PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Parents, Staff and Caregivers,

School Improvement Review: Our school participated in a school review this week. The Department of Education and Training (DET) uses this process to help schools celebrate success and identify areas for future development. Our review was undertaken this year to help prepare our next Strategic Plan for 2018 to 2021. Reviews are conducted by the department’s School Improvement Unit. They do not rate or compare schools but provide independent and quality feedback to help schools continue to improve outcomes for students. All schools have a review at least every four years.

Key findings from the review will be made available to parents and the community on the school’s website next term. As part of the review, the four reviewers analysed school results, attendance, administrative procedures and national testing trends. They also met with some representatives of the P and C Association, School Council and Parent Representatives. They took time to talk with parents around the school and visited a range of classrooms to speak with students and staff. I would like to thank all those who provided formal feedback or simply shared their personal Mountain Creek experiences over the week. It’s always exciting to reflect on the many great things happening around the school.

Parent Reps Update: This week our Parent Reps met to learn more about our Spelling priority for this year. Kate Buckley from 1B shared a teacher’s perspective about some of the great resources being used by staff to help students develop phonological awareness and spelling skills. It was very informative and we thank Kate and our reps for their ongoing support.

At the meeting, we started discussions on our future community survey. Past surveys have helped us introduce new ideas. Our culminating swimming events this week are examples of new events based on feedback.

By Easter, the playground will be built for the Upper School and the P and C Association and School Council are already looking at parameters for air-conditioning to be introduced across the school over the next few years. Both these projects originated from feedback from parent reps and other parent groups in the school. I look forward to seeing what questions and data we will be collected this year. We anticipate the survey will be finished and sent to parents next term.

Holiday Message: As this will be our last newsletter for Term 1, I will acknowledge the hard work of our students and staff. There have been numerous events including excursions and camps. Many of our Term 1 highlights will be acknowledged at the Whole School assembly next week. I know many families will be travelling and we wish you safe journeys and happiness when the holidays begin.

Rob Van den Heuvel
Principal
YEAR 6 TO HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

YEAR 6 (2017) INTO YEAR 7 (2018) TRANSITION INFORMATION

This information will be useful for our current Year 6 students and their families as they prepare for their child to transition to high school. As enrolment management strategies are in place at all of our local high schools it is important that families identify which high school their child should attend by checking the EQ school catchment map [http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/](http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/)

The three high schools in our local area provide their enrolment information online. It is helpful for students and families to organise their child’s 2018 Year 7 High School enrolment during 2017 as transition programs are run to support students to be ready for the change of school in 2018.

Families are advised to check the appropriate school’s website to gather the information they need to enrol their child. Details about enrolment for these schools can be found by visiting:

**Mountain Creek State High School:**
[https://mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Enrollingatourschool/Pages/Year-7-enrolments.aspx](https://mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Enrollingatourschool/Pages/Year-7-enrolments.aspx)

**Chancellor State College:**
[https://chancellorsc.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Enrollingatourschool/Pages/Enrollingatourschool.aspx](https://chancellorsc.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Enrollingatourschool/Pages/Enrollingatourschool.aspx)

**Maroochydore State High School:**
[https://maroochyshs.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Enrollingatourschool/Pages/Enrollingatourschool.aspx](https://maroochyshs.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Enrollingatourschool/Pages/Enrollingatourschool.aspx)

MCSHS KEY DATES FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING IN YEAR 7, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 20, April 2017</td>
<td>Year 6 (2017) into Year 7 (2018) Transition Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 22, May 2017</td>
<td>Zenith parent information evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14, July 2017</td>
<td>Zenith applications are due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 22, July 2017</td>
<td>Year 7 Scholarship applications are due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 19, August, 2017</td>
<td>Final day for 2018 Year 7 Enrolments for students to be included in transition day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 31, August 2017</td>
<td>Year 6 into 7 - Transition Day 10.30 am – 4.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 23, November 2017</td>
<td>Make up Transition Session for enrolments received after August 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that MCSHS reserves the right to change these dates at any time.
2018 YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Mountain Creek State High School offers the ‘Young Scholars Program’ for students in Years 5 and 6 from local feeder schools. The program is designed to provide enrichment opportunities for bright and motivated students. ‘Young Scholars’ participate in a number of challenging activities throughout the year, along with other like-minded students during their final 2 years of Primary school. For information about Young Scholars please visit the Mountain Creek State High School website as the selection of students for this program is organised and managed by the high school. [https://mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au/Curriculum/Excellenceprograms/Pages/Young-Scholars.aspx](https://mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au/Curriculum/Excellenceprograms/Pages/Young-Scholars.aspx)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 24, July 2017</th>
<th>Year 4 Young Scholars Parent Information Evening 5.30-6.30 pm in the PA Block at Mountain Creek State High School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4, August 2017</td>
<td>Young Scholars Applications are due (Year 4 into Year 5, 2018)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that MCSHS reserves the right to change these dates at any time.

