



# MOSSMAN HIGH NEWS

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Deborah Kachel

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS  
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Teena Seidenkranz

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS  
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Tracy Butland  
Belinda Guthrie  
Casey Castle  
Jim Murdoch  
Julia Toft  
Christina Uhlík  
James Wall

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Stacy Weber  
Greg Cox

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Kim Edwards / Susan Fischer

BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER  
Cindy Chamberlain

COMMUNITY EDUCATION  
COUNSELLOR  
Eileen Burchill

GUIDANCE OFFICE  
Denise Landers

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Issue 4

8th June, 2016

## Principals Message

As we enter the final three weeks of this term it is essential that every student is focused on achieving their best. Final pieces of assessment will be completed during the next two weeks and if students put in a big effort, they will reap the rewards.

Students will be engaged in new work in the final week of the term, so it is most important that all students attend every day. Some students will tell their parents that they are not doing anything in the last week of term and unfortunately some parents and carers may believe this and allow students to be absent from school. Every student in every class will be commencing Semester 2 work and parents and carers must ensure students attend.

We recently had visitors in our school for three days as part of an audit of our facilities. This team of adults visit many schools across the state and in their conversations with us they commented on how friendly our students are and that our school has a wonderful atmosphere. We often receive very positive comments from people visiting or working in our school and we share this information with our students. The majority of young people are very respectful, behave in a safe manner and actively engage in learning.

We do however have a concern about the use of inappropriate, offensive and abusive language by some students. I have highlighted this in previous newsletters and I will be forwarding a letter to all parents regarding specific expectations and consequences if young people continue to use this type of language in our school. This same information will be conveyed to students, and all staff will expect students to use appropriate language at all times. We all need to use respectful language in our daily communications.

This letter will also contain information in regard to expectations about appropriate relationships and physical contact of an intimate nature between students. It is important that all young people have a clear understanding of what is and is not appropriate physical contact between individuals in a work environment or public place. We will also be outlining consequences for those students who engage in behaviours that are inappropriate in a school setting.

I look forward to the support of parents and carers as we all work together to ensure our young people understand their responsibilities to behave in socially acceptable, respectful and safe ways.

Kind regards,

*Deborah Kachel*

*We acknowledge the Kuku Yalanji people, and in particular the Kuku Werna Clan, the Traditional Owners of the land on which our school stands and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise their custodianship and role in caring for and maintaining Country over thousands of years.*

*Invitation to attend*

***Public Performance  
Year 8 & Year 10 Drama  
@ The Clink Theatre  
Port Douglas***

**Friday 10 June, commencing at  
7pm**

Students of Year 10 Drama and invited students from  
Year 8 Drama will present an  
Evening of entertainment and short skits at The Clink  
Theatre, Port Douglas.

**FREE ENTRY**

First performance commences at 7pm and is a short  
version of the Disney Classic, "Tangled".

This is ideal for parents with young children.

Second half of the evening is composed of short skits.

*Please email: [apate35@eq.edu.au](mailto:apate35@eq.edu.au) if you would  
like to reserve seats.*

## DATE CLAIMER

P & C Meeting

7:00pm 9th June

Staff Common Room

Year 11/12 Block Exams

Monday 13th June - Friday 17th June

Vicki Wilson and Fowlers Cup  
Netball Carnival

Thursday 23rd June

School Athletics Carnival

Thursday 23rd June 1.15pm - 3.00pm

Friday 24th June 8.45am - 3.00pm

Reports Posted and Last Day of Term 2

Friday 24th June

First Day of Term 3

Monday 11th July

## Get Microsoft Office 2016 free of charge

Did you know your child can get Microsoft Office 2016 free of charge, just for being a student at Mossman State High School? All you need is your child's school email address to sign in.

To help prepare your child for success this academic year, the Department of Education and Training has teamed up with Microsoft to provide free Office 2016 to every Queensland state school student. With Office 2016, your child will have access to the latest version of Word for writing, Excel for spreadsheets, PowerPoint for presentations, OneNote for organisation and notetaking, and much more.

You can install a complete version of the latest Microsoft Office on up to five compatible PCs and Macs, five tablets and five smartphones. Your Office subscription lasts for as long as your child is a state school student.

Ask your child to follow these simple steps to get Office:

For PC and Mac, visit [portal.office.com](http://portal.office.com), login using your school email address, click through to install and follow the onscreen process.

For tablets and smartphones, download from your app store and sign in with your school email address.

