



Mackay Christian College Newsletter

2025 Term 2-1

'Christian Education on Purpose'

News from the Principal

Dr Lesley Tunnah



The College year continues to roll on with both in-class educational opportunities and a range of events that give students a wide variety of life experiences.

ANZAC Day was well attended with over 200 students, staff and parents marching and representing the College's support for those who served and sacrificed in the defence forces so that we may live in a country free from oppression. Thank you to our College Captains, Seb, Makayla, Jocelyn and Zach for leading the College.

The MCC Parent Association set up a 'free water' tent at the end of the march which was greatly appreciated by many. (see photos in the PA News section)

I also attended the dawn service at Finch Hatton where a significant number of local residents gathered in the chilly morning pre-dawn to pay their respects to those who had paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

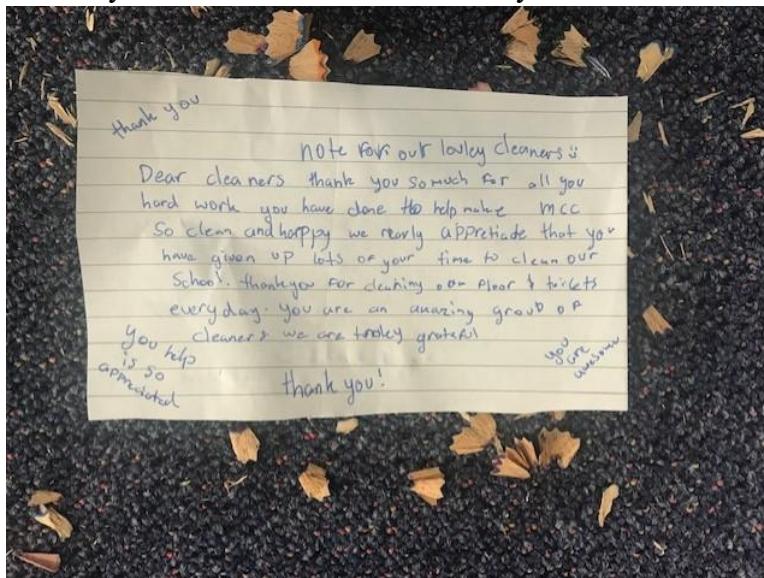


Earlier this term, we said farewell to Mr Emmet Brown who has worked tirelessly in the College Agriculture Department to assist both staff and students in their study of animal husbandry and crop growing, as well as training students in the Cattle Show Team. Thank you, Mr Brown, and God bless you.

The College encourages practical applications of their learning wherever possible. One example is found in Mr Stringer's Year 7 Humanities class where students studied ancient civilisations earlier in Semester 1. They particularly explored the origins of writing and perhaps the earliest language as part of the Mesopotamian cultures: Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, the language of Abraham and perhaps Noah. Students made their own cuneiform tablets and painted them to create an ancient patina.



This class also left a note of appreciation for the cleaners who are seldom seen in person but whose actions are seen in the lovely clean classrooms each new day:



I invite you and your family to join us for our **MCC Discovery** this Saturday 24th May on Providence Campus starting at 3pm. The focus of our afternoon is to share with you the educational opportunities and experiences available at MCC from Kindy through to Year 12.

May you be richly blessed,
Dr Lesley Tunnah

News from the Acting Board Chair

Mr Ben Patterson

I recently had the privilege of attending a one-day summit hosted by Associated Christian Schools. MCC enjoys a longstanding relationship with the organisation and its member schools.



I had profitable meetings with several leaders of like-minded Christian schools from across the state, discussing issues we share in common and hearing about the good things God is doing.

The independent schooling sector continues to grow, year on year. MCC is no different. Early enrolment numbers for 2026 are particularly strong. We thank God for his continued blessing. As Chairman, I'm looking forward to MCC Discovery this weekend. Our staff and students uphold an admirable standard of excellence. I hope to see many of you there.

