School Leaders were presented with their badges on parade this week. (L-R) Joey Srhoj, Bridget Opeti, Principal Mandy Whybird, Vojko Ivicevic & Georgia Simpson.

Coming Soon

- 2nd Mar - Big Day Out
- 10th & 11th Mar - School Photos
- 15th Mar - P&C AGM
- 17th Mar - MSS Cross Country
- 21st & 22nd Mar - Parent/Teacher Interviews

Principal’s Report

With the term now well underway and routines back in place, I would like to thank parents and staff for a very strong start to the year. Our Day 8 census saw 806 students enrolled and the new facilities being well utilised and enjoyed by our Year 1 students. Thank you also to those of you who attended our Open Night, Prep parent reading workshop and the morning tea for parents of students with a disability. Our programs are as busy as ever so keep an eye on our newsletter and website for upcoming school events. Our school also launched Facebook this year so I hope you will look out for us there too.

(Continued Page 2)
The safety of our students is always of paramount importance to us. I appreciate that parking around the school is often difficult. However, please can I encourage you to observe parking signs and to avoid parking on roadside verges. Students also need to be reminded to use the supervised crossings when trying to get across busy roads. The P & C and I are very aware of the congestion around the school and will be working with the Council, Main Roads and Education Queensland to try to seek a solution. However, this is not likely to be a problem with a quick fix, so please assist by following road signage and being patient during peak traffic periods.

Our student leaders attended their 3 day Leadership Camp at the Tinaroo Environmental Education Centre last week. The students did a wonderful job of representing both our school and their families as they undertook some of the challenges posed for them as they embark on their first school leadership experiences. Well done Bridget Opeti, Vojko Ivcevic, Georgia Simpson and Joey Srhoj on an impressive performance at the camp. Thank you also to Mr Russell Barlow who accompanied and supported the students during the camp.

Mr John Fleming visited our school last Wednesday for his first visit for the year. John, who was accompanied by our Assistant Regional Director, is a critical friend and advisor to our school in relation to our use of Explicit Teaching and Warm Ups. At the end of a very full day of classroom observations and meetings with teachers, John complimented our school on its ongoing improvement in these vital areas of effective teaching. Congratulations to the staff and students who welcomed John into their lessons. You were super impressive!

It was fantastic to see the Reading Café begin again for the term with a very enthusiastic response. Encouraging and supporting reading at school and at home is very important to us and to the success of your children. As your children start bringing home their readers please help us to make reading an enjoyable and rewarding experience by listening to and reading to your children (and enjoying a good book yourself!) on a regular basis. Reading café occurs each Tuesday and Thursday in the library at 8:30am. Volunteers to listen to children read are always welcome!

Finally, if you have moved or changed phone numbers over the Christmas break, please ensure that you update your contacts with us so that we can contact you in the event of an emergency.

Congratulations to the school leaders who received their badges on Monday’s parade. Well done!
Year 6 Excursion

Year 6 students participated in a leadership building day at Tinaroo Environmental Education Education Centre, building positive relationships with their new class and teacher. Students participated in a variety of team building activities, including the leaky pole and floating raft, which proved to be a barrel of laughs. Students focused on the five keys to success (organisation, resilience, persistence, confidence and getting along). These leadership days are a stepping stone in preparing the students for the Year 6 Leadership Camp to be held in September.

