PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE:

Scholarships: This week I attended a ceremony at Mountain Creek High School to recognise Year 6 scholarship winners across all feeder schools. Ten scholarships were awarded with students having to compete with over 50 quality applicants. I'm pleased to report that our school received four scholarships. These were presented to Brooke Day, Sam Evans, Sienna Haxton and Grace Finlay. It's a huge achievement and we congratulate them on their success. Go Creekers!

Christmas Carols: Next Friday, 27 November 2015 the school Christmas Carols will be held at school. Food will be available from 5.00pm with the performance beginning at 6.00pm. We will use the outdoor stage and oval. Naturally, we hope for beautiful weather.

Our Christmas Carols embrace our school motto of caring, sharing and learning together. 2015 has been a fantastic year with high achievements, sporting success and outstanding cultural participation. Please join us at the carols to help celebrate with other Mountain Creek families. We’ll have drinks, simple food stalls and big smiles. Bring a chair, mat and your best singing voice. It will be great fun for everyone!

School Council Nominations: Mountain Creek became an Independent Public School at the beginning of this year. Part of this process allows us to implement a School Council to enhance local autonomy and certify key strategic documents.

Our P and C Association has already approved the draft constitution of the School Council so we can now officially advertise for community members. The school council will meet once per term and focus on major strategic processes such as budget approvals, action planning and consideration of long term community partnerships.

Community members or parents can nominate for the school council by collecting a form from the office. Elections can be held where there are a large number of nominations. Our goal is to have our School Council running by the end of Term 1 2016. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Student Progress: It is wonderful to see students maintaining high standards throughout the year. Classes are busy with assessments, but I can still see lots of smiles and fun activities. Congratulations to all our students on their enthusiasm. Well done.

Rob Van den Heuvel
Principal
CARING, SHARING
LEARNING TOGETHER

END OF YEAR EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep 2016 Play Date - 9am - 11am</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 25 November 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Christmas Carols</td>
<td>FRIDAY 27 November 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep 2016 Play Date - 9am - 11am</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 2 December 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 2 December 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Graduation</td>
<td>TUESDAY 8 December 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Movie World Trip</td>
<td>THURSDAY 10 December 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day of School</td>
<td>FRIDAY 11 December 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KidsMatter and Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) team update

SWPBS has been rebranded. It is now called Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL). This new name reflects the strong connection between behaviour and learning.

This week our team met for a half day to discuss the future directions. We achieved many things in this meeting, including:

- Final review our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students. This document will now be seen by the P and C and soon be up on our website. There have been many changes made to reflect our current practices at Mountain Creek SS.
- Reviewing internal and external survey data to develop an action plan for PBL
- Reviewed two social emotional teaching programs with the intent of introducing a program in 2016. We will now take our decision to staff for further consultation. Watch this space!

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

As the weather heats up and we all begin to get tired and look forward to the Christmas holidays, it’s easy to get caught up in the heat of the moment and find ourselves in situations that we wouldn’t normally. We’re particularly focusing this fortnight on being responsible for our own behaviour, being honest and solving problems with our words. Please talk to your children about these expectations that are likely to be similar to expectations that you have at home. These will help us to care, share and learn together.

All settings – Be Responsible, safe and respectful

- Be responsible for your own behaviour
- Be honest
- Solve problems with words
SAFETY ALERT - Promoting Safety for students when travelling to and from school

As the weather is warming up we have noticed that more and more students are coming to school to enjoy time with their friends before their day of learning begins. Likewise, teachers also use this valuable time to place the final touches on planning for engaging lessons in the classroom or engage in professional conversations. To allow teachers this time and to ensure the safety of all students, we would ask that you remind your children of the following:

1. Students should arrive to school after 8am
2. No student should play on the play equipment before or after school
3. We ask that students do not kick balls before or after school as many parents with small children are also walking through the school to take their children to class

A great use of time before school could look like the following:

- Getting ready for class
- Completing homework
- Catching up on a good book
- Sitting and talking to friends in the undercover areas
- A game of tiggy on the grass
- Hand ball

We encourage students, for their safety, to go straight home after their teachers release them from class. We appreciate your support with this. It helps our school run smoothly.

