Robbery
Unfortunately yesterday afternoon, two of the staff had their purses stolen after school while the staff was attending our weekly staff meeting. This is a brazen and shameful act but a stark reminder of the need to take care with our belongings. It is also a reminder that all visitors must sign in at the office on arrival. If anyone saw anyone acting suspiciously on Monday afternoon would they please contact me as soon as possible.

Science Success
Last Thursday we celebrated our focus on science in the College on numerous levels. Firstly we had a record number of entries in our science projects competition and the standard was extremely high. From animal traps in Preschool to fossils, volcanoes and slime in Years 1-3, crystals, catapults and food clocks in Years 4-6, and finally marble runs and spaghetti bridges in the middle school, we had entries of all shapes and sizes. Boys who won 1st place in their respective year level are listed later in the newsletter.

Second, the College itself was recognised for the quality (and teaching) of our science program when we were awarded a Peter Doherty Science Success School Award. There are over 1400 schools in Queensland and only 8 schools were recognised by this award. Given our short history, this is an even more outstanding achievement and I congratulate our staff on all their efforts to ensure a quality curriculum is both available and taught well to the boys.

Finally, our Family Science Night was a tremendous success with boys (and their families) participating in various activities to discover some fascinating scientific principles. Over two hundred attended what was not only a wonderful evening but also great fun.

The Teaching of History
There has been considerable debate recently concerning the teaching of Australian history in Australian schools. In Queensland, at least up to Year 9 or 10, history is incorporated into the SOSE (Studies of Society and its Environment). Sadly there is considerable truth in that too many children do not have an understanding of the major events in Australia’s past. Equally sadly, the debate is often reduced to ‘children need to know certain facts!’ There are many facets to this debate but one comment I would like to make is that we do our children a disservice if all we teach them is a series of facts. Processes are as important but the two must go hand in hand. It is as useless to know a series of facts without having the thinking skills or processes to know how to apply, use and learn from them, as it is to have processes without knowing how and where to find knowledge. This is why the first two of the MBBC 3R’s are research and reason. Knowledge is essential but being able to act on, apply and learn from that knowledge just as important.

An Overcrowded Curriculum
The other interesting aspect of the history teaching debate concerns balance. Over the last 10 years, there have been reviews into the teaching of almost every subject, with recommendations that more should be taught in each area. These reviews are inevitably done in isolation of each other and when all these recommendations are added together they add to about a 50 hour week! In addition the rise of social education is a constant challenge for school educators as the community generally demands that schools find time to cope and cater for social concerns. What was once seen as the responsibility of the community/parents is now considered to be the responsibility of schools and school leaders must balance the common good with catering for individual needs. The community looks to schools to solve issues not only concerning children’s academic needs but also health and welfare needs, and so schools become asthma/allergy friendly, more physically active, sun smart, healthy eating etc. It is an interesting exercise in finding balance and emphasises again that the best education comes from a partnership between home and school.
**Trivia Night**
I look forward to seeing many parents and friends at the Trivia Night this Saturday. We thank sincerely the families who have either donated something or arranged the donation. We can always do with more auction items so if you are able to donate something (either large or small) please call the office tomorrow.

**Staff news**
We welcome Mrs Smith back to the office and are pleased to hear her children are much better. We also welcome Ms Lynette Schlobolm to the staff. Mrs Schlobolm has been doing some temporary work to cover Mrs Smith’s absence and comes to us with a vast array of experience. The two will job share the College reception.

**Roderick HW Crouch**
Principal

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**Assembly**
Congratulations to Year 4 for a great job at assembly last week. Year 2 will be leading this week’s assembly.

**Memory Verse**
John 3:3, "Jesus replied, "I tell you for certain that you must be born from above before you can see God's kingdom!"

**House of the Week**
Congratulations to Nicholls for being House of the week.

**Awards**
Congratulations to the following students for receiving Award cards last week: **YP:** Tobias Kennett, Louis Martin
**Y1S:** James Cosgrove, Charlie Moore, Isaiah Snell.
**Y1W:** Jack Carstairs, Callum Earle.
**Y2:** Jackson Rossi
**Y4:** Yi Liu, Angus Walton, Jordan Falvey, Angus Dobson, Cameron McGregor.

**Choir**
The Junior and Senior Vocal Ensembles need to be congratulated on their performance at Choralia on Sunday. Both ensembles will be performing at the Manly Gardens Retirement Village Spring Fair this coming weekend. All boys will have received a notice with the details. It is important that all boys are punctual to rehearsals. A reminder that the Senior Choir will be rehearsing on Friday, August 25 from 7:45-8:15am, in addition to the regular rehearsal time.

Thank you, Miss Hollingsworth.

**Charity Carnival Day**
Our Carnival Day will again be hosted on the last day of term. The beneficiary of our fundraising this year will be the Humour Foundation or “Clown Doctors”. These are professional health care persons who assist sick children through humour. A flyer with more information about the Carnival Day will be distributed with the Newsletter in the near future.

More information about the Humour Foundation is available on their website at [www.humourfoundation.com.au](http://www.humourfoundation.com.au). If you can be of assistance on the day or could donate any items which would be useful on the day, please contact your son’s teacher.

**Andy Griffiths Visit**
We were very fortunate; with thanks to Pan Macmillan publishers and Riverbend Books, to be included in Andy Griffiths’ promotional tour for the release of his newest book ‘The Cat on the Mat is Flat’. Andy’s previous works (being The ‘Just’ series, the ‘Bum’ trilogy and ‘The Bad Book’) were already known, and loved, by our boys. As such his visit was eagerly anticipated. Andy did not disappoint. He spoke for an hilarious 45 minutes to the boys about his unusual sources of inspiration and the way he writes unexpected storylines. He challenged the boys to take a similar approach when tackling writing tasks. After the formalities were over, boys lined to purchase copies of his books which Andy signed in a way that made each book personal. We were in awe of his patience and stamina.

