PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE
Our new kindergarten students have had a great start to school. They are very settled and are quickly learning the routines of school life, largely due to the remarkable and dedicated support given by a very impressive group of senior buddies. It has been truly heart-warming to see the gentleness and care that our senior students have displayed. Congratulations and thanks to all our buddies.

The greatest challenge that our Kindergarten students now have to face is the overwhelming sense of tiredness that they will be beginning to experience. It is extremely important that parents send their kinder children to school every day throughout this term and throughout the year. Every day is an important one of learning at school and kindergarteners lose a lot of forward momentum whenever they have a day off school. I know it is tempting to keep them home for a day, but it really is best for your child to be at school everyday. Make sure they are early to bed each night.

Kindergarten Afternoon Dismissal
All Kinder students who are in the “walkers” line will be seated on the front row of the silver seats. We ask parents and older siblings to collect kindergarten students from this seat.

Morning Supervision
Teachers are not on duty until 9.00am each day, therefore it is imperative for students to arrive into the playground after 9.00am. Students cannot be left at school prior to 9.00am unless they are attending OOSH.

Painting Country; Mapping the Macleay
Today I had the privilege of attending the launch of the Painting Country; Mapping the Macleay local Aboriginal resource at Melville High School. Ms Oram, Ms Ransom and myself took 10 of the students who worked on this project last year. It was wonderful to participate in this project and to see the great work that students across the Macleay Valley have done. Our students represented our school with dignity and respect. The exhibition is in Melville High School Hall 2 and is open from 11.00am – 1.00pm and 6.00pm – 8.00pm everyday this week ONLY.

Meet the Teacher Afternoon
As in previous years, there will be a Meet the Teacher afternoon on Wednesday 10th February. We will run 2 identical sessions so that parents can visit more than one class on Wednesday afternoon. We will begin the first session at 3:30pm and the second session at 4.00pm.

There will be some supervision provided for the afternoon. It is important that you complete the slip later in the newsletter regarding whether you want us to keep your child at school on Wednesday afternoon or whether they are to catch the bus or walk home as usual.

Literacy Support in EVERY Class
At Frederickton Public School we believe that a high level of literacy skills is one of the keys to ongoing success. We want to provide optimum conditions for all our students to develop their literacy skills to a high level and so over the past 3 years we have focused additional support and school resources on improving the literacy skills of all our students. One mark of success of this is that every child in kindergarten reached the expected benchmark for literacy for the first time ever at Frederickton Public School.

Julie Donnelly is our Learning and Support Teacher. She is very experienced and highly qualified for this role and constantly engages in professional learning to ensure she is using the best possible teaching practices and resources to support our students to achieve quality outcomes in literacy across the school. For the past few years Mrs Donnelly has provided additional support for students during guided reading sessions as part of the literacy focus at our school. This year I have been able to structure Mrs Donnelly’s timetable for her to be able to provide significant support across every class except one (2/3D). Ms Ransom, who also has specialist skills in literacy through her professional learning associated with Reading Recovery and L3 is able to provide 2 hours of support each morning to the kindergarten and year 1 students and after recess she works for an hour in 2/3D each day. Ms Ransom has recently completed training in L3 for kindergarten and is currently beginning training in L3 Stage 1.
Mapping the Macleay DVD
We have been given a great DVD resource as a result of this work. These are available for loan through the school library.

PSSA Cricket, Netball and Soccer
This year we will be participating in the PSSA competitions for Boys Cricket, Boys Soccer and Girls Netball.

The Cricket competition is about to start. Miss Adams has kindly offered to manage and coach the cricket team HOWEVER she needs some support ASAP as she has never done this before!! Could any parents with cricket expertise please donate some time either before or after school, or during the day!! If so please contact the school office as soon as possible. Our first game is being held on Tuesday 23rd February against Aldavilla Public School, and we would like the team to have some training before that. The game will be held at the Frederickton Sports Oval.

School Readers
Please check your bookshelves at home for any school reading books or library books and return them to school as soon as possible. It is so easy for books to arrive home and get caught up with books at home, so please ask your child to check their room for any books that belong at school.

Swimming Carnival
We had an absolutely fabulous day at our swimming carnival on Thursday. The weather was so perfect, the behaviour of all students was impressive, the event was professionally organised by Mrs Henderson and well supported by parents and students. Thanks to Leanne Kerrison and Kerry and Scott Carter for time-keeping for the day and for the generous offers of help from other parents. A special thanks to Mrs Henderson, Mrs Fitzgerald and Mrs Rose for the fabulous job done to ensure that the carnival was so successful. Thanks also goes to Mrs Felten for the massive job she did at the carnival.

