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12 May 2009

### From the Principal

#### Leading Australia’s School

The Australian Government sponsors a leadership course for school principals across the country. Entry is competitive, as it is in high demand. The course is based in Melbourne, and is run by the Hay Group, an international management consulting company. I have been accepted into this course, and will be absent from school for the whole of next week (18-22 May). Please contact either Ms Perry or Mrs Patchett if you need to discuss a policy matter.

#### Mother and Son Breakfast

It was delightful to see so many mothers and their sons at last Friday’s breakfast. There were over 130 in attendance, with every year level represented. It was a lovely morning and I trust all mums had a terrific morning and a wonderful day last Sunday. Our thanks to all who attended, particularly Ms Christine Bongers, who gave a terrific talk linking the publication of her first book, the importance of dreams and goals, and the joy of reading (as well as telling many wonderful stories about growing up with six brothers). Thanks too, to Mrs Louise Seddon who coordinated the event.

The following are some thoughts that I published last year concerning mothers and sons. I trust mums may find them useful:

- Boys and girls are different – their brains are wired differently and boys have strengths and weaknesses that simply come from being male. Avoid comparing your son with his sister.
- Quality time comes from quantity time.
- Teach your son about girls and how to get along with them.
- Challenge the action, love the child.
- Be generous in your praise, but be praise specific. Boys know when they have not done well. Avoid making excuses for him so you help him to understand that his actions have consequences.
- Set your boundaries by deciding what is really important ... and stick to it!
- Boys develop friendships by doing things together, so share his passions. You will also hear more of his day than just a ‘fine’.
- Encourage fathers and son to spend time together.
- Little boys will learn love from you both.

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**DIARY EVENTS**

**To view our full calendar of events, please go to [mbbc/news/MBBC Calendar of Events 2009](#)**

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**REGULAR EVENTS**

- Chapel
  - Chapel is held each week on Mondays:
    - Prep to Year 7: 9:30 am
    - Year 8 to Year 11: 8:30 am
Assembly
Primary School
Assembly is held at 8.30am on Fridays.

Middle/ Senior School
Assembly is held at 8.30 am on Thursdays.

Parents are always welcome to join us at these events.

MEMORY VERSE
1 By faith we have been made acceptable to God. And now, because of our Lord Jesus Christ, we live at peace with God.
Romans 5:1

Enjoy them!

Open Day
More than 100 families visited the school last Thursday. It was a very successful day and, as on previous occasions, we received tremendous comments all day on the quality, behaviour, approachability and friendliness of the boys.

Taiwanese Principals visit
On Friday, we hosted 41 school principals from Taiwan. It was a very interesting afternoon. The visiting principals were not just impressed by the campus, the range of subjects undertaken and the various teaching approaches used, but were especially interested in our MIRROR program and our emphasis on character development. There were certainly plenty of photos taken!

School Hats
There has been some discussion as to whether the College should add a bucket style hat to the uniform list. Currently we have four hats in the College: the Aussie mate hat, the grey 'straw' hat, a cricket hat and a cap. The first three of these are broad brimmed. Our current policy states that boys in P-3 wear the Aussie mate hat at school. Boys from Years 4-11 are to wear the grey hat to and from school and EITHER the cap or the Aussie mate hat during outdoor activities or play times at school. Therefore boys are able to wear a hat which provides a high level of protection from the sun. In addition, sunscreen is available and boys are encouraged to use it.

Additional uniform items need to fill a gap in our uniforms (ie new sports uniforms as we add new sports). As there are already options for boys in relation to broad brimmed hats, an additional option is not required, particularly as the bucket hat does not provide the same level of protection as the Aussie mate hat. We do take sun safety seriously at MBBC and provide options for boys either to stay out of the sun during play times or to be protected as fully as possible in outdoor class activities. Rashies, broad brimmed hats, and sun screen are all aspects of these options, as will the new amphitheatre which the College is soon to build.

