



PARENT NEWS *Term 1, Week 1*

OUR NEW STAFF



Meet Ms Belinda McGill who joins our staff in the Junior School. Ms McGill has most recently taught at Mareeba State School.



Meet Mr Mitchell Turner who has come to us all the way from Canada. Welcome to Australia Mr Turner



Meet Mr Craig Lawrie who will work in the Junior School. Mr Lawrie is coming to us from the Sunshine Coast and he and his wife will make Malanda home.



Meet Mr Peter Nightingale who is the new teacher in Manual Arts.



Meet Erin Barrett. Erin is our new Youth Support Coordinator and is very excited to meet our students.



Please welcome Ms Monica Brielski who is the new Assistant Tuckshop Convenor. Monica has built a new home locally and is eager to help students with their healthy tuckshop choices.



Meet Ms Lisa Brown who will be a familiar face to many students as she worked at the primary school for quite a few years and already knows many of the students. Ms Brown joins us as a valued Hygiene Technician.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome

We are very excited to be back and working with the fantastic kids who come to our school. I am so proud to be part of this school as these children are amazing. The students were all briefly welcomed on Monday and then as planned were straight into learning by 10.00am. I pass on my sincere thankyou to the parents and carers who put time into having their children looking so smart in their uniforms and with all the correct gear to begin the year on the right foot. A special welcome to our new year 7 parents and others who have joined our school this year. Please get to know the key people in the school to ensure any support needed or questions answered are dealt with promptly.

New Staff As an Independent Public School I am afforded a little more control of recruitment of staff. I am very happy to welcome a range of new staff to our school. Each of them is well prepared and anxious to get to know the children and work very hard to maintain the high expectations regarding student support and teacher development. I encourage all parents to come along in week 3 to our “Meet & Greet Evening” to welcome our new teachers and to begin building positive relationships with our school.

Our regular Deputy Principal Nicole Hyland is on long service leave this term and as a consequence Ben Harding is acting in this role and Selina Harding is acting in the Head of Senior Education Services role. Both are outstanding operators and our school will not miss a beat whilst Nicole is travelling around Australia.

2016 Data We were again very pleased to publish our academic results for 2016, which was again in the excellent range. Our 2016 seniors were particularly strong with 98.4% passing all subjects which is reflected in the 98.7% attainment of the Queensland Certificate of Education and the 27.5% of OP eligible student’s achieving an OP between 1 -5. This is outstanding. It is noted that our systems are strong but not perfect if students have attendance issues or disengage from school in the final weeks. We must work hard in partnership with parents to eliminate this from happening.

Our Behaviour Levels show a very healthy percentage of students achieving Gold, Silver or Bronze status. This is our goal and we are grateful to local businesses supporting our students and adding attractive encouragements for the students.

	A-C Data	OP 1-15	QCE	Attendance	Beh Levels B/S/G%
Year 7	96.2%	-	-	93.9%	64.4%
Year 8	92.3%	-	-	91.7%	60.9%
Year 9	86.3%	-	-	90.3%	63.1%
Year 10	94.1%	-	-	92.8%	68%
Year 11	97.5%	-	100%	88.6%	79.7%
Year 12	98.4%	89.7%	98.2%	92.3%	86%



Results such as these have a number of contributing factors. Each of these factors are the focus of my work and the staff in general. We consistently ask for parent assistance to maintain this standard.

- **Quality Teaching** is central to all student achievement. Our school has a very specific teaching system and is constantly developing and supporting the teaching capability of our staff. I recognise that student outcomes cannot surpass the capability of the teaching practice.
- **Attendance** of students has a huge impact on the success of individual students and of course reflected in the school outcomes. Our motto is "95% to achieve". Our students will outperform any school if our students have between 95 and 100% attendance.
- **Student Support** is critical in our school. Classified officers own and work our systems each day. Students must own their behaviour and demonstrate Respect in all situations at school. Any behaviour which detracts from our quality teaching or learning opportunity will be dealt with quickly and firmly.
- Finally the **relationships** we have with staff and students is the difference from other schools and particularly bigger schools. Our school is the perfect size for teachers to know every student in the school and have a positive and rewarding relationship with many. We must deliberately foster these positive experiences to ensure students feel safe and happy in their learning environment.

I look forward to working in all these critical areas with parental support so our school will outshines all other school in the state again in 2017.

P&C Our first Parents & Citizens Meeting will be held on the 21st February. All parents and friends of the school are welcome to come and discuss the start of the year. I will give be presenting a brief overview of our operations and systems followed by discussion of the projects and plans for the year. Our meeting begins and 7.15 in the Ag Building at the back of the school.

Regards
Gary Toshach

Principal

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

2017 – TERM 1 – WEEK 1

Who will win the attendance award for the first week ? Watch
this space



FROM THE P&C

Welcome back to school from the P&C.

Tuckshop Please check out the 2017 tuckshop **menu** with an exciting special every day alongside our delicious wraps, salads and other standard items, all freshly prepared on the day. The new menu and details on **how to order tuckshop, volunteering** and **donations** can be found here: [Tuckshop info](#), or under the tab *Facilities* → *Tuckshop* on the MSHS website.

Uniform Shop To make sure everyone has all their uniform requirements, our uniform shop will be open for extended hours for the first two weeks of the year:


Monday 23rd January to Friday 3rd February – open 8.20 am to 9.00 am daily (closed for Australia Day).

Normal opening times resume from Monday 6th February, being Mondays and Fridays only from 8.20 am to 9.00 am.

Our uniform shop is run by a P&C volunteer ensuring uniform prices are kept as low as possible and operates from the tuckshop during those times only.

Unfortunately we have run out of Size S shirts and this size will not be available until new stock arrives

Next P&C Meeting Our first P&C meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday 21st February at 7.15 pm. There will be more info in a later Parent News.

2017 P&C Meet and Greet 

 **Tuesday 7th February 2017**
6 pm - 7 pm

Come and say HELLO to the Malanda State High School Staff,
meet other parents and the P&C.

The P&C will have a sausage sizzle and (soft) drinks available.
In front of the Tuckshop at the alfresco eating area.

All year levels welcome!





IMPORTANT DATES

26 January 2017	Public Holiday
31 January	School Council Meeting
7 February 2017	Meet & Greet – Parents & Staff BBQ
10 February	Inter House Swim Carnival
1 – 3 February	Year 12 Camp
14 February	Immunisation Clinic 1 – Yr 7
15 February	Leaders Induction Ceremony
21 February	P&C Meeting
31 March	Inter House Cross Country
1 April	Easter Holidays commence
18 April	Term 2 commences
18 April	Immunisation Clinic 2 – Yr 7
18 April	P&C Meeting
22 August	Immunisation Clinic 3 – Yr 7

Print me out and put on the fridge OR Save me to your desktop

IMPORTANT LINKS

[School Website](#)

[School Facebook Page](#)

[Education Queensland](#)

