



TO GROW CLEVER, CREATIVE
AND CARING CHILDREN

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4 March 2026

From the Principal

School Leaders' Induction Ceremony

Congratulations to our 2026 School Leaders!

Recently, we proudly held our School Leader Induction Ceremony, officially welcoming our student leaders into their roles. They have already shown great responsibility, teamwork and care for our school community, and we know they will lead with pride throughout the year.

Thank you to our Adopt-A-Cop Ben for being part of the ceremony.

We look forward to seeing the positive impact they will make across the school in 2026.

Well done, leaders!



Reboot

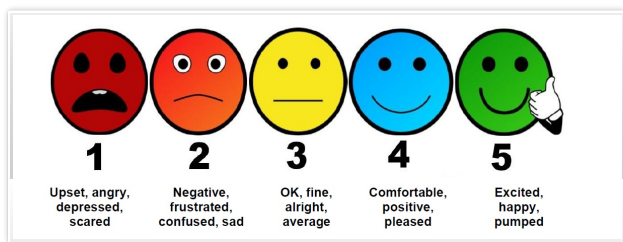
Self-regulation is one of the most important skills a child can develop. The capacity to know what you are feeling, what you need to feel better and respond appropriately to a life situation is a key determinant in outcomes socially, personally and at school. Self-regulatory ability is a stronger predictor of long-term school and life success than talent or nature ability. **Reboot's** 5 Faces are helping our staff to co-regulate with students to build their ability to self-regulate.

Co-regulation is the act of supporting a person to self-regulate. Everyone requires this support to develop basic skills in self-regulation, and at challenging times we all require the support of another person to self-regulate. **Reboot's**

5 Faces are a simple visual tool to support young people to identify where they are at and what they need to feel better.

It is possible to feel all 5 levels of emotion in 5 minutes if enough stimulating things are happening. There is nothing wrong the being a number 1 or 2, sometimes you can't help it (e.g. when someone you love leaves or dies, when someone betrays and upsets you) – it is acting out on it that is the problem.

With the support of **Reboot**, we are building skills in all our students so that they can self-regulate their behaviours and remain engaged in life and learning.



Homework for Parents & Carers

Talk to your children about their emotions – can they identify how they feel by using the 5 Faces? Do they know what they need to feel better? Assure them that you are there to support and help them feel the best they can.

Use the 5 Faces at home – be open and honest with your children when you are feeling a 1 or a 2 (they might even pick up on it before you do!) and explain to them what you need to feel better.

Before School Procedure Update

To help ensure a calm, safe and organised start to the day, we'd like to remind families of our Before School Procedures.

Camps, Excursions and Incursions:

At our February P and C meeting, the P&C committee supported our 2026 Camps, Excursions and Incursions. By providing our activities for the whole year, we hope it allows time for families to prepare financially.

Supporting Your Child In the Early Years of School

Attached to the newsletter are some ideas for supporting your child in the early years.

Professional Learning for Teachers – Wednesday 3pm to 4pm.

A reminder that our teachers participate in professional learning every Wednesday from 3pm. Due to this, they are not available during this time to meet with parents.

Term 1 Community Calendar

Attached to this newsletter is our Term 1 Community Calendar. It lists all our important dates for Term 1.

Mount Cotton Memories

A request, made on 5/10/1903, for a subsidy to fit the old school out as a teacher's residence (£27) was refused because regulations "do not provide for the granting of a subsidy towards the residences for provisional school teachers" and "funds are not available for the purpose".

A school residence for the Head Teacher (Principal) was built in 1960 at 1247 Mount Cotton Road was used for this purpose until July 1997.

With regard to last week's Facebook post A block has been on the current school site since 1897 (completion date) before the school transitioned from a Provisional to State School.



Parenting Ideas:

Click here to view Insights - Explaining scary world events to our Children
https://mountcottonss.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2453/insights_explaining_scary_world_events_to_our_children_1_.pdf

Click here to view Insights - Helping kids build lasting happiness

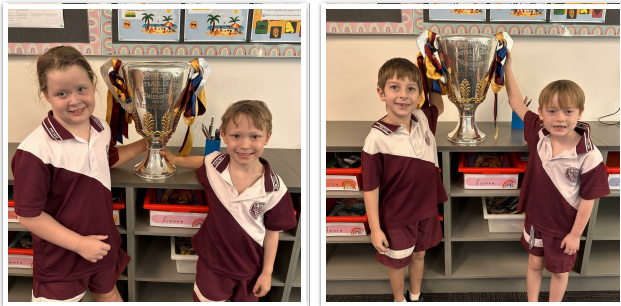
AFL Trophy

"We are the pride of Brisbane town

We wear maroon, blue and gold".

