PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE:

Parents, Staff and Caregivers,

**Student Leaders**: This week has been a very important week for our student leaders. On Monday, all students had the opportunity to participate in leadership activities that focused on problem solving, creativity and teamwork. Staff from the Sunshine Coast Environmental Education Centre coordinated the day and we thank them for their commitment.

Our Leadership Investiture was also held today on Thursday. Badges were presented to Captains, Vice Captains, Prefects, Performing Arts Captains, Student Councillors and Sports Leaders. During the event Captains Connor Lilley and Taisha Ayache made their inaugural speeches with Vice Captains Isabel Monaghan and Caleb Haxton providing a vote of thanks to all guests and visitors. Congratulations to all students on their acknowledgement. We look forward to seeing your innovative ideas and great achievements. A complete list of leadership positions is available on our website.
**Year 6 Leadership and Camp:** Our Year 6 students will go to Tallebudgera as part of developing all students’ leadership potential. A major focus during the camp is students reflection upon personal leadership for the year.

The concept embraces a hero’s or explorer’s journey. Students will leave behind their familiar surroundings to embrace an exciting ‘new world’ where there are challenges and new problems to be solved. These experiences will contribute to personal development and a reflection of one’s identity. Naturally, there will be lots of exciting activities and fun to be had as students work with their peers. Have a great time Year 6 and I look forward to dropping in for a few days.

**School Priorities and Planning:** At our recent P and C meeting and School Council meeting, the school’s Annual Improvement Plan was presented. It highlighted key strategies for the year, but also our major priorities. These are:

- Strengthening our schoolwide spelling program and its impact upon quality teaching and common practices.
- Strengthening the achievement of high performing students with outcomes measured through data.

Our major priorities help us to continually grow. Our Parent Opinion Survey and NAPLAN results have always been pleasing, but we still believe there is room to excel further. Many parents would have noticed our Sight Sound Pict (SSP) resources at the Meet the Teacher night and also observed them as part of our School Resource Scheme in 2017.

**School Rules:** It is pleasing to see high standards, quality uniforms and strong friendships across the school. My congratulations to all students for being safe, responsible and respectful. Caring, Sharing and Learning Together are always important at Mountain Creek.

Rob Van den Heuvel
Principal

**SCHOOL DROP OFF ZONES**

Parents, please help us promote safety within the school by **NOT** driving into non public areas. We have two staff carparks, both on the school premises —one at the front of the school and one at the rear of the school, near Kanjini. These carparks are only for staff parking and not for dropping off students. Dropping off your child in these areas can put other families and students at risk. In exceptional cases we have set procedures for disabilities.

We appreciate that drop off around the school can be busy but safety of our students, staff and parents is paramount. Thankyou
3JB will be learning many different social skills through our "Kids Matter" program. We started the year with an emphasis on FRIENDSHIP and what it takes to make a good friend. On assembly last week we performed our Friendship Rap which highlighted the importance of having friends.

ASSEMBLY LEADERS AND BE AWARDS

Each fortnight the Year 6 classes take it in turns to run assembly. Two students from a Year 6 class are selected for the role. Running assembly builds the students confidence in public speaking and gives them a sense of responsibility. Congratulations to Mia and Sachi from 6GH, Jordan and Hetal (6A) and Jake and Liam (6B) Who conducted their assemblies.

Our students have also been trying their hardest to be responsible, respectful and safe around the classroom and playgrounds. Here are some lucky recipients from the lower grade showing off their awards. Congratulations Creekers!
PG AND PH

PH and PG have been learning many new sounds since the beginning of Prep and last week we decided to have a P day. The children all came dressed in something beginning with P. We ate popcorn and pancakes. We followed a recipe to make those delicious pancakes. We read the book Pig The Pug and we drew the most amazing drawings of Pig. We had such a wonderful day!

RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Over the past 40 years the number of children who are physically active everyday has significantly dropped with the levels of physical activity are at an all time low. In the 1970s, eight out of ten students rode or walked to school. Today, that number has dropped to just two out of ten.

How can we improve these figures?

The Ride2School team are working to reverse this trend. To achieve this, they work with schools, students, parents and local government to cultivate active and healthy school communities. Schools in the program report a physical activity level of 1 in 2 students compared to the national average of just 1 in 5.

