



# Mt Cotton State School Parents & Citizens Association Newsletter – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016



*'For Our Children'*

Email: [pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au)

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## **NEXT P&C MEETING**



The next meeting for the P&C will be the **P&C AGM** which will be held on **Wednesday 9th March 2016 at 6.00pm**. Everyone is welcome to come along!

At the AGM all seats will be vacated so if you are interested in a position on the executive please grab a form from the office next to the P&C box and come along to the meeting. The AGM this is the only meeting where you can become a member without being present at the meeting. Becoming a member doesn't mean you need to attend all our meetings but it allows you to be on a emailing list to keep informed on what is happening. Membership forms will also be available in the office beside the P&C box.

## **From The President**

Hi everyone. With our school fete coming soon we are looking for alot of volunteers. Each year level will have a section to look after and volunteer forms will be going up in classrooms soon. These events can't happen without your help so please help out where you can.

At our AGM next month all our executive positions will be vacated. If you are interested in running for one of the following positions President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer and would like more information please feel free to give one of us a call.

Regards Nicole

## **FETE NEWS:**

Mount Cotton State School's Fete will be [on Saturday 14th May 2016](#).

We are very keen to be hosting our up and coming school fete. It has been a long time since our last fete and we are hoping to have the full school community support to make this a great success. We are chasing sponsorship if anyone is able to help or knows of anyone that would like to sponsor the fete, could you please contact us on [mcssfete@gmail.com](mailto:mcssfete@gmail.com).

Also if anyone would like to hold a stall at the Fete please contact Jess on [mcssfete@gmail.com](mailto:mcssfete@gmail.com). A stall starts from \$30 for a 3x3 spot.

More information will be posted each week as we will be chasing donations and volunteers.

Thanks Nicole

## **BANKING NEWS:**

Just a wee reminder that we are holding an ACCOUNT OPENING DAY tomorrow (Wed 17th), so if you would like to participate in school banking and your child does not have an account, pop along any time after 8.00am outside the hall with your driver's licence and you are good to go.

Also in last week's newsletter I mentioned the terrific competition that the Commonwealth Bank is running this year, (trip to Australia Zoo) but I forgot to mention that you have to bank 15 times this year to be in the draw. Keep a look out in your banking wallets for more info.

Also speaking of competitions, just thought I would let you know that the Disneyland competition from 2015 was won by a lucky student from Taree, NSW.

Anita, Banking Guru

## **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](mailto: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 Rachele.
- **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](mailto:pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au) to offer your assistance.

## Tuckshop News:

Tuckshop news for Week 4!

!!!! PLEASE UPDATE YOUR STUDENTS  
CLASS DETAILS FOR ONLINE ORDERING !!!



Preps are now able to order food, either online or bag orders. However, the Preps will not be able to purchase any items with cash at lunchtimes until later in the year. All items required are to be put through their orders.

To order online, go to [www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au](http://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 our school community whilst having fun? Volunteers are always needed in the tuckshop. Without volunteers, tuckshops simply couldn't open. If you could spare 1/2 hour, 1 hour, 2 hours or all day..... either weekly, fortnightly, monthly or occasionally.....please contact me either through the school office, via email [tuckshop@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au](mailto: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 1:

Tuesday afternoons	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Thursday mornings	8.15am – 9.00am

**Price List & Order Form** – These are found on the school website ([www.mtcottonss.eq.edu.au](http://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 to the uniform shop.

We are currently looking for a new Uniform Shop Convenor. If you or anyone you know may be or are interested in this position, please email your resume to our email address [pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au).

Due to this we have had to minimise the days that the uniform shop is open, details as above. If you are unable to make these times, you can email the completed form with credit card details for electronic processing and we can deliver the items to your child's classroom.

## From the Principal

### Targets

As a school, each year we set targets we would like to achieve. We know that a sharp and narrow focus is a common trait of highly effective and successful schools. Attached to this newsletter are our targets for 2016. We will continue to work towards achieving our **vision** of growing **Clever, Creative** and **Caring** children and also our Statement of Purpose: **Every child counts, every teacher counts, every minute counts, Mount Cotton counts!**

### School Leaders Induction

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of February, we had a special P to 6 assembly to induct our 2016 School Leaders. Our school leaders will represent the students and wider school community at different events which is a great honour. I look forward to working with our school leaders this year. A special thanks to Mrs Patrea Walton, Deputy Director-General State Schools for being our guest speaker! Photos will be in next week's school newsletter.

