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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

by Glenn McGowan, Principal



Dear Staff, Parents and Caregivers,

Our World Teachers' Day celebrations on Friday, October 30 2009 were a huge success! We held our only whole-school assembly (see photos below) for the year to celebrate the professionalism of our teachers and the difference they make in our students' lives every day. We value highly their dedication, skills, knowledge and acts of kindness that benefit every student who attends our school.

Throughout the morning, each teacher was treated to a piece of cake and a cuppa that was delivered to their class. They also received a glass coaster to say "thank-you" and to commemorate the day. Our "Fantastic Teacher Awards" were a great hit and Virginia Brooker (our P&C President) and our school captains enjoyed giving out our prizes kindly donated by the P&C, Pizza Capers Maroochydore, Hati Indian Restaurant and Lollypotz Maroochydore. We must also thank Richard Lane from Bica for supporting our school once again by organising the team to provide our teachers with such great coffee.

Each teacher at Mountain Creek State School also received a poem by Joanna Fuchs that sums up the appreciation we have for our teachers.

YOU'RE NUMBER ONE

*I'm happy that you're my teacher;
I enjoy each lesson you teach.
As my role model you inspire me
To dream and to work and to reach.*

*With your kindness you get my attention;
Every day you are planting a seed
Of curiosity and motivation
To know and to grow and succeed.*

*You help me fulfil my potential;
I'm thankful for all that you've done.
I admire you each day, and just want to say,
As a teacher, you're number one!*

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Kind Regards
Glenn

[Back to top](#)

NAME THAT BUILDING!

by Marian Brooks

Our new Student Services Building needs a name!

These past few weeks have been exciting for the progress of our new building, with the walls going up and the roof going on. We anticipate that the building will be ready for occupancy at the beginning of 2010. If any parents would like to see the plans for the building, or have any questions or suggestions regarding the building, please contact our Head of Student Services, Marian Brooks, by emailing mbroo9@eq.edu.au or phoning 5452 3429.

The new building is designed to serve the school community as a facility to support all student services in our school. To promote this new school concept, we are running a "Name the New Building Competition". The winner of the competition will receive a Family Pass to the movies. Please put all entries in the 'Jelly Bean' box in B Block, or email your entry to Marian Brooks mbroo9@eq.edu.au. Entries close Friday 13 November 2009. You can find a copy of the entry form at the bottom of this newsletter.

We thank you once again for your patience regarding parking and picking up and dropping off of children. I'm sure everyone will agree that it will all be worthwhile once our new facility is completed.

[Back to top](#)

YOUNG ACHIEVERS REIGN SUPREME AT AUSTRALIAN CO2 NATIONAL TITLES

by Craig Wockner

The Mountain Creek State School Young Achievers Program has succeeded in their quest for top honours at the 2009 National CO2 Dragster Competition. Our four entries achieved 1st, 2nd, 4th and 7th at the titles held at Christ Church Grammar School in Claremont, Western Australia from the 16th-18th of October.

Emma topped the standings with a score of 78.75 points, 2nd place was Abi with 78.50 points, taking 4th was Hayley on 76.50 points and Riley achieved 7th with 62.25 points. Hayley's car was awarded the best design in Division C, Special Education and Primary Schools.

Our 4 dragsters led the 6 strong Queensland team after dominating the 2009 Holden Maryborough Technology Challenge- Queensland CO2 Dragster Competition held at Maryborough SHS from the 11th to 13th of September where our students took out 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th from 16 entries.

The competition has strict design guidelines ranging from the dimensions of the vehicle to the all important weight restrictions. The minimum mass of the completed dragsters is 45 grams, and is a major factor in design as excess weight can slow the dragsters down. Students have also focused on reducing wind resistance and minimising friction of moving parts.

Dragsters are awarded points for Design Drawings, Construction and Design and Race Time. The dragsters are raced over a 20m high density plastic track on guide lines measured to hundredths of seconds. Competitive times are around 1.1 seconds, however some dragsters can break the 1 second barrier.

The Young Achievers CO2 dragster program is run by Craig Wockner working with 14 children. Students start with a standard wood blank, and must design, create and paint their own vehicle.

[Back to top](#)

PREP ENROLMENT INFORMATION FOR 2010

by Wendy Van Doore

Our office staff have been kept busy enrolling Prep students for 2010! Your child's birth date must be between 1 July 2004 and 30 June 2005 to be eligible to attend Prep in

2010.

Enrolment packages are available from the school Office between 8:00am and 3:30pm. If you would like an enrolment package mailed to you please contact us with your postal address.

If you know of anyone who does not have a child at Mountain Creek, but lives in the school zone and has a child eligible for Prep next year, please let them know that we are now taking Prep enrolments.

Following our Orientation evening happening November 5, some play afternoons have been organised for Prep 2010 children.

If you have any other questions regarding Prep, please do not hesitate to contact us on 5452 3444, or email admin@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au. We will be only too happy to assist you in any way we can, and look forward to meeting our new Prep children and families.

