



# Daily Mercury

## Future leaders get sound advice

Shakira Sellen | 23rd February 2012

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MORE than 150 Mackay, Sarina, Mirani and Whitsunday secondary school students learnt the importance of being school leaders yesterday.

The existing student leaders attended an Impact Student Leadership Conference at Magpies Sporting Club where they listened to advice about public speaking, motivation and leadership skills.

Mackay Christian College vice-captain Nicholas Buttle said the conference had shown him to lead, one must be positive.

"A leader is someone who can inspire other people," he said.

"My favourite part of today (yesterday) was The Amazing Race activity.

"It was an activity that let us meet different people.

"I also found that to be a good leader students need to recognise that there is no one way to perform an activity, and it was good to hear from the guest speakers - professional leaders."

Impact Leadership Conference leader Ronan McGinniss said guest speaker Leah Allen-Ankins taught the students how to organise successful school events.

"What we focus on is the practical things they need to do their roles," Mr McGinniss said.

"It's all practical-based stuff that they can use right now."

He said this was the third year the conference had been running.

Primary school students will have their chance to attend the conference today at the MECC.



Leah Allen-Ankins talking to students at the leadership conference.

Tony Martin

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