PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE:

Parents, Staff and Caregivers,

School Safety: Each term the school undertakes an emergency evacuation drill to remind students of sirens and our procedures used during emergencies. Unfortunately, there are elements of the society that do make hoax calls to varying schools. At times, there can even be an unexpected event such as fire. We do not want to create anxiety, but we must ensure students are aware of important safety procedures. In Week 4 we’ll do a practice drill for the students. Staff will inform students that it is a practice drill.

P and C Association Directions: This year our energised team of parents will continue their great work. Our first meeting for the year is set for Thursday, 16 February 2017 at 6.30pm. Our P and C Association does an amazing job and we’re excited to have more team members who value caring, sharing and learning together. It is only a general meeting so there are no executive roles or elections to worry about. It a chance to meet people and get a feel for the group. New members are very welcome.

2017 Major Community Event (Fete): Every second year, the school community runs a major community event like a fete. In 2017 this event is due, but we need a keen team to make it happen. This would include a coordinating committee. If you or a group of friends are keen to help with a fete or major community event, please email the office or P and C Association. Presently we are trying to gauge an interest in forming a fete team. If this is not possible alternative events will be evaluated.

Parent Teacher Interviews: Mountain Creek State School will be conducting Getting to Know the Learner Interviews using an online booking system for parents. These interviews are not compulsory, but provide new parents and continuing parents an opportunity to discuss how students have settled into the new school year. If your child has specific needs or changing family circumstances, the interview provides a chance to make your teacher aware of how we can assist.

You can book interviews online. Most interviews will be conducted in Week 4 and 5 of Term One, starting Wednesday, 15 February 2017 until Friday 24 February 2017. Teachers look forward to meeting you.
STEPS TO BOOK YOUR PARENT INTERVIEW


2. Type in the school event code: x2wzu

3. Click Go

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enter your details</th>
<th>First enter your email address, name and your child's name(s). Click GO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose teachers</td>
<td>On the next page, pick the teacher you want to meet. Select from the drop down list. Click GO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose times</td>
<td>Then you'll see a timetable showing when your chosen teachers are available. Simply click on the time that suits you. Click GO.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When you have finished, your interview timetable will be emailed to you. If something comes up, you can return to the site and change your interviews whenever you want.

**Booking Open at 3pm Friday, 10 February 2017**
**Bookings Close at 9am Tuesday 14 February 2017**

4. Check your email for booking confirmations.

2017 TERM 1 DATE CLAIMER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Monday 13, February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>Wednesday 15, February - Friday 24, February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P and C Meeting 6.30 pm</td>
<td>Thursday 16, February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Rep Meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday 21, February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Camp -Tallebudgera</td>
<td>Monday 27, February - Friday 3, March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Excursion—Australia Zoo</td>
<td>Wednesday 1, March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Photographs</td>
<td>Monday 6, March - Tuesday 7, March 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NIHONGO NEWS

Konnichi wa from the Japanese classroom. Dwan Sensei and Law Sensei have been impressed with how well students have settled into their Japanese lessons this term. We would also like to remind the Japanese Program of Excellence students that their lessons will start next week!

Year 6 JPOE will be starting on Monday 13 February in the Japanese room with Law Sensei.

Year 5 JPOE will be starting on Wednesday 15 February in the Japanese room with Dwan Sensei.

Both program start at 12:50 and finish by 2:00pm. Students will need to bring along their lunch and pencil cases for the program. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sayonara (Goodbye)

BE AWARDS

Congratulations to all the MCSS students who received their first Be Awards for Term 1, 2017 during assembly last week. Pictured are six of our deserving new prep students who’ ve started their school life off with recognition for Being Responsible, Being Respectful and Being Safe. Well done Creekers for following our school code!

