From the Principal

Language and Manners
Last week I wrote about using good manners when we speak and it was pleasing to see the Courier Mail take up this issue last Saturday. Another equally important concern is what we say. Swearing, blasphemy or foul language has sadly become the norm in our society. Other than its sheer grossness, for me as an educator, swearing is depressing as it demonstrates such a limited use of the English language. Equally, using ‘Christ’ or ‘God’ as expletives or exclamation marks is not only completely inappropriate and lazy, but also disrespectful to God. Often boys, hearing such language used regularly in different circumstances (ie t.v./radio) believe that it is an acceptable way to speak. We need to work closely together to ensure that this is not so. What we say (and how we say it) reflects strongly on our character and say much about who we are. We should always aim to be the best person we can be, using the gifts God has given us to the fullest.

Swimming
Swimming lessons started today. Due to a double booking at the pool, Year 3 will now go from 1.30 to 2.30 on Thursdays. Consequently boys should be collected from the Wondall Rd pick up area at MBC at 2.30 pm. If your son needs to come back to school for after school care, please advise his class teacher, but it will certainly assist the College if all boys can be collected from the pool.

P &F
The AGM was held last night and the following were elected:

President: Karen Carter (Joshua Yr6)
Vice President: Keith Davis (Mitchell Yr2)
Treasurer: Karen Austin (Matthew Yr3)
Secretary: David Bancroft (Tavis Yr2)
Committee: Brian Carstairs (Ben & Jack Prep & Yr1), Les Homes (Ryan Yr3), Min Gillespie (Joshua Yr8), Richard Matterson (William Yr1), Andrew Munro (Ryan Yr4) and Laini Uttley (Brannon Yr2).

Thank you to the above for their willingness to assist the College in this way. A special thank you to outgoing president Rosanne Bayes, who has held this position for 2.5years. Sincere thanks to Lisa Thompson (outgoing vice president) and Jason Stevens (committee member) for their hard work in 2005. Matters discussed at the general meeting included: various fundraising ideas, a proposal for the P&F to acquire a school bus, and a proposal to adopt a formal constitution. The next P&F meeting is on 6 March, 2006 at 7pm. All are welcome.

We will also need 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.

The first P & F fund raiser will be the Chocolate drive which will occur at the end of this term. Last year we raised over $2500 from this drive and with 50% more people this year we should be able to do even better!

Buildings
As with all buildings, the end is always in sight but it seems to take an eternity to get there! The landscapers will be working this week. The IT lab will be set up tomorrow and, with the pin boards arriving on Friday, all five rooms are now in (almost) full operation. Some data projectors are still required to be installed and there are some minor issues such as railings etc to be finalised.

After School Activities
The multi skill games sessions start this week. Times are as follows:
Wednesday – (Years 3-4) 3.00 – 4.00 pm
Thursday – (Years 5-8) 3.00 – 4.00 pm
Friday – (Years 1-2) 2.45 – 3.45 pm
If you would like your son to participate please complete the tear off slip and return to the office. to note the following arrangements.
Our parent information evening is tomorrow, Wednesday 8 February. This is not a parent teacher interview night rather it is an opportunity for parents to hear from your son’s class teacher about the curriculum and the expectations of the year ahead. It will begin in the Building C undercroft at 6.30 pm and should conclude by 7.45 pm. The timings for the evening are as follows:

6.30 – arrive, opportunity to meet other parents, coffee and tea available.
6.50 – address from the Principal
7.00 – move to classrooms
7.45 approx - close

**Afternoon Pick Up**
The pick up in the afternoon is starting to settle down but parents/grandparents etc are asked to observe the following:

1. When there is no exit from the top roundabout into the pick up zone due to a queue of cars, please **do not enter or clog** the roundabout so cars can exit from the car park
2. When waiting for a child in Years 3-8, please use the car park until your son's class arrives. The pick up zone is not a car park.
3. Please remain in your vehicle in the pick up zone. It is not a place to hop out for a chat. It may be necessary to do a lap if your son is not yet ready to leave. Please use the car park if you need to get out of your car.
4. Please exit the pick up area by turning left and going round the large roundabout.
5. If collecting boys at different pick up times (eg Year 2 and Year 5), please use the car park rather than simply wait in the pick up zone.

