



Ma Ma Messages

A communication tool of the

Ma Ma Creek State School and Community

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06 November 2009

Dear Parents

The past week has been consumed by camp and it was a great week from my perspective.

I wish to express my thanks and gratitude to the many parents who generously offered their time and resources to help make both camps a success.

I would also like to thank Mrs Sutton, Mrs Schmidt and Mrs Bridge for giving generously of their time to make the camps successful.

Out of the Classroom

What a fantastic camp we had! The children were well behaved and had a great time. The highlight for most was the Scallywags visit. All children played together well and only fatigued at the end of the day! The trip home in my car was far quieter than on the way up!

I would like to thank all parents who helped. A special thankyou to Miss Gear-Brown, who stayed the night and was always willing to lend a hand and to Mrs Hyland for her help cleaning on Tuesday morning.

Camp would not have run so smoothly without the help of my trusty off-sider Mrs Schmidt. Thankyou!

As we head into week 6 we will be continuing our space/weather theme. Until next week, *Kylie*.

The Year 4 – 7 camp was a success.

The students conducted themselves very well. Camp is a great opportunity to find out what children are made of. Many students stood out for their extra helpfulness and energy.

In brief, we did some orienteering, looked at the proportions of our solar system, did a bit of first aid, went for a two hour walk up the hill, looked at how to harvest water from plants,

studied the creek and measured its water quality, watched cattle mustering, sang songs and told jokes around a campfire and explored along the creek.

The weather was cold at night and hot during the day, but we didn't get any storms. We also avoided any injuries of note.

The camp wouldn't have been successful without the many contributions of the school community. The students were cooperative and helpful. Mr Darren Walker and Mrs Janine Webster stayed with us for the duration of camp, and were very helpful. Mr Walker took responsibility for fire and a lot of the cooking. He also did a lot of work on the hill climb. Mrs Webster brought along some food, helped out a meal times, offered first aid and lead one hiking party back to civilisation. Mrs Johnson, Pollock and Poole were at camp each day. All ladies assisted at mealtimes. Both Mrs Pollock and Johnson were very helpful at brought supplies – some indulgent, some essential. Thank you also to the parents that transported campers to and from camp.

A special thanks goes to Mrs Sutton who took the role of head chef. (Mrs Sutton commented that her job had been easy because of the many helpers.) Mrs Sutton was her typical industrious self, finding jobs and doing them. I am particularly grateful for her work both before and after camp.

We must also thank Trevor and Ros for generously offering us their property for the camp. Mrs Hutton has invited school families to use the facility if they wish. Just give them a phone call – they're in the phone book.

Elsewhere in this newsletter are short comments from the campers.

Comments from the junior campers will appear in next week's newsletter.

There are photos on the school's website.

Arts Council

Please note that Arts Council is this coming Monday morning (09/11/09).

Thanks to all families who have returned envelopes.

Camel Calendars

If you have not sent in your order for Camel Calendars, it must come on Monday – no exceptions.

We need to send the work away.

- Art Calendar – \$10
- Photo Calendar – \$12
- Greeting Cards – \$12 / pack

Prep Open Day

Any children starting Prep in 2010 are invited to visit the school on **Tuesday 10th November from 9am to 10:45am.**

Tuckshop

Menu for next week is Week 1.

Christmas Raffle

P&C is hoping to run a raffle which will be drawn as part of our end-of-year concert. Your donations would be appreciated.

Remembrance Day

Ma Ma Creek has been invited to join with the Ma Ma Creek – Grantham sub-Branch of the RSL for a Remembrance Day ceremony at Ma Ma Creek (11/11/09). Families are invited to join with their children for this event.

Dates to Remember

November	
8	Back to Ma Ma
9	Arts Council
10	1 st Prep visit 9am – 10.45am

Camp Comments

On our camp at Chosen Valley at Black Duck Creek, one of the things I enjoyed was going mountain climbing. I went to the top (well close enough). The top was very rocky so we didn't quite make it. It was fun. *Louisa Webster*

Some of the things I enjoyed on camp were watching the cattle being put into the cattle yards for branding. I also enjoyed staying up late eating chocolate fudge brownies and Tim Tams by the fire with all the Year 7s.

