



Mt Cotton State School Parents & Citizens Association Newsletter – 12th April 2016



'For Our Children'

Email: pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au

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NEXT P&C MEETING



The next meeting for the P&C will be held this **Wednesday 13th March 2016 at 7.00pm**. Everyone is welcome to come along!

BANKING NEWS:

We're back!! Refreshed and ready to rock and roll for another term. Two more reward items are on offer this term. We now add the Mud Splat Handball and Outback Pat **Bag Tag** to our list of reward items. Also, don't forget about our great competition this year, you can win a family trip to Australia Zoo. All you have to do is bank 15 times by the end of term 3. Easy Peasy.

I would also like to welcome my helpers for this year Natalie, and Rikki. So great to have them on board, it defiantly is much easier to be a Banking Guru with their assistance. Can't wait to see all of those yellow wallets on Tuesday's!! Woohoo Roo from the Guru!!

Anita
Banking Guru

FETE NEWS

Mount Cotton State School's Fete will be held on Saturday 14th May 2016.

We will be selling arm bands for the rides at the Fete from **Wednesday 13th April** in the Uniform Shop. We will be opening the Uniform shop on the following days only for the sale of the arm bands (not uniforms):

Wednesday Afternoons 2.00 – 3.00pm
Friday Mornings 8.15am – 9.00am

We will be closing the presales of these arm bands on **Friday 6th May!** The cost of them are as follows:

Presale to 6th May **\$30.00 each**
On the Day 14th May **\$35.00 each**

The arm bands are for unlimited rides on the day of the Fete and will not be given out prior, they will need to be collected on the morning of the Fete (more information to come).

The following are the rides that will be available on the day:

- Giant slide
- Sizzler
- Cup'n'saucer
- Giant chairs
- Lost temple
- Clown jumping castle

We are chasing sponsorship, if anyone is able to help or knows of anyone that would like to sponsor a stall, could you please contact us on mcssfete@gmail.com.

Also if anyone would like to hold a stall at the Fete please contact Jess on mcssfete@gmail.com. A stall starts from \$30 for a 3x3 spot and this can include second hand goods.

Call out for anyone who has their RSA Licence who is willing to volunteer at the Fete, please email your interest to mcssfete@gmail.com.

We are also putting a call out for anyone that has a large Marquee that would be willing to loan it to us for the Fete. Please email us on the Fete email above.

WE ARE IN NEED OF YOUR HELP!

• Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help on the day of the Fete! If you would like to help out in any way please contact Nicole on 0423 731 175 or email mcssfete@gmail.com.

• Donations

- Side Show Alley Prizes
- Book Stall – Call Danielle Kissane on 0418 759 414
- Plant Stall (new or cuttings) - Call Danielle Kissane on 0418 759 414

For any further information please contact us on mcssfete@gmail.com.

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 us on our P&C email pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au to offer your assistance.

Tuckshop News:



Term 2 has arrived!

There has been a price increase: GARLIC BREAD IS NOW \$1.50.

To order online, go to www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au. Ordering closes online at 8.30am sharp and over the counter at 8.45am. This is to enable us to make sure the food reaches the temperature guidelines.

Do you want to come in and help your school community whilst having fun?

Volunteers are always needed in the tuckshop. Without volunteers, tuckshops simply couldn't open. If you could spare ½ hour, 1 hour, 2 hours or all day either weekly, fort-nightly, monthly or occasionally please contact me either through the school office, via email tuckshop@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au or just stop in and see me at the tuckshop.

Some of the jobs our tuckshop volunteers do:

- Cutting up foods for our fruit salads and salad items
- Preparing sandwiches/wraps
- Washing dishes
- Counter service
- Bagging up orders

None of the meals are prepared on the days when the tuckshop is open. These meals are prepared on Tuesdays when there is no service.

Have an enjoyable week!
Rachelle

Uniform Shop News:



OPENING HOURS FOR TERM 2:

Tuesday afternoons	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Thursday mornings	8.15am – 9.15am

Price List & Order Form – 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. These can be returned to the P&C box in the school office, the uniform shop, or emailed to our P&C email pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au.

We would like to welcome Kylie Shiels as the New Uniform Shop Convenor who is commencing this week. All enquiries for the Uniform Shop are now to go through her on the following details:

Kylie Shiels
Mobile: 0421 556 932
Email: hello@knoxwear.com.au



From the Principal

Welcome back students and families to Term 2. We trust that you had a wonderful break and we look forward to the many exciting learning experiences planned for the term ahead. As always we encourage parents to be active partners in your child's learning and we endeavour to provide many opportunities for you to engage in the experiences that your children have every day.

Parent Interviews

A big thank you to the parents that were able to attend our parent interviews in the last week of the term. It was a great opportunity to chat to the teachers about your child's education.

