Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are managing the hot weather safely and looking after yourselves. How wonderful it is for our students that schools now have air-conditioning. During these heat wave conditions, we have been keeping the students indoors at lunch times and ensuring they have regular drinks of water.

The last two weeks of the school year are always very hectic as we work hard to complete all our learning activities, celebrate the end of the year and start organising for the start of next year – all at the same time. Thankfully, the staff at our school have outstanding organisational skills! School reports will be sent home on the Monday of the last week of term. Along with the report will be an introductory letter from your child’s teacher for next year.

It is that time of the year when we farewell members of staff who are leaving. Thanks for contributing so much to our school – Kerry Loosmore, Bec Roberts, Di Gauci and Beck Lancashire. We wish you all the very best for the future.

If you can, join us for the last P & C meeting for the year next Wednesday at 9:00am in the administration building.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the school Christmas concert Thursday 13th, last week of term.

Have a great weekend

Rod
Early Years 1—
This fortnight has been very hot and we have enjoyed having wet play, and playing with some water balloons, water sprayers. On other days we have played with our friends from the Early Years phase in the resource room where we learned how to ride on the scooter boards.

![Image of children playing](image1.jpg)

Early Years 2—
This fortnight Cameron has been working hard at addition, heavy and light and the concept of zero. Tom is enjoying his favourite numbers and Jayden is strengthening his core muscles while learning about balls and circles. We have all started the JOY in preparation for Christmas and have been VERY busy painting.

![Images of children painting](image2.jpg)

Early Years 3—
In Early Years 3 we have been having lots of fun getting ready for the festive season. We have started making lots of Christmas decorations and have been getting messy with glitter and paint. As the days have been so hot we have been seeking cover in the resource centre and have been playing in the air conditioning with all our fellow Early Years friends.

![Images of children making Christmas decorations](image3.jpg)

Early Years 4—
This fortnight we have had swimming, riding, have been busy with our Christmas craft (thanks Tanya) and have started practising for the Christmas concert. We are finishing our alphabet with x, y and z, singing to our days of the week songs and continuing to have sensory play, which the children all enjoy. Here is to a wonderful lead up to the Christmas break!

![Images of children enjoying activities](image4.jpg)

*Working together in community partnerships to inspire students to believe in themselves and maximize their potential for interdependence so that they can be heard in society. (MDSS vision statement reviewed 2014)*
Upper Primary 1—
This fortnight in Upper Primary One we have been busy continuing our learning activities. The students have been working really hard and we are preparing for the Christmas break, enjoying some Christmas craft activities. Well done to Noah who received the student of the week for being respectful with helping his classmates.

Upper Primary 2—
Our Christmas festivities have begun! We have had a great time baking Christmas cookies and creating some wonderful Christmas decorations. Practice has begun for our Christmas item for the end of year concert (little hint - it is about an animal with a red nose!)

Upper Primary 3—
This fortnight, we have been doing lots of fun activities! We are continuing to focus on our letters and numbers and have also been following some cool maps. We even had a secret visit from Pirate Jack who left us a letter and a map. We followed the map around the school and found lots of treasures. It was fantastic! We are looking forward to starting some Christmas activities next week.

Upper Primary 4—
UP4 have been getting into the Christmas spirit by making some great classroom decorations. The class continues to work hard while completing their learning tasks. They have also begun learning an ‘old favourite’ song for the upcoming Christmas concert. Lots of fun ahead!

Upper Primary 5—
Upper Primary 5 have been busy this week doing art and craft for Christmas. We have been using toy catalogues to find things we might like for Christmas and making lists. We have also made baubles and stars and are beginning to work on our presents for our families to celebrate the festive season.
Junior Secondary -

Junior Secondary 1—

We have been enjoying quiet afternoons, exploring different Bingo games. Our favourite is the animals.

A big thank you goes to all those who have helped the Mackay and surrounding community with the recent fires. Some of our parents have been volunteering, while managing the paid work and family commitments. JS1 created a card to give to one of our volunteer Dads.

Junior Secondary 2—

Wow, only 2 more weeks left of the year. We have had 2 elves in our room over the last couple of weeks (they visit for the last 24 school days) and they have got into some mischief. We are busy working on our Christmas Concert item (remember the concert is on 13 December) and doing lots of Christmas themed activities.

Junior Secondary 3 & 4—

Christmas is creeping into JS3 and JS4. Glitter, baubles and tinsel can be seen in use in our Christmas craft. It all means that the year is nearly over. We hope all your Christmas plans are going well and that this heat and haze are long gone by then!
Senior Secondary -

Senior Secondary 1 & 4—

The Seniors in SS1 and SS4 have been learning all about road safety and signs you see along the road to keep us safe. So when it was our turn to present on Friday’s parade, we decided to teach the rest of the school the signs we had learnt. We played a game where we made up actions for each sign that everyone had to follow. We each had a sign to hold up and when we did that, we had to show everyone the action to do. Everyone did a fantastic job and should be very proud of themselves.

