Well….art students at Mirani certainly have been busy this year. The art display at Marian Town Centre was noticed by the editor of SPress magazine (a national magazine with an education focus). As a result a page in their next issue will feature artworks from talented year 10 students, Anna Emms, Sarah Speed, Emily Agius, Amy Stratford and Cody Herrin. Congratulations ladies.

Here is a snapshot of some of the many arts activities students are involved in at present.

- Jade Herring and Linnea Freeman are working on their Festival of Fashion entries.
- Tristan Kane, Amy Duncan, Shannon Wallace and Felicia Glossop have painted large cut outs of cows!! for the Mackay Cane Growers art competition.
- Year 11s are off on an excursion this week to Artspace to see the Jam Factory exhibition and also to participate in a workshop at Paxton’s Creative Space.
- Photography competitions are currently open to all creative students in the school, they don’t have to be studying art to enter.
- It’s show season and works will be entered into the Mackay and Pioneer Valley shows and even the Ekka.
- Some beautiful works are off to Japan for the Matsuura Art exchange in the coming weeks.
- Several examples of high quality essay writing are being entered into the Queensland Flying Arts, Write about Art competition.

Hold onto your hats because there’s even more to come throughout the year. For now please enjoy some pics of Year 8 still life paintings.

Sharon Martin
Help for Struggling Readers

Are you worried about your child’s reading skills? Mirani State High School runs weekly Reader Help sessions each Wednesday and Thursday after school in the library. These classes run from 3.00 until 4.00 and all are welcome.
If you feel your child could benefit from this support, please call me on 4966 7111 or email jpear317@eq.edu.au.
Jakobi Pearce
Literacy Teacher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHY READ 20 minutes AT HOME?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student A reads:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 20 minutes per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 3,600 minutes per school year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 1,890,000 words per year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student B reads:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 5 minutes per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 900 minutes per school year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 282,000 words per year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student C reads:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 1 minute per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 180 minutes per school year</td>
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<tr>
<td>- 8,000 words per year</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests

By the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 school days. Student B will have read only 12 school days, and Student C will have read 0. (Nagy & Herman, 1987).

want to be a better **READER**? a better **WRITER**? a better **COMMUNICATOR**? **READ!**

English Help

We also run an English Help program on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in the library at the same time.
If students feel they need some extra help with their English work or an assessment task, they are more than welcome to come along. Please make sure they bring all necessary task sheets, workbook, laptop etc.

Jakobi Pearce
Literacy Teacher
The Mirani Green Senior Debating team has been participating in the APEX Schools Debating Competition during Semester 1. The team, Ryan Eiteneuer, Rhana Gelens, Courtney Vass and Jay Krobath (pictured at left), coached by Ms Adams, has argued the point, as both the affirmative and negative team, in three debates against North Mackay High, Whitsunday Anglican School and Holy Spirit.

Our team includes two debut debaters, Rhana and Ryan, who have given it their all and shown off their public speaking skills, alongside debating veterans, Jay and Courtney.

The team currently has one win under their belts and is heading to St Pat’s for an impromptu debate, on Tuesday 3 June, 6:30pm.

Ms Adams

Work Experience update....

All year 10 students should have completed their interviews and returned their work experience agreements to Mrs Post with 3 signatures. Students will be issued with a log book, an evaluation form and a student placement form on Wednesday. Please check with your student if they have this paperwork. It is essential the log book and evaluation form be completed and returned to Mrs Grace on the students return to school to enable modules to be completed. Students will have to repeat the work experience if they fail to provide this evidence.

Thank you to parents and carers for your support and assistance in the returning of paperwork, transporting students to interviews and in some cases assisting me in placing you child to ensure a best possible outcome for our students.

In the event of a student being unwell and unable to attend their work experience, they must advise their employer and the school on 49667111 or 49667104.

I wish all students a successful and enjoyable week of Work Experience and look forward to hearing of your experience on your return to school.

Full Time Employment Opportunity....

Vanderfield is offering a full time position for a Parts Interpreter at their Mackay Branch. Successful applicants are required to have drivers licence and an interest in Agriculture. Interested students can collect further information on how to apply from Mrs Post.

Cathryn Post
Senior Schooling Teacher Aide
The musical is well underway, with 2 shows scheduled for Fri 13th and Sat 14th of June. Tickets will be approx. $20 p/person with food included. We also have a café to purchase hot and cold beverages. NO EFTPOS AVAILABLE. If you are interested in attending, please prepare your best 1920’s garb - dressing up is encouraged! Get in quick though, tickets go on sale 2 weeks prior to the performance and we have to cap our numbers at 80 audience members per night.
School Matters

Calendar at a Glance

Term 2 Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>Cross Country - Mirani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>Year 8 Science / SOSE Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>Year 11 Senior Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>QCS Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>Year 12 MQC and MRN Camp – Bowen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>Big Science Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>QCS Practice Period 7/8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attention Parents/Caregivers

Mirani State High School DOES NOT have a pager system for students. Parents please arrange with your child prior to school any changes to their day. ONLY URGENT messages will be forwarded on to students as the school office is very busy and does not have the time or extra staff to find a student in their class and deliver unnecessary messages. Students will only be allowed to have use of the school’s phone for urgent requests at a cost of 50 cents. Thankyou for your assistance and understanding in this matter.

