

MOUNTAIN CREEK STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter



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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

The Easter holidays are well and truly behind us and the students seem to be back into their school routines. As a school, we are continuing our work around early years literacy and assessment ready learners.

Regarding students and their work, it is often hard to get children to give more than a one word answer. Often we ask "So how was your day? Answer "Good". We then try to follow up with "What did you learn? And again that infuriating one word answer "Stuff", or occasionally we get an "I dunno" or "Can't remember".

So, with an emphasis on English, try these questions and hopefully you get more than a one word answer.

- What are you learning in English?
- Why are you learning that? What is the purpose?
- What is the assessment task?
- How are you going?

Hopefully you get a bit more of a detailed response.

Staff News

Many of you will remember last year's "Wearable Art Night" in the hall and the great outfits students created from non-traditional materials. We would like to congratulate Louise Gerzanics (often found in the library) as a finalist for this year's 'Australian Wearable Art Festival' held in August, here on the Sunshine Coast. This is now her second year as a finalist in the Festival showing off her fabulous creative talents!

But wait, there's more, Louise has also been selected as a Finalist in the "Paper On Skin" art festival <https://www.paperonskin.com/> in Tasmania. This is a very prestigious event in the Wearable Art world. It is an international competition and only held every second year with entrants working solely with paper as their medium. Louise will have to travel to Devonport, Tasmania for this event <https://burnieartscouncil.com/2024-paperonskinfinalists>.

ANZAC Day

Every year we remember the men and women who have served in our armed forces and sacrificed so much so that we may enjoy the freedoms and lifestyle we cherish. This year was no different and thanks go to our student leaders and school staff for a great school ceremony. This is my second year at Mountain Creek and I am proud of how our school ceremony runs, how our younger students seem to sense the solemnity of the occasion and how students, overall, are respectful during the ceremony.



Mr Sean Bennett





Lastly, thanks to all students who marched in the main ANZAC Day March on Thursday 25 April. We had a great number of student representatives and I am especially proud of their conduct and willingness to give up what many see as 'just another day off school'. It demonstrates the respect our community holds for the sacrifices made by the men and women of our armed forces and it seems to be a very strong tradition in our school.

Lest we forget!

Reading with your child

As everyone is aware I have a very strong passion for reading. The table below shows the massive impact reading at home has on a child, even as little as 5 minutes a day, will have 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 AT HOME?

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

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days and Student C will have read for 3 school days.

Want to be a better reader? Simply READ

Best wishes for the coming fortnight

Sean

Sean Bennett
Principal



MANAGING ASSESSMENT REQUESTS

2023 Protocol for Managing Assessment Requests and NDIS Provider Requests from External Service Providers

Statement regarding the importance of collaboration

Mountain Creek State School acknowledges that external providers offer a valuable service in supporting individual students who are referred to them. Support may include assessments, diagnostic decision-making and therapeutic intervention. As part of the external provider's process of assessing need and supporting students, schools may be requested to provide information regarding a student's current presentation, progress, functioning and support needs.

All requests regarding assessments or NDIS access requests from parents and/or external providers are now required to be submitted to the following email address:

MCSSStudentServices@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au

At Mountain Creek State School, it is **not appropriate** for class teachers to be contacted directly regarding these requests.

If the assessment request is from a clinical care provider such as an occupational therapist, psychologist or paediatrician, then a written request from that clinical care provider or specialist **MUST** be provided for the school team to consider this request.

Parental Consent

The school will provide parents with a copy of the *DoE Consent Form to Share Personal Information with Third Parties* **prior** to actioning any requests.

Timeframes

The Student Services email inbox will be checked on a **weekly** basis and all requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. A response will be provided in relation to the request **within a six-week timeframe from the date of receipt (inclusive of school holidays)**.

Declining requests for information

The school may decline a request from an external provider to complete/compile information for an enrolled student, or access the school site for the provision of therapy or observation.

Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis and will be communicated to parents, including reasons why the request cannot be actioned.

A review of an initial decision to decline an information or access request may be directed to the principal: principal@mtncreekss.eq.edu.au. The principal will review the information provided, then make and communicate a determination within five school days. The principal's decision is final.

Parents can also access report cards and student information through the QParents App: <https://qparents.qld.edu.au/#/login>



CREEKER MERIT AWARDS HALL OF FAME

At Mountain Creek we recognise students who consistently make good behaviour choices in the classroom and playground. Students receive Creeker Credits for displaying these behaviours and are awarded certificates as they reach each milestone. Additionally, at the end of each semester students who have earned 50 Creeker Credits are invited to attend our Creeker Credit Celebration. More information about the event this semester will be sent in the next couple of weeks.

