Principal’s Message:

School Safety: This week (or early next week if rain occurs) an emergency evacuation drill will be run to remind students of sirens and our procedures used during emergencies. We’re letting you know in advance due to recent events involving hoax calls to varying schools. We do not want to create anxiety, but we must ensure students are aware of important safety procedures. Staff will inform students that it is a practice drill.

Tallebudgera Camp: Next week Year 6 will undertake their leadership camp on the Gold Coast. They will participate in team activities and problem-solving situations. I look forward to spending a few days with Year 6 as they develop leadership and life skills in a fun environment.

P and C Directions: Many thanks to parents who attended our Meet the Teacher night. We highlighted the important role that parents play in their children’s education and shaping school directions. This year we’ve been working with some of our past parent representatives as we prepare for our initial P and C Association meeting next week. We have a number of keen parents wanting to build teamwork and strong connections in our P and C Association. Our first meeting for the year is set for Thursday, 18 February 2016 at 1.30pm. Our P and C Association does an amazing job and we’re all excited to have more team members who value caring, sharing and learning together. Feel welcome to attend.

Parent Teacher Interviews: Mountain Creek State School will be conducting Getting to Know the Learner Interviews using an online booking system for parents. This process makes booking interviews both convenient and quick for parents. Most interviews will be conducted in Week 4 and 5 of Term One. (15 February 2016 to 26 February 2016, while Year 6 will also have Week 6 from 29 February to 4 March 2016 due to camp). Teachers look forward to meeting you.

Steps to book an interview are:
2. Type in the school event code: DR7FG

Rob Van den Huevel
Principal

IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

Continuing our feature of introducing new families to our school community, we would like to extend a warm Queensland welcome to the Allison family from Ulverstone, Tasmania.

Courtney and Stacey are pictured with mum Larissa. Larissa said the girls have settled in well to our school and are enjoying all the Sunshine Coast has to offer.

The girls have been having lots of fun at lunch time playing and meeting new friends, including some of the other new children to our school.

Let’s remember if you see someone new around the school to give them a Creeker welcome to show them that we care, share and learn together at Mountain Creek.
TERM 1
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Interviews Commence</td>
<td>15 - 26 February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Commences - Yr 1,2 and 4</td>
<td>Tuesday 16 February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>click here for timetable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Camp - Tallebudgera</td>
<td>15 - 19 February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P and C General Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 18 February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Ride2School Day</td>
<td>Friday 4 March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td>7 - 8 March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Term Assembly</td>
<td>Tuesday 22 March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>Friday 25 March 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KIDSMATTER

Mountain Creek State School is a KidsMatter school. This year, we are continuing to promote the key message of KidsMatter – Every Face Has A Place. As part of the KidsMatter initiative, our school community will acknowledge the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday, 18 March 2016. Further information about KidsMatter and the National Day of Action can be found at these websites:

https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/

The KidsMatter website contains a number of tip sheets for parents on topics such as anxiety, friendships and settling into school. These tip sheets can also be downloaded from the Mountain Creek State School website.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

This fortnight, teachers will continue to ensure students have a good understanding of our school values – Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible. These values are clearly signed around our school and are referred to as The Creeker Code. Have a wonderful week!

Louise Blanch
Guidance Officer

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

MCSS will be celebrating National Ride2School Day on Friday, 4 March 2016. We encourage students and their families to leave the car at home on this day and get a taste of the benefits, ease and fun of wheeling and walking to school. We will provide more information about this event in our next newsletter, and on assembly.

Students within the Sunshine Coast Council region should register on Councils website before Friday, 4 March 2016 to enter the draw for great prizes, including a $500 bike shop voucher. Register now!
Management of Young Children Program

Do you have young children aged 2½ to 7 years whose behaviour is difficult to manage?
If so, you may be interested in MYCP – Management of Young Children Program. This program has been developed by, and is facilitated by, Education Queensland staff.

What is it?
A practical and individualised behaviour support program for young children aged 2½ to 7 years, and their families.
Please contact:

Louise Blanch and Rosie Langton
Mountain Creek State School
T: 5452 3444 E: mycpmcss@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au

Before School Play
Students in Year 4, 5 and 6

In the interest of student safety, in 2016, we have begun the practice of having a teacher aide on duty in the grassed area between the Year 4 and 5 eating area, the music block and the oval from 8:15–8:35am. This area is also known as the helipad. This recent change will ensure students who enjoy a game before school will have an adult supervising their play. With any change, it is important to share guidelines so everyone is aware of what is expected of them. These are the guidelines for before school play for the year 4, 5 and 6 students:

- Students should be arriving to school after 8am
- When students arrive they should place their bag on port racks ensuring they are organised for the day
- Students are encouraged to sit quietly and talk to their friends, read a book or play handball safely around classrooms
- Students may choose to use the helipad area for play from 8:15–8:35am only
- Students will leave the area to go to class when the first bell goes at 8:35am
- Students playing before school must wear hats (no hat–no play)
- Only school provided play equipment (footballs, soccer balls) is to be used and can be borrowed from the Teacher Aide on duty or Year 6 leaders – students should leave their own personal sporting equipment at home
- Marked areas indicate the number of games being played (once a game has started in an area other students will not start another game)
- Playground equipment and the courts are out of bounds before school.