2017 UNIVERSITY OF NSW TESTS (ICAS)

The University of NSW tests (ICAS Tests) are an optional extension activity for students in years 2-6 who are achieving at a high level in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science or Spelling. Students can enter all of the tests or choose the areas in which they excel. The tests will cost $9.00 each for English, Mathematics or Science and $12.00 for Spelling. This fee covers the distribution and marking of the test and a certificate of achievement for their efforts.

Students will complete the tests **BEFORE SCHOOL, starting at 7:30** in the Mountain Creek State School Hall. Students who are interested need to collect an entry form and payment envelope from the office or from Mr Wockner. Payment envelopes with the permission letter need to be returned to the office via the letterbox system by Friday 21, April 2017.

2017 TERM 1 AND 2 DATE CLAIMER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
<td>Tuesday 28, March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
<td>Friday 31, March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
<td>Tuesday 18, April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P and C Annual General Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 20, April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Student Info Session—MCSS Hall</td>
<td>Thursday 20, April 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANZAC Day Assembly</td>
<td>Monday 24, April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANZAC Day March</td>
<td>Tuesday 25, April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Holiday—Labour Day</td>
<td>Monday 1, May 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zenith Parent Information Evening</td>
<td>Monday 22, May 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASSEMBLY LEADERS AND ‘BEE AWARDS’

This week Prep L stood up on stage and sang their hearts out to the ‘Big Number’ song, a favourite amongst all the students throughout the school who also joined in with the singing. Well done PL for performing for the first time in your school life. You were awesome!

Our assemblies were run by our Year 6 leaders, Joshua and Lexy (6B), Sarah and Zoe (6A) and Oscar and Connor (6GH). Great job guys. And congratulations to all our ‘Bee Award’ winners for showing you are Responsible, Respectful and Safe.

SHAVE FOR A CURE

Mr Hamish Black from 6B has been growing his long bushy beard for over 2 years.

All for a good cause he has made the decision to reveal what is behind the beard by shaving it off for the ‘World’s Greatest Shave’, which raises money for the Leukaemia Foundation. You can support this worthy cause by sponsoring Mr Black on line through the World’s Greatest Shave website or via the donations box located in the office foyer.

Mr Black is also running a drawing competition for the students to draw what they think might be revealed behind his beard. You can get the colouring in sheets from Mr Black. Entries into the drawing competition need to be returned to Mr Black (P block) by this Friday 24, March 2017. Winners from each grade will be announced next week.

All will be revealed next week... Watch this face...!

HELPING HANDS - ‘FAIRY’ AFTERNOON

Helping Hands OSHC is very excited to announce a special afternoon with our very own Fairy Princess, 16 year old Samara Welbourne from Mountain Creek High School. Samara will be visiting our After School Care children to teach them how to make Fairy Houses or Troll Caves. Please book your child’s spot on Tuesday 28, March 2017 to meet Samara, who is the author of children’s craft book, “How to make Fairy Houses”, Published by Boolarong Press. This book has instructions on how to make 5 different fairy houses and 1 trolls cave, which you can purchase off Samara for $20. Please see Coordinator Sam at OSHC Service or School Office for your enrolment package. All Parents are most welcome to attend and we want to thank Samara for offering to leave extra kits for our Vacation Care adventure, “Fairy & Goblin Day,” on Friday 7, April 2017.

