



# MACKNADE STATE SCHOOL

*Strive to excel*

*Be Respectful*

*Be Responsible*

*Be Safe*

*Be A Good Learner*



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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to Term 2! The first week of term has flown by with Monday of last week being the pupil free day. Pupil free days are an opportunity for staff to participate in professional development opportunities and plan cooperatively with other staff members. Our staff completed the Child Safety professional development, which is compulsory for all staff employed in any school in Queensland. The afternoon session was spent planning and preparing resources for classes.

We have had a change to staffing for the rest of the year for the Prep-2 class. I would like to welcome Ms Rita Fontana to our school. Prior to commencing at Macknade SS, Ms Fontana was acting as our cluster Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy (STLaN) across the small schools in the Ingham District. Towards the end of Term 1, this position was advertised and Mrs Belinda Zullo was appointed to the role for the rest of the 2018 school year. I would like to thank Mrs Zullo for her efforts in Term 1 with the Prep-2 class. This is a fabulous opportunity for Mrs Zullo to build upon her repertoire of skills to benefit our students when she returns to Macknade SS in 2019.

Ms Fontana is currently studying towards qualifications to become a Guidance Officer

with our Department so her skill base will also benefit our students.

Mrs Morley's sick leave has been extended to the end of Term 3 and Mrs Jensen will continue to relieve in the role of Teacher Aide during that time.

## **ANZAC DAY**

This Wednesday is a public holiday for ANZAC Day. As is normal practice on this very important day in Australian history, students participate in a commemorative ceremony or parade to remember fallen soldiers and the significance of this historical event.

Macknade SS students are invited to attend the Lower Herbert **ANZAC Day Parade** and Ceremony, which will be held at **8.00am (assembly) on the 25 April 2018** at the **intersection of River Avenue and Macrossan Street (opposite the BP Service station)** for the parade followed by ceremony at the cenotaph.

Other small schools in the district will be present and I encourage as many students as possible to participate in this march behind our school flag, to represent Macknade.

## CLASSROOM NEWS

In term 2, the year 3/4 class will be studying *Matter* in their Science unit. The students be working with a variety of solids and liquids to determine their properties, level of viscosity, and reaction to warm and cool temperatures. They will be conducting investigations, making predictions, and recording their results.

During this unit the students will be given many opportunities to work in teams and discuss their findings with each other. The practical elements of this unit allows for the development of their observation and questioning skills. As always, our students are looking forward to their Science program.

(Bridie and Mali preparing for the Viscosity race)



This term the 5/6 students have been finalising their Design Technology assessment. Their goal was to design a product to meet an identified need or opportunity for wild life in their local area. The students have been very busy producing some fabulous bird/butterfly feeders and bird houses. It is great to see such outstanding efforts from everyone. Well done 5/6.





## Attendance matters

When you are reviewing your child's report card, take a moment to consider your child's attendance rate. Research shows that students who have good attendance are more likely to achieve high results at school. If students aren't at school or don't stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons which will help them to achieve to their full potential.

Visit

<http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/fact-sheet.html> for more information on student attendance requirements.

During 2018 I have been speaking with students about attendance (or non-attendance) at school. This week certificates will be awarded on parade to all our students who achieved 100% attendance in Term 1. Congratulations to the following students:

Laila, Mali, Serenity, Keldon, Damon, Owen, Braydan, Jarred, Tynan and Hamish.

As there is a direct link between attendance and student outcomes, I don't apologize for following up with students who are regularly absent from school. It would be remiss of me not to do so. I trust parents/carers understand this is an integral part of my role as school Principal.

Last term we had lots of disruption due to flooding events, and although it seemed unnecessary that I phone parents each day to advise whether the school was open or not, it is a part of every school's Emergency Response Plan, to advise parents daily. As our school does not have an automatic alert system or school Facebook page, I had to phone. Emails are not always the best way to advise parents in these events because not everyone checks emails every day. As it currently stands, we have a large number of families with no recorded email address. Thank you for understanding the necessity to make these calls and thank you to the families who offered to phone relatives or friends to lighten my call load.

Rhonda Hawthorne  
**PRINCIPAL**

## Special Dates to Remember

### April

25 Anzac Day March

### May

4 - Life Education Van

9 – P&C AGM 3pm

11 – District Cross Country

15-17 NAPLAN Years 3/5

17-18 Conference in Brisbane.

22 High School Transition Day #2