Urgent Reminders:

We have recently had a number of incidents where parents have arrived at the school office looking for their child who has messaged them that they are sick and want to go home. The office staff has had no knowledge of the student being sick nor is the student in sick bay under the care of a staff member. When this situation arises, and the student is found in class, the students will be referred to the Deputy Principal before they are permitted to leave the school. We remind you: Please instruct your child that if they are sick they MUST come to the school office and the office staff will phone and make arrangements with you for your child to be collected. This reflects the Education Department Duty of Care Policy for all students.

Recently we have had a number of incidents involving students and the improper use of aerosol cans, which have triggered asthma attacks and burning eyes. Aerosol cans of any description are banned in the school. If a student brings them to school, they will be confiscated.

Massive Computer Clearance

Mirani High School is currently selling second hand computers at a low cost of $66.00. These computers have a monitor, keyboard and mouse. They do not have any Programs, Applications or Windows and they are sold where is as is. For inquiries or more information please phone the school on 49667111.
On and Off the Field

Congratulations to Pegasus for taking out the Cross Country Carnival. The whole carnival was a success with some students putting in outstanding performances breaking a couple of records. Rachel Silvestri earned herself a place in the record books with a win in the 13yr girls race, while Anthony Draper also broke a record in the 15yr boys race. Outstanding.

Individual sports are still conducting trials for representation in a Mackay team. Keep an ear out for these in notices and check sports noticeboard for when your sport is holding a trial. A reminder that these trials are for students who already play at a high level.

Various school sports are also in progress. I hear our netball girls are going well and all teams have recorded a win and are improving with each game. Mirani girls soccer team also had a win, thanks to a home field advantage and supporters. Boys rugby league are enjoying playing in their new jerseys, sponsored by CRM Electrical (major sponsor) and Wests.

All players are reminded that it is a privilege to represent your school in sport. This means behaviour and attitude expectations apply exactly the same as at school. Parents are also reminded that their support is greatly appreciated as positive role models to their child. Disrespectful and abusive comments by players and supporters will not be tolerated and may jeopardise their involvement in sport.

Good luck to all teams and individuals as they take the field. Valley Pride!
The Year 8 Rugby League boys are now four games into their Mackay District inter-school competition and have improved in both numbers and skill since their opening match. Starting off with just five boys in our first game, we now have a squad of nineteen young men who are representing their school with pride. We have had close encounters in every game, although we are yet to have a win. Our next two games are at home at Wests, so we are optimistic the home-ground advantage will get us over the line.

Girls and boys rugby league teams in their new jerseys and the major Sponsor CRM Electrical.
Yvonne Bushell

Junior Secondary News

It has been a busy past couple of weeks in the junior secondary. Our Year 9 students undertook the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program–Literacy and Numeracy) tests over three days. Well done to all students involved for their diligent efforts regarding the testing. The results will be made available in late September/early October. The changes to junior secondary next year, predominately Year 7 students joining us, will have a significant impact on the manner in which junior secondary will operate at Mirani SHS. Due to the efforts of our administration team and the Change Response Committee, Mirani SHS is more than well-placed for 2015. The school has demonstrated great initiative in:

- Creating a Junior Secondary HOD position
- Appointing 4 quality primary school teachers from the Pioneer Valley cluster
- Creating Core class teaching teams
- Creating a distinct identity for the junior school

Our principal, Mr Scott Cage along with Miss Melanie Smith and Mrs Tina Saal (Year 8 Core teachers) recently attended a two day junior secondary conference with all secondary schools in the Central Queensland Region. It became evident over the two days that the teaching and learning practices employed at Mirani SHS are some of the best in the region. As a result the Mirani SHS ‘Know Your Class’ record was selected by Griffith University as an assessment piece for their final year secondary teaching students. High praise indeed.

The Year 8 Core classes will be off to Cape Hillsborough this week for their Geology excursion. Well done to Mrs Shellie Laidlaw for the planning and organisation of this fantastic educational experience. The students will appreciate and enjoy the day.

Finally, congratulations to Rylea Davis (Year 8) and Raoul Mackenzie (Year 9) for their efforts at Rostrum (public speaking). Competing against students from other schools in the Mackay area, Rylea placed 2nd in her competition, and Raoul placed 3rd in his. Another fantastic achievement for Mirani SHS.