Visit [www.education.qld.gov.au/office2016](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/office2016) for instructions on how to download and

## Course Outlines

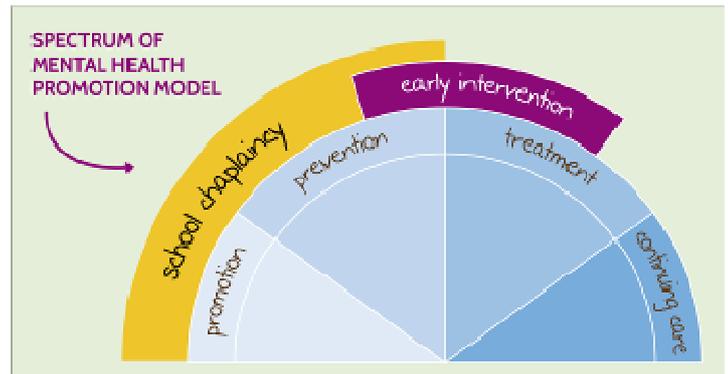
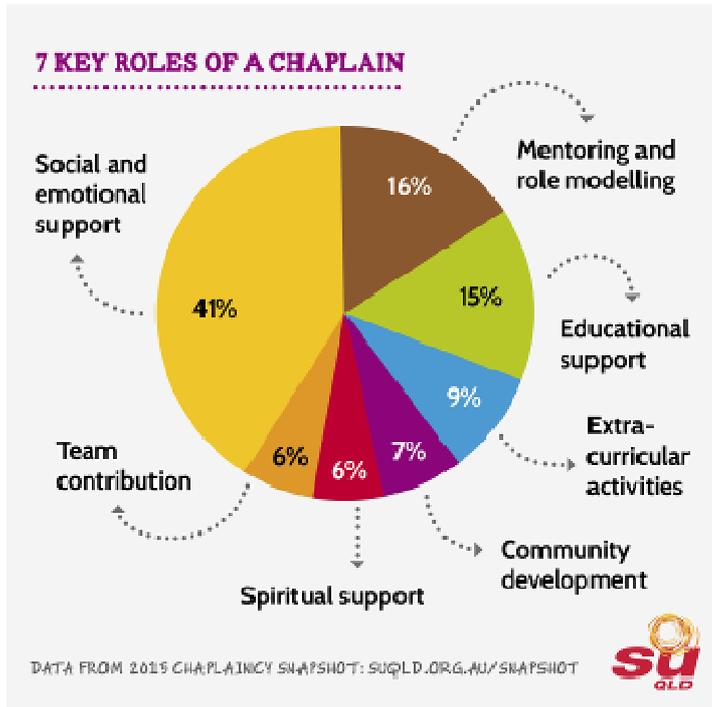
***Parents - Follow your student's  
studies in each subject***

Course Outlines for Term 2 (Junior Secondary - Years 7, 8 & 9) and Semester 1 (Senior Secondary - Years 10, 11 & 12) are available on the Mossman State High School Website. You can access the course outlines by following the link below:

[mossmanshs.eq.edu.au/curriculum/teaching and learning](http://mossmanshs.eq.edu.au/curriculum/teaching_and_learning) - then select the relevant year level and subject required.

# What does the Chaplain do exactly?

This is a question I get a lot, in fact it was a question that I asked before I started working as a chaplain. Officially chaplains provide social and emotional support much like the rest of the support services team at the high school, however we have the additional role of providing spiritual support. Chaplains are not counselors; we provide a listening ear and caring presence within the community.



School chaplains operate in the 'promotion, prevention and early intervention' space rather than the 'treatment and continuing care' space inhabited by many other helping professionals. They work in a support role, rather than in a counselling or case management role, referring complex issues onto other professionals and specialists.

DATA FROM 2015 CHAPLAINCY SNAPSHOT: SUQLD.ORG.AU/SNAPSHOT



## What does this look like at Mossman State High School?

Each day starts with a breakfast program where the school provides breakfast in the form of toast and milk to fill hungry bellies, with bread donated by Brumby's Port Douglas and spreads donated by Net Know How in Mossman.

I have a group of boys that take part in a program called Strength. This program is designed to help adolescent boys find strength and courage within them to make healthy choices and live to their full potential.

I also help with a number of other programs around the school such as Indigenous Leaders of tomorrow and occasionally I pop into classes to support students.

Ultimately my role here at the school is to develop relationship and trust with the students, so that they will have an adult to talk to. Generally my room is full at lunch times with students just looking to chat and share some toast.

Currently I am at the school five days a week with the government covering two of those days and the remainder of the funding, for the chaplaincy position, comes through donations from the local community. For more information on Chaplaincy head to [suqld.org.au](http://suqld.org.au) or if you are interested in supporting chaplaincy at Mossman State High School please feel free to contact me on 07 4084 1347. Any donations made to SUQLD are tax deductible, which is helpful at this time of year.

Lastly, I am not only here for students, my role does cover the entire school community which means parents and teachers as well. If you want to speak with me in regards to anything I am available on 07 4084 1347 during school hours.

Thank you for your support.

Ben Gaydon

Mossman State High School Chaplain



## News from the Music Department

May was a busy month with a performance on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> at the Mossman Orchid Show by our String Ensemble, and a 3 day music camp the following weekend. The camp was attended by 29 students from grades 7-12. We managed to prepare 13 concert band items for use at the Mossman Show in July and our annual Tour of the Primary Schools later in the year.

June is also proving hectic with many practices for the Eisteddfod. We have entered 4 small (Flute, Brass, Sax and Percussion) and three large ensembles (String, Concertband and Jazzband) in the Cairns Eisteddfod and travel to Cairns on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of June for the competition. Four of our students are also competing in individual events.

Written by Jenny Guyatt



# Year 12 Biology Camp



From the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> May, the year 12 Biology classes along with Ms. Weber, Mrs. Toft, Mrs. Harrold, and Julie Norman ventured over the Daintree River to Cape Tribulation for our annual Biology Field Studies Camp. This year our destination was the Daintree Rainforest Observatory, the research station built and run by James Cook University. We stayed in purpose-built dormitory style accommodation and cooked up some serious cuisine in the massive commercial style kitchen. During the short periods of free time we had, we played table tennis and made copious cups of tea. There was no mobile reception, no air conditioning, and no television but we managed to entertain ourselves and everyone enjoyed having this time to spend together outside of the normal school routine.

On day 1, the morning was spent at the Daintree Discovery Centre where we got our feet wet and our hands dirty straight away, collecting water and soil samples while other groups tried to get their heads around some of the names of rainforest plants. After a packed lunch we travelled further up the road to Marrdja Boardwalk to investigate a mangrove ecosystem. Ms. Weber's group was lucky enough to see a very large female Cassowary wander out of the forest and take a long, cool drink from the freshwater creek. Another group spotted an Amethystine Python lounging in a mangrove tree. By mid-afternoon everyone was ready for a break so we unpacked our gear at the DRO and headed down to the beach to throw around the footy and practise some poi twirling. While we were away, the nice people at the DRO got a campfire started for us. After dinner, we sat around the fire and Laura was treated to her very first taste of roasted marshmallows!

The morning of day 2 was a busy one as we split into four groups and took turns going up in the Canopy Crane while the others analysed soil and water samples in the lab and collected data along a transect through the swamp and mangroves near the beach. A ride in the 40 metre-high crane is something usually reserved for PhD students, researchers and scientists to access the rainforest canopy. Squishing three fully harnessed people at a time (plus the crane operator) into the tiny gondola then ascending and slowly swinging around above the treetops was a bit nerve-wracking for some but well worth the bird's eye view of this amazing part of the world.

After a sausage sizzle lunch, we all headed to the beach for some rock pool rambling. The extremely low tide exposed more than 200 metres of coastal reef for us to explore and led to some particularly interesting finds such as Christmas Tree Worms, many species of live coral, little Black-tipped Reef Sharks, and several varieties of sea cucumbers. The biggest find of the day came when Sheena uncovered a mysterious brittle star, whose photos had to be sent to the experts at GRMPA and Queensland Museum for positive identification. This interesting encounter was surpassed only by Madison's discovery that you could get "two bars" if you just walked far enough along the outer reaches of the reef.

By Day 3, most students had their fill of field studies but soldiered on to take measurements of trees at the DRO rainforest revegetation site. We also identified our freshwater macroinvertebrates we'd collected earlier from the creek, which are indicators of water quality. Lucky we had already gone swimming in the creek the day before, because many students couldn't believe how many different types of critters are in the water with you!

Overall, a great experience was had by all and we renewed our appreciation for the beautiful natural landscapes we live in, and the amazing array of life they contain. Many thanks to the teachers and Julie who put in many hours of effort to ensure the camp was fun and successful.

*Written by Ms. Weber with input from the 12A and 12B Biology classes 2016*



# Calling Tuckshop Team Mates!

How would you like to become a MSHS Tuckshop team mate? If you can spare one or two days a month or fortnight to help out, we would love to hear from you! The tuckshop is the main financial support for the High Schools P & C Association; directly benefiting our school and students in a number of projects.

By becoming a tuckshop team mate, you can be proud in knowing you have been able to support your child's school. It is a great way to meet new people and keep in touch with the running of the school!

If you aren't able to volunteer on a regular basis, we are currently looking for two people to assist at the upcoming Athletics Carnival on the 24th June and the 7's League & Netball Carnival in term 4 (date TBC).



If you would like more information on helping please call Mavis on 07 4084 1318 or the Mossman State High School office on 07 4084 1333.

## Dare to Defy Gravity

Congratulations to Micaela Cairns who was nominated to attend the Australian Defence Force workshop held recently in Cairns. The workshop was designed to identify and inspire young women to consider a career as a pilot with the Navy, Army or Airforce. Only 6% of pilots (military and civilian) are women.

