FROM THE PRINCIPAL:
Welcome to week nine. Can I start off by saying what an absolutely fantastic night our Christmas Concert was last Friday night. It has been a long time since I have seen so many people pack the Nebo Memorial Hall to that extent. Clearly, an indication of the wonderful support from family, friends and community supporters. Thanks to everyone who came to watch our big performing arts night and to the various members of the community who provided such positive feedback.

Congratulations to our Nebo State School students for their efforts and dedication. We certainly have some talent in Nebo and some awesome stars in the making. Special thanks to all of the parents who assisted with preparations for this event, and to all of our staff who worked tirelessly to help set up, pack up, and support students. Your support did not go unnoticed. And last, but by no means the very least, special thanks to James Fenwick and Ngavaine Tearea for all their efforts in choreographing our dance production. The students absolutely loved the time learning dance skills and routines to perform in our dance production. In addition, we were very spoilt to finish the night with a performance by James and Ngavaine. I am truly very grateful that our students got to work with talent of such high calibre.

If you ordered to receive a copy of the night’s performance that was filmed by our professional videographer, your USB should arrive by the end of this week. If you haven’t paid your $30 yet, please make sure you send your money in an envelope addressed to the P & C as soon as possible. If you haven’t ordered and wish to do so a late order can be made before Christmas, however you will not receive your USB until the end of the year.

Year 6 Graduation
Our 6 Graduation is being held this Friday the 4th of December at the ‘Bushman’s Bar and Grill’. The Graduation is for our six year six students and their immediate family only. RSVP was due last Friday the 27th of November, but we are still waiting on a couple of families to RSVP the number of family members that will be attending. We need to know numbers as soon as possible so that we can organise catering. Graduation will commence with nibbles at 4.30pm, with the formal proceedings ready to commence by 5pm. All year six students will have their meals paid for by our wonderful P & C. Families attending can also purchase their own meal. Dessert will be supplied by the school. This is a very special occasion to
acknowledge the completion of primary school and I know how much it means to our year six students to have their family members attend.

Please note: Although short notice, all students in year 6 need to bring in a baby/toddler photo from when they were little. This will be scanned and returned to you as soon as possible.

**Staffing for 2016**
A full list of staffing for 2016 will be outlined in next week’s Newsletter. I can tell you, that we will be receiving a new teacher. Miss Sarah Lovett is unfortunately unable to continue her teaching career in Nebo due to personal family circumstances, which will take her to a different part of the state. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah for the wonderful job she has done at Nebo State School and for all her efforts with our year 2/3 students. It was never going to be an easy feat to fill the shoes of Mrs Lydia Wade, who had been at our school for nearly 8 years, but Sarah has worked hard to transition the children and pick up curriculum components where Mrs Wade let off.

Mrs Wade will continue on maternity leave throughout 2016, and our new replacement teacher for 2016, will be Miss Kimberley Robinson, who will be coming from north Brisbane to take up a position at our school. Kimberley comes highly recommended and is very excited to be coming to our school next year.

**Report Cards**
Report Cards will be sent home next Wednesday 9th of December. Here is a reminder of how to understand the rating given for your child’s Report Card. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or your child’s class teacher.

Report Card results are based on the new content descriptors and year level Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum, and as such may not be reliably comparable to earlier years’ results. For further information on the Australian Curriculum standards visit the online curriculum at [http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/)

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland have become more familiar with a 5-point scale (e.g. A-E) process for reporting in all schools. The new system schools are using refers to attainment standards called “benchmarks of achievement” or “criteria.” So what makes an “A”, “B”, “C” etc. is predetermined by a scale of achievement and by making an overall on balance judgement of what a student can do independently at their year level. Any student, who shows evidence of meeting a particular level, deserves that benchmark grade. This is what you could consider the new difference for a “C” really means: A ‘C’ means this is where the students should be at in accordance with their year level Achievement Standards. This also means it can be harder to obtain an ‘A’ or a ‘B’ rating. Receiving an ‘A’ or a ‘B’ does not just go to the top students in each class. Any student who obtains an ‘A’ or a ‘B’ is deemed to be working beyond their year level descriptors in a variety of contexts independently. What is really important is to look at, is the effort your child has put in. Not everyone may be outstanding in all areas of academia, but what is important is that children try their best; hence the effort put in is always important.

