Hello everyone,

The kids looked great today! Great to see how we all scrub up for the unforgiving lens of the camera. ☺ School photos are proof that we really are a great looking bunch of people! ☺ Thanks for ensuring that your children were wearing the formal uniform.

The P&C are meeting this coming Friday afternoon @ 1:00pm. This is the forum for parents and friends of the school to have input into school life. Your participation is encouraged, and we hope to see you there. P&C finishes in time for parade.

Parents, for your information, Mrs Hall is going to be on Long Service Leave for the week of either side of holidays. She is welcoming a new grandbaby and needs to be with her daughter. Mrs Latimore will be her replacement.

Have you noticed the Stop, Drop and Go zone in front of the school? This zone is now operational, and functions as the stop-drop-go zone between 8 – 9am, and between 2:30 – 3:30pm. Drivers are asked to move to the front of the zone, and not leave their vehicle. Like the bus zone, at times outside of those hours mean that the zones may be used for parking.

As every day counts at school, we will be finishing the term with our Rewards Day next Friday. A great way to wrap up a busy term. See you at the disco!
– Mrs Roslyn Waldron (Principal)

Busy, Busy, Busy!!

It’s all happening in the Year 1/2 classroom. Students are following the design process of – brainstorming, deciding on one idea, designing the product, creating a list of needs, constructing the product, evaluating their creation and if necessary modifying it - to produce a product from recyclable materials.

Students have been inspired by our history unit in which we explored how technology has changed over time, our science unit that investigated a variety of landscapes, how people interact with the landscape and Earth’s natural resources as well as considering our survival and health needs.

Students quickly recognized the importance of sustainable activities like turning off a dripping tap, planting more trees and recycling materials. This lead into a discussion on what they could make from different packaging and a pleading of following through with their ideas.

Students are currently engaged in turning this ….. into a new product!

Important Dates:
11 September - Chalk and Parent Direct Orders due to office.
12 September – P&C Meeting @ 1:00pm
12 September – School Disco @ 6:00pm
18 September – Netball Gala Day
18 September – Principal Business Day
20 October – Pupil Free Day
23 October – Discipline Audit
18 & 20 November – 6/7 Transition days (bus available)
Orientation days in December for 6/7 (transport by parents)
**Future Leaders Eco Challenge**

We were fortunate to have the opportunity to elect 4 hard-working, lucky students from our 6/7 room to represent our Reef Guardian School at the Reef Guardian Schools Future Leaders Eco Challenge, which was a full-day event on Wednesday the 3rd of September. 64 other students attended the event from five Reef Guardian Schools in our region.

The concept of the FLEC day is to encourage students and teachers to act locally whilst thinking globally. The purpose of which was to raise awareness and understanding of the Great Barrier Reef and its connections to local wetlands and the vital role wetlands play in the health and resilience of the Great Barrier Reef. Our students enjoyed the opportunity to take a tour of an 80 acre habitat reserve. On the tour, students learnt about:

- The importance of wetlands for fish stocks – outlining the barramundi life cycle,
- How the land was once used for grazing cattle and brick barriers were once erected, to stop tidal flow. These barriers have now been removed and it is now back to its natural state, recreating a native bio-diverse forest,
- There are now 1500 flowering and fruiting native trees for the birds, wildlife and insects,
- Numerous islands have been created to provide safe breeding habitats for local and migratory birds,
- How feral flora such as Lantana, Pepper trees and Para grass took approximately 10 years to eradicate.

Luke Galea, Environmental Scientist with Mackay Regional Council, showed students how to identify the pest fish Tilapia and how to stop the spread of this invasive species.

DID YOU KNOW? Tilapia is declared a noxious fish in Queensland and is one of the greatest threats to Australia’s native aquatic biodiversity.

Overall, our students considered the excursion to be a great learning opportunity as well as a chance to take a break from mainstream schooling and experience a “Green Classroom”. Our students were also avid educators as they returned to school and shared their experiences, skills and knowledge with their peers.

Well done to Kia, Josh, Aiden and Lillian for their excellent behaviour and active participation on the day!
DATE: 12 September, 2014
TIME: 6pm to 8pm
THEME: the 80’s! Come dressed for the decade.
COST: Gold coin donation for entry.
Attendance: Parents are requested to supervise their children as staff will be busy running the event. This disco is open to all students of our school, only.
Prizes: Student Council has decided that there will be prizes for the best dressed boy and girl from prep to 3, then also from year 4 to 7. Prizes are also being offered to the best costume of adult male and adult female!
Additional Activities: Lucky Dip, Guess the lollies in the jar.

Confident rider bicycle education

The whole family can learn bike safety, basic bike maintenance and road rules at a free two hour PCYC facilitated school holiday bike education class.

Friday, September 26
9am - 11am
Sarina State High School

Numbers are limited - please call PCYC Mackay on 4942 3236 to reserve your spot. Bikes and helmets are provided or you can bring your own.
For details visit mackay.qld.gov.au/activetown

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