

# MOUNTAIN CREEK STATE SCHOOL

## Newsletter



30 November 2023

### Contact Details:

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Website: [www.mtncreekss.eq.edu.au](http://www.mtncreekss.eq.edu.au)



**Absentee phone line—5452 3490**

Available 24/7. Leave a message and admin will retrieve the message before school.

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Welcome to our last Newsletter for Term 4.

As I come to the end of my first year at Mountain Creek, it is a good opportunity to reflect on some of the many great events we have in our school. Some of the highlights are listed below:



Mr Sean Bennett  
Principal

- The upcoming Fun Run/Colour Dash—I am looking forward to this event
- Under 8's Day – as always a fantastic day involving all our local childcare centres and our lower school students
- Wearable Art—a huge success
- Our Prep Open Days—which have seen more families attend than we have seen in many years
- Athletics Carnivals, Cross Country and Swimming Carnivals—giving our sporting students an opportunity to take the limelight
- Our P & C running the disco, Mothers Day and Fathers Day Stalls
- Our Instrumental Strings and multi students—who again shone brightly and showed some amazing talent
- Our Music night—with great performances from our very talented students
- Year 6 Camp—was an obvious highlight for the students
- Year 5 Camp— another great experience for children
- Chess Club— has just exploded in numbers— thanks to Ms Henricks.

### Latest staff changes for 2024

Our staff changes (with one more person to be appointed to us) are:

#### Leaving us

- Sarah Bracey transferred to Pumicestone SS
- Fiona Horne transferred to Morayfield SS
- Donna Ascott transferred to Pacific Paradise SS

#### Joining us

- Megan Theofanes coming to us from Urangan Point State School
- Helene Barbour coming to us from Minimbah State School
- Kaela Pratt coming to us from Harlaxton SS





## Classes for 2024

Due to schools being staffed on student numbers we can't finalise staffing and classes until Week 2 next year. We intend to reduce the number of class changes that happen at the start of the year due to students leaving and new students enrolling over the Christmas break. This means, that for the first two weeks of 2024 the classes will be predominately the same with the class changes being finalised by the end of Week 2 next year.

This also means we will not be "guaranteeing" your child's class teacher however, we will soon be able to announce which teacher has which year level, yet some of the students in each class may change.

Remembering all decisions will be based on ensuring we maximise the learning opportunities for **all** students.

To those students, families and staff leaving our school, I wish you all well for the future and hope you fondly recall your time at Mountain Creek.

Lastly, to all a very Merry Christmas, have a safe and Happy New Year and I look forward to catching up with our new and returning families in 2024.

Yours,

**Sean Bennett**

Principal

## 2024 CLASSROOM MEET THE TEACHER

To enable a smooth transition into 2024 we will be holding a Meet the Teacher session for students on Monday 4 December 2023 during school time. At this session, students will be given a welcome letter which will inform parents of the 2024 class placement. Although every effort has been made to accommodate preferences our staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that the class placements reflect the best learning environments for our students. **PLEASE NOTE** that changes to class placement may be required as we are still processing a significant number of enrolments. If this is the case a member of admin will be in touch.

**Luke Smith**

Deputy Principal

## SCHOOL YEAR ENDS FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER

The school year ends on Friday 8 December. Please advise us if your child will be absent between now and the end of the school year by calling absentee line – 5452 3490 or via the Qparents app.

## SCHOOL BOOK DROP OFF DATE AND TIME

Classrooms will be open on Friday 19 January 2024 between 9-10 am for parents to drop off students' school books.

## REPORT CARDS

This term school reports are being emailed to parents. If you have changed your email address or other contact details you can conveniently make changes through the QParent app or by contacting our administration office to have your records updated. You can also email us at

[admin@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au) to provide details. Please type 'Contact Details Change' in the subject line.





## ARE YOU A LEAVING STUDENT?

At times students and families do not return to Mountain Creek State School due to personal or work needs. If you are a family who will NOT be returning to our school in 2024 please email the office as soon as possible at [admin@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au). We require this information to help prepare our classes for 2024.