[Back to top](#)

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CHAPPY'S CHAT

by Anthony Pulford

Hi everyone. Can you believe it? 6 weeks to go till the end of another term and year. WOW! It just goes by so quickly. So much has been happening in the Chaplaincy Service over this term. Here is a brief summary:

World Teachers Day – The Chaplaincy Service was part of the Planning Committee organising World Teachers Day. It was great to be part of a team whose main role was to make sure the teachers felt valued and appreciated and to spoil them to bits. Our teachers are amazing. They work so hard and go beyond the call of duty to support and I hope they felt special on the day. The day included a full school assembly, prizes for teachers, and gifts and speeches honouring certain teachers for their many years of service. Each teacher also received an engraved place mat and laminated teacher's poem as well as specially made coffee and cake which were delivered to them by the students. There was also a delicious morning tea provided which I know they enjoyed. I heard too that the kids showered them with lots of cuddles, hugs, gifts, letters and cards throughout the day which made the teachers feel very loved and appreciated. Good on them, they deserve it.

LWAD (Lunchtime with a difference) – It was good to have Maree from Fusion come and speak to the teachers at briefings last week about their organisation and the LWAD programme. Fusion is an International Youth and Community Organisation that has been around since 1960 and has grown to over 25 centres in Australia and has a presence in more than 20 different countries around the world. We are blessed to have them running LWAD at Mountain Creek State School which includes a lot of fun activities for the kids. Last week the students got into groups and had a competition building towers using straws and bits of sticky tape. They did such a great job and some of the towers were taller than me. Some students sometimes get bored at break time and engage in anti-social behaviour. This programme not only prevents that but also gives them a great opportunity to build relationships with positive role models (Fusion Leaders) and to learn and model some core values (Listening, Respect and Encouragement).

Changing Places – On the 20th October the Chaplaincy Service, together with Community Solutions, organised a morning tea (Provided by the wonderful Tuckshop ladies) for all new comers to the school. Changing Places is a free support service for newly relocated families with young children. Candice Lloyd from Community Solutions shared this programme benefits these newcomers through providing:

- Information and referrals
- Links to organisations and services
- Opportunities to meet other parents/and carers
- Free community events, workshops and activities for parents and children

Our Principal, Head of Student Services and P&C President also attended and enjoyed the opportunity to chat with these parents and build connections with them. Thank you to all those who attended.

Volleyball Girls – Deb Turner has been doing a great job every week with a bunch of very enthusiastic Grade 6 girls. They have learnt to serve, spike, dig and set volleyball and have enjoyed every minute of it. It's been good to see the girls out there at break time learning a new sport and having fun at the same time. It helps them focus on something and prevents them from engaging in inappropriate behaviour.

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SHINE – It has now come to an end. We had our final morning tea two weeks ago and the parents were invited. The students had the opportunity to talk about the programme and what it has meant to them. I was blown away by the girl's speeches and what they said about how much they have enjoyed the Shine as well as all the things they have learnt and gained from being a part of it. Over the next few weeks we will be following up with the girls and discussing topics or issues which they are struggling with at the moment as well as do some craft activities to end off the year.

Fundraisers – The Chaplaincy Sub Committee have been hard at work giving up most of weekend of the Caloundra Music Festival to sell raffle tickets (for the much sort after guitar signed by many famous Australian Artists). Thank you to all who gave up their precious time to support Chaplaincy and to Deb for organising it all. There are still more tickets available so if anyone is interested please contact the school to purchase a ticket.

8 Hr Famine – What an amazing 8 Hr Famine it has been this year. We started off with a target of \$1500 and have reached a final figure of \$4040. Unbelievable! Your kids have done an incredible job and have made such a difference in the lives of these poor kids in Cambodia and Kenya. This money will help to feed and support over 500 children in these countries for a month. WELL DONE to those who participated.

Care Cupboard – I wanted to thank all of you who have contributed school clothes to the Chaplaincy Care Cupboard. You have all been fantastic. We now have enough clothes to help those children whose families are struggling financially. Thanks again for your support.

Mentoring Programme - Deb Price, our Student Welfare Officer, has started up a mentoring programme which began at this term. At the moment we have four mentors on board who are looking after four mentees. I have the privilege to have a debrief session with one of the mentors each week and am enjoying getting to know her and seeing the enormous impact that she is having on this young lady.

Religious Education Programme –

RE Teachers Morning tea – The Chaplaincy Service is holding a special morning tea on the 2nd of December to for all the volunteer RE teachers for the wonderful work they do in teaching RE to our children.. We look forward to spoiling them and passing on some special awards to those who will be finishing up at the end of this year.

New teachers on board – There have been a few new teachers which have joined our RE Programme. They are currently teaching Grade 6's and we are so pleased to have them with us. I have heard already from a number of the students how much they are enjoying the programme and these new teachers. If you are interested in teaching RE please contact me at the school as we are always looking for more teachers.

Fan the Flames Workshop – This is a training workshop for RE teachers which is being held on the 14th November. Many of our RE teachers will be attending this workshop to learn more skills and gain more knowledge with regards to teaching RE.

