



Macleay Island State School

NEWSLETTER

Calendar

Uniform Shop	Hats \$15. Polo shirts \$27.50. Senior shirts Yr 6 only \$30. Bomber jackets \$35	8am-3 pm Card Only
Playgroup	Buzzing Bee's Playgroup	Mondays 8.30-10.30 Email awinc3@eq.edu.au for more info
Dental Van		From 13 th July
District track andField		30th/31 st July
Ekka Show Day Holiday	No school	10 th August
Book Week Parade		26th August
Dance Performance		15 th September
School Holidays		21 st Sept-5 th October

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Daily Routine

8:20am - 8:40am	Supervised Play
8:40am - 10:45am	Session 1
10:45am - 11:00am	Lunch 1 Eating
11:00am - 11:30pm	Lunch 1 Play
11:30pm - 1:00pm	Session 2
1:00pm - 1:10pm	Lunch 2 Eating
1:10pm - 1:30pm	Lunch 2 Play
1:30pm - 2:45pm	Session 3

Contact Deatails

Office Hours: Mon -Fri 8:15am -3pm
Office: 07 3400 8333
Student Absence: 07 3400 8333
 Please leave a absentee message
After School Care: 07 3409 4433
Address: 145-155 High Central Road,
 Macleay Island, 4184
Website: macleayislandss.eq.edu.au
Email: admin@macleayislandss.eq.edu.au

Assembly:

Mondays at 2:15pm

P&C Facebook:

Macleay Island State School P&C

School Newsletter:

Available on the school website -
macleayislandss.eq.edu.au

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Parents, Caregivers and Community members

Dear Parents, Carers, and Community Members,
I hope this newsletter finds you all well as we settle into another productive term at Macleay Island State School. I'd like to take this opportunity to share some important updates and reflections with you.

The Importance of Attendance

At Macleay Island State School, we believe that every day counts. Regular attendance is essential for your child's learning, social development, and overall success. Missing just one day a fortnight can add up to four weeks of missed learning over a year! We understand that illnesses and emergencies happen, but we encourage families to prioritise attendance wherever possible. Let's work together to ensure our students are here, ready to learn, and making the most of every opportunity.

NAIDOC Week Celebrations

This week, we came together as a school community to celebrate NAIDOC Week, and what a wonderful celebration it was! The theme this year, 50 Years Deadly, reminded us of the wisdom, strength, and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders.

Students participated in a range of activities, including storytelling, art workshops, and traditional games, and we were honoured to welcome local Elders to share their knowledge and culture with us. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to making this event so meaningful. It was a powerful reminder of the importance of embracing and respecting the rich cultural heritage of Australia's First Nations peoples.

Healthy Lunch Box Choices

We are committed to promoting healthy habits at school, and this includes encouraging nutritious lunch box choices. A healthy lunch box helps fuel your child's learning and energy throughout the day. We recommend including fresh fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins, while limiting sugary snacks and drinks.

If you're looking for inspiration, the Queensland Government's Healthy Eating for Children guide is a fantastic resource. Let's work together to ensure our students are eating well and staying energised for their learning.

Sensory Toys at School

We understand that sensory toys can be a helpful tool for some students to self-regulate and focus during the school day. However, to minimise distractions and ensure a productive learning environment, we kindly ask that students bring only one sensory toy to school if required. This will help us maintain a balance between supporting individual needs and fostering a focused classroom environment.

If your child requires specific sensory supports, please don't hesitate to reach out to their teacher or our support team so we can work together to meet their needs.

Thank you for your ongoing support in making Macleay Island State School a vibrant, inclusive, and thriving learning community. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Cameron Wedgwood

Principal

Macleay Island State School

145-155 High Central Road Macleay Island Q 4184

Phone: 07 3400 8333 | <https://macleayislandss.eq.edu.au/> | cwedg1@eq.edu.au

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Absences add up!



Did you know



1 in 5

BCE primary students don't attend school regularly

It's never too late to improve attendance

- Going to school more often will make a difference
- Attendance habits will follow your child into work and life

What families can do...

- ☑ Be firm: send your child to school every day, all day, unless they are sick
- ☑ Develop good sleep and morning routines
- ☑ Schedule appointments and extra-curricular activities outside of school
- ☑ Avoid taking holidays during term time
- ☑ Seek help early before your concerns become serious

Each day missed...

- Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- Can lead to gaps in learning and connections to friends
- Makes school completion less likely
- Makes the transition into the workforce or tertiary education, post school, less likely to be successful



Schools are here to help...

