Anzac Day School Service

Anzac Day marks a special time in our school. On Friday 22nd April, students gathered to remember not only those who fought and died at Gallipoli but also those who served and gave their lives on the Western Front in Belgium and France.

Special guests including Leading Aircraft Woman Tegan Ahwong from the RAAF Base in Townsville, Councillor Greg Williamson (Mayor of Mackay Regional Council), members of the Finch Hatton, Kuttabul, Marian, Mirani and Walkerston RSL sub-branches, residents of Nanyima Aged Care Centre and their carers, Pastor Paul Frangos from Pioneer Family Christian Church, Mrs Kylie Leahy, (President of our P and C), parents and grandparents were welcomed by Cara Rostirolla, one of our school captains.

One of our guest speakers was our cultural captain, Alana McAnulty. Kaitlyn Douglas, Aimee Kersey and Katie Morrow as well as Alana chaired the proceedings. This year, our new Marching Band, welcomed the official party and then joined the Concert Band to play the Anthem and Hymns. Mirani High Vocal Group sang “Can you Hear our Heroes Marching”. Gabrielle Dhu, one of our Year 8 students played “The Last Post” and “Reveille”. Keflen Elias gave a reading and Hayden Cox recited the Ode.

After giving the Vote of Thanks, school captain, Louise Costelloe, led the official party to lay wreaths at the base of the flag. Standing attention in the guard party were students of our school who are members of the Army Cadets.
Welcome to Mirani State High School P&C’s first newsletter for 2016! We would like to introduce our committee.

- Kylie Leahy - President
- Robyn Creese - Vice President
- Andrea Stroppiana - Treasurer
- Caroline Stratford - Secretary

Your P&C has been fundraising and saving money for over 10 years to contribute towards the fitting out of our magnificent new school and community hall. We should be very proud of what previous parent contributions have achieved. Over $200,000 has been committed to school projects during this time and much of this will be directed towards lighting, sound systems, curtains, floor matting etc to benefit our students in all curriculum areas. It will be used for Arts (drama, cheer leading, school bands), various school sports as well as community sports and events.

Without your family’s $50 contribution per year, the long term plan to improve and maintain this fantastic asset will not be achievable.

We appreciate that times are tough and families are struggling but many parents believe that paying around $1 per school week is preferable to supporting multiple fundraising events throughout the year. The school office can also take part payments each term. Remember we are all working towards giving our students the best education and opportunities possible. Thanks!

What your $50 contribution also helps pay for...
- $30,000 proposed for laser cutter for Manual Arts students
- All Tuckshop wages
- $10,000 towards wages for Mr Perna (your student’s computer technician)
- $2500 for 3 year Scholarships for Junior & Senior students

PLEASE DON’T FORGET TO PAY YOUR FUNDRAISING LEVY! ONLY $50 PER FAMILY FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR! NO EXTRA FUNDRAISING REQUIRED!

MEETINGS
- 2nd Tues of the month
- 7pm in staff room
- Friendly atmosphere
- Come along & find out what’s happening in your child’s school!

Term 2 Meeting Dates:
Tues 10th May & Tues 14th June

PLEASE MAKE YOUR $50 CONTRIBUTION TO:
Mirani SHS School Office (Cash, cheque, eftpos)

$190,000 EAR MARKED FOR SCHOOL HALL!

P&C FUNDRAISING LEVY

PAID

NOT PAID

Check out Mirani State High School’s (Government Organisation) Facebook page to keep up to date with school news!
Your money will help purchase...

- Sound system
- Lighting system
- Stage curtains
- Rubber mats to protect the floor
- Various sports equipment
- Teachers wish lists!!
Principal Report

The 2016 year is passing quickly, as we are now already three weeks into the second half of Semester 1. Students have received their Semester 1 reports and parent/teacher interviews have been held. Thank-you to all parents that attended, or have been in contact with their child’s teachers as education is a partnership between home and the school.

The report card shows your child’s ‘achievement’ to date, ‘behaviour’ and ‘effort’. The most important of these is the ‘effort’ column as it shows if your student is maximising their opportunity to learn. It must be noted that although students may be well-behaved and working hard, the ‘achievement’ standard may be different as this is measured against a national standard.

The reports give a point in time measure and there should be no surprises as teachers are expected to contact parents if a student’s progress isn’t satisfactory. It is critical that students seek feedback and know explicitly what they need to do to improve their achievement even if they are already have achieved an A standard.

