COMMUNITY NEWS

THE VALLEY DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL
presents…. ‘It’s About Time!!!
Please support our talented local kids and enjoy an evening of songs, dances, skits and stories at the Pinnacle Playhouse - Friday 7th and Saturday 8th October. Doors open at 7 pm with the performance commencing at 7.30 pm. Adults $25, Children, Students & Pensioners $10. Tickets are available at the Mirani Office of Mackay Regional Council (open 9-4 Mon-Fri) or at the Playhouse door on the night. For further information please email michelle.strachan@mackay.qld.gov.au or call 0447 690 136. Thank you for your support!

PLATYPUS PLAYCARE—Position Available
Assistant Director—Casual rates 18 hours per fortnight—Contract until December 2016. At Platypus Playcare Limited Hours Care at Eungella, a position has become available for an experienced Educator to join the Center. As Assistant Director you will be working together with the Director developing and implementing a suitable Program for the children. For further information, please contact Director Julie McEvoy—Phone 0417284864 / 49584772—Email ppc@eungella.com—Applications close Friday 23rd September 2016.

Swimming
Details about swimming in Term 4 will be sent out early next term. We will be swimming from weeks 5-9 on Fridays at the Mirani Pool.

Halloween Disco
We have decided to again hold the Halloween Disco here at Pinnacle SS. We have invited students from Finch Hatton, North Eton, Eungella and Gargett. Information about the night is provided inside. It should be an excellent night!

Mirani State High School Year 7 Transition Dates
Year 7 Parent Information Evening: Tuesday October 11 – School Tour 5.30pm Information Session 6.00pm Ylead for Year 6 students: Wednesday October 12 at MSHS Orientation Day: Wednesday November 30 at MSHS Enrolment Interviews: Monday November 21 – Friday December 2

Important Dates
Great to see such excellent attendance rates with such high improvement from earlier this term! We were sitting at 88% attendance earlier in the term. We now have risen to 94.4. This is a HUGE achievement. I congratulate all the students for remembering that every day counts!

HORSE RIDING LESSONS—GARGETT
Leaning to ride - Getting back in the saddle
Improve your Riding Skill
ALL AGES WELCOME - $40 PER HOUR
SATURDAY MORNINGS - Ph: 49585175

SWIMMING LESSONS - GARGETT
ALL AGES - Water Safety - Water Familiarisation & Buoyancy - Stroke Development & Correction
Ausswim Credited Teacher - Ph: 49585175

Pinnacle Post

From the Principal

Fun Run
This morning we held the fun run at the school. We set up a course of 980m around the oval and we each set goals for how many laps we would like to do in 1 hr. Well done to our prize winners who completed the most laps. 3-6: Sam Frost & Jayda Wragstaff and P-2 Taj Provera. Everyone was able to relax afterwards with an ice block. We were all so impressed with the persistence of each and every student! Great job everyone!

QSR
Next term we will begin the process of updating our school plan. This is part of the Quadrennial School Review Process. At this time we will be seeking feedback from staff, students, parents and community members to help plan the future direction of the school. Notice of the first meeting will go out next term. I strongly encourage all parents to attend as this allows you to have your say in the direction of the school and the priorities that will be focused on for the next four years. I look forward to hearing all the great insights that will be shared during this process.

NEWSLETTER NO 14

16/9 Last Day of School—Ice Cream & Movie Party
3/10 First day Term 4
17/10 Pupil Free Day
28/10 Halloween Disco
30/10 Bunnings BBQ

Attendance Rate

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Robotics & Coding

Many families would have heard about the STEM initiative put out by the government. This initiative is based on building children’s skills for the jobs of the future. The focus is on building skills in science, mathematics and technology. As part of this initiative, Pinnacle State School has decided to begin teaching some robotics and coding. Next term this will be offered as one of the Friday afternoon interest clubs, though we already know we have a few students interested!