By riding and walking to school, students contribute to their minimum physical activity level of 60 minutes per day. Research shows that students who ride and walk as part of their journey to school are more focused and ready to learn when compared with those who are driven.

We look forward to seeing many of our students ride to school on Friday 17, March 2017.

2017 TERM 1 DATE CLAIMER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Camp - Tallebudgera</td>
<td>Monday 27, February - Friday 3, March 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5 Excursion—Australia Zoo</td>
<td>Wednesday 1, March 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Photographs</td>
<td>Monday 6, March - Tuesday 7, March 2017</td>
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<td>P and C Annual General Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 16, March 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Rep Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday 22, March 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
<td>Tuesday 28, March 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3 Excursion Buderim Pioneer Cottage</td>
<td>Tuesday 28, March 2017</td>
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LEARNING HIRAGANA

What’s happening in Year 5 Japanese?

Year 5 students in Japanese have been learning hiragana this term. Hiragana is the basic Japanese phonetic alphabet. There is one symbol to represent every sound in the Japanese alphabet. In Term One, Year 5 students learn the 46 basic hiragana symbols.

There are lots of ways to learn hiragana! The photo shows students having some fun, moving their bodies while chanting the alphabet and looking at the symbols on the screen. We are learning to read and write hiragana simultaneously through recognition and writing exercises. Students have just started weekly ‘speed tests’ in class to challenge themselves to achieve greater fluency week after week.

YEAR 6 LEADERSHIP DAY

Our elected School Leaders were invited to attend MCSS new Leadership Skill Development Program this week. It was run by two teachers from Bilai Environmental Education Centre.

The activities that were undertaken encouraged listening, sharing, team work and helping each other out. All qualities needed in their leadership roles for 2017. They began the day working in teams to practice using the behaviours that leaders demonstrate. In very hot conditions the children persevered and built catapults in the middle session. All excelled and had an enjoyable time.

The afternoon was spent back at the hall where children once again played games that developed further operation, solving problems and trust. Children definitely came away with an understanding that cooperation is vital to be part of a team!
COASTAL DISTRICT SWIMMING TEAM

We had a talented group of Mountain Creek students competing for selection in the 2017 Coastal District Swimming Team recently, at the Cottontree pool. Isabel, Alex, Daisy, Ella, Lachlan, James, Amelia, Caleb and Hunter entered in a total of 52 individual events. They put in a strong performance and came away with top results including fifteen 1st placings, six 2nd placings, two 3rd placings and four 4th and four 5th placings. It was a remarkable haul, steered by our local Mountain Creek Aquatic pool coach, Michael Gibson who trains six of the nine swimmers. Our stellar swimming parents were ever present in support on the day, helping with official timing and making sure everyone was at their best and in their events. Congratulations to Ella, Daisy, Hunter, Alex and Isabel for getting into the District Team. We wish them all the very best in their respective events.

COASTAL DISTRICT SPORTS CALENDAR

If your child is interested in representing our school in any of the school sports programs they will need to trial for their chosen sport. The calendar of trial dates and competition dates for District and State (subject to change by the organisers) are available to view on the HPE Notice Board in the undercover area and on the F Block window. You can also view the calendar here. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact our HPE staff members Mr Matt Barritt or Theresa Fahey.

More detailed information can be found on the Coastal District Primary School Sports website. This is a great website for information relating to all District School Sports programs. Click here to view the website.

JUNIOR STATE SURF LIFE SAVING

A huge congratulations to a couple of our budding athletes who competed in the Junior State Surf Life Saving Competition, held last weekend in Hervey Bay. Isabel (6A) and Connor (6GH), competed in the largest and most prestigious event for U11-U15 age categories. The Queensland Youth Surf Life Saving Championships sees the finest talent from around the state go head to head. This event showcases individual events from 1km & 2km beach runs, Beach Flags and Sprint, Surf Race and Surf Board events. This event also hosts the qualifying teams from Branch Championships for the Beach Relay, Surf Teams, Board Relay and Cameron Relay events.

Congratulations to Connor who came away with a Silver medal for the individual U12 1km Beach Run and to Isabel whose team came 1st in the Sprint Team Relay and 2nd in the Teams Surf Race.
SENIOR PLAYGROUND PREPARATIONS HAVE STARTED

It has taken about 3 years of fundraising effort with the help of many volunteer parents and it is exciting to know that the Senior Playground is scheduled to be installed this Easter School Holidays!