Many students and staff were lucky to experience the Brisbane Lions Premiership Cup 2025.

Will Lions do it again for the 2026 AFL season?



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 during Weeks 4 and 5.

CLASS	Week 4
PA	99.13%
PB	99.09%
PC	99.13%
P/1D	94%
1A	96%
1B	94%
1C	99.13%
1/2E	93%

2A	93%
2B	88%
2C	97%
3A	99.16%
3B	95%
3C	95%
3D	98%
4A	92%
4B	88%
4C	94%
5A	95%
5B	97%
Senior A	90%
Senior B	90%
5/Senior C	96%

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 partnership in learning between teachers, students and families.

Kind regards,

Meagan Steward

mstew40@eq.edu.au

From the Deputy Principals

Advice from Dr Judith Locke

Build meaningful conversations with your child after school by listening, empathising and guiding them to solve their own challenges.

https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/resources/media/jl_5_reconnect_end.mp4


Support your child's homework routine with strategies that encourage independence, responsibility, and natural consequences.

https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/resources/media/jl_3_homework_routines.mp4


School Photos

Our school photos will be taken this Thursday. Please see the attached flyer for details.

Mount Cotton State School
School Photos are on
Thursday 5th March 2026
Prep Individual Photos were Friday 30th January


0402 076 706
geoff@littleimages.com.au

Please place your order at
myschooldays.com.au
using the Order ID **88p4z**










Alternatively you can use the QR code

SIBLING ORDERS must be received by 9pm Wed 4th March
Sibling photos are taken before school from 7:30am







We accept Visa & Mastercard Credit & Debit Cards

There are various packs available online.
Some of the most popular packs are detailed below.






Student Value Pack - Only \$30
(if ordered by Photo Day)

 Class Photo
 25cmx20cm
 Feature Page
 2-18cmx13cm
 15cmx10cm B&W
 2 Wallet Photos
 High Resolution Digital Image

Sibling Value Pack - \$30

 25cmx20cm
 Feature Page
 2-18cmx13cm
 15cmx10cm B&W
 2 Wallet Photos
 High Resolution Digital Image

Optional Extras for Students and/or Siblings

 Digital Image
 Fridge Magnet
 Key Ring
 20cmx25cm Print
 Photo Calendar

Parent/ Teacher Interviews

Shortly, you will receive a letter outlining the process for booking parent teacher interviews. Prep – Year 6 interviews are on Wednesday 1st of April.

You will need to book an interview time on our online booking system. Please remember the following:

- Parents can only book one interview time slot with the teacher
- If you are unable to secure a meeting time, or unable to make this date, please contact the teacher directly to make an alternate time

Learning Potential app

Learning Potential is a free app for parents, families, and carers packed with useful tips and inspiring ways parents can be more involved in their child's learning. It is designed to help parents be part of their child's learning and make the most of the time they spend together, from the high chair to high school.

NAPLAN

Unpacking NAPLAN: a webinar for parents [External link, https://parentsnetwork.qld.edu.au/for-parents/parent-webinars/](https://parentsnetwork.qld.edu.au/for-parents/parent-webinars/) hosted by the Queensland Joint Parent Committee, is available and provides parents with expert advice on the importance of the test and how to best support young people through NAPLAN.

School Futsal

What an incredible achievement by our school futsal teams!

5 out of 6 teams have progressed to the next round! This fantastic result is a true reflection of:

- Great teamwork
- Determination
- Skill and effort
- Outstanding sportsmanship



Kind regards,

Sally Bedford

Stacey Dabelstein

- Primary Health Care (GPs and Community Health Services) can address over 60% of the need for ear and hearing care services!
- Middle ear problems make up the majority of hearing issues experienced by school students. A visit to the doctor can help address these issues, either on the spot, with medication / treatment or by providing a referral to an Ear, Nose & Throat Specialist.

TIPS FROM THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION FOR KEEPING YOUR EARS HEALTHY

- DO use earplugs in noisy places
- DO check your hearing regularly
- DO wear your hearing aids regularly, as advised
- DO see a doctor if you have ear or hearing problems
- DON'T put cotton buds, oil, sticks or pins inside your ears
- DON'T swim or wash in dirty water
- DON'T share earphones or earplugs
- DON'T listen to loud sounds or loud music

Policy

Medical Conditions:

Some medical conditions require exclusion from school or child care to prevent the spread of infectious diseases among staff and children. This poster (attached) provides information on the recommended minimum exclusion periods for infectious conditions and will assist medical practitioners, schools, pre-schools and child care centres to meet the requirements of the Public Health Act 2005.

Understanding Hearing Impairment

Hearing impairment is the total or partial loss of hearing. The terms deafness, hearing impairment and hearing loss are often used interchangeably.

