Last term all year 10 students participated in a compulsory week of work experience as part of their Work Education studies. Placement in a workplace is an extremely rewarding experience and provides a great insight into specific careers. Each student has the opportunity to choose their occupation and company for work placement. This experience really provides a great base to begin thinking about life after school, and provides insight into career pathways which may help the students choose areas of study in year 11 and 12. Sometimes work experience may even lead to employment opportunities such as traineeships and apprenticeships. Many students have positive experiences to share as a result of their work experience. Cameron, Logan, Bennett and Linley share their week at work experience.

**Cameron Goltz**

**Work place:** Legra Engineering  
**Occupation:** Fitter and Turner  

What did you enjoy most about your week at work experience?  
I really enjoyed my time at work experience. The people at Legra Engineering treated me really well. I met a lot of people that had a great deal of knowledge and experience in the industry that were keen to help me out. Because I met a lot of great people they were willing to let me come back for more work experience and help me with my career path in the mining industry.

**Logan Bobongie**

**Work place:** Mirani State School  
**Occupation:** Grade 5 teacher  

What did you enjoy most about your week at work experience?  
Work experience at the Mirani Primary School offered me a great deal of knowledge in the education industry. Working with young children taught me some important life skills which I believe will be of great benefit to me in the future. I had a great time!

**Linley Creese**

**Work place:** Bold Architecture and Interior Design  
**Occupation:** Architecture  

What did you enjoy most about your week at work experience?  
The thing I enjoyed the most was being able to put my ideas forward and have them used. Bold Architecture and Interior Design really treated me like I was one of them. I really enjoyed my time at work experience!

**Bennett Hardwick**

**Work place:** EHS Manufacturing  
**Occupation:** Drafting  

What did you enjoy most about your week at work experience?  
I really enjoyed when I got to experience what it would be like actually working in a professional company. I was able to draw up a fuel tank using the programs and tools for one of the workers. It has encouraged me to start thinking about different careers that are available after finishing school.
Year 10 Art students immersed in artists books!

*Artists’ books are not books about art or an artist, but sculptural books that are works of art.*

This semester our year 10 Art students will be working on a printmaking unit, completing collagraphs and etchings to turn into artists’ books. To enhance the students’ knowledge base and provide inspiration, we visited Artspace to see the Biannual Libris Awards, an international artists’ book exhibition.

Students were exposed to works which included books that had been carved, cut, stitched, etched, pierced, sculpted, glued, folded and altered in all sorts of other ways in the name of art!

These works are exceptional examples of the techniques, media and conceptual ideas studied by our art students in class. We were excited to see the work of Nicola Laidlow, a past Mirani student who was awarded $2000 for her book entered into the award.

Students also were introduced to a 3D book making technique and they had a great time experimenting with this in the education room. Congratulations to a model group of Mirani students. We were once again complimented by all on our maturity and dedication.

Melissa Larsen
Art Teacher
Year 10 Art students recently completed their unit, the Distorted Figure, focusing on 3 Dimensional sculptural works. We had a broad range of concepts coming through, with some interesting use of media also. It was great to see the students really challenging themselves and trying something different.

Jocelyn Cowper
Art Teacher
**Enrolment Management**

With the extraordinary growth that we’ve experienced in the Valley over the past few years, enrolments at Mirani SHS have reached a point where we now need to be enrolment managed. The plan is based on a catchment area that covers a considerable part of the Pioneer Valley, including Marian and Mirani, Kuttabul and Hampden to our north, and Nebo to our west. However, schools that are now outside our catchment include Pleystowe, Walkerston, The Leap and Calen.

Students who live in our catchment gain automatic entry. There are a number of ways that students outside our catchment can still be eligible for enrolment. These include students who have siblings who are enrolled at Mirani SHS at the time of their enrolment, students who have a parent or legal guardian employed by the school, students accepted into the school’s Advanced Computer-Aided Design and Manufacturing Program of Excellence, or students who win scholarships to the school.

If you are unsure whether your property falls in our catchment, the following website can help: [http://statistics.oesr.qld.gov.au/reverse-proxy/schools/catchment/catchmentmaps/](http://statistics.oesr.qld.gov.au/reverse-proxy/schools/catchment/catchmentmaps/). As the screenshot below indicates, you can type in your address and it will then tell you if your address is within our catchment.

