

**From the Principal**

Welcome to 2016!! We hope you have had a safe and relaxing break. A special welcome to our new families to the school. During 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!**

Central to our school's Vision and Statement of Purpose is the active promotion of our 3 Rs –

**Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.** When modelled and reinforced by all members of our school community, the 3Rs assist our students to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens.

**2016 Enrolments**

As our teaching staff and classes are dependent on enrolment numbers, all state schools in Queensland staffing is finalised on the 8<sup>th</sup> school day (5<sup>th</sup> of February), therefore, there may be changes to our current classes. By the 8<sup>th</sup> 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. I will communicate any changes with the school community after Day 8 (5<sup>th</sup> of February).

**Our Day 8 Classes**

<b>Prep A</b>	Meagan Winton	<b>4A</b>	Bridget Elliott
<b>Prep B</b>	Shelley Brady	<b>4B</b>	Mal Rossow
<b>Prep C</b>	Noni Thomas	<b>4C</b>	Kim Maroske
<b>Prep D</b>	Joanne Ollerenshaw		
<b>1A</b>	Kerri Tracy	<b>5A</b>	Melinda Bashford
<b>1B</b>	Silvana Balhary	<b>5B</b>	Suzanne Weaven
<b>1C</b>	Cathy Bailey	<b>5C</b>	Rigo Shepherdson
<b>1D</b>	Carol Donhardt		
<b>2A</b>	Emer Lyons	<b>SA</b>	Linda Wheeler
<b>2B</b>	Belinda Boland	<b>SB</b>	Carleen Tilbury Lisa Pavey Donna Wilkins
<b>2C</b>	Natalie Andrews	<b>SC</b>	
<b>2D</b>	Jodie Mutzelburg		
<b>3A</b>	Heather Stubbs		
<b>3B</b>	Sherryn Avis		
<b>3C</b>	Lisa McInnes		
<b>3D</b>	Nigel Wiggins		

**Term 1 Curriculum & Parent Interviews**

In lieu of a parent information evening, this year we will be holding parent interviews on 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. We will also be sending home a curriculum letter discussing the curriculum that will be covered this term.

In 2016, we will report formally to parents by:

**Term 1: Parent Interviews – 23<sup>rd</sup> of March**

**Term 2: Report Cards**

**Term 3: Parent Interviews**

**Term 4: Report cards**

**Term 1 Parent Calendar**

Attached to this newsletter is our Term 1 parent calendar. It lists all our important dates for Term 1. You can also access our Term 1 parent calendar on our school website and the dates on the Qschools App.

**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.

**Uniform Changes for 2016**

As you are aware, our School Uniform Policy and Student Dress Code was endorsed by the MCSS P & C Association on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September, 2015. As shared in our newsletters in Term 4, this year our uniform will be a closed in black leather school shoes or black sneakers with black laces or velcro. On the next page are some examples of suitable school shoes.



**School Bus Travel:**

This is a reminder to all parents that the 2016 school bus timetables have undergone some significant changes. If your child/children catch the bus to and/or from school, it is important that you visit the Transdev Queensland website ([www.transdevqld.com.au](http://www.transdevqld.com.au)) or the TransLink website ([www.translink.com.au](http://www.translink.com.au)) to see if you are impacted by the changes.

Bus passes for eligible students are also currently being processed and they will be available for collection from the school during the first week back. There will be a fare amnesty until the passes have been delivered and distributed. If you have not yet submitted your pass application or renewal, please do so by downloading the relevant forms from the [www.transdevqld.com.au](http://www.transdevqld.com.au) website. Should you require any further information, please contact Transdev Qld on 3248 6100.

**Facilities Update:**

Through our Maintenance Plan, over the December/January break, the following occurred:

- Lower Oval project – footpath to the oval, tiered seating and landscaping. This is due to be finished by the end of Week 3.
- K Block was painted
- Covered walkway painted and pressure cleaned
- Carpets cleaned
- Urinal cleaned
- Sand delivered for both sand pits
- Detailed holiday clean

**Sanctuary Drive Car Park**

During the holidays, Redland City Council have undertaken improvement works to the Sanctuary Drive Car Park. These improvement works include a facility for parallel parking between Sanctuary Drive and the existing car park, construction of a retaining wall, installation of a footpath, upgrading the existing line marking and signage as well as installation of bollards and planting of trees in the exiting garden beds. I am sure you will agree, it looks great!

**'Someone Who Loves You' by Steven Schuback**

A special thank you to Steven Schuback (a Prep and Year 2 Dad) for donating his book 'Someone Who Loves You' to all of our prep children! 'Someone Who Loves You' follows a young elephant on his first day of school, and the unique way his mother tells him that 'someone who loves you' is always close by. Thank you Steven!

