Term 3 has got off to a great start with some super performances from Maroondan students both in and out of the classroom. Great reading and great results in sport underline these achievements, details of which are included in this newsletter. I have a feeling that this is going to be a very positive and productive term for our school!

Regards,

Robert Lawton, Principal

P&C News

Our next full P&C meeting is on Wednesday, August 19th at 3.15pm. All parents and community members are welcome to attend.

Thank you to those of you who helped to sell chocolates last term. We were so successful that we are in the process of getting some more boxes. We’ll let you know when it arrives!

Term 3 Behaviour Rewards - Weeks 1 and 2

Congratulations to the students pictured below who were the first to attain Marvellous Maximiser Awards in Term 3 (20 Max Bands). House honours were shared over the first two weeks with Bombers winning in Week 1 and Marauders in Week 2.

REMINDER - Show Holiday, Monday August 10th

Please note that Gin Gin cluster schools are taking their show holiday on Monday, August 10th and Maroondan will be closed on this day.

School Photos—Friday, August 21st

A flyer and payment envelope for this year’s photos are attached. Please note that this year we will be having a ‘whole school’ photo rather than 2 separate class photos, reducing the cost for parents who have students in both classes. Please read the flyer and contact Donna at Country School Photos if you have any questions. Payment envelopes can be returned prior to the day for safe keeping in the school office.

School Opinion Surveys Close Friday, July 31st

Parents are urged to complete the surveys which give you the opportunity to have your say about what this school does well and how this school can improve.

Students of the Week

We have reinstated our Student of the Week awards this term for those students who best display our Maximiser rules at Maroondan. Winners for Week 1 were Brett for a consistently sensible and focused approach in class and also Tahlia for perfect spelling results, completing homework and working hard in class. Winners in Week 2 were Kit for an excellent start at Maroondan and Tegan for great Maths Mastery, spelling and a consistently positive attitude.

FORTNIGHTLY DIARY

Every Monday - Parade 2.45pm, Visitors welcome
Every Wednesday - Library - Don’t forget your book bags
Monday, August 10th - Show Holiday, School Closed
Tuesday, August 11th - Small Schools Sports at Gin Gin (all students)

FUTURE EVENTS

Monday and Tuesday, August 17th/18th - School Review
Wednesday, August 19th - P&C Meeting 3.15pm
Friday, August 21st—School Photos
Thursday, August 27th - Choral Fest at Kalkie, Years 3-6
Friday, September 18th - Term 3 ends
Tuesday, October 6th—Term 4 starts
Weds Oct 7th to Fri Oct 9th - Brisbane School Camp

School Testing

Today our Year 2 to 6 students completed ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) English tests. These tests were part of a series of tests planned to be undertaken during Term 3. Completed by students across many Australian schools, they will provide us with an extra measure to be able to identify those areas that we really need to focus on in the classroom, as well as helping some of our younger students to get used to formal testing procedures. All results will be shared with parents once they are known and students will receive certificates and/or medals for participation. Forthcoming test dates are:

Thurs, 30th July - Australian Maths Competition (Years 3-6)
Tuesday, August 11th - ICAS Maths (Years 2-6)
**District Sports Competition**

Congratulations to all of our Year 4 to 6 students (and Corey) who took part in the District Sports Competition at Gin Gin last Friday. All turned in some very creditable performances. Kenny and Liam performed particularly well in their respective discus events, each finishing second. As a result of their efforts these two students have made it through to the Bundaberg Zone competition next week. Well done boys and good luck!

Our next school sports competition will be the Small School Sports, to be held at Gin Gin State School on August 11th. All students from Prep to Grade 6 will take part.

**Word Wizards**

Congratulations to Corey and Tory who have both completed Blue Level in our sight word challenge. This brings them to the end of the challenge. Super effort boys!

Congratulations also to Josh who completed Pink Level and now starts on Orange Level. It is great to see so many of our students really working hard to remember these tricky words, helping them to develop confidence and fluency in their reading!

**School Review**

Our school is scheduled for a school review on August 17th/18th. These reviews do not rate or compare schools but provide independent and quality feedback to help schools continue to improve outcomes for students. A final report is made available to parents and the community on the school’s website. The review team would like to hear from our school community and I encourage anyone who is interested to have their say. Your feedback is important and will help us continue to deliver a quality education for students. If you are interested in speaking to the reviewers, or would like more information about the review process, please contact Mr Lawton.

**Collection of Data on Students with Disability**

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability. All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability and all Australian schools participate in this annual data collection. The data provided to the Australian Government is aggregated data only. Please be reassured that the Department will not provide on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you. While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, please let me know.

Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:


Alternatively, if you have any queries about the collection or use of this data I encourage you to contact me directly.

**Years 3 to 6 Choral Fest, Thursday August 27th**

Our music teacher, Mr Arnold, is organising a visit for our Year 3-6 students to the annual choral festival at Kalkie State School on August 27th. Details of the trip are shown on the attached letter. Please return permission slips as soon as possible.

**Focus on Reading**

You will be aware by now that reading continues to be the main focus for improvement here at Maroondan. An update on current reading initiatives and strategies at the school follows.

**The Success Project**

Maroondan is pleased to be part of the Success project this Semester. Within this project, curriculum advisors will visit the school to share with us strategies that have been shown to successfully develop reading and literacy skills. Mrs Katrina Kruger will visit us to demonstrate, observe and advise upon our reading comprehension lessons in class. Mrs Toni Case will visit us to support our implementation of the Daily Rapid Reading Programme.

**Fortnightly Comprehension Focus - Questioning**

Our current focus strategy is questioning. Good readers ask questions before, during and after they read a text. Asking questions helps them to look for information which helps to build understanding. Please encourage students to question in home-reading activities. See Mr B or I for help if needed.
Personal Reading Targets and Strategies
In Term 2 each student was issued with their own personal reading targets and strategies. These will be updated over the next few days so please check with your child to see if they have received theirs. Encourage them to share them with you and encourage them to use the identified strategies in home-reading activities.

Word Attack Strategies (Prep-2)
During the last few days we have introduced our younger students to the strategies shown opposite. These strategies are designed to help the students when they come across a particularly tricky word in their reading. Over the coming weeks we will look at all of these strategies in more detail but our current focus is upon the ‘Chunky Monkey’ strategy.