the season is $140.00
U11 will play at 8.55am  }
U13 girls will play at 10.05am  } Registration cost $220.00
U13 boys will play at 11.15am  }

This year every registered player will receive welcome packs from Hockey Qld as follows.

- Every single person who signs on to play hockey in the 2016 season will receive an HQ lanyard with a Sports Pass rewards card
  - All junior 4-9 year old players will receive a coupon to collect a free hockey stick from Just Hockey (Mackay)
  - All 10-18 year old players will receive a HQ drawstring bag
  - All senior players will receive a HQ branded microfiber towel

Remember your online payment for registration to Hockey Qld must be paid before your game on Saturday.

The draw was not available at the time of print so check your emails for details.

Please contact Stacey Davidson for enquiries.
Ph: 0409982184
Email: troydav@bigpond.net.au

SECURITY SAFE FOR SALE !!!

Combination lock and key
Approx 50 x 36 x 33 cm
$70 … please see office staff

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos have been rescheduled for Tuesday 22nd March.

As such, the order / payment date has now been changed to Tuesday 22nd March also.

PIZZA MEAL DAY

FRIDAY 4TH MARCH

Thanks to Jo Oliver for organising this day
Prep CN  Mia Cornick
It has been wonderful seeing you grow in confidence over the last couple of weeks. Thank you for always following our class rules, presenting your work neatly and with lots of detail and participating in our classroom activities with enthusiasm and patience. Keep up the fantastic effort!

Whaytt Doumergue
We were so impressed by your knowledge of numbers this week! You were able to answer our trick maths questions with confidence. Keep up the awesome effort Whaytt, you are a Maths Whizz!

Prep E  Rieley Davey
Thank you for the way you are working so beautifully at Prep. You work so hard to stay in the “green zone” and that is Awesome! Good boy!

Indigo Lui
You have been a very good girl with your speaking this week. It’s so wonderful to see you asking for help and speaking nicely to friends. Excellent work, Indigo

1P  Gemma Smith
Your writing is fabulous Gemma! You always make an effort to include different ideas, feelings and details to make your writing really interesting. Keep up the great work!

Poppy Greatz
You worked really well during our “Read to Self” sessions this week. You stayed in one spot, read the whole time and worked on your stamina. You are a great role model for your classmates Poppy!

2D  Cerisse Giles
Your work attitude and behaviour inside the classroom is a wonderful example for everyone in our class. You always try hard to complete your best work and should be very proud of yourself.

Danielle Davey
You are very clever at representing numbers differently. You drew tallies, pictures, words and used MABs to make the number. You are also very clever at expanding two digit numbers.

2S  Lily Masters
Wow Lily you have been working so hard to complete all classroom tasks on time. Excellent effort!

Noah Newland
It has been wonderful to see you taking a keen interest in your reading. You have been flying through your Zac Power books during our “read to self” sessions. Great work!

3J  Kelsey Waldon
For your hard work and persistence in our Maths lessons. Well Done!

Sophie Field
Thank you for being so helpful in the classroom while Mrs Geiger has been here!

4C  Jayce Smith
I’m very impressed with what you have written for your Religion assessment task about Caritas so far Jayce. Your effort has been amazing. Well done!

Hayley O’Neill
I love your enthusiasm for learning Hayley! You always put a fantastic effort into your work and participate in all activities with a smile on your face. Keep up the awesome work!

4S  Brodie Cridland
For the immense effort you have been putting into your schoolwork. You are trying hard to be organised and to complete tasks efficiently and neatly. Wonderful effort, Brodie!

Jack Fogarty
Your homework is exemplary, Jack! It is consistently completed to a very high standard. Your setting out is excellent and your attention to detail is to be commended. Keep up the outstanding Effort!

5D  Hayley Close
Congratulations Hayley you deserve to be the Student of the Week. Your work is always neatly presented and to a high standard. I love the questions that you ask to ensure that you are working on task. You are a pleasure to teach.

