

Dear Parents,

- **BREAK-UP DAY**

Tomorrow, Thursday, will be our break-up day for 2005. It will begin with an assembly in the hall at 9.15 am at which we will farewell the teachers who are leaving us. At the same time, it will be an opportunity for the school to say goodbye and good luck to the Year Sevens of 2005. It will be followed by end of year activities and parties supervised by the classroom teachers. The day will close at 3.00 pm. The dress for the day will be **non-uniform** (and no coin is required) but parents are asked to ensure that children are dressed



appropriately in line with the school's "sun-safe" policy. With many activities planned for the outdoors, singlet-style tops are inappropriate. All T-shirts should have a sleeve. With normal

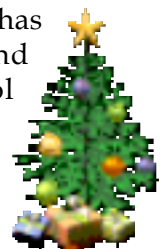
classroom and playtime expectations in place, it is expected that all students will wear hats and shoes at all times. **Attendance on Friday is optional.** Because of your cooperation and support on this matter over the years, **the day has been converted into a professional development day for our teaching staff.** Following a breakfast at which we will farewell our departing colleagues, the staff will be involved in planning workshops throughout the day, culminating in a staff meeting at 2.00 pm. At the same time, with our cleaners taking their summer holiday leave from Friday afternoon, they will be engaged in a massive clean up and clean-out. As has been said on many occasions, we appreciate your cooperation in this matter, giving us the opportunity to finalise our professional development program on an "unofficial" pupil-free day.

Please note that the tuckshop will be closed on Thursday and Friday.

- **THANK YOU**

With the holiday season upon us, I would like to thank the MacGregor community for making 2005 such an outstanding year. Our achievements have been many and our commitment to enhancing the learning outcomes for every child at the school remains strong. We have embarked on a

number of new projects, challenging the status-quo, but in so doing, have always asked the question -: "Is it in the best interests of the child?" At this time of the year, I would like to extend my thanks as Principal to three very special groups within the school. Firstly, to the **students**, I extend my sincere thanks for their cooperation, commitment and diligence throughout the year. There is no doubt that our students are outstanding and they make this school a very special place to be. To our **parents**, thank you for your continued support and encouragement. Your physical, moral and financial support of the school has, once again, been magnificent. Your commitment to the best education possible for your children is to be applauded. Finally, to our **staff, both teaching and non-teaching**, thank you for another year of dedicated service to the children of MacGregor Primary School. Your continued commitment to excellence and enrichment in all aspects of the school's life has been appreciated. To each and every member of our school community, I extend the greetings of the season. If you celebrate Christmas, have a **MERRY CHRISTMAS**, and to one and all, a **HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR.**



- **GOODBYES**

At this time of the year, we farewell a number of teachers who are not returning to us in 2006 or will be on leave for the year. All have made a significant contribution to our school and we wish them well. They are:

Ms Kenny— After 18 years of dedicated and excellent service to the MacGregor community, she has decided to retire. As a classroom, technology and finally enrichment teacher over those years, she will be sorely missed. Her contribution has been outstanding.

Ms McKenzie— She has been transferred to Acacia Ridge State School. We wish her every success with her teaching career and thank her most sincerely for the huge contribution she has made to the lives of many students in the upper school over her six years at MacGregor.

Ms Burgess - She will be teaching in New Brunswick Canada in 2006 as part of an exchange program between the two countries. The exchange teacher replacing her is Mrs Nancy Ward. We wish Ms Burgess all the very best for her year in Canada and look forward to her safe return in 2007.

Ms Beatty - She will be teaching in England in 2006. We wish her every success and thank her for her contribution to MacGregor in her year at our school.

Mrs Tumkur - She has been on contract all year working alongside Mrs Sawbridge as her part-time teaching partner on M4. Unfortunately, we have been unable to offer Mrs Tumkur an extension to her contract at this stage. We thank her most sincerely for her great work across M1 - 4.

• DAY ONE 2006

Parents are reminded that day one of the new school year is Monday 23rd January. Parents travelling overseas during the holiday season, and whose children may return late



from their travels, are asked to advise the office of the planned return date before the close of the week. The information is vital in terms of staffing and with demand for enrolment at a high level, it is difficult to hold places for children when we are unsure about their enrolment status. Staffing numbers are finalised by Education Queensland at the end of the first week of school. It is vital that our numbers at that time are accurate. Thank you.

• SCHOOL UNIFORMS AND 2006

Parents are again reminded that the dress code for next year has not changed. **It is expected that students will wear black shoes whenever they wear the day uniform.** Expectedly, the dress code has not reached the very high standards expected over the past fortnight or so. A number of children have been wearing sports shoes with the day uniform and have been strongly reminded of the school's expectation. We need your cooperation and support from home for our uniform and dress code to symbolise the excellence we seek to achieve at MacGregor Primary School.

• ENROLMENTS 2006

Please note that the office will re-open on Monday 16th January. **Should circumstances**

change over the holiday period and your children will no longer be returning to us, we seek your cooperation in advising the school as quickly as possible. As stated above, the allocation of teachers to the school is based purely on enrolment numbers. Unexpected and unforeseen reductions in enrolment could easily cost the school a teacher.

