From the Principal

NAPLAN 2008 Results

Last Saturday, the Courier Mail published the 2008 results from all schools in the national assessment plan for literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. The publication is part of a wider debate on the issue of school league tables. As ever, the debate has become simplistic. On the one hand we have the desire to provide parents with more information - a GOOD thing - and the ranking of schools based on raw data only - a BAD thing, with traditional opponents lining up as expected.

The 2008 results that the Courier Mail published on Saturday provided the first time that we had national comparisons - and Queensland did very poorly. MBBC’s results (which we have already published to our school community and are available on our website) were very good, generally 40 + points above average for boys, with all boys in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 reaching the benchmark in all areas, with two exceptions. In two year levels we had three children who missed one benchmark only. Yet these boys all improved throughout the year.

While it is useful to look at schools to compare data, the difficulty for schools lies in that the data rarely tells the full story. Leaving aside the absurdity that we have national testing in place long before we have either a national curriculum or common ages, if the only data presented is the percentage of children who did/did not reach the national benchmark, this can not show whether any child has done very well, poorly or even improved, in terms of their own ability. Neither can any comment be drawn on the quality of the teaching.

In the meantime, the Federal Government is pushing ahead with a new website that will provide information to parents with a range of data such as school attendance, socio economic status, staff, number of students with disabilities, as well as national test results. The most controversial is the comparison of test results between ‘like’ schools, particularly as no definition of what is a ‘like school’ has been determined. It is yet to be seen whether ‘school watch’ is a more effective tool than ‘fuel watch’ and ‘grocery watch’.

Surely our national goal must be to help all students achieve these benchmarks and ultimately achieve their preferred post school destination. As I have previously stated, if schools become judged solely on this level of simplistic data, there are two likely outcomes. The first is that schools will teach to the test and neglect other areas of the curriculum, especially the arts, thereby diminishing the value of a well rounded education; and secondly, some schools, in order to boost their image, will seek to decline entry to students they consider might not achieve the benchmark.

Recently a national parent survey indicated that parents are more interested in whether the school is a good fit for their child than the level of academic results, and looked at issues such as class size, and the quality of care. A good school, like MBBC, has high expectations for all its students, smaller classes, and quality staff, and uses its test results to improve its teaching, and actively engage students and the community in learning, so that each child can achieve his best, no matter his academic ability.

Swine Flu Update

I would like to thank all families for their support of the collective health of the College by keeping children home when they have been showing flu-like symptoms. We continue to have many boys away and there have been cases of swine flu in each year level. This is not overly surprising as we are in the middle of flu season generally. It is pleasing to see many boys made a quick recovery and returned to school after a few days. I encourage parents to remain vigilant but unless there is some considerable change in status, this will be the last update.

Father & Son Breakfast - Friday, 4 September

Once again this year’s Father & Son Breakfast will be held at the Shangri-La Gardens Function Centre, Wynnum Road, Wynnum. Further details regarding the breakfast will follow shortly.

Dr Roderick Crouch
Principal

Announcements

Homestay Family Required

A homestay family is required for one of our senior school students between now and the end of the year. For further information call Dr Crouch on 3906 9444 or email him on principal@mbbc.qld.edu.au.

Do you know an academically gifted boy?

Applications close 10 September for the Academically Gifted Pathway at Moreton Bay Boys’ College.

The pathway provides a dedicated class with specialist teacher in gifted education and offers acceleration and enrichment programs to meet individual’s needs. Boys will have links to mentors and experts in the student’s area of expertise and will enjoy a multi-faceted, deep, rich and engaging curriculum designed around the specific needs of gifted children.

MBBC’s pathway is the only fully dedicated gifted program in South East Brisbane, and complements the highly differentiated program already in place at the College. The program commences in 2010 for boys in Years 5 and 6.

For further information, visit http://www.mbbc.qld.edu.au/ or phone 07 3906 9444.

2009 Parents Satisfaction Survey

I am delighted to announce we will shortly be circulating a confidential parent satisfaction survey which will be conducted by an independent and well known consultant - Marketshare.

The survey is an important part of the College’s strategic planning process to help us plan and prioritise for the future.

The results of the survey will help identify what is important to you, as a College parent, determine the extent to which your expectations are being met, and identify what the College is doing well, and what aspects of the school need to be improved, in the eyes of the parent community.