Above all, **use common sense**. As school finishes at 2.30 or 2.45pm, boys will not reach the pick-up zone till at least 5-10mins after that (depending on their speed!)

**Parking**
Parents are reminded that the grass area by the tennis courts is not a car park. If collecting or dropping boys to activities at the courts please use the car park or drop off areas. It isn’t always necessary to drop your son right at the front door as the walk will not hurt the boys!

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

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**Assembly**
Congratulations to Year 2 for a great job at assembly last week. Year 3 will be leading this week’s assembly.

**Memory Verse**
Psalm 119: 9-16 “Young people can live a clean life by obeying your word”.

**Award Cards**
There were no award cards last week.

**House of the Week**
Congratulations to Flynn 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

**Chess**
If you have registered your child into chess please be advised of the times as follows:
- Years 1 – 3 – Mondays 2:45pm to 3:45pm
- Years 4 – 8 – Tuesdays 2:45pm to 3:45pm
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.

Art Club
The art club will be shared amongst the grades throughout the year. This term boys in Years 5-8 are able to participate. In Term 2, Years 3-4 will be able to participate. The group will meet on Wednesday afternoons 3.00 to 3.50pm. It is very important that boys are collected on time. Any late leavers will be escorted to After School Care. The cost of the 8 week club will be $30. This includes all materials. Numbers are strictly limited to 15. Fun and creativity are guaranteed. Please complete the tear off slip and return it to the office. Due to limited numbers it will be first in first served.

Basketball
Under 12’s basketball began on Saturday with a narrow loss (21-19). The Under 14’s will begin playing this coming Saturday 11 February. If you have a son who is 10/11 or 12/13 and would like to play basketball, please contact either Carol Thorogood (ph: 3207 3307) or Jenny Brown (ph: 3843 5468/0413 433 430).

Training is on Tuesday afternoons 3.15pm to 4.15pm. Games are played at Clem Jones Centre, Zahel Street, Carina on Saturday mornings. A draw for the season will be provided to each player as soon as one is available.

Working Bee
A working bee was scheduled for Saturday 04 February. Thank you to all who did attend, your efforts and commitment were appreciated.

Choir
The Junior Vocal ensemble for boys in Years 1-3 rehearses at Monday first break from 10:45-11:15am after they have eaten their lunch. All boys are welcome. The Senior Vocal ensemble for boys in Years 4-8 rehearses on Friday first break from 10:45-11:15am.

Middle School Stargazing Night
Thanks to the support of the Southeast Queensland Astronomical Society, the Year 6, 7 and 8 students were treated to a fine array of telescopes with which to investigate the night sky on Saturday. Unfortunately, even with Principal and the Chairman of the MBBC board attending we could not manage to keep the clouds away for long. Those students and their families that were able to stay longer were treated to a glimpse of Saturn, Mars, the nebula of Orion’s belt and a lovely close-up of the first-quarter moon.

While the stargazing success may have been limited, the evening was a success in bringing the families together to enjoy a social occasion in the grounds of the College. A special thank you to Karen Carter and her helpers for their support in catering for the evening. The small profit made from the evening will be invested in support resources for the study of Space.

This is a great event for 7 - 15 year olds where children swim, cycle and run with other children their own age. The distances for each leg are as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swim</td>
<td>11 - 15 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycle</td>
<td>6 kilometres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Run</td>
<td>1 kilometre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Please remember this is not a race, it's about each child having a go. If, for example, your son is not confident in the swim leg, they can walk / run in the water if they wish, or they can wait at the end and join in for the bike & run. There are lots of event volunteers on hand, including water safety officers in the water at all times to assist if required.

If you son is interested in participating, you can register on-line at tryathlon.weetbix.com.au. Official entry forms are also available in the admin office. Don't forget to put Moreton Bay Boy's College on your form so that we can be in the running for school prize for the most number of participants registered per head of school enrolment (registrations must be in by February 17, 2006 and not 27 February, 2006 as stated in last week's newsletter).
We want to encourage all members of the MBBC community to share this fun event so please also be aware that siblings who are 7 - 15 years old are also welcome to attend this event with us. Contact Karen Carter (Yr 6 parent) on 0418 741014 (bh), 3893 0696 (ah) or email carterhardgrave@bigblue.net.au for further details.