Congratulations
Aidan Adams (Year 1) who has been selected to represent Australia at the world BMX Championships. Aidan finished first in the recent national championships.

Fitness-a-thon
The fitness-a-thon this Thursday is a terrific way to wind down at the end of the national tests this week. Boys and parents are encouraged to gain as much sponsorship as possible, as all money raised on the day goes to support the College.

NAPLAN
All boys in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are currently undertaking their NAPLAN tests. These will conclude on Thursday.

Dr Roderick Crouch
Principal

Events - Highlights

Library
Sadly, just before our Mother and Son Breakfast, we discovered that Jackie French had been diagnosed with a serious illness. A decision was made to wait until later in the year for her to visit us, when she was stronger.

We are grateful to debutante and Brisbane-based author, Christine Borgers, who kindly offered to be our last-minute guest speaker. Christine shared with us her experiences of growing up in the bush at Biloela as the only girl amongst six brothers, as well as her journey towards celebrating the launch of her first novel, "Dust", in June. We appreciated her humorous anecdotes and her encouragement for us all to pursue our dreams.

Christine will be launching her book at the following locations:

22 June  6:00 pm  Riverbend Books, Oxford St, Bulimba
14 July  Voices on the Coast Youth Literature Festival, University of the Sunshine Coast
25 June  TLC Books, Cambridge St, Manly Ph: 3393 5130

If you wish to participate in these events, please contact these organisations for further details.
In the lead up to Jackie French’s visit, The Shaggy Gully Tuckshop opened outside the Library during some lunchtimes. Some of the characters in her books live in Shaggy Gully and love the food that is served. It has been a hit with MBBC boys also. The menu consisted of such delicacies as Weevils with Noodles, Spaghetti and Sheep Drippings, Cow Pat Surprise and Frozen Legless Green Ants. If you are at school, please drop into the Library to see the amazing display that Mrs Trudy Tait devised for our author visit.

**Events - Upcoming**

**Year 3 Excursion to Mangroves 19 May**
Boys will visit a mangrove forest to investigate the plants and animals that live there and discover the beauty and importance of these habitats.

**Friends of Nature**
The **next Friends of the Nature Refuge event** will be hosted by Doherty on Friday 22 May from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm. This is a chance for the boys to assist with the care of the bushland adjoining the College. We plan to plant several trees and clean up some areas of the Refuge.

House points will be given to reward attendants:
- 1 point for Doherty students and staff,
- 5 points for Doherty parents or guardians
and double points if you come from another House.

On Sunday, 24 May from 8:00 am to 11:00 am, there is also a drop in event, with enough time to really get dirty.

It’s a great chance for the College to work together and make a difference.

**Year 8 Chicken Pox Vaccinations**
3 June 2009: Parents are reminded that the Brisbane City Council Immunisation Clinic will visit the College on 3 June 2009 to administer the Chicken Pox Vaccinations to Year 8 students who have previously submitted a consent form.

**Co-Curricular**

**Public Speaking**
MBBC was proudly represented in the Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition on Sunday, 3 May by Bhavik Kapadia in Year 11. Bhavik prepared and presented an 8 minute speech on the topic, *Seen but not Heard*. Bhavik worked very hard in redrafting and honing his speech and I congratulate him on the high quality of both his speech and his presentation. We thank Mrs Annette Thomas for her help in this also. Hopefully Bhavik is the first of many MBBC students who will take up the challenge and enjoy Public Speaking as one of their co-curricular activities.

**Sport**

**CIC Sport**
Last Saturday, soccer teams travelled to Nudgee College to play Round 2 of the CIC Soccer season. Congratulations to Mr Noonan (coach) and the Year 7 team for securing MBBC’s first A-grade win with a 4 – 0 performance!

The Year 5 and 6 Rugby teams travelled to Nudgee to play Round 2 of the CIC Rugby season. The 5A team defeated Nudgee’s 5D team 56 – 15. Well done to Mr Ward (coach) and the Year 5 team.