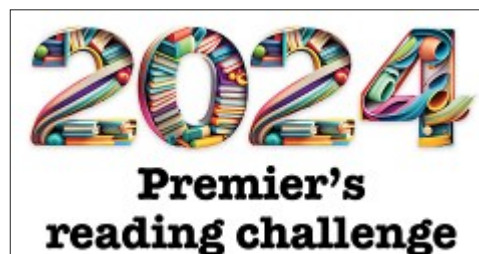
Congratulations to all of our amazing Creekers who have been presented with their Creeker Bronze Merit Award.





PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

The Premier’s Reading Challenge for students up to Year 9 is a wonderful opportunity to foster a love for reading and enhance literacy skills. By emphasizing that it's not a competition, students can focus on enjoying the process of exploring new books and topics. The PRC aims to improve literacy and encourage children to read for pleasure and learning.



The PRC kicks off on Tuesday 7 May and we are geared up to explore some captivating stories. Reading record sheets can be collected from your teacher or the library ready for students to start their reading adventure.

Certificates will be awarded to those students who complete the challenge. For more information please check out the [Premier’s Reading Challenge website](#).

2024 TERM 2 DATE CLAIMER

EVENT	DATE
LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED	Monday 6 May
Mothers Day Stall	Thursday 9 May and Friday 10 May
Walk To School Day	Friday 10 May
Year 1 Incursion—Rainforest Experience Puppet Show	Friday 10 May
Year 4 Excursion—Sea Life Mooloolaba	Monday 13 May
Prep Incursion—Mysterious Materials Incursion	Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 May
Under 8’s Day	Friday 17 May
Year 4 Excursion—Sea Life Mooloolaba	Friday 17 May
MCSHS Zenith/STEM Information Session*	Monday 20 May*
P&C Meeting (6pm)	Thursday 16 May
Ice Cream Week	Tuesday 21-Thursday 23 May
MCSHS Enrolments due	Friday 24 May
Year 3 Excursion—Shelly Beach, Is It Living?	Monday 3 June and Tuesday 4 June
State of Origin Free Dress Day	Wednesday 5 June
Show Day Holiday	Friday 14 June
School Athletics Day (Prep to Year 3)	Wednesday 19 June
Whole School Assembly (1.30 pm)	Thursday 20 June
P&C Meeting (6pm)	Thursday 20 June
School Athletics Day (Years 4-6)	Friday 21 June
Last day of Term 2	Friday 21 June

Dates are subject to change at short notice

*Please refer to MCSHS website for further information.

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

Our school ANZAC Day Service was held last Monday with the school choir performing 'We Are Australian' and the Australian and New Zealand national anthems. It gave our students, teachers and parents the opportunity to pay their respect for our service men, women and animals.

Thank you to all our students and staff who represented Mountain Creek State School at the ANZAC march and parade at Cotton Tree on ANZAC Day. Our school captains: Josh, Harry, Zoe and Flora lay the wreath on behalf of MCSS. Our community demonstrated strong community spirit. This special day helped us to serve our community and acknowledges the many fallen soldiers and support personnel who have made Australia a safe and successful nation.

Thank you for purchasing poppies. We raised almost \$300 which will be donated to the Kawana RSL.



LEARNING ABOUT COLOUR IN ART

This week, as a part of their Visual Art unit, the year two students were learning about all of the different colours that Art in nature comes in. We experimented with mixing colours to determine the primary and secondary colours, we discussed warm and cool colours and created our own colour wheels.

Jodie Allen



BASKETBALL REPRESENTATIVES

We clearly have some talented basketball players at Mountain Creek. Recently Nate and Milo were selected to represent the U12 Sunshine Coast Phoenix rep basketball team and will play in a number of rounds against other teams from across SE Qld in the coming months. From there, they will play off at the State Championships this coming September in Toowoomba.



Meanwhile, Austin, Nate, Chace and Riley were selected to represent RipCity, Sunshine Coast. The boys will play for SE Qld starting in July with lots of training beforehand. After 8 weeks competing with other teams, they will also head to Toowoomba to compete in the State Championships. This is both Chase and Riley's second year competing and representing Rip City with the other boys starting their first year at a representative level.



Congratulations to you all and good luck in Toowoomba.

YEAR 1—OCEAN LIFE INCURSION

The students in Year One had an incursion by Ocean Life Education called 'Bringing the Sea to You'. The students learnt about different environments such as the open ocean, coral reef, sea grass, mangroves, rocky shores and the sandy beach. They placed various toy animals in the environment that they would live. There were fascinating live marine animals to stroke such as a sea star, sea urchin, sea cucumber and a freshwater turtle that left big smiles on their faces.



CROSS COUNTRY/FUN RUN

We had two amazing days for our Prep – 3 Fun Run and our Year 4 – 6 Fun Run/Cross Country Carnival. Congratulations to all runners in both the Fun Run and Cross Country from Prep to Year 6 for giving it a red-hot crack, doing the best they could and running it in the right spirit. All runners had an absolute ball and were supported and cheered on by classmates and parents who came to watch. A big congratulations to the students who placed in the Fun Run and Cross Country.