Have your say

The survey is voluntary, but we strongly encourage all families to have their say - frank and honest responses from a diverse cross section of the
The parent community will help us deliver better outcomes for all boys.

The survey is designed to be completed in 10-15 minutes, and is available both on-line and in hard copy, to accommodate your preferences. Importantly, your responses will remain totally confidential and will not be linked to you personally. Marketshare abides and operates by a professional code of ethics established by the Market Research Society of Australia and research is conducted in accordance with the privacy Act. No one at the College will have access to your individual responses; rather, we will be provided with a summary of collated responses only.

Your time and input into shaping the future of MBBC is highly valued and we look forward to sharing some of the major findings - and actions - arising from the survey with you throughout the remainder of the year.

Dr Roderick Crouch
Principal

Events - Highlights

Open Day
Open Day last Friday was a great success. Our resident “tour guides” (students from Years 6-11) did a fabulous job hosting prospective families around the College, and received very positive feedback on their personal presentation and articulate, friendly manner. Well done boys!

Thank you also to the parents who volunteered their time to help our on the day. Your time was much appreciated.

Events - Upcoming

Carnival Day 2009
Carnival Day is on its way! For those new to the College, this annual event is organised on the last day of Term 3 each year and aims to raise money through class organised stalls and activities (like a mini fair) for a chosen charity.

This year, The Starlight Foundation has been chosen to receive our generous donation. We are currently seeking parents who are willing to donate prizes for the ‘fun run’ that will precede the carnival day activities.

If you can help out, please email Miss Kim Moore
moorek@mbbc.qld.edu.au.

Each class will be responsible for their own stall, so keep an eye out for what your son's class is organising. We look forward to a fantastic day on Friday, 18 September while raising funds for such a worthy cause.

Jeans for Genes Day
We will be hosting our Jeans for Genes Day this Friday, 14 August. This is a major fundraiser for The Children’s Medical Research Institute.

For a gold coin donation, boys may wear jeans and casual shirt and shoes on this day. Jeans must be neat and tidy; shirts must not have inappropriate pictures or slogans and shoes must be covered for safety reasons.

The Leos boys will be selling a variety of Jeans for Genes items, including wristbands and badges, towards the end of this week and throughout next week. Please ensure boys wear these items to school only for our denim day on the 14 August.

We look forward to seeing everyone looking groovy in denim and helping to raise money for this very worthwhile cause.

Science Week (17 August to 21 August) and Family Science Night (20 August)
Once again, MBBC joins in the national celebration of Science Week in a variety of ways. Across all grades boys will be undertaking a variety of projects that will be judged during Science Week. One highlight will be the launching of the Year 10 rockets on the oval. A science show, “Is there a doctor in the house?” will be performed at both Primary and Middle/Senior assemblies.

Task sheets for the Science Fair Projects will go home with students this week. For more information on the year level task, please see your classroom teacher.

Another opportunity to celebrate is the Science Family Night on Thursday, 20 August 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm. This is a very well attended evening that gives students and their families the opportunity to undertake a variety of science experiments.

CanberraTrip 2009
Final information evening for the Canberra Trip 2009
Mr Jack Pincott and Mr Shane McCarthy will be hosting the meeting which will be held at school on Thursday, 13 August 6.00 pm – 6.30 pm, in C4. This will be an opportunity to finalise those last few issues and answer any questions you may have.

Teaching and Learning

International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme
The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP) is one of three programs offered by the International Baccalaureate Organisation. The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

At MBBC, the MYP will be geared for students enrolled in Years 7 - 10. The program curriculum is designed to assist in student growth and understanding of what it means to be an effective member of a global society. The program provides academic rigor on an internationally assessed scale and, in addition, affords an opportunity for students to participate actively in an ever-increasingly interconnected world. It supports the critical phase of personal and intellectual development during adolescence, in which students require an educational program that assists
Congratulations to the following boys and their outstanding achievements:

Matthew Moy – 2nd Discus
Gavin Ferris – 3rd Discus
Steven Lee – 3rd 400m
Bradley Madders – 2nd High Jump
Samuel Maxton – 3rd High Jump
Laurence Rudman – 2nd 200m, 2nd Long Jump
Kye Symonds – 1st 100m, 1st 200m, 3rd Long Jump
Tyler Brown – 3rd Shotput
Ashliegh Dorman – 3rd 200m
Matthew Wood – 1st Discus, 2nd Javelin
Cameron Francis – 2nd 200m, 3rd Discus, 3rd Long Jump

Congratulations to all boys who participated in last week’s District Athletics Carnival and well done on achieving the Percentage Trophy. It was such a rush to see all the boys participate, and particularly when the 15 Years 4x100m relay team won their event!
A very special congratulations to Matthew Wood and Kye Symonds who have progressed through to the Metropolitan East Championships.

