

MIDDLEMOUNT COMMUNITY SCHOOL

James Randell Drive, Middlemount Qld 4746

Email: admin@middlemountcs.eq.edu.au

Website: www.middlemountcs.eq.edu.au

Phone: (07) 4981 2333

Absentee Line (07) 4981 2360

Fax: (07) 4981 2300



FROM THE PRINCIPAL – SHARON ANDERSON

Work Experience

Last week, our year 10s and some of our year 11s participated in work experience in a very wide range of occupations. It has been wonderful to hear about their experiences this week and even better to find that some students have found a real passion for a particular profession.

We had a student work as a solicitor, one as an aviation engineer and one as a park ranger. Our student nurses saw the beginnings of life in the birthing suite and the experiences at the end of life. Students found out what was like to be a baker, childcare worker and an electrical engineer. One of our students worked with a golf pro. It was great to see our students' willingness to go outside of Middlemount and experience different work environments. Thanks to our fantastic SAQTS coordinator, Kylie Barber for organising this for our students.

One of the most exciting experiences was had by Liam Blades, who spent a week at the Melbourne Storm, assisting the football coordinator to look after players' equipment, set up for training and prepare for game day. Liam had a wonderful week, mixing with players, attending training and eating in the players cafeteria. Thanks to Sarah Quinn who organised this once-in-a-lifetime experience for Liam.



Week 2 Term 2

Dates to Remember

Mon 25 April –
Anzac Day

Tue 26 April – P & C
Meeting

Wed 27 April –
'Sugarland' Theatre Trip
to Mackay

Thu 28 April – CH
Cross Country 10 – 19
Yrs

Mon 2 May –
Labour Day

3 – 5 May – Book Fair

10 – 12 May - NAPLAN

Wed 25 May –
Clermont Show Holiday

Fri 27 May –
Under 8's Day

FROM THE PRINCIPAL - CONT

One Punch Can Kill

On Monday 16 May, we will be hosting a "One Punch Can Kill" presentation for years 9-12 by Paul Stanley, father of Matthew Stanley. In September of 2006, Matthew Stanley lost his life after being bashed outside a teenagers' party, aged just 15. After an outpouring of community grief, Matthew's parents responded by joining forces with other community members to form the Matthew Stanley Foundation (MSF). The Matthew Stanley Foundation seeks to promote non-violence and mutual respect among young people and responsible behaviour in the adult community. Paul visits schools across Australia to share this message with students.

Fun Run

It was great to see so many parents at our annual Fun Run last Wednesday. Thank you to everyone who came to support our young runners! Thanks to Mrs Evitt for organising the event.



Writing Competition

I encourage students to enter our Writing Competition. Please have a look at the attachment with this newsletter – entries close soon!

Anzac Day

Our school Anzac Parade will be held this Friday morning after the parade to award Cross country winners. Our students are also invited to attend the town Anzac parade and services. The Dawn Service begins at 5.15am. Students who wish to participate in the Day parade and service should assemble at the Post Office at 10.45am. Students should be in full school uniform with all black shoes and a hat. Secondary students should wear formal uniform, with tie and all black shoes.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL - CONT

Sugarland

Next Wednesday, 41 secondary students will be attending this theatre performance at Mackay Entertainment Centre. We will be leaving school at 3pm. Students need to either bring clothes to school and change or make a very quick trip home after school. The bus will be leaving at 3pm and will not wait for latecomers. Students are not to leave school early to change – there is no need. Students are also reminded that they must attend school on Thursday.

FROM THE ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – SARAH QUINN

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you had a relaxing break.

Reporting – Term 1 Interim Reports

This term we are going to be trialling the distribution of reports through email. The report and email is generated through OneSchool and does not generate at the school level and therefore may be found in your 'junk box' or similar, so please check all folders once reports have been issued on Friday 22 April.

If you are unable to receive your student's report electronically, please contact the school office and we will organise a printed copy for you.

NAPLAN

The 2016 NAPLAN for Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 May. All students in these year levels will be provided with a breakfast at 8am on each day. We thank Civeo very much for their continued support of our NAPLAN breakfast.

Distance Education and Off Campus Students

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate our senior distance education and off campus students on their results from term one. These students need to show real independence and resilience when studying senior subjects by Distance education and they are doing a wonderful job. We have created a room and ICT resources dedicated to distance education student and they are making good and responsible use of the facilities.

Work Experience

Last week, our year 10 students completed their first week of work experience for the Certificate II in Workplace Practices. We congratulate all of the students who completed their week; we received great feedback about your conduct!

School Photos and Student ID cards

Orders and Money for "special group" photos (school captains and student leaders) are due to MSP Photography by Friday 6 May. Late orders may incur an additional fee. Secondary students whose SRS fees have been paid should have received their student ID cards from the office. ID Cards can be purchased for \$4.20.

FROM THE SECONDARY DEPARTMENT – CHRIS SAVAGE

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the Secondary department for Term 2 of 2016. I hope you all had a fantastic holiday and have come back feeling refreshed and ready to take on the challenges of another school term.