## CHILD'S MEDICATION TO GO HOME

Please remember to collect your child's medication from school before the holidays, from the classroom, first aid or school office depending on where it is held. This is particularly important for emergency medications such as Epipens. Thank you



## TUCKSHOP CLOSED

Please be advised that the Tuckshop will be CLOSED on the last day of term!

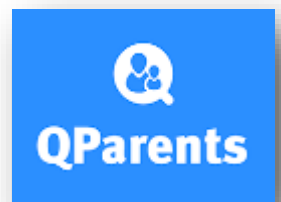


## ONE YEAR SINCE WE LAUNCHED QPARENT

As you are aware MCSS is a Qparents school which was launched 1 year ago and we've had a very fantastic response with parents actively using the app. We still have a number of parents who have not yet registered, so now is a great time to do so.

Report cards will be emailed home next week. QParents is a great place to access these report cards along with all previous report cards. You will also have the convenience of viewing and updating:

- Attendance and absence details, as well as the ability to notify the school of an absence
- Access your child's report cards online
- Unpaid invoice details, payment history and making payments online with a credit card
- Viewing and updating personal student details, including medical conditions and address
- Enrolment details
- Upcoming events list showing school events.



QParents will assist both staff and parents in sharing and responding to information in an efficient and effective way.

QParent invites have been regularly emailed home to parents (please check your inboxes). You will also need your student's 10 digit EQ ID. This can be found on previous report card emails which you have received or by contacting our administration team who will happily supply you with your child's unique number.

### WHY DO I NEED QPARENTS?

Now that the majority of our parents are active with QParents in 2024 we will start to use this application more frequently, such as collecting consent for excursions, swimming and sporting events in 2024.





## 2024 SCHOOL START INFORMATION

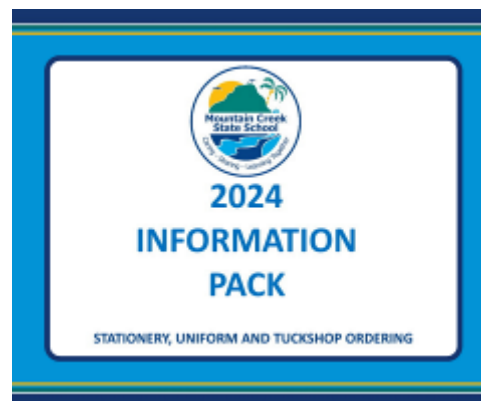
The 2024 Return to school Information Pack is now available which includes:

- New school uniform information
- Book packs
- Summer Tuckshop menu
- Online ordering instructions for all of the above

The information pack can be accessed by

- [Clicking HERE](#)
- Clicking on the image to the right
- Or by visiting our school website <https://mtncreekss.eq.edu.au/>

We're all looking forward to a positive and healthy 2024.



## BOOKLISTS 2024

Booklists for 2024 are ready! Please find links below to the different year levels.

Pictures have been added to the list so parents and carers can see what the products look like. Please ensure that you have the correct books for your specific year level. Different year levels have specific requirements, such as exercise books with certain distances between lines and special colours. If your year level requires a certain printed book, for example—a Mental Maths or Hand Writing book, please ensure you obtain the brand specified for your child. Pencil cases have not been included on the list as it is the students' preference.

We are **NOT** going with a designated company again this year, but if you do wish to purchase from an organisation that specialises in collating your booklist there are three options below that you may wish to contact.

SUPPLIER	DETAILS
School Locker	You can pop in or contact <a href="#">School Locker</a> and they will fill the booklist order for you to pick up or you can pay to have it delivered. Get your orders in before January to ensure they can fill the order. <b>School Locker</b> , Homemaker Centre, 11/55 Maroochy Blvd, Maroochydore
Impact Office Supplies	Impact Link <a href="#">click here</a> to get the details to order directly from them.
Office Works	<a href="#">Officeworks</a> offers a service where you can upload the list as a file or a photo of the list and they will match the items on the list and put it together for you.