Deb Lawrence
Deputy Principal

DO YOU KNOW THE PROCEDURES? - BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

As the weather is warming up we have noticed that more and more students are coming to school to enjoy time with their friends before their day of learning begins. Likewise, teachers also use this valuable time to place the final touches on planning for engaging lessons in the classroom or engage in professional conversations. To allow teachers this time and to ensure the safety of all students, we would ask that you remind your children of the following:

1. Students should arrive to school after 8am
2. No student should play on the play equipment before or after school
3. We ask that students do not kick balls before or after school as many parents with small children are also walking through the school to take their children to class

A great use of time before school could look like the following:

- Getting ready for class
- Completing homework
- Catching up on a good book
- Sitting and talking to friends in the undercover areas
- A game of tiggy on the grass
- Hand ball

We encourage students, for their safety, to go straight home after their teachers release them from class. We appreciate your support with this. It helps our school run smoothly.

Deb Lawrence
Deputy Principal

At present there are many events occurring as the school year comes to an end. We ask families to remind students about personal safety (Recognise, React and Report).

Lately more unfamiliar cars and people have been seen in the local area so please ensure students are mindful of strangers and unknown vehicles.

Also, please be aware of Bike Safety when riding to and from school. One of our parents contacted us saying that some children are not riding on the left hand side of the road. We were also advised that it is great to see many children riding to school. Its important to us that they all travel safely.

Please speak to your children about these important safety messages.
MUSIC NEWS

Community Carols: All students are learning a class Christmas Carol which will be performed at our Community Carols Concert on Friday 27 November 2015 from 5.00pm. This is an exciting event for all students to participate in and we are all practising our carols ready for this fun night.

Care Outreach Charity: Again this year, in conjunction with the MCSS Community Christmas Carols Night we are also asking all families for donations of non-perishable food items, toys and toiletries. We will then deliver these items to Care Outreach, which is a Non-Profit organisation who has a vision to care for the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of farm families and people in the outback, rural and remote areas of Australia. Donations can be dropped at our Music Block or there will be a collection bin near the stage on the night of the Christmas Carols.

FIREFIGHTERS VISIT

Year 1 had a return visit from the firefighters on Wednesday 11 November 2015. Firefighter Shane questioned them to see if they remembered all of the important information from the last visit. They all passed with flying colours although Firefighter Shane would have liked more children to know their home phone, address and family meeting point in case of a fire.

Once all of the talking was out of the way, the children had a look at the equipment in the fire truck then each child had a turn at spraying the fire hose. Of course, this was the highlight of the visit and the children enjoyed being sprayed on a hot day.
MIGRANTS EXPO - 6N AND 6A

This semester, Year 6 studied the history of migration to Australia. We had to research the experiences of migrants who had come to Australia and recognise the contributions they had made. 6A and 6N completed an oral presentation to the class in the role of our chosen migrant. For technology we created our migrant’s suitcase including the belongings they brought with them to Australia. We had a lot of fun making and designing our suitcases and costumes.

Last Thursday, our classes held a Migration Expo. We all dressed up as our migrants and we presented the suitcases we created. Our parents, school staff and interested classes were invited to come along. It was a super success!

Brooke and Sasha 6N

QUEEN ROSIE’S PINK DIAMOND - PREP S

Prep S have been protecting Queen Rosie’s precious pink diamond for a number of weeks now. We have built a castle guarded by dragons to keep the diamond safe. After writing letters to Queen Rosie she informed us she would visit our class on Thursday 12th November 2015, for a royal lunch and to collect her diamond.