We look forward to seeing you over the coming weeks and for the “Aussie World” and “Australia Zoo” Excursions over the Easter Holidays.
CARING SHARING AND LEARNING TOGETHER

RIDE4FUN

The sun shone on Friday for our students and parents who signed up for the Ride or Walk to School Day. It was great to see so many kids and parents heading to school in the fresh air. On arrival at school the kids were greeted by Jo, our local Police Community Officer who handed out stickers, which was arranged by Nakita our P and C Vice-President. The Tuckshop ladies put on a special breakfast menu with over 100 orders. Well done everyone for getting involved in Ride4Fun and making it such a great success. Lets ride to school more often!

ANTI BULLYING DAY

Last week we celebrated the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. The students were invited to wear orange and donate a gold coin. Together they raised just under $900 which will be spent on play equipment used by the Year 6 Play Pal Scheme.
STEM— YEAR 4 ELECTIVE

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS

This year our year four teachers have taken on an exciting new adventure to enhance the learning opportunities for their students. The children have been asked to choose from a list of interest activities to do as an elective for the last four weeks of each term.

This term students got to select from a range of fun and interesting topics such as lego/games, art/craft, origami, paper plane construction, ten pin bowling, sketching and computer coding. Sessions will run for an hour on the last four Fridays of each term.

PREP T’S RAINBOWS

Prep T have been working hard on learning their sounds with the sound ‘r’ being celebrated with the word Rainbow. The students were allowed to dress in their Rainbow coloured clothes and colour in pictures of the Rainbow. They also enjoyed eating Rainbow cake which was made by Ms Taylor. The preppies also made picture collages of Rockets and were read two great books—‘The Greedy Rainbow’ and ‘Rainbow Fish’.
It was a muggy day on Thursday last week when the southern region schools competed in the Development Cup. Mountain Creek fielded a team of 16 players and represented the school with great sportsmanship and at times true grit. Mooloolaba was the first game and they were a well-drilled side who ended up winning the day with three out of three. Our team managed to conquer the tallest team in the competition, Caloundra as student Hunter (5F) ran in two tries. The last game against Currimundi was a tight to and fro battle with each team scoring at least 5 times. A great day for all players including Koby (65E), who was selected for the district team and our player of the day Dalton Hall who soldiered on despite a sore wrist from the first game.

Many thanks to our parents, Mr Bowen for running the water out to the boys and assisting with coaching on the day and Mrs Brown for collecting the jerseys and transporting players. Mountain Creek was well represented and the boys were polite and thankful to referees and organisers. Well done team.

The Inter-house Cross Country Carnival and Fun Run this year will be two separate events. Due to construction occurring in the school grounds the courses for these events have been significantly modified.

**CROSS COUNTRY** – (born 2007, 2006 and 2005)
The Cross Country will be held on **Wednesday 29, March, 2017** on the Mountain Creek State School Oval. The Cross Country will be a **nominated event** only. Students who are born in 2007, 2006 and 2005 and are interested in running in this event will come to E Block and place their name on the nomination list. **This is a selection event.** Students who participate in the 2km Cross Country race and finish in the top 5 (1st to 5th) will be selected into the Mountain Creek S.S. Cross Country Team to compete at the District Cross Country Trials on Thursday 18th May, 2017.

If you do not wish for your child to participate in the Cross Country please make them aware of this so that they do not nominate for the event.

**FUN RUN**
The school Fun Run will be held on **Friday 21st April 2017** (Term 2, Week 1) on the Mountain Creek State School Oval. All students will participate in this event in a fun manner. The program for the Fun Run will be sent out closer to the event.

If due to the weather either of these events are postponed an alert will be sent out.
P AND C MEETING UPDATE

Thanks to all the new parents who attended our meeting on Thursday 16, March 2017. It was great to have your energy and enthusiasm on the night – thank you. We didn’t have the financial accounts back from the auditor, so we had to postpone our Annual General Meeting (AGM). We are planning on holding this on Thursday 20, April 2017 at 6.30pm in the staffroom. Everyone welcome!

If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like a copy of the P and C meeting notes, please e-mail mcsspc.secretary@gmail.com and we’ll add you to the email list.