**State Representative Sport – AFL**

Congratulations to Lachlan Angus who played for Qld in the 12 years AFL squad - a highlight in itself, but Lachlan was also voted as Best On Field for the team. This is an honour that Michael Voss would be proud of - keep kicking those goals Lachlan!

**Basketball (Secondary School – Supplementary GPS) – Sign Up This Week**

For the first time, MBBC will participate in the Supplementary GPS Basketball season, commencing in two weeks time. This is a fantastic opportunity for the boys and one that I encourage all in Years 8-11 to take part in. A sign up sheet and note will go home this Thursday for any boys interested.

**MBBC Cricket – Primary and Secondary School**

In an effort to provide a well-rounded cricketing pathway for all students at MBBC, from Prep to Year 12, we have recently established a relationship with the Wynnum Manly District Cricket Club (WMDCC).

The WMDCC and MBBC will work together to ensure that MBBC boys are able to play both club cricket and MBBC School Cricket.

To become a proficient cricketer, the following club/school pathway would be ideal for your son:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Form of cricket</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 5 – Under 7</td>
<td>In2Cricket (have a go)</td>
<td>Term 4, 2009 Term 1, 2010</td>
<td>WMDCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 8 – Under 9</td>
<td>In2Cricket (have a game)</td>
<td>Term 4, 2009 Term 1, 2010 plus one training session</td>
<td>WMDCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 10 – Under 19</td>
<td>Club Cricket (Prep-Christmas Competition)</td>
<td>Term 4, 2009 plus one training session</td>
<td>WMDCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 – Year 12 (2010 Year Group)</td>
<td>CIC and Secondary School Cricket</td>
<td>Term 1, 2010</td>
<td>CIC and GPS Schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sailing – Holiday Events and Teams Racing Sailing in Term 4**

RQYS is running a number of programs over the holidays in the holidays (refer Community Notices), and I would encourage all boys interested in being in the Teams Racing sailing teams to take part in these programs. Teams Racing sailing is an exciting and competitive form of racing that students from Years 8 - 12 can take part in and is held on a Sunday. Parent coaches, managers and volunteers are sought to help manage this program - please contact Mr Pike as soon as possible.

**District Athletics**

Last Monday and Tuesday nineteen MBBC students competed in the Lytton District Athletics Trials. The boys represented MBBC with distinction, especially those who waited patiently between events.

The following boys have been selected to represent Lytton District at the Met East Athletics Trials based on their placing and performances. Their placing at the Trials is in brackets.

- Adam Fogg – 100m (6th), 200m (2nd), 800m (1st)
- Owain Thomas – 100m (5th)
- Benjamin Luck – 800m (5th)
- Jesse Bayes – Long Jump (2nd)
- Lewis Davies – Discus (6th)

The Lytton District is very strong and making the next level is very difficult. For example, there were over 100 runners in each age group of the 100m and eighty in the 200m!

**Mr Hamish Pike**

Sports Master
pikeh@mbbc.qld.edu.au

CIC Sport
THE TRUTH ABOUT CONSEQUENCES

I came across this article written by Dr Bill Maier who is a psychologist-in-residence at Focus on the Family in the USA. I hope this article challenges and blesses you as it did me.

Do you have a grip on reality? Here’s a quiz to find out.

Bob drives his bright red sports car 140 kilometres per hour on the highway and is pulled over by a police officer. The officer gives Bob a:
1. friendly greeting
2. cookie
3. speeding ticket

Susan prefers sleeping late to showing up at work on time. After arriving at the office two to three hours late for two weeks in a row, Susan’s boss tells her to:
1. get to bed a little earlier
2. take some vacation time to rest up
3. look for another job

As a result of their choices, Bob and Susan will both experience unpleasant consequences. We can only hope they’ll learn from their experiences, prompting Bob to become a safer driver and Susan to become a more responsible employee.

Training for the real world

The effective use of consequences can be a powerful parenting tool. When our children break a rule or fail to act responsibly, we can implement a consequence or allow the natural outcome of their behaviour to take effect. Over time, these results act as a teacher, helping our kids to learn how things operate in the real world.