Kids In the Kitchen
The Kids In the Kitchen Program began last Tuesday thanks to the dedication of Tracey Ruthven who volunteers her time on every second Tuesday (one of her days off from our canteen). This is a highly valued program where our students are taught about cooking, kitchen safety and good nutrition. Eight senior students are currently participating in this program.

Uniform Matters
Our students look fabulous in their uniforms. Please ensure that all uniform items especially hats and jumpers have your child’s name clearly marked on the inside of their hat and jumper.

Girls shoulder length hair needs to be tied back. Ribbons and headbands need to be school colours. Headbands should not be large and floral garlands etc are not school uniform.

Jewellery is also not necessary at school. Simple sleepers or studs should be worn in pierced ears. Medic alert bracelets and watches may be worn. Cygnet rings may also be worn. Necklaces should not be worn to school as they may easily get caught when playing sport and broken or lost.

I remind parents that if a child is not wearing a navy jumper or jacket, students will be sent to the office to borrow a school jumper for the day. This is a practice ratified by our P&C to ensure that our students are in school uniform. Also HOODs on jackets/jumpers are banned at our school.

Bus Behaviour
Please remind your children of the importance of settled and appropriate behaviour on the bus.

We DO NOT welcome NUTS
Some of our students are allergic to NUTS therefore all food containing nuts or traces of nuts are not welcome in our school.

Students are also NOT allowed to share food, this is so that students with any allergy do not eat food that they are unable to eat.

Macleay Educational Community of Schools Survey
Please assist our local public schools by contributing your responses to a survey about its recognition across our wider community. We would appreciate your completion of this survey online, if possible, however there is a paper copy later in this newsletter. The online survey address is: 
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCPLW7D

Thank you for your time and support in completing this survey.

School Band
The school band will start back next week but we will be holding try-outs this Wednesday 10th February for any new students with Mr Catlin in Homebase 4 starting at 1.30pm. Your child can come and have a go at the instruments – saxophone, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone. Students from last year can come along as well if they want too.
3/4R News
Fantastic effort to all the pupils who swam their very best last Thursday and we certainly had an enjoyable day.

Well done to all students for Home Reading effort and exceptional return of Home Reading pouches. Keep it up.

Homework begins this week. Today the students have their Homework grid and Spelling list. The purpose of the homework is to revise class learning and for the student to complete as many of the grid activities as possible in the week. By no means is it meant to be stressful or place strain on family time. Try to encourage your child to complete some homework each evening or negotiate around their other after school activities. If you have a busy week or unexpected family commitments arise, just send a note or make a note on the homework sheet with what your child was able to complete.

OUR LIBRARY DAY IS WEDNESDAY
I am looking forward to meeting with parents on Wednesday afternoon at the MEET THE TEACHER AFTERNOON sessions. Please come down to our classroom- Homebase 8. I am still looking for Parents/Carers/Grandparents whom are able to help with classroom Home Reading. You can select your day and time you are available. Please let me know.

The pupils can bring in any books, DVDS etc on the topic- FORESTS, for our unit of work.

Over the next two weeks students might like to find and bring in a recyclable item from home- an old key, an old sock, broken watch, an old toy or game. We don’t want bottle tops, toilet roll holders etc, it is items that aren’t being used/wanted any longer or might be not working. A small item ready for the tip would be great to send in.

CANTEEN ROSTER
TERM 4 2015
TERM 1 2016
WEEK 3
8th February  L Dolezal
9th February  CLOSED
10th February  N Clarke
11th February  M Fuller
12th February  S Glover

WEEK 4
15th February   A Glass
16th February  CLOSED
17th February  V Sewell
18th February  V Sewell
19th February  R Parker

CANTEEN SPECIAL THIS WEEK
Meatball Sub $4.00
If parents or community members would like to order from our regular menu for home please contact the office to place an order – 65668217

Rock Star Award” in the canteen
Students who order something new and fresh off the blackboard will be in the running to receive a canteen voucher to be used the following week off the blackboard menu.

Last week’s winner was ZANDAH CARNEY.

ZANDAH, please see Tracey in the Canteen.
News from 2/3D
This week is our first week of Homework for the term. There are 3 different levels and it is due in this Friday. Let me know after a couple of weeks, if the homework is too easy or too hard.

