A national curriculum?
Recently, there has been considerable press as the Federal Minister for Education has called for the need for a national curriculum arguing that current state based curricula are in the hands of ‘left wing ideologues’. Historically, education is a state responsibility under the Australian Constitution. Therefore we have 8 education systems for a nation of 20 million people. This has led to a number of absurdities such as differences in school starting ages, names for year levels or requirements for matriculation. To be truly a knowledge nation, and as we have over 80,000 families each year moving interstate, reform in these areas is both long overdue and still a long way off.

Increasingly the Federal Government has used its financial muscle to insist that all schools (including independent schools as they rely heavily on government grants) meet certain criteria, which are often at loggerheads with state criteria. Student reporting is an example while this year it will be necessary to write two annual reports – one for the State and one for the Federal government. Commonalities would significantly reduce bureaucracy.

True education should not about a particular ideology, rather it should concern the development of mind, body and soul to assist students both to understand and begin to achieve their academic and personal potential so that they can be happy, productive and effective people who make a positive contribution to our future society, no matter what job they might have. It is more than mere training. It must occur in conjunction with the school community. At MBBC we have already developed a curriculum that includes core knowledge and processes in each subject area to create high expectations for all boys that are crucial to the above occurring. More importantly, the MBBC 3R’s of research, reason and relationships underpin our curriculum, for it is these attributes that will assist boys in becoming the leaders of tomorrow.

Welcome Back
I trust all families are feeling rested as Term 4 is quite an intense term. There are a large number of events, as well as final assessments and end of year reports to be completed. Parents should anticipate that homework will be set right through to the end of term.

Swimming
The Term 4 swimming programme began today but unfortunately due to some double bookings in the pool, it will be moved to Mondays as of next week. Please see the note later in the newsletter for exact details.

Sailing
Year 7/8 boys begin a sailing programme at RQYS this Thursday afternoon. Further details have been distributed to students involved.

Staffing
We welcome Ms Nerida Sacre who started yesterday as our new music teacher. As we have a number of additional classes in 2007, I am pleased to announce that Mr Michael Geer will be joining the staff in 2007 as a classroom teacher. Mr Greer is currently at Sheldon College and has taught previously in Canada.

Pupil Free Day
Parents are reminded that Monday 23 October is a pupil free day. Staff will be undertaking professional development activities. The pupil free day, which observed by nearly all schools in Queensland, is a result of many teachers across the state being involved in panels that review standards of work to determine final results in Year 12. It is a vital component in the way students matriculate in Queensland. A vacation care programme will operate – please see OHSC for more details.

Roderick HW Crouch
Principal
Term Calendar
The Term 4 calendar is attached.

Art Show
The annual MBBC student art exhibition will be held on Friday 27 October from 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm. All boys are expected to attend for some of the time as each boy will have several pieces of art work on show. Boys should wear their uniform but no hats are necessary. Boys in Years 4-8 should wear their ‘formal’ uniform (shirt and tie). The work will be displayed in Building C. There will be a formal section to the evening from 6.30-6.45 approximately during which time any speeches will be made and the winner of the portrait prize will be announced. Parents in Years 3-5 provide nibbles for this event. Notes concerning the catering will be distributed by class teachers this week.

Uniform
Parents are reminded that summer uniforms should be worn each day this term.

June/July 2007 4wd expedition
An information evening will be held on Tuesday 24 October at 7.00 pm in Year 7/8 classroom for parents and friends interested in attending this expedition.

Memory Verse
John 4:44, “Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honour in his own country.”

Assembly
Assembly this week will be lead by Year 7/8.

House of the Week
Congratulations to Nicholls for being House of the Week for the last week of Term 3.

Christmas Break – Office
The office will be closed for the Christmas break from Friday 15 December, 2006 through to Monday 15 January, 2007.

Congratulations
Congratulations to Cameron Yang who has achieved the highest possible grade of High Distinction (A+) in his AMEB First Grade Piano (Prac) exam. Well done Cameron!

Awards
Congratulations to the following students who received Award cards in the last week of Term 3: Y1S: Jacob Winterton. Y1W: Mitchell Burke-Torrens, Lachlan Stephens, William Stevens, Nicholas Christofis, Connor Roduner. Y3: Bailey Reinke, Riley Carr, Jordan Topham. Y6: James Ogilvie.

MBBC Portrait Prize
Attention all our budding artists. The MBBC Portrait Prize will be decided at the MBBC Art Show. All students are invited to submit a portrait painting of a member of staff. Any member of staff may be chosen. Artworks are limited to 50cm x 40cm or smaller. Entries on canvas, paper or cardboard may be submitted. Collage, paint, pencil or oil pastel may be used. All entries must be labelled with the artists name, grade and name of the sitter. Closing date for entries is 23 October. Judges’ decisions are final. Good luck to all our boys! Ms De Lange.

Extra Curricular Activities
Art Club - With the art show looming, art club will not be held this term. It will resume next year.

Lego Robotics – Years 4-8 – There are still a few places available - starting Monday 16 October (for 6 weeks) from 3:00 - 4:00pm, cost is $40.00. Please complete the tear-off slip at the end of this newsletter if you wish your son to attend.