Unfortunately, far too many parents short-circuit this process, either failing to implement appropriate consequences or bailing their kids out – shielding them from the slightest discomfort. These parents believe they express love by sparing their children from consequences; in reality, they are setting their kids up for frustration and failure later in life.

The book of Proverbs reminds us that God designed the world to function in specific ways. Our actions have ramifications, and more often than not, we reap what we sow (Galatians 6:7). Our kids benefit when they learn that life is made up of these cause-and-effect relationships – even though the effects they experience may sometimes be unpleasant.

If a toddler touches a hot stove, he gets burned – that is a natural consequence. When a child’s actions do not lead to an obvious result, however, a parent can still employ a consequence that is logically connected to the behaviour. For example, a child is instructed to put away his toy train and doesn’t follow through; a logical consequence would be that he is not allowed to play with his train the next day.

What it looks like

Consequences can be both positive and negative. Parents can use positive consequences when they want to encourage good behaviour and negative consequences when they want to discourage bad behaviour.

In order for consequences to work, they need to be immediate. Kids have short attention spans. You can increase the immediacy of a consequence by using tokens or a point system. Immediately award your child points or tokens for positive behaviour and deduct them for negative behaviour. These can then be “cashed in” for special privileges or inexpensive rewards at a later time. You’ll also need to be consistent with consequences, or your child will quickly learn that you don’t mean what you say. That’s why it’s crucial to follow through with a promised outcome even when you’re tired.

Finally, consequences need to be powerful. If a positive or negative consequence doesn’t matter to your child, it won’t change their behaviour. For example, earning points toward a new outfit for her doll may be a powerful motivator for a seven-year-old girl, but she may not care about that a year from now.

As you learn to use consequences effectively – instead of nagging, yelling or making threats – you’ll find that interactions with your kids will improve. Your children will clearly understand what’s expected of them, and you’ll feel more confident in your role as a parent. Of course, you should always administer consequences in the context of a warm, supportive relationship.

Dr Dobson’s book, The New Dare to Discipline, includes step-by-step instructions on how to utilise consequences in your parenting and set up a point or token system.

By the way, if you answered “3” for both questions on the quiz, congratulations – you understand the reality of consequences. Now you can use that precious wisdom to help your kids mature into responsible adults who make good choices – and who keep their jobs and avoid speeding tickets.
Mr Shane McCarthy  
School Chaplain

College Business

Collection of Childrens Toys
The MBC Fete is holding a second hand toy stall and require boys toys in good condition. If you have any toys that your son is no longer using, please place them in the box in the MBBC school office by Wednesday, 19 August.

Tuckshop
Special for this Thursday - Sushi and Soup for $3.50
Please note that ALL grades need to pre-order tuckshop on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Please ensure you have checked your son’s order is correct and has the total amount of money owing for tuckshop included. If the correct money is not supplied a note will be sent home advising of this.

Late to school
If your son is late to school, you are required to sign your child in at the school office. Children in younger grades (up to Year 5) are NOT to be sent into the office without a parent.

Lost Property
We currently have many items in lost property without names. So that lost articles can be identified and returned to their owners, please label your son’s name clearly on all items of clothing and items brought to school.

Drop Off Your Children Safely
A reminder to all parents that the roundabout is NOT a drop off zone - this is both very dangerous for our children, and contributes to traffic congestion around this already busy area.

Parents & Friends

If you need to deposit money into the P & F Bank account, please use these details: Westpac Bank BSB 034 053 A/C No. 175600. Reference: child’s surname and year.

The P & F is a group of parents who volunteer their time to raise funds for the benefit of all students at Moreton Bay Boys College. Over the years these events have been greatly enhanced through the ongoing generous support and involvement of our parents and friends. Each year we ask for your assistance in a wide variety of areas so that we can continue to provide these events. As a group we can only do so much, so please consider helping out at one of our events.

Your assistance will be most gratefully appreciated.

Open Day thank you
Thank you to all who volunteered their time to help out at the meet and greet and tea/coffee reception area.

Class Hampers
You will receive a letter this week regarding hampers for the up and coming Dinner Dance. Each family has been asked to provide an item to be placed in a hamper that can be raffled on the evening. Even if you are not able to attend the evening, your donations will be gratefully accepted. Your class rep will be co-ordinating this event. If you wish to give a cash donation, please place in an envelope marked with Hamper Donation, your name and child’s class in the locked box and we will purchase an item on your behalf.

