From the Principal

Praise
Following on from last week’s comments on communication, one of the things we find naturally easy to do as parents is to praise our children. This is important and essential but we do need to ensure that our praise is both genuine and genuinely deserved. Often, we may think we are protecting or helping our children by praising them when what they have done is not their best. Children know when they have done well and often have an innate sense of their own ability in relation to others. It is helpful to be praise specific, that is, to say, ‘I really liked the way you did this or that,’ rather than to say, ‘you are always terrific’. It was delightful to hear Reece Witherspoon thank her parents for their encouragement when she had done well, ‘whether it be making my bed or making a movie’. Equally when we are displeased we should criticize the action not the child. It is most important however that our own expectations for our children are not unrealistic and that we should always ask the following question - did you try your hardest? - for we can ask no more of our children or ourselves. Then when the answer is yes, our praise should always be fulsome.

Chocolate Drive
I would encourage all families to support the P & F chocolate drive which will provide for a variety of resources for the boys. The aim is to sell 210 boxes which will raise $5000 for the boys. I would anticipate/hope that each family should be able to sell at least one box. The ‘freddos’ have been very straightforward to sell in our house! There will be a prize of a pizza lunch for the class that sells the most boxes per head (Year 1 will be considered as one class, as will Year 7/8) so please place any additional orders by Thursday.

Reporting to Parents
At MBBC, the closer we can work with the home the better the outcomes for each boy. MBBC reports to parents in a variety of ways. We have informal reporting or communication through the homework diary, email or phone. This is a wonderful two way communication so that both school and home can be quickly on top of any situation. Formally, we report to parents once a term; in Terms 1 and 3 we have parent teacher interviews and in Terms 2 and 4, a written report.

Parent Teacher Interviews
These will take place on Tuesday 21 March from 3.00 – 6.00 pm and 7.00- 9.00 pm and on Thursday 23 March from 3.00 – 6.00pm. 15 minutes interviews have been allocated. If a longer time is needed the class teacher will arrange this with parents directly. Please complete the tear off slip indicating date and time preferences and return to your son’s class teacher. S/he will then confirm a time via your son’s diary. Specialist teachers eg art, music will be available on the Tuesday evening only as your son’s class teacher will be aware of any issues in those classes.

Australian Primary Principals Association
As some parents are aware, I am the national treasurer of the Australian Primary Principals Association. This organisation covers all 7000 principals of primary in Australia, as well as many Middle schools! My role on the executive (which will finish at the end of 2006) often involves meetings with the Australian Government on issues concerning education across the nation. Last Friday we had an executive meeting and discussed the recent national reviews in literacy and music as well as a report we have commissioned into the adequate resourcing of primary schools across the country. There is enough research to indicate that every dollar spent in early childhood education has a payback between 5 and 17x, while the more we can do in primary schools, the more we can decrease juvenile delinquency. It was an interesting and stimulating day.

Roderick HW Crouch
Principal
**New Board Directors**

There have been a number of changes on the MBBC Board. Mr Ken Madsen has been appointed Company Secretary. Mr Geoff Diehm and Mr Brent Hailey have both resigned due to work commitments. Both have been with the College since its initial discussions (Mr Hailey was founding chairman while Mr Diehm served on both MBC and MBBC Boards) and we thank them for their dedication to and untiring support of the College. Mr Dennis Reading and Mr David Bancroft have been appointed by MBC to the Board of MBBC Ltd. Mr Reading is on the Board of MBC and is well known for his business background in the Bayside area and has been a tireless supporter of MBC. Mr Bancroft has a boy in Year 2, with another to start in due course, has been involved with a number of local community organisations and is the registrar of the Guardianship and Administration Tribunal. We congratulate both men on their appointments.

**Advance Notice – P & F Golf Day**

The P&F Golf day is scheduled for Friday 12 May. Please keep the date free. It was an awesome event last year and this year promises to be even better. Start organising your team now. For more details, especially if you may be able to become a sponsor please contact Keith Davis on ph: 0405 405 120.

**Assembly**

Congratulations to Year 6 for a great job at assembly last week. Year 7/8 will be leading this week’s assembly.

**Memory Verse**

Psalm 119: 25-32 “I am eager to learn all that you want me to do; help me to understand more and more”.

**Award Cards**

Congratulations to the following students for receiving Award cards: Steel Glenn (P), Ross Crozier (P), Peter Lahanas (P), Nicholas Moutsias (P), Mason Carr (P), Drew Mackay (P), Tavis Bancroft (Y2), James Armstrong (Y2), Louis Altena (Y3), Joshua Stevens (Y3), James Ogilvie (Y6).

**House of the Week**

Congratulations to Doherty and Flynn for both being House of the Week.

**P&F News**

**Chocolate Drive**

Thanks very much to Karen Austin (Matthew Y3), Amanda Homes (Ryan Y3), Shannon McGee (Jack Y3), Allison Matterson (William Y6) and Camilla Reinke (Bailey Y3) for helping to sort the chocolates for the annual P&F chocolate drive. Now we know what it must feel like to work in a chocolate factory! Please return money for sold chocolate as soon as possible to the office. There must be some boys who are very persuasive salesman as money was coming in the very next day. For those keen chocolate sellers and/ or chocoholics there are more boxes available from the office. The last day for this very popular fundraiser is 24 March, 2006. Thank you for your support.