In January 2017, the P and C invested $12,500 to upgrade all the existing playground (new bolts, fixing poles and worn out chains, repairing rust damage, etc) ready for the start of the school year.

In April 2017, the P and C will pay $50,000 to install a new senior playground near the multi-purpose courts. The playground design was selected via a committee process with the key element being inclusive of all children abilities. Features include ropes course and balance equipment which will be utilised by the PE (Physical Education) teachers. As you can imagine, trying to include everyone’s requirements was a tough job, but together with caring and sharing, we got the job done. Here is a photographic image of the design.

OUR NEXT FUNDRAISING GOAL—AIRCONDITIONED CLASSROOMS

Over the past number of years, we’ve surveyed our parent community and you’ve told us Air-Conditioning is a priority. I’m sure the teachers in the school will also agree, given our recent hot weather events. This project will take a number of years to fundraise and roll out so along the way we need volunteer parents to jump in and help us fundraise. If air-conditioning is a priority for you, please join us and pitch in.

We need your help—can you help in the following jobs?

- **Volunteer P and C Facebook Page Manager and Co-ordinators** – we need 2 or 3 people to work together to build and manage a P and C facebook page. The idea would be to promote P and C businesses (ie. Cafe, Hall Hire) as well as keeping in contact with our community. Estimate workload is 30 minutes per day.

- **Aussie World Fun Day Co-ordinators** (instead of a school fete) – we need a team of about 5 to run, manage and come up with ideas to run a Aussie World Fun Day in Term 3. This will be instead of a school fete.

- **Grants Writer** – someone who is great at writing grants and can start the hunt to look for grants to support air-conditioning / solar as part of the Air-conditioning project.

- **Air-conditioning Project Team** – we need 2 or 3 people to start the process of becoming subject matter experts - getting quotes, developing a rollout strategy, understanding costs and other impacts eg electricity costs verses solar. This team would inform the school and the P and C around decision making. Our school council will also authorise long term directions for any agreed projects.

- **Fundraising Team** – we need 5 to 10 fun loving people to join our amazing Fundraising Team (Sarah, Talia and Katrina) to plan events, help set-up, learn the processes and volunteer on the day at our planned events.
### P AND C DATE CLAIMER AND EVENTS FOR 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Friday 21, April 2017</td>
<td>Fun Run Fundraiser and P and C Sausage Sizzle</td>
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<td>Friday 9, June 2017</td>
<td>Movie Night</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Pie Drive Fundraiser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Ends</td>
<td>Pie Drive Fundraiser</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Friday 8, September 2017</td>
<td>Aussie World Fun Night</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Father’s Day Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Friday 24, November, 2017</td>
<td>End of Year Disco (Extravaganza)</td>
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</table>

As you can see, we’ve got a big year planned but we need your help to plan, volunteer at events and support these events to raise funds. We are just like your local sporting club – without you, we can’t do this alone.

Please register on the [volunteer website](#) if you can assist.

Our next P and C Meeting (Annual General Meeting) is on Thursday 16, March 2017 at 6.30pm in the Staffroom.

### CAFÉ CONNECT EASTER RAFFLE

Café Connect are once again holding their Easter Raffle. If you spend $10 or more, in one transaction, you will have the chance to win a Family Quiche or a Family Frittata. These tasty dishes are baked with love at Café Connect.

The raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 28, March 2017.

### SCHOOL BANKING

The CBA (Commonwealth Bank) School Banking Representative will be visiting our school assemblies on 27 and 28 February and 1 March 2017 to discuss school banking with students. CBA staff will also be at school to open student bank accounts both before school (prep area) and after school (in front of hall) on these dates.

If you have questions about school banking, please come and speak with the CBA staff on these dates or pop into any CBA branch to open these accounts.

Thanks for supporting our school banking program and a big thank you to our volunteers who volunteer on Wednesday mornings.

Happy Banking!

Amanda Fletcher - School Banking Coordinator
**TIPS FOR MANAGING YOUR CHILD’S BEHAVIOUR**

**Something to try this week:** Double the amount of praise you give your child for his or her efforts in the coming week. You may need to have a variety of positive comments ready to encourage your child.

**Catch your child being good:** Keep a record of the behaviours you are pleased with. Reading them over together from time to time will be a positive experience for both you and your child.

