From the Principal

A big congratulations to all students for their effort and perseverance throughout NAPLAN last week. Although only our Year 3 and 5 students needed to undertake them, all students (with the exception of Year 1) sat them. This data will now be collated and will be used to assist in goal setting with the students, as well as to assist us in identifying areas of strengths and lessor strengths in relation to literacy and numeracy. The students were treated to various things throughout the week, including a hot breakfast, hot lunch, special dessert treats and lastly, a celebratory cake.

Words Their Way & Daily 5

Words Their Way is our whole school program that we are utilizing to target spelling at Mackenzie River. All students should have their word lists and have been given varying tasks to complete each night for homework. Below is a brief summary of what students are required to do:

- Monday—Bubble Writing or ‘fancy’ writing
  - Write their word lists out using some fancy writing
- Tuesday—Dictionary Meanings
  - Find dictionary meanings for 5 words you are unsure about
- Wednesday—Writing Sentences
  - Write 5 sentences that include one or more of your words
- Thursday—Word Sort
  - Write all words using your sort headings

These spelling lists are also being consolidated in class through different activities.

- Monday—Pre-Test / Introduction to Word Sorts
- Tuesday—Word Sort (Individually)
- Wednesday—Spelling Ladders (Individually)
- Thursday—Blind Sort (With a partner)
- Friday—Post—Test

Term 2 Focus Areas

- Spelling—Words Their Way
- Reading—Daily 5

Date Claimers

- 19th May—Arthur Conlon Visit
- 24th May—Working Bee
- 29th May—Book Fair and Grandparents Day
- 5th June—Show Holiday
- 12th June—Brigalow Athletics Carnival

School Rules

- Be Safe
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
Attendance

Thank you everyone for continuing to contact 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 95.9%, meeting our target of 95% again. Well done everyone!

Beef Week

On Friday the 8th May all students travelled to Rockhampton to attend the 2015 Beef Week. Students got to see and speak to a range of exhibitors, recreated a cow skeleton, learnt about the 2015 champion cattle and also got to drive a grader! It was a long but fantastic day. Thank you to everyone that assisted on the day, the students had a blast.

School Photos

School photos will be happening on Monday the 25th of May. Students will be leaving school at approximately 11:30 (after morning tea) and travelling to Dingo State School to meet the photographer. Please ensure that students have returned their photo envelopes and permission forms for the bus prior. As students will be attending school and then travelling, packing a small brush for them to use prior to their photo may be a good idea.

Book Fair

On the 29th May, Mackenzie River SS will be holding a joint Book Fair and Grandparents day. Mrs Tanya Wight has been organizing this behind the scenes and it’s sure to be a great day. The book fair will be held in the school library and all students (and parents) are encouraged to dress up for the occasion.
Minions of the Week

This week we saw four students receive prizes (now that our prizes arrived).

Week 1—Mr Caden Torrisi—For his improved effort and dedication to reading.
Week 2—Mr Grady Wight—For his effort and dedication to his Mathematics
Week 3—Mr Carter Wight—For his enthusiasm towards his English assessment
Week 4—Miss Gabrielle Torrisi—For her confident approach to NAPLAN and perseverance throughout the week. Congratulations to all!

Sport Camp

Today we received some more information and booking forms for this year’s Sports Camp to be held in Clermont. These forms will be sent out with students shortly and emailed home. There are limited places available so in order to secure a spot, a prompt reply is needed if you wish your child to attend.

Lastly, as always, 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