Ben

News from the Head of Primary

Mrs Michelle Brownsey

I am excited to share with you that we are well underway with plans to add additional clothing items to the girls' formal uniform range. After reaching out for and gaining feedback from various staff, students and families, it has been decided to add a formal blouse and skort for Primary girls.



A big thank you to our sample uniform model, Addison Hobbs, who has tried and tested the items and reports back, "I like the skort and blouse because it feels comfortable like a sports uniform." After final stages are worked through and uniforms are produced and made available through School Locker, this option will be an acceptable uniform option as we move into 2026. The blouse striping aligns with the boys' formal shirt and is specific to Primary only, while the skort aligns with Secondary and can be worn across into Year 7 and beyond.

Blessings,
Mrs Michelle Brownsey
Head of Primary



News from the Primary Head of Pastoral Care

Mr Andy Butler



We have had a great start to Term 2. Behaviour across the Primary campus has, generally, been very good. It has been wonderful walking around at break times and seeing the students enjoying the sunshine and playing well together.

The Pastoral Care team have been busy, though, with many students coming in to reflect, chat and chill. As a reminder, RTLCL is where students come if they have not displayed appropriate behaviour. We work through incidents with students, have them reflect on their behaviour and suggest strategies for them to improve their choices. We also have a chill space in Primary RTLCL where students who are feeling upset, or who are not completely focused, can come and sit for a short time, until they are ready to learn and can return to class. One of the values that I believe we can all have more of is wisdom. I regularly pray James 1:5, which says 'If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.'

Thank you and God bless.

Mr Andy Butler

We now have a full-time youth support worker. Mrs Margot Galea who joined us at the end of last term and has quickly become a valuable member of the MCC Primary team. Miss Margot, as we call her, has written the following to introduce herself.

Hello,

My name is **Mrs Margot Galea**, and I'm the Youth Support Worker on the Primary Campus.

Over the past 20 years, I've had the privilege of working across a range of sectors including Domestic & Family Violence, Youth Justice, and various areas within the justice system. However, the most challenging, rewarding, and important role I've ever held is being a mum to three wonderful children—and now, I'm enjoying the spoils of being a GG (grandma).

Together with my husband, we are proud business owners, and through our work, we've built many meaningful connections throughout the region. I also serve on several community boards, and I continue to find great fulfillment in these roles.

Outside of work, I enjoy a variety of hobbies—from Dragon Boat Racing, personal training and gym, to the delicate art of Bonsai. I especially love watching my children pursue their passions in Rugby League and Mixed Martial Arts.

I consider myself approachable and personable, and I take great pride in supporting and caring for members of our community. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you ever have any questions or concerns—I'm here to help.

I'll sign off with a personal belief that guides me:

We are always exactly where we are meant to be.

And I live by three simple steps:

Learn it. Live it. Love it.

Thank you,

Miss Margot

News from the Head of Secondary

Ms Deb Wright



This weekend we look forward to MCC Discovery Day, in which its sole purpose is to allow both current and potential families to get a glimpse into the life of the College. We aim to provide quality Christian education which aims to challenge and support our students to become all God wants them to be. This is also a great opportunity for all to connect, interact and celebrate.

The Secondary Team will be situated in the Powerhouse, spilling over onto the grounds on the Western side into the Green Village and down the centre of Blue Village. Teachers will be in and around the subject area displays and you may even decide to do a mini activity. For the students, the MCC Discovery Passports will leave a mark of these interactions and explorations. We will also be treated to the skills of the Creative Academy team and Chapel Band along with a tease of the upcoming Musical Production, Mary Poppins (to be held in last week of Term 3). You don't want to miss out so please check the program for times!

Year 9 Camp Fairbairn held earlier this term, again proved to be popular with students. The team spirit shone through in encouraging each other to step up to challenges with which they were presented. Year 10 Camp is now on the horizon in under two weeks with the theme of being 'Confident for Service'. These opportunities create lifetime memories but more importantly, opportunities for growth.