This information has been shared with students across parades last week. We would appreciate the support of parents and hope that these guidelines can be discussed at home over the next few weeks to ensure this change becomes day to day practice. Students have also been advised that play in this area is a privilege (not a right) and as such they will need to follow the guidelines to be able to continue to use the area.
DINOSAURS DELIVERED TO PREP G AND PREP H!

Prep G and Prep H had a surprise delivery of dinosaurs on Tuesday morning! We have been investigating where they came from all week. Here are some pictures of us making habitats and enclosures for them!

AT ASSEMBLY LAST WEEK

At our first week of assemblies for 2016 many student awards were presented for exceptional behaviour. One of our recipients was Quade from Prep S who proudly accepted his award up on stage, which is a long way to go for a preppie. He is pictured with mum Kate showing his certificate for ‘Always listening in class and being ready to learn!’ Well done Quade and also congratulations to all the other award winners for Week 2.

On Monday at assembly the children also enjoyed an electronic version of The Wonderful School - a Little Golden Book. Miss Denning included many pictures of students from around the school as well as pictures from the original book as part of the presentation. It was enjoyed by all the children.

There was another presentation on Tuesday entitled Keep Your Hands to Yourself. It was a fun animated presentation that delivered an important message in a positive way.

Finally on Wednesday’s presentation a song entitled Be Responsible was played and the children sung along to it.
Hi Everyone,

I have really enjoyed getting around to personally meet all the new students (Year 1-6) over the past couple of weeks. We are so blessed to have a great bunch join us from all over the Australia as well as other countries. I have mentioned to them that, as Chaplain, I am here to support them and help them settle into their new school. Please let me know if you have any concerns for your children as they adjust to the changes in their lives.

Our mentoring program is starting up soon and the mentors and mentees are getting very excited. At Mountain Creek State School, the importance of positive human relationships in children’s lives cannot be overstated. They are the essential building blocks for healthy development. Our Mentoring Program aims to create a positive impact in the lives of young children. We are looking to run a Mentoring Training Program towards the end of the first term so if you are interested in becoming a mentor or want to know more about the program, please email me at apulf1@eq.edu.au and I will send you some information.

We currently have 35 volunteers who help out with various programs under the Chaplaincy Service (i.e., Shine, Chappy Brekkie, Mentoring, etc.). However, we are always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in helping out during the year and would like to support the Chaplaincy Service either through prayer, financial support or practical help, please contact me through the email above and I would be happy to provide you with more information.

On Thursday the 25th February 2016, the new parents to the area and school (from other cities and countries) are invited to join us at Cafe Connect, Mountain Creek State School for a coffee/tea and light refreshments. Invitations to the ‘Family Wellbeing Program’ will be sent out soon. This is an opportunity to personally meet various staff members as well as make connections with other people new to the Sunshine Coast. A local organization, Community Solutions, will also be attending. They provide support to families who are new to the area. They help families settle in quickly by providing information, resources, activities and referral to services to meet their needs.

Sporting Schools Program is offering free soccer coaching (by a professional soccer coach) this term for grade 3 and 4 students for 5 weeks beginning in week 5, Tuesday 23rd February 2016. This will take place after school every Tuesday from 2.45-3.45pm either in the main hall or the oval at MCSS. I will be coordinating and supervising the program. There are limited places available (15-20 students) so depending on the number of applicants, not everyone may be selected for the program. The selection will be based on a first come, first serve basis and will also include whether or not the child had been involved in Sporting Schools in the past. Please email me if you are interested in including your child in this program (see email above).

We enjoyed our first Chappy Brekkie this last week and wow, what a turn out. I don’t think we have ever had that many children at our breakfast before. It was fantastic. I hope they all enjoyed themselves.

I am really looking forward to Year 6 camp next week. It’s my favourite camp. The children are going to have an awesome time.

