



# Mackay Christian College Newsletter

## 2026 Term 2-2

### 'Christian Education on Purpose'

#### News from the Principal

Dr Lesley Tunnah

#### Binbi gurri – G'day from Yuwibara Country

As we prepare for the End-Semester 1 break, it is a good time to pause and reflect upon the many blessings we have received before forging once again into the next term of learning. As a summary of some of the things completed or underway, here is the short list!



#### Providence:

1. New OSHCare building under construction, aiming for finish in Term 4 this year.
2. New Covered Sports facility (past Green Village) aiming for finish by end of this year.
3. Cross now in place in the round-about. Many have asked about the flagpoles - these will go back up some time next term outside the Admin Office block.
4. Robo-marker working hard to do linemarking on the oval.
5. Tree groves planned for far end of oval with seating to come – a green retreat space – with perhaps a sensory garden or bushfoods garden in the future?
6. College Masterplan underway – thank you to all those who responded to the surveys with your ideas.
7. Application to the Block Grant Authority for assistance with a Resource Centre that will include a Library, STEM facility, Learning Enrichment room, RTLC room and a Staff lunchroom.
8. Moving the Ninja Playground with additional play equipment coming soon.
9. All classrooms repaired as necessary and repainted.
10. Introduction of laptops in Yrs 5 & 6
11. IT Team keeping us all safely connected.
12. New e-sign working well.
13. Partnering with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators to improve our cultural awareness and cultural safety.

#### Kings Park:

1. Restoration (drone weed-spraying and fertiliser) of Eric Liddell Oval and robo-marking for Athletics Carnival.
2. New line-marking in Meeting Place and courts.
3. New fit-out for Industrial Design room with benches for computers etc. due in end Sem 1 break.
4. New ute for TTC and Ag use.
5. Renovations and improvements to Ag Centre to assist in times of flood.
6. Contact with Liverpool Soccer Academy asking for details of a potential school coaching partnership with MCC.
7. Most classrooms repaired and painted – next big task is painting the exterior of the College...soon!
8. Review of all classroom furniture and replacing as necessary.
9. Faith Centre – finally underway after months of design discussion to replace the damaged pillars and beams – watch this space!
10. Conversion of FY1 into HPE homeroom.

11. Increased available space in Library after removing tiered seating.
12. New linking concrete paths behind TLE block.
13. New Pastoral Care offices in AD3 – led by our PC Coord, Ulla H, we now have access via Julie Hughes as ‘triage’ overseer, to a councillor, nurse, Chappy, LE teachers and TAides as well as the behaviour oversight roles in the RTLC. Thank you, PC Team.
14. Establishment of LE room in AD4 and ISU workspaces in AD2 – this is the Pastoral Care Hub that I love seeing grow in its services to our students and families.
15. Introduction of laptops in Y7.
16. Upkeep of the technology services on both campuses by Brett, Christian and Lachlan. (they keep us safe from external attack, 1500 or so potential threats every day and we have been wonderfully protected!)
17. Introduction of TREK AI pilot program (Y7&9).
18. New ‘double’ advertising e-sign planned for front of KP facing Glenpark St.
19. Partnering with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators to improve our cultural awareness and cultural safety.
20. Introduction of Y7-12 CLEAR (social emotional learnings) program (thank you Mrs Graham for your leadership here) and Biblical Studies program (thank you, Mrs Oosthuizen for your leadership here).

Also, please see the article on p. 12 of this newsletter for the most recent good news about Faith Centre. Donations to the Building Fund are tax deductible.

There are more ideas to be discussed and actioned and I will continue to share these as they emerge. Our Executive Team is already organising the 2027 year, preparing and planning the many and varied excellent educational opportunities offered to our students. And there are still many items to complete on the 2026 calendar, culminating with our current Seniors’ Graduation Week.

If you love MCC like I do, please share your experiences with other families you know, and invite them to view details of our enrolment process at <https://mcc.qld.edu.au/page/enrol/>

I pray that all our students and staff return safely to us next term, beginning Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July. Please enjoy time together and come back refreshed!

