

MOUNTAIN CREEK STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter



15 May 2025

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Welcome to our latest Newsletter for Term 2

I would like to start this Newsletter with some thoughts on schoolyard conflict. At Mountain Creek State School we work very hard at helping our students deal with conflict and understand the difference between types of conflict and how to deal with each of these different types.

Not every conflict in school is bullying, nor does conflict necessarily lead to bullying. A major part of our strategy to help children deal with conflict is our "Positive Behaviour for Learning" program and specifically our teaching children to "follow the **Creeker High 5**".

The Creeker High 5 are:

1. IGNORE them
2. Talk friendly – telling them to stop
3. Walk away
4. Talk firmly – telling them to stop
5. Report to the teacher or person on playground duty.

These five strategies are designed to allow the person who feels they are being bullied, to have control and effective strategies to deal with THE issue. The "Creeker High 5" also gives the opportunity for the person who may be acting inappropriately to learn that their behaviour is not acceptable. So, as always, there are plenty of opportunities to learn for both students. You may also notice the Creeker High 5 on the back of all our Playground Duty vests.

Unfortunately the media tends to portray every instance of school yard conflict as bullying. Whilst no one wants to see any person bullied, harassed or victimised not every instance of school yard conflict is bullying. Sometimes it can be a simple disagreement, where neither child will back down from their point of view. Situations such as this are a perfect opportunity to teach students about tolerance for other people's opinions and beliefs. These are the opportunities that we as parents and educators need to embrace and model to students an appropriate means to deal with the situation.

A typical scenario that occurs too often is when a child goes home from school after a falling out with his or her best friend at school Mum can tell that something is wrong and is understandably worried. The child tells mum that the friend said a nasty thing or that the friend played with someone else and did not want to be with them at lunchtime. The parent rings the school and informs us that the child has been bullied. Often the parent rings the parent of the other child and accuses the other party of bullying her child. The second parent is naturally protective of their child and so they may retaliate and make accusations in return. The situation then escalates and we now have whole families in conflict. The crazy thing here, is that often two days later the kids are best friends again but irreparable harm has been done to the adult relationships.



Mr Sean Bennett





This, unfortunately is not an uncommon occurrence and happens for a number of reasons: The parent may not know that conflict in relationships are a part of life and school children are taught how to deal with conflict as often as they are taught how to do school work. Sometimes the parent forgets that they are the adult and the coach in this situation and the advice they offer the child, is very important. Too often the parent gets involved in the dispute and often contributes to the anxiety the child is feeling.

The proper parenting skill here is to know what advice to give, not to jump to the child's defence or get involved with any other party (ie don't try to get other parents or students involved). We all want the best for our children and we just have to remember we are helping them gain skills for a successful life, not just the next week.

So, if you are worried about conflict your child may be having at school, please talk to your child's teacher, our Guidance Officer, Mr Brown, or a member of our School Administration Team. In this way we can work together to ensure all students gain the skills they need to be successful adults.

Wet Weather

Well I am pretty sure we are all getting a little fed up with the rain. The students have been fantastic as they have had so many lunchtimes where it has been concrete or inside play that they could have become quite frustrated. But instead, they have been very calm and just accepted that the wet will be going on for a little while longer.

The wet has had a big impact on our grounds and in order to try and save the oval for our Athletics Carnivals we are having to be quite restrictive. In fact the ground is so soft that if you walk across the grass in large parts of the school not only do you start to sink, but water also comes to the surface.

Colour Run

With the oval so waterlogged we cannot hold the Colour Run at present and soon it will be too cold. We are awaiting confirmation, but we are looking at holding the Colour Run in Spring or Term 4. When we have a confirmed date we will let you know.

We held our school ANZAC Day Ceremony last Thursday, with Kawana RSL Sub-branch supporting us with a guest speaker. We also had the school participating in the Kawana RSL March which is a change from our previous attendance at Maroochydore.

We also held our Cross Country on Monday with the kids all seeming to have a ball. And for the first time in quite a while, our upper school students ran a course that actually went out of the school grounds for parts of the track.







Reading with your child




As everyone is aware, I have a very strong passion for reading and teaching students to read and read well. The table below shows the massive impact reading at home has on a child. Even as little as 5 minutes a day will have a big impact on a child, lifting their reading ability from the bottom 10% to the mid-range.