Elly Finucan
Wow Elly you were on fire in our Mathematics lesson last week! You knew the answers to the times tables automatically and this really helped with your speedy response when converting the mixed fractions to improper fractions. Awesome work Elly!

5K  Jack Davis
For your cheerful and happy nature. You brighten our classroom with your lovely manners and for the effort you are putting into your work e.g. your Mass journal.

Lilly Newland
You are eager to succeed therefore you are asking more questions for clarification and by doing so I am seeing an improvement in your work, especially Mathematics. You are a star.

6M  Mitchell Cleaver
Your note taking skills and recall of information when watching “The Science of Bread making” was of a high standard. Keep it up!

Tarni Stevenson
For being a well organised student who completes tasks quickly. Great work!

6R  Hamish Donnollan
What an amazing assignment you produced on Sir Alfred Deakin – one of our “fathers of federation.” Not only was your information written so articulately, but you also took the time to edit it with care. I can see that your timeline on the life of Sir Alfred Deakin would have taken you some time to get just right. I love that you put the extra time and care into your work, Hamish!

Michael Close
You are putting such a fantastic effort into your active listening and comprehension skills. You were able to respond to your comprehension questions accurately and you make valuable contributions to our verbal summarising, predicting and “word wizard” work.

Carter Cundell
Wow! I was so impressed at the way you were participating in our PE lesson. Not only are you a tennis champion, you were also being a wonderful friend and helping others that found the activity a bit tricky. Keep up the awesome effort!

Tydon Ramshaw
Thank you for always being a gentleman in our PE lessons and offering assistance when I need it. I was especially impressed by the assertiveness you showed when putting up our tennis nets so all students could participate. You are a fantastic role model for others.

Andre Rosales
For your fantastic effort to create your storyboard for your Media presentation. You put great thought into the message you want to convey and how to explain this to your intended audience. Awesome work, Andre!

Ella Fogarty
For working independently and productively to create your Media presentation. You took the time to think through your purpose and how best to portray this in your presentation. Super effort, Ella!

Principal's Award
Brae De Waard
In recognition of the way you work and play so quietly and conscientiously in Prep. You are also a great listener. Well Done!
BIRTHDAYS FOR WEEK 6

Feb 1 Cooper Garnham
1 Harrison Hill
1 Keelan O’Brien
2 Declan Pace
3 Whyatt Doumergue
3 Jack Hughes
5 Gracie Delahunty
6 Georgia Murphy

TUCKSHOP ROSTER:

Thursday 03/01  Katie Franettovich
               Paula La Gerche

Baking Roster (patty cakes):
Thursday 03/01  Andrea Lucas

Could all containers please be named and have your child collect them from the office on the same day.

Important notices from Tuckshop:
If you are unable to work your rostered day or you are no longer available to be on the roster, could you please contact Sue Walker by phone or text on 0439955388.
Please ensure tuckshop orders are written on paper bags and remember to write your child’s class on the bag so their lunch goes into the correct box.

Please do not sticky tape or staple the bag shut

Tuckshop Convenor: Sue Walker 0439 955 388

Could all those parents with a Hotmail account please add MacKillop School as a contact. This may help in rectifying the problem we have with emailing to Hotmail accounts at present.

SCHOOL FEES

All School Fee Accounts have been emailed out to families. If you did not receive your account please contact the office by emailing mnm_office@rok.catholic.edu.au and we will attach your account in a reply email.

Fees are due on FRIDAY 11th March 2016

P & F News:

P & F EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS
The P & F is currently taking nominations for those interested in a P & F Executive Position. To do this, you must have another person nominate you for the position by filling out a nomination form (available from the office). If you are interested in one of the positions and would like further information, please don’t hesitate to contact either Deb Allan (0423 794 395), Jackie Franklin (0407 736 631) or Melissa Durnford (0428 842 080). The AGM Meeting is scheduled for Monday 7th March and wine and cheese will be provided by the P & F.

FETE COMMITTEE MEETING
Many thanks to those who attended the Fete Committee Meeting last Friday afternoon. Progress was made and we are hoping to make this year’s Fete just as awesome as previous years. We endeavour to hold another meeting in the next few weeks. Date to be advised.

