



Mackay Christian College Newsletter

2024 Term 4-2

'Christian Education on Purpose'

*News from the Principal,
Dr Lesley Tunnah*



Recently, the MCC Leadership Team assembled in the RBJ Meeting Room to present information to an external validator, Dr Lynne Doneley. The meeting was to demonstrate our compliance with mandatory NSSAB school criteria. These criteria investigate and review the development and organisation of all facets of MCC including governance structure and oversight, financial viability, accredited Curriculum programs, students with disabilities support, child protection compliance with legislation, staffing suitability and qualifications, resourcing of educational needs, buildings maintenance, workplace safety, secure storage of data and network security and plans for future improvement.

Thanks to the hard work of all teams involved and the final reports presented, we have been informed that we are travelling very well in the organisation of our College. There is always room for improvement and this review has identified arenas both for celebration and for further development. A final report will now be forwarded to NSSAB along with the validator's report.

The fees schedule for 2025 has been reviewed by the College Board. Fee information was posted in the Term 4-1 Newsletter and is now also available on the College website at <https://mcc.qld.edu.au/> Search under the tab 'Learning' -> 'Our fees and charges'

As the year comes to an end and families consider changes for 2025, our Enrolments Officer, Mrs Mel Mojikon, has been busy processing both enrolment applications and withdrawal of enrolment forms. Full details for both of these processes may be found at enrolments@mccmky.qld.edu.au

Today is my last day at MCC for 2024. I am travelling to the USA to seek adventures including visiting the Ark Encounter in Kentucky. Here, Ken Ham has realised his dream of building a full-size Noah's Ark. Photos will follow early next year.

Thank you very much to all the staff of MCC who each fulfil their roles with professionalism, integrity and care. They are the beating heart of the College and students are blessed by their presence.

May you enjoy a blessed Christmas with your loved ones. The Christ Child came to earth to bring forgiveness, grace and love so that we may be blessed with eternal life – what an amazing gift to us all!

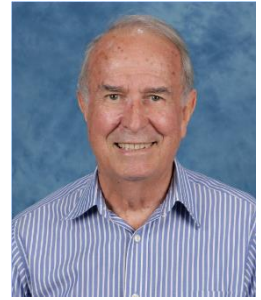
My prayers and blessings are for you and your family,

Dr Lesley Tunnah



News from the Board Chair,

Ps Rob Booth-Jones



Dear School Community.

The end of the year is upon us and in the next month we will have our celebration nights, Year 12 graduation dinner and other events to mark the conclusion of our 41st year.

On behalf of the College Board, I want to express great appreciation to our Principal, Dr Tunnah, for her tireless hard work and inspiration to staff and students. She has just completed our five-year annual compliance review which is a mammoth task and in this she was assisted by the College Executive. A big thank you to all concerned.

Dr Tunnah is bringing our school to a new level of operation in education and staffing.

I cannot express my appreciation sufficiently for this excellent work.

In coming to MCC as Principal in mid-year Dr Tunnah advised that she had made special travel arrangements for mid-November, and so her leave starts on the 8th but she will be at our senior celebration night on the 12th and then away, so we wish her and her husband safe travels and fun. The rest of the year will be handled by the outstanding team raised up and trained by Dr Tunnah.

The enrolments for 2024 were up by 2% on 2023, not quite as much as anticipated, but enrolments for 2025 look solid and show a significant increase on this current year.

Christmas decorations have been prominent since October and again we are reminded of the approach of another Christmas and the significance of the birth of a child in Bethlehem who became our saviour. Jesus' birth was announced by the angel who stated to the shepherds "I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people". Shepherds had a lowly and hard occupation, and perhaps you are finding life difficult for whatever reason. I pray that you might find the joy in Jesus this Christmas season.

You are welcome to join with us at Powerhouse for a Christian Carols Service on Sunday 8th December at 6.30pm and on Christmas Day at 9.30am.

Please remember that the priority of Christmas is not about presents but a person, Jesus, and the persons who surround your life.

I pray for you a God-blessed Christmas and a spiritually refreshing New Year.