Michael Post
HOD Middle Schooling
It’s been awhile since our last update but with so much happening, now is a good time to provide you with a picture of the co-curricular and extra-curricular achievements of our students in the Arts fields.

First of all, thank you and congratulations to teachers, Ms Adams, Mrs Mackenzie and Miss Fjeldsoe and your Junior and Senior Apex Interschool Debating teams on your very successful performances of late. Both teams are now entering the impromptu section of the competition, where they have only an hour on the night to develop their team’s arguments for or against the nominated topic, before facing the opposing team. It is the moment when a team’s true skills are revealed, as their coaches have absolutely no input. Good luck to all our debaters in the coming weeks! Read on in this newsletter for an update from the Senior coach, Ms Adams.

The Junior section of ROSTRUM, a hotly-contested public speaking competition, was recently dominated by Mirani High students, who took out first, second and third out of a field of 11 students from across the district. Congratulations and thank you Mrs Mackenzie, for your mentoring of these students through the competition. Year 9 student, Chontelle Myers was a convincing first, with Year 8 student, Rylea Davis, narrowly edging out Year 10 student Raoul Mackenzie for second. Senior entrant, Linley Creese also performed strongly, without taking out a place this year. Congratulations all students, on your excellent performances and representation of the school. Our best wishes go with Chontelle, who will now compete in the next level of the competition in Rockhampton at the end of the month.

Students from across the year levels - but particularly Year 12 OP-eligible students - and some staff recently had the benefit of a series of workshops from grammar guru and consultant, Mr Lindsay Williams, who spent the first of two days with us. His focus was teaching a range of strategies specifically targeting students’ writing skills with a view to making their writing more compelling reading and lifting the quality of the sentence structures students use. Sounds like something teachers should be doing anyway? It sure is, but Mr Williams’ PhD is based on just this topic and so it is not as simple as whacking in a couple of timely grammar lessons occasionally and that’s that. The study of how we can improve our writing – and the associated skills required – can take a lifetime to master…. and so his visit and contribution to our understandings of the workings of the English language were timely and much appreciated. Teachers are now better equipped to support Mr Williams’ instruction in their classrooms, and students now have a broader appreciation of the possibilities which abound in the writing process, to enhance their skills.

There are a number of other opportunities on offer in the Arts as well, that students are invited to participate in when advertised. Mrs Martin is looking after the Whitsunday Voices excursion and short story competition again this year and both provide students with opportunities to extend themselves. In addition to this, Mrs Martin has photography buffs out there busily snapping images of different weather systems as they hove to, in our skies, for a competition focussing on this subject. Then there is Mrs Slack’s glass project, still in its embryonic stages, but sounding quite exciting all the same. A sample of the type of work which can be produced is reproduced in this update.
Finally, Musical cast and crew are to be congratulated on their dedication to the development and staging of the school’s musical this year – without a Hall!!! Yes, you read correctly – this is going to be a unique experience for Mirani High, not the least because our circumstances this year have led to the whole musical being ‘home-grown’. A team of very talented and creative students, under the guidance of Drama staff, Miss Hill and Miss Reilly, have written the entire production and are also the performers. Supported by a bevy of staff from all areas of the school who are making flowers, sewing costumes, making props and sets, the students’ performance should be something really special. If I have piqued your interest in the outcome of their hard work, then save the weekend of 13 and 14 June (Friday and Saturday nights) to come along and be thoroughly entertained.

Wendy Sievers
LanArts HoD

Message from Senior Constable Fred Baguley

Last week there was a break and enter along with wilful damage to a residence in Lucy Court Mirani. It was apparent that those involved were children. This sort of offence is one that our small community does not want to see occur. The scenes of crime officers have told me that they have retrieved fingerprints and DNA from the scene. While the young offenders may not be on any data base because of their age, the fingerprints and DNA will always stay on file. This means that as an adult should they go for a job that requires fingerprinting or DNA it will come up that they are wanted for a break and enter thereby jeopardising their ability to get that job. I am saying this so that if there is anyone out there with any information please come forward and the offenders can be dealt with as a child and therefore it will not be part of any criminal record in the future.

I am also asking that parents know where their children are at all times. If this occurs offences such as these do not happen. This is our community and it is up to everyone how they would like to live it.

Please feel free to phone me on 0409612976 if you have any information regarding this matter.

Senior Constable Fred Baguley
Mirani Police.
49591524.

Trainee Security Technician.

A rare opportunity exists for a trainee in Security Electronics to begin in 2015.

We install and service alarm and camera systems. It does allow the person to work and live in the Mackay region. Skills that will be required to be learned:

- Talks directly with clients – mature, groomed, confident, good English.
- Fault finding of security and camera systems – good math, analytical.
- Installation- ladders/scaffold - not afraid of heights or confined spaces.
- Programming- comfortable with IT and has good comprehension skills

We service a broad range of clients from all walks of life; including, doctors, lawyers, accountants, schools, government departments, home owners, industrial & commercial.