Senior Secondary 2—

According to Gebro Buli from Community Solutions “Inclusion week is in full swing!” Bobette and Tait Lamb shown here at Community Solutions 70 Sydney Street with their stall promoting Tait’s new business Tait’s Pet and Home Care.’

SS2 GRADUATES

We wish Tait and all our other graduates the very best for the future, their new endeavours and adventures!
I stay safe

I make good choices

I am respectful

During this fortnight we have been focussing on the PBL expectation Be Respectful. Certificates for following this rule were presented to the following students:

Week 7: Cruz Smith, Zofia Ozerski, Trionna Lourie, Noah Griffin, Jack Machen, Daisy Parnaby, Tait Lamb and James Loveday. James Loveday was chosen to wear Rosie’s blue cape for the day.

Week 8: Noah Smalley, Koopa De Git, Kieran Streeter, Neil Tutaan, Ethan Neylan, Ella Mackenzie and Hayden Farr. Koopa was chosen to wear Rosie’s blue cape for the day.

In weeks 9 and 10 we will be focussing on the expectation – Make Good Choices. Good Choice Charlie will be on the lookout to ensure students are doing the right thing and making good choices both when in their classrooms and when outside.

Rewards Day: Our special PBL Rewards Day will be on Wednesday 12th December. We have arranged a Jumping Castle and Old Macdonald’s farm as a special treat for the students. Students will be able to wear Free Dress.
School Notices

School Transport Assistance Program for Students with Disabilities

It is the responsibility of Queensland parents and carers to make suitable travel arrangements for their child between home and school. Where there are challenges in fulfilling this responsibility for your child with a disability, you can request an assessment for eligibility from this program.

Please ensure that your bank details are up to date if you are unsure or need to make changes please let us know.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss your child’s transport arrangements.

Every Day Counts

Parent/carer responsibilities:
Under the law, you must make sure your child attends school on all school days unless there is a reasonable excuse. We are required to monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers regarding any unexplained absences.

Research shows that students who attend school regularly achieve better results. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

If your child does not want to come to school contact us immediately for assistance and support.

School responsibilities:
• monitor student attendance
• notify you if your child has an unexplained absence as soon as practicable on the day of your child's absence and continue to follow-up with you as practicable
• use effective teaching strategies to engage your child in learning
• help you with strategies to encourage your child to go to school
• provide support for families.

Soiled Clothing Guidelines

Parents and carers please note the Department of Education and MDSS guidelines for how our staff must manage soiled clothing:

For student clothing, if clothing is not disposable, place items in bag, seal well and give to parents. Inform parents by regular means e.g. Communication Book.

Working together in community partnerships to inspire students to believe in themselves and maximize their potential for interdependence so that they can be heard in society. (MDSS vision statement reviewed 2014)
Electronic Newsletter

MDSS Newsletters are now being sent electronically via email to Parents and Caregivers. If you would like to receive the School Newsletter via email, please contact our Admin Office on (07) 4963 1333.

Tuckshop for 2018

Tuckshop is available every Thursday for lunch break only.

School Watch:

If you notice any suspicious activity in the school grounds please contact School Watch on 131 788.

REWARDS DAY

Wednesday — 12th December
9:00am to 1:00pm
FREE DRESS
Old MacDonald Farm
Jumping Castle

Dates to Remember

P&C Meeting — 5 December 2018
PBL Rewards Day — 12 December 2018
MDSS Christmas Concert — 13 December 2018
End of Term — 14 December 2018

Contact
Details for Taxis
131008
Trans North Bus Company
49591207
Driver’s Mobile Number
0407165418
If your child is away from school please contact Trans North immediately.
Working together in community partnerships to inspire students to believe in themselves and maximize their potential for interdependence so that they can be heard in society. (MDSS vision statement reviewed 2014)
CROSSROAD ARTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH MACKAY ENTERTAINMENT & CONVENTION CENTRE (MECC)
PRESENTS:

LOOSE ENDS
Kooky. Social. Inclusive

2018 MAJOR FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY NOVEMBER
30 6:30-9:30PM

North Foyer, The MECC
Alfred St Mackay

$32.50/ $27.50
Groups 4+ $22.50/ticket
Bookings essential:
(07) 4961 9777
themecc.com.au

Loose Ends is Crossroad Arts' major fundraiser.
Become an exclusive sponsor:
Tables of ten- $1,000
Sponsor an inclusive area- $2,500
admin@crossroadarts.com.au
(07) 4953 5122 for more details.
Cash bar for drinks & snacks available.
www.crossroadarts.com.au

Working together in community partnerships to inspire students to believe in themselves and maximize their potential for interdependence so that they can be heard in society. (MDSS vision statement reviewed 2014)
Community Christmas Carols
9 December 2018

Everyone Welcome

Northside Uniting Church
Cnr Bedford Rd & Fleurs Way, Andergrove

5pm free family activities
7pm Christmas Carols
Includes free BBQ dinner

Organised by the Uniting Churches of Mackay
Iona West, Northside and St Paul’s Uniting Churches
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