Thank you for being part of our College community and I look forward to 2025, the opportunities and blessings God will bring.

In Christ's Love

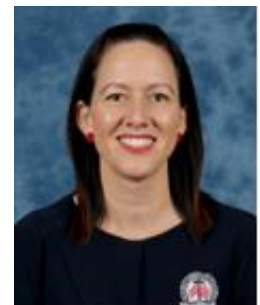
Pastor Rob Booth-Jones

MCC Chair

In 1983, Ps Rob Booth-Jones, Ps Denise Booth-Jones and their church, Mackay Christian Family, had a vision for establishing a mission outreach arm to the Mackay community by starting a school, Mackay Christian College. Forty-one years later, hundreds of teachers and support staff, and thousands of students have experienced this Christian-based educational provider.

On Friday, 8th November, we officially opened the RBJ Meeting Room, a dedicated space for meetings and welcoming educational partners to the school.

It has been a tradition of the College to name College buildings after influential missionaries who have had an impact in Queensland. These include Thomas L Evans (TLE block), Florence Young (FY block), Annie Dennis (AD block) and Lloyd Averill (NLA block). Ps Rob has long resisted having buildings named after him and so we have chosen to acknowledge his many years of service and oversight as Board Chair by naming this meeting room after him. May there be many God-honouring, productive discussions held in this space as we continue to develop the educational services of Mackay Christian College.



News from the Head of Primary,

Mrs Michelle Brownsey

As we head towards the end of another wonderfully productive and enjoyable school year, I would like to take a moment to thank you all for your unwavering support, kindness, encouragement and no doubt patience from time to time, as I have stepped into the role of Head of Primary this year. I feel truly blessed by this community and of course the Providence Team, who joyfully serve in any way they can, to provide every opportunity for our little people.

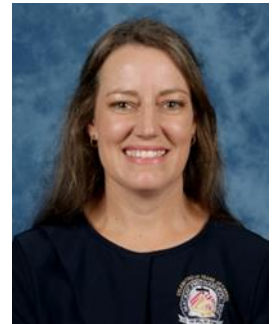
Speaking of opportunities, it appears the hardest part of the year is selecting 2025 Student Leaders, as the list of highly suitable candidates is very impressive. It is a delight to see so many students eager to apply their God given gifts in service to their College and student body. Students who have applied for Primary School Captain/Vice Captain, Primary Care Ambassador and/or Primary House Family Captain, will be advised of their outcome at the end of Week 7, God willing. The plan is for communication to come via parent email on Friday, to allow time for weekend processing/celebrating with families. 2025 Student Leaders will be announced during Assembly in Week 8, with the formal presentation of badges occurring in 2025.

Please note, there will be no Assembly in Week 7, as the students will have a simple Remembrance Day Service earlier in the day instead.

Blessings,

Mrs Michelle Brownsey

Head of Primary



News from the Head of Early Learning Centre,

Mrs Jalaa Manning

You may have heard some exciting news last week about some runaway gingerbread men! The Platypus class had such fun baking some very tasty but mischievous gingerbread men who decided to go on an adventure around the campus. The class had a fantastic time hunting them down at the obstacle course, the tuckshop, the library, and the Providence reception. It was a wonderful way to explore their new environment for next year. The children enjoyed engaging with the Gingerbread Man story. They discussed the characters and what could be learnt from the story. Ms Harper posed the question “Would you have trusted the fox?” The children shared their response with their classmates. They learnt about story maps and a few clever Platypuses crafted their own map during creative time. Some of the boys created traps to stop our gingerbread men escaping next time. All in all, it was a wonderful and memorable learning experience for the children and staff alike.

This week our Kindy students enjoyed experiencing ‘Tuckshop’. There was much excitement as the little brown bags were delivered for morning tea and lunch on their tuckshop day.

Our practices have commenced in preparation for our Kindy celebration afternoon and we’re looking forward to singing for our families and celebrating a wonderful year of learning through play. I pray you all have a wonderful, safe and blessed Christmas.