In most cases, praise and acknowledgements are effective. Sometimes you may need to add an incentive plan with rewards to help change behaviour. Think carefully about your choice of reward. Incentive plans usually work best for a short period of time.

Ideas for a reward menu may include: playing a game with a parent or carer, a favourite (healthy) meal, staying up later on the weekend, having a friend over, using sports equipment or a computer.

**Tips for using rewards effectively:**

- Ask your child about what they like. If they suggest the reward, it will be more motivating.
- Make sure the reward is realistic for you to give.
- If the child becomes bored by use of the same reward, use a menu of 10 to 15 items to create variety. When your child meets his or her behaviour expectation, he or she selects one reward from the menu.
- A mystery reward is also very motivating for most children.
- If a child wants to earn a big reward (e.g. computer game or movie) you could use a token system. Each day he or she could earn tokens to be exchanged later for a bigger reward.
- Emphasise social rewards and privileges over material rewards. Material rewards (e.g. toys, money) are expensive and often don’t work. Many children enjoy having time to spend with their parents or carers. Rewards involving time and activities with parents or carers can be reinforcing and promote good relationships at the same time.

**Have a great week.**

Louise Blanch  
Guidance Officer
Hi everyone.

I spend a large part of my day as a Chappy doing ‘Pastoral Care’. What is Pastoral care? It’s all about caring for and supporting students, parents, and staff members who are struggling in some way. This might involve providing a listening ear, showing empathy for their situations, helping people to problem solve and make decisions. On a practical front I support those in need by providing second hand uniforms, vouchers, shoes, food parcels, frozen meals, etc. This term has been a busy term in this regard as many folk are doing it tough out there. Please keep these folk in your thoughts and prayers.

KidsMatter is a framework that the school has adopted and it focuses on the wellbeing of staff, parents and of course our children. One of the great things we have implemented under KidsMatter is subscribing to ‘Happy School’ which is specifically designed to support staff. Every week Happy School provide us with an article which I send out to all the staff. The article provides information and tools to help build staff moral and reduce work stress. It has been fantastic to receive positive feedback from staff about the benefits of these articles and how they feel supported and cared for.

Funding is always a struggle for us as Chaplains. I am so grateful for the funding from P and C and state government that contributes to roughly 2 days of chaplaincy per week for the year. This year we are needing to raise funds for the other 2 days and are looking to partner with businesses in this regard. We (the High School and Primary School) are holding a free business lunch towards the end of the term for any businesses that might be interested in partnering with us. If you own a business or know of a business that might be interested in attending this free lunch and hearing more about Chaplaincy and how we can partner with each other, please email me at apulf1@eq.edu.au.

Year 6 camp begins next week and I know that the students are really getting excited about this. It promises to be an awesome camp and I look forward to hanging out with the students and seeing them grow and develop as young people. It will be so cool to witness and support them in discovering more about themselves, overcoming challenges and becoming hero’s on their journey.

Have a fabulous weekend.

Cheers,
Chappy
2017 PRIORITIES

Building skills to improve spelling writing.

Promoting high achievement for all.


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

*Cafe Connect*

Connecting School and Community

- **Family Frittata** $25.00
- **Family Lasagne** $40.00
- **Quiche** $20.00
- **Whole cakes** $30.00

Next weeks specials
- **Salmon and Rice Patties with Pear and Walnut Salad** $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

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PHOTO DAY

Mountain Creek State School
Mon 6th & Tues 7th March, 2017

**Important Information**
Silver Rose Photography will be at the school on the above date to photograph groups and student portraits.
To ensure you have no problems with your order please read your school photo envelope carefully.
• Your child must return their envelope on PHOTO DAY.
• If your child does not hand an envelope to the photographer, they may not be photographed for individual portraits.
• You can place a late order with Silver Rose but usually only for group photos.
• Make your payment by cash, credit card (Visa or Mastercard), cheque or money order.
• If you have any questions about Photo Day please call Silver Rose on (07) 32625788

**Sports and Special Groups**
You can order sports and special groups from our website. Simply proceed to the school section of our website and choose Co-Curricular Ordering from the menu.

www.silverrose.com.au

**IMPORTANT PHOTO INFORMATION**
Those students requiring two sets of photos to meet special family circumstances please contact the Administration Office to collect an additional order form/envelope.