I was fortunate enough to spend the second week of the school holidays cruising through the South Pacific and was able to visit some very interesting locations in New Caledonia and Vanuatu.

Something that struck me as noteworthy in Vanuatu, in particular, is that the profession and livelihood of each individual in Vanuatu depends on the land that is owned by their family – for example, if the land owned is farm-land, then people in those families generally become farmers. Education is highly valued in Vanuatu because the more knowledge an individual can gain, the better at their job they can become and the more money they can make in their profession. In fact, I was told a story about how some children have to attend schools on different islands, and even swim home from school because the tide is too high for them to walk the afternoons! Indeed, I recognise similarities between those children and some of our own students who may live out of town and have to contend with geographical distance or obstacles in order to attend school each day.

The Ni-Vanuatu people strive to become as educated as possible because greater knowledge gives them the tools to perform in their professions in the most efficient and innovative ways – meaning their families become more prosperous.

I believe that this is something we should all strive for – becoming as educated as possible, regardless of our field or background, brings us the knowledge and the power to meet our potential and rise to challenges in whatever job or career we choose to do. I would like all Secondary students to consider that notion as we begin Term 2.

Here is some of what has been happening during the first fortnight of the term.

Assessment Calendars

This week, Term 2 Assessment Calendars will be distributed to all Secondary students. These will also be emailed to parents in .pdf format. If you do not receive a copy, please ensure that you contact the Secondary Head of Department, Chris Savage, by emailing csava35@eq.edu.au or by phoning the school office. Please also ensure that the calendars are kept in a highly visible place so that you can keep track of the most important dates throughout the term.

External Assessment Trial – Year 11 English

As many of you have probably heard, the year 2018 will see many changes to Senior Schooling (Years 11 and 12) in Queensland. In preparation for those changes, the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority are conducting trials for 'External Assessment' around the state in 2016. Middlemount Community School is a trial school for the subject English.

This means that on Friday 27 May (Week 7), students in Year 11 English will sit a 'trial' exam. An external invigilator will be appointed to the school and the assessment item will be sent away to external markers to make judgments about our students' achievement this term. Of course, overall levels of achievement will be determined using a range of assessment tasks. However, the data collected from these trials will be vital in fine-tuning what external assessment in Queensland schools looks like from 2018 onwards.

FROM THE SECONDARY DEPARTMENT - CONT

Senior English Tutorials for Term 2

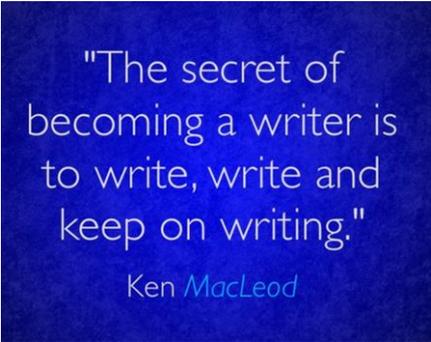
In Term 2, both Mr Savage and Miss Shannon will be running English tutorials on Monday afternoon (2:45-3:45pm). We would like to invite all students in Years 10-12 who would like extra assistance, feedback or support in English to attend those tutorial sessions. Tutorials will be held in Q1. However, there will be no Tutorial in Week 3 because of ANZAC Day. In Week 4, the tutorial will be held on Wednesday afternoon instead of Monday, in lieu of the Labour Day holiday.

FROM THE PRIMARY DEPARTMENT – TAMARA STOLBERG

Welcome back to term 2!

Our students and staff have settled back into the routine of learning quickly and I am pleased to see engaged students when visiting classrooms. Writing is continuing to be a major focus in each classroom. In the P-6 classrooms students participate in a writing workshop each day where the focus is on learning the necessary skills needed to become a proficient writer. Teachers plan and deliver lessons that move the students through the writing process of; prewriting, drafting, revising, editing and publishing. Conferencing with students to discuss their writing provides timely feedback and encourages students to improve their ideas, cohesion, audience and purpose as well as sentence structure, paragraphing, punctuation and spelling.

Daily writing or building writing miles is another way of improving a student's writing ability. Encourage your child to keep a journal or diary and get involved in their writing homework. Talk with your child about their writing and discuss ways to make improvements. This could involve reading the sentence or paragraph aloud for your child to hear if it makes sense or simply encouraging them to expand their vocabulary when writing to include new and exciting 'wow' words. If your child is a reluctant writer talk about the writing to be completed, create a plan and write down some key words for your child to use so they spend their time writing rather than losing focus worrying about how to spell an unknown word.



"The secret of becoming a writer is to write, write and keep on writing."

Ken MacLeod

Up Coming Events...

27 May – Under 8's Day – Prep, Year 1 and Year 2

BOOK FAIR

Book fair – MCS Library

Tuesday 3 May – Friday 6 May

8:00 – 8:30 or 2:30 – 3:30

DYSART DEVILS SOCCER CLUB

Players needed aged 14 to 18 to join an enthusiastic new team at Dysart Devils Soccer Club!

Training, Fridays 4pm at Dysart.

Please contact Lisa Bath on 0419 839 357