News from the Head of Secondary

Ms Deb Wright

Week 6 draws to a close, with the very last of the Year 12 external exams being held today. This is a huge milestone for our students and no doubt the reality of finishing secondary schooling will start to sink in. Regardless, they will continue learning for the rest of their lives through life experiences, both the valleys and the mountain tops. Some of the Year 12s are certain of what type of career they are aiming for and others not so certain. What is certain is God says in Psalm 119:105, that His “Word is a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path”. If we allow Him to be, I pray that each of our Year 12 students will embrace a relationship with our Heavenly Father. He is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us. Ephesians 3:20.

Next week, Week 7, is a huge week of Celebration! This is even more so for our Year 12s. On Monday morning, we kick off the week with a walk to Providence to practise for Celebration night. **With the combination of the Middle and Senior School nights into one Secondary Celebration Night**, this involves a different approach to the awards night. However, the aim is to honour students who have shown exceptional application in a wide variety of areas throughout this past year. Parents/carers should have received an email if their child is receiving an award.

Wednesday morning, our House Families hold their annual celebration morning where the overall House Family Shield winner is announced and House Family Captains for 2025 are revealed. Thursday morning’s Senior Chapel is a time to reflect upon the year and parents/carer’s of Year 12 students are invited to this event to see the anecdotes from the year, both serious and hilarious, and words of appreciation. Graduation follows that night directly before the Mystery Tour at 11:30pm. This is a wonderfully safe environment of celebration as they finish their last official day together as Year 12.

Year 11s had their camp this last week and by all reports, the teachers expressed how impressed they were with the teamwork and how these up-and-coming leaders pushed past fears and overcame challenges to conquer new heights.

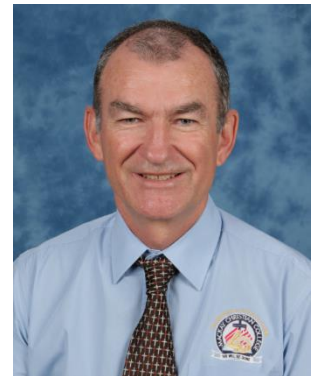
Last week, our Cadets and Development teams for F1 in Schools competed at CQU and won several awards. The skills learned in preparation for this event, along with the event itself, are

transferable and practical for any workplace. The students are very passionate and could articulate what the various parts represent. Mr Nathan Richards supports the students in their endeavours and will see a new name take effect for the event next year being, 'STEM Racing'.

With four weeks left to finish this term, we encourage the students to keep their eyes on the end goal and finish their year well.

Blessings,

Ms Deb Wright.



News from the Head of Academics

Mr Doug Graham

End of Semester 2 Reports for Year 10 students and End of Unit 2 Reports for Year 11 students will be published by the start of week 7. Year 11 students should review their current subjects and evaluate whether any changes need to be made for Units 3 and 4. Subjects changes for Year 10 and 11 students should be finalised as soon as possible.

The Year 12 external exams have now been finished. This is the culmination of much hard work over a very long time. We are excited for them and are looking forward to the final week of celebration next week that includes the Secondary Celebration night, House Family Celebration morning, Senior Chapel, Graduation night and the Mystery Tour. I always love this week as I believe we do the week as well if not better than any other school. I can remember that back in 2012, one of our Year 10 students who was planning on leaving MCC decided on stay and finish Year 11 and 12 because she did not want to miss the final Year 12 Celebration week at MCC.

Year 7-9 students will be completing their assessment over the next few weeks. End of Semester 2 reports will be published at the end of the school year.

Our vision for our students is for them to become everything that God wants them to be, flourishing in aspects of their lives. We want them to be confident, organised, determined learners who have a clear vision for their futures and are resilient through challenges.

I continue to wish all our students much success in their learning journey this term.

