Hello Everyone,

Even despite the cyclone last term, our overall attendance rate was 93% last semester. Well done everyone, and it is FANTASTIC to see you all back ready for learning again this term. Even though it is a short week (something that is not too hard to manage 😊) it is awesome to have nearly everyone back on board. Let there be no doubt that teachers have kicked off new units of work and that NAPLAN preparation continues.

Sadly, 3 members of staff have suffered significant loss over this Easter. Caroline, Carolyn and Beth have all lost a parent in very recent days. Needing time and understanding there is no doubt your understanding will be needed as we manage without them, while they deal with their own grief and all the arrangements.

Thursday afternoon at 2:30 pm, the school will gather for our Anzac Parade. Following the recommended program of events, Mrs Burkett has once again worked to coordinate our assembly. Students of Swayneville State School have a strong and proud history of attending the local Sarina ANZAC Day march, and we invite students, staff and the wider school community to participate in the march on Friday 25 April.

Our school leaders will be actively participating as part of the program, and will be leading the school body during the march.

Please assemble near Mitre 10 (Central Street) at 9:45 am. The organisers advisors inform us that we are third in the parade this year. Please wear school dress uniform, black school hats, sunscreen and bring a water bottle.

-- Mrs Roslyn Waldron (Principal)
ANZAC Day Blockbuster at Harrup Park – Brisbane Lions vs. Sydney Swans NEAFL match plus AFL Mackay’s traditional City vs. Country game.
We welcome the Mackay, Whitsundays and Central Highlands locals to come along to this exciting AFL event in our region. We are calling on everyone to get behind this great event – **Entry this year is a gold coin donation!** Our aim is to continue to attract high profile AFL events to our region – this is set to be a great day for the whole family! Please see the schedule below for the Friday 25th April ANZAC Day Blockbuster at the fantastic Harrup Park Country Club venue.

10.30 – Gates open.
12.30pm – ANZAC DAY Ceremony
1.30pm – NEAFL Game: Brisbane Lions Reserves vs. Sydney Swans Reserves
2.40pm (Half-Time): NAB AFL Auskick grid games + AFL 9s showcase match
4.30pm – AFL Mackay’s prestigious City vs. Country match.
5.30pm (Half-time) – Mercy College vs. Pioneer State High School match

**Play at Half-Time of the Brisbane Lions v Sydney Swans Match – Open to all NAB AFL Auskick Participants!!**
We are pleased to confirm that all 2013/2014 NAB AFL Auskick participants have the opportunity to play at Half-time during the Brisbane Lions vs. Sydney Swans NEAFL match on ANZAC Day in Mackay. **In preparation for the event, we ask that parent’s please register you son/daughter via the following link if you would like to participate at Half-Time.** The link is [http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/idef5A7QefY43](http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/idef5A7QefY43), it takes 2 mins to complete. Furthermore, two lucky Auskick participants will win the opportunity to be the official ‘Team Mascot’ and run out with the team at the start of the match! **Please complete the registration above by 12 Noon Wednesday 23rd April where the winners will be announced!** The half-time games will take place at approximately 2.40pm, with further information to be circulated to all registered participants. There will also be plenty of entertainment for the kids all day including jumping castles and NAB AFL Auskick activities. A great day out for the whole family to enjoy!

**AFL Mackay Level 1 Coaching Course:** New and current coaches are welcome to attend the AFL QLD Mackay coaching course this Saturday 12th April. This is for Level One accreditations for Junior, Youth and Senior coaches in our region. Please contact David Harding on 0420 980 519 to secure a place for the course.

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**Swayneville State School**

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Principal: Mrs Roslyn Waldron

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**Our Learning Objectives:**
1. Reading and writing must make sense!
2. Student know what they know, and know what they need to know next!
Improving The School Grounds

Merv’s farewell on the last Friday of Term 1 was a special event, that really touched his heart. Our adapted song, *Waltzing The Mower*, was sung beautifully by the children and Merv’s framed copy is now a treasured item.

However the grass continues to grow and the weeds just keep coming back. Lynette Kier, who had already been involved with the school’s gardening projects as part of the P&C, was willing to take on the role of grounds care.

In addition to her P&C work, and now the grounds care, Lynette has an Environmental Science degree, is very active within Landcare and runs her own nursery. We are so lucky to have her come on board as part of staff.

The school is funded for 8 hours of grounds care per fortnight. This time is consumed with mowing our lawn, but I am certain that you too can see the wonderful work that is progressing within our grounds. Our new lawn is growing well, and the gardens are being mulched and planted up with more suitable plants. The early phase garden is growing vegies, and our gum boots are a talked about feature.

Myles, Zach and Ethan Waldron also donated considerable time over Easter to construct the bridge over the water swale near the junior play area, the hydroponic garden near the senior toilets (student council/6&7 class), and also to lend a muscle or two to beat back the cockroaches while helping tidy up the sheds, and deal with the left overs and bits and pieces from the prep build.

We have a few items that would benefit from someone who is handy with a drill. We have a few hat racks to put up for the library, the P&C bbq needs its wheels fixed/replaced, we have a picnic table that needs a few bolts to tighten its legs and it can be put back into use….etc. If you can make the time, then please get it contact. Every little bit helps!