Resource Fees

Parents and carers are welcome to call in at the office and pay the annual resource fee of $50. EFTPOS is available. If you are unable to pay the total amount, we accept part payments. All monies go directly towards purchasing resources for classrooms. Thank you to the following families who have paid recently:

- Fink (Prep C, 3K, 5S)
- Barbagallo (1R)
- McNab (4Y)
- Gallo (6C)
- Corbett (1FI, 6S)
- Johnson (5G)
- Williams (3F, 6T)
- Morgan (Prep S-T)
- Cadorin (4C)
- Dando (Prep P)
- Hill (6C)
- Williams-Riley (Prep C)
- Butler (4T, 2W)
- Brown (6T, 3B)
- Eade (4L)
- Harrison-Nastasi (4C)
- Srhoj (4L, 1B, 3Q)
- Simpson (6C)
- Gambino (5A, 6L)
- Waters (6C)
- Hobson (4L)
- Bale (4T)
- Trevillion (3B)
- Stankovich (1C)

Thank you

We would like to thank Brumbys Bakery Mareeba & Howe Farming for donating bread and bananas for emergency lunches. We appreciate your generosity.
School Crossing Safety

Pedestrians must ensure that they allow enough time and distance for drivers to react and stop before starting to cross. When you approach a crossing that is unsupervised, stop at the kerb. Look both directions and wait for a clear break in the traffic that will allow a driver enough time to stop. When it is safe, walk across the road. Never assume that a driver is able to stop in time so keep an eye on the traffic at all times.

If there is a School Crossing Supervisor at the crossing, proceed to the curb and wait at the yellow line. The Supervisor will, when safe, enter the road and stop all traffic. Wait on the footpath until indicated by the Supervisor who will then blow the whistle twice to indicate that it is now safe to cross. Walk directly across the road to the footpath on the other side.

Remember to use designated footpaths, not the road. Never cross the road between parked vehicles, as approaching traffic may not see you. Instead, use facilities such as children’s crossings and pedestrian lights, if available.

Mareeba SS RATEP Program

Are you an indigenous person who would like a career in education? Then RATEP is for you. Study at the school and work your way up from TAFE to JCU with the full-time support of a teacher coordinator. Ring and have a chat with Trudy on 40922556.

Christmas Giving Tree 2015

Mareeba State School - You are a wonderfully generous community, contributing to our 2015 Christmas Giving Tree. We supported the Tablelands Womens Shelter who offer emergency assistance to women and children who are victims of domestic violence or in dire need.

The organisation was overwhelmed by the huge collection of food and Christmas goodies and offer a gigantic thank you to our students, their families and our staff.

LENÉ & LEKSI

Year 1 twins Lene & Leksi are representing Australia in the Face of the Globe International Pageant next month. They will be travelling to London and Paris to compete. What an amazing achievement for our students! The pageant has made public votes live now for a limited time and the girls need your votes! You can vote on Facebook by liking the ‘Face of the Globe’ page, then finding the ‘minis’ category and clicking ‘LIKE’ on Lene & Leki’s pictures. The girls will truly appreciate your support.
Dear Parents,

Our Dental service has recently changed its service delivery method and we no longer distribute Medical History Forms to the classrooms.

Parent’s MUST also attend ALL primary school appointments with us no longer able collect the children from class for a check-up/treatment.

Please call the central booking centre on 1300300850 if you would like a check-up for your children.

New eligibility now allows the service to treat all children from the ages of 0 to 18 years. Any child is eligible. Health Care Card, Pensions cards no longer required and the children don’t have to be attending a school.

We are also able to process the $1000 CHILD DENTAL BENEFIT SCHEME as this helps to improve our local Oral Health Service. This is all bulk billed so there is no money exchanged.

Our Dental Clinic is nearing completion and we look forward to providing on site dental care for ALL children. In the meantime appointments are available via the Mareeba Hospital Dental Clinic.

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RARE DISEASE DAY 2016

FUN RUN & WALK

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28; 8:30AM.

CAIRNS ESPLANADE (FUNSHIP END)

3 OR 5KM. RUN, WALK OR WHEEL. RAIN OR SHINE
SAUSAGE SIZZLE, ICYPOLES, JUMPING CASTLE, PRIZES
JOIN US FOR A GREAT FAMILY MORNING & SUPPORT LOCALS AFFECTED BY RARE DISEASE

REGISTER @ WWW.RAREFRIENDS.ORG ($15 ADULTS, $5 KIDS)