CENT SALE AND RAFFLE PRIZES
We are starting to collect Cent Sale and Raffle Prizes for our Fete this year. If you wish to make a donation, please drop off to the office.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MASQUERADE BALL
Tickets are now available to purchase for the Mackay Catholic Education Week Masquerade Ball. They are $125 each and include:
- Glass of Champagne Upon Arrival
- Seafood Buffet Deluxe
- Live Music by “Kaviar”
- Prize Draws throughout the Evening

Tickets are available online via the Mercy College Website www.mercymackay.qld.edu.au. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Melissa Durnford on 0428 842 080.

If you have any suggestions for the P & F, please fill out a suggestion form available in the office and pop it into the red box. Alternatively you can email your suggestions to presidentmackillop@gmail.com Remember to check out the MacKillop P & F page on the website where you can find our contact details and the latest meeting minutes. MacKillop Catholic Primary School.

Deb, Mel and Jackie

DATE CLAIMERS

Pizza Meal Day – Friday 4th March 2016
P & F and AGM – Monday 7th March 2016
Disco – Friday 18th March 2016
2016 Catholic Schools Masquerade Ball – Friday 22nd July 2016
Fete – Saturday 3rd September 2016

Second Hand Uniform Shop
Our second hand uniform shop is open Monday and Friday after morning assembly, in the spare year 7 classroom!
YEAR 3 SOCIAL

Are you feeling the heat? Come along to the Bluewater Lagoons for a swim and afternoon tea on the lawn. Bring a plate to share and chill out for the afternoon.

Sunday 20th March 2016 at 3:00pm.

See you there sun lovers.
Jennifer Nield – Ph: 0437237758

PREP E SHARED MORNING TEA

Prep E families let’s get together!
Please bring along a plate for a shared morning tea on Sunday 20th March at Harbour Park (next to the surf club) from 10am.

Hope to see you all there 😊

Vanessa O’Keeffe

Munchkin League Gala Day

3-6 year olds

When: 30/31st March

Cost: $40

Mackay Junior Rugby League Football Club, Casey Avenue

Ph: 0417068132

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MACKAY & DISTRICT

This year we celebrate 150 years of the Catholic Church in the Mackay and district. Bishop Michael McCarthy will lead us in the celebration of a Mass of Thanksgiving held on Sunday 22nd May at St Patrick’s Church at 11am. Following Mass you are invited to a BYO picnic lunch in the grounds of St Patrick’s College to continue the celebration. (Tea, coffee and cold drinks provided)

From Friday 20 May through to Sunday 22 May there will be a display in the St Patrick’s Hall, acknowledging the gift of the Church within our community. Parishes and organisations from across the region have been invited to contribute to this display which will be open to the public

The following groups have been invited to contribute. If you are aware of a group that has been overlooked please email details of that group to stjomky@bigpond.com or stmarys@mackay.net.au

Parishes: Parish priests, administrators, & assistants; Parish Offices, Parish Councils.

All Catholic Primary & Secondary Schools
Co-ordinator of Catechists, Society of Jesus, RCIA coordinators

Religious Orders: Sisters of Mercy, Christian Brothers, Sisters of St Joseph, Franciscan Sisters, Missionary Sisters of Service, Presentation Sisters, Marist Sisters

Health & Aged Care: Mater Hospital, Francis of Assisi Aged Care Home, SVDP, Centra Care, Towards Healing, Care of the Environment, Care & Concern Grp St Joseph’s

Organisations and Groups: CWL, Men Alive, Cherish Life, Natural Fertility Service, Catholic Deb Ball, Catholic Men’s Dinner

Prayer Groups: Charismatic Prayer Group, Christian Meditation Group, El Shaddai, Couples for Christ, Padre Pio Group

Indigenous Groups: Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islanders, South Sea Islanders

Ethnic Groups: Maltese, Italian, Filipino, Indian, Irish