Blessings and joy,  
Dr Lesley Tunnah

### *News from the Board Chair*

#### *Mr Ben Patterson – MCC Board Chair*

The College Board is responsible for overseeing sound financial decisions and to ensure ongoing confidence in the College, its facilities, its staff and its compliance with educational standards. We are blessed with our Board team of Ps Rob Booth-Jones (Deputy Chair), Mrs Catherine Petersen, Mrs Leanne Robinson, Mr Graeme Lodge, Mrs Katharine Mac Donald (Company Secretary) and potential new member, Mr Dylan Matthews.



The Board has approved a number of projects which you can see under construction on both campuses.

Bless you,  
Ben

*News from the Early Learning Centre Director*  
*Mrs Jalaa Manning*

Greetings from Kindy!

Recently 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, 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. It was a wonderful afternoon celebrating our precious Kindy mums and the important role they play in their families.



We love  
you,



## News from the Head of Primary

*Mrs Michelle Brownsey*

Well just like that, we are ready to jump on into mid-year-break. Congratulations to all participating students and those enthusiastic parents and staff who competed in our Athletics Carnival events. Great to see a number of parents giving Mr Santo and Mr Beresford a run for their money. Special congratulations to

***Dennis House Family***, our champion House achieving the most points across the Carnival.

It has been a pleasure beginning to interview Prep families applying for 2027 and to see so many new faces preparing to commence their formal education with us next year. Round 1 has officially closed, however we welcome Round 2 applications as we consider opening an additional Prep class in 2027.

May God bless your Winter break with many joyous family adventures.

Blessings,  
Mrs Michelle Brownsey



## News from the Head of Secondary

*Ms Deb Wright*

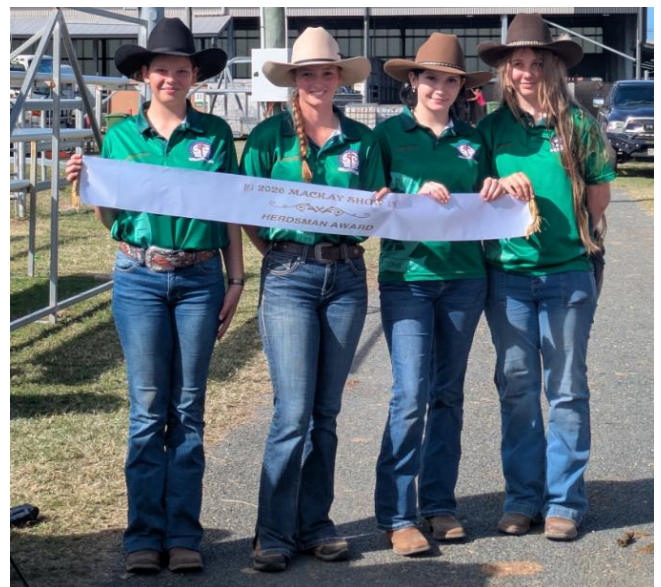
With College life being such a hive of activity, it is hard to fathom that we are at the end of Semester 1. No doubt, students and teachers will welcome some time to reset and gear up for next semester. Time out is important when time demands are constant. Jesus spoke of our needing rest and God showed us this from the very beginning of time.



Juggling various extra-curricular commitments and usual curriculum expectations along with family, social and part-time work commitments (for senior students), is all part of the growth journey for students. I am sure at times it feels like a race, but as we cheer and coach from the sidelines, this encouragement and direction certainly helps. The path to excellence is not usually made in giant leaps but more often as lots of consistent regular and small achievement steps.

It is so encouraging to see so much growth in students as they come through the years – some appear to grow in leaps and bounds as they navigate personal challenges.

Led by Ms Leisa Stevenson and aided by Mrs Alice Brockhurst, the MCC Cattle Show Team shone at the recent Pioneer and Mackay Shows. The Cattle Show Team presented well as they judged and paraded their cattle. They were awarded several places which is a great achievement considering all students but one were presenting at shows for the first time. There was a first, second, third and fourth place for their judging of trade steers and two third places for junior judging at Mackay Show. They also achieved third and fourth places for judging at Pioneer Valley Show. Well done to each of them and the Agricultural staff.



The Media Arts team entered photos for the Mackay Show Photography Exhibit. Students are developing their skills both in their school setting and during Photography Club walks at various community locations. Mrs Delanty and Mrs Atherstone are assisting students to hone their creative skills. Andrew K was awarded first place in People Class (Photo of Johnson P). Congratulations!