Thanks also to those who have registered their details on the volunteering website. We are in the process of contacting everyone who has registered. If you have registered for tuckshop or the P and C and haven’t heard from anyone, feel free to e-mail Gwen directly at gwennola@westnet.com.au and we’ll be in contact.

WHERE HELP IS DESPERATELY NEEDED:

- **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 keep in contact with our community. Estimated workload is 30 minutes per day.

- **Fundraising Team** – we need 5 to 10 fun loving people to join our amazing Fundraising Team (Sarah, Talia and Katrina) to plan events (disco, movie night and pie drive), help set up, learn the processes and volunteer on the day at our planned events, and, act as a knowledge point for future years.

- **School banking** – every Wednesday the team need help counting money. Can you pitch in?

- **Tuckshop** – we run this as a service to students and try and keep costs low. We need volunteers to help make sandwiches/wraps in the morning, or, pack boxes at lunch times, in order to keep our staffing costs down we need volunteers. If you are able to help – even 1 hour a fortnight, we need you.

- **Garden to Tuckshop Project** – we need 5 to 10 minutes a day to weed the gardens and keep the place looking neat. We will also be looking for volunteers during planting season to help us kick off with the benefits of fresh produce going towards our kids tuckshop lunches.

EASTER BUNNY RAFFLE

Thanks to the local family who donated this bunny. All funds raised will go to purchasing more soccer balls for classrooms. Come and check out this bunny in the Tuckshop! The raffle will be drawn at little lunch on Friday 31 March 2017.

Tickets are on sale at the Tuckshop for only $1.00 per ticket.
**SCHOOL BANKING NEWS**

We are seeing lots of new bank books coming in over the last two weeks so a big THANK YOU to those parents who have opened new accounts for your children!

I’d just like to encourage and remind those (busy!) parents who would like to open an account for their children to pop on the CBA website to do so as soon as you can. The process is simple and quick, and they will soon be on their savings journey! Lots of prizes and competitions along the way help to make it enjoyable & rewarding.


Happy Banking!
Sue - Banking Coordinator

**FUN RUN—FRIDAY 21, APRIL, 2017 (TERM 2 WEEK 1)**

**Sponsorship Forms** – Students have been given sponsorship forms and letters to bring home. There are some great prizes to be won. Every family who raises over $50, will go into the draw to win a 2 night holiday to Sea World Nara Resort (valued at $600) – it could be you, so start fundraising today! Log onto [www.myprofilepage.com.au](http://www.myprofilepage.com.au) to set up your online fundraising profile page.

**Sausage Sizzle** – The P and C will once again be running a sausage sizzle on Fun Run Day. Prep’s and Grade 1 can order through the class order form (to be given to teachers this week). The sausages will be delivered directly to the classroom at little lunch. All other students (Year 2 to 6) can purchase directly from the BBQ on Fun Run Day. If you have some spare time on Fun Run, we’d love a helping hand at the BBQ.

**EASTER—MESSAGE FROM QLD POLICE**

Local Police would like to remind all school families to take care when using our roads, especially over these school holidays. The roads around the coast are busy with an influx of visitors and Maroochydore police will be out in force over the holiday period.

The community’s safety is our priority and police will continue to target the fatal five which are speeding, drink and drug driving, not wearing a seatbelt, driving while fatigued and driving distracted.

Too many Queensland drivers are being distracted while on the road by things like mobile phones, complex sound systems, on-board DVD players and satellite navigation, to name a few.

The message is clear these school holidays if motorists continue to make poor choices on our local roads and endanger other road users they can expect a fine and a loss of demerit points.

Please remember to plan your trip ahead, take a break, rest, revive and survive. For traffic and road conditions please visit the 131940 Traffic and Travel information [website](http://www.commbank.com.au/personal/kids/school-banking)
STRATEGIES TO COMBAT BULLYING

On Friday 17, March, Mountain Creek State School turned orange. The Student Council arranged a free-dress day to acknowledge the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. This has become a regular date in our calendar over the last three years. At Mountain Creek State School we say NO to bullying.

This week, I would like to encourage all families to log on to the Antibullying Website:


Here you will find a wealth of information about bullying for schools, parents and students. Support documents include strategies for managing bullies at school.