### BOOKLISTS

- [Prep](#)
- [Year 1](#)
- [Year 2](#)
- [Year 3](#)
- [Year 4](#)
- [Year 5](#)
- [Year 6](#)





## SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR 2024

The end of year is approaching and that often means that students will require new uniforms and shoes. At Mountain Creek State School the expectation is that each day students will wear one of the agreed Mountain Creek State School uniforms as outlined below. To cater for all students the uniform consists of a variety of items that can be mixed and matched along with unisex items that ALL students can choose to wear.

### UNIFORM OPTIONS:

- MCSS Polo Year P-6
- MCSS Dress Years P – 6
- MCSS Navy Skorts P – 6
- MCSS Navy Shorts P - 6

### OTHER:

- Plain black shoes (no colours)
- Plain black or navy ankle socks (visible above shoe)
- MCSS broadbrim hat (caps are not permitted)

Should students wear plain navy alternatives purchased elsewhere then the following considerations are to be adhered to:

- Shorts, skorts and skirts must be at a minimum mid-thigh in length
- NO open side splits are to be above mid-thigh height

### JEWELLERY:

- Students are permitted to wear only the following items:
- An analogue or digital watch
- One/two small plain stud or small plain sleeper of silver, gold or neutral in colour in the lower lobe of each ear
- Medical alert bracelets
- Religious or culturally significant pendants e.g. signet rings, tiki or crucifix by written request of parent

### STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO WEAR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Smartwatches
- Necklaces, bracelets and rings (these are considered a safety hazard and could come in contact with another student causing injury to self or others)

### HAIR:

To reduce the transfer of head lice as well as to avoid distractions to learning, hair that is at or longer than shoulder length is to be plaited, braided or tied back with long fringes pinned back from eyes. To ensure hairstyles are not a distraction to teaching and learning hair accessories are to be neutral in colour or MCSS uniform school colours (white or navy). The length of the fringe should not exceed the eyebrows so as not to impede learning or pose a safety risk.

### MAKEUP AND NAIL POLISH:

No makeup is to be worn to school. Coloured nail polish is not acceptable. Students wearing coloured nail polish will be asked to remove it immediately. Nail polish remover will be provided.






## P&C FUN RUN

Our school fun/colour run is on this Friday 1 December 2023.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

YEAR LEVEL	TIME	WINNING CLASS	TIME
Year 6	12:45 to 1:00		2:30 to 2:45
Year 5	1:00 to 1:15		
Year 4	1:15 to 1:30		
Year 3	1:30 to 1:45		
Year 2	1:45 to 2:00		
Prep	2:00 to 2:15		
Year 1	2:15 to 2:30		

The students will be completing a small obstacle course which will have a couple of sprinkler stations set up, along with the Fire Service, for the students to get wet so that the colours will stay on their shirts.

All children are expected to participate unless they have a medical condition which would put them at risk when running. If students are not participating in the Colour Run please ensure that you have a signed note from parents detailing why.

The dress code for the day shall be:

**COLOUR RUN - WHITE SHIRT\***, shorts/skorts, running shoes and hat.

\* If students do not have white shirts they can wear any old shirt to get coloured, however, white will provide the best effect.

Parents may also want to have an old towel for the car trip home as the students will be getting wet so that the colour will stay on their shirts.

### COLOUR POWDER

The colour powder used in our event is made of high-quality corn starch and only permitted food colours. It is non-toxic, gluten-free, biodegradable, skin safe and environmentally friendly. Students with asthma are advised to be careful in their decision to participate.

If you would like to volunteer on the day please contact [lquar15@eq.edu.au](mailto:lquar15@eq.edu.au).

We've had a fantastic year and we have some great things planned for 2024. All this is made possible with your support for which we are truly grateful.

**Mountain Creek State School P&C Association.**



## PREP / YEAR 4 JAPANESE NUMBER DAY

Recently the Year 4 and Prep students enjoyed a Japanese Number Day. The students paired up to participate in rotational activities focussed on counting up to 20 in Japanese and recognising the kanji numbers from 1 – 10. While the focus was on Japanese numbers the smiles on the faces of all students really was the highlight of the day.

Congratulations to the Preps for being brave and working with older friends. And, congratulations to the Year 4 students for the kind and caring way in which they interacted with the Preps. It was a wonderful day seeing the Creeker school motto of "Caring, Sharing and Learning Together" in action.