- Going to school more often will make a difference
- Attendance habits will follow your child into work and life



Absences:

Please remember to include students' name, class and REASON for absence in messages. This includes early departures and late arrivals.

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but.....

If your child misses....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...	Which means the best your child might perform is ...
1 day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly <u>1.5 years</u>	Equal to finishing in grade 11
1 day per week	40 Days per year	8 weeks per year	Over <u>2.5 years</u>	Equal to finishing in grade 10
2 days per week	80 Days per year	16 weeks per year	Over <u>5 years</u>	Equal to finishing in grade 7
3 days per week	120 Days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly <u>8 years</u>	Equal to finishing at grade 4

Be Respectful:
**We use appropriate
language**

**We speak
respectfully to
others**



**We use school
words at school**

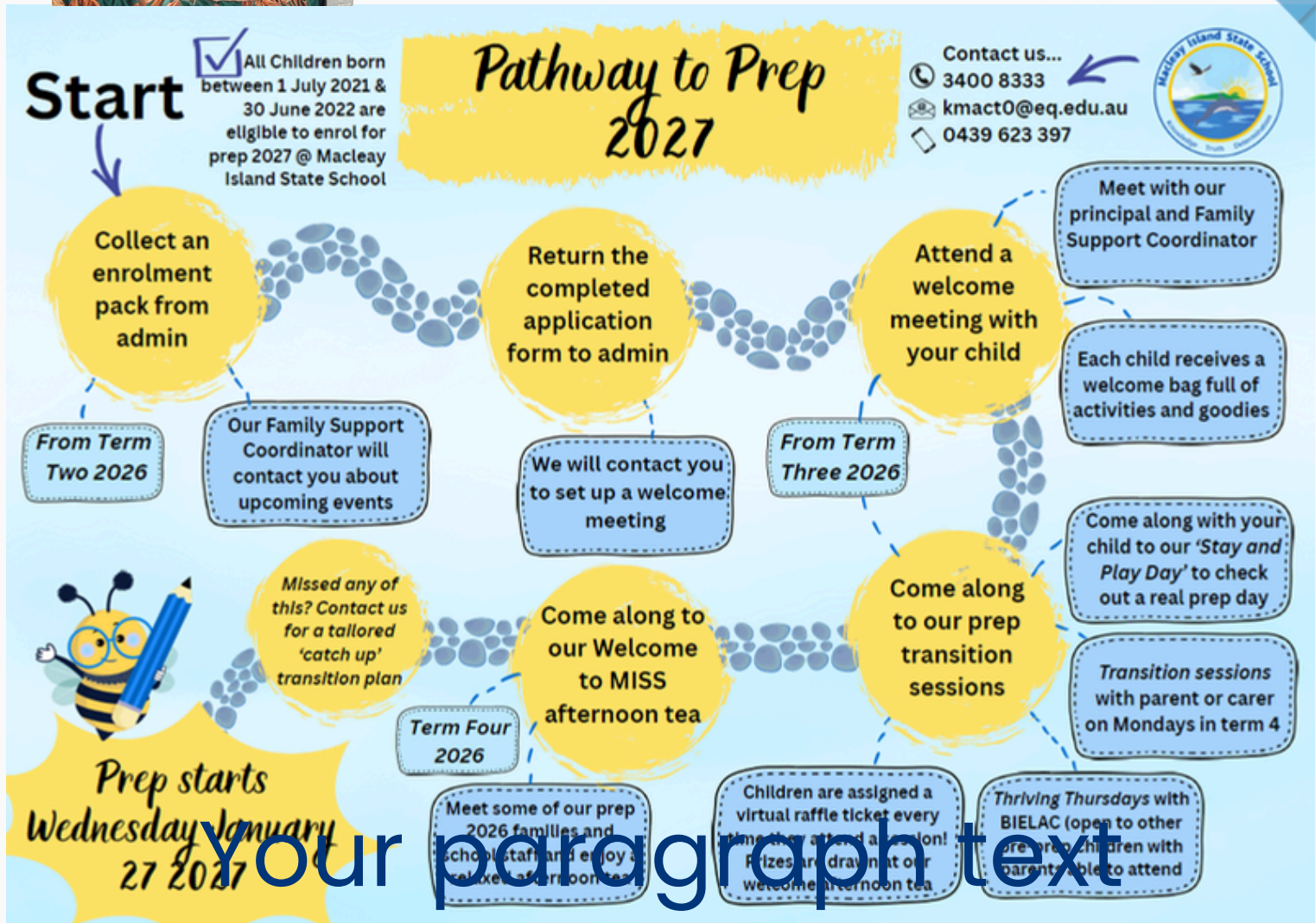


**We solve
problems calmly**





Family Support Coordinator



Our Pathway to Prep 2027 outlines some of the opportunities children and families have to connect with our school before starting 'big school' in 2027. We have some wonderful transition days planned for term 4, and would love to start meeting our future prep students and their families this term.