God bless

Mr Doug Graham

News from the ICT Manager

Mr Brett Hobbs

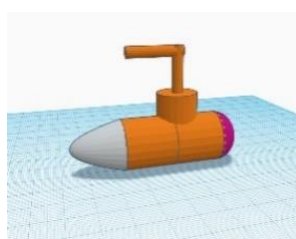
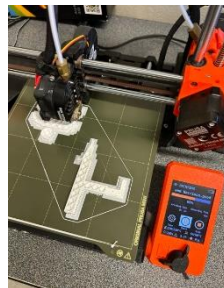
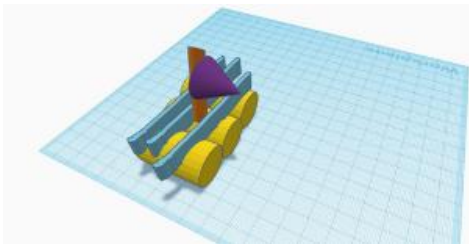
'Keeping our students connected'



In today's classrooms, technology extends far beyond just computers and iPads. Modern educational settings are equipped with a variety of innovative tools designed to enhance learning and engagement. For instance, Commbbox's large touch screens allow teachers to create dynamic lessons that can be easily modified and shared. Additionally, 3D printers enable students to transform their digital designs into tangible objects, fostering creativity and practical skills.

Here are some examples of our Year One students' work using technology. Yes, that's right—Year One! Oh to be a student in school today. The Year One students were tasked with investigating suitable materials for a water toy that they could design and build. Using software on the computers, they drafted a design and then some 3D printed it. Others were hand crafted. Budding engineers? Absolutely amazing. Great work, Year One and of course our STEM teacher Miss Huston!

God bless, Brett Hobbs.



News from the MCC Parent Association
Mr Mathew Drysdale - President
Mrs Tara Drysdale Secretary

WOW!!! Term 4 has been busy for the Parent Association with a Bunnings sausage sizzle, Primary school dance, Trade Training Centre awards night, helping with the Year 6 completion ceremony at the end of the month and assisting in end of year activities. We also have a big fundraiser with Krispy Kreme donuts happening. Orders close at 3pm this Sunday the 10th of November. Distribution of all orders will be the 21st of November from 3:15pm-5:30pm at Powerhouse

Ambrose Way. Have you got your order in yet? Don't forget it's not too late to share the link/QR code with your family and friends.

The final meeting for the year will be on Wednesday night, the 13th of November. You are welcome to come and join us at Harrup Park at 6pm. Please email the Parent Association at parentassociation@mccmky.qld.edu.au by Tuesday morning 12th of November for reservation purposes. We will be talking about finalising the final fund raising for 2024 and looking ahead to 2025, particularly on how the Parent Association can help our MCC school community. If you would like to be involved, we will also be creating the PA Calendar for 2025, scheduling and canvassing events and fundraising opportunities early in 2025. Come along with enthusiasm and ideas.

Finally we would like to thank every single parent, grand parent, big brother and sister and students who have helped us. We were blown away by the support for the Bunnings sausage sizzle, for the number of parents who showed up for the Father's Day store, for the new families helping out at the dance, and the families ordering donuts. This year the list of volunteers has exceeded any other year. We honestly couldn't support our students in the school Community without people like you willing to help in practical ways. Thank you everyone. We are beyond grateful. The momentum of the PA is building and we are looking forward to seeing both new and familiar faces in 2025.

God Bless,
Tara Drysdale
Secretary



A promotional poster for a Krispy Kreme fundraiser. At the top, the Krispy Kreme logo is displayed in red and green, with the word 'DOUGHNUTS' in a green banner below it. Underneath the logo, the word 'FUNDRAISING' is written in large, bold, green capital letters. The background of the poster shows a person's hands holding a white Krispy Kreme paper bag. The bag has the text 'The ORIGINAL SINCE 1937' printed on it. Below the bag, the text 'Mackay Christian College Parent Association is running a Krispy Kreme Fundraiser. Scan the QR Code below to access Online Store' is written in green. The words 'ORDER NOW!' are prominently displayed in large, bold, green capital letters. At the bottom left of the poster is a QR code. At the bottom right, there are two small images of Krispy Kreme doughnuts, one with a pink glaze and one with a white glaze, both with the number '12' on them.



Please remember to check your MCC Calendar for upcoming events!