![EdMap](https://example.com/edmap.png)
**Subject Selection Night and SET Planning**

Matty Morrison’s front page interviews of Year 10 students who completed work experience last term is a timely reminder of some important events that happen in Term 3. Of most importance, our Year 10s will be developing their Senior Education and Training (SET) Plans. These SET Plans help our Year 10s to make informed decisions for their subjects in Year 11. So that both our students and their parents can make these decisions on an informed basis, I’d like to put in an early reminder that our Subject Selection Evening is on Wednesday evening, August 14th.

**Keeping Mirani State High School a safe school**

I would like to draw parents’ and caregivers’ attention to an important change to the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan. A new appendix has been added to the Responsible Behaviour Plan covering the issue of students possessing knives at school. This specific Appendix has been added below so parents and students can read it in detail (the Plan can be read in full from the school’s website). Simply put, there is no reason for a student to have a knife at school, as it is against the law to do so. The policy needs to be broad enough to cover all forms of knife, so something as inadvertently innocent as adding a kitchen knife into a student’s lunch box so they can cut up an apple would be in breach of the policy. If a student needs to use a knife to help prepare their food, they are invited to go to a staffroom where they can use a knife under teacher supervision.

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**Appendix 5 – Possession of Knives at School**

**Possession of Knives at School**

We can work together to keep knives out of school. At Mirani:

- Every student has the right to feel safe and be safe at school.
- There is no reason for a student to have a knife at school.
- No knives are allowed to be taken to school by students.
- It is against the law for a student to have a knife at school.
- A student that has a knife at school can receive very serious consequences.

**What kinds of knife are banned?**

You are not allowed to have any type of knife at school including:

- Flick knives, ballistic knives, sheath knives, push daggers, trench knives, butterfly knives, star knives, butter knives, fruit knives or craft knives
- Any item that can be used as a weapon, for example, a chisel.

If you need a knife or tools for school subjects, school staff will provide them and supervise their use.

**What will happen if I bring a knife to school?**

- If you have a knife at school, the principal may call the police.
- Police can search you and your property at school if they think you have a knife.
- If you have a knife at school, you may be disciplined. First Offence – suspension 10 days, Second Offence exclusion
- Any student found endangering others with a weapon will be excluded
- You may be charged with a criminal offence and face serious consequences if convicted, including a fine or jail.
- If the principal thinks you have a knife in your bag, the bag can be confiscated until police arrive.
- If you have a knife at school, it can be confiscated by the principal and given to the police.
- You may face serious disciplinary consequences if you bring a knife to school.

**How can I help to keep Mirani State High School safe?**

- Make sure you know the laws and rules about knives.
- Ask your parents not to put knives or knife tools in your lunch box, pencil case or craft kit.
- Contact your teacher if you are being bullied or threatened at school.
- Immediately tell a teacher or adult if you think someone has a knife at school, or if they say they will bring a knife to school.
- Immediately tell a teacher if a student is threatening anyone with an object that could injure them.

Matthew Horton
Acting Principal
Reminder Announcement

The annual School Opinion Survey will be occurring in our school this week and next week. The Parent/Caregiver Survey will be sent home to families early next week, which can be completed either online or using the paper form provided. Selected students will complete their survey online at school and all school staff will be provided with access details to complete their survey online. All survey participants are encouraged to complete their survey next week to ensure that their opinion is included in our schools’ reports, which we will receive later this year. Survey queries can be directed to our school on 0749667111 or email the.principal@miranishs.eq.edu.au

School Improvement Working Group

Mirani State High School will welcome their first cohort of year 7 students in 2015. In preparation for their arrival, a team of teachers have been working together to ensure this transition is successful. One of the main focuses of the team is to create a safe and supportive environment for the Junior School students. On Wednesday 14th August (Week 6), Mirani SHS will host a Subject Selection night for interested parents. At this event, information will also be presented informing of the team’s progress and parents will have the opportunity to vote for or against a Junior School uniform for Years 7, 8 & 9. Further information will also be uploaded on our school website throughout the term regarding the proposed junior uniform and designs. So stay tuned! Look out for more information in the next newsletter.

Change Response Committee - School Improvement Working Group.

Environmental News

The Environmental Green Team now meets on Wednesdays at 10.30am in B block staff room. The Environmental Group is about to go back to the river bank to continue working on our projects for our Reef Guardianship Program. If your son or daughter would like to join this project please contact Val Clark or Kellie Woodford at the school.

Lost Property

The school has accumulated a large amount of lost property. On Monday 29 July all items in the lost property bin will be displayed outside the Administration block for students and parents to view and collect. There are some quite expensive items so please ensure your student checks that he/she has not lost anything. You, as a parent, are very welcome to come to the school and check all lost property.