Last Friday night, the CIC Cross Country team travelled to Iona College to compete in a Cross Country Lead-up Meet hosted by Iona College. Adam Fog (u/10) won his second lead-up race in a very close sprint finish. Many boys are improving out of sight, using a ‘negative-split’ approach to racing.

For race and game reports, photographs, playing venues and training times please view the [CIC Soccer, Rugby and Cross](#)
At times, there will be changes to playing venues and game times posted in newsletters. If this is the case, a note will go home notifying you of any changes. The draw will also be updated on the Internet. I suggest you check the draw on the Internet each Friday.

This Saturday, the soccer and Rugby teams play away at The Southport School on the Gold Coast. On Friday, the cross country team will travel to Fig Tree Pocket to compete in the third lead-up cross country meet, and will be hosted by Brisbane Boys' College.

Mr Jack Pincott  
CIC Coordinator

Lytton District Sport
Last Wednesday, Jesse Bayes trialled for the Lytton District Tennis Team. Jesse played well, winning two out the four games he played. While unsuccessful in advancing to the Met East Tennis Trials, Jesse knows the standard required of him for next year's trial. Great effort Jesse.

Mr Jack Pincott

MBBC Under 8's AFL
TEAMWORK!!! Friday night's game was an impressive display of teamwork. The Redlands team did not get much of a chance to score as they just weren't able to get the ball. Jay and Blair had some fantastic handballs back and forth to each other. Passing kicks by Myles and Harrison to Jackson and Toby made it easy for the boys to get into good positions to kick for goal. Nicholas was running around the other team's player's to kick some great 6 pointers. Aidan also had some nice goals. Well done to Lewis and Cameron for taking some good marks as well. This week we are at home, please come out at 6:00 pm to the Vikings grounds on Kianawah Rd and cheer the boys on. There will be sausages and refreshments, all proceeds going towards the boys' end of season festivities!

Ms Sheridan Wallis

Rugby (Secondary School – Supplementary GPS)
It was the first official round for the GPS Season, with play at Gregory Terrace's home fields at Tennyson. All teams played their strongest games of Rugby yet, as they had to withstand the might of Terrace. Congratulations to all on a fantastic effort, particularly to the Under 14s, who totally dominated their game. It was also the Under 16s first game of the season, and it was most pleasing to see the boys start to come together as a force to be reckoned with.

Results:
MBBC 13s vs GT 13Es – D 20-10  
MBBC 14s vs GT 14Es – Win 76-0  
MBBC 16s vs GT 16Es – Win 24-0

ALL teams will play this Saturday in the second round of the GPS season. As soon as the College is informed of game details, students will receive a note informing them of the match details. Good luck to all boys this Saturday! A reminder that ALL boys who registered to play Rugby will need to be available EVERY week for games, as we have exact numbers for the teams.

Changes to Training Schedule – this Week ONLY for Under 13s, 14s and 16s
There will be no training session this afternoon. A training session will be held at the College at 7:00 am on Wednesday, 13 May.

VERY URGENT - We still need Refs for Rugby and Soccer!!!
We are in urgent need for parents to assist with Rugby Union and Football (soccer) refereeing. All training will be provided.

All prospective parents please contact Mr Pike (Sports Master) at pikeh@mbbc.qld.edu.au as soon as possible with nominations.

Mr Hamish Pike  
Sports Master  
pikeh@mbbc.qld.edu.au

Chaplain’s Corner

An encouragement for mothers
Last weekend was Mother's Day. So boys, did you spoil your mum? Did you make her feel really loved and valued and special? Maybe we should think about doing this for our mum a little more than once a year. This week, I want to share a poem with all the mums to encourage you to keep up the good work and to remind you that you are all very special.

