From the Principal

Firstly I would like to welcome back students and families for a new school year! I have felt very welcome in the community since I started and was pleased to see so many faces come to greet me at the school.

A little about myself: I am originally from Brisbane and while there I was teaching in Brisbane, Ipswich and Logan, spanning all the way from Kindergarten to Year 7. Last year I was Teaching Principal at Mackenzie River SS and came to love the job and working in small schools. I am very excited to be at Pinnacle and can’t wait to see the school and the students thrive.

We have many exciting events planned for the year and some excellent new plans for curriculum and learning. These first few weeks are about assessing students’ current understandings so we can build on the learning at their level. If you would like to know more about the new programs I am putting in place, please come to the information session on Thursday afternoon at 3.30pm (5/2/15).

Parade

We have decided to change the school parade time to 9:00am Friday mornings. If you would like to attend please feel free to join us. This Friday on parade we will be announcing our school leaders for 2015.

Please feel free to call or drop in before/after school if you have any questions or concerns.

Leah Mullane

***Students of the Week***

Congratulations to the following students:

James Meier and Ellie Parkins – A great start to Pinnacle State School!

Happy Birthday to

Sally-Anne for 8th January
Jarvis for 2nd February
Talia for 10th February

SMOKING BANNED 5 METRES AROUND SCHOOL GROUNDS

Smoking any tobacco products or using an electronic cigarette within five metres of any state or private school grounds has been banned. This applies before, during and after school hours as well as over weekends and school holidays.

On the spot fines can be issued by environmental health officers, police or other officers authorised by the local government to anyone found in breach of this legislation. The ban does not extend to businesses or residences that share a property boundary with a school.

Smokers are asked to put out your cigarette and dispose of the litter thoughtfully well before you reach the school boundary.


Safety Circus

The P – Year 7 students will be attending the Safety Circus on this Thursday 19th February at 9.00am sharp at Finch Hatton State School.

“Safety Circus 2014” is a dynamic applied Theatre production for students presented in school. The key messages are based on protective behaviours, bike safety and bullying strategies.

Mackay CQU university students studying Bachelor of Theatre at CQ Conservatorium of Music will perform this production to schools in the Mackay areas.

Parents are reminded that Parking in the School Grounds endangers the safety of your children and is not permitted.

PERMISSION FORMS 2015
Permission Form for 2015 is attached to the newsletter, please complete the form indicating whether permission is given or not, sign and return to the school office by Wednesday 11th February. Many thanks for your prompt attention to these forms as they are required to update your child’s records.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE ASSISTANCE
Conveyance Allowance is an assistance provided by the Department Transport and Main Roads to eligible parents/guardians who drive their students to school or to the route of a school bus. There are several types of Conveyance allowance available. These are determined by the type of school attended, distance driven to school or bus route and the type of school bus service (if any) provided in your area. Application forms with further details are available by calling the Translink Division of the Department of Transport and Main Roads in Nelson Street, Mackay or by telephoning 49518673.

SCHOOL BUS ASSISTANCE FOR LOWER INCOME FAMILIES
The Safety Net Scheme was developed by the State Government to assist students who do not receive other forms of School Transport Assistance and are members of lower income families.

Who may be Eligible?
To be eligible for assistance under the Safety Net Scheme, students must be in one of the following categories:

- Students of families eligible for a Health Care Card;
- Students eligible for a Health Care Card;
- Students of families eligible for a Pensioner Concession Card;
- Students of families receiving Veterans Affairs Pension;
- Students placed under a Care and Protection Order.

Applications forms with further details are available by calling into the Translink Division of the Department of Transport and Main Roads in Nelson Street, Mackay or by telephoning 49518673.

School Reminders
Ø Broad Brim Hats must be worn at all times for outdoor activities.
Ø Water Bottles only allowed in class.
Ø Art Shirts are needed for art activities and are to be named and left at school
Ø Children are not to arrive at school before 8.00am – if no staff are present, please wait with your child.
Ø School finishes at 3.00pm - if you are unavoidably detained after school, please ring the school and advise time for collection of your child.

SCHOOL ABSENCES
***Could all parents please ensure that the school is notified if your child is away with the reason by a phone call by 10am so the correct information can be entered on the Roll. If we are not notified of the reason for your child’s absence it will be recorded as ‘unexplained’ and thus on the report to Central Office in Brisbane for reporting to the Australian Government.

School Jewellery/Make-up Policy
Students are reminded of the School Jewellery Policy. Jewellery must not be worn to school for safety reasons. Only jewellery items permitted are signet rings, medical identification bracelets, plain sleepers or stud earrings and watches. No makeup or nail polish should be worn to school.

Community News
Pioneer Valley Sporting Association Thursday Morning Ladies Tennis Fixtures commencing Thursday 5 March 2015. No experience necessary, great morning of fun & exercise. 8.30 am Start. Yearly membership $33 & Game fees $7 each week. Registrations to be in by Friday 13 February 2015. Any enquiries contact Lisa Zarb P: 0427705280 or E: lizazarb@bigpond.com Kind Regards Lisa Zarb

Mackay Athletics Club
run jump throw
Sign-on and Information Day
Saturday 21 February 2015
Anytime between 10am-2pm
Mackay State High School,
Via English or Penn Sts, Mackay
Ages from 5 to Masters
1st club day, Saturday 28 February
Trial period only $10.00 for two weeks
www.mackayathletics.com.au
for more information or call
James on 0431 973 129
New members to bring a copy of Birth Certificate for sighting.