Champion Effort

I would like to recognise the outstanding efforts of year 10 student Jack Everett. Jack competed in the Queensland State Hunter Class Championships at George Range from Thursday the 13th June to Sunday the 16th June. In the Rim Fire Category, Jack competed against 28 juniors and seniors and achieved a gold medal in the junior category. He came 14th overall, meaning he outclassed many senior competitors. Jack also competed in the Centre Fire Category and achieved a Gold Medal. Our sincere congratulations to Jack.

Calendar of Events

23/07 Yr 11 Land Art Excursion
26/07 Yr 11/12 Drama Workshop
29/07 Yr 11 Flexi Work Week
01/08 Westpac Mathematics Competition
02/08 Newsletter / School Social
06/08 Year 8 Sports Day
08/08 Parent/Teacher Interviews
**Out & About with Val**

**PIONEER VALLEY SHOW**

Many students from Mirani High help out with the setting up of the Pioneer Valley Show at Finch Hatton, working during the day and cleaning up after the event. I am sure that the organisers are grateful to our school students for the wonderful contribution that they make to ensure the event is a success. Thanks to Ms Keehn and Mr Rosier for your support.

Special mention must also be made of the teachers who take the time to man the school stall in the main hall. (Ms Sievers, Ms Glynn, Ms Heggie, Mrs Klarenbeck, Mrs Nash and Mrs Clark). A big thank you for making sure our school is represented. Thanks also to the teachers and students from Special Needs, Media, Visual Arts and Manual Arts teachers who provided the display materials. It was amazing work.

**CHEERLEADING**

Our cheerleaders were asked to perform in the main arena at the Pioneer Valley Show. Their performance was fast, furious and fantastic. The lifts excited the audience and the girls did a wonderful job. Thanks to all for your hard work and dedication. Thanks also to Mrs Cowper and Mr Fergus for your training.

**ROCK POP MIME**

Please come and support our students at the Lions Rock Pop Mime Show on Saturday 27th July. The high School section starts at 7.30 p.m. and our school is No 8. It is a great presentation. Come along to the new sound shell at the Botanical Gardens.

Val Clark
HoD Social Sciences/Music/Dance
Laptop Update

All year 9, 10 and 11 students now have access to a laptop that they can have all day at school. A large proportion of students have opted into the take home model, which means they get to take their computer home. A smaller number are borrowing laptops on a day to day basis.

With the large number of laptops in circulation there are a number of management concerns. Students in the take home program are expected to bring their laptop to school every day, fully charged and in the protective case. Under NO circumstances are students to bring their chargers to school. We will not accept any responsibility for chargers that are misplaced or lost at school.

Students must have the laptop in the protective case at all times. Failure to do so may result in any damages noted as negligent. This means that the parents/students will have to pay for the repairs.

All laptops and batteries are covered by a manufacturer’s warranty which covers manufacturing defects through normal usage. In addition, laptops are covered by an insurance policy which protects against accidental damage. There is no cover for negligence, abuse or malicious damage. Students will be required to replace lost or damaged chargers. Costs incurred by the school for the repair or replacement of devices may be charged by the school as an excess to parents.

Students and parents need to be very clear about the expectations with these laptops, especially in terms of damage and repair.

Students are urged NOT to have anything in the protective case; this includes earphones, pens, and USBs. All of these have the potential to break the screen. Screen repairs can cost upwards from $50 per instance.

Here are some tips for caring for your laptop:

- Don’t use technology devices on soft surfaces (e.g. sofa, bed or carpet) because it can restrict airflow and cause overheating.

- Avoid dropping or bumping technology devices.

- Always shut down computers through the ‘Start – Shutdown’ mechanism.

- Always package, carry and store technology devices in appropriate and secure carry cases for transporting.

- Personalise technology devices with methods approved by the school, to ensure students do not get the devices mixed-up.

- Don’t place objects on top of your laptop and never carry it around while it is turned on.

- LCD screens are delicate - they don’t like being poked, prodded, pushed or slammed. Never pick up your laptop by its screen. Don’t slam the screen closed and always be gentle when putting your Try to avoid moving your laptop around when it is on. Before switching on, gently place your laptop on a stable surface and then switch on.

Kirschty Birt
HoD ICT/TL
Year 10
Year 10 placements forms (yellow forms) were due back to Mrs Post by Friday 19th July. Please ensure your student has completed all information required and has returned to the school.

Holiday Work Experience
Students wishing to partake in work experience during the September holidays must collect a placement form from Mrs Post and have it returned at least 3 weeks prior to the end of term. This is essential to enable sufficient time to arrange placements, paperwork and employer interviews. No holiday placement requests will be accepted after the last week in August.