PREP T

Last week Ms Taylor’s class enjoyed a Teddy Bears Picnic to celebrate the letter T. The children all brought in their favourite soft toy so they could join in the fun. Well done Prep T for settling into school and having so much fun.
A PARENT’S DILEMMA—SICK KIDS

Every parent faces the dilemma of whether to send their child to school when it appears that they may be sick. Of course it’s only a dilemma when we are not sure or it’s in the early stages. Please rest easy that the best place for a sick child is at home. From time to time, a bug comes into the school and if we send our kids to school sick, the bug continues to sweep through other families. If you notice your child has a fever, a stomach ache, or is starting to get a cold etc., please keep them at home to help support our Mountain Creek Community from catching it and spreading it. We very much appreciate your support.

WORLDS GREATEST SHAVE

Mr Hamish Black (6B) is taking part in the World’s Greatest Shave. In mid-March his beard will disappear to support the work of the Leukaemia Foundation. What he will look like underneath, no one can say?

You can support this worthy cause by sponsoring Mr Black online through the World’s Greatest Shave website or via the donations box located in the office foyer.

QUEENSLAND CRICKET—HEAT TOUR

Queensland Cricket visited Mountain Creek State School as part of the Brisbane Heat Van Tour of the Sunshine Coast. Students from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 enjoyed activities including inflatable throwing targets, batting nets, modified cricket games and skill challenges, as well as a special visit from Brisbane Heat mascot ‘Heater’! If you are interested in playing cricket visit www.playcricket.com.au to get playing today.
RESOURCE CENTRE LUNCH ACTIVITIES

It’s been great to see so many students enjoying the many activities available in the Resource Centre during Big Lunch. The midday sun has been relentless but some students know exactly where to hang out to stay cool and have fun.

The Library is not just the place to enjoy a good book, we also have many chess sets available, a selection of board games, colouring, dominoes and much, much, more.

Deltora Den (computer lab) is also open during lunch time for the junior kids to work on school projects or enjoy some of the challenging computer activities. Coding programs are also available such as Kodu and Scratch.

L Block Computer Lab is now open at Little Lunch for Senior Students on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

MCSS CHESS CLUB

Chess seems to be the “in” game to play at Mountain Creek this year. We’ve had many new students wanting to join Chess Club, which is held on a Tuesday at Big Lunch. We are fortunate enough to have a chess tutor, Mr Tony Powell, come each week to work with small groups of students of similar ability on a rotational program. Tony matches the students according to their ability levels. This way he can focus and give quality tuition to small groups teaching them moves and strategies to help them become better players.

Members of our Mountain Creek Chess Club have the opportunity to compete in a number of chess tournaments held, off campus, throughout the year. We also have our own MCSS Chess Tournament which is held at the end of the school year for all the Chess Club players.
School and the Community

KIDS MATTER

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

School is not only about writing, writing and mathematics. It’s also about making friends, learning how to work with others, and knowing how to be responsible for yourself.

Knowing how to manage feelings and get on with others are important skills for everyone. This kind of learning starts in early childhood with parents and carers as children’s most important first teachers.

Research has found that teaching children social and emotional skills at school as well as at home makes a positive difference to their wellbeing. Social and emotional skills help school children settle in the classroom and get on with learning.

Useful skills to learn include:

- Coping with frustration or worries
- Getting along with others
- Solving problems

As part of KidsMatter, Mountain Creek State School supports the social emotional learning of children in a variety of ways. This includes acknowledging specific days such as the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence.

This is a project that is supported by our school each year. Keep an eye out for more information regarding this important day in upcoming newsletters.

Have a fabulous day!
Louise Blanch, Guidance Officer

TEN PIN BOWLING

Year 3 students have started an exciting lunch time alternative playtime program of Ten Pin Bowling. Organised by Mr Wockner, and supported by the KidsMatter initiative, the year 3 students have the opportunity of bowling in the hall as a lunchtime play alternative on Wednesday’s.

Mr Wockner will be on duty on Wednesday morning tea and Chappy will be running the lunch sessions. Up to 6 children can bowl on each of the 5 mats. Students rotate through set positions of bowler, ball machine, pin monkey’s (2), ball stopper and scorer.

The sessions have only just started and the kids are having a ‘ball’. We would love to see the year 3’s come and have some supervised lunchtime fun. We look forward to hearing that magic word….. STRIKE!!!

