Parent Information Evening

It was wonderful to see so many parents at last week’s parent information evening. On the night I commented briefly on how boys can accept failure as an option and why we need to challenge this. By this I mean that boys particularly are too often prepared to settle for less than their best and can use this strategy to get others to do the task for them. “If I do it badly enough, either I wont get asked again or someone will fix it for me and I’ll look good” is how the thinking goes. Mothers particularly can fall into this trap of doing everything for their sons. Too often our expectations of boys are too low. As our media and advertising continues to portray males as lovable fools, we begin to accept that boys are more likely to get into trouble or be careless or slapdash. Hardly surprising boys learn quickly that if they do things badly, someone will pick up the slack. Equally, because we want what is best for our children and we seek to protect them, there is a temptation both to do everything for our children and not allow them to learn from their errors but also to praise all that they do, no matter how poorly done it might be.

One reason boys tend to give up is that they can’t master something instantly or they can’t be the best. We need to encourage them to be the best they can be - to set challenges for themselves, to encourage them to work hard by resetting expectations and to praise their successes when they have tackled and or achieved those challenges. In this way we assist our sons to become resilient and effective members of society.

Speech and Communication

I am delighted to announce that Mrs Judy Matsumoto has been appointed as our Speech and Communication teacher. Mrs Matsumoto has many years experience working with boys. Lessons will begin next week. The speech and communication booklet can be collected form the office.

Lytton District Swimming Trials

Isaac Freeman, Cameron McGregor and Matthew Wood recently swam in these trials. Congratulations to Isaac for making the District team in 4 events.

PCYC Junior Pulse Dance

This Saturday 18 February is the first PCYC Junior Pulse Dance for the year at Carindale PCYC. Primary school aged children are able to attend. For further information call 33249652

Class Representatives

We are looking for a parent representative from each class. The main role of the parent rep is to coordinate the one activity the class will be responsible for during the year. Parent reps also assist the class teacher (if needed) with class activities and assist with the mother son and father son breakfasts. It is not an onerous task. If you would be willing to be your (son’s) class’ parent rep, please let the office know.

Newsletter

If submitting an article for the newsletter it needs to be sent to admin@mbbc.qld.edu.au by 12 noon Mondays.

Roderick HW Crouch
Principal
Assembly
Congratulations to Year 3 for a great job at assembly last week. Year 5 will be leading this week’s assembly.

Memory Verse
Psalm 119: -32 “I am eager to learn all that you want me to do; help me to understand more and more”.

Award Cards
There were no award cards last week.

House of the Week
Congratulations to Dunlop for being House of the Week.

School Badges
School badges are available for purchase from the administration office at a cost of $5.00. It is compulsory that all students wear a school badge and they are to be worn as follows:

P – 6 On the left collar of their shirts
7 – 8 On the left side of their hats or on the left collar of their shirts

Badges need to be purchased by this Friday, 17 Feb 2006.

Chess
The members of the Chess Team are as follows: Matthew Martin (8), Thomas McManaway (7), Mason Huber (7), Jack Walters (6), Matthew Wood (6), William Matterson (6), Tim Thorogood (5), Trent Allen (5), Michael Moutsias (4), Declan Walters (4). Members of the Chess Team will train in the Year 7/8 classroom on Thursday mornings from 7.15 to 8.15am.

Lean to Play Chess members as follows: Jack Oliver (5), Campbell Thomson (5), Brendan Thomson (5), Nicky Sabulis (5), Lucas Martin (5), Jordan Topham (3), Jordan Fahey (4)

All learn to play chess members will train with Mr James on Monday afternoons from 2.45 – 3.45pm in the Library.

Absentees
Please be advised that a note for absentees does not need to be sent to school unless the absence is for a period of 2 days or more.

Sausage Sizzle
Two sausage sizzles will be held this term on 27 February and 29 March, we therefore require some helpers. If you are able to spare some time to help, please call Kent Hardgrave on ph: 0412 632 709.

Basketball
Under 14’s Basketball Report
MBBC Eagles played their first game on Saturday going down 11 to 10. Under Matt Moy’s captaincy, Adam, Andrew, Daniel, Matt Day and Mason played extremely well. The boys showed plenty of enthusiasm. I am sure that as they develop their skills, they will improve throughout the season. Next game is at 12.10 pm on Saturday. Greg Rynenberg, Manager.

Choir
The Junior Vocal Ensemble for boys in Years 1-3 is now rehearsing on a Thursday morning. Boys will meet on the 23 February at 7.45am in the music room.

This week is the last week to register so that MBBC can be in the running for the school prize for the most number of participants registered per head of school enrolment (registrations must be in by February 17, 2006). If you son is interested in participating, you can either register on-line at tryathlon.weetbix.com.au or pick up an official entry form from the office. All members of the MBBC community are encouraged to share this fun event so please also be aware that siblings who are 7 - 15 years old are also welcome to attend. Contact Karen Carter (Yr 6 parent) on 0418 741014 (bh), 3893 0896 (ah) or email carterhardgrave@bigblue.net.au for further details.

Let’s Get Mobile
A group of parents are jogging each Tuesday, Thursday (at 5am) and Saturday mornings (at 6am) from Manly to Wynnnum Creek. If you would like more information please contact Brian Carstairs ph: 0417 110 913 or Mark Game 0411 507 115. Meet at the third park bay south of Cambridge Pde Manly, where the picnic table is, we head off at 5.05am, see you there.

