Day 8 Staffing News
As you are aware, on Friday 5th of February (Day 8), we submitted our numbers and our staffing was finalised. I am pleased to announce that we have gained an additional teacher. Due to over-sized classes in Year 5, we will be creating a new Year 5 class (5D). Mrs Lisa Wagner will be the teacher of 5D. Mrs Wagner taught Year 5 at Mount Cotton in 2015. 5D will be in the classroom next to 5B. 3B will be moving to Mi Hub for Term 1. I have applied for an additional classroom and hope to hear by the end of the week. 5D parents and students were informed yesterday and the children will move their stationery into their new classroom today.

Our Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PA</th>
<th>Meagan Winton</th>
<th>4A</th>
<th>Bridget Elliott</th>
<th><a href="mailto:bell137@eq.edu.au">bell137@eq.edu.au</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PB</td>
<td>Shelley Brady</td>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Mal Rossow</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mross111@eq.edu.au">mross111@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>Noni Thomas</td>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Kim Maroske</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kmacr1@eq.edu.au">kmacr1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PD</td>
<td>Joanne Ollerenshaw</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1A | Kerri Tracy | 5A | Melinda Bashford | mbash3@eq.edu.au |
1B | Silvana Balharry | 5B | Suzanne Weaven | sweav1@eq.edu.au |
1C | Cathy Bailey | 5C | Rigo Shepherdson | rgeor42@eq.edu.au|
1D | Carol Donhardt | 5D | Lisa Wagner | lxwag2@eq.edu.au |

2A | Emer Lyons | 5A | Linda Wheeler Carleen Tilbury Lisa Pavey Donna Wilkins | lwhee37@eq.edu.au |
2B | Belinda Boland | 5B | ctib1@eq.edu.au |
2C | Natalie Andrews | 5C | lpave2@eq.edu.au |
2D | Jodie Mutzelburg | 5D | dwilk62@eq.edu.au |

3A | Heather Stubbs | 5D |                      |                   |
3B | Sherryn Avis | 5D |                      |                   |
3C | Lisa McInnes | 5D |                      |                   |
3D | Nigel Wiggins | 5D |                      |                   |

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.

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.

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

School Road Safety is an important issue in our community. I very much appreciate and acknowledge that the carpark is very busy, however, I’m 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 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PB</td>
<td>99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PD</td>
<td>97%</td>
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</tbody>
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Year 1

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<th>Year 1</th>
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<td>1A</td>
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<td>1D</td>
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Year 2

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<th>Year 2</th>
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<td>2A</td>
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<td>2D</td>
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Year 3

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
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Year 4

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<th>Year 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>4A</td>
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Year 5

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<th>Year 5</th>
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<tr>
<td>5A</td>
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<td>5B</td>
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Seniors

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Seniors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
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<tr>
<td>5B</td>
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<tr>
<td>5C</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

Kind regards,

Meagan Stewart
mstew40@eq.edu.au

From the Deputy Principal

School Leaders Induction:

This Thursday 11th 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. This week, we will not have an assembly on Wednesday.

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.

Days for each year level are:

Monday: Yr 2 & 3
Tuesday: Yr 1
Wednesday: Yr 4 & 5
Thursday: Prep
Friday: Yr 6

Kind regards,

Glenice Cleary
Deputy Principal

What can I do to help my child do well at school?


1. Have hopes, dreams and ambitions for your child.

When a parent holds high aspirations for their child, they do better at school. Aspirations are hopes, dreams, aims or ambitions. If you show your child that you believe in their potential and tell them that you know they can succeed, it can help your child build confidence, set higher expectations for themselves, and they can achieve better results at school. TIPS - THINGS YOU CAN DO:

Let your child know that you think it’s important they do well at school.
Ensure your child knows that you believe in their potential and abilities.
Ask your child everyday what they learnt at school, or what they found interesting or fun at school.
Talk to your child often about the dreams and plans they have for their future.

Week Number  Activity
3  School Yard Games
4  Camp Games (Monte Carlo etc)
5  Board Games/ Twist-er/ Celebrity Heads
6  Dress Up Relays
7  Obstacle Course
8  Construction
9  Disco
2. Help your child to enjoy learning

Children develop their attitudes and beliefs in their abilities from their parents. Characteristics such as tenacity, persistence, planning and organisation and the important ability to ask for help are often qualities children model from their parents. If your child has a positive attitude to learning they are more likely to complete Year 12 and go onto further study.

Encourage your child to learn from their mistakes and to keep trying even if they find something difficult. Praise your child for their effort and progress. Be positive about school and respectful of teachers. Show interest in what happens at school and talk about what your child is learning. Show your child how you plan, set goals, and follow through when you start something. Children who master these kinds of skills have learned how to learn effectively – and these skills will help them not only during their years at school, but throughout their lives.

TIPS - THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- Demonstrate a positive attitude and good work habits to your child.
- Talk with your child about what they are learning at school.
- Help your child to learn how to deal with distractions and to re-engage with their work.
- Help your child and encourage them to keep trying if they lack confidence or doubt themselves.
- Common things children say when they lack confidence could include: “I don’t know how to do that”, “I can’t remember”, “It’s too hard”, “It’s boring”.
- Praise your child for their effort and persistence when they are reading or doing homework.

