PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

ABSOLUTELY fantastic, INSPIRING and well worth the investment of bringing the presenter up from Melbourne. That, was our teaching staff reaction to 7 Steps!

On Saturday our teachers and teacher aides participated in professional development focussing on The Teaching of Reading - 7 Steps to Writing Success. 7 Steps is a sequential approach to teaching writing which will be implemented in EVERY classroom from this week forward. It is our Whole School Approach to teaching Writing that can be easily applied to all writing genres (e.g. narrative, persuasive, etc.). Be ready for conversations with your children around the first Step we are introducing over the next fortnight – ‘Sizzling Starts’. Also a common theme through the 7 Steps Writing Process is ‘Ban the Boring’! Be sure to ask you child about 7 Steps this this week!
Parents, help your child’s writing development and overall literacy skills by:

- Taking an interest in your child’s literacy development and being positive about literacy
- Read TO / WITH / BY your children
- Turn off the screens (TV/ipads/computers/etc.) and have conversations around the dinner table to improve vocabulary and extend life experiences (writing base)

Last night we held our first P&C meeting for 2015 (including AGM). It was absolutely terrific and extremely encouraging to see some new faces in attendance, particularly new Prep parents. The committee truly hopes to see this continue. Huge thanks to the 2014 executive, especially Mick Morrow (President 2012 – 2014) and Jess Frater (Secretary 2012 – 2014) for their outstanding contribution to Mirani SS and its students (past, present & future)! All positions were filled, so congratulations to new and former members of the 2015 office bearers. They are:

- President – Murray Hall
- Vice President – Craig Watt
- Treasurer – Stacey Milne
- Secretary – Erin Bailey
- Tuckshop Convenor – Fiona Turner
- Uniform Shop Coordinator – Mel Johnston
- Grounds Coordinator – Shane Algate
- Fundraising Coordination – committee

Our first significant event for the year is our legendary TRIVIA NIGHT. It has been scheduled for **Friday March 27**. Circle it in your diary, start organising a team (6 per team) and get ready for a top night!

Further information will be provided in the coming weeks.

Finally, our school strives to communicate effectively and positively with parents/caregivers. As Principal I like to be available as much as possible. However, with 325 students and hundreds more parents and staff, we may not always be ‘immediately’ available. If you need to meet school administration for any matter that requires more than a quick chat, and is not absolutely urgent, please make an appointment. I mention ‘we’ quite deliberately as our Deputy Principal, Mr Brett De Boni, and I operate very much as a ‘Leadership Team’. So when requesting an appointment, unless specifically requiring either Brett or myself, please be aware your meeting may be with either Bruce or Brett. Similarly if your topic is more student/class based, your child’s teacher should be the first port of call in most circumstances.

Have ‘Sizzling Start’ to you week!

Cheers Bruce

**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK – 9th February 2015**

- **PREP W:** Cobi M-M. for resilience and perseverance in a sticky situation.
- **PM:** Seth C. for demonstrating perfect whole body listening.
- **1B:** Dominic S. for great work in reading comprehension.
- **1M:** Beau P. for good listening and following instructions.
- **2N:** Keyara M. for giving her best effort in all activities.
- **2S:** Archie W. for contributing positively to our class.
- **3L:** Emmy R. for great work in Maths.
- **3/4W:** Chelsea B. for a super work attitude to all class activities.
- **4J:** James P. for working tough with getting his writing tasks completed.
- **4/5D:** Sophie C. for being a great listener and having great organisational skills.
- **5B:** Tara C. for being an enthusiastic and focussed learner. Well Done!
- **5/6MD:** Liam C. for excellent manners and effort at school.
- **6/7H:** Baylin C. for consistently trying to do his best when completing class activities.

**MR T’S MIRANI MATES AWARDSEE – 9th February 2015**

- **ASHLEY M.** – A smart student who has sprung into her school sessions with a sparkle in her eye, a smile on her dial and a super sense of humour to boot! SENSATIONAL!
- **JETT C.** – A marvellous young man who has many mates at Mirani with his AWESOME attitude, COOL composure, POSITIVE personality and TOP-NOTCH team work. TOPS!
- **TEJAY H.** – A perky prep pupil who pounces on plenty of opportunities in his daily play and practice to impress ALL parties at Mirani SS – principal and peers included. Perfecto!
SCHOOL NEWS:

SPORT NEWS:

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND REGIONAL SHIELD
Mirani State School has nominated in the CQ shield for Netball and Rugby League for 2015. Nominations are open to students aged 11 – 12 years. If any students are interested in playing please see the ladies in the office. Thank you.

SCHOOL SWIMMING:
Mirani State School will continue the Swimming Program during Term 1 for all students in Years 3 – 6. A note will be sent home tomorrow with all the information that is required. Attached to the note will be the swimming invoices.

CROSS COUNTRY:
Mr Brown will commence training for any students who are interested in participating in the Pioneer Valley Cross Country. Training will begin 17th February 2015. If any students are interested a note will be coming home tomorrow.

FREE HOT SHOTS FOR PREP:
Would you like a free tennis racquet for your child? Mirani State School in partnership with ANZ Hot Shots will receive free racquets for every prep student if students register with Hot Shots. This can be completed online or by filling out the student registration form in today’s newsletter. As well ALL students from prep – 6 that register will receive a free ANZ Hot Shots shirt for signing on. This is free and the bonus for Mirani State School is that the school will receive $2 for each student that registers. Please ensure that if using the form that it is returned ASAP to the office so that Mr Brown (HPE Co-ordinator) can do a bulk upload to Tennis Australia. Thank you to all who have registered so far.

LIBRARY NEWS:

BOOKCLUB:
Book Club closes 9.00am Thursday 12th February. E.L.F. (Elected Library Friends) applications have now closed and successful students will be presented with their badges on parade next Monday.

P&C NEWS:

TUCKSHOP ROSTER:
12th February    Liana Welsh, Christine Summers
13th February    Trish Anderson, Paula Morrow, Renae Schria
16th February    Janet Delaney
Please note there are a few changes to the Tuckshop Menu: HOTDOGS - $2.00, HOTDOGS WITH CHEESE - $2.50, HAM AND PINEAPPLE PIZZA - $2.00.
Parents as of this week all tuckshop orders are to be placed in the tuckshop box located in your child’s classroom. Please do not put them in the collection box at the office. Thank you.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

THUMP BOXING AND BOOTCAMP
Come and meet some new people – all fitness levels and kids welcome! Thump Boxing & Bootcamp classes Mirani and Marian. Monday – Saturday. For further information please contact Yas on 0409 617 718 or follow on YasG PT on Facebook for more information.

MACKAY ATHLETICS CLUB
Mackay Athletics Club will start its 2015 season on Saturday 21st February 2015. Sign on will be between 10 am – 2pm at Mackay State High School, Via English or Penn Streets, Mackay. Ages from 5 to Masters. 1st club day, Saturday 28th February. Trial period only $10.00 for 2 weeks. For more information please call James on 0431 973 129. New members are to bring a copy of their Birth Certificate for sighting.

MARIAN MARKETS
Church Grounds Marian Sunday 15th February - 8.00am – 12 noon. A huge variety of great stalls. Sausage sizzle & refreshments available.