Principal’s Message:

Last week, I had the pleasure of receiving the NAPLAN results for our school. I must say, I was so stoked. Our goal this year was to obviously aim for an improvement, but more importantly, as part of our Great Results Guarantee, we were guaranteeing that all students in Year’s 3, 5, and 7, would be at the National Minimum Standard for Literacy, or meet their Individual Learning Guarantee. And that is exactly what we achieved!

Not only did we achieve this in Literacy, but we also achieved this in Numeracy too. In addition, in every single year level we had students in the Upper Two Bands in both Literacy and Numeracy. In year 3, what an amazing achievement to have 80% of our students in the Upper Two bands. Furthermore, the relative gain, which is the amount of student growth that the students have shown from when they last sat their NAPLAN test, was simply mind blowing. For example; in relation to Central Queensland’s expectations for student growth, students are expected to have demonstrated a growth of at least 40 points in year 7, and at least 50 points in year 5. Try, an average of 100 points and a whopping 170 points growth in more than one of the strands for our students, here at Nebo State School. As one of the education officers from Regional Office said to me, ‘that’s almost 4 years’ worth the teaching and learning squeezed into one’. Parents and Carers will receive a full Report on their child’s individual achievement next month. I would just like to congratulate all of our students’ on their efforts and achievement with NAPLAN, and to our fantastic staff on a job well done. We are all a team, and everyone truly plays an important part and active role in working together to support our students. It is clearly evident that our Teaching and Learning programs at Nebo State School are working to improve student outcomes.

To continue on some good news events about our school. Last Tuesday, I had the pleasure of watching four of our students compete in the Pioneer Valley Pod Cluster Persuasive Speaking Competition. Holly Aksenov, Sam Christensen, Kyle McCarthy, and Tyler Ware were all chosen to represent our school, to compete at Eton North State School, last Thursday 21/08. I would like to say what a fantastic job they all did, and how proud I was of all of them. Holly spoke about the need to stop killing whales, Sam persuaded his audience on the need to raise the drinking age from 18 to 21, Kyle spoke about the need to eliminate text books and replace them with Note Book Computers, and Tyler delivered a heart-warming speech on the need to save our Koala’s. The students spoke with a high degree of passion about their chosen topic and delivered it with poise and articulation.
The judges, Ms Wendy Sievers (Mirani High School Head of Department in English and the Arts), who has a wealth of experience in Public Speaking; and Courtney Vass (Year 12 Mirani High School Student) who is part of the year 12 Debating team; were the judges for this competition. It gives me great pleasure to announce that two of our students received first and second place, and will now go on to the next level and compete against students from other schools in the Pioneer Valley Persuasive Speaking Competition.

A massive Congratulations to:
Samuel Christensen who came 1st and Kyle McCarthy who came 2nd. Well done and best wishes for the next round of competition.

Interschool sport 567
Our first Interschool Sporting Competition got underway last Friday. We had our first game (mixed girls and boys soccer) against Walkerston State School. We lost our first game; the score was Walkerston 9 and Nebo 2; however we all walked away winners in terms of sportsmanship. Special thanks to Miss Amiet for preparing and coaching our team and to Ms Connolly who supported the students and organised and drove the bus. The students had an absolute ball and I am sure you will agree, to give our students this fantastic opportunity to collaborate with other schools in the Pioneer Valley and learn the rules of playing this sport in a structured team environment, and demonstrate team work and collaboration with other students is an important lifelong skill. The students, who remained behind this week, had the opportunity to learn some cooking skills. They prepared and made pizzas with the Prep and Year One students, under the guidance of Miss Gomez, Miss Kassy and with the help of some of our wonderful parents, Louise Kliese and her mum Ann, Steph Wieland and Louise Cook. Thank you all for supporting this program and ultimately supporting our students to develop these lifelong skills.
**Staffing**
This week we welcome back Sue and Lydia ☺ Sue returns after a month long holiday, where she spent some much needed time with her daughter overseas. Linda Hooper filled in for two of the weeks while Sue was away and she has asked that I express thanks to all of the Nebo State School community for making her feel so welcome. I would also like to thank Linda for all of her time and efforts. Lydia returns after some much needed time off from being with her family in Toowoomba. Lydia would like to thank everyone in the school community for all of their thoughts, care, support, and warm wishes throughout the extremely difficult time Lydia and her family have had to experience. Kate Woodhouse is now working 3 days a week, instead of two. Kate will continue to share the Teacher-Aide position with Jodie Clarence on the 234 class; however Kate will also be fulfilling the role of Learning support one day a week. We have decided to increase the hours of learning support that students will receive, as this compliments part of our Great Results Guarantee Funding. Kassy Hyde will be away for the next two weeks, as she has had to travel to Townsville to be with her daughter who requires her tonsils to be removed. Jodie Clarence will work in Kassy’s place for the next two Tuesdays on 567 and Kate Woodhouse on two of the Friday’s. There will be no other replacement for the remaining three days a week that Kassy works.