Congratulations....
Well done to the following students who have been signed to School Based Apprenticeships – Matthew Cook (Cert II Kitchens Operations) and Georgia Davies (Cert III – Hospitality) - Magpies Sporting Club; Ryan Horder (Cert II Kitchens Operations) – Harrup Park; Hayden Zarb (Cert III – Engineering Mechanical Trade (Maintenance - Fitting and Turner) – Jennmar Qld; Anne - Marie Zarb (Cert III Hairdressing) – Calen Hair and Beauty; Jack Webster (Cert III Cabinetmaking - Kitchens & Bathrooms) – Wiltone Woodwork.
A huge thank you to employers for recognising the potential in these students and allowing them the opportunity to secure a start to their future careers.

Cathryn Post
Senior School Teacher Aide

Trainee & Apprentice Intake 2014
Kick start your career!

Open the door to your future...

From July 19 to August 8, Mackay Regional Council will advertise the following traineeships and apprenticeships for late 2013 or early 2014 start:

- 1 Local Government (Reg Services) > 10 Business
- 2 Civil Construction > 1 Library (Info Services)
- 2 Retail Operations > 1 Warehousing Operations
- 2 Live Production, Theatre/Events > 1 Arborist (Tree Surgeon)
- 2 Conservation & Land Management > 2 Mechanical
- 1 Information, Digital Media and Technology

For further information and to apply:
Ph Cloe Schultz on 1300 MACKAY (622 529)
Or visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au
Hi

Crikey! It’s Week 3 already! Welcome back for Semester 2. For some there’s cause for panic, for others it’s ‘Business as Usual’ but for some it’s “Game-On”. The count-down for 2013 is underway. Now is the time to make a stand and ‘go-for-broke’ to get the best out of yourself, your teachers and what’s left of this school year. Don’t wait, start today to do better. Surprise yourself; make a PLAN then action it, make 2013 the “Year You Finished Well”.

You like chocolate right? All things in moderation of course but treating yourself to some fundraising chokies this Term will help 2, perhaps 3 students go on a Youth Adventures mission to Palm Island to help out on community projects over there. There might be a BBQ or 2 organised as well to raise funds & lower the costs for the students to travel away. Please consider supporting these students financially If you would like more information about the adventure just ask.

As you may be aware, Walkerston State School sadly lost 2 girls in a holiday traffic accident. Their mum is still in hospital. The Pioneer Valley Chaplaincy was able to help the school in supporting those who have been upset by this tragedy and that’s all because you support us so we can be there for those in need. Thank you.

Rex the Chappie

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**Mackay State High School England Tour Cent Sale**

**Mackay State High School England Tour Students are holding a Cent Sale to assist in their fundraising.**

**Where:** Mackay State High School  
**When:** Sunday 4th August.  
**Time:** 1pm for a 1.30pm start.  
**Events:** 200 prizes to be won, 2 x NRL Tickets (Lucky Door prize), State of Origin Commemorative Jersey raffle to be won. Smoko Available - $3 plate (sandwich, cake, hot beverage). Soft drinks are also available.

**Come along and enjoy!!**
**Tongue Print**
Don't stick out your tongue if you want to hide your identity. Similar to fingerprints, everyone also has a unique tongue print!

**Shedding**
Your pet isn't the only one in the house with a shedding problem. Humans shed about 600,000 particles of skin every hour. That works out to about 1.5 pounds each year, so the average person will lose around 105 pounds of skin by age 70.

**Scent Remembering**
Your nose is not as sensitive as a dog's, but it can remember 50,000 different scents.

**Bacteria**
This will really make your skin crawl: Every square inch of skin on the human body has about 32 million bacteria on it, but fortunately, the vast majority of them are harmless.

**Sneeze Speed**
The air from a human sneeze can travel at speeds of 100 miles per hour or more -- another good reason to cover your nose and mouth when you sneeze -- or duck when you hear one coming your way.

**Blood Distance**
Blood has a long road to travel: Laid end to end, there are about 60,000 miles of blood vessels in the human body. And the hard-working heart pumps about 2,000 gallons of blood through those vessels every day.

Doro Kollman
Youth Health Nurse

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**BSHS 50th Anniversary**
**WE EXTEND AN INVITATION**

- To reminisce and join us in celebration of our school milestone
- Community Tours at 8.00am.
- Celebrations at school from 11.00am to 11.00pm
- Displays / Memories / Entertainment
  - Great Food / Friendship
- RSVP or Contact: 0487 432 752 or biloelahigh50years@gmail.com

ALL WELCOME  
Saturday August 17