Caitlin D patiently captured a rare pic of a kangaroo crossing the sun's light receiving second place in Animals Class. This was for technical aspects. Kamden Dixon was awarded third place for his Scapes Class photo of the ocean, along with several other awards.

There are many deserving students who consistently do their very best each day where they consistently demonstrate they are Student Leaders by example. They are a testament to how one excels to achieve all God has created them to be.

We will be back in Semester 2 to continue cheering the students on in all their endeavours.

God bless you all richly.

Ms Wright



## News from the Secondary Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

Ms Ulla Hansson

Thank you again to our families for your ongoing support throughout a busy and full term. Our Pastoral Care space continues to support students and staff in many ways, including student wellbeing, chapel connection, youth support counselling, health awareness and the everyday care shown by staff across the College.



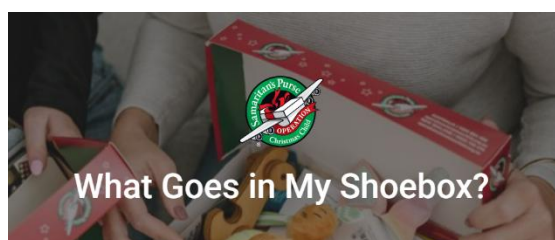
The holiday break is an important time for students and families to pause, reset, and restore. Rest is not wasted time. Over the break, I encourage families to make space for simple routines that support wellbeing: good sleep, time outdoors, some healthy food, reduced screen time, meaningful conversations and some moments of quiet.

### Operation Christmas Child

During Term 3, Chappy Ange Wilkins, in partnership with our College Care Ambassadors, will be encouraging students and families to look outward and respond to the needs of others through Operation Christmas Child. This initiative provides an opportunity for students to grow in compassion, gratitude, and service as they learn that small acts of kindness can make a meaningful difference in the lives of children around the world.

Donations will be accepted until **Friday 18 September** on both Kings Park and Providence campuses. Thank you for your generosity and support as we seek to share hope, joy and the love of Christ through this meaningful initiative. To know what items are suitable for shoebox donations, please see the list of suggestions at:

<https://occ.samaritanspurse.org.au/home/pack-a-shoebox/what-goes-in-my-shoebox/>



Scripture reminds us in Matthew 11:28, *“Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”*

May the break be a time of rest, refreshment, and peace for your family.

In His Service  
Ulla Hansson

## News from the Christian Education Coordinator Mrs Catrien Oosthuizen



This semester, our students have developed a deeper understanding of the Bible, particularly its historical timeline and key events. Thank you to families who have ensured their child brings a Bible—we appreciate your support. All students in Years 7–12 are required to bring a physical Bible (New Living Translation), available through the School Locker and the Kings Park Front Office.

In Biblical Studies, students demonstrated creativity and skill in presenting an Old Testament story or exploring *The Gifts of Jesus for Everyone*. Staff were greatly encouraged by the depth of students' personal reflections and applications.

Years 7–9 shared their learning through dramas, dioramas, stop-motion animations, and creative writing. Years 10–11 reflected on the gifts of Jesus and presented personal testimonies through booklets or video logs.

Year 12 students engaged with staff and guest testimonies, small group discussions, and personal reflection on God's work in their lives.

Chapel highlights included the distribution of *The Gospel of John* by Youth for Christ and a powerful message from Matthew Cliff (Cherish Life). Matthew reminded us that, as Christians, we are made in the image of God and are deeply valued in His eyes. When we stand in awe of His creation, we are better able to love, care for, and respect ourselves, those around us and the wonderful world He has created for us.

We are grateful for the partnerships we have built with local churches in our community and beyond, and we are thankful for the ongoing support and encouragement of our parents.





## News from the ICT Manager Mr Brett Hobbs

### Keeping you connected

OneDrive has been a core part of our students' digital toolkit for many years, but what exactly is it, and why is it so important?

When a student saves a file directly to their device (such as a laptop or iPad), only one copy of that file exists. If the device is lost, damaged, or fails unexpectedly, that file can be lost forever. This is where OneDrive truly shines.



OneDrive is Microsoft's cloud-based storage solution. It automatically saves a copy of your student's schoolwork to the cloud, while also keeping a cached copy on their device. This means files are backed up in real time and can be accessed from any internet connected device, even if their original device is no longer working.