Andy was an English Teacher, prior to becoming an author, and many of the stories published in his books arose from classroom writing workshops. We need to encourage our boys to read for pleasure and to write for enjoyment. These books encourage this behaviour. The ‘Cat on the Mat is Flat’ is written with 5-8 year olds in mind, although it is enjoyed by many of us well past 8 years of age. What a fun way to start reading independently! Andy’s visit has reignited a desire to read for pleasure and as a parent isn’t this what we would like to see for our boys? Mrs Wyatt.
‘You Can Do It’ Education Update

In some of the classrooms across the Moreton Bay Boys’ College community, there are 2 little characters that have been introduced to the students that may live in their head and influence their thinking when things happen. The first character is the HEAD HASSLER. The Head Hassler has been introduced to the students as somebody in their head that makes them feel miserable. He convinces them that they are hopeless and he tells people that they are no good at anything! The head Hassler also tries to make people feel angry, guilty, jealous, afraid and down. The head Hassler’s favourite words are should, shouldn’t and must. People can feel upset and angry when they listen to the head Hassler tell them things like “He SHOULDN’T have done that” or “He should have been nicer to me” and “My parents MUST let me watch TV longer”. The Head Hassler also carries a disease with him that hopefully nobody will catch call “Ican’tstandititis”. The secret way of coping with “Ican'tstandititis” is to listen to the MIND Master instead!

The MIND MASTER is the other character that some students may have been introduced to. The Mind Master offers sensible thinking by using words like wish, prefer and like, instead of Head Hassling words like should and must.

Everyone has lots of different feelings and all these feelings are caused by lots of different thoughts. It is important for students (and adults) to be able to tell which thoughts come from the Head Hassler and which ones comes form the Mind Master.

There is an easy way to work this out. If you are feeling really bad (angry, afraid, guilt, jealous, miserable), then you know the Head Hassler is busy. But if you feel good (happy, confident, loving, safe and secure) then you know that the Mind Master is at work.

The Mind Master is sensible – he makes sure that you feel the right feeling at the right time. Next newsletter, the Blockers (or the Negative Habits of the Mind) will be introduced.

Tuckshop

This week’s tuckshop is Macaroni Bolognese plus milk or juice ($4.50). Please fill out the tear off slip to order tuckshop and place in the silver locked box outside the office by Wednesday 10.00am. Tuckshop cannot be ordered on Thursday. No change is given so please include the correct money.

Science Project Awards

Congratulations to the following students for receiving Science Awards last week: YP: Matthew Eisenmenger Y1: Elliott Haynes Y2: Jackson Rossi Y3: Louis Altena Y4: Ryan Munro Y5: Thomas Thorne Y6: Connor Mackay, Benjamin Darmanin, James Ogivlie Y7: Thomas McManaway Y8: Alex Mann

In addition to these individual wards, Doherty won the Interhouse science competition. Congratulations Doherty!

Success for Boys

Last Monday the teaching staff engaged in professional learning by attending the Core Module of Success for Boys. MBBC received a grant to become part of a project to encourage improved outcomes for boys in their schooling. Over the next twelve months teachers will be developing action plans for engaging boys in learning through mentoring and related programs. The staff enjoyed participating in several “think tank” activities which provided lively and stimulating professional discussion. Miss Ryan.

Sport News

Under 14’s MBBC Eagles

MBBC boys got off to a very shaky start against a very determined Hoopster Red team. At half time they were down 26 to 8. However, in the second half, the boys passed the ball around to their team mates and with some great goal shooting, the end result was a loss of 32 to 28. This was a fantastic effort when all odds were stacked against them. Go the Eagles!!! Training is at 3.00 pm on Tuesday and the next game is at 11.20 am. Greg Rynenberg, Manager.

Congratulations to Trent O’Brien and James Ogilivie on being selected in the district cricket squad. We wish them all the best for the final trial this week.
"Arabian Nights" Trivia Night & Auction 26th August

We're counting down the sleeps to Saturday, for the annual MBBC Trivia Night & Auction. With belly dancers, delicious food, scrumptious cocktails and tantalising trivia questions, it should be a great night. The public auction will include such interesting items as a signed cricket bat (Andrew Symonds, Michael Kasprowicz, Shane Watson), the chance to be MBBC Principal for the Day, a mobile kitchen bench worth more than $700 and a painting by a very talented local artist, plus the silent auction is a veritable Aladdin's cave of goodies this year. Will you win the mini motorbike?? Don't forget to organise taxis/designated drivers and bring your gold coins. FYI - Tickets for the Trivia night will be distributed on Tuesday - if you haven't received your tickets please contact Karen Austin on ph: 3893 0908.

MBBC Family Favourites Recipe Book
Recipe Tally = 40. ONLY 10 DAYS LEFT TO SEND YOUR RECIPES IN!!
Closing Date for recipes – 31 August 06.
A reminder to families to send in your favourite family recipes by emailing them (no more than 3 per boy) to minrob@bigpond.net.au or putting them in the silver box for collection. Thank you to the families that have already sent in some delicious recipes. The book is growing but we still need more! Be sure to provide your family name and son/s name and grade [e.g. SMITH family – Sam (Year 2)].

Thank you to Richard Matterson and Kent Hardgrave for their efforts regarding the Sausage sizzle, also a big thank you to Meat by the Bay for supplying the sausages and bread.

Term 3 Dates: Monday July 17 to Friday September 22.