Various sporting opportunities continue in the background with our keen Sporting Co-ordinator, Mr Josiah McCarthy. Mr McCarthy is the person to see for all sporting events. He has overseen various games this term, including District Sports Futsal, Rugby League, the Vicki Wilson and Karen Murphy Netball cups along with gearing up for next term's Basketball Interschool Competition. Students are encouraged to chat to Mr McCarthy for up-and-coming opportunities.

It was wonderful to see the many connections made during the two evenings of Parent teacher interviews. At the beginning of Semester 2, we will be conducting interviews again, so please keep an eye out for the booking schedule.

House Family spirit was very loud for one's hearing on the announcement of the results from the swimming carnival held a couple of weeks ago. Congratulations to Evans! On the back of that, we have our Athletics Carnival in a week which promises to have beautiful weather, but I am sure the competition will be teeming.

The House Family events are a good reminder, that we aren't meant to do life alone. We work to serve each other and ultimately our King, Jesus Christ. This is why we aim to provide not just education but Christian Education. We've been privileged to have Miss Claire Booker and Mrs Hannah Weir giving senior students the opportunity to be part of the Youth Alpha Course once a week. Year 7-9 will soon have the opportunity to participate in this also. The program takes students through the foundations of Biblical beliefs. This is eternally valuable in making a difference in the lives of our students. We bring all praise and honour to our Lord.

Ms Debbie Wright

News from the Pastoral care Coordinator

Ms Ulla Hansson

As we move through Term 2, I take this opportunity to thank all staff, parents and carers for their attention to caring for their children by supporting the College and its expectations.

Our collective efforts have led to notable progress and positive changes in the RTLCL space. The team have encouraged students to be prepared and equipped for their learning experiences each day. We are dedicated to continuous improvement and our unwavering commitment to the success and pastoral care of every student.

To achieve best outcomes for your child while at school, your partnership with the College is invaluable and your efforts in supporting the CLEAR values have an immense impact. Together we are fostering a community where positive education flourishes, with Christ at the heart of all our pastoral care initiatives.

Bless you,

Ms Ulla Hansson



News from the Early Learning Centre

Mrs Jalaa Manning

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week, we had the pleasure of hosting our Kindy children's mums for our annual Mother's Day event. Some of the activities the children enjoyed in the beautiful sunshine with their Mums included jewellery making, a pamper station offering hand massages and pedicures, drawing a portrait of their mum, reading with mum, having their photo taken together, their mum listening to a video of their child being interviewed about them, and a special afternoon tea. Some ladies representing the Neighbourhood Hub also attended, with information to share about free community playgroups and programs for families. It was a wonderful afternoon celebrating our precious Kindy mums and the important role they play in their families.

Please use this link to gain greater understanding of the services and courses offered by the Neighbourhood Hub. <https://www.tnhub.org.au/>



HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!



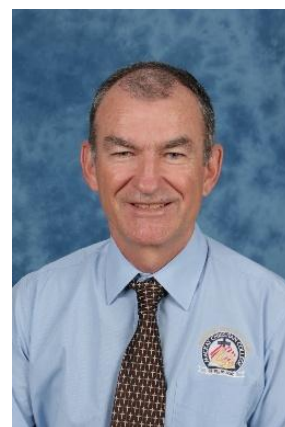


News from the Head of Academics

Mr Doug Graham

We had a great turn up of Year 6 students and parents at the Year 7 2026 Information Night that was held on Wednesday 14 May. The due date for students selecting elective subjects through web preferences is **Wednesday 28 May 2025**.

At the end of Term 2, we will be launching the Kings Park Campus Virtual Expo. Students and parents will be able to view photo galleries, videos and subject selection books as part of the process of choosing elective subjects for Year 8 2026, Year 10 2026 (Humanities electives only) and Year 11 2026. Teachers will run subject information sessions with students in classes in Week 9 or 10 this term.