This term although longer will also pass quickly and it is important to remember that, “Every-day counts”. Ensure your child attends school every-day possible to maximise their future.

Regards
Scott Cage

Deputy Principal News

Last year I wrote about bullying and resilience. A reminder that bullying should not be confused with teasing, rejection or random acts of physicality and conflict. Bullying is about a lack of power. Bullying is the selective, uninvited, repetitive (repeated) oppression of one person by another person or group.

Resilience is the key to helping your child cope with bullying type behaviours. Resilience will also enable your child to understand the difference between bullying and one-off behaviours or friendship issues. More and more, teachers and administrators are spending valuable time investigating alleged bullying incidents which in actual fact are minor behaviour or friendship issues, which may have been sorted out easily in the first instance.

I need to speak about a couple of issues which are of concern around bullying and perceived bullying:

Social Media - More and more, students are using social media as a vehicle to harass and intimidate others. Generally this behaviour manifests itself outside of school hours however it invariably ends up becoming a problem at school. Many of the students involved in this type of negative behaviour don’t have the maturity or social skills to engage with social media.

Many adolescents are given unlimited access to mobile devices and data usage. This, coupled with lack of supervision, will consistently lead to some form of social/friendship issue.

Communication – some students are not following the communication process when it comes to bullying or perceived bullying. Often the school isn’t aware of the issue until we hear from a parent. Students are reminded regularly to report bullying type behaviour to a teacher or administration member.

Please speak to your child about speaking to an adult at school if they have any concerns regarding bullying.

Michael Post
POSITION VACANT

MIRANI STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Permanent Computer Technician (T03)

36.25 hours per week

Applicants are required to obtain a copy of the Application Package the school office. The package includes a detailed position description and key capabilities which must be addressed in order to be considered for the position. Please include your current resume, with your application and provide the names and contact details of two current referees.

The suitable applicant would require the following skills and knowledge:
• Technical knowledge of server hardware and configuration, and networking peripherals.
• Sound ability and relevant recent experience in the management and administration of Local Area Networks and an understanding of the principles of Wide Area Networks.
• A good understanding of PC desktop and printer support.
• Sound experience and working knowledge in the Windows desktop operating environment – Windows 7 and Microsoft Windows XP.
• Experience using remote support tools to support servers and workstations remotely.

A mandatory requirement of this role is:
• T03 appointees must possess a diploma qualification relevant to the tasks outlined, from a recognised tertiary institution or qualification which, in the opinion of the Director-General, Department of Education, Training and Employment or delegate is acceptable.

Applications are to be returned by 3 pm Tuesday 3rd May 2016 marked “Confidential” to:-
The Business Services Manager, PO Box 58, MIRANI QLD 4754 or email – 2117_bsm@miranishs.eq.edu.au

• prospective employees must make application for, and be able to obtain, a suitability card from the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian
• the successful applicant may be subject to a probationary period.

“The Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000 requires the preferred applicant to be subject to employment screening.”
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply
Email Addresses

If you do not have access to an email account, hard copies can be picked up by you or your student from the front office or the Mirani Post Office.

If you have not already given the school your email address and you would like to receive newsletters by email, please let the school know.

Alternatively, newsletters will be put on our website which we encourage you to visit.  http://www.miranishs.eq.edu.au/

Student Messages:

Mirani State High School DOES NOT have a pager system for students. Please arrange with your child prior to school any changes or appointments to their day. Only emergent messages will be delivered to students.

Thankyou for your assistance in this matter.

English Tutoring

English Tutoring is on Wednesday and Thursday from 3.15 to 4.15pm in the Library. Students can receive assistance with homework and assignments.

Calendar at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27th – 29th April</td>
<td>Yr 12 Biology Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd May</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd – 13th May</td>
<td>Yr 12 Flexi Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th – 13th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th May</td>
<td>Yr 8 Vaccinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th May</td>
<td>Yr 7 Vaccinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th – 20th May</td>
<td>Yr 10 Work Experience</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maths Tutoring

Need extra help with your homework, revision or assignments? Then Maths tutoring is the place for you!