The "cloud" might sound mysterious, but it is simply multiple secure servers interconnected to store data. For Mackay Christian College, these OneDrive cloud servers are located in Australian data centres. This is important as it ensures that student data is stored in compliance with Australian privacy laws and standards.

How do we use OneDrive?

#### On a Laptop:

Students can access their work directly from the OneDrive folder installed with Windows. Once your file has a title click save and select OneDrive -Mackay Christian College and give your file a memorable name. Saving early ensures that your work will be autosaved as you make changes to the file if you have an active internet connection. No one wants to lose work because they forgot to press save. The OneDrive app runs in the background and automatically syncs files to the cloud.

#### On an iPad:

Students can access OneDrive through the OneDrive app. They can open, edit, and save documents using apps like Microsoft Word, Excel, or PowerPoint. Just like the laptops once your file has a title, click back to save and select OneDrive -Mackay Christian College and give

the file a memorable name. Saving early ensures that your work will be autosaved as you make changes if you have an active internet connection.

**On the web:**

Students can open their OneDrive using a web browser (Eg Edge or Chrome) and sign in using their school email and password to <https://mccmky-my.sharepoint.com/> . This gives access to their OneDrive on any device. Just remember to sign out when you are finished if it is not your device.

Why is OneDrive beneficial?

- **Automatic Backup:** Files are saved instantly and securely. Giving students and parents the extra peace of mind.
- **Anywhere Access:** Students can access their work from home, school, or anywhere with internet in Australia. Mackay Christian College only has regional access for Australia setup to help prevent overseas malicious access
- **Collaboration:** Students can easily share documents with teachers and classmates for group work or feedback. Even large files can now be submitted by sharing a link with teachers.
- **Device Flexibility:** Whether your student is using their laptop, an iPad or a home computer, OneDrive ensures their learning materials are always within reach.

Encouraging your student to save their work to OneDrive helps build good digital habits and ensures their learning is protected.

May you and your family have an enjoyable mid-year break.

God bless,  
Mr Brett Hobbs



## News from the MCC Parent Association

Mr Ryan Morse – President



### **Winding down for the end of Term 2!**

What another action-packed term it has been for the PA with many future events now planned for 2026. Thank you all for your continued support and the blessings we are able to bestow upon your children in support of the fantastic Mackay Christian College community.

At the last PA meeting, the members voted Mr Ryan Morse into the vacant President seat. Congratulations and thank you for volunteering for this role.

All parents of students at MCC are automatically considered to be PA members, so we warmly welcome you to join us at the next scheduled PA meeting in the Kings Park Library at 6pm on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August**. You may choose to join us via the Teams link if you can't make it in person. Watch for more information about the Teams link closer to the meeting date.

### **Events to assist our students that are coming up in Terms 3 & 4 include:**

Supporting the Creative Academy Twilight Concert: 11<sup>th</sup> August 2026

Father's Day stalls: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2026

House Family Fun Run & Colour Run: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2026

Supporting the Trade Training Centre Awards: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2026

PA Kindy to Year 6 Dance: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Next PA Meeting: Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 6pm — in the Library and online via Teams

### **Parent Association Mission Statement:**

*'To serve the Mackay Christian College community with faith, love and unity, supporting students, staff and families as we partner together in the College vision of "Becoming All God Wants Us to Be."*

Many blessings for the holiday period ahead.

Ryan Morse





*Mackay Christian College*  
**'Faith Lift for Faith Centre'**  
*Faith Centre Fund Appeal 2026*



We are finally moving forward with the renovations to Faith Centre!

Design Engineers have provided designs for the water-damaged pillars and beams and the next step is to engage a building company to carry out the works.

The mystery of the perpetual flooding in the Blue Room beneath Faith Centre has been solved! Water pipes beneath the front veranda had been damaged and water was leaking down into the Blue Room wall and pooling on the floor. This room dried out quite quickly once the damaged piping was repaired and is now scheduled to be the exam room for our Senior students next term.

Please pray for these repairs to be completed in a timely manner. We value the Faith Centre space for holding Assemblies, music concerts, drama productions and meetings. Thank you to our staff who are being extremely flexible as they continue College programs without access to this great venue.

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