Our main focus in the lower school will be on basic coding skills. This is about using technology to create a code for something to happen. We will be using the new OSMO technology for the iPad. This involves using a set of bricks to code a little monster on the iPad around a maze.

For more information on the OSMO coding program see:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9Qm18it47A

In the upper school we will be focusing on coding and designing robots. The students will be using the small Edison robot. Using the robot students can work on a computer program from which they can code the behavior of the robot. This may mean coding it do drive around, flash lights, play tunes etc. This program builds on from the basic coding as it allows students to design their own pathways for controlling the robot.

When students become more proficient in coding the robot, they will be able to use lego pieces to build different pieces. When this is built, they can code 2 separate robots to make their new creation move, such as hockey playing robots or diggers.

There are also many other multiple ways in which these robots can be used such as detecting and following lines and following sound commands.

For more information on the Edison robot see:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vakmVoFYgHGs

Literacy Continuum & Writing Continuum

Last year we began the implementation of the writing continuum. This allowed students autonomy in deciding their own writing goals for the day and what they would work on to improve. It also allowed students to track themselves along the continuum seeing visual proof of their improvement in writing.

Next term we will begin tracking all literacy skills across the new literacy continuum. This will allow students to track their improvement and make goals for vocabulary, reading, phonemic awareness, oral language, and more. A copy of writing continuum is below. This you can use to discuss with your child which areas they are working on and what their goals are for continued improvement. If you would like a copy of the whole literacy continuum please let us know.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>I can create a text. I can explain the meaning of my writing. I can correctly form some letters. I can write simple sentences. I can re-read consistently. I can correctly spell sight words. I use a letter for each sound in a word.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>I can write 1 full page. I can publish my work. I can edit my work. I can write using speech marks, commas and apostrophes. I can check that my sentences make sense. I use complex sentences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>I can create paragraphs using main idea and supporting details. I use verb and noun groups. I use simple, compound and complex sentences. I edit using editing guide.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>I write paragraphs that show cause and effect, problem and solution, and comparison and contrast. I use pronouns to maintain cohesion. I use extended noun groups. I use adverbs or phrases to add detail to action. I use commas to join clauses. I correctly use question marks, exclamation marks, and quotation marks. I use a range of tier 2 vocabulary.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>I can plan before I write. I can explain who I am writing for and why. I can write with accurate spelling. I correctly use capital letters. I use a variety of verbs. I use conjunctions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>I can write 2 full pages. I can explain the meaning of my writing. I can correctly form some letters. I can write simple sentences. I can re-read consistently. I can correctly spell sight words. I use a letter for each sound in a word.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 7</td>
<td>I create a text. I can explain the meaning of my writing. I can correctly form some letters. I can write simple sentences. I can re-read consistently. I can correctly spell sight words. I use a letter for each sound in a word.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 8</td>
<td>I can write paragraphs using main idea and supporting details. I use verb and noun groups. I use simple, compound and complex sentences. I edit using editing guide.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 9</td>
<td>I write paragraphs that show cause and effect, problem and solution, and comparison and contrast. I use pronouns to maintain cohesion. I use extended noun groups. I use adverbs or phrases to add detail to action. I use commas to join clauses. I correctly use question marks, exclamation marks, and quotation marks. I use a range of tier 2 vocabulary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 10</td>
<td>I can plan before I write. I can explain who I am writing for and why. I can write with accurate spelling. I correctly use capital letters. I use a variety of verbs. I use conjunctions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 11</td>
<td>I can write 3 full pages. I can explain the meaning of my writing. I can correctly form some letters. I can write simple sentences. I can re-read consistently. I can correctly spell sight words. I use a letter for each sound in a word.</td>
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Students of the Week

Cierra Lewer—Working hard on the novel and film comparison.

Ella Frost—Great scientific problem solving.

Basket Filler:

Michela Lewer—Reading to the prep students.

Level 6

Level 7

Level 8

Level 9

Level 10

Level 11