QCAA has published IA1 (Internal Assessment 1) confirmation decisions for most of the Year 12 General Syllabus subjects. There was no change to the provisional results for most subjects. Confirmation decisions will be communicated to students over the next week by subject teachers. The Year 12 external exam timetable for General Syllabus subjects has been published by QCAA. The schedule can be accessed via the link

https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/snr_ext_assess_timetable_2025.pdf

Year 11 students will be completing Unit 1 over the next two weeks. Unit 1 Reports will be published in week 9 of this term. Subject changes for Unit 2 need to occur over the next two weeks where possible but they can happen until the end of the term at the latest. If students are considering a change of subject, they should book a meeting with Mrs Dani Beck, the Vocational and Learning Pathways Coordinator.

Our focus Bible verse for weeks 6-10 is below. Students are encouraged to memorise and reflect on this, considering how it applies to their own lives.

Philippians 4 :8 *“And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honourable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise”.*

I pray that all our students have much success in their learning journey this term.

God bless,

Mr Doug Graham

News from the ICT Manager

Mr Brett Hobbs



Keeping You Connected

Welcome to Term 2! Recently, we sent out the Student Acceptable Use of Technology form to all parents and carers via Parent Lounge. If you haven't had a chance to read and accept the agreement yet, please log in to Parent Lounge and accept at your earliest convenience. Thank you to everyone who has already completed this!

As we prepare for MCC Discovery Day on the 24th of May, I have been reflecting on the incredible growth of our College's ICT department. When I started as a technician back in 2001, I was the only tech, and I worked part time! At that time, we had only three digitally enabled classrooms, each with around four computers for student use. Some were used for CAD (graphics), while others were for typing assignments. The college had satellite internet, which I thought was amazing compared to the dial-up speeds I had at home.

Fast forward to today, and the transformation is remarkable. Special thanks to all the staff who have worked and even volunteered in the ICT department over the years, contributing to its growth and success. Now, we boast three dedicated, high-performance computer labs, along with a further three mini labs to support learning in STEM, music, and other specialist subjects. Providence years Prep to Year 4 have shared iPad devices, while students from year five and up have one-to-one devices. Each classroom is equipped with a touch screen for displaying learning content, and almost every device is connected to secure internet links that can download files in seconds. We also have 3D printers and CNC machines—the list goes on.

We are immensely grateful for God's provision and for everyone who has contributed and partnered to our success. We hope to continue stewarding these great resources in the years to come.

Please take the time to explore the many displays at MCC Discovery Day. It's truly amazing to see how far we've come. Many teachers are working hard to give you a snapshot of what we do and how we deliver Christian education to your child. Looking forward to seeing you there!

God bless,

Mr Brett Hobbs

News from the MCC Parent Association

Mr Mathew Drysdale - President

Mrs Tara Drysdale Secretary



Community Service and Events Update

Our school's contribution to the Mackay community during the ANZAC Day March was once again a tremendous success. This year, approximately **2,640 bottles of water** were distributed by our students, with an additional **1,200 bottles** delivered to the Finch Hatton RSL for their commemorative events. We were honoured to receive words of appreciation from **Mayor Greg Williamson**, **Federal Member Andrew Wilcox**, and **State Member Nigel Dolton**, who all commended our students for their outstanding service and community spirit. It was heartening to see participation from students across all year levels—and even more inspiring to see students from other schools joining in.

A heartfelt thank you goes to **Woolworths Mount Pleasant, Canelands, and Andergrove** for their generous donation of water. Your continued support enables us to serve and bless our community in meaningful ways.

Mother's Day Stall

The Parent Association was delighted to once again host the **Mother's Day stall** on both campuses. A big thank you to our dedicated executive team, as well as the parents and grandparents who volunteered as shop assistants. Your time and support are truly appreciated—we couldn't do it without you!