We met Queen Rosie at the café. When we went to return the diamond, we realised it was missing! We had to follow clues around the school and finally Princess Eliza found the diamond in the train the library. Queen Rosie now has enough money to repair her castle.
It has been an awesome couple of weeks. After the very special guests we had last week and one of the Shine girls (Grace) winning a surfboard from the professional surfer, I didn't think it could get any better than that. It did! The Shine Program finished up with a delicious dinner which was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

The girls got dressed up and arrived at the venue which was decorated so beautifully. The food and entertainment was incredible and it was especially wonderful to have the parents join us for the last hour of the evening to see their girls receive their certificates and dream boards, and watch their DVD. Yet another amazing Shine experience with very special children and leaders.

This week, I had the privilege of inviting our special Chaplaincy Service Volunteers (LCC, Chappy Brekkie, Mentors, and Shine volunteers) to an end of year Celebration Lunch. It was also fantastic to have Nicky Ross and her RI team join us for the celebration. They all do such an amazing job at the school and their loyalty, dedication, and commitment to serving MCSS is so appreciated. We wanted to recognise their efforts, thank them and show our appreciation for everything they do for our wonderful school by spoiling them with a delicious lunch and gifts.

**Carols by Candlelight** is being held next week on Friday **27th November 2015** and, as a committee, we have been working hard planning and preparing for the big occasion. Please make sure you bring your family along to this very special event as it promises to be an amazing night.

This year, as part of Carols by Candlelight, we will again be collecting donations (non-perishable food items, toys and toiletries) for Care Outreach. Care Outreach is a Non-Profit organisation that supports drought stricken farmers and their families in rural Australia. Please bring your donations to the Music room at any time between now and the Carols Night or on the night there will also be a collection bin to drop donations in.

Unfortunately I am unable to attend this year’s Carols as I have been invited to be a leader in an SU Schoolies Camp over that week but you will all be in my thoughts and prayers.

The last couple of weeks will be hectic with a visit to all the preps, a celebration lunch with our awesome Student Councillors, the handing out of Christmas hampers and presents to families and much more. Wow, can’t believe we are nearly at the end of another year. That went fast!

**Take Care,**

**Chappy**
Mountain Creek State School
Community Carols

FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2015
6.00pm to 8.30pm
Mountain Creek State School
Lady Musgrave Drive, Mountain Creek

FOOD AVAILABLE FROM 5.00PM
Sausage sizzle, hamburgers, hot chips and drinks,
Cafe Connect will be open for coffee and cake only

CAROLS PROGRAM STARTS AT 6.00PM
Performances by students with backing by a live band

Special guest appearance by Santa
2016 Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon entries are now open and we would like to invite you to join us for a mega year! We believe your child is a superstar and we want to inspire them to dream big and achieve. Our Kids TRY encourages Aussie kids to be more active and healthy in a fun and rewarding environment, building their confidence to give it a TRY.

Register now to take advantage of our Early Bird pricing and save $18 per child! As usual, there is a discounted entry price for families of three or more participants.

This year we have introduced a new group category. If you are a school or club representative, or a just a parent who can arrange a group of five or more participants, register a group name and each group member saves $5 on entry.

Did you know you can enter your child in a team of two, so they can partner with a sibling or best mate? One teammate does the swim, the other does the ride and both do the run, crossing the finish line together. Check out our website for all details.

2015 PRIORITIES

- Building numeracy skills and the teaching of reading.
- Social and Emotional Well-being through Kids Matter.
- Learning goals, rating scales and student feedback using the ASoT framework.

Little Geckos Playgroup

Meets: MCSS
After School Care
Building
Day: Every Tuesday
Time: 9am - 11am
For more information contact Tania Brown 0404 870895 All welcome!

Is your child at school or starting next year? Would you like $500 to help pay for uniforms, books, excursions or a laptop?

To be eligible you need to:
- have a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession Card
- have a child at school now or starting next year
- have some form of household income, for example, your partner or yourself may have casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal employment.

Saver Plus can match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to $500. Saver Plus is looking for new participants so enquire about signing up today!

To find out more, phone or SMS your name and postcode to 1300 610 350, or email saverplus@nsl.com.au