**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 2015.

CLASS	2015 (%)
<b>Prep</b>	
PA	93.26
PB	92.79
PC	92.06
PD	94.05
<b>Year 1</b>	
1A	91.21
1B	90.82
1C	91.05
1D	90.86
<b>Year 2</b>	
2A	91.61
2B	93.06
2C	91.36
2D	93.12
<b>Year 3</b>	
3A	91.36
3B	89.46
3C	89.95
<b>Year 4</b>	
4A	92.55
4B	91.44
4C	94.46
4D	91.47
<b>Year 5</b>	
5A	92.08
5B	92.55
5C	92.07
<b>Year 6</b>	
SA	90.47
SB	90.76
SC	92.72

# Sports News



Welcome back I hope everyone had an enjoyable break. Term 1 is already shaping up to be a busy one sporting wise.

**DISTRICT SWIMMING:** The first event on the calendar is the Bayside District Swimming Carnival. This carnival will be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at the Chandler Aquatic Centre. The purpose of the carnival is to select a Bayside District Swimming team to participate at the Metropolitan East Carnival. Students Born 2006, 2005, 2004 & 2003 are eligible to participate. In order to be nominated by the school students must meet qualifying times. To meet these times students would be participating in squad swimming a number of times a week. Please contact Mrs Harris regarding the information required to nominate.

**CLUSTER SWIMMING CARNIVAL:** The cluster swimming Carnival will be held at Cleveland State School on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Students born 2006, 2005 & 2004 are eligible to participate. Results from the 2015 Mt Cotton Senior Carnival have been reviewed to select the team. Students will receive invitations to attend in the coming weeks.

**Mt Cotton Cross Country:** The Mt Cotton SS Cross Country will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 (week 7). This year we are trialing a new format: **Session 1 (8:45am-10:45am) = Year 4-6 races. Session 2 (11:15am – 12:45pm) = Prep – Year 3 races.**

**Cross Country Training:** Students in year 4-6 will be competing over the following distances:

Year 4 ( those students not born 2006) = 1km, Born 2006 = 2km, Born 2005 = 3km, Born 2004 = 3km

To help your child compete over these distances before school training sessions will be held Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:00am – 8:30am commencing week 2. Please bring permission form, hat, water bottle, and wear appropriate running shoes. Meet Mrs Harris on the top oval near the playground. Yours in Sport, Sue Harris, PE Teacher



## Cross Country Training Permission Form

I give permission for my son / daughter \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in before school cross country training.

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent / Guardian Signature

**Newsletter Contributions Deadline: 3pm Monday prior.**

## Reminders, dates to remember ...

### Week 1

- Wed 27 Jan **Day 1—Years 1 to 6**  
Cash Window Open 8.15 to 9.15am  
Tuckshop Closed  
Uniform Shop 2 to 3pm  
**No Junior Assembly P to 3**
- Thurs 28 Jan **Day 1—Prep students**  
Cash Window Open 8.15 to 9.15 am  
Tuckshop Closed  
Uniform Shop Closed  
**No Senior Assembly 4 to 6**
- Fri 29 Jan Tuckshop Closed

### Week 2

- Mon 1 Feb Uniform Shop 2 to 3pm
- Tues 2 Feb P & C Newsletter
- Wed 3 Feb Tuckshop Open  
Cash Window Open 8.15 to 9.15am  
**Junior Assembly P to 3**  
Uniform Shop 2 to 3pm
- Thurs 4 Feb Tuckshop Open  
Cash Window Open 8.15 to 9.15am  
Uniform Shop 8 to 9am  
**Senior Assembly 4 to 6**

- Fri 5 Feb Tuckshop Open
- ### Week 3
- Mon 8 Feb Uniform Shop 2 to 3pm
  - Tues 9 Feb School Newsletter
  - Wed 10 Feb Tuckshop Open  
Cash Window Open 8.15 to 9.15am  
**No Junior Assembly P to 3**  
Uniform Shop 2 to 3pm  
P & C Meeting 7pm
  - Thurs 11 Feb Tuckshop Open  
Cash Window Open 8.15 to 9.15am  
Uniform Shop 8 to 9am  
**Senior Leader Induction Ceremony**
  - Fri 12 Feb Tuckshop Open

### 2016 Term Dates

- Term 1: 27th January to 24th March
- Term 2: 11th April to 24th June
- Term 3: 11th July to 16th September
- Term 4: 4th October to 9th December

## P & C News

### Our Next 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

Welcome back. I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and a fantastic break. I would like to welcome all our new families to our school community and wish everyone all the best for 2016.

Soon the P&C will be back in full swing with our **first meeting** on **Wednesday 10th February** and our **AGM** on **Wednesday 9th March**. I hope we have a lot of new faces at our meeting this year and look forward to working with a great team to provide all the best for the school in 2016.

Thanks Nicole

## Tuckshop News



Welcome to Term 1, 2016!!