At Mountain Creek State School, we regularly reinforce our Creeker Code: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible. This code is important both in the classroom and the playground. As well as the Creeker Code, Mountain Creek State School promotes the use of the High 5 to help our students experiencing challenges in the playground.

The 5 steps are:

1. Ignore
2. Talk Friendly – ask the person to stop
3. Walk Away
4. Talk Firmly – tell the person to stop or you will report the issue to an adult
5. Report

By using the High 5, many of our students are able to problem-solve playground issues themselves. This gives them a feeling of self-confidence and the resilience to deal with issues if they arise.

Remember, you can also find more tips on our school website, under the Support and Resources tab. Click on Parent Resources and then Introducing KidsMatter Primary. Here you will find a host of materials to support your child, including information on diversity, bullying, social-emotional learning and friendships.

Have a great week.

Louise Blanch
Guidance Officer
I just love camps and in Week 7, I had the wonderful opportunity of joining the Yr. 6 students at the Tallebudgera Camp on the Gold Coast. We had such a great time together. First up, my group enjoyed the amazing natural surroundings of the David Fleay Wildlife Park and learnt a lot about David Fleay and the incredible work he has done in nature and animal conservation. We watched a bird and snake show and I was unfortunately chosen to go up and hold a snake. I have a fear of snakes but felt that I couldn’t back down because the kids were cheering me on and really wanted to see me face my fears. This camp was about challenging and pushing yourself so I decided to try set a good example and reluctantly go ahead with the challenge. It was frightening especially when I had the snakes tongue on my hand and the tail tightly wrapping around my arm, but I managed to survive the ordeal. The next day we enjoyed some bodyboarding in large surf, tobogganing as well as completed a very scary rope and zip line course at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. I was so impressed with the students, their attitude towards each activity and their willingness to try these challenges and push themselves beyond their comfort zones. The Theme was ‘A Hero’s Journey’ and I can honestly say our Mountain Creek students definitely rose to the challenges and became hero’s during the camp.  

This is the third week of Shine and the 16 girls chosen for the program are really enjoying it. We are also privileged to have 8 senior high school students join us this year which is fantastic. The first week was all about getting to know each other and the leaders as well as setting the rules of the program and expectations of the girls. Our whole focus these first few weeks is VALUE, valuing themselves and valuing others. Last week, the girls had so much fun being pampered in skin care and how to apply basic makeup which was taught to them by a skincare and makeup specialist. This week, Caroline Hutchinson, from the radio station, will be visiting to share some stories and speak on how valuable the girls are and then the girls will be spoilt by having their hair made up beautifully.  

I am off on long Service leave for the whole of Term 2 but will be replaced by a young lady by the name of Kit Thomas. 14 years ago I was her chaplain at Caloundra Christian College so it is so special to have her replacing me for a term at MCSS. She is young, vibrant and a lovely young lady who I know will do a wonderful job while I am away. She will probably work on Wednesday and Thursday. Please make her feel welcome if you see her around.  

I will miss the kids and staff at school. May God bless you and your family and keep you all safe and healthy over the Easter holidays. See you in Term 3.  

Cheers,  
Chappy
Building skills to improve spelling writing.

Promoting high achievement for all.


2017 PRIORITIES

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

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

Next weeks specials
- Chicken Schnitzel $10.00
- KIDS Specials Jelly Cup and Python $2.50

Easter Raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 28, March 2017

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

USC RUGBY REGISTRATIONS
BOYS & GIRLS

Come and join the team!
Some of your friends are already playing for us, having fun and gaining some amazing skills.

Rugby assists kids with developing:
- Fitness and endurance
- Upper and lower body strength
- Agility
- Speed
- Ball handling and kicking skills
- Team skills
- Social interaction skills
- Communication skills
- Self-discipline
- and much more...

Under 6’s and Under 7’s deal:
- Registrations: $140
- Open a bank account with St George and receive $50 in that account.
- USC will refund $100

Did you know?
Girls Rugby is the fastest growing sport in the World!

Contact:
Robert Barrett
USC Barbarians Rugby Club
Phone: 0438 611 797
Email: r.barrett@uscrugby.com.au

www.uscrugby.com.au