Several weeks ago all teachers’ met to engage in professional development and discussion and share samples of work across the school to assist to determine judgement’s about what an A-E might look like in accordance with these standards. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this Semester’s reporting process, please feel free to make contact with either myself or your child’s class teacher.

**Swimming**
Swimming will continue this week for each of the year levels. Students need to bring their swimming items for their normal swimming lessons this week.
P & C Christmas Hamper Fundraiser
All families will receive one $20 book of Raffle Tickets to sell. If you are unable to sell these tickets, please return them to the school. Tickets are $1.00 each. If you are able to also donate a food, toy, or any other suitable item for our Christmas hamper, your assistance would be much appreciated. The more items we receive, the more hampers that we will be able to make. The raffle will be drawn at our Awards day on the 9th of December, 2015.

2016 Enrolments and Booklists
We are now taking enrolments for 2016. If you have a student, friend or family member who will be attending our school, please pop in and pick up an enrolment pack. If you know of anybody who would like to obtain further information, please encourage them to make contact. I would be more than happy to answer any questions they may have and of course meet with them and show them around our great small school. We have an engaging curriculum with programs offered to extend students, we have excellent teachers and staff, high expectations for behaviour, with positive behaviour rewarded regularly. Our school offers excellent enrichment activities through incursions and excursions offered throughout the year. Our school has made some outstanding improvements and continues to strive to look for ways to keep improving. We value feedback and the importance of all community stakeholders being involved and sharing our school vision. Don’t miss the opportunity to be part of our great school in 2016!

Booklists have been sent home. If you have misplaced yours, please feel free to pop into the Office and grab another one. There is no pressure to purchase from a particular supplier, you can purchase from anywhere, however in the event the school booklist is misplaced over the holidays, suppliers who have a copy of our school booklist are: CrossOffice Choice – Sydney St, Mackay; NewsExpress – Victoria St, Mackay; Officeworks; Caneland News; Carrolls – Victoria St, Mackay.

Mirani State High School Reminder: Year 7 2016 – Students to be at the bus stop by 7am, parents to organise getting their own children to and from the bus stop.

Mirani SHS Year 7 Orientation Day
The Orientation Day for Year 7 2016 will take place on Wednesday 2 December (Week 9). A letter outlining the day will be sent home with Year 6 students in the next couple of weeks. A second parent information session will be held on the morning of the Orientation Day at 9.15am.

School Camp 2016
School camp for our year five and six students is proposed for Week 4, in Term 1 in 2016. The school camp will be to attend the Tallebudgera Beach Outdoor Education Camp facility, which is run by Education Queensland staff. Two staff from our school will also accompany students. Students will be travelling by aeroplane to the Gold Coast. Flights will be paid for by our P & C. Parents and caregivers will only need to pay for the cost of camp, which is anticipated to be between $200 and $300 for the week. A payment plan can also be organised for this. This is an excellent opportunity to build leadership skills and an excellent opportunity for students to participate in outdoor curriculum based activities, students would not normally get a chance to engage in.

Behaviour
It is always important to remind students of our school rules: ‘Be Safe’, ‘Be Respectful’, and ‘Be Responsible’. If you ever have any suggestions or feedback regarding our whole school ‘Responsible School Behaviour Plan, I would love to hear from you.

Our behaviour focus for this week is:
I am a respectful student who uses good manners and kind words towards others!

Our school has a ‘no hat’ ‘no play’ policy. Please ensure that your child has a wide brimmed hat if they wish to play outside. As the weather is certainly warming up and we have swimming this term, please encourage your child to drink lots of water and stay hydrated and encourage them to be Sunsafe at all times!

Congratulations to our Students of the Week:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep/Year 1</th>
<th>Shaniah Saremo</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss Cherie Jones</td>
<td>Maddelyn Dixon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2/3</td>
<td>Laura Christensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Sarah Lovett</td>
<td>Indy Baguley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4/5/6 (Miss Laura Amiet)</td>
<td>Mrs Fenwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Fenwick</td>
<td>Danielle Bryan</td>
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<td>Specialist Teacher - Miss Amiet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Clarence</td>
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<td>PRINCIPALS AWARD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kelly Clarence</td>
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HONEY
Don’t forget to pick up some delicious honey from the Office, straight from the Bee Hives. Honey is $6.00 per container, and all proceeds go towards our P & C.