Craig Wockner
P AND C MEETING

P AND C MEETING – THURSDAY 16, FEBRUARY 6.30PM

Our first P and C Association (parent and citizens) meeting is on Thursday 16, February 2017 at 6.30pm in the Administration Building Staffroom. Parents are welcome to come along to see what we do, meet the team and get involved with our school. On the agenda for discussion will be our school Fun Run planned for Term 1, our annual calendar of events, and preparation for the AGM (Annual General Meeting) in March, where we elect the P and C executive committee. We have attached a P and C Association – who are we document.

If you can’t make the meeting but you’re still interested in volunteering at our events, please register your interest on our Volunteer Register.

SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM

We would like to introduce you to the School Banking program the P and C runs for our students at Mountain Creek. We have teamed up with the Commonwealth Bank (CBA) to offer students the Dollarmite Program. The program encourages children to save while offering rewards and incentives for doing so. This makes it an engaging, tangible and gratifying experience for them.

It is true, CBA do benefit from these accounts but so too do students. Students develop a regular savings routine. They learn responsibility by getting their bankbook ready each week, which includes assisting parents to complete (or completing themselves, if capable) the deposit slips. This simple weekly activity uses and strengthens both literacy and mathematical skills. Kids take their book to the office on Wednesday mornings before school (assisted by parents as needed) to be processed and monies deposited by our team of parent volunteers.

Students learn to establish long or short-term savings goals and increase their awareness and understanding of money management. These are all valuable life skills. And, who knows, with a long-term vision it may help when the time comes to buy that first car, or pay university fees. Equally, short-term vision establishes the discipline of thinking before spending and the necessity of working towards something important.

In addition, the entire school benefits as the P and C earns commissions on deposits made by the students. These funds are fed back into fundraising projects that directly benefit the children. For example, all monies from the previous four years have contributed, along with other P and C fundraising efforts, to a new play area due for completion in the first half of 2017.
HOW TO JOIN THE SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM

If you would like to get your child involved in saving their money with the School Banking Program please follow these steps...

1. Go into any CBA (Commonwealth Bank Branch) with identification and ask to open a Student Dollarmite Account for school banking. The staff will open the account and either give you a bank book on the spot or have one ordered for you to pick up.
2. Bring your bank book and money into school every week.

For each deposit your child makes they will receive a Dollarmite token which can be collected and exchanged for Dollarmite rewards.

If you wish to find out further details you can go directly to CBA’s School Banking website: commbank.com.au/schoolbanking or email the School Banking Coordinator: amandamaree@hotmail.com.

Happy Banking!
Amanda Fletcher
School Banking Coordinator
Mountain Creek P and C Association
Who Are We And What We Do?
(Run by volunteer parents just like you)

**Café Connect**
- Catering business run by paid staff for profit
- All profits go back to the P and C
- Adult space during the day
- Purchase whole cakes, frittata’s and quiches for at home / parties
- Awesome coffee and lunches
- No students in Café before school without an adult
- Great meeting spot for school parents

**One Stop Shop**
- Tuckshop / Uniforms and Stationery all in one place
- Focus on low cost options for student lunches
- Focus on more homemade & healthy options
- Run by limited paid staff (We need more volunteers, please)
- Not run for profit but as service to students
- Order online using MunchMonitor
- Can purchase uniforms all year round as kids grow
- Purchase 30 cupcakes for $19.50 birthday parties (in class or at home)

**Hall Hire**
- Hiring out school hall after hours to external business like:
  - Rhee Taekwondo
  - Little Kickers
  - Coastal Roller Derby
  - Baby and Kids Markets
- Run by paid staff and volunteers
- All income from Hall Hire goes to P and C
- All enquiries for after school and weekend Hall Hire, send email to:
  [messelinfo@mtn creek.qa.edu.au](mailto:messelinfo@mtn creek.qa.edu.au)

**School Banking**
- Allows students to deposit money into their CBA account at school
- Run solely by volunteers (We need more volunteers, please)
- Counting and recording of student deposit monies weekly
- CBA pays a % of deposits collected to P and C as annual donation