Maths tutoring sessions are run every week on the following days:

Tuesday; Wednesday; Thursday  3:10 – 4:00pm in D04

Flood Conditions

The school does NOT close during flood conditions in the shire. Those students who are not flood bound and are able to make their way to school are required to do so. Individual bus companies make the decision as to whether a particular route will run during flood conditions. If rain is so heavy through any school day that some bus routes are likely to be flooded, individual bus companies may decide to pick students up early from the school. When the buses will be departing school early due to wet weather, parents will be notified by phone.

Parents are advised to listen to local radio stations for any bus companies who have cancelled bus runs.

Current information can also be found on the school’s Facebook page.

Attention Parents/Caregivers

Students who are unwell

We have recently had a number of incidents where parents have arrived at the school office looking for their student 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 and the student is not in sick bay under the care of a staff member.

When this situation arises, admin staff will NOT go and find the student. We remind you: Please instruct your student 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.
Art Donations Required

If you have any of the following items listed or other items you are able to donate to the ART department please contact us.

- Old pots / items
- Wrapping tissue
- Magazines / old books or music sheets
- Some new papers
- Wire etc

Regards
Sharon Anderson
Teacher - smand4@eq.edu.au
Mirani SHS

NEWS FLASH !!!!!
SMS Notification of Student Absences

Starting mid April 2016 Mirani SHS will be implementing a new messaging system. If your child is away unexplained, an SMS will be sent to your mobile phone. You will receive a text message on the day of the absence, advising you of your child’s absence and asking that you reply with a reason for this absence.

If you have already notified the school about why your child is absent, you will not receive a text.

Numbers for contacting Mirani SHS –

Absentee Line 49 667 160
Absentee Text 61 429 699 120

Please advise your:

- students name
- date and
- reason for absence
Artist’s on the Path

Mackay Show

Are you an Artist and would like to give your time to help raise funds for a great cause.
Depression and Suicide – The Black Dog

Last year we had several Artists donate their time and talent to paint murals onto corrugated panels. These murals will be displayed once again this year, as a thank you to the Artists who took part last year.

There are donation tins at each site, where patrons can place donations.

The Artists raised several hundred dollars last year and this went to a local charity.

If you would like more information about this event you can contact:
Kim Brett – office@mackayshow.com.au or 0749573916
Catherine Dowden - ijesaby@mcs.net.au
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, Mirani or Northern Beaches SHS?
- Are you interested in trying boiler-making, 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
- Tour Dalrymple Bay 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.eq.edu.au](http://www.mec.eq.edu.au)
This will be my last school newsletter article as I am returning to work at community health in Mackay as a Child Health Nurse. I would like to thank students and staff for their support over the last two years that I have been at Mirani State High School. If you have any concerns about the health and well-being of a student and would like to speak to a nurse please contact Belinda Van Hees (49667111) who will be filling in until a new permanent nurse is appointed.

I have recently been made aware of the high incidence of Dental Decay in the Mackay region so will leave you with the following health message.

Tooth extraction is a leading cause of children and teenagers requiring surgery in Australia. Approximately half of Queensland’s children have experienced dental disease by six years of age. Many parents think that older children and teenagers will clean their teeth twice a day without reminders. Sadly this is not the case. Despite being well on the way to adulthood and spending a lot of time (and money) on cosmetics and hair, teenagers frequently neglect their teeth.

Parents need to establish good teeth cleaning routines early on in a child’s life and continue to give reminders frequently even in the teenage years. Setting a good example by cleaning and flossing at least twice a day as well as having regular dental checks is equally important. Limiting drinks containing sugar (including fruit juice) and ensuring that the family drinks water after eating will help to protect teeth. Our teeth need to last us a lifetime which could be 100 years for the current generation of young people. Dental procedures due to neglected teeth can be costly and decaying teeth are not only painful but set up an inflammatory response in the body which can have secondary complications such as gum disease or heart damage.

Children aged 2-17 years may be eligible for up to $1000 for basic dental services. Prevention is better than trying to cure a dental health problem. For more information visit the Queensland Health Department website: www.health.qld.gov.au or contact your family dentist.

Trixie Mills (SBYHN)

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Work experience agreements were issued to your year 10 student on Tuesday 19th April 2016.

Students are now required to contact their employer to arrange a suitable time for an interview and have their agreement signed. As this is their work experience, please encourage and support your student to make this contact themselves. Employers appreciate this level of maturity and independence.