To put it simply, if you spend at least 5 minutes a day on reading your child can lift their grades from an E to a C. I defy any parent to say that their child's potential success in life is worth less than 5 minutes time spent reading. Also, it doesn't matter if you are not a confident reader, the child won't know or mind, they just benefit. So have a read of the table below and spend 5 to 20 minutes a day reading with your child.




WHY READ 20 MINUTES A DAY?



Student A reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 minutes per day• 3,600 minutes per year• 1,800,000 words per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 minutes per day• 900 minutes per year• 282,000 words per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 minute per day• 180 minutes per year• 8,000 words per year
		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scores in the 90th percentile on standardized tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scores in the 10th percentile on standardized tests

Want to be a better reader? Simply READ!



Best wishes for the coming fortnight

Sean

Sean Bennett
Principal



PREP ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN!

We are excited to inform you that we are now accepting Prep enrolments for 2026!

If you're an existing family with younger siblings commencing next year, please drop in your enrolment application forms to the office.

This will allow our friendly Admin ladies to process your application before the rush later this year.

Enrolment forms can either be collected from admin, or you can download the complete enrolment package from our website. [Please click here to view and download.](#)

Please ensure that ALL the documents are printed, fully completed, signed where required and the following documents are presented at the office:

- Birth Certificate - original to be sighted, not held on file.
- Legal/Custody – if Court Orders exist please provide a copy of the order.
- Immunisation Record
- Passport and Visa (copies of any relevant visas for your child and family)



**2026 PREP
ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN**

- Book a personalised guided tour of the school
- Come to one of our information sessions or
- Come along to a Pre-Prep Play Date - no need to register, simply sign in at the office on the day.

Prep Play Dates to be announced soon.

CONTACT US 07 5452 3444 www.mtncreekss.qp.edu.au

FOLLOW US www.facebook.com/MountainCreekSS





POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

PBL FOCUS WEEKS 5 AND 6

Each fortnight, our school focuses on a different expectation. These expectations are explicitly taught and then reinforced through the awarding of Creeker Credits.

Our focus for the next fortnight is:

'Be Ready for Learning.'

This expectation focuses on transitioning into class ready to learn.



PBL CELEBRATIONS—TERM 2

At the end of each term, we celebrate students that make good behaviour choices. This term, in Week 10, will be holding a Silent Disco with games and prizes in our hall. Students will be invited to the celebration if:-

- They have earned 50 x Creeker Credits for the term
- Have no more than 2 completed 'Orange Slips.' (More information about the orange slip process will be shared in our next newsletter.)

TRIPLE P—POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

Did you know that the government funds The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program? This is an online program focusing on positive interactions between parents and their children.

Is Triple P Online right for me and my child?

- Understand what's within your control to change and influence for your child's benefit
- Create the best environment for your child's development
- Know how to address child behaviours
- Promote new skills and help emotional self-regulation
- Improve your relationship with your children
- Enjoy family life more!

To find out more information, please visit
<https://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/qld-en/triple-p/>





SPIDERS IN 1B

1B are learning how to write an information report about something we know as part of their English unit. Last week they learned all about spiders! To help them understand they played a fun spider web game.

Sitting in a circle they threw a ball of wool to each other to make a big web. Then Mrs Hickey taped the wool down with masking tape. She added a spider to the web and they had to try and walk through the web without stepping on the wool or the spider.



REGIONAL SOCCER TRIALS

Congratulations to Roxy, Eilidh and Grace who played soccer in the School District team at the Regional Trials last week. Roxy was awarded the 'Coaches Player Award' of the tournament and Grace and Eilidh made it onto the Regional team to go to State trials.



YEAR TWO USING COLOUR IN ARTWORK

This week the year two students have been learning about the element of colour in their Visual Arts lesson. We watched a video about spotting colour in nature. Then we conducted a science experiment using the primary colours to make secondary colours. After that we identified the warm and cool colours of the colour wheel and later used these to create an artwork. It was a very busy, but interesting lesson.





YEAR 1 RAINFOREST PUPPET SHOW

Last week our Year 1 students were captivated by a special rainforest puppet show designed to spark curiosity and wonder about Australia's unique rainforests. The interactive performance helped students explore fascinating facts about this precious environment while encouraging a sense of appreciation and respect for the natural world.