I would like to welcome all the new families and students. I hope everybody had a wonderful break and festive season, and you are all refreshed and ready for 2016.

### **TUCKSHOP IS CLOSED THIS WEEK, WEEK 1.**

This is so I can prepare all the yummy foods that are made fresh on campus.

There are only 2 price changes for this term, this is because of a price increase from our suppliers.

Traveller pies have increased to \$3.20.

Chicken Nuggets have increase to \$3.20.

I would also like to note that our pikelets are being made from ingredients containing gluten. However, we have a GLUTEN FREE pikelet option. Please specify which one you would like to order on your bag. If you order online please tick the type of pikelet you would like to order.

Our online ordering system is through Our Online Canteen at **[www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au](http://www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au)**.

**Help is needed.** 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@mtcottons.eq.edu.au](mailto:tuckshop@mtcottons.eq.edu.au) or just stop in and see me at the tuckshop.

Have a great week!

## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

**Price List & Order Form** - Found on the school website



([www.mtcottons.eq.edu.au](http://www.mtcottons.eq.edu.au) under Support & Resources/Documents/P&C Assoc/Price List & Order Form), or the school office, or uniform shop. Can be returned to the P&C box in the school office. Or to the email address below. **EMAIL:** [mel-foster@live.com.au](mailto:mel-foster@live.com.au) **PHONE:**

0418 438 747. **Uniform shop hours Term 1:**

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

Hi everyone. Welcome back! I hope you all had a great holiday! Welcome to all the new preppies and their families as well as all the new students and their families! It is going to be another great year!

Firstly, I would like to thank Nicola Schuback and Kerry Gallagher for their help last Thursday. I could not have done it without you ladies!!! And secondly, we have received our new bucket hats in store! They are reversible with your child's house colour on the inside. Unfortunately we had a problem with the Marloo ones so they aren't available as yet but I will let you know when they arrive. They are \$17.00.

Finally, the Uniform Shop will only be open Wednesday afternoon from 2 – 3pm this week, but will be back to the hours above next week (Week 2).

Have a great first week back!

Mel

**EMAIL:** [mel-foster@live.com.au](mailto:mel-foster@live.com.au)

**PHONE:** 0418 438 747

Welcome back to all our existing families and a big welcome to our new families!



**From the principal cont'd...**

Did you know? Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

**1 or 2 days each week doesn't seem like much but....**

If your child misses....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...	Which means the best your child might perform is ...
<b>1 day per fortnight</b>	20 Days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly <b>1.5 years</b>	Equal to finishing in grade 11
<b>1 day per week</b>	40 Days per year	8 weeks per year	Over <b>2.5 years</b>	Equal to finishing in grade 10
<b>2 days per week</b>	80 Days per year	16 weeks per year	Over <b>5 years</b>	Equal to finishing in grade 7
<b>3 days per week</b>	120 Days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly <b>8 years</b>	Equal to finishing at grade 4

**QSchools App**

The QSchools app is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information about Mount Cotton State School. To download the app visit the application store for your device:

iPhone/iPad Android Windows Phone Windows PC

**Features:**

The app integrates with the department's preferred school website platform, allowing users to find and favourite your school by searching for the school by name, searching a map or by searching for schools near your current location

receive real-time notifications about state-wide emergency alerts as well as school push notifications and important updates through the app

access the latest news, events and newsletters from Mount Cotton SS.

easily access your schools tuckshop and uniform shop information

view information about your school including class times and contact details

The app can manage updates from multiple schools which is useful for parents who have students in different schools.



**Push notifications**

QSchools push notifications are here! Push notifications will allow your favourite Queensland schools to push essential information directly to your device, including notifications of upcoming events and emergency alerts and important updates. To receive push notifications, download the QSchools mobile app or ensure the app is up to date if you already have it. The term ahead promises to be busy and rewarding with many curriculum and extra curricula activities planned to maximise the learning opportunities for our students. 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:**

**Assembly:**

Assemblies will begin in Week 2 in the hall. **Prep to Year 3 assembly: Wednesdays at 9 am**  
**Years 4, 5 and 6 assembly: Thursdays at 9 am.**

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> of February at 9 am, we will have a P to 6 assembly to induct our 2016 School Leaders. We are very lucky to have Mrs Patrea Walton, Deputy Director-General State Schools attending our special assembly. During this week (Week 3), we will not have an assembly on Wednesday.

**Sports Equipment:**

Sports equipment has been given to each double teaching space. The sports equipment can be borrowed out by students to use at lunch time. Our teachers will be reinforcing with the students about being **responsible** for the sports equipment so it lasts and can be used by everybody.

**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. More information will be in our Week 2 newsletter.

**Sand Pit:**

We have a new sand pit on the top oval! New sand has been delivered to our top oval sand pit and our prep sandpit. Another great option at lunchtime.

Kind regards,

Glenice Cleary