The junior school has been very busy in the last week with Under 8’s Day last Thursday and a visit from Old McDonald’s Farm yesterday. By all accounts the students really enjoyed both activities and a thank you goes to the parent helpers that assisted on the different days.

The P&C have asked me to make you aware that at the moment nominations for the National Excellence in Teaching Awards are open at present. If you are interested in nominating one of our excellent teachers please nominate them online at asg.com.au/nominate by 31st July.

It was great to read of the RSL’s praise for our students in May’s Friendly Bay Islander. In the Letter to the Editor section, Anzac Letters of Thanks it was noted “The Sub Branch hosted a breakfast sausage sizzle at the Macleay Island School on Friday 24 April 2015 where afterwards we had our own Anzac Day ceremony for the children we must applaud and congratulate the Macleay Island School children for their manners and for their behaviour. Well done to you all. You are a credit to your school and to your parents.” This just backs up what we already know, that we have fantastic students at Macleay Island State School.

This year we have set a goal to achieve a 90% student attendance rate and at the present we are just under at 89.5%, so please assist us to reach our goal by sending your child to school unless they are sick.

Gaynor Brennan
Principal
School Textbooks

Payment for the Spelling Mastery Textbook is now overdue. The cost of the book is $25.00. If you have not paid your child is missing out on learning. The school has paid for the Maths Mastery Textbook and we asked that parents pay for the Spelling Mastery Textbook. The money can be paid by cash, Eftpos or by direct deposit (details below).

Account Name: Macleay Island State School
BSB Number: 064-138 CBA Cleveland
Account Number: 10163499
Reference details: Students Name

SMS and Email Contacts
Reminder to all parents, we are now using SMS to communicate to all parents/guardians – please update your mobile numbers and email addresses for school newsletter or to receive SMS’s. Send a note into the Admin office or email Principal@macleayislandss.eq.edu.au with your up to date details.

Fire and Lockdown Drills
All schools are required to “practice” Lockdowns and Fire Drills. Students are to become familiar with the school’s critical incident procedures, including lockdowns and fire drills. These are practised on a regular basis, up to 4 times a year.

Dental Van – Ph - 0412 680 634 (for all queries)
The dental van has arrived. Appointments commenced on Monday 18 May 2015. A new system has been put in place that requires the parent/guardian to accompany the child. The parent/guardian is to visit the Administration office, Administration Officer will then call the classroom. We are trying to discourage parents going to the classes as we are trying to minimise the disruptions to the learning of all students.

P & C News
The next meeting of the P&C will be on Monday, 1st June and will take place at 9am in the school Resource Centre. Please come along and hear what is happening at the school and contribute to the discussions. At our last meeting it was decided that the Tuckshop will re-open on Friday, 17th July and will operate on a pre-order system. Watch out for a copy of the new menu.
Please be aware that the school has sent out a letter to gauge whether our parent body would be in favour of starting Religious Instruction lessons at Macleay. Please take time to read the letter and send in your response so that our decision on whether or not to start these lessons is based on the responses from the majority of our parent body.

Under 8’s Day
Macleay Island State School focuses on building better learning environments for all students through actively teaching our students appropriate behaviour that allows them to get their needs met in efficient and socially acceptable ways, as well as rewarding students for demonstrating appropriate behaviour. This is achieved through our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) program. As part of this program, we focus on specific behaviour expectations and school rules each week.

For those of you who were with us last year, you will remember that we have three rules which reflect the needs of our school community. Our school rules are:

It has been wonderful to see students receiving stickers, certificates, Gotchas and other rewards for their wonderful behaviour. Congratulations to the wonderful students who received Student of the Week special awards on Parade – Seth, JD and Christian.

It is great to see our students working hard to achieve great things in class.

Volunteers Wanted for childcare project

Do you have a child aged 0-8 years old?  
Do you use currently childcare or wish that you could?  
Do you have a weekly income of less than $1200 (before tax)?

If so, you may be interested in participating in study examining Australian parents’ experiences accessing flexible childcare.

What will my participation involve?  
You will be asked to take part in two interviews (three months apart) about your experiences, desires, and expectations regarding childcare.

The interviews will take place at a time and location that is convenient for you

You may also be asked to keep a childcare diary for a short period of time

If you are interested in participating or have any questions about the research please contact the chief investigator:

| Dr. Michelle Brady | michelle.brady@uq.edu.au |
| University of Queensland | 07 3365 2021 |