Chess – learn to play - Starting Tuesday 17 October (for 6 weeks) from 3:00 - 4:00pm, cost is $40.00. Please complete the tear-off slip at the end of this newsletter if you wish your son to attend.

Auskick
Auskick begins today, however it is not too late to register for this fantastic program. The program generally runs for 8 sessions over 8 weeks with each session running for 60 minutes. Children are taught by qualified AFL Qld staff in small groups to ensure learning and enjoyment is had by all participants. The cost is $45 (inc. GST) per student and each participant will receive: Junior Synthetic Football, AFL Auskick Hat, AFL Auskick Drink Bottle, AFL Auskick DVD,
AFL Auskick Back Pack, AFL Poster Book etc. For more information please contact Mr Pike (MBBC) or Luke Curran or Corey Bell @ AFL Queensland – Brisbane South East on Ph: 3391 3325 or check out www.aflauskick.com.au

**Term 4 Active Australia After School program**

Cricket skills will be offered this term, commencing this week on the same afternoons as Term 3: Years 4-8 on Wednesdays and Years 1-3 on Fridays. Please complete the tear off slip attached to the newsletter if you would like your son to participate.

**Swimming Term 4 – Change of Details**

As of next week, swimming times have been modified from those advised last term. Please note that there has been a **change of day** for Preschool to Year 5, but a **change of time** for Years 6, 7 & 8. The boys in Years 6, 7 & 8 will be ending the school day at the pool, and as such will be required to be picked up from the pool, or transported back to MBBC for extra-curricular activities. Parental assistance may be required for boys in P to Year 2 – please contact your son’s class teacher if you can assist.

**Timetable for Swimming lessons:**

**Mondays**

- 9:30 - 10:30am – Year 5
- 10:30 - 11:30am – Years 3 & 4
- 11:30 – 12:30pm – Year 2
- 12:30 -1:30pm – Preschool

- 1:30 - 2:30pm – Year 1 – Boys will either need to be collected from the pool, or they will be transported back to MBBC for OHSC. Boys who need to return to school for After School Care will need the attached tear off slip completed and returned to their class teacher.

**Tuesdays**

- 2 - 2.45pm – Years 6, 7 & 8. Boys will either need to be collected from the pool, or they will be transported back to MBBC for Auskick or OHSC and will need the attached tear off slip completed and returned to their class teacher.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Mr Pike at pikeh@mbbc.qld.edu.au.

**Choir**

Choir practice will recommence this term on the same days at Term 3, 7.45am on Tuesday for Senior Choir and 7.45am on Thursday for Junior Choir.

**Drum Lessons**

Drum lessons have now commenced at the College during school time on Wednesdays. Lessons are $25 per half hour. Please call Mr Cvitan Barac if interested on mobile ph: 0408 722 539.

**Carnival Day**

WOW!!! What a fantastic day! From all reports the boys had a great time and we managed to raise money for a good cause. The final tally is $2,446.10, which tops our efforts last year by about $600.

I’m sure the Humour Foundation will appreciate our labours and the monies will assist in bringing a little joy to the lives of some sick children. Well done everyone!! We have a year to rest before we do it all again. Ms Youngman.

**Tuckshop**

This week’s tuckshop is a Hot Dog 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.**
Sport News

Congratulations
Congratulations to Blake Proverbs (Yr 5) who competed in a Golf Tournament in Townsville during the holidays. He achieved Runner Up 13yrs & Under in the North Qld 2006 Junior Hogs Breath Classic. He was also Queensland regional primary school 2006 11yrs Boys Nett Champion as well as Queensland primary school 2006 18 hole club team champions (2 player team). Congratulations Blake.

P&F News

Date Claimers
• Fashion Parade 10 November, 7:00pm for 7:30pm start
• End of Year Family Fun Day - 19 November

P&F Meeting
The next P&F meeting is on 16 October, 2006 (not 9 October as originally scheduled) start time is 7pm in Yr 7/8 classroom - all are most welcome.

Attachments
➢ Science Club Flyer
➢ Term 4 Calendar

Term 4 Dates: Monday 9 October to Thursday 30 November
Tear Off Slips

Tuckshop Order – 12 October 2006

Name__________________________________ Class_____________________

Hot Dog with chocolate milk or apple juice (please circle drink of choice)
$4.50 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

Lego Robotics, Years 4 - 8 – Term 4, Monday 16 October till 27 November from 3:00pm.

I give permission for my son to join the Lego Robotics during term 4, at a cost of $40 (enclosed).

Childs Name:________________________________________ Year:_____________

Signed:_________________________________ Dated:___________________________

Active Australia After School Program – Cricket Skills - Years 4-8, Commencing Wednesday 11 October 2006 Years 1-3, Commencing Friday 13 October 2006

I give permission for my son to participate in Cricket Skills during term 4.

Childs Name:________________________________________ Year:_____________

Signed:_________________________________ Dated:___________________________

Learn to Play Chess – Commencing 17 October, 3:00pm – 4:00pm

I give permission for my son to join Learn to Play Chess during term 4, at a cost of $40 (enclosed).

Childs Name:________________________________________ Year:_____________

Signed:_________________________________ Dated:___________________________

Swimming – Term 4

I require my Son:________________________________________ in Year ______

To be returned to the College after the completion of swimming to attend: Auskick / OSHC (please circle)

Signed:_________________________________ Dated:___________________________