Why God Made Mothers
By the time the Lord made mothers, he was into his sixth day of working overtime. An Angel appeared and said, "Why are you spending so much time on this one?"
And the Lord answered and said, "Have you seen the spec sheet on her? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic, have 200 movable parts, all replaceable, run on black coffee and leftovers, have a lap that can hold three children at one time and that disappears when she stands up, have a kiss that can cure anything from a scraped knee to a broken heart, and have six pairs of hands."
The Angel was astounded at the requirements for this one. "Six pairs of hands! No way!" said the Angel.
The Lord replied, "Oh, it's not the hands that are the problem. It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers must have!"
"And that's just on the standard model?" the Angel asked.

The Lord nodded in agreement, "Yep, one pair of eyes are to see through the closed door as she asks her children what they are doing even though she already knows. Another pair in the back of her head, are to see what she needs to know even though no one thinks she can. And the third pair are here in the front of her head. They are for looking at an errant child and saying that she understands and loves him or her without even saying a single word."

The Angel tried to stop the Lord. "This is too much work for one day. Wait until tomorrow to finish."

"But I can't!" The Lord protested, "I am so near to finishing this creation that is so close to my own heart. She already heals herself when she's sick, can feed a family of six on a pound of hamburger and can get a nine year old to stand in the shower."

The Angel moved closer and touched the woman. "But you have made her so soft, Lord."

"She is soft," the Lord agreed, "but I have also made her tough. You have no idea what she can endure or accomplish."

"Will she be able to think?" asked the Angel.

The Lord replied, "Not only will she be able to think, she will be able to reason, and negotiate."

The Angel then noticed something and reached out and touched the woman's cheek. "Oops, it looks like you have a leak with this model. I told you that you were trying to put too much into this one."

"That's not a leak." The Lord objected. "That's a tear!"

"What's the tear for?" the Angel asked.

The Lord said: "The tear is her way of expressing her joy, her sorrow, her disappointment, her pain, her loneliness, her grief, and her pride."

The Angel was impressed. "You are a genius, Lord. You thought of everything; mothers are truly amazing!"

~by Erma Bombeck~

I hope that all the mums of our school community had a great weekend filled with many blessings and much love. Just remember: you are truly amazing!!

If I can be of assistance to you or your family or if you would like to give me any feedback on any ‘Chaplain’s Corner’ article please feel free to do so, on mccarthy@mbbc.qld.edu.au

Mr Shane McCarthy
School Chaplain

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**College Business**

**MBBC Sport Socks**
Sports socks are now available from the MBC Uniform Shop.

**Spotlight on Sustainability**
MobileMuster - We are once again taking part in the MobileMuster Schools Recycling Challenge. This year, for every 5 kg of phones collected, a new fence post will be donated to the bushfire affected areas of Victoria.

MobileMuster is the official national recycling program of the mobile phone industry in Australia. The overall aim is to prevent mobile phones ending up in landfill. The program collects and recycles mobile phone handsets, batteries and accessories.

Mobile phones are not biodegradable, and more than 90% of the plastics and metals in mobile phones, batteries and accessories can be recovered and used as raw materials to make new products such as stainless steel, plastic fence posts and jewellery.

**Key Facts**
- There are over 21 million mobile phone subscribers.
- Australians upgrade or exchange their mobile phones every 18 to 24 months.
- It is estimated that there are about 16 million old mobile phones cluttering people's homes and offices across Australia.

**What can be recycled**
Over 90% of the materials in mobile phones can be recovered and used as raw materials for new products.
- Batteries include nickel to make stainless steel and cobalt and cadmium to make new batteries.
- Circuit boards include small amounts of gold and silver that is used in jewellery and other applications.
- Handset housings and casings include plastics that are shredded and used to make fence posts and pallets.
- Accessories include plastics and metals that are shredded, sorted and then used to make new plastic or metal products.

You can recycle your old mobiles by dropping them off at the College office during school hours. The deadline for collection is Friday, 5 June.

**Think Climate Think Change competition**
The Australian Government Department of Climate Change is holding a national competition called Think Climate Think Change. It's all about Climate Change and what it means to you.

You need to use your creative talents to answer the question “What does Climate Change mean to me?" You can draw a picture, write a song, a short story or a poem.