Please get in touch with the office or myself if you have a child starting prep next year, and pass this information on to any families you may know with a child starting prep in 2027. We want every child to have a strong start to school and realise their potential, and have every family feel welcome and supported in this journey. Thanks, Kaylene

☎ 0439 623 397

✉ kmact0@eq.edu.au

NAIDOC DAY



RAYS mental health services can be accessed at our school. Contact your GP or RAYS directly for more information.



we're here to help families find calmer waters

RAYS is a new child mental health pilot program from yourtown. We support families with children under 12 who are experiencing mental health challenges, including:

- anxiety that feels overwhelming
- low mood or signs of depression
- trauma or PTSD
- thoughts of self-harm or suicide
- big behaviours that are hard to manage day-to-day
- OCD
- neurodevelopmental needs alongside mental health challenges

How we help

RAYS offers tailored, therapeutic support designed to meet your child where they're at.

- Individual therapy sessions for your child
- Support for parents and carers (because you matter too)
- In-school or community-based sessions
- Advocacy and referrals to get the right support for the whole family
- Additional access to 24/7 phone + online counselling for extra support when you need it most

We work alongside you, your child, and the people in their world to build skills, reduce distress, and support wellbeing, one step at a time.

Email: rays.capalaba@yourtown.com.au Learn more: yourtown.com.au/rays

If you're worried about your child, that's enough reason to reach out.



This service is supported by funding from Brisbane South PHN through the Australian Government's PHN Program.



yourtown
previously kids helpline

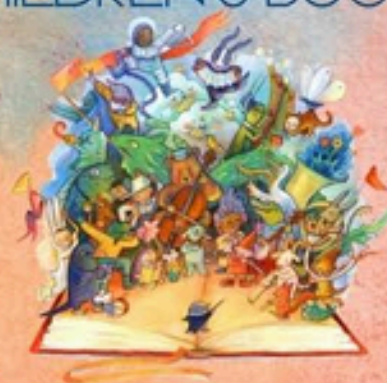
Thank you Ms Juanita for putting up these wonderful artworks from Under 8s Day. The prep wall looks great!



**Buzzing Bees
Playgroup have just
finshed their artwork
to add next.
Come along every
Monday during the
school term, from
8.30-10.30 to join the
fun!**

2026 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

SYMPHONY OF
STORIES



22-28 August 2026



Book Week 2026



 *Symphony of Stories* 

Whole School Parade

Dress up day and parade

Wednesday 26th August

9:45 - 10:45am

Large Undercover Area

families welcome to attend

Livestream Performance Incursion

Friday 28th August



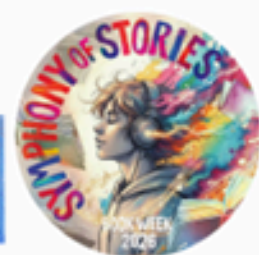
**SOMETHING
SPECIAL**

LIVE & LIVESTREAM

TOURING SCHOOLS NATIONALLY TO CELEBRATE
CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK 2026
AND THE CBCA THEME



performeducation.com





School Bus News.

Welcome back to a new year of travel on the Macleay Island School Bus!

Bus passes will be issued to all students who have been approved by Queensland Transport for free travel on the island school bus in the next couple of weeks. If you were approved last year in most cases you will carry over from last year and do not need to reapply. If anything has changed (eg school, address, etc) you will need to reapply.

Your child will be required to carry their pass with them at all times when they are travelling on the bus. If your child does not receive a pass but you have recently submitted an application, the driver will have a list of those students in the bus and they may travel for free until QT notifies us of their approval. We will then issue them with a bus pass. As there are thousands of applications to be processed by QT at this time of year, it can take some time for the approvals to come back to us, so we allow your child to travel for free once you have submitted your application. Please **look after your pass** and secure it to your bag, as a **replacement** one will cost **\$10**.

