



Mt Cotton State School Parents & Citizens Association Newsletter – 8th December 2015



'For Our Children'

Email: pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au

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Treasurer:	Karlene Cunningham	0413 038 185	karlene.cunningham@bigpond.com

NEXT P&C MEETING



The **Next P&C Meeting** is to be held on Wednesday, **10th February 2016 at 7pm**, in the school library.

The **P&C AGM** will be held on **Wednesday 9th March 2016 at 7pm**. Everyone is welcome to come along!

From The President

Hi Everyone. I would like to thank everyone for all their help and support throughout 2015. I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope everyone has a fantastic break and I look forward to seeing you all next year.

Thanks Nicole

With the year coming to an end and the new year coming around very fast. Plans for Mt Cottons Fete are in full swing.

SAVE THE DATE - 14th May 2016.

Mt Cotton School Fete

Rides, showbags, food, performances, markets and much, much more.

We are looking for anyone that would like to have a stall to please contact Jess Zutt on 0410 620 075. We are also looking for donations in the New Year of items soft drink, sauces, lucky dip prizes, plants, books, coloured hair spray, chocolate bars, water etc.

The Christmas Raffle Winners are as follows:

1. Webber BBQ - donated by Matt McEachan Local MP Member. Winner - Andrew Smith (Josh, Senior B).
2. Pots and Pan Set - donated by Dixon Homes Winner - Mikaela, 5B.
3. Caravan Matt - donated by Capalaba Caravan Sales. Winner Jett, Prep C.
4. Netgear - donated by Nicola Schuback. Winner - Bree Lily, Prep D.
5. Travel Voucher to the value of \$100.00 - donated by Erin Ross at Travel Managers. Winner - Bridie, 2D
6. \$75.00 gift voucher from Honey I scratched the car - donated by Amelia Christensen from Honey I scratched the car. Winner - Jai, 2A
7. 5 x 30min metafit class at Mt Cotton - donated by Abi at Metafit. Winner - Val Swile (Jasmine, 5B).

8. \$50 gift voucher - donated by Wendy at Beautify exclusive. Winner - Robyn Benfer (Riley, Prep A).
9. \$50 gift voucher - donated by Wendy at Beautify exclusive. Winner - Matilda, 2C.
10. Esky filled with Christmas treats - donated by the P&C. Winner - Chelsea, 2B.
11. Esky filled with Christmas treats - donated by the P&C. Winner - Harper.
12. Norwex pack - donated by Christine Calvert. Winner - Phoebe, 2D.
13. Lashes set - donated by Lorna. Winner - V. Carrick (Lani, 2D).

Regards Nicole

P&C Facebook & Twitter Pages

Don't miss out on all the current school information and reminders for upcoming events. 'Like' and 'Share' our **'Mount Cotton State School Community'** page on Facebook, or search for **'MCSS Community'** on Twitter. Remember to send any reminders or notices you are aware of for your child's class or year level through to Nicole McGarrity so we can share the information with other parents on Facebook. Please email Nicole at nicolemcgarrity@gmail.com.



HOW CAN I HELP?

- **CLASSROOM HELP** – Why not ask your child's teacher if there is anything they need help with? Maybe you can take some cutting out or similar home after drop-off and bring it back at pick-up time?
- **TUCKSHOP** – Can you spare a couple of hours on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday to help out in our wonderful Tuckshop? If so, please drop in and see Rachelle.
- **UNIFORM SHOP** – Can you spare an hour to help out in our Uniform Shop? Please contact Mel Foster email mel-foster@live.com.au, phone 0418 438 747 to offer your assistance.



Tuckshop News:

YAY! The last week is finally here!

******Just a reminder that this week the tuckshop will not be open for meal orders, and online ordering is shut. However, we will be doing**

drinks, chips, gingerbread students, slushies and ice creams.****

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the **AMAZING** volunteers that have given up their spare time to help in the tuckshop. We simply couldn't function without you all!!!

A reminder that Week 1 in 2016 the tuckshop will be shut while I prepare all the yummy meals for your beautiful children.