Dinner Dance
Sponsorship and Donations
We still require a Gold Sponsor for our Dinner Dance. Do you know of anyone who wants to promote their business? We would also like to secure a couple of larger items for our public auction if you can help. Items need to be collected by the 21st August.

If you can assist please let me know on radford107@yahoo.com.

Thank you to our sponsors to date
Silver Sponsor: 35 Lighting Qld
Bronze Sponsor: Fruition Tuition Manly

Dinner Dance Tickets
Last day to purchase tickets will be this Friday, 14 August. Please email Lisa Thompson at sthompson4@optusnet.com.au to let her know that you have deposited monies into the P & F account.

Special Dietary Requirements
If you are attending the Dinner Dance and have special requirements please advise me by 14 August 2009.

MBC Fun Day - Saturday 22 August
MBBC is hosting a tattoo stall and is seeking volunteers to help out. If you can spare an hour between 10.00 am to 3.00pm, please contact me at radford107@yahoo.com.

Mrs Karen Austin  
President  
MBBC P & F

Community Notices

MBC Fete and Family Fun Day
MBBC families and friends are invited to participate with the MBC community in their Fete and Family Fun Day on Saturday, 22 August from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The event will be held on the ovals at the Hargreaves Road entrance to the school and includes fabulous rides, stalls and exhibitions of art, music and dance. For those interested in having a closer look at the College, tours of the campus will be held at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.

To get the best value from the rides, ride passes are available before the day for $25, or on the day for $30. For more information on the Fete or to download your ride band form, please click on this link: http://www.mbc.qld.edu.au/item.asp?pid=1968.

RQYS Holiday Sailing program
Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron Sail & Play Program
Sailing, Powerboating, Fishing, Rafts, Kites, Island Trip and More!
September 28 – 2 October
9:00 am to 4:30 pm each day
For ages 7 to 12
Visit www.sailandplay.com or phone 3396 8666 for more information

RQYS Introduction to Sailing
Includes Yachting Australia Basic Skills 1 & 2 Certification
September 21 - 23
Suitable for Years 7 to 12
9:00 am to 4:30 pm each day
Visit www.rqys.com.au or phone 3396 8666 for more information.

Guardian Angels’ School and Parish Annual Fete Day
Sunday, 30 August 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. 188 Bay Terrace, Wynnum. Go along to enjoy lots of stalls, rides, food and entertainment.

Brigidine College Dance
When: Friday, 21 August
Time: 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Who: Years 8-10
Venue: Brigidine College Multi Purpose Centre, Fairley Street, Indooroopilly
Cost: $10 plus student ID (payable at door)

Queensland School of Film and Television
School Holidays Film Making Workshops
The September school holidays are just around the corner. Give the Wii and Nintendo the cold shoulder these holidays and join us for our school holiday filmmaking workshops. You’ll get to meet like-minded creative people and learn all the tricks of the trade as you make your very own short film. Who knows, doing something fun and educational could possibly lead to a life-long satisfying career?

Dates: 21,22,24,25 September 2009
Time: 9.30 am - 4.30 pm each day
Location: 7/38 Tennyson Memonal Drive, Yeerongpilly, Brisbane

For more information visit www.qsft.qld.edu.au or call 1300 765 354.

Acacia Bayside Swimming Club Inc  BSA/QSA Affliated
We have regular Friday night club.

Sign On Day for 2009/10 Season
When: Saturday, 22 August, 2009
Time: 12.00 noon – 2.00 pm
Where: Morston Bay College pool, Wondall Road, Wynnum West

New Members need proof of age (eg Birth Certificate or Passport). For more information please contact Merryl Bennett 0408 887 492.

Graphic Design Workshop
Design College Australia in Fortitude Valley is running a two day workshop designed for students in Years 10-12 who are considering a career in the creative arts industry. You will be introduced to the fundamentals of creative thinking and instructed in the use of design tools and equipment. The course will explore type, illustrations and drawing as communication elements, balance graphic elements in simple layouts, and produce visuals using a variety of media and design applications such as Adobe Photoshop. Work produced will include posters, corporate identities, advertisements and three dimensional projects.
9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Monday 28 September and Tuesday 29 September
$200 including art materials
For more information call 07 3257 3499 or email info@designcollege.com.au