From our Cross Country, 26 students have been selected in our MCSS Cross Country team to compete at the Coastal District School Sport Cross Country Trial at the Maroochydore Multi Sports Complex on Friday 3 May 2024. Good luck to all runners.

Congratulations to Cawley for being crowned the 2025 Inter-House Fun Run/Cross Country Champions!

PREP			
Boys		Girls	
1 st	Zane (PD)	1 st	Macy (PD)
2 nd	Levi (PD)	2 nd	Bowie (PH)
3 rd	Koda (PD)	3 rd	Riley (PD)

YEAR 1			
Boys		Girls	
1 st	Elijah R (1A)	1 st	Brooklyn (1H)
2 nd	Elijah M (1W)	2 nd	Emerson (1A)
3 rd	Kingsley (1A)	3 rd	Indi (1H)

YEAR 2			
Boys		Girls	
1 st	Darcy (2H)	1 st	Harlie (2C)
2 nd	Jai (2H)	2 nd	Hannah (2W)
3 rd	Reid (2W)	3 rd	Flair (2W)

YEAR 3			
Boys		Girls	
1 st	Xavier (3M)	1 st	Grace (3D)
2 nd	River (3L)	2 nd	Zeeta (3D)
3 rd	Deegan (3D) Josiah (3L)	3 rd	Alyce (3L)

YEAR 4			
Boys		Girls	
1 st	Lorenzo (45B)	1 st	Tahlee (4J)
2 nd	Hudson (4G)	2 nd	Adelaide (4J)
3 rd	Asher (4T)	3 rd	



Cross Country Placings			
	1st	2nd	3rd
2014 Girls	Irina 45B	Abigail (5F)	Roxy (5F)
2014 Boys	Vincent (4S)	Jukka (4S)	Austin (5J)
2013 Girls	Skye (6K)	Maeve (6G)	Demi (5H)
2013 Boys	Sebastian (5J)	Zack (6G)	Aidan (6G)
2012 Girls	Zoe (6B)	Mackenzie (6M)	Lyric (6B)
2012 Boys	Lachlan (6B)	Taj (6W)	Zach (6W)

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

Recently, students have been focused on learning more about gratitude. Read on for some interesting the benefits of practising gratitude!

GRATITUDE

Some benefits of practising gratitude are:

- After 21 days you start to scan the world for positives.
- After 42 days you become:
 - more optimistic, energised and focused.
 - less likely to get sick.
- you will sleep better.
- anxiety and depression decreases.

A few quick and simple ways to practise being grateful are:

Journaling. Each night write down three things that went well for you that day or purchase a gratitude journal with gratitude prompts.

Write a gratitude letter to someone special, telling them why you are grateful they are in your life.







Have a family discussion on the way home from school or around the dinner table about the things that went well that day or made you smile.

You may like to consider looking at the journals from The Resilience Project website if that is something you're interested in. <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/shop/>

Gratitude

Working on gratitude helps us to be **thankful** and **appreciate what we have in our lives**, rather than focussing on what we don't have or what we want. When we practise being grateful, we start to **scan the world to look for positives** – this only takes 21 days!

Benefits of practising gratitude everyday are:

 <p>Increased levels of energy.</p>	 <p>Feeling happier.</p>	 <p>Become more focussed, determined and optimistic.</p>
 <p>Better sleep.</p>	 <p>Lower levels of anxiety and depression.</p>	 <p>Less likely to get sick.</p>



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.

If you have not yet thought about your child's enrolment into high school in 2025 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 contact the high schools for assistance.

Mountain Creek State High School - 07 5457 8333—https://mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au/	
Year 7 General Enrolments for 2025 Applications due	Friday 24 May 2024
Year 6 going into Year 7 Information Sessions—held at the high school	TBA
TRANSITION DAY—YEAR 6 INTO YEAR 7 (Applications must be received by the high school by Friday 24 May 2024 to participate in this day)	
Student Orientation/Transition Day—held at the high school	Thursday 5 September 2024
Catch up Orientation sessions (for students who missed main orientation day)	Thursday 28 November 2024
ZENITH AND STEM PROGRAMS	
Combined Zenith and Stem Program Parent Information Evening—held at the high school	Monday 20 May 2024
Zenith and Stem Program applications close	TBA
Notification of Acceptance	Term 4 2024
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.



Just Be YOU!
GIRLS IN YEAR 3 & 4

SUNDAY 19TH MAY
9AM-11:30AM
KAWANA ISLAND MEETING PLACE

The 'Just Be YOU!' workshop is one for our younger Tweens, to empower them to feel AMAZING about who they are!

- ♥ What self-esteem and self-confidence is
- ♥ What positive self-talk is and why it is so important
- ♥ Brainstorming ideas that will help to fill up our self-esteem bucket!
- ♥ Why comparisons are unhelpful
- ♥ What makes your daughter special and unique

To REGISTER or for more info visit: www.headstartpsychology.com.au

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