**Forms for Upcoming Events**
Just a reminder, as per last week about our upcoming events and permission and medical forms which need to be returned as soon as possible! Thank you to those parents and carers who have ensured that their child’s permission and medical forms have been returned and to those parents and carers who have also paid their $6.00 for their child to see Wombat Stew. If you have misplaced your form please see your child’s teacher or the Office for a replacement form.

*Whole School excursion to see Wombat Stew at the MECC on Tuesday 2nd September.* Permission and Medical forms have been sent home! Please return these forms, including your child’s $6.00, as soon as possible!

*Prep – Year 2 Sleepover is on Friday 2nd September.* If you have not returned your forms, could you please do so as soon as possible!

*Year 567 Reef Guardian Future Leaders Eco Challenge Excursion.* An early and late departure from school is required on this day. This is a free event and is a fantastic opportunity to be a part of.

*Watch this space –* year 567 Camp Forms to attend Tallebudgera Beach School Camp at the Gold Coast are coming home soon!

**Book Day Dress Up and Activities**
Just a reminder about our up and coming Book Day event! **Thursday 28th of August! This Year’s theme is: Connect to reading ~ Reading to connect**

Connect to reading is about enjoying the experience of exploring story, and travelling to other worlds. The reflected slogan - Reading to connect, has a broader social meaning, suggesting that reading assists in creating a bond with others. Within the world of the contemporary child, this is also relevant as they read books and they read to connect through a variety of media.

To celebrate our Book Day, students can come dressed up as their favourite book character or come dressed showcasing a cultural dress from another country. Nobody is being asked to go to expense and hire a costume, as you may have items at home that can be used to improvise and create a book character, or culturally flavoured costume. If your child could also aim to bring the book along of the character they are dressing up as.

We will start off with a parade at 8.30am, where students and staff can parade their costumes. We will do something similar as we did for the Easter Bonnet Parade. We will start with the Pre-Preppies and move
through to the 567 class. Once each class has paraded their costumes, starting from the undercover area under our Library, they will return to the undercover area to sit as we do in Parade. We will then bring each class one by one to the front and announce a few winners in each class for the best dressed character costumes.

After the Parade, we will be sending small mixed groups of students to share in reading a book together. This will conclude at approximately 9.25am. If you would also like to sit with a group of students and share a story, you are more than welcome to stay. If you decide you would like to sit with a group of students and share a story, please don’t forget to sign in at the Office.

Commencing at approximately 9.30 am, students will then enjoy a good part of the day involved in 4 rotational mixed group activities. Each of the Teachers will select a book to read and/or discuss and an activity to go with it.

The Children’s Book Council of Australia, contains the shortlisted books for 2014, as well as some suggested activities. I will endeavour to see if we can obtain some of these books for our school.

Here is the link if you would like to check out the shortlisted books: [http://cbca.org.au/ShortList-2014.htm](http://cbca.org.au/ShortList-2014.htm)

Glenny Palmer Poetry Workshops
On Thursday 11th September, we are fortunate enough to be able to have some Poetry Workshops with Glenny Palmer. Glenny is a Writer, Comedian and Performance Poet. Glenny has received a swag of Poetry awards; she has released her own CD, appeared on TV, presented at various functions, entered numerous competitions both nationally and internationally and conducted outback tours and workshops. We are very fortunate to have Glenny who will engage the Prep – Year 3 students in a 20 minute interactive Poetry workshop and the year 4-7 students in reading and writing poetry workshops for approximately 90 minutes. Special thanks to Lorraine Copping from the Isaac Council for organising this even for us.

Art Auction
Just a reminder that our Art Auction will be held on Friday the 12th of September. **We are still in desperate need of recyclable items that children may be able to use on their hats.** Although the hats will be made at school, it would be excellent if you could please discuss ideas with your child. The idea is to think outside the square and create a Wearable Art themed ‘Mad Hatters’ hat. Just a reminder regarding the sort of items you may like to contribute towards your child’s and/or another child’s hat:

- Bottle caps/ lids
- Lolly/ Chocolate wrappers
- Buttons
- String/ Ribbon
- Labels off jars and bottles
- Material scraps
- Cut-outs from old magazines
- Cut-outs from old newspapers
- Corks
- Soft drink can tabs

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 behaviour plan, I would love to hear from you.
Our behaviour focus this week is:

*I am respectful and pack play equipment away when finished*

**Expression of Interest**
If you are ever interested in volunteering your time (class helper, Tuckshop, cooking, gardening) please let your child’s class teacher know. If you also possess skills and attributes and are interested in being considered for any future employment position that may become available at our school (Teacher Aide, Administration, Grounds person, etc.), please submit a Resume to me and/or contact me to let me know of your interest.

**Feedback/Open Door Policy**
If at any time you have any feedback on how to make our school a better place, or you have any questions or concerns you may wish to discuss, please remember I have an open door policy and I would be more than happy to meet with you.

