From The Principal

I am so thankful for the students in our school who week in and week out conduct themselves in a respectful manner and concentrate on improving themselves generally and academically. Most of our students are consistently moving up through our good behaviour award levels and will reach the top level, “Ruby”, by the end of this year. We thank parents for their hard work to “train their children in the way they should go!” This is a quote from King Solomon the wisest man ever. Of course we all know that even with our best efforts our children will still make some poor choices. I guess that is why Solomon added the last part of that quote… “and when they are old they will not depart from it.” I am really thankful for the parents in our school community who when their children have misbehaved and receive punishment persist and use such opportunities to help their children learn a better way, even if that process needs to continue at another school.

This Term I have had to administer some severe punishment, removing two students for cyber-bullying at the end of the holidays, before school even started back. Of course, as it does, this bullying continued at school. Thankfully a parent made me aware of the cyber component (Instagram) and the matter was dealt with. This is a reminder that we will deal with behaviour conducted by our students online, in social media. Sadly, two more students were suspended this week for cyber-bullying. I am glad that these students, under the guidance of sincerely concerned parents, are taking this wakeup call seriously with remorse and appropriate apologies etc...

Parents must realise that cyberbullying is modelled as OK on many Youtube videos and sadly is considered as the “norm” for much online behaviour. I must say, categorically, that our school-age children are not mature enough and experienced enough to interact appropriately in this degenerate cyber world. Many students spend so much time reading this gutter talk and viewing disgusting content that they at some level think these interactions are OK, especially if “you’ve just been pranked” is added as a postscript. As parents we must know and educate that harassment/bullying/threats made online or face to face are illegal and come with consequences, and more importantly really adversely affect the recipients and all too often ruin lives. Personally I and my children do not have social media, I want my children to learn to develop meaningful “face to face” friendships first, then when they are mature enough (maybe 30!) they can supplement these “real” friendships with social media interactions.

Cyber relationships are not reality! Your children are generally not able to behave appropriately online! Get them off these forums until they are appropriately mature and appropriately trained/skilled. I deal with this for a livelihood and this is my practical opinion. If you are using an ipad to babysit, fire it!

OK, I realise this is an extreme view in this day and age. Mrs Hopal will be providing some practical tips for appropriately monitoring your children’s use of electronic devices – we “know” most children will be using them!

On another matter, I need to remind parents that our school will not tolerate occult material or behaviour. I am specifically referring to “Wigi” or “Talking Boards.” Three students, who knew the consequences, were suspended this week for this behaviour. Please know that we will never tolerate this occult material at our school.

On a brighter note, we have lots of families enquiring about joining our school community. This is because of the good reviews they have heard. Thank you for your support as we work together to improve our school and safeguard it as a safe and nurturing place for our children to learn.

Christian Regards

Andrew North
Swimming Prep to Grade 6!!

Parents please ensure that your child/ren come packed with a Swim Shirt. Unfortunately, if they have no shirt they cannot swim.

Orientation Day

Reminder that this coming Monday 17th October is Orientation Day. Please refer to correspondence that has gone out with further information.

Mackay Transit Bus not operation Monday 17th October

Please note that Mackay Transit Coaches will not be running on Monday 17th October due to a Student free day.

Building Developments

Our new school building is well under way and will be ready for start of 2017! We have exciting news that our Building application for Stage 3 has been approved....this will bring us a new science lab, classroom, Library, sick bay and a bigger staff room.

MESH NEXT FRIDAY NIGHT 21ST OCTOBER ........ REMEMBER TO INVITE YOUR FRIEND ALONG ..... GRADES 5 AND UP....5PM TILL 7:30PM....

FREE DRESS DAY

We are having a FREE DRESS DAY in support of CQ Rescue Chopper week 17-23 Oct.

Date: Wednesday 19th October
Bring: Gold Coin Donation to be in Free Dress
Clothing: School Policy still applies, including jewellery and hair, students are to wear respectable and modest clothing and closed in shoes