As part of their Science unit, students also engaged in meaningful discussions about the impacts of litter and pollution. These conversations helped them understand the important role each of us plays in caring for our environment and protecting our rainforests for future generations.



2025 TERM 2 DATE CLAIMER

Event	Date
SC Chess Tournament (Chess Club students only)	Monday 19 May 2025
Year 6—Visit from MCSHS to talk about Year 7	Monday 19 May 2025
Under 8's Day	Friday 23 May 2025
MCSHS Zenith Information Session (5.30-6.15 at MCSHS)	Monday 26 May 2025
FREE DRESS DAY—STATE OF ORIGIN	Wednesday 28 May 2025
Choral Fanfare @ Coolum State School	Friday 30 May 2025
P&C School Disco	Friday 30 May 2025
MCSHS Year 7 General and Zenith Applications Close	Friday 30 May 2025
SEQ Football (soccer) Championships	Monday 2 June 2025
P&C Meeting—6pm	Tuesday 10 June 2025
SCHOOL CLOSED—Show Day Holiday	Friday 13 June 2025
Readers Cup	Tuesday 17 June 2025
Athletics Carnival—Years 2 & 3 all day	Wednesday 18 June 2025
Athletics Carnival—Prep & Year 1 (morning and middle session)	Thursday 19 June 2025
Athletics Carnival—Years 4 to 6	Friday 20 June 2025
Year 2 Excursion—Caboolture Historical Village	Monday 23 June 2025
Whole School Assembly—9am	Thursday 26 June 2025
Last day of Term 2	Friday 27 June 2025
First Day of Term 3	Monday 14 July 2025





YEAR 6 TO 7 HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Our local State High Schools run a variety of transition activities that give Year 6 students and their families opportunities to become familiar with their new school processes and procedures, teaching and leadership staff and to meet future fellow students in the year prior to their commencement at high school. We work closely with Mountain Creek State High School to make this transition as seamless as possible.

If you have not yet thought about your child's enrolment into high school in 2026 we suggest that you begin by visiting the High school web sites and checking their catchment maps to determine if your child is within their catchment. Below are website details and other important enrolment dates (where available).

If you require any further information please direct your calls to the high schools for assistance.



Mountain Creek State High School - 07 5457 8333—<https://mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au/>

Year 7 General Enrolments for 2026 Applications due https://mountaincreekshs.eq.edu.au/enrolments	Due Now
Representatives from MCSHS will come to talk to our Year 6 students and distribute enrolment packs	Monday 19 May 2025
TRANSITION DAY—YEAR 6 INTO YEAR 7 (Applications must be received by the high school by Friday 22 August 2025 to participate in this day)	
Student Orientation/Transition Day—held at the high school	Thursday 4 September 2025
Cut-off for Year 7 enrolments to attend catch-up transition morning	Friday 21 November 2025
Catch up Orientation sessions (for students who missed main orientation morning)	Thursday 27 November 2025
ZENITH AND STEM PROGRAMS	
Combined Zenith and Stem Program Parent Information Evening—held at the high school	Monday 26 May 2025
Zenith and Stem Program applications close	Friday 30 May 2025
Notification of Acceptance	Term 4 2025

Chancellor State College - <https://chancellorsc.eq.edu.au>

Please refer to Chancellor State College website and Facebook page for all upcoming dates.
<https://chancellorsc.eq.edu.au/enrolments>
<https://www.facebook.com/ChancellorStateCollege>

Maroochydore State High School— <https://maroochydoress.eq.edu.au/enrolments>

Please refer to Maroochydore State High School website and Facebook page for all upcoming dates.
<https://maroochydoreshs.eq.edu.au/enrolments>
<https://www.facebook.com/MaroochydoreSHS>

Please note that these dates are accurate at the time of publishing and may change at any time.





COMMUNITY NEWS

MCSS P&C Presents

SCHOOL DISCO

Friday 30 May

TICKETS \$12
JUNIOR 4:30 - 6:00
SENIOR 6:30 - 8:00

PIZZA/DRINK 6 - 6:30

TICKETS @ MUNCH MONITOR
OR @ TUCKSHOP 29 & 30 MAY

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CREEKER SAYS... EATING



Be ready for learning

