



# MACKNADE STATE SCHOOL

Strive to excel

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Safe

Be A Good Learner



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Dear Parents

Thank you for acting so promptly to our calls to collect your children last Thursday during the torrential rain event that led to major flooding in this region.

A number of quick decisions had to be made and by first break, it was clear that for safety reasons, we had to postpone the excursion to Billabong Sanctuary on Friday. Secondly, we had to ensure that all students were collected and home safely before being cut off by the rising flood waters.

Many thanks to staff whose frantic efforts ensured as much equipment as possible was moved to higher shelving in the storerooms underneath the buildings, and to Lorraine who made most of the calls to parents.

In times of emergency, small communities show their true worth in how they pull together to help each other. From the welfare calls from Halifax Police, our neighbours, Emergency Services teams, support staff from Regional Office, Facilities staff, local

council representatives and our colleagues from other schools, the support shown during this stressful time has been astounding. Hopefully, all families are now beginning to get their lives back to normal and repairs to



homes and yards are well and truly under way.

### National Day of Action against bullying and violence

Macknade State School has registered for the National Day of Action against bullying and violence celebrated this coming Friday, 16 March 2018. Students will participate in a range of activities to discuss this very important issue in our society. Set out below is the official definition of bullying around which our discussions and activities will be based this Friday.

*Bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).*

*Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.*

*Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.*

### **Parks and Wildlife - Crocodiles**

All crocodile sightings in Queensland should be reported to 1300 130 372. This number might be handy post-flood with all the creepy crawlies hiding in our midst.

## **MUSIC AND LEARNING**

The Prep-2 students are always excited on Wednesday afternoons as they line up for their weekly music lesson with Mrs Gunston. Music is not just for enjoyment as research unequivocally states that children who learn music:

- Improve academic skills, in particular in mathematics.
- Develop physical skills
- Become more patient

Without any doubt, music also lifts the students' mood, and they always end their music lessons with a smile on their face!

Rhonda Hawthorne  
**Principal**

### **Special Dates to Remember**

#### **March**

- 14** 125 Year Anniversary Meeting 7pm
- 15** Ingham High Transition Day Year 6
- 21** P&C AGM (3.30 – *Changed due to flooding event*).
- 29** Last day of Term 1

#### **April**

- 16** Pupil Free Day
- 17** First Day of Term 2

#### **May**

- 15-17** NAPLAN Years 3/5
- 17-18** Conference in Brisbane.
- 22** High School Transition Day #2