Staffing

Congratulations to Mrs Shepherdson who had her baby over the holidays! Mrs Shepherdson and the baby are doing well. Mrs Tarli Kelly will be the new 5C teacher. We welcome Mrs Kelly to Mount Cotton! A reminder that this term, we welcome our new Chaplain, Chappy Bonny. She will be working Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sherrin Bell has also joined us from Capalaba State College. Sherrin will be working with the Mount Cotton staff for the remainder of 2016.

ANZAC Ceremony

As you are aware, ANZAC day is Monday 25th of April. It is the day we remember all Australians who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. The spirit of ANZAC, with its human qualities of courage, mateship, and sacrifice, continues to have meaning and relevance for our sense of national identity. Mount Cotton will have an ANZAC ceremony next Friday 22nd of April at 9 am. On the 25th of April, our Mount Cotton Voices will sing at the Redland Bay ANZAC dawn service.

ANZAC Day Stall 2016

In the lead up to Anzac Day, our Student council Representatives will be selling commemorative items under B Block (near the tuckshop) between 8:30am-8:50am. This stall will open from Monday 18 April until Friday 21 April 2016.

Commemorative badges and armbands can be purchased and worn all that week leading up to and including the Anzac Day Commemoration Ceremony on Friday 22 April 2016.

The price list is as follows:

Stickers – 50c

Silk badges - \$1.00

Metal Badges (limited number) - \$5.00

Armbands - \$2.00

Thank you for your support,
Sally Bedford
Head of Curriculum

Our Decoding Strategies

Reading comprehension is the 'essence of reading' (Durkin, 1993), essential not only to academic learning in all subject areas but to lifelong learning as well. Reading comprehension is an active and complex cognitive process that requires an 'intentional and thoughtful interaction between the reader and the text' (Harris & Hodges, 1995). The role of vocabulary development and vocabulary instruction play an integral role in the understanding of what has been read. (South East Region Guidelines for Developing a Whole School Reading Program).

The most effective strategies can be condensed to the following:

- Activation of prior knowledge
- Prioritising information
- Questioning the author and the text
- Evoking sensory images (visualising)
- Drawing inferences
- Retelling or synthesising
- Using 'fix-up' strategies to repair comprehension

At Mount Cotton State School, the strategies listed below are taught using the following comprehensions strategy cards. Good readers use comprehension strategies to make sure they understand what they are reading.


Kit-Kat Connector



Make connections!

- *Connect to what you already know.
- * text-to-text
- * text-to-self
- *text-to-world
- *Activate your background knowledge.


Questioning Owl



Ask **questions** as you read!

- *Ask questions before, during, and after.
- * Who? What? Where? Why?
- *Look for answers while you read.

Picturing Penguin



Visualize as you read!

- *Put pictures in your head as you read.
- *See and think about the story like a movie in your head.


Digger the Dog



Determine **important ideas!**

- *Dig for important details.
- *Dig for information that tells you the author's message.
- *Dig and determine the facts.

Iggy the Inferring Iguana



Infer as you read!

- *Make predictions.
- *Draw conclusions as you put information together.
- *Reflect while you read.


Jabber the Reteller



Synthesize and Retell!

- *Put the information together and think about what you read.
- *Retell the story or what you learned in your own words.

Repair Bear



Monitor and fix-up!

- *Think when you read so you know when you don't understand.
- *Use fix-up strategies when you don't understand (Meaning clues, word clues, picture clues).
- *If you're still stuck, mark the page and ask for help!

Term 2 Events:

Over the holidays, a Term 2 calendar of events was emailed home. If you did not receive a copy, please contact the office.

Uniform Blitz:

During Term 2, we will have a weekly uniform blitz.

Week 1, our blitz is: Our School Shirt

- Prep: Navy blue MCSS polo shirt
- Formal: Maroon Check Blouse/Shirt/Dress
- Sport: MCSS Maroon or White Polo Shirt
- House Shirt (1-6 students and Fridays only)
- Seniors: MCSS Senior Shirt



Sports Uniform:

House Shirt:



Victoria Point High School Musical – Year 6 students

Victoria Point High School has invited forty Year 6 students to see a dress rehearsal of their school musical in Week 4. The musical begins at 11:45 am. Parents would be required to provide transport to and from the event. If you would like your child to watch the musical, please let me know by the end of Week 2.

Fire Education Visit for our Year 1 students

1st visit is: Friday 15th April
2nd visit is: Tuesday 10th May

Show your support for students with autism in April

Do you know that there are more than 12,000 students with autism enrolled in Queensland state schools?

April is Autism Awareness Month and our school is committed to working with families and services to support students with autism and ensure that they get the best possible start in life.

This year the Queensland Government launched Australia's first Autism Hub to provide students with autism, their families and schools across the state with more support.