**Fundraising**
- Run only by volunteers (We need more volunteers, please)
- Runs fun and social events for students during the year
  - Fun Run
  - Disco / Movie Nights
  - Mothers/Fathers Day Stail
  - Chocolate / Pie drives
  - Fete & special events
- All profit from all events goes to P and C

**P and C Executive**
- Run only volunteers (We need more volunteers, please)
- Roles include:
  - President
  - Vice-President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
- Executives oversee running of meetings and helping various projects and areas of P and C during the year
- Learn leadership, management, book keeping, financial accounts, word / excel all in a fun and supportive environment.
- Looks great on a CV to hold a leadership volunteer role!
Hi everyone

Welcome back. I hope you have all had a blessed Christmas and a wonderful start to 2017. We are already well into February and I’ve got so much planned for the term.

Over the last couple of weeks I have been organising various programs that will be running this Term (Boys Sunday Creek Program, Mentoring, Girls Shine Program and the Chappy Brekkie). I have also managed to go around and meet most of the new students to Mountain Creek and I am pleased to hear from them that they have settled in well and are really enjoying the school and making new friends.

Speaking about new people, the Chaplaincy Service is also planning to hold a morning tea for all the new parents (Yr. 1-6) in the next couple of weeks so if you fit into that category, please look out for an email that will be coming your way soon with more details. In addition to meeting new students, I also managed to pop in and introduce myself to most of the prep classes. It was great to share a little story with them and teach them a silly song. They are awesome and we have had lots of fun.

Chappy’s Brekkie is well underway and next week we will be introducing some new games and activities for the students to play with. We are fortunate to have a large number of volunteers who have signed up again to help with the brekkie program for 2017 which is fantastic. However, we are always looking for more volunteers to join the Mentoring Program so if you are interested in becoming a mentor please come and see me or give me a call and I will pass on some more information regarding the program. I am also helping Mr Wockner with a bowling program mainly for Yr. 3’s which is happening at both lunch breaks on a Wednesday. The kids are really enjoying this.

There is so much good in this world and there are so many good and kind people. Thank you to a family in the school who recently donated the full camp fees to a child whose family couldn’t afford to send him. He was so excited to get the news that he was able to go. This is a real blessing to the family as they have recently been through some very tough times. I know that they appreciate it very much, so thank you!

On a personal note, for the past 3 years I have been struggling with a hearing impairment in both my ears. I have managed to get by with reading people’s lips and putting that together with their sound to determine what they were saying. However, my hearing has deteriorated so much that it was starting to affect my work with kids. Hearing aids are very expensive (around $4000 each) and I couldn’t afford to purchase them. The Denton Family from Acoustic Hearing in Maroochydore heard about my struggle and because they are big supporters of Chaplaincy and the work we do in schools, they donated two hearing aids free of charge to me. I am so grateful to them as now I am able to hear the children a lot better and attend to their needs. Thanks so much to the Denton Family for their kindness and generosity.

I am really looking forward to Yr. 6 camp where I will spend 3 days having a great time with the leaders of our school as well as their wonderful teachers. I hope that you are all surviving this heat and managing to somehow keep cool.

Take care and God Bless.
Chappy
2016 PRIORITIES

Learning goals, rating scales student achievement using the ASoT framework.

Building skills to improve spelling writing.


COMMUNITY NEWS

Please support our café as it is operated by our P&C Association
If you are looking for a healthy ‘take-away’ at the end of a busy day
Café Connect can offer you

Family Frittata $25.00
Quiche $20.00
Whole cakes $30.00

Next weeks ADULTS specials
Lamb souvlaki $10.00

KIDS Specials
Small Shake and cupcake $5.00

Café Connect now has more Gluten Free options available—ask today

REMINDER
Please NO school children in the café before school without an adult
Thank You

Mountain Creek State School
8 week MILO in2CRICKET Program
Cost: $99 pp including Bonus Player Pack!
Start: Thursday 9th Feb 3:00pm to 4:00pm
Contact: Nic Roberts on 0428 724 819 or nic.roberts@qldcricket.com.au

Visit PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU/IN2CRICKET to find out more