There are some great prizes to be won, such as a trip to Canberra to attend the awards ceremony and take a tour of Parliament House, a Nintendo Wii, iPods and gift vouchers.

This competition is open to boys in Year 3 to Year 9. Please see Miss Smith for an entry form. All entries are due to Miss Smith by Monday, 22 June. **www.climatechange.gov.au**

**MBBC Water Bottle**
The College now has water bottles available for purchase at the office for $6 each.
OSH Club

We here at Out of School Hours Care would like to ask if you could avoid sending food that requires cooking or heating to our centre. Not having to prepare food such as noodles means staff are able to spend more contact time with the children. Also, according to OSHClub policy, noodles are not to be provided more than once a week. This is a nutritional concern, in addition to the issue of preparation time. Thank you for your understanding.

Mr Peter Wilson
Coordinator
OSHClub MBBC

Wet Weather Line

The school wet weather line is the number to call for information about cancelled sport ie Active After School Sport or functions that are to be held outside. The information is updated daily. Please call 3906 9450.

Absentee Line

The school absentee line is 3906 9494. Please leave your son’s name and a reason for his absence before 9:00 am. A note/medical certificate can be given to your son’s teacher on arrival back to school.

Late to school

If your son is late to school, parents are required to sign in your child in at the school office. Children in younger grades (up to Year 5) are not to be sent into the office without a parent.

Parents & Friends

A big thank you to all parents who volunteered to man the refreshment stall on Open Day.

Congratulations also to the young men who assisted with the school tours. The College and their parents should be very proud of them.

Fitness-a-Thon

The fitness-a-thon will be held this Thursday, 14 May at 1:00 pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

Please remember to bring in your donation form on this day as your teacher will need to record how many laps you complete. All monies to be returned by Friday, 29 May.

Direct deposit: BSB 034 053 A/c 175600 - reference "fitness" + your surname and year.

If you still need a form, please see the attachment.

Scholar Dollars - Shop and reward your school

Capalaba Central shopping centre scholar dollars has started and will continue through to 25 June 2009. Customers who shop at Capalaba Central can allocate every dollar they spend as points towards MBBC. The school with the most points will win $10,000, and the runner-up will win $2,500. Simply take your receipts to the customer service desk in the centre and mention MBBC.

Added incentive: Stacks of Storage in Capalaba Central will donate 5% of all sales purchases made in this period to MBBC. Just mention MBBC at point of sale.

MBBC is currently coming third in the competition which only started yesterday!

Please let family and friends know about this campaign.

Entertainment Books

This fundraiser has now finished. Please return your book to the office if you do not want to purchase.

Cadbury Chocolates

Unfortunately we still have money outstanding. If you have not yet returned your money, please could you attend to this promptly. Bank Details for direct deposits: BSB 034053 A/C 17560.

Mrs Karen Austin
President
MBBC P & F

Community Notices

Brisbane Roar Roadshow

We have the Brisbane Roar Roadshow coming to Brisbane Wolves on Tuesday, 19 May with the Brisbane Roar players, inflatable pitch and mascot, ROARY, at the ground from 4:15 pm.

The show starts with Roar Rapid Fire Freestyle Football activities from 4:30pm. There will be lots of giveaways, players signings and photo opportunities, and then the Roar boys will play our own Brisbane Wolves at 7:15 pm - 8:40 pm.
What a great opportunity to meet and see the boys play up close! So come along and bring all your friends and have a great night at Brisbane Wolves (175 Boundary Street, Tingalpa).

Parents Victoria Online Conference
18-24 May 2009
PARENTS of primary and secondary students, in all locations, are warmly invited to take part in the third online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet from 6am Monday 18 May to midnight Sunday 24 May. No special software is needed, other than an internet-connected computer and a browser. The online discussions will be very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate will be provided. You don't need to be a member of Parents Victoria to take part. Join in for all days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments.

Register online at no cost
Register yourself online at http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv09.htm