Located in Brisbane, the \$2 million centre offers expert advice, training and resources to parents, educators and health professionals. Seven regional autism coaches have also been

appointed, ensuring professional support is available statewide.

For more information visit www.education.qld.gov.au/autismhub.

Reminder to be safe when travelling on or near buses

With another school term underway, we'd like to remind all students and parents to please be safe when travelling on or near buses. A significant number of school students in Queensland travel on buses to attend school. All students have the right to a safe and enjoyable journey, and their safety is our number one priority.

Ensuring students safe travel on or near buses is a shared responsibility which brings together the efforts of students, their parents/carers, schools, bus drivers and bus operators. When travelling on or near a bus, there are some safety tips you should follow to ensure a safe journey

<http://translink.com.au/sites/default/files/assets/resources/travel-information/school-travel/safety-tips-for-students.pdf>

A Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses is also available to provide students and parents/carers with information about how to travel safely on buses. To view the code and more information, visit <http://translink.com.au/travel-with-us/school-travel/getting-to-and-from-school>.



Statement of Purpose: Every Minute Counts!

At Mount Cotton State School, our attendance target is **95%**.

Below is the **Week 9** attendance percent for each class.

Term 1, 2016	Wk 9
Prep	92.75
PA	95
PB	90
PC	92
PD	94
Year 1	92.25
1A	92
1B	92
1C	93
1D	92
Year 2	92
2A	95
2B	93
2C	91
2D	89
Year 3	95.75
3A	98
3B	97
3C	90
3D	98
Year 4	88.33
4A	88
4B	92
4C	85
Year 5	92.25
5A	98
5B	87
5C	93
5D	91
Year 6	91.3
SA	91
SB	93
SC	90

We look forwards to seeing you throughout the term and thank you for your ongoing support of the school.

Regards,
Meagan Steward
mstew40@eq.edu.au

From the Deputy Principal: Glenice Cleary

Assemblies:

Week 1: No assemblies this week.

Week 2: No assemblies on Wednesday or Thursday.

Whole school ANZAC ceremony on Friday at 9 am.

Weeks 3 and 4: Assemblies as per Term 1 – Wednesday (P to Year 3) and Thursday (Year 4 to 6).

Week 5: No assemblies due to NAPLAN.

Great Mates:

Great Mates is a lunchtime activity program for students and will be run in the hall at second break. Each year level has been designated a day they are able to come to the hall and participate in fun activities. Students may come and go from the hall, but only 50 students can be in the hall at a time.

The activities this term are:

Week Number	Activity
1	Disco
2	Camp Games (Monte Carlo etc)
3	School Yard Games
4	Trivia
5	Board Games/ Twister/ Celebrity Heads
6	Dress Up Relays
7	Obstacle Course
8	Bingo
9	Fitness Circuit
10	Camp Games (Monte Carlo etc)
11	Disco

Days for each year level are:

Monday : Yr 2 & 3

Tuesday: Yr 1

Wednesday: Yr 4 & 5

Thursday: Prep

Friday: Yr 6

NAPLAN:

As you would be aware your child will be completing NAPLAN testing in Week 5 of this term. These tests will be completed by all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students across Australia in the areas of Numeracy, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Reading and Writing.

The dates for the test are as follows:

Tuesday 10 th of May	Wednesday 11 th of May	Thursday 12 th of May
Language Conventions: 40 minutes (Spelling & Grammar and Punctuation)	Reading: 45 minutes (Yr 3) and 50 minutes (Yr 5)	Numeracy: 45 minutes (Yr 3) and 50 minutes (Yr 5)
Writing: 40 minutes		

NAPLAN tests are constructed to give students an opportunity to demonstrate skills they have learned over time through the school curriculum, and NAPLAN test days should be treated as just another routine event on the school calendar. *The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure them that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.* Please see your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Have a great Week 1!

Glenice Cleary

From the Library

Readers' Cup

Congratulations to the following students who will represent Mount Cotton in the Bayside District Readers' Cup Competition later this term – Amy, Jessica, Jada and Olivia.

Over the next week the Prep to Year 2 classes will compete in a year level Readers' Cup competition as part of their Library lesson. The Year 3 and 4 competitions will be held later in the term.

Peer Support

The first session for this term will be next Monday and the students will discuss in detail one of our 3 R's – respect. They will watch a short video clip which explains the meaning of respect and then complete an activity "What does respect mean to me?"

Helen Plaschke

Teacher-Librarian / ICT Coordinator

library@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au



Constable Tim with Ditto the Mascot from our Bravehearts show who visited in Term 1. Preps to Year 4 students attended the performance.

Congratulations Mrs Harris!!



Mrs Harris competed in the National and World Dragon Boat Club Crew Titles in Adelaide from the 23rd March to the 8th April. She won many medals for races over various distances, divisions and age groups.