Coming soon:

X-mas Show – Tahlee Ministries (From Victoria) are coming up to the Sunshine Coast and will be performing a Christmas Show in a number of local schools. They will be at Mountain Creek State school on the 25th of November and their show will be part of the RE programme that day. This show portrays the true meaning of Christmas through a puppet and ventriloquist as well as storytelling by drawings. We look forward to their performances.

Carols By Candlelight – It's going to be HUGE this year. A date has been set. Please put this down in your diaries right now people.....5th of December 2009. What a great night out for the family? The night includes, performances from the students, The local Good life band singing and playing Christmas Carols (and of course you joining in), a sausage sizzle by the Lions Club, Glow sticks, chips, jumpies, Santa arriving in style, lollies and lots more. This will be a regular event held each year to raise money for the Chaplaincy Service and to build local community.

Weekly Happenings

Lunchtime Programme - Wednesday Lunchtime (1-1.30pm)

Grapevine – Wednesday (8.45 – 9.45)

Girls Volleyball – Thursday Lunchtime (1-1.30pm)

Shine – Wednesday (1.30 -2.30pm)

Well, that's it from me. Hope you all have a great week. (Despite your loss to the All Blacks last week....I had to get that in.)

Bless you all
Chappy

[Back to top](#)

OUR SCHOOL GARDEN

by Anne Kennedy

A culmination of our garden project will be our "Garden Party" on the 10th of November, where our Year 7 students will each make a short speech about the garden on a topic of their choice. Their preparations are well underway.



We have been very fortunate that, when we have put out a call for assistance, there have been numerous generous donations of equipment and materials for our ongoing development of the garden. With a donation of crusher dust and paving sand by Greg and Wendy Bell and with the assistance of senior students from the high school, we should see some completed paving between the beds in the next few weeks. One of our teacher aides, Doug Gardener, has guided a group of students to build 3 trellises in the gardens (from donated wire and an old trampoline frame!) so our future crops of snow peas, beans etc will have sturdy support – thanks to Doug and his team.



PLANNING PAYS OFF FOR A SUCCESSFUL TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

by Kathy McGowan and Naomi Halvorsen

You're never too old to enjoy a teddy bear's picnic, as Prep PK and Year 5HR students found out last week. When the idea of a combined Teddy Bear's Picnic was suggested, the Year 5's were very keen to help their buddies draw maps and plan activities for the picnic.



Buddies worked together to write lists and prepare games for the day, e.g. "Pin the Nose on the Bear" and when time ran out, Jag, from Year 5 offered to make a Teddy Pinata at home, to bring along on the day.

Tuesday 27th October was the date marked on the calendar and when the buddies arrived after lunch, the picnic started. Games of "Pass the Parcel" and balloon games were enjoyed by all, but it was hard to fit all the planned activities into the short time allocated.



Each Prep Teddy was given an award and many Prep children took the opportunity to introduce their Year 5 buddy to their parents before going home. Our thanks to all the Prep and Yr 5HR parents for providing yummy food and drink for the party.

[Back to top](#)

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP - ASD

by Marian Brooks, Head of Student Services

There are a few parents with ASD who would like to look at establishing a parent support group in Mountain Creek. They will have a get to know you morning tea on Monday 30th November at 9.00 am in the After school care building.

All parents of ASD students are welcome. Come a long and share a morning together. For more information contact Alison on 0418 105 408.

[Back to top](#)

YEAR 2/3 SECTOR NEWSLETTER

by Brendan Wessely, Deputy Principal

Our years 2 and 3 classes have been very busy this year as our classes continue learning and progressing towards the end of term 4.

To view our latest edition of our Year 2/3 Sector Newsletter, [click here](#). This link will take you to our newsletter web page where you can view current and past newsletters.

[Back to top](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATE(S)
Year 7 Surf Skills Program	Friday, October 16, 2009 To Friday, November 27, 2009
Year 6 Recreational Sports	Friday, October 30, 2009 To Friday, November 4, 2009
Excursion to ScienceCentre (4KR, 4LW)	Thursday, November 12, 2009
2010 Prep Orientation Play Afternoon	Tuesday, November 17, 2009
Excursion to Mary Cairncross Park (PD & PR)	Monday, November 23, 2009
Excursion to Mary Cairncross Park (PK & PS)	Tuesday, November 24, 2009
Instrumental Music Night (Mountain Creek State High School)	Wednesday, November 25, 2009
Performance – Where In The World Is Christmas (PREP classes, Year 1 classes)	Friday, November 27, 2009
Year 7 Graduation	Tuesday, December 08, 2009
Year 7 Breakup Day @ Movie World	Wednesday, December 09, 2009
Party Day	Thursday, December 10, 2009
Last Day of School for 2009	Friday, December 11, 2009



Competition Entry Form - Name the New Building

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Contact ph no: _____

Name suggestion for new building:

Please put all entries in the 'Jelly Bean' box in B Block,
or email to Marian Brooks mbroo9@eq.edu.au

Entries close Friday 13 November 2009.