**P & C**
Please note: Our School Working Bee, which was originally organised for Sunday 31st of August, has been postponed, as the truck which the P & C were using to help remove large unwanted items is booked on this day. A new date is currently being negotiated and will be communicated soon.

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**Students of the Week**

| Prep/Year 1                  | David Whitehead
|                             | Marnie Whitehead
| Year 2/3/4                  | Connor Drury
|                             | Ivy Lloyd
| Year 5/6/7                  | Tanatswa Zvirikuzhe
|                             | Holly Aksenov
|                             | Samuel Christensen
|                             | Kyle McCarthy
|                             | Tyler Ware
| Specialist Teacher - Miss Amiet | Kelly Clarence
|                             | Callum Jung
| PRINCIPALS AWARD            | Halayna O’Connor

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Kind Regards,

Jennifer Fenwick
TuckShop –

TUESDAY SPECIAL – Spaghetti bologneise- $5.00

Thank you to all of the helpers who assist in the Tuckshop each week and a special thanks to Steph and Jodie who assisted last week. Thank you to those of you who returned your form, offering to assist in the Tuckshop this Term, your help is greatly appreciated.

Please remember to use the green form when ordering Tuckshop. Everything on the menu is available through both breaks except for ice-creams, which are only available during the second break. Nutella’s, Cupcakes and drinks are available over the counter for both breaks.

Roster for Term 3:

26/08: Nikita and Nikki
02/09: Charlotte and Louise
09/09: Mikaela and Jodie
16/09: Christina and Louise

MSHS Junior Secondary Transition 2015

Mirani State High School will distribute enrolment packages to the Pioneer Valley cluster feeder primary schools during visits in Weeks 9 & 10 of this term (Term 3). Below are the enrolment interviews and orientation day dates for students transitioning to Mirani SHS:

Enrolment Interviews
- Year 8 (current Year 7) Weeks 4 and 5 of Term 4 (27th Oct-9th Nov).
- Year 7 (current Year 6) Weeks 7 and 8 of Term 4 (17th Nov-30th Nov).

Orientation Days
- Year 8 (current Year 7) Wednesday December 3rd
- Year 7 (Current Year 6) Thursday December 4th

Parent information sessions will be held at Mirani State High School at a date yet to be confirmed. The date of these sessions is dependent on the completion of the construction of the new building as the school currently does not have a space large enough to conduct the sessions.

eKindy Message

The waiting list for eKindy 2015 is now open. Any families with children who may be eligible for eKindy in 2015 (i.e. 4 by 30 June 2011), can add their child’s name to the eKindy 2015 waiting list. Families will be contacted directly when registrations open. Information about eKindy (including eligibility criteria) and the waiting list form can be found on the eKindy web page: https://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Ourschool/ekindy/Pages/ekindy.aspx Information has recently been added to this page, about ’eKindy in small schools’.

KINDY FUNDING

Is your child eligible for Kindy and not attending because of cost? QKFS Plus Kindy Support is a new funding scheme to reduce costs for families. QKFS Plus Kindy Support replaces the Health Care Card and multiple births subsidies and extends support to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

To be eligible for QKFS Plus Kindy Support a family must either:
* hold a current Health Care Card, Veterans Affairs Card or Australian Government Pension Concession card with automatic Health Care Card entitlements, OR
* identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (or have a child who does), OR
* have three or more children, of the same age, enrolled in the same year.

QKFS Plus Kindy Support will be provided directly to services to help reduce out-of-pocket expenses for eligible families.

Please contact your local Kindy to talk about your costs for enrolling your child.

**Isaac Libraries**

**What's happening at the Library?**

Don’t forget that on Thursday 21/08 from 10am -11.30am, is Senior’s Week Morning Tea.

**Nebo Roadsafe Rest Stop**

The Nebo Roadsafe Rest Stop will be operational from 19th September to 6th October during the hours of 6am till 10pm. If you are able to volunteer your time or donate some snack items, please contact Thelma on 0438128352 or email: dtstory@bigpond.net.au

**Mackay Sugar Safety Message**

The sugar mills are crushing; please be aware of cane trains and trucks. Mackay Sugar urges all motorists to be alert when approaching cane train crossings – look out for cane trains; stop at the flashing lights, it’s not worth the risk! Children – don’t play on cane train bins; near cane railway tracks, or on cane transport roads - it’s not safe! For all community enquiries, please contact Mackay Sugar on 4953 8300.

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**NEBO MEDICAL CENTRE – Please support the Medical Centre before it closes down**

**AS OF: 14/7/2014**

Dr Fred Bott & Dr Zool Hudda

will be working alternate months to ensure continual doctor availability.

Dr Sid O’Toole & Dr Rob McCartney - Occupational Physicians will be visiting regularly.

We also of course have our friendly, competent nurses

We would love for you to come and support us

Call: 49 505 301 or visit: 2 Kemmis St NEBO 4742

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Thank you to the BMC pathways to Performance Sponsorship program for the opportunity to attend the MECC to see ‘Wombat Stew’!