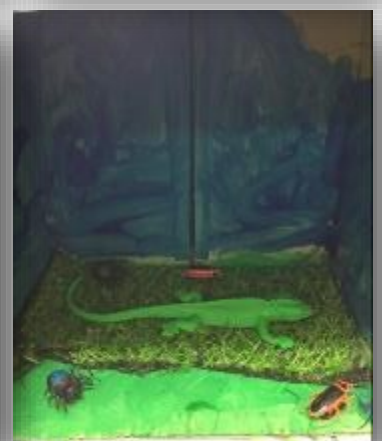


## YEAR 2 ENGLISH

2M children worked hard in English this term and researched and wrote an information report to inform others of a chosen animal. To consolidate the unit of work, we shared our learning with parents and grandparents at a Learning Fair morning. Families read carefully set out information reports, students answered questions about the animal, looked at dioramas showing an animal's habitat, diet and threats or predators, as well as art work.

Our silkworm and mealworm life stages were also on display as we have observed the life cycles of living things in Science. This week we have also been learning how to write procedures to tell someone how to do something. We did a science investigation and made Santa's Magic Milk and then wrote a procedure to tell others how to make it. We decided it was not something Santa would like to drink. What a wonderful term of learning and fun we have had and we loved sharing all our learning with our family and friends.

**Michelle Coventon 2M**





## MCSS CHESS CLUB

What a wonderful term the Chess Club has had to finish 2023. Everyone has learnt a great deal about chess strategies and there has been some keen competition between all players.

This term we ran our school chess tournament and the winners are:

**Senior School Champions:** 1st Elijah, 2nd Luke, 3rd Ziggy

**Junior Champions:** 1st Haoran (Ken), 2nd Rhys, 3rd Isabella

Congratulations to our winners. Thank you to all the chess players and I hope you continue playing next year !



## THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

This marks the end of Mountain Creek State School's second year of implementing The Resilience Project. Throughout the year students from Prep to Year Six have learned about the concepts of Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy.

These concepts have been reinforced through weekly and end-of term assemblies, as well as our fortnightly 'Creeker Says' messages that are shared across our school. It has been exciting to see our students deepen their understanding of key concepts and learn positive strategies to manage their wellbeing.

We are excited to announce that we will be continuing our partnership with The Resilience Project in 2024. We will be placing a strong emphasis on emotional literacy and supporting students to learn tools and strategies to manage their feelings.

Have a restful holiday break.

**Louise Blanch – Guidance Officer**





## COASTAL DISTRICT SCHOOL SPORT

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Mountain Creek SS is a member of 'Coastal District 10-12 Years School Sport'. Coastal District School Sport is the first level in the representative school sport program. After district representation, students then have the opportunity to progress to the regional trials and then onto the state championships.



The representative school sport pathway is offered to students born in 2012 (Under 12), 2013 (Under 11) and 2014 (Under 10).

To be eligible to participate in this program students must demonstrate a **very high level** of ability in their chosen sport. **The representative pathway is *not* a participation or 'come & try' program.** Students should be the top players in their club. (NB. Girls AFL and boys' and girls' softball all have a different criteria due to the limited club participation).

At the moment the Coastal District School Sport selection policy only allows a maximum of five (5) students from each school to attend at district trial. In the event that more than five students express their interest to attend a particular district trial, a school-based trial will be conducted to select the five most eligible school representatives.

The district trials will start in Term 1 Week 3 (5<sup>th</sup> February 2024).

In January 2024 you will receive an email with an 'Expression of Interest Survey' for you to nominate your child's interest in the sport/s they wish to trial for and a copy of the trial dates.

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday and see you all in 2024!