When the sun and the moon rose it was a lovely site because it came up from behind the mountain and the shadowed the valley on the other side. *Jack Bridge*

Orienteering was fun work with a compass. Mr Amos and Mrs Webster set up a circle for orienteering and Dale, Tim and I set up two long, separate cross-country orienteering tracks. I also got the 'flying fox' award, which was for the best navigator. *Emma Poole*

There was lots of laughter around the campfire as we were telling lots of funny jokes (except for Mr Amos' jokes). It was very funny when Jack and I relocated Mr Amos's tent. *Kody Green*

On our camp at Black Duck Creek I watched the moon come up and we howled at the moon. When it was up we sang 'I'm a believer'. *Daniel Johnson*

On camp I enjoyed climbing the mountain. We almost got to the top but it was too steep, so we had to go down. My favourite thing was the cooking. It was so much fun. We got to cut the vegetables and serve the food. It was MAD!! *Matthew Coatham*

One of the things I enjoyed on camp was watching Mr Hutton and Mr Fitzgerald muster cattle. It was so cool to watch Mr Fitzgerald's dogs round up the cattle. Mr Hutton let us climb the fence at the yards and look at the cattle. *Dale Bridge*

One of the things I enjoyed on our camp at Black Duck was roasting marshmallows. It was great because I just loved the melting sensation you got when you put them in your mouth. I had 16 marshmallows and they were

delicious. They cooked very quickly because the campfire was very hot. Kody put one marshmallow in the fire and it exploded. It was great roasting marshmallows. *Daniel Pollock*

One of the things I enjoyed on camp was keeping the fires going. I had to keep five fires going. The fires allowed us to cook, heat water and enjoy campfire songs, jokes and toasting marshmallows. *Chane Walker*

One of the things I enjoyed at school camp was finding the gourds. They were a brownish, earthy grey colour. They were shaped like a bottle. Some had a curly bit at the top. They were nice. *Amelia Webster*

On camp I enjoyed making the cairn. It was lots of fun. We all put a rock on and said some nice things about camp. *Sarah Zirbel*

As Dad and I came down the last part of the hill he whispered to me "We made it." Immediately I yelled "Yay!", waving my hands in the air. *Shaneika Walker*

On our camp at Black Duck Creek we went orienteering around the campsite. I took four goes to navigate around the course. There were markers around the course that had letters under them for us to solve a puzzle. It was fun. *Timothy Amos*

On our camp at Black Duck Creek, I liked climbing Hutton's mountain (or scary mountain). When we finally got near the top, we were all exhausted. We had our morning tea and made our way back down. *Christopher Johnson*

Some of the things I most enjoyed were the water activities and the mountain climb. I liked looking at the wet, creepy crawlies in the dirty water. But, orienteering 'takes the cake' because it will be with me forever and it was FUN!!! *David Zirbel*

One of the things I enjoyed on camp was building the fires. We had to collect the little pieces of wood and got the big pieces from the mountainous pile of wood. *William Leek*

On Tuesday morning we had breakfast and then set off to climb the mountain. It was easy at first but as we got closer to the top it got hard. When we were about 20 metres from the top, we gave up and headed back to camp. When we got back, we had watermelon. It was yum. *Benjamin Zirbel*

One of the things I really enjoyed was starting the fires. There were five different fires. In the camp ovens, we cooked corn and potatoes. *Jarrold Flanagan*

Back to Ma Ma

Ma Ma Creek Community Centre (Inc)

830 Gatton Clifton Road
Ma Ma Creek

An invitation is extended to all residents both past and present, and other interested persons, especially our older citizens, to be present at an Afternoon Tea in our Community Centre on Sunday, November 8th from 1p.m. onwards.

Afternoon Tea will be served at approximately 3 p.m. and we ask that you bring a plate to share.

Please extend this invitation to anyone who might be interested in catching up with old acquaintances.

The committee looks forward to the opportunity of meeting old friends and making new ones.

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