FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Welcome to week eight. I would like to start the Newsletter off this week by thanking all of our wonderful staff, community representatives – Joy Cooper and Alex McPhee who attended on the day, parent helpers, the P & C, and of course our students for making ‘National Ride 2 School Day’ a success.

The day kicked off with a healthy breakfast and Mrs Wade reported how awesome it was to have so many parent helpers and our wonderful P & C prepare and serve the children breakfast. We then had the lovely Joy Cooper deliver some key safety messages to students, which included, how to contact emergency services and the importance of the students knowing their address and phone number. Joy also taught the students how to manage a broken arm and how to make a splint from makeshift items, such as sticks and a belt, and newspaper, a belt and T-shirt. Joy also allowed the students to tour through the ambulance. Our local SES controller Alex McPhee assisted Miss Amiet with setting up and guiding students through an obstacle course. The importance of wearing a helmet and paying attention to safety signs was reinforced on this day. The importance of students receiving these important safety messages is certainly vital for lifelong learning and safety. Thanks once again to everyone who came along to support this day and for making this day a success. The students learnt a great deal and thoroughly enjoyed themselves along the way.

Here is a snapshot of the day:

Joy Cooper demonstrates how to splint a broken arm on David Whitehead

Trinity Ninness viewing the Ambulance
Special thanks also to all the students who completed their posters for the Isaac Council ‘National Ride 2 School Day’ competition for 2015. Once the lucky winner has been decided, he or she will be presented with bike by Charley Jones-Prizeman (Place Officer (Nebo/Glenden; Isaac Council Corporate Development); and Andrew Geddes (Pacific National Operations Superintendent Nebo Train crew depot).

**Student Leadership Positions**

Congratulations to all of the students who applied for a school leadership position and presented their speeches last Thursday morning. I was so impressed by the effort the students put into their speeches and the way in which they articulated why they would make a good leader. All students and staff have voted via private ballot and votes are being counted in the presence of Mrs Wade, P & C representative Louise Kliese and parent representative Jade O’Connor. An announcement of our school leaders will be made soon and leaders will receive their badges at a special parade presentation.

**Author Visit**

All students will participate in a creative reading and writing workshop with Author Mark Svensden today!
National Close the Gap Day, Harmony Day and National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Just a reminder that this week we have three significant events occurring in which we will acknowledge these three important days, this Friday the 20th of March.

‘National Close the Gap Day’ is on Thursday the 19th of March. ‘National Close the Gap day’ has been central in getting Australian governments to prioritise Indigenous health over the last few years. This in turn has led to declines in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infant and child mortality.

Harmony Day (21 March) celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. This day is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

Friday the 20th of March, is officially ‘National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence’. This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say ‘No Way to Bullying’, and to strengthen existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time.

Our school students are encouraged to wear orange this Friday, the colour of peace and harmony. Students will be involved in a variety of rotational activities that promote inclusiveness, cultural diversity, tolerance and respect.

Just a reminder also, about the interactive online Cybersafety Workshops ‘Mind your Step’, which the Queensland Department of Education has organised to support ‘National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence’. Brett Lee, creator of Internet Education and Safety Services (INESS) and DET’s Cybersafety team will facilitate six online workshops from 10 – 20 March 2015. Staff, students, and parents are encouraged to join in. Here is the link for the workshop information and registration for any parents who may be interested in joining in on these web conferences:


School Grounds and Pavers

Firstly, I would just like to extend a special thanks to Kerry Cook for the fantastic job she has done so far on our school grounds. Special thanks also to Debbie Wanoa for volunteering some time to assist last week. Mrs Wade commended their efforts and said the grounds are starting to look fantastic. I am looking forward to returning to see the great work that has been done.

Just a reminder, that if you are interested in obtaining any pavers, our school has some pavers which we are happy to give away for a small donation. These are the pavers that were ripped up from the front school entrance and are currently sitting around the big shed on the oval. If you are interested in obtaining these pavers, please contact the Office as soon as possible. Nobody is to touch or collect the pavers without prior approval. Pavers will be given away on a first in, first served basis and you will need to make an arrangement to load and collect them yourself.

Music – Funky Beat Guitar and Ukulele Lessons (new company)

As most of you know, last year, we tried really hard to organise some guitar lessons for students who were interested, and unfortunately we dealt with a company which involved a lot of miscommunication with both parents and the school. This resulted in the guitar lessons not going ahead.

The great news is there is now a new company ‘Funky Beats’, based in Mackay, who is already servicing some schools in Mackay and is willing to come and teach Guitar or Ukulele lessons to students from Prep through to year 6 at our school. Funky Beats are in the process of looking at the teaching of other instruments, but at this stage, it will just be Guitar or Ukulele offered. If you are interested in your child learning one of these instruments, please fill in the expression of interest form attached with this week’s Newsletter and return to the school as soon as possible.
I have personally spoken with the owner and tutor from the company and I believe this will be an excellent opportunity for our students. This is an optional extra, in which it will be at a cost to parents and caregivers of students who wish to participate. This program is not funded by our school!

Of course, there is no obligation to take part in this, as all students receive a specialist lesson each fortnight from our wonderful Music Teacher Sue Benson, who is doing a sensational job in conducting a compulsory fortnightly music lesson; as well as a choir and band for interested students.

**P & C**

Just a reminder, that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for today, Monday 16th of March, 2015. If you are interested in fulfilling a P & C executive position, please come along to this meeting. It will be held in the Arts/Music room at 2.45pm. My apologies I will not be in attendance, Mrs Wade and I have communicated the process of today’s meeting and Mrs Wade will conduct the AGM this afternoon.

**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 this week is:

I respect individual differences and promote peace

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 and as it is extremely hot at the moment, please encourage your child to drink lots of water and stay hydrated.

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**Students of the Week**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep/Year 1</th>
<th>Jed Ninness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Miss Jones)</td>
<td>Natacha McKay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2/3</td>
<td>Blake Everett</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Mrs Wade)</td>
<td>Marnie Whitehead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4/5/6</td>
<td>Justin Kernohan</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Miss Amiet &amp; Mrs Fenwick)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialist HPE &amp; Science Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Miss Amiet)</td>
<td>Dominic Ganzer</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PRINCIPALS AWARD</strong></td>
<td>Letysha Goode</td>
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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.

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.

Have a fantastic week!

Kind Regards,

Jennifer Fenwick
(Principal)

TuckShop – every Tuesday

Here is a message from Alyson regarding some Tuckshop Information:
Hi all,

I would like to say “Thank You” to Steph for stepping up for me last week, It is always great to have a few I can call upon.

Tuesday 17th March          Alyson & Rod
Tuesday 24th March          Alyson & Rod
Tuesday 31st March          Alyson & Louise

I would like to advise of the dates available for term 2. If anyone wants to help in term 2, then please feel free to come and see me on Tuesday in the Tuckshop. I will be in need of one person for each of the dates available.

Term 2 Dates

Tuesday 21st April
Tuesday 28th April
Tuesday 5th May
Tuesday 12th May          Alyson & Rod
Tuesday 19th May          Alyson & Rod
Tuesday 26th May
Tuesday 2nd June
Tuesday 9th June          Alyson & Rod
THANKS Alyson 😊

Looking For Volunteer Host Families

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in July 2015. Our students from Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Italy, and the Netherlands are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon. Please see the attached flyer.

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