### 2024 COASTAL DISTRICT SWIMMING TRIALS

Just a quick reminder about the 2024 Coastal District Swimming Trials for students born in 2014, 2013, 2012 (turning 10, 11 and 12 in 2024) which will be held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2024. Students who are wishing to trial in 2024 will need to nominate using times swum at our 2024 School Swimming Carnival (50m) or times from **Swimming Australia – Results Central** <https://www.swimming.org.au/events/results-central> (50m, 100m, 200m and 400m Freestyle and IM) only. **All times from 'Swimming Australia – Results Central' must have been swum in a 50m (long course pool) and in the current swimming season (1 July 2023 to 19 February 2024 inclusive).** **NO** other times will be accepted. Events that you wish for your child to nominate in must have times submitted using the above method.

Early in Term 1 2024 more information will be sent out to interested students with all nomination forms attached.





# THANK YOU FAREWELL

## MUSIC 2023

What a year it has been in the Music Department with Choral Fanfare, Sunshine Coast Junior Eisteddfod, Concerts, Assemblies, Pop-up lunch time Creeker Choir performances and Evening Concert Extravaganza!

### Creeker Choir in 2024

Due to several changes in the music department, those students who auditioned to be in the "Creeker Choir" next year, will now be notified early in 2024.

### Farewell Mrs Pritchard

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Mrs Sarah Pritchard, a much loved and valued member of the Music Department. Sarah has been here for the past eighteen months and will be greatly missed by all. We welcome our new strings teacher, Mr. Stuart Scullett-Dean.

Best wishes for a wonderful break! From MCSS Music Department  
(Mrs Emerson/Mrs Duncan/Mrs Pritchard/Mr Schultz/Mrs Rogers)



## THANK YOU TO OUR MANY VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the huge number of volunteers at Mountain Creek State School who work with teachers to give hours of support to students in reading, class-time, literacy rotations and whatever else is asked. (glittering, cutting, gluing....)

We thank you for your time and dedication to the students as well as all your kindnesses – yes, we see what you do for the children!

From the staff and students at Mountain Creek State school, we wish you a happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you next year!



## 2023 TERM 4 DATE CLAIMER

EVENT	DATE
SAVE THE DATE—SCHOOL FUN RUN	Friday 1 December 2023
Year 6 Graduation	Tuesday 5 December 2023
Party Day	Thursday 7 December 2023
<b>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</b>	<b>Friday 8 December 2023</b>
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (Term 1)	Monday 22 January 2024
Australia Day Public Holiday	Friday 26 January 2024





# COMMUNITY NEWS



**CALLING ALL DANCERS**  
3 YEARS - 10 YEARS

- ✓ Develop lifelong skills such as teamwork, resilience, and dedication.
- ✓ Discover the joy of dance, artistic expression, and creativity.
- ✓ Build lifelong friendships, boost confidence, and stay active!

**JOIN IN THE FUN!**  
A unique mixture of several dance expressions including ballet, acrobatics, contemporary, lyrical, musical theatre, and gymnastics all in one amazing artistic sport. Calisthenics Buderim has nurtured self-confidence, discipline, fitness, fun and teamwork among our students for nearly three decades!

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**UNLOCK A WORLD OF FUN AND ACHIEVEMENT IN 2024!**

**REGISTER FOR A FREE TRIAL CLASS**







sports for better minds

Mountain Creek State School



**sports x**  
TERM 1 **SCHOOL** programs



[Click Here to Register](#) [Click Here to Register](#)

In Term 1 2024,  
Sports X will be running the following after school sports programs at Mountain Creek State School:

Basketball X - Every Monday | 3 - 4pm | 9 Weeks | \$140 (Starting Week 2, January 30th)  
Soccer X - Every Monday | 3 - 4pm | 9 Weeks | \$140 (Starting Week 2, February 1st)

Not sure what to expect? Email [sc@sports-x.com.au](mailto:sc@sports-x.com.au) to enquire about a FREE TRY SESSION!

The programs are available to students from Prep - Year 6. On arrival children will be split into groups according to age. All sessions will be run by qualified coaches who hold blue cards. The sessions will be fully inclusive & fun-based, catering for all abilities.

For more information and online registrations please visit [www.sports-x.com.au](http://www.sports-x.com.au). Any questions please contact [sc@sports-x.com.au](mailto:sc@sports-x.com.au)

**HAPPY HOUR**

**CAFE** *Connect*



**MORNING COFFEE**  
FROM 7AM-9AM