3. Talk with your child everyday about their day

Children who talk openly with their parents about their day, such as what happens at school and current age appropriate events have better educational outcomes. Other activities like discussing books, films or television programs or eating meals together around the table are also associated with better student reading performance in school.

TIPS - THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- Talk with your child about what’s happening at school – activities, programs, what they are learning and even what happens in the playground.
- Watch age-appropriate TV with your child and talk about what you watch together.
- Have dinner at the table with the TV off and talk about what happened in everyone’s day.
- Talk with your child about history, news, or any subject that interests them.
- If you find it hard to get your child to talk to you about what is happening at school, try these ideas:

  - Instead of asking “How was school today?” ask “What was fun? What was the worst part of the day? What’s something new you learned today?”
  - Take ideas from their homework and try to discuss those.
  - Ask your child’s teachers to give you a list every few weeks of the work they are covering at school. Ask if your school can send information like this by email, text message or whatever way works best for you.

4. Read with your child

Parents that read out loud regularly with their children help them to do better at school. Reading with children is the best way to teach them how to read and to simply enjoy stories. Teach your child to love reading instead of focusing on teaching them the mechanics of how to read.

TIPS - THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- Share your own stories with your child about your life.
- Read books or newspapers for enjoyment.
- Read and talk about books and stories with your child.
- Ask your child about their favourite character in a book or what they think might happen next in the story.
- Borrow audio books from the library and follow the story together with your child.
- If you speak a different language at home you can speak and tell stories in your native language – this is very beneficial to your child’s education and life experience.

5. Get involved with your child’s school and local community groups

Research suggests that when schools, families and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and have positive attitudes toward school. For some parents the idea of walking into a school brings back unpleasant childhood memories. Some parents find talking to teachers and other school staff can be scary. It is important to remember that though your experience at school may not have been positive, you have the power to make your child’s experience a better one. Being a part of the school community is one way to ensure that your child has all the support they need to reach their potential.

TIPS - THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- Talk with your child’s teacher about their schoolwork and learning goals.
- Meet with the school principal or school liaison officer to discuss what you can do to help your child to get the most they can out of their schooling.
- Ask for help if you need it. There are many community groups and services to assist parents.
- Talk with other parents. Other parents can be a great support and you may find that the issues your child is having at school or home can be quite normal for their age.

Term 1, 2016 Week 2

Congratulations to these students on their achievement!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Attribute</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Riley</td>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aiden</td>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aden</td>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte-May</td>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim</td>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levi</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Clever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayden</td>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ebony</td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ella</td>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoe</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac</td>
<td>4A</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josie</td>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonah</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Caring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharna</td>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Creativity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aiden</td>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tahlia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isla</td>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ivan</td>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosta</td>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dental Van News
The School Dental Van is currently here at Mt Cotton. Metro South Oral Health provides free dental care to all interested students and any eligible siblings. Please phone the Oral Health Call Centre on 1300 300 850 to arrange bookings. This mobile clinic will be operating on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays with appointments available from 8.20am.

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Global Texting
The school utilises a Global Texting system when we need to contact parents with an urgent message and also for reminders about final money deadlines.

Please be aware that we use the abbreviation of MCSS (Mount Cotton State School) at the beginning of each global text so that parents are aware who is texting them. The number that the text is generated from, however, varies each time a text is sent, so don’t save the number to your contacts.

The texts that are sent regarding final money deadlines are a reminder to all parents in the relevant year level. Isolating the parents who have already paid is too difficult a task and so the text serves as a reminder only to all concerned – please disregard if you have already paid for the camp/excursion/activity.

Do not reply to the text as it cannot be actioned by us or replied to. Many thanks.

Music Notes
2016 is going to be a busy year for us in Music.

Choral Program: Sign-on day for our Choirs will be on Thursday 11 February this week in the Music Room. Come along and fill out all necessary forms and take home the Choral Program information. Choirs begin rehearsing next week – Week 4.

Instrumental Music:
Band: Continuing Band students will begin lessons and band this week – Week 3.
Beginners – Offers of Placement forms went home last week and yesterday for beginners for 2016. Please return these forms as soon as possible so we can allocate instruments to students.
Strings: Continuing Strings students began their lessons last week – Week 2. Please note that String Orchestra (Thursday afternoon) will not start until notified by Mrs Slater. Please return SRS forms so that we can start invoicing.

Beginners – Offers of Placement forms went home last week for beginners for 2016. Please return these forms as soon as possible so we can start invoicing. Creative Generation 2016: Invitations are due to come out on the 17th 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

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:
- 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.

Asthma Medications: Students who are asthmatic and require medication must bring their puffers to the office and parents must sign a form for the medication to be kept at the school office accompanied by an Asthma Action Plan from a doctor. Students are not permitted to have medication on their person or in their bags.

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
From the Library

Beginning this week students in Prep – Year 3 will have weekly lessons in the Library. This time will include the borrowing of books and each student needs to have either a satchel or similar (recycled plastic bag is fine) to transport the books between school and home.