Remember the spare drink bottle and school hats need to be here every day.

Tomorrow your child will bring home a card with their new Reading Eggs username and password on it.

We are using Dojo points at school this year and Mrs Dickenson is still on her 'L' plates. This is the first time I've used them but Ms Harvey is helping me to learn.

Thank you to those students who have bought in their $11.20 for their Handwriting textbook. For those who haven’t please do so ASAP – books will not be given to students until they are paid for.

News from K/1H & K/1O
What a busy time we had in H & O Class for week 2 of school. It was very exciting to have Kinder join us for the whole week.

Homework and sight words have been sent home with all students and Year 1 have been bringing home their home readers (Kinder will begin this in the coming weeks). If you have any questions please let Miss Oram or Mrs Henderson know.

Last week Kindergarten learnt the sounds and letter names for S, A, T. This week they will be learning N, I, and P. While it is important children learn the alphabet names it is crucial they understand the sounds these letters make. Please practice and reinforce this learning with your child.

Year 1 are working on blending sounds together, and have been focused on double consonant letters e.g. ss, tt, pp, nn.

A big thank you to both Mrs Rudder and Mrs Mawer for their help in our classrooms during the week. We greatly appreciate any time that parents and carers can volunteer to our school so if you are available please let us know.

We look forward to seeing you all at the information afternoon on Wednesday.

Project Background – Mapping the Macleay
In 2012 a group of elders gathered within the Kempsey TAFE, and began to record their family and oral histories. This group’s passion and commitment to the passon on of cultural history lead to the evolution of this project concept.

Primary school students in turn were given the opportunity to connect with their community and their culture, and created a lasting Artwork which will help them remember local history in a very concrete and tangible way. The artworks will be installed at each of the schools a testimony of their learning journey and their achievements.

PLAYGROUP HAS A NEW NAME – ‘PLAY DATE’
Playgroup at Frederickton Public School will commence back next Monday 11\textsuperscript{th} February – 9.30am – 11.00am.

All ages are welcome – just bring a plate to share for morning tea. Cost: FREE
Frederickton Outdoor Fitness

Enjoy the benefits of group exercise.
All levels of fitness welcome to come along and start your day with the sunrise.
Combination of exercise from cardio, weights, circuits, boxing, yoga and stretching

Where: Frederickton Public School (outside hall)

When: Monday & Thursday
6.00am – 7.00am

Cost: $12 - session cards available

Info: www.glovefit.com.au
facebook.com/glovefit
Gaye 0419 041919

NESTLE JUNIOR TRIATHLON
The Nestle Junior Triathlon will be held on 20th February 2016. There will be 5 races all sponsored by Nestle Australia with swim caps and Nestle product packs for all entrants.

Races will be for 5 different age categories and online entries and for further details go to the Trial Bay Triathlon website.

P&C meeting
Our first P&C Meeting will be held at the school at 6.00pm today Monday 8th February. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting in the School Library
Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey. Your contribution will provide us with the important information needed to help us to celebrate the wonderful achievements of your children and our students into the future.

1) Have you heard of MECS before?

2) If you have heard of MECS, could you please describe what you think MECS does?

3) Who do you think are members of our MECS group?
   - Only Macleay public primary schools
   - Only Macleay public high schools
   - All Macleay public schools
   - All Macleay public and private schools

4) "MECS" actually stands for "Macleay Educational Community of Schools" and consists of all public primary and high schools in the Macleay. Independent schools are not members of this group.

The purpose of MECS is to provide our students the fullest range of opportunities and our staff the best professional learning from across our 17 schools. MECS is responsible for a number of highly valued initiatives.

Due to the significance of MECS and its benefit to local students we are considering the option of a name change. From the list below, could you select the name you think is the most ideal for our group or suggest one or your own.

   - Macleay Educational Community of Schools
   - Macleay Schools
   - Macleay Public Schools

5) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Educational Community of Schools" as our name, please comment why you think it is suitable or otherwise.

6) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Schools" as our future name, please comment on why you think this name is suitable or otherwise.

7) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Public Schools" as our future name, please comment on why you think this name is suitable or otherwise.

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**PARENT INFORMATION AFTERNOON SESSION- Wednesday 10th February 2016**

I will be attending 'Meet the Teacher' session on Wednesday 10th February 2016.

My children need to remain at school

My children need to travel home as usual

Students Name: ____________________________________________________________

Signed: ____________________________________ (Parent/Carer)