Year 6 Acts of Kindness

A special thank you to our **Year 6 cohort**, who used the remaining Mother's Day cards to write heartfelt messages to the lovely ladies at **Rest Haven on Quarry Street**. The residents were truly touched by this thoughtful gesture.

Tuckshop Appreciation

Thank you to our **Tuckshop team** for preparing delicious dinners on behalf of the PA for our teachers on both campuses during the **Parent-Teacher Meetings**. Your servant hearts and willingness to support our staff are sincerely appreciated!

MCC Discovery Day

We're excited to welcome families to our **MCC Discovery Day**! Come and explore what makes our school special. Don't forget to visit our stall—grab a **hot dog and a drink** while you're there!

Parent Association AGM – Rescheduled

Due to a scheduling conflict with the Year 7 Information Night, our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** has been postponed. The new date is:

📅 **11 June**

🕒 **6:00 PM**

📍 **Faith Centre Kings Park**

Everyone is welcome to attend! All executive positions will be up for re-election. Please don't worry—attending the meeting doesn't mean you'll walk away with a job! We'd love to see many of you there.

Volunteer House Family Tally

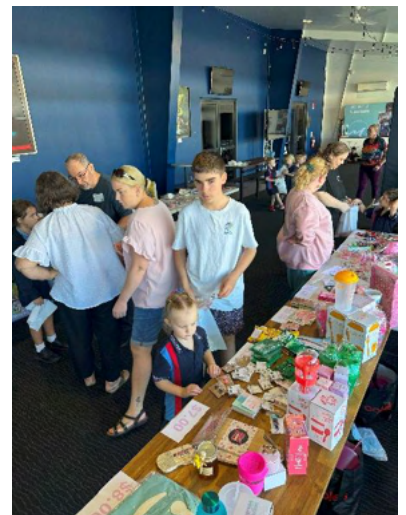
Stay tuned for the next newsletter for an updated **Volunteer House Family tally**—we can't wait to share the latest results with you!

Don't forget: **points can be earned** by volunteering **before, during, and after events**, as well as by **attending meetings**. Every bit of involvement counts!

Be blessed.

Tara Drysdale Secretary and Mathew Drysdale President

PARENT ASSOCIATION PHOTO GALLERY





Mackay Christian College
'Faith Lift for Faith Centre'
Faith Centre Fund Appeal 2025



Faith Centre was constructed in 1991 as both a worship centre for Mackay Christian Family and an Assembly Hall/Performance Space for Mackay Christian College.

Now, 34 years later, she is due for a *Faith Lift* – some restoration, renovation and refurbishment is needed. Though no longer used by MCF, Faith Centre is certainly a great facility for showcasing current school activities.

If you would like to contribute to the **Faith Centre Fund**, you may donate via the following direct deposit details:

Bank: ANZ
BSB: 014 023
ACCT: 838 333 773
Name: MCC Building Fund
Reference: FCF your name

Donations over \$2 are fully tax deductible.
Thank you for blessing the College with your gift.



MACKAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

C

Christlikeness means I choose to

- be confident in Father God's love for me
- follow the example of Jesus, serving others with care and kindness
- speak the truth at all times

L

Learning means I choose to

- have a positive, persistent attitude to my studies
- complete learning activities to the best of my ability
- explore and discover God's created world with wonder and joy

E

Excellence means I choose to

- be well organised and prepared to achieve my personal best
- honour God with my words and actions
- represent the College with high standards of behaviour and dress

A

Attitude means I choose to

- develop greater resilience, allowing mistakes to teach me wisdom
- act safely, apologise if I hurt others, and forgive others
- honour those in authority by obeying their instructions

R

Respect means I choose to

- get along with others, accepting them as unique and of great value
- carefully consider my words before speaking out loud
- care for resources and equipment, both mine and others'



Christian Education on Purpose