### Towards Transformation – Dan Isele (Apple Learning Consultant)

This year, we have 4 staff members who have been selected to be part of the Apple Towards Transformation program. The Towards Transformation program is designed to assist schools to better understand how to effectively teach with technology, challenge and develop new thinking to enhance teacher practice and learning outcomes.

Towards Transformation aims to build capacity within each school, through programs that engage teachers' at a deeper and more effective level. Each school will receive 12-15 days of professional learning through the support of a learning consultant, experienced in working with schools to enhance teacher practice. Ultimately, the Towards Transformation program will assist in transforming teaching and learning practices and create better learning opportunities for students.

The Towards Transformation program aims to;

- build capacity within each school through mentoring and coaching
- improve teachers capacity to plan and cater for individual learning needs
- improve teachers capacity to better utilise digital resources
- extend learning beyond the classroom
- develop teachers abilities to create content
- increase teachers awareness of and ability to find and effectively utilise content
- increase teachers ability and willingness to share

Eligibility is based on the school meeting the following criteria and expectations;

- Leadership supportive of professional learning initiatives and demonstrate a willingness to commit to the program
- IT infrastructure capable of supporting innovation
- Teachers willingness to learn, share and be supportive of innovative practices

- Have a current one to one program (iPad or Mac)
- fully commit and participate in the program
- select no more than 4 willing Year 4 and 5 teachers to participate
- negotiated release staff for coaching, content creation and other relevant activity
- dedicate time at meetings for sharing

We are very lucky to have been accepted into the Towards Transformation program! I look forward to sharing news on the program as the year progresses.

### **Voluntary Parent Contribution**

Whilst the cost of providing instruction, administration and facilities for the education of students in state schools is funded by the State, parents / carers are directly responsible for providing other resources for their children while attending school. Voluntary financial contributions are used by schools to provide an enhanced educational service and to enhance resources available for student learning, recreation and comfort. Each year we ask families to make a voluntary contribution for each student attending Mount Cotton State School. The contribution is \$40 per student or \$140 for families of four or more.

### **New school closures website launched**

The Department of Education and Training has launched a new website which provides detailed information on closed educational facilities (including state, non-state schools and early childhood education centres) during a disaster or emergency event. Visit <http://closures.det.qld.gov.au/>.

### **Celebrations of Learning – Term 1**

Each class will be holding a Celebration of Learning at the end of Term 1 to showcase the fantastic work they have been doing during the term. Parents and family members are invited to attend the Celebrations of Learning to see first-hand just how hard our students have worked and what wonderful things they have achieved.

<b>Prep</b>	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> of March at 9:00 a.m.
<b>Year 1</b>	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> of March at 2:15 p.m.
<b>Year 2</b>	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> of March at 2:00 p.m.
<b>Year 3</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> of March at 2:00 p.m.
<b>Year 4</b>	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> of March at 10 a.m.
<b>Year 5</b>	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> of March at 11:15 a.m.
<b>Senior</b>	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> of March at 2:00 p.m.

### **Carpark**

School Road Safety is an important issue in our community. I very much appreciate and acknowledge that the carpark is very busy, however, keen to ensure all of our school community is safe and in particular our children. By sending out the information about our carpark, this will hopefully allow parents to pick up their children quickly and safely. Please sign and return the Road Safety Agreement.

### **Mount Cotton Cottonclub Playgroup:**

We are looking for a parent volunteer to run our Cottonclub Playgroup. It runs each Friday from 9 am to 10:30 am. The volunteer would set up the activities at the beginning of the Cottonclub and then pack them away at 10:30 am. The Cottonclub Playgroup is for children 0 to 5. If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know (mstew40@eq.edu.au).

### **Statement of Purpose: Every Minute Counts!**

At Mount Cotton State School, our attendance target is **95%**. To achieve this target, children must have less than 10 days absent. Below are the attendance rates for each of our classes in Week 3.

