From the Principal

Welcome back! I hope everyone had an enjoyable break and the opportunity to get away over the Easter break. I personally tried to get away for a crabbing expedition on the Sunshine Coast but it proved unsuccessful, unless you count catching the females! I thoroughly enjoyed my time out on the water though.

This term we have a wide range of things happening. We have Soccer trials, the Beef Week excursion, NAPLAN, Athletics, a show holiday, and our week long Canberra camp in week 9. There will no doubt be other activities and opportunities that arise as well. If you have any questions at all regarding any of the events please do not hesitate to contact me.

Words Their Way & Daily 5

This term I have set two main goals for the students and staff of Mackenzie River. Firstly, to reintroduce and refine the Words Their Way program to target spelling patterns and sounds. This program involves students completing ‘word sorts’ and a number of other activities in class through the week. It will also form the basis of the student’s spelling lists and activities for homework each week.

The second main goal is to introduce Daily 5. Daily 5 is a program that consists of reading to yourself, reading to others, word work, writing work and conferencing. Students have already begun aspects of this program in class but I am aiming to have an ‘official launch’ later this term.

All staff will undertake Professional Development and training for both programs to ensure that there is a consistent, sustainable approach to Reading and Spelling at Mackenzie River.

Attendance

Thank you everyone for contacting the school to let us know if and why your child/ren may be away, it is greatly appreciated.

Currently, our attendance is sitting on 96.3 %, meeting our target of 95% again. Well done everyone! With the school related absences such as sport, camps and excursions every day really does count! Thank you for your efforts.
CH Rugby League

Recently, five of our students participated in the Central Highlands Rugby League and Netball trials held in Emerald. A very big congratulations to Carter Wight who was selected to play in the Central Highlands Under 11 Rugby League team. He will now compete at the Capricornia Trials to be held in Gladstone. Congratulations! Play well and best of luck.

Easter Bonnet Parade and Activities

On the last day of Term 1 our students participated in an Easter Bonnet Parade and other various activities. Thank you everyone for your assistance and participation on the day, it was a lot of fun. The most competitive activity was very clearly the egg toss! We’ll have to see if we can beat our marks next year.

ANZAC Day

On the 25th April, students at Mackenzie River attended and marched in Middlemount to remember the soldiers that have fought and died for our nation. It is a somber occasion that causes everyone to stop and reflect. Our students did Makenzie River proud, with several community members commenting on their exemplary conduct. This is a tradition that I would like to continue into next year and beyond. Thank you to everyone for their support.
School Excursions / Camps

Beef Week

The Beef Week excursion will be happening on Friday the 8th May. The school bus will be running to and from the event and permission forms have been sent home if you have not received one can you please contact the school as soon as possible.

As this excursion is on a Friday I understand some families may be making the most of the weekend and staying in Rockhampton. If you intend for your child to be picked up by a family friend/relative can you please organize this with the school prior to the day. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Canberra Camp

The Canberra Camp is shaping up to be an amazing trip. Flights, accommodation and venues have been booked. We are still finalizing some details relating to skiing, however I am confident students will have the opportunity to do this as well.

We will very shortly begin organizing permission forms, medical forms, and equipment checklists. In regards to medication forms, if you know your child requires medication you can assist us now by ensuring that any medication is labelled with appropriate dosage information and personal details. We cannot administer any medication, including Panadol, without the appropriate forms and labels.

Minions of the Week

We are still waiting on some prizes for Minion of the Week so I have not awarded any this term, yet. As soon as they arrive we will present them on parade.

I would like to congratulate Caden Torrisi, as this week in class he reached the ‘One in a minion’ on our behavior and effort chart. Well done Caden, keep it up!

Lastly,

If you have anything that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to call or drop into the school.

Troy Mutton
A/Principal