**Year 2**

Once again the boys have been very busy throughout the week. They worked extremely hard to prepare for the assembly on Friday and even though I may be a little biased I thought they did an amazing job just 2 weeks into the year. A special thanks must go to Mrs Tait who worked so hard with the boys. Also thanks to Mrs Tait, Mrs Vincent and Mrs Kutschkin for their removalist work with the puppet theatre. Thank you also to the parents who are interested in helping out in the classroom. At this point Thursday and Friday have been filled, with Tuesday and Wednesday still available.

Swimming starts for us on Thursday this week at 12.30 – 1.30pm. Please remember to send swimmers, towels and rashies. It is important to name all of these items plus school uniforms to minimise any losses.

Ms Ruddle

**Year 3**

With the term now under full swing, the boys of Year 3 have settled in to their unit of “Where in the world is MBBC?” This SOSE and science based unit will have the boys explore various aspects of their local environment, community as well as the local area and community around MBBC. The boys have so far developed an understanding of the local topography and local community area. The boys will begin their project on their local community over the coming week.

This week it is Year 3’s turn to run assembly and I welcome all parents to attend. I hope to see all parents this Wednesday night at parent information evening.

Mr Pike

**Year 4**

This week our integrated unit on Lifecycles – *Caught in the Web* begins. The boys will be busy learning about the concept of a cycle – human, plant, butterfly, seasons. We will be going on a Nature Walk around MBBC to identify the mini-beasts that live in our environment. Many various specimens of spiders from the Queensland Museum are in our classroom. You are most welcome to come up before school this week to have a look. I look forward to meeting parents on Wednesday night at the Parent Information Evening.

Miss Ryan

**Year 5**

Year 5 boys have had a very exciting fortnight getting to know each other with 8 new members as part of the team and a new teacher to the school! It has been wonderful to see how well the boys have accepted each other and cooperated both in and outside the classroom.

The term’s unit of *Discovery and Settlement of Australia* has been launched and the boys are enjoying learning and appreciating their country’s past. Interesting thinking strategies are challenging the boys such as the Williams model ‘Analogy’ strategy where they have had to find similarities between things or situations that might otherwise be different. Can you think of how an explorer might be like a board game?

The boys also had a delightful time last Thursday afternoon with their new Year 2 buddies where they acted as mentors to the younger boys with their reading followed by playing some board games. This week they will participate in a Design and Technology activity where they will be challenged to build the tallest, freestanding straw tower with only 1 metre of masking tape and straws to help them.

I am looking forward to meeting with you all on Wednesday night and sharing with you the year’s overview and expectations.

Ms Thompson

**Year 6**

Congratulations to the Year 6 students for their excellent ‘My Place’ projects. These will be on display at the Parent Evening on Wednesday night. The boys will now be busy researching and rehearsing their ‘Science Show and Tell’ presentations. These are being presented over the next 2 weeks.

**Science Show and Tell presentations Years 5 – 8**

All boys in years 5-8 are busy researching and rehearsing their ‘Science Show and Tell’ presentations in the next 2 weeks. The ‘Best Of’ will be presented on Assembly on Friday, March 3rd.

Joshua Carter-Hardgrave presented the Bible reading well at Chapel on Monday. Jacob Grant and Matthew Wood both did a good job in presenting the Thanking Prayers. Jacob has also been very reliable in raising and lowering the flags each day. Well done boys. Mrs Patchett.
**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 cheeseburger. 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. ruddlle@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.

**Wet and Wild** - discount vouchers available from the office. Limited vouchers, first in first served.
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

Tuckshop Order – 09 February
Name______________________________ Class_______________
Cheese Burger
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.

Art Club - Years 5-8, Term 1
Name______________________________ Class_______________
My son is keen to participate in Art Club in Term 4.
Please put $30 in an envelope marked Art Club and place in Silver locked box. Signed: ________________

After school sports - General Skills Sessions
____________________ (name) in Year ___ would like to participate in the Term 1 General Skills Sessions.
Signed _______________________
(Parent/Guardian)