I would like to wish you all a **SAFE** and **MERRY CHRISTMAS!** I can't wait to see you all again in 2016
Rachelle

Uniform Shop News:



OPENING HOURS FOR TERM 4:

Monday afternoons	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Wednesday afternoons	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Thursday mornings	8.00am – 9.00am

Price List & Order Form – These are found on the school website (www.mtcottonss.eq.edu.au under Support & Resources/Documents/P&C Assoc/Price List & Order Form), or the school office, or uniform shop. Forms can be returned to the P&C box in the school office or the uniform shop.

Hi Everyone. Well here we are at the last week of school!! We had a big day last Tuesday getting lots of new Preppies ready for next year! I can't wait to see them all dressed up on their first day!!

I would like to thank the wonderful people who have come in and helped me throughout the year. I really appreciate it!

If you still need uniforms for next year don't panic. We will be open on **Thursday the 21st January from 11am to 5pm.** Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

Mel

EMAIL: mel-foster@live.com.au

PHONE: 0418 438 747



From the Principal **2015!!**

As this is the last newsletter for the year, I would like to congratulate all students for their hard work over the year. It has been an extremely busy year and our students have made us proud with the effort they have put in. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our parents for their continued support and our dedicated staff members who continually work hard to ensure your children have the best learning opportunities available to them. A 2015 celebration letter will be sent out later this week.

Principal Position:

On Friday, I was informed that I have been permanently appointed as the Principal of Mount Cotton State School! I am thrilled and feel extremely lucky to be part of the Mount Cotton community. I look forward to working

with the team to grow Clever, Creative and Caring children in 2016!

Thank you:

To those teachers who are leaving, we would like to acknowledge the enormous effort each of you has put in over your time at Mount Cotton. Your contributions to the day to day life of our school and your ability to engage students will be sadly missed. Thank you for all that you have provided to our very lucky school.

Specifically we say good bye to Di Buckley, Adelle De Bruin, Kathy McCarthy, Lisa Wagner, Cheryl Wallace & Melinda Bashford.

Constable Jo

We are sad to say that Senior Constable Jo McDonald will be leaving our school as our Adopt-A-Cop at the end of this term. We adopted her on 13th November 2008 shortly after her eldest son Jake enrolled at Mount Cotton State School.

Over the last 7 years Senior Constable Jo has visited the school numerous times to visit classrooms and attend special functions at the school including our ANZAC Day ceremonies, Harmony Days, Peer Support, School Leader Inductions and Graduation ceremonies.

Senior Constable Jo has been a valuable resource in the classrooms over the years assisting older students and teachers with discussions about cyber bullying, road safety and drugs. The younger students have had the pleasure of her story telling about connecting with the community and how to approach and speak to police and other people, when they are in trouble.

Senior Constable Jo has brought her police vehicle many times to the school and students have been very excited to sit in it, turn the sirens on and the vehicle has been to the school adorned in tinsel at Christmas time.

Senior Constable Jo has been of great assistance to our staff over the years, supporting us in the many different situations that schools deal with. Jo has been a very kind, committed, loyal and helpful member of our wider community and she will be sorely missed by our staff and students. We wish you all the best, Senior Constable Jo, and thank you for being a wonderful Adopt-A-Cop.

Semester 2 Report Cards:

Your child's Semester 2 report was emailed yesterday. This report includes a rating on your child's academic achievement, effort and behaviour, as well as comments made by your child's teacher/s to provide valuable information regarding their progress so far this year. We encourage all families to take the time to discuss your child's report card with them to identify areas of success and to set goals for achievement in 2016.

As you would be aware, the introduction of the Australian Curriculum means that our students are being assessed against the standards outlined in the Australian Curriculum in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography from Prep to Year 10. The level of achievement your child receives in each of these areas is determined by how well they have achieved the **required national standard**, not on how

well they have achieved compared to others in their class.

In Year 3 to 10, when reading your child's report card, it is important to understand what each level of achievement means. Achieving a 'C' means that a student has achieved the **required standard for their year level** as outlined in the Australian Curriculum. In general, it means that students can remember and understand learning considered essential for their age. Students who achieve A's and B's have generally demonstrated an extension of the required standard for their year level, such as applying learning in problem solving contexts.