All applications for bus passes must be done online!
See [STASApplication \(tmr.qld.gov.au\)](http://STASApplication(tmr.qld.gov.au)) or call 1300 119 289.

Your child is eligible for **free school bus travel** if you live 3.2 km or more from the school. **You must apply online.** This must be done as soon as possible so that your child can be issued with a bus pass.

Safety-Net Scheme: If you live 3.2 km or less from the school and your child is listed on a *concession card* (i.e. Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card or Dept. of Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card), you may be eligible for free bus travel, providing there is spare capacity on the bus. **You must apply online.**

If you live 3.2 km or less from the school and you do *not* have a concession card but would like your child to catch the bus to school, you can pay a fare to the driver. Fares are \$1.50 per child per trip. Please do not allow yourself to get in arrears with fare payments as we will refuse travel if more than a week's fares are overdue. If you wish to pay upfront for the term, contact us for an invoice. We give a 30% discount for fares paid upfront for the term.

You can find your nearest bus stop on the map on our website at www.bluebus.com.au. If you want your child to get on or off at a different stop, they must have a **signed note** from you stating the change otherwise they must get off at their designated stop.

If you *have not* applied online, then, as of **week 4 (16/02/26)**, your child **will not be able to travel on the bus** unless they pay a fare of \$1.50 per trip (i.e. \$3.00 return).

A reminder that all school students travelling on school buses need to abide by the *Code of Conduct for School Bus Travel* (QT). You can read this on the Queensland Transport website. This outlines the rights and responsibilities and the behaviour expected of students whilst travelling on the school bus. The consequences of failing to meet the behaviour expectations outlined in the code are clearly stated. This may mean that your child will be refused travel on the bus for a period of time, if they are unable to meet those expectations. These consequences will be strictly enforced for the safety and enjoyment of all bus travellers.

We hope you have a happy and safe year of travel on the school bus!

If you have any questions about school bus travel, please contact Geoff or Sandra Jacob at Blue Bus on:

ph: (07) 3820 7815
email: info@bluebus.com.au

Follow us on Facebook for school bus updates: Macleay Island Bus Service.

LOOK OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION SOON FROM MACLEAY ISLAND FOOTBALL CLUB... KIDS SOCCER IS ON THE WAY!



KIDS FOOTBALL!

MIXED | 5 TO 11 YEAR OLDS

LEARN TO PLAY SOCCER!



DEVELOP SKILLS



LEARN THE FUNDAMENTALS



LEARN THE GAME



LEARN TEAMWORK &
SPORTSMANSHIP



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

Please message the Facebook page with
your name, email address, phone number &
name and ages of kids interested



WEEKLY TRAINING COMING SOON!



MESSAGE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TODAY!

Let's play, learn and grow together!





Apply for STAS online

To apply for School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS) scan the QR code or visit the link below.

For more information:

- Visit www.qld.gov.au/schooltransportassistance
- Contact STASdigital.Helpdesk@tmr.qld.gov.au or **1300 119 289** for technical assistance with your online application
- Speak to your local bus operator about bus services.

If you need to change your child's/children's details or apply for assistance for another child, you can lodge an application using the Queensland Governments STAS online form.



SCAN ME

Operator Details

BLUE BUS (MACLEAY ISLAND)

07 3820 7815

info@bluebus.com.au

Website: <https://bluebus.com.au/>

BUNNINGS

VICTORIA POINT

EKKA MONDAY

FAMILY FUN DAY!

FREE EVENT!



10TH AUGUST



9AM – 11AM

POPCORN



**FACE
PAINTING**



**PETTING
ZOO**



**PHOTO
BOOTH**



KIDS DIY



**SCHOOL
SCARECROW
COMPETITION**



**FAIRY
FLOSS**



**GAMES
& PRIZES**



**FREE
SHOW BAG**

**FOR THE FIRST
100 KIDS!**

BUNNINGS

*A Great Day Out
for the
Whole Family!*



BOOK ONLINE:

www.bunnings.com.au/VICTORIAPOINT

BAY ISLAND

COMMUNITY HUB

MACLEAY ISLAND

COMMUNITY
CENTRE HALL
32 HIGH CENTRAL
ROAD, 4184



WHEN

FRIDAY, JULY 10
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

9:30AM TO
12:30PM

INFORMATION ABOUT SUPPORTS AVAILABLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- MENTAL HEALTH
- HOUSING
- NDIS

- AGED CARE
- FAMILY SUPPORT
- COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS