From the Principal:

Jeanette Bess:
It is with sadness that I share that teacher aide Mrs Jeanette Bess has decided to retire at the end of this term. Jeanette has been at our school for over forty years. In this time she has played an important role in many areas of the school, beginning in the library before a teacher librarian was appointed. Jeanette has spent time as a general teacher aide and is currently a Prep teacher aide in Prep C. Jeanette’s long service to the school has enhanced the lives of many children, their parents and the staff. Her knowledge of the school and its history will be sorely missed and unlikely to be repeated. We wish her all the best in retirement.

On Wednesday 16th of September at 9 am we will have a special assembly to farewell and thank Mrs Bess for her dedication to the students of Mount Cotton State School!

2016 Enrolments

Staffing allocations are provided to schools based on their effective enrolment numbers on the 8th day of Term 1 each year. We are beginning to look at our staffing for 2016. If your child/ren will not be returning in 2016, please assist us in determining effective enrolment numbers by completing the letter from your child’s classroom teacher.

Classes For 2016

During Term 4, staff will begin working on class structures for 2016. As always we invite parents to write a letter outlining information that you may need to share. Please remember that you cannot request individual teachers, request notes are focussed on learning and social concerns that you may wish to be taken into consideration. Parent requests are due by Monday 26th of October to allow time for classes to be compiled for 2016. Requests will be unable to be accepted after the 26th of October. All requests must be in writing and submitted to the office.

Prep 2016

Now is the time to start thinking about enrolling children into Prep for next year. If you or your friends have children born between July 1st 2010 and 30th June 2011 they are eligible to be enrol in prep in 2016. To be part of our 2016 Prep Transition program, all enrolment paperwork must be submitted. Our 2016 Transition Program was emailed to the families who have submitted their enrolment paperwork.

Early Entry and Delayed Entry Into Prep

Information about early entry and delayed entry into prep can be found on the link below:

Senior Graduation – Date Claimer

Our Senior Graduation will be on the evening of Wednesday 9th of December.

A MESSAGE FROM COMMUNITY CHILD HEALTH NURSES:
CHILDREN’S VISION AND EYE HEALTH

More than 80% of a child’s learning is vision-based. Recent research has found that as many as one in ten Australian children have some form of long-term vision problem which can impact on their ability to learn. Children are often unable to recognise they have a vision problem because it develops over time and they’re unable to sense this change. Outward signs of vision problems may include excessive blinking, squinting or rubbing eyes. Children may also demonstrate behaviours such as losing their place when reading; using fingers to follow words in a book (not for a new reader); crooked writing or poor spacing between words; covering or closing one eye to read; holding a book very close; or tilting their head to view things.

The most common vision problems are those affecting children’s ability to see clearly and sharply. Short- and long-sightedness and astigmatism are perhaps the better known conditions, and are usually correctable. Some other problems not so well known include poor eye co-ordination, turned eye, poor hand/eye coordination, eye movement defects, and difficulties focusing. Early detection and treatment is vital, not only to maximise children’s ability to learn but, in some cases, to prevent permanent vision loss.

The Optometrists Association Australia recommends children have their vision assessed at 6 months of age, 3 years of age, again at 5 years of age, and then every two years thereafter. These consultations are covered under Medicare and more than 95% of optometrists bulk-bill. You don’t need a referral to see an optometrist – just telephone for an appointment.

Apart from regular optometrist assessments, here are some tips to support children to maintain their eye health:

- Encourage them to read in a room with good and even lighting and take regular breaks;
- Minimise UV exposure by having them stay out of the sun between 10 am and 3 pm and wear sunglasses and a broad brimmed hat when outdoors;
- When watching TV ensure even room lighting and do not allow them to sit in a completely dark room;
- Limit computer sessions to less than two hours, ensure the top of the monitor is at or slightly below eye level, and encourage them to regularly look away from the computer screen;
- For video games, encourage children to sit as far back from the TV as the leads allow.

Statement of Purpose: Every Minute Counts!

At Mount Cotton State School, our attendance target is 95%. Below is the attendance percent for each class for Week 8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PA</th>
<th>PB</th>
<th>PC</th>
<th>PD</th>
<th>1A</th>
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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
Term 3, Weeks 6 & 7  
Congratulations to these students on their achievement!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Trait</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sahara</td>
<td>Prep A</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Riley</td>
<td>Prep C</td>
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<td>Caring</td>
</tr>
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<td>Levi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaylee</td>
<td>Prep SC</td>
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<td>Alyssa</td>
<td>Prep D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emilie</td>
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Week 9

- Tues 8 Sept
  School Newsletter
  2016 Prep Transition program
  (9.15 to 10.30am)
- Wed 9 Sept
  Cash Window Open 8.15-9.15am
  Tuckshop Open
  Junior Assembly P to 2
- Thurs 10 Sept
  Cash Window Open 8.15-9.15am
  Tuckshop Open
  Uniform Shop 2.15-3.15pm
  No Senior Assembly 3 to 6
  School Musical 6.30pm
- Fri 11 Sept
  Tuckshop Open
  Cotton Club Playgroup 9am
  Interschool Sports Yrs 5 & 6
  School Musical 6.30pm

Week 10

- Mon 14 Sept
  Uniform Shop 2.15-3.15pm
  Prep Excursion Prep C & D
- Tues 15 Sept
  P & C Newsletter
  2016 Prep Transition program
  (9.15 to 10.30am)
- Wed 16 Sept
  Tuckshop open
  Cash Window Open 8.15-9.15am
  Whole School Assembly

Library News

Student loans
All student loans are due for return by this Thursday.

Earn & Learn Campaign – finishes Tuesday 8th Sept – target 50,000 points
Our current total is 37,000+ points and still counting! Please send any stickers and incomplete sheets to school this week so we can finalise our count. We will need to submit our stickers by the end of term and once our count has been verified we will be able to place our order with Modern Teaching Aids for items such as the ones listed below. A decision on which resources we will ‘purchase’ this year will be made in consultation with Staff and based on the needs of the school.

Maths
- Bank notes and coin set 499 pts
- Money wise activity set 832 pts
- Easy read classroom clock (set 10) 6,499 pts

Literacy
- Jolly Phonics cards 1,049 pts
- Set 6 guided readers (lower primary) 546 pts
- Big books (assorted titles) (each) 899 pts

Science
- Student thermometers (set 12) 549 pts
- Hand magnifiers (set 12) 799 pts

Health & Physical Education
- Sports kids soccer ball 419 pts
- T-ball set with stand, bat & ball 479 pts
- Trainers soft vinyl rugby ball 178 pts

Technology

- Set of 10 iPad cases 6,599 pts
- Tech tub 10 iPad locking & charging station (7 iPads) 5,999 pts

Thank you to all the families who have supported this campaign and also to the Student Librarians and extra student helpers who have spent many lunchtimes transferring the stickers and counting completed sheets.

A special thank you to Sharon Darlington [one of our parent’s who works at Woolworths] for making sure we receive the stickers that have been lodged at Victoria Point Woolworths and Holly and Kiara Darlington (for their sticking!)

Helen Plaschke
Teacher-Librarian / ICT Coordinator
library@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au

Sports News

Congratulations

Congratulations to Alyssa
Alyssa competed as a member of the Metropolitan East Athletics Team in the High Jump last week at the State Championships. Alyssa has achieved an amazing result, she finished 5th overall in Queensland. Well done Alyssa a name to look out in high jump events in the future.

Sue Harris, PE Teacher.

Reminders, dates to remember ...

Year 5 Camp departs
P & C Meeting 7pm

- Thurs 17 Sept
  Tuckshop Open
  Cash Window open 8.15-9.15am
  Uniform Shop 2.15-3.15pm
  No Senior Assembly
  Volleyball Cup Yr 6

- Fri 18 Sept
  Tuckshop Open
  Cotton Club Playgroup 9am
  Prep Excursion Prep A & B
  Last day of Term 3

Term 4 Week 1

- Mon 5 Oct
  Public Holiday

- Tues 6 Oct
  School Newsletter

- Wed 7 Oct
  Tuckshop Open
  Cash Window Open 8.15-9.15am
  No Junior Assembly

- Thurs 8 Oct
  Tuckshop Open
  Cash Window Open 8.15-9.15am
  Uniform Shop 2.15-3.15pm
  No Senior Assembly

- Fri 9 Oct
  Tuckshop Open
  Cotton Club Playgroup 9am
P & C News

Our Next Meeting:  
The Next P & C Meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 16th September 2015 at 7pm, in the school library. Everyone is welcome!

From the President:

Hi everyone. A big thanks to Kirk Jackson and his helpers for a fantastic Father’s Day stall!
We are looking for people to help with a few fundraising events we have planned for the future. So if you can help with the following please contact me via email.

We are chasing people to help call local businesses asking for donations for our Xmas raffle. If you have your own business or know anyone that does and you would like to make a donation for our Christmas raffle, please let us know.

We are wanting to have a fete next year and we are looking for some wonderful people who would like to join us and make a fete committee. You do not need experience just be willing to pitch in and help out. I would like to have a meeting on Wednesday 7th October at 7pm at McDonald’s Victoria point.

The P&C are doing food at the musical on Thursday and Friday night and we are needing a few people to help in the canteen. If you are free and able to help please contact Nicole on 0423 731 175.

If you can help out in any of the above we would love to hear from you.

Thanks Nicole

FUNDRAISING

The chocolate drive money is due back this week. Please can you help support this fundraiser!!! If everyone sells their box we will look at making $10,000.00 profit. A lot of hard work goes into coming up with new ideas to fundraise and even more hard work running a fundraiser. It’s a little disappointing when we try so hard to raise good money for the school, students and the community and then feel we don’t have the community support behind us. We had to buy the chocolates outright, so for every box that comes back unsold means less money for the students. Please help us by supporting this fundraiser so that we can then help your child/children and their school. Thank you to everyone who has sold their box (or more) and has sent the money back to the school. It’s really appreciated.

Thanks Nicole

Tuckshop News

2 weeks to go!

A BIG thank you to the wonderful volunteers who helped this week.

It is fabulous that you, the MCSS parents/caregivers, have taken on board my requests for orders to be in earlier. Thanks to all those who are helping in this way.

I love the notes of thanks and the smiley faces on the lunch bags. They make my volunteers and myself feel very special, and appreciated.

Lastly, please note that the Tuckshop will be closed for all orders on the last day of term (Friday 18th September) although chips, drinks and ice creams will still be available.

Have a great week,  
Rachelle

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

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. Can be returned to the P&C box in the school office. Or to the email address below. EMAIL: mel-foster@live.com.au

PHONE: 0418 438 747. Uniform shop hours Terms 2 & 3:

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<thead>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday Afternoon</td>
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<td>Thursday Morning</td>
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School Banking News

Student Bankers of the Week & Class of the week:
25/08/15 Cody 2A Class: 4B
01/09/15 Lauren 2C Class: 2B

Student Banking is done on Tuesdays

Permission Forms Online
Please be aware that permission forms for paid activities are uploaded onto the school’s website for your convenience.

Please go to: Support & Resources, Forms & Documents, Documents, Permission Forms
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 often unable to accept late payments because of deadlines imposed by bus companies etc. Please note that class teachers are not permitted to accept payments due to audit regulations.

Events Money Due:
- Volleyball Comp. Yr 6 $10 due Thurs 10th Sept
- Year 4 Camp second instalment $90 due Thurs 10th Sept
- Prep Excursion $22 due Thurs 10th Sept

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

Cottonhoppers 30th Year Anniversary
This year marks the 30th year of the Cottonhoppers Jump Rope for Heart Team from Mount Cotton State School. We are calling for all past and present team members, families, community members and friends who have been involved with the team over the last 30 years to come together and celebrate this amazing milestone. The team are hosting an Anniversary/Reunion event on Friday 6th November at 6:30pm in the school hall. If you would like further information on the event or to RSVP please email the Coach of the Cottonhoppers: Taryn Hodgson – thodg5@eq.edu.au

Please RSVP by 30th October.