Funky Beats Music
Funky Beats Music Guitar and/or Ukulele lessons are still continuing. While there is no obligation to take part in this program, students who are currently involved, are enjoying their weekly lesson. **Lessons are conducted once a week on a Wednesday!** If you would like to have your child involved, please contact the Office to obtain a form for your child to participate.
Tuckshop

TUCKSHOP OPEN – Tuesday’s and Friday’s! Orders due in by 8.30am!
Thanks to all our wonderful Tuckshop Convenor Alyson Cannon and thanks to all of our
volunteers who assist each week!

Here is a message from our Tuckshop Convenor - Alyson:

Tuckshop Special

Apple Slinky’s $1.00
2 pack of biscuits $0.50
Small Spaghetti $3.00

Hi all

Apple Slinky’s will remain on the menu.

The LOL drinks are now unavailable. So far we have found a brand called “Nudie & Soda” and the flavour is
orange, mango and passionfruit 200ml and now available is Apple. These will sell for $2.00

Anyone interested in helping out with Tuckshop in Term 4 from 8.15am till 11.30am please feel free to come and
see me in the Tuckshop on any Tuesday or Friday to put your name down.

This term we are hoping to have a few more specials mostly of Green or Amber on the food list to aim for more
healthy options.

Alyson

P & C

Our next P & C Meeting will be held today, Monday 7th of December, commencing at 2.45pm in the Staff
Room. If you are unable to make the meeting and have an idea you would like raised, please see a P & C
member or contact myself or Sue in the Office, so that this can be forwarded on at the P & C meeting.

Visitors

Just a reminder that all visitors spending time at the school to assist with any school based activity must
sign in and out of the Visitors Book kept in the Office. This is an Education Queensland requirement to
ascertain who is on the school premises at all times. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

Feedback

If you ever have any feedback you would like to provide, or any ideas or suggestions for our school, I would
love to hear from you. I have an open door policy, so please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Parade
Parade is held every Monday morning at 8.30am. You are more than welcome to come along and listen to
our messages for the week and watch our presentations for ‘student of the week’ certificates.

Have a fantastic week!

Kind Regards,

Jennifer Fenwick (Principal)
Anybody interested in purchasing a Nebo Historical 125th School Anniversary Book, please pop in to the office, we have some available for $5.00.

Registrations are now being taken for eKindy.

Who can register for eKindy?

To be eligible for eKindy each child must meet the following criteria.

**eKindy eligibility criteria**

- The child or a parent is an Australian citizen/permanent resident
- The family/child fits one of the legislated eligibility categories – Distance, Medical or Travelling/itinerant

(Refer to the eKindy overview on the eKindy web page for more information https://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Ourschool/ekindy/Pages/ekindy.aspx ). Each parent must submit a registration form to the Brisbane School of Distance Education. Eligibility is assessed based on the information provided.

Why be involved with eKindy?

- eKindy provides children/families with access to qualified early years teachers.
  
  - Research shows that qualified early years teachers engage children in learning that extends children’s thinking, language and maximises learning outcomes.

- Qualified teachers can assess children’s learning and differentiate teaching to cater for diverse children and help families to connect to support services.

- eKindy provides children/families with access to an approved kindergarten program.
  
  - The eKindy materials provide ‘layered’, step-by-step advice to promote learning.
  
  - The program builds capabilities for ongoing learning success, including self-regulation, thinking, language, social and interactional skills, as well as early literacy and numeracy skills.

- The eKindy program supports isolated parents/families to:
  
  - develop skills that help their child to learn now and throughout their schooling
  
  - connect with other kindy children and families, support services and networks.

What does eKindy cost?

Families who are eligible for eKindy do NOT pay fees for the eKindy program.

Approved kindergarten programs are eligible for funding through the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme (QKFS) managed by the Office for Early Childhood Education and Care (OECEC). In centre-based programs, families also pay fees.

Thank you to Rio Tinto for their Sponsorship support with Literacy and Numeracy for our school.

Thank you to bhpbilliton (BMC) for their Sponsorship support with Interschool Sport

Thank you to civeo (nee The MAC) for their Sponsorship support with ICT