Have a lovely weekend.
God bless,
Chappy
Helping Hands Presents

GIANT GAMES

Giant Games is an entertaining program from start to finish. All children will construct their very own wooden Giant Games of Connect Four, Stacking Blocks and Coits. Each game construction will provide challenging elements of construction to educate children in woodworking techniques. At the completion of each project the children will have an array of paints to personalise their construction. The constructions are for every age and will bring hours of entertainment. Key construction concepts, use of hand tools, painting and skills in team work and cooperation are all an integral part of the program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Tuesday 23/2</th>
<th>Tuesday 1/3</th>
<th>Tuesday 8/3</th>
<th>Tuesday 15/3</th>
<th>Tuesday 22/3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindy to Year 6</td>
<td>3.30pm-4.45pm</td>
<td>3.30pm-4.45pm</td>
<td>3.30pm-4.45pm</td>
<td>3.30pm-4.45pm</td>
<td>3.30pm-4.45pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information or to book onto this exciting 5 week program please contact; Mountain Creek Helping Hands on 0427 554 866 or email mountaincreek@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au

Booking forms are also available from the school office and Helping Hands service.
Hi All,

Welcome back to our existing families and a big welcome to our new families. It is hard to believe we are already near the end of week 3.

The new Tuck Shop menu was sent home last week with a few changes on it. As we are a Smart Choices Canteen there are guidelines we have to adhere to. Tuckshop Menu Term 1 click here. Jelly Sticks are now classed as a red product so we have had to delete them from the menu. We have replaced them with Orange Smileys (frozen orange slice). Other new items on the menu are celery sticks, carrot sticks and snack packs (crackers, cheese, carrot and sultanas), berry and banana muffins. We are currently working on a new menu for Term 2. The ladies in the Tuck Shop are testing out new recipes for daily specials. Crustless Quiche, Mexican Burrito, Pasta Bolognese to name a few. These will all be made on the premises. If you have any spare time on your hands call in and have a coffee and a chat with Anita (Tuck shop Convenor), Shannon, Charmaine and Louise (Uniform and Stationery Shop Convenor). Help is always appreciated.

Café Connect is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 3.15pm. Call in and see Sam, Moira, Leanne, Fiona and Catherine. It is a great meeting place for a morning coffee and cake, lunch or a milk shake for the kids after school. If you see Lemon and Lime muffins on show, you really need to try one as they are simply amazing. Students are not allowed at the café during the day, this is a haven for teachers and parents. Once the school bell rings at the end of the day they are more than welcome to get their treats. Students are not allowed to purchase Lolly Bags or Killer Pythons before school and they need to be with an adult to purchase anything (before school only). Milk shakes and Jelly and Ice cream are a big favourite with the students as an after school treat.

The P and C are heading in a new direction for 2016. If you would like to be a part of this please come to our first meeting of the year. Thursday 18th February 2016 at 1.00pm. It will be held in the boardroom at the hall. The AGM will be held in March, however the date and time is yet to be confirmed. Nominations are now open for new members and a new executive committee. Please contact Rob Van den Heuvel or myself for more information.

Teresa Paterson
President 0448 735849
pandc@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au

School Banking

Welcome to what’s going to be a thrilling year of School Banking. This year’s program is themed the Outback Savers and students are invited to join the Dollarmites on a wild adventure through the Canyon of Savings. Along the way, they’ll learn to master smart saving habits and equip themselves with lifelong money skills. Click here for more details.

A reminder that banking day is Wednesday. Student packs were sent home last week detailing the 2016 theme and rewards available for regular deposits. Bank books can be deposited into the money hole or a collection box is available on Wednesday mornings, both located at the office. The bank books are returned to the class teacher on the same day.

We thank you for being part of our School Banking Program as our P and C receives a commission from the Commonwealth Bank for each deposit made.
2016 PRIORITIES

Learning goals, rating scales and student feedback using the ASoT framework.

Building skills to improve spelling and writing.


COMMUNITY NEWS

EXCITING CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM
MARCH - JULY 2016

Queensland Running’s 2016 Cross Country season commences on Saturday 5 March at Teralba Park, Mitchelton. The season runs from March through to the end of July and is of great assistance to all students in preparing for the school, district and regional cross country competitions.

Our competition includes distances ranging from 500/800 metres (alternating each week), 1000, 1500, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000 and 8000 metres. The 3000 and 5000 metre distances are run together as are the 4000, 6000 and 8000 metre events. In these races, runners can complete the lesser or greater of the of distances, depending on their comfort zone.

The runs are conducted at various parks in and around Brisbane, including Chermside, Toowong, Pine Rivers, Sandgate and Yeronga, to name a few. For those unable to run, but still wishing to participate, a 500 metre non-competitive walk is programmed each week. Take your pram or dog for a wander through one of these beautiful parks.

It is a popular event for families and best of all, it is free!

We have very reasonable rates to run and they include as many events as you would like to run over the afternoon. 10 years and under run for $3.00 for the afternoon, $4.00 for 11 to 17 years and adults pay $5.00. If you register for the season for the cost of $12.00, your runs cost $1 less each afternoon and you run your first day for free.

We also have family registrations or individual runners can pay up front for the season.

It is a great family afternoon where mums and dads can run with their children.

If you have any enquiries, please check out our website: www.queenslandrunning.com.au or call 0418 113 377.

FUN FOR ALL AGES AND FITNESS LEVELS