**Science Club Snippets**

This week’s investigations saw the Science Lab looking more like a Gym Locker Room – with old joggers, sports drinks and more. It is great to see the boys involved in hands-on activities that really stimulate their brain. Congratulations to Riley Carr (Y3), Tristan Maher (Y3) and Owain Thomas (Y3) for receiving the first ‘Science Super Program’ Awards for their team problem-solving skills. Well done boys. Your certificates will be presented on Friday’s Assembly.

**Paul’s Milk Caps**

The bin is soooo close to being full. Let’s try to fill it up before Easter. Please send your caps into the Science Lab.

**Soccer Training Update**

Senior boys (Years 6-7) – Monday morning 7.15-8.15am.  
Junior boys (Year 5) – Thursday morning 7.15-8.15am.

**Basketball**

**Under 14’s MBBC Eagles**

The boys played a fast and furious game to notch up their first win with a score of 31 - 28. Their strong defence made all the difference and their skills and teamwork showed through. All the team should be congratulated as they all contributed to an exciting win. Next game is at 11.20 am. Greg Rynenberg.

**Under 12’s MBBC Eagles**

The MBBC Eagles had a convincing 41- 6 win last Saturday. As the Eagles were well ahead at half time the aim was to move the ball quickly to the goals by accurately passing to team mates in a better position in the 2nd half. The whole team responded to this plan as many good passes were executed and good shots made which resulted in goals. A great team effort by all. Steve Brown-Coach.

**Community Notice:** Wynnum District Primary School Rugby League Trials (U/11 & U/12) will be held on 9 March at 4pm. Please report to Mrs Cheryl Raftos upon arrival to register.
Year 2
This week the boys have been working on a number of Internet games in class. As we work through the rules of each game I’ll add links to the Maths and Literacy sections of the Year 2 page on the website. Each game has a particular focus and links to the concepts taught throughout the week. We have been focusing on spelling and number facts.

In addition I’d like to encourage each student to be involved in the Readers Challenge. It is a wonderful opportunity for the boys to read quality literature and support a worthy cause at the same time. Please send in the registration form and the $5 before August 1.

The puppets are due on March 16 so please keep up the hard work with the puppet projects. I have been hearing wonderful stories about the trials and triumphs attached to creating each puppet. I’m glad to hear that the students are enjoying this project. Leanne Ruddle.

Early reports from the Year 4-6 Mapleton Camp
The boys had a great first day at camp. Despite a cloudy sky, all four groups completed two challenging activities – Giant Swing, Canoeing, Archery and/or Team Initiatives. The Outdoor Education staff at Mapleton Centre was very positive about the teamwork and enthusiasm that the boys brought to the activities – from start to finish. When there was a break in the action, the boys learned a few new camp songs and played some games together. The meals at Mapleton are a highlight – always tasty and always plenty for seconds. Practising the skills of table etiquette and dinner conversation are other valuable life skills that camp supports in the boys. Our stargazing night was not possible due to the rainy conditions but the boys were able to learn about the Southern Cross and other constellations nonetheless. The parent helpers used glowsticks to set up the Southern Cross constellation in 3D across the open space at camp. Then the boys spent some time reflecting on their day through their Camp Journals before enjoying a movie in their pyjamas and sleeping bags on the Common Room floor.
Mrs Patchett.

Enviro Rap Competition (repeat from last week)
Create a cool song/rap that carries the theme of protecting/preserving natural resources/the environment, raises and strengthens student awareness of environmental protection issues and the power they have to make a difference. Features original lyrics (original tunes are preferable, but not essential)
Can be a group or an individual project. $200 First Prize. Deadline – Friday, April 7. If you are interested, see Mrs Patchett for more details.

Year 6,7,8
Students have been studying Science Fiction in English this term. They have two pieces of homework associated with this topic that need to be completed each week:

1. The Space Matrix is their assessment for this term for Maths, Science, SoSE and English. It offers the boys more than 40 possible tasks of which five are compulsory and six are of their own choosing. These need to be completed by 31 March or earlier. Part of the purpose of this task is that they learn to plan ahead. Please encourage them to do this. The Matrix and explanatory documents are on the school website and can be found on your son’s year level page under Curriculum.

2. The Writing Journal is a personalised learning tool for the boys to have individual tuition on weaknesses in their writing and encouragement and extension for their strengths. Information about what is expected of your son and how you, as a parent, can help is on the school website and can be found on your son’s year level English page. There is a link on this page to the weekly tasks with the due dates listed. Mr Thallon and Mrs Patchett.

Tuckshop
This week’s tuckshop is a cheeseburger a cost of $4.00 includes milk/juice. Please fill out the tear off slip to order tuckshop. Tuckshop is available for boys in Years 4-6 provided parents, brothers etc can drop off their order form as usual on Wednesday. Tuckshop is not able to be ordered on Thursday.

MBBC Umbrellas
These may be purchased from the Office at a cost of $33.00ea. A great item to have for wet weather.
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 – 9 March

Name______________________________   Class_______________

Cheeseburger

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.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

We are interested in attending Parent/Teacher interviews and our preferred times are (please number 1-3 as preferences):

Name of Student ______________________________   Class_______________

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tuesday 21 March</th>
<th>Thursday 23 March</th>
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Signed: _______________________________