• THE HOT WEATHER

Summer has well and truly arrived and every precaution is being taken to ensure that our students remain well hydrated



throughout the day. As you would expect, the newly installed cold water fountains have been a huge success! Our congratulations are once again extended to the Student Council in their initiative and enthusiasm to raise the necessary funds to install these coolers.

• CLASS LISTS 2006

They were posted on the parent notice board in the Snow-White covered area yesterday along with the map with room allocations for next year.



• HINTS FOR HAPPY HOLIDAY UNIFORM AND BOOK PACK SALES

On arrival there will be two main line up points in front of two cash registers. One will be marked Uniforms Only. The other will be marked Uniforms and Book Packs. On reaching the counter, present already completed order forms (be it uniform or book pack) together with payment. You will then be given a collection ticket number. You may choose to wait or arrange a collection time. Alternatively take and fill out appropriate order forms, which will be available on a table in front of the Uniform Shop. Then line up for collection. Alternatively, items ordered and paid for will be delivered to your child's new class at the commencement of the 2006 School Year. The music manuscripts for years 4-7 on order will be delivered to your child's new classes in 2006. Please note our holiday opening times-

HOLIDAY OPENING TIMES

Monday 16th January 8.30 - 12.00 noon

SPORTS NEWS

The presentation of awards for summer inter and intra school sport was held last Friday in the hall. Included in today's newsletter is a list of all the award winners and our congratulations are extended to each and every one of them. The achievements of students in our back-at-school intra sports program were also recognised. Three teams were awarded pennants for their successes in the program conducted at school over the same ten-week period.



YEAR SEVEN GRADUATION

This very special night to mark the end of their primary school education will be held tomorrow, Thursday, night, in the hall. It will take the format of a graduation dinner dance. Our thanks are extended to all parents of children in Year Six who have volunteered to help out on the night. Our thanks are also extended to the parents of children in Year Seven who will be assisting with the setting-up of the hall during the day. We look forward to a memorable evening.



REPORT CARDS

They were distributed yesterday afternoon, Tuesday, to all students from Years 1 - 7. Those not collected are now available from the office.

MUSIC AWARDS

Unfortunately, there was not enough space in last week's newsletter to list all of the awards presented at the inaugural Performing Arts Assembly last week. Missing were the merit awards for our choral program. They are published below for your information and recognition.

MERIT - CHOIRS		
Senior	Songsters	Year 5
Vivien Chang	Bradley Bell	Matthew Hales
Name Withheld	Name Withheld	Name Withheld
Tamara Gunasena		

Aaron Kho	Emily Majewski	Grace Hung
Yvonne Lee	Emily Ng	Isabel Liu-Batista
Katherine Liu	Rachael Nguyen	Adrian Man
Emily Ng	Grace Pirrello	Name Withheld
Jenny Pan	Name Withheld	Stephanie Tan
Name Withheld	Cristina Vitanzi	Samuel Tsai
Wesley Wat	Yen-Rong Wong	Carey Wat
Grace Yeung	Grace Yeung	Amy Yang
Janice Yeung	Janice Yeung	
Year 4		Year 3
Christina Chow	Name Withheld	
Sonia Dong	Kirby Hickling	
Ajdin Fetahagic	Darnie Hong	
Cynthia Gan	Elise Jones	
Name Withheld	Cassandra Martin	
Zara Lai	Stephanie Moore	
Tricia Leung	Sarah Murphy	
Ingrid Ng	Name Withheld	
Andrew Tierney	Ming-yi Sung	
Mikaela Williams	Ellanor Webb	

LOTE

A most enjoyable and exciting LOTE concert was held yesterday, Tuesday, to mark the end of the year. Our congratulations are extended to all of the performers on a job very well done. We also thank Ms Au and Ms Pegg for their organisation and coordination of the event. At the same time, special awards were presented to students who excelled in their Chinese Mandarin studies over this second half of the year. Pictured are some of our performers from the concert, including our special guests, the Happy Seniors Choir.



LOTE AWARDS

	Non Chinese Background	Chinese Background
4A	Name Witheld	Name Witheld
4B	Rachel Halili	Susan Pan
4C	Randima Perera	Jacky Tan
4D	Name Witheld	Yen-Chii Wong
M1	Alex Thompson	Samuel Yang-Zhao
M3	Name Witheld	Mabel Wei
5A		Grace Hung
5B		Sophia Lai
5C	Ameera Mahomed-Ismail	Samuel Tsai
	Daniel Park	
	Name Witheld	
5D	Kristian Kotaniemi	Darron Lee
M2	Name Witheld	Daniel Leong
M4	Kelvin Trinh	Alexander Seeto
6A	Name Witheld	Cynthia Chua
6B	Paige Talbot	Name Witheld
6C	Celeste Birgan	Jarrard Lee
6D	Janna Guy	Anna Pan
S1/2	Tamara Gunasena	Susan Tan
S3/4	Ariane Serina	Name Witheld
7A	Madison Bunn	Name Witheld
7B	Name Witheld	Yen-Rong Wong
7C	Charlotte Quirk	Vivien Chang
7D	Esther Lee	Jenny Pan
S1/2		Grace Yeung
S3/4		Wittey Lee

**Merry Christmas
to all our families**