<b>CLASS</b>	<b>Week 3</b>
<b>Prep</b>	
PA	93%
PB	98%
PC	94%
PD	98%
<b>Year 1</b>	
1A	99%
1B	97%
1C	94%
1D	96%
<b>Year 2</b>	
2A	95%
2B	97%
2C	95%
2D	96%
<b>Year 3</b>	
3A	92%
3B	97%
3C	97%
3D	99%
<b>Year 4</b>	
4A	98%
4B	93%
4C	99%
<b>Year 5</b>	
5A	99%
5B	99%
5C	100%
5D	97%
<b>Seniors</b>	
SA	98%
SB	98%
SC	98%

We look forward to the continued partnership in learning between teachers, students and families.

Kind regards,  
Meagan Steward  
[mstew40@eq.edu.au](mailto:mstew40@eq.edu.au)

### **From the Deputy Principal:**

#### **Week 4 Senior Assembly:**

Badges for our 2016 School Councillors and Student Librarians will be given out at our Week 4 Senior assembly.

### 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.

Check out some new Great Mates games!



### Days for each year level are:

Monday: Yr 2 & 3

Tuesday: Yr 1

Wednesday: Yr 4 & 5

Thursday: Prep

Friday: Yr 6

Week Number	Activity
4	Camp Games (Monte Carlo etc)
5	Board Games/ Twister/ Celebrity Heads
6	Dress Up Relays
7	Obstacle Course
8	Construction
9	Disco

Kind regards,

**Glenice Cleary**  
**Deputy Principal**

### Music Notes 🎵

Choral Program: We have had our Choral Sign-On day and all Choirs begin rehearsals this week - **Week 4**.

### Instrumental Music

Band: **Continuing Band students will begin lessons and band this week – Week 3.**

**Beginners - Lessons begin next week – Week 5.**

Please return SRS forms.

Strings: **Strings lessons have already begun.** Please note that String Orchestra (Thursday afternoon) will not start until notified by Mrs Slater. Please return SRS forms.

Creative Generation 2016: Invitations are due to come out on the 17<sup>th</sup> February. I will notify you as soon as I receive correspondence. Please remember to check newsletters, emails and noticeboard for messages and notifications.

**Suzie Bath**

**Classroom Music Teacher**

### Year 3-6 Forensic Science Day Date Change

Due to circumstances beyond our control the presenter of the Forensic Science Day will be unable to visit the school on our scheduled date of the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016. We have rescheduled this activity for the **22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016**. Unfortunately this is the earliest available date that is convenient to both the school and the presenter. All of the other information on the permission letter remains the same, including the cut-off date for the \$5.00 payment. This will still remain as the **25<sup>th</sup> February 2016**. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile and enjoyable learning experience.

**Sally Bedford**

**Head of Curriculum.**

### **Cash Window/Payments Due**

The cash window is open every week on **Wednesday & Thursday from 8.15am to 9.15am and accepts cash, cheque and has EFTPOS facilities.** The school is unable to accept late payments because of deadlines imposed by bus companies etc. **Please note that class teachers are not permitted to accept payments or permission forms due to audit regulations.**

**All permission forms, regardless of the payment option chosen, are to be handed into the Cash Window.** There is a slot now available at the Cash Window marked "**Permission Forms**" to allow students to hand in their permissions forms without queueing.

### **Events Money Due:**

· **Voluntary Contribution Scheme \$40 per student or \$140 for families of 4 or more.**

· **Forensic Science Yrs 3 to 6 \$5 due Monday 22nd Feb for Direct Debit payments and Thurs 25th Feb for cash Window payments**

· **Senior Camp Non-Refundable Deposit \$135 due Thurs 18th Feb**

Please contact the school office, prior to the deadline, if you have difficulty meeting the deadlines, to make alternate arrangements.

**Cash Window is closed in the last week of school.**



**Student Absence Line: 3822 0460**  
**for all daily absences.**

**Please leave: name, class & brief reason.**

**Long Absences in advance**  
**(1 week & over—holidays etc):**  
**Please apply to admin@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au**