There are many types of hearing loss.

- **Sensorineural hearing loss** is the loss of loudness and inability to hear speech clearly, as well as an irreparable loss of clarity, usually due to damage or faulty development of the cochlear and/or nerve pathways to the brain stem.
- **Conductive hearing loss** causes a reduction in the amount of sound travelling to the cochlear. Hearing levels can fluctuate on a day-to-day basis. This variation in the hearing level often has greater educational significance than the degree of hearing loss. Conductive hearing loss can have a significant impact on cognitive, social and emotional development.
- **Unilateral hearing loss** – means the hearing loss is in one ear only. This causes difficulty locating sound sources. This means that the person can detect the 'sound' but cannot recognise the direction of the sound source.

From the Head of Inclusion

Hearing Awareness Week

Hearing Awareness Week is celebrated during the first week of March, with 3rd March being World Hearing Day. Hearing Awareness Week is a great opportunity to help families learn how to care for their children's hearing. This year's World Health Organization theme is "From communities to classrooms: hearing care for all children." It focuses on preventing childhood hearing loss and ensuring early identification and support for children with hearing issues

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Mixed hearing loss** is both a sensorineural hearing loss with a conductive hearing loss overlay.

For each of the above types of hearing loss, there are varying levels of loss, defined as mild, moderate, severe or profound.

A person with a **mild hearing loss** may have difficulty hearing soft or distant speech. They may also have difficulty hearing normal conversation in situations where there is a lot of background noise.

A **moderate hearing loss** means that the amplification a hearing aid provides is essential for the student to understand normal speech. Without a hearing aid, the student would need to rely on lip reading cues. The level of concentration required to lip read is very difficult to maintain over long periods of time.

A person who has a **profound hearing loss** generally hears no sounds at all and relies on lip-reading and/or sign language to communicate. The term 'the Deaf' is used where people identify as being part of the Deaf community and its culture. The Deaf community views deafness as part of the human experience rather than a disability. Australian Sign Language (Auslan) is the primary and preferred language of the Deaf community.

Students with hearing impairment:

- May not FULLY comprehend instructions the first time
- May require instructions to be reworded until known language is recognised.
- May be reticent at asking for assistance or clarification on instructions.
- Will have difficulty in discriminating speech accurately in noisy situations
- Will be at an advantage if the student can see the teacher or any other speakers clearly. Strong light behind the speaker should be avoided.
- Will benefit from some degree of personal rapport with the teacher.
- Will not always correctly understand instructions presented through electronically amplified equipment e.g. PA system
- Does not hear with total accuracy just because the student is wearing hearing aids or using an FM system.

Diagnosing a hearing loss

Audiologists provide hearing tests and can identify the type and level of hearing loss. An audiology consultation at a public hospital clinic or Australian Hearing is free of charge to eligible people. A doctor can make a referral to an Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) specialist, an audiologist or audiology clinic at a public hospital.

ENT specialists (otologists and otolaryngologists) diagnose and treat hearing impairment and disorders, fit hearing aids and assess people for cochlear implants. A clinical geneticist may also be involved in diagnosis. Geneticists specialise in inherited conditions and causes of hearing impairment.

The Queensland Healthy Hearing Program offers free newborn hearing screening to all babies born in Queensland public and private facilities. Public hospital outpatient services can arrange hearing screening for other babies.

Queensland Health's Deadly Ears Program provides testing and treatment for Aboriginal and Torres Islander children across Queensland.

Students with a diagnosed hearing loss may also receive support through the department's Advisory Visiting Teacher for Hearing Impairment (AVT HI). The main role of the AVT is to support school staff in enabling students with disability to access and participate in the curriculum.

Aids and equipment for hearing impairment

Hearing aids and cochlear implants are medical devices that assist hearing and contribute to communication through speech recognition.

- Hearing aids improve hearing and make speech more recognisable through sound amplification.
- Cochlear implants provide sound signals to the brain, replacing the function of the damaged inner ear (cochlear).

Some assistive listening devices used with or without hearing aids include:

- FM systems and sound amplifiers use radio signals to cut out background noise
- TV and music devices include wireless headphones, neck loops and ear hooks

- miniTek remote controls connect hearing aids to mobile phones, TVs, MP3 players and laptops
- induction loops minimise background noise and improve clarity of sound
- phone devices amplify ring tone and increase volume of the incoming voice
- alerting devices include strobe, acoustic or vibrating fire alarms
- Teletypewriters (TTY) enable communication by phone

Information for this article was obtained from the Queensland Government's website and from Amanda Hill our Advisory Visiting Teacher for Hearing Impairment (AVT HI). If you would like further information, you