Message from the Principal

Apologies for being a little out of sync with the newsletters. I should have sent one out during the last week before the holidays but got snowed under and missed it. Hence, here’s an extra one to begin the term with and I’ll get back into the regular fortnightly pattern from next week.

I hope everyone had a good break ahead of what promises to be another very busy term in school. Our P&C meet this Wednesday after school - all are welcome to attend. On Friday afternoon we have our school cross-country competition. Next week we’ll be holding 3-Way reporting interviews before and after school. Next Thursday is ANZAC Day - we hope that as many of our students as possible will attend the parade in Gin Gin. We’ll also be having a school ANZAC ceremony on Wednesday afternoon next week. Details of all these events follow in this newsletter and a separate letter is attached for booking 3-Way reporting times.

Before I sign off I must take this opportunity to welcome another new student to Maroondan. Kye joins our Preps in the Prep-Y2 class, having moved to the area from the north. Welcome to Kye and his family - we wish you happiness in Maroondan and in your new home.

Regards,

Robert Lawton, Acting Principal

Cross Country

As advertised above, this year’s Maroondan cross-country competition will be held on Friday afternoon this week. This year we will add a little more fun and competition through incorporating a house competition between the Bombers and the Marauders! Following the event, some of our older students (Year 4 upwards) will be invited to attend the District cross-country championships at Gin Gin on the 22nd of April. The small school’s cross-country competition, which all of our students will attend, is on Tuesday, June 11th at Booyal State School.

Cross Country ctd.

Well done and thank you to all the students who attended training sessions at the end of last term. The following course records have been established at these sessions;

- Minis (born 2007/08, 500 metres)
  - Boys - Kai Gregory - 3mins 2secs
  - Minors (born 2005/06, 1km)
  - Boys - Joseph Denning - 6mins 10secs
  - Juniors (born 2003/04, 2km)
  - Boys - Kirifi Hunter - 14mins 56secs
  - Girls - Tegan Wright - 10mins 28secs

- Seniors (born 2000/01/02, 3km)
  - Boys - Nathan Doherty - 24mins 26secs
  - Girls - Grace Dalton - 18mins 18secs

Due to the P&C meeting on Wednesday this week, our after-school training session will be tomorrow, Tuesday, for those wishing to attend. As Friday is competition day our Friday morning session will be cancelled.

Award Winners, Term 1—Weeks 6, 7 and 8

Congratulations to the students pictured below and over who attained certificates at recent parades;
School Wide Positive Behaviour Success and Rewards
The pictures above of our students receiving their Maximiser certificates are testament to the continued positive behaviour that is displayed most of the time at Maroondan. Across the school nearly 2700 Max Bands were issued during Term 1. Marauders House received a total of 1333, just ten more than Bombers - well done to both houses. All students who were here for the full term attained ‘Mammoth Maximiser’ awards (60 Max Bands) and all of our students were able to attend rewards sessions in the last week of term. Everyone enjoyed their time at the pool, the pizza lunch and the movie afternoon. Let’s hope that all will be attending our rewards session at the end of this term.

ANZAC Service/Parade
ANZAC Day is next Thursday. Maroondan students are invited to attend and participate in the ANZAC Day Ceremony in Gin Gin which starts at 9.30am. The meeting point is outside the Memorial Hall in Milden Street. Mr Lawton and school staff will be there to meet you. Full school uniform should be worn, including black/navy blue shorts or skirts. Don’t worry about hats as school will provide you with one for the morning!

We will also be holding a small ANZAC parade in school, led by our school captains, on Wednesday afternoon, the 24th of April, from about 2.30pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

P&C News
Thanks to all who attended the P&C AGM at the end of Term 1. The following officers were elected for 2013; President: Nicki Williams Vice President: George Wright Secretary: Geraldine Gregory Treasurer: Leanne Massey

Interschool Sports
Congratulations to our Year 4-7 students who won their last interschool sports cricket game in Term 1 by a huge margin. Interschool sport starts again in the third week of this term with the students playing AFL and netball. The programme is as follows;
Friday May 3rd - Away at Bullyard
Friday May 10th - Away at McIlwraith
Friday May 17th - Away at McIlwraith
Friday May 24th - Away at Bullyard
I am in the process of arranging transport to these events and will inform Year 4 to 7 parents as soon as details are finalised.

Comprehension Strategies
Our current focus strategy is

Details of this strategy and how you can support your child though encouraging them to use this strategy are included in the attached letter.

Monday Parades
It was great to see many of our students sharing work with others at our Monday morning parades during Term 1. Students from Grades 4 and 5 are shown below sharing their persuasive written pieces on ‘should mobile phones be allowed at school?’ . Hopefully, we shall continue this sharing process in Term 2 and parents are reminded that they are welcome to attend (9.00am each Monday).
**PJ's Day and Movie Disco**

Thank you to all students, parents and staff who supported and attended these fund-raising events towards the end of last term. Lots of fun was had by all as is evident in the photos below. Special congratulations go to Bailey (Iron Weasel), Grace (Reshiram), Thomas (Darth Vader), Tia and Zahlia (Snow White and Rapunzel) who took prizes for the best movie character fancy dress at the disco.

**Addition to Staff Team at Maroondan**

I am pleased to welcome Mrs Gaye Branson as a new Teacher Aide to Maroondan this term. Mrs Branson already has lots of experience in this role having worked for a number of years at Gin Gin State School. She will be working with Mr Lawton on Mondays and with Mr Byrnes on Wednesdays. Welcome Mrs Branson!

**NAPLAN Testing - May 14th, 15th, 16th**

Please note that NAPLAN testing will take place for students in Grades 3, 5 and 7 in the fifth week of Term 2—dates as above. Parents of students in these grades are asked to ensure that children, except in cases of illness, are present at school on these days.

**Attendance and Punctuality**

As we start a new term may I remind parents of the importance of sending children to school every day. Strong links have been established between attendance in one year and student achievement in the same year and in the future. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year. Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year. More information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at: http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/index.html

Similarly, punctuality is important. Key learning points are often delivered at the beginning of the day when the children are most receptive to learning. Lateness can result in missed learning.

**DIARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 15th</td>
<td>Parade at 9.00am, Parents welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 16th</td>
<td>March 20th - Cross Country Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>after school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 17th</td>
<td>Tuckshop Please place orders at least one day ahead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 17th</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 3.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, April 19th</td>
<td>Maroondan Cross Country - on the oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>from 1.30pm, parents welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 22nd</td>
<td>Parade at 9.00am, Parents welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 22nd</td>
<td>Friday, April 26th - 3 Way Reporting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 24th</td>
<td>Tuckshop Please place orders at least one day ahead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 24th</td>
<td>School ANZAC Parade, 2.30pm - Parents welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 25th</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Public Holiday - Students are encouraged to join us for the Gin Gin Parade, meet 9.30am on Milden Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, April 26th</td>
<td>District Cross Country at Gin Gin for selected students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Website**

Parents and community members are reminded that school information (including copies of these newsletters) can be found on the school’s website at: www.maroondass.eq.edu.au