Micaela was selected as one of just five young women who attended the workshop offered in North Queensland. She was required to meet the following criteria:

- Currently studying Year 11 or 12
- Studying a minimum of four OP subjects including English, Maths B with Physics highly desirable
- Must be at least 16.5 years of age on the day of the event
- Must be an Australian Citizen

During the workshop Michaela had the opportunity to hear from military pilots about their work and pathways as well as participating in aptitude screening. Michaela now has the option to consider a career with the Australian Defence Force.

Written by Denise Landers



## ROTARY CLUB OF MOSSMAN SPONSORS STUDENT TRAVEL TO CAIRNS CAREER EXPO

On Thursday May 26<sup>th</sup> fifty three students from Year 11 and 12 travelled to Cairns to access extensive career and education information at the Cairns Careers and Education Expo held at the Cairns Showgrounds. Students explored the various options available discussing University, TAFE and other training options with a wide range of presenters. With the increasing cost of transport attending the Careers and Education Expo may not have been possible for a number of students without the generous support of Rotary Mossman. Thanks to their ongoing funding interested students were able to attend the Expo free of charge gaining essential knowledge about post school options.

Written by Denise Landers



## Regular school attendance

### Information for parents and carers

Did you know? Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

#### *Why is regular attendance at school important?*

Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.

- They learn better
- They make friends
- They are happier
- They have a brighter future

#### *Why must I send my child to school?*

Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school every day, every school day unless they have an acceptable reason. Illness, doing work experience or competing in a school sporting event are acceptable reasons for being absent from school.

Principals decide if the reason given for your child's absence is acceptable.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for :

- Birthdays, shopping , visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check ups or care such as hair cuts.

Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

#### *What should I do if our family is going on holiday in school time?*

You are encouraged not to schedule holidays during school time. If your family holiday is during school time, let the school know in advance and talk about what arrangements can be made for your child. Depending on the circumstances the school may be able to provide tasks for your child to complete while they are absent or assist you to organise an exemption from schooling.

#### *Do I need to let the school know if my child has been away from school?*

Yes, you must let the school know the reason why your child has been absent from school within two school days of their return. If possible, advise the school beforehand.

#### *Are you having problems getting your child to school for some of these reasons?*

- Won't get out of bed in the morning
- Won't go to bed at night
- Can't find their uniform, books, school bag .....
- Slow to eat breakfast
- Haven't done their homework
- Watching TV
- Have a test or presentation to do, have an assignment to hand in
- It's their birthday

If so, a set routine can help

- Have a set time to go to bed
- Have a set time to get out of bed
- Have uniform and school bag ready the night before
- Have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
- Set a time for daily homework activities
- Speak about school positively
- Be firm, send your child to school every day including their birthday and the last day of term

#### *What should I do if my child won't go to school?*

You should contact the school as soon as possible for advice and support.



## *Safe Driving for a Lifetime*

### **FREE DRIVING LESSON SIX MONTHS ON P'S - ZERO HARM TARGET**

P plate driving is by far the riskiest period in a driver's life. **A learner driver's risk of crashing increases 20 to 30 times** as soon as they pass their driving test and remains extremely high for the first six months.

**In the time it takes to sit and pass a provisional licence test – less than an hour - learner drivers move from being statistically the safest drivers on the road to the most at risk.**

The Federal Government has renewed funding for a free 1-hour lesson with the learner driver and supervisor together, to explain what it means to self assess, self instruct and self supervise and the lesson will include a practical demonstration of these skills being used and taught. This lesson can be at any time during the L plate experience subject to the exclusions detailed on their website..



# From the Sports Desk ...

## Cowboys Challenge

A massive congratulations to all the students involved in the Cowboys Challenge campaign this year. Although neither the Under 15 nor the Under 18 teams progressed through to the next stage of the competition, the standard of play and determination of the players is to be commended.



A big thank you to the teachers involved, Coach, Mr Scott Young and his team of helpers, Mr Andrew Ryan, Mr Andrew Davis and Mr Andrew Paterson.

## Netball

At the moment, we have 3 teams who will be representing Mossman State High School at the upcoming Vicki Wilson and Fowlers Cup Netball Carnival on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at the Martyn Street Netball courts.



All students have been training each Friday lunch time and are preparing well for a positive carnival.

## Athletics Carnival

The School Inter-house Athletics carnival is being held on Thursday (afternoon) and Friday (23 / 24 June). A revised program is currently in planning and will be placed on the schools Facebook page and website as soon as possible.



We will be changing processes this year and asking students to nominate for the events they would like to participate in. This does not mean that students are only restricted to these events, as we will still be encouraging students to participate in other events in they would like to. This will simply help in pre-filling the marshalling sheets for many events.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend and support your students, however this is still a normal school day and all students are expected to attend.

**Tracy Butland**

**H.O.D. H.P.E., Dance and  
Junior Secondary Student Services**