We encourage year 11 & 12 students (age 16+) to contact their school workplace officer or contact us directly at security@aamky.biz.

Diana Barfield Administrator
Advanced Alarms Mackay Pty Ltd
Ph: 07 4951 1110 / Fx: 07 4951 3193
admin@aamky.biz www.aamky.com.au
heard your mates talking about the ‘try trades’ program?

Mackay Engineering College partners with prominent local businesses to give you insight into what a career in the Manufacturing and Engineering Industry would be like.

The Checklist

☐ Are you in Year 10?
☐ Do you attend Mackay North, Sarina, Mackay, Pioneer or Mirani SHS?
☐ Are you interested in trying boilermaking, diesel fitting or fitting & turning (just to name a few)?

If you ticked all 3 boxes, you should consider applying for the Try Trades program with the Mackay Engineering College. It’s held in term 3 during which you’d try a range of trade experiences associated with the Manufacturing & Engineering industry such as:

- Field trips and industry tours
- Mentoring by tradespeople in their workplace
- Completing welding projects
- Tour Rio Tinto Hail Creek Mine
- Tour BMA Hay Point Coal Terminal
- Activities at the Mackay Engineering College

Chat to your IT&D teacher today about how to apply or simply download an application pack from www.mec.qld.edu.au /Support and Resources/forms and documents/documents (application package for Try Trades)
Junior Staff required for Sizzler

We at Sizzler are currently recruiting new staff. We've taken this time to reach throughout the community to local high schools for youngsters and would appreciate if your school can advertise on your daily or weekly newsletter that Sizzler is recruiting. We are seeking youngsters aged 14 years 9 months and above. Who are friendly, willing to learn, driven, motivated, and along the way make new friends and earn money. This is an excellent opportunity for this generation of kids to join Sizzler, Collins Food Group. And with your cooperation we at Sizzler would thank you and greatly appreciate it.

Apply at sizzler.com.au/jobs
Precise is excited to announce that we are willing to take on high school students for work experience in our Paget workshop facility. We can offer exposure to students wanting to become motor mechanics, diesel fitters, boilermakers, auto-electricians, store persons, account clerks and administration etc.

In addition we would like to offer our services to ALL staff, teachers, parents, guardians etc by making people aware that Precise are a genuine alternative to servicing and repairing your vehicles as opposed to taking them to dealerships or regular garages.

May we ask that the information below be forwarded to ALL staff, parents, guardians of all students to allow Precise the opportunity to service and repair the vehicles your students travel in and allow us to create a safer environment for everyone to travel.

Benefits of your children attending work experience at PRECISE...
Modern safe workshops with very high safety standards.
Over 14 years in business with 100% safety record.
Locally owned and operated with strong focus on supporting the local community.
Genuine desire to help future generations receive necessary experience to actually gain employment not just experience.
Can offer written certification on company letterhead of candidate’s time and exposure with us, to help them build their own resume portfolio.
Can help coaching with real life decisions like how to speak and act during job interviews, eye contact, dress codes, how to conduct yourself in a workplace etc.
Real exposure to a real working environment for a real experience in the real world.

Benefits for Parents, Guardians, Grand Parents, Family Members & Teachers bringing vehicles to PRECISE...
We perform all general servicing and repairs on all cars and trucks to the highest standard without affecting new car warranty.
We are a genuine alternative to dealerships and will save you money.
We can diagnose warranty issues and liaise with dealerships to have warranty repairs carried out on your behalf.
We are approved to perform all Safety/Road Worthy inspections & All Brake Tests.
We are Approved Service Providers for most vehicle lease companies.
We offer very competitive rates.
We guarantee All Workmanship.
We will not do any additional work without your approval.
We are a One Stop Shop for all vehicle requirements including Servicing & Repairs, Tyres & Wheel Alignments, Exhaust Repairs, Window Tinting, Vehicle Detailing, Accessories & Fitouts.

Benefits for Community by Supporting PRECISE...
We have been in Business in this region for 14 years Employing Local People, Buying from Local Businesses and Sponsoring Local Events. We are very proud that almost all of our money in reinvested in our community.
By Supporting Our Locally Owned Business, there will be more employment opportunities for Local Children.
Allow us to continue to support our region by bringing your vehicles to us for servicing and repairs.

Support the Company that Supports your Community.

PH: 1800 4 PRECISE
WWW.PRECISE.COM.AU
Where: Cnr Victoria Street & Mirani Eton Rd - Mirani
When: 29th May – 12th June, 2014

A BreastScreen every two years is recommended for all women aged 50-74 years. Women aged 40-49 years and women over 75 are also eligible to attend.

MACKAY HOSPITAL & HEALTH SERVICE