Information regarding work hours and suitable attire etc are to be discussed at this time. Feedback from employers is that they prefer the student to take the initiative and ask questions regarding their work experience.

Students unable to attend any day of their work experience due to sickness are required to contact their employer as soon as possible and advise Mrs Post on 49667104 or leave a message with front office on 49667111

Students are NOT to have the Principal’s sign their agreement.

Agreements are to be returned with 3 signatures only direct to Mrs Post on or before TUESDAY 3rd MAY 2016.

Enjoy your week of work experience year 10’s and I look forward to hearing positive comments from you and your employer on your return to school.

Cathryn Post
Work Experience Coordinator.
Hi,

What a cool change and a long weekend as the days get shorter – autumn’s here! Reports are out and some were pretty happy with better results than they were expecting. You’ve just missed the Pioneer Valley Chaplaincy Committee’s April meeting. Our next one is Term 3 July. We’d love to have more parent reps contribute. Many thanks to our current committee members for their wonderful support for the services operating in schools from Walkerston to Eungella.

At Mirani, Chappie Games is creating One-Week Champions at Chess, Uno, Goblett, Jenga and Connect 4 to name just a few of the non-electronic board-games available. Chappie Chat is teasing out what ‘Scruples’ are and my visits to the S.E.U. are very enjoyable.

This term with excellent support from Clint the groundsman, Wayne the janitor and our Guidance Officer, a group of Yr 7’s are the “A2B Boys”. We’re building teamwork, trust, respect and problem-solving capacity over the next 8 weeks. Thank you Mr Cage for the Pizza’s!

Cheers in Christ
Rex the Chappie

What’s in a word, you might ask. If you asked Year 12 student, Amy-Jo Stroppiana, she would be able to tell you that words are our most powerful tools, to entertain, to persuade and to argue a point of view... and now it is official. Amy-Jo is pretty good at putting words together, as a recent entry in a literary competition, sponsored by Central Queensland University, led to her becoming a published author over the Easter vacation. Her work is featured in Central Queensland University’s literary publication, Idiom 23 (Volume 25). Not bad for a 17 year old. Even though Amy-Jo was a bit embarrassed when I hunted her down for a photo to accompany this report, her smile says it all and we are very proud of Amy-Jo and her excellent achievement. Congratulations, Amy-Jo!

Wendy Sievers
English HoD

P.S. If you would like to read Amy-Jo’s multi-voice narrative, A Darker Shade of Black, it will soon be available in our Library.
Term 1 ended on a high with our annual cross country carnival being held on the last day of school. We had an assortment of events from cabbage ball to 4-legged races, as well as our traditional competitive events. All students that attended demonstrated Valley Pride and it was great to see everyone giving their best. The students aged 13 and older that finished in the top 6 of their age group are eligible to attend the Mackay District Trials on Monday 16th May. Twelve year-olds have the PV trials on Wednesday 4th May. The points for overall champion house are extremely close so participation in the athletics carnival at the end of this term will be crucial. See below for the all-important results and age champions:

**Age Champions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nadia Maritz</td>
<td>Dylan Kay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Safire Smith</td>
<td>Kodie Stebbeings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Chloe Findlay</td>
<td>Ashton Scriha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Rachel Silvestri</td>
<td>Kelly Siemer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Mikaela Gee</td>
<td>Kendall Bates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Courtney Perna</td>
<td>Brandon Twomey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**House Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Aquila</td>
<td>869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Pegasus</td>
<td>786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Orion</td>
<td>735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Taurus</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to the following students on their selection in the Capricornia School team for their respective sports. Mikaela Gee will take up a position in the Open Girls Touch football side to compete at the State titles in Toowoomba in June. Baylin Callander will represent the 12 years Capricornia soccer side at his upcoming state titles. Congratulations and good luck to these students.

A huge congratulations and best wishes also goes to Kayle Pick who is travelling to Taiwan in May to represent the Australian U16 futsal side. He will be competing in two weeks of competition – a fantastic achievement. Well done Kayle!

**ATTENTION RUGBY LEAGUE FANS:** U13 Mirani SHS schoolboys are playing the curtain raiser game for Mackay Cutters v Ipswich Jets this Friday 29th May. The school game kicks off at 5:15pm followed by the main game at 7pm. A small charge of $5 gets you in the gate for both games. It would be fantastic to get as much support as possible for the boys. We hope to see you there!

Brianna Clancy