Uniform
Size 6 shorts are now available at the uniform shop at Moreton Bay College for purchase.
**Year 1S**

Last week in 1S we focused on our personal goals, discussing what they were, what we used them for and how they can be achieved in our everyday life. Some of the popular responses were “I would like to be better at reading”, “I would like to learn more about science” and “I would like to get better at soccer”. As Charles Carlson said, “You are successful the moment you start moving toward a worthwhile goal”, and by building this foundation for the boys they can reflect on their goals and try to reach them one step at a time.

In literacy this week we focused on our journal writing and sentence structure, encouraging the boys to sound out and use their dictionary for assistance. It is great to see the boys have a go! Within literacy groups the boys used their fine motor skills to cut and paste letters/words or items to create a class alphabet book, shared guided reading with Mrs Vincent, and weaved letters on string to make very marketable necklaces. This week in Maths groups the boys were very excited about the opportunity to use computers, manipulating the mouse to create pictures on the Kids Pix program. They also completed a 2D shape sheet, measured objects around the room using blocks and created patterns with pegs, bears and blocks.

The boys have made great progress and I look forward to watching them grow and build their knowledge each day.

Ms Sullivan.

**Year 1W**

The last couple of weeks have been very busy in 1W. The boys are beginning to see themselves as learners who can actually read and write. By being provided with support when writing and being given constant positive reinforcement it is possible for the boys to take those small steps in literacy. Whether it is getting the first sound down for the word they are trying to spell or actually sounding out all of the words needed for their sentence the boys are achieving their personal best and should be proud of the progress they have made over three short weeks.

Highlights of the last two weeks include investigating magnets, experimenting with “Dancing Sultanas”, finally getting to do collage, watching the landscaping take shape, exploring Kids Pix on the computers and undertaking our first swimming lesson.

The boys are building relationships with one another and also with boys in other year levels. They are exploring their environment and are excited to be working, playing and learning each day.

Ms Woodgate

**Year 3**

Congratulations, and well done to the boys of Year 3 for an outstanding performance at last week’s assembly. The quality of the public speaking was very high and I was very impressed with the behaviour of the boys who did not participate. As explained in class, those who did not participate on this occasion will participate at the next assembly lead by Year 3.

This week the boys will continue preparations for their class project that they will begin next week. This will be an in class and home activity. The boys are now in the process of investigating their local community and eventually local government. The boys are also enjoying their pop quizzes. Mr Pike

**Year 5**

This last week Year 5 boys have been very busy in all Key Learning Areas. In PE the boys have had lots of fun working on their fitness and learning how to play cricket. This week we will be playing ‘Rapid Fire’, which focuses on batting and fielding skills.

In Integrated Studies the boys have just completed a report task on a notable Indigenous Australian and their contributions to our society. The presentation styles have ranged from powerpoints to posters and speeches. What is most encouraging is seeing our boys present in front of their peers so confidently. We are now moving onto European exploration of our land.

In English we are well underway with our SMART words program and rotation activities. Please feel free to come in and observe and/or participate in these early morning sessions and become a SMART speller too! We have continued on with our novel ‘Thomas Appleby’ and the boys are really intrigued by the life of a small chimney sweep who becomes a convict. We will be using the Venn Diagram thinking strategy this week to compare the lives of the character Thomas with our own.

Thank you for coming along to the Parent Evening night. I did enjoy meeting you all again and sharing with you the program for your boys this year. Ms Thompson
“You Can Do It” Education Update

“You Can Do It! Education” is an approach to schooling that has as its goal for all children to realise their potential and achieve to the best of their ability, as well as experience social-emotional well being.

“You Can Do It! Education” incorporates best practices in how school and home can work together to motivate students to achieve in their eventual successful transition from schoolwork, further education, and into adult life.

The purpose of the program is to equip students with the Habits of the Mind necessary to handle the increasing demands of schoolwork and societal pressures.

Over the next number of newsletters, the Foundations and the Positive Habits of the Mind will be introduced to you. These Foundations and Positive Habits of the Mind will also be presented to students through lessons.

Keep your ears open for home conversations that may include some of the “You Can Do It! Education Foundations, and Positive Habits of the Mind. Ms Ryan

Tuckshop

We are currently recruiting tuckshop helpers for 2006. If you are able to assist please call Madonna Sines on 0412 067 721. It is a great way to meet other parents and be involved in the school community for a couple of hours each week. This Week’s tuckshop is a Chicken Strip Sub at a cost of $4.00 includes milk/ juice. Please fill out the slip below to order tuckshop.

Support-A-Reader

Parental support is always welcomed at MBBC and due to this we provide training and support throughout the year. These sessions are helpful when you are helping out in the classrooms as well as helping you to support your own son at home. Support-a-reader parent training will commence on Wednesday 22 February. This will be a three hour session starting at 6pm. Please email me if you are interested. ruddiel@mbbc.qld.edu.au

If anyone is interested in doing 1 hour per week in the afternoon after school please let me know and I’ll make the arrangements.

If any previously trained support-a-reader parents are interested in working with students again this year please see me as soon as possible and I’ll match you up with one or two students. Please remember you need to work with each student for about 20 minutes twice a week. Thank you. Ms Ruddle.
**Newsletter by Email Confirmation Slip**

Son’s Name______________________________   Class________________

Parent’s Name ___________________________

Email Address_________________________________________________

Please remember to sign your son’s diary to indicate you have received your newsletter

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**Tuckshop Order – 16 February**

Name______________________________   Class________________

Chicken Strip Sub

Chocolate milk or apple juice (please circle drink of choice)

$4.00 cash per order enclosed exactly (no change is able to be provided)

Please put in an envelope marked Tuckshop order and place in Silver locked box no later than 10am Wednesday.