Students receive a 'D' when they have not yet achieved the required standard for their year level, however, are working towards it and continue to learn and develop. Students who receive an 'E' are experiencing difficulty and require intervention and support. Whatever rating your child receives, the teacher's comments will tell you how hard they are trying and describe the progress being made.

It is important to note that in the Year 3 to 6 report cards; the effort and behaviour ratings are as follows: Excellent, Very Good, Satisfactory, Needs Attention and Unacceptable.

In Year 1 and 2 we continue to use the five-point scale of Very High, High, Sound, Developing and Support Required to report on student achievement in all areas of Academic, Effort and Behaviour.

Prep has been recognised as the first year of schooling in Queensland since 2012 and utilises a five-point scale of Applying (A), Making Connections (MC), Working With (WW), Exploring (E) and Becoming Aware (BA) to report on student achievement in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science, History (Semester 1) and Geography (Semester 2). A student's effort and behaviour is reported via a teacher's comment.

Our Vision is to grow Clever, Creative and Caring children and we encourage all students to strive to achieve to their potential. For some students, regardless of their level of achievement, their rating is a result of them applying themselves and working extremely hard. These students should feel proud of their efforts and be congratulated.

We trust that you will find the information in your child's report card informative. We welcome parents to discuss any aspect of the report card with the classroom teacher.

2016 Class Lists:

Our class lists will be displayed on Wednesday 9th of December from 9:00 am to 10:30 am and 1:30 pm to 4 pm. The class lists will be displayed near the tuckshop area. As our teaching staff and classes are dependent on enrolment numbers, all state schools in Queensland staffing is finalised on the 8th school day in 2016, therefore, there may be changes to the current classes. By the 8th day, we will have a clear indication of the number of children in each class who has and hasn't returned to Mount Cotton State School.

Semester 2 Parent Interviews:

If you would like to discuss your child's Semester 2 progress, please liaise with your child's class teacher around a suitable interview time.

Statement of Purpose: Every Minute Counts!

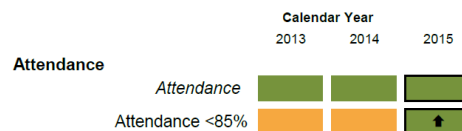
Every Minute Counts – this ensures that we support our parents in having their child attend school for the maximum amount of time, as well as ensuring that our teachers make the most of instructional time; that we do not miss an opportunity for learning to take place.

At Mount Cotton State School, our attendance target is **95%**. Below is the attendance percent for each class for **Week 9**

<i>PA</i>	<i>PB</i>	<i>PC</i>	<i>PD</i>	<i>1A</i>	<i>1B</i>	<i>1C</i>	<i>1D</i>
93	88	90	95	92	88	94	96
<i>2A</i>	<i>2B</i>	<i>2C</i>	<i>2D</i>	<i>3A</i>	<i>3B</i>	<i>3C</i>	
87	94	91	95	90	95	86	
<i>4A</i>	<i>4B</i>	<i>4C</i>	<i>4D</i>	<i>5A</i>	<i>5B</i>	<i>5C</i>	
93	82	96	95	92	96	96	
<i>SA</i>	<i>SB</i>	<i>SC</i>					
92	91	88					

Headline Indicators

Mount Cotton State School (0284)
South East (S6)
Primary



Your support as parents in achieving the best possible academic, social and emotional outcomes for your child is greatly valued.

Kind regards,
Meagan Steward
mstew40@eq.edu.au

From the Deputy Principal

Annual Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

A HUGE thank you to the school community for all the donations for our annual Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. It was wonderful to be able to hand over the donations last Thursday and know that they will be given to families in our area who are facing hardships this Christmas.

Thank you for your support of this worthy cause. We wish all families a safe and happy break and look forward to another busy and productive year next year!
Glenice Cleary
Deputy Principal

Congratulations: Tara 4D recently competed in the Gold Coast City Titles surf lifesaving carnival and she placed 2nd in her event. 19 surf clubs and over 100 swimmers competed. Well done Tara!

Merry Christmas
and Happy New
Year!