Prep and Year 1 students are permitted to borrow 1 book at a time and Year 2 and 3 students, 2 books at a time. The loan period is 2 weeks but most students return and borrow weekly.

During Semester 1 students in Year 4 will be working with me and their class teacher on a Geography unit of work – focussing on selected countries in Africa and South America.

Missing books

Several classroom readers from last year have been returned but there are still significant number missing – please keep an eye out for any books with a Mount Cotton State School barcode on the front cover that you may have at home. We would appreciate their prompt return.

Library routines

Before School
8:00 – 8:30am – Seniors may access the Library for school related tasks, reading

Students from other year levels may access the computers for homework or set school tasks

Students in Year 4 & 5 may leave their iPads in the designated area. If they have homework or school related tasks to complete they may use their iPads in the Library.

8:30 – 8:45 am – Students in Year 1 – Senior may access the Library for free time

12:55 – 1:20 pm – Students in Year 1 – Senior may access the Library for free time. Students needing to complete work at lunchtime must pre-book a computer.

In Week 5 each Prep class will visit the Library with their buddy class during lunchtime. This is to introduce the Prep students to lunchtime activities available and how to pack up at the end of playtime. From Week 6 Prep students are permitted in the Library during lunch playtime.

Book Club

The due date for orders is Wednesday Feb 10.

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

Term Dates

Term 1: 27 Jan to 24 March
Term 2: 11 April to 24 June
Term 3: 11 July to 16 Sept
Term 4: 4 Oct to 9 Dec
**P & C News**

The Next P&C Meeting is to be held this Wednesday, 10th February 2016 at 7pm, in the staffroom.

The P&C AGM will be held on Wednesday 9th March 2016 at 7pm. 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 is the only meeting where you can become a member without being present at the meeting. Becoming a member does mean you need to attend all our meetings but it allows you to be on a mailing list to be informed on what is happening. Membership forms will also be available in the office beside the P&C box.

**From the President:**

Welcome to week 3. We will be organising our annual Easter raffle this term. So please keep an eye out for your families raffle tickets as they will be coming home soon.

This week our executive team member profile is of our P&C Secretary, Alison Olsen.

Hi there everyone, my name is Alison Olsen and I am the current P&C Secretary. I have been in the position for nearly a year now and have many responsibilities from monthly reporting, contributing the P&C part of the Newsletter every wee, helping to organise and volunteering with fundraising events for our school. I also help out as much as I can in my girl’s classrooms and you may see me in the tuckshop helping out every now and then. I am very rewarding being able to give back where I can. I have three girls all attending Mount Cotton, my eldest is in Grade 4, my middle daughter is in Grade 2 and my youngest has started Prep this year. I am also currently studying to be a Teacher Aide and I finished my prac. at the end of last year and work as a relief TA when required.

Regards, Nicole

**FETE NEWS**

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

Also if anyone would like to hold a stall on the day please contact Jess on mcssfete@gmail.com

Stalls start from $30 for a 3x3 spot.

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

Donations of good second hand books and plants are required for school second hand book and plant stalls. All proceeds from the stall go to our school. Please contact Danielle Kissane on 0418 759 414 to arrange delivery/pick-up options.

---

**Tuckshop News**

Welcome to Week 3 (I know......Week 3 already!) !!!! PLEASE UPDATE YOUR STUDENTS CLASS DETAILS FOR ONLINE ORDERING !!!

As per the norm, the first week of service was very quiet. I look forward to my days getting busier as the weeks progress. 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. 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@mctottonss.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

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**School Banking News**

**Student Bankers of the Week & Class of the week:**

02/02/16 Lacey 1C

**Class: 4B**

**Student Banking is done on Tuesdays.**

I hope everyone has had a chance to check out the banking rewards display in the library. This term the rewards on offer are a “Flying Snake Tail” and “Wildlife Writer Set”. We still have a few rewards left over from last year just keep an eye out for my little note that is attached to the reward form when I advise you that you have reached 10 tokens.

**Competition Time:** This year the Commonwealth Bank is running a “Wildlife Adventure Holiday” to Australia Zoo. The prize on offer is a full day Platinum Zoo Adventure Tour, airfares, 4 nights accommodation, 5 days car hire and $1,000 spending money. (not sure how airfares and car hire go for us Brisbaneites, but let’s worry about that when we win.) Look out for more info in your banking wallets soon.

Ever wanted to sign your children up for School Banking, but getting to the bank to open an account is a drag. What you need is Our “Account Opening Day” the bank comes to us, how cool is that. We will be outside the hall from 8am on Wednesday 17th February (next week). Prep into packs will be going home this week, so I can’t wait to meet all of our new bankers.

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- Preparing sandwiches/wraps
- Washing dishes
- Counter service
- Bagging up

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@mctottonss.eq.edu.au or just stop in and see me at the tuckshop.

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**UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

**Price List & Order Form** - Found on the school website (www.mctottonss.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 Term 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday afternoons</td>
<td>2.00pm – 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday afternoons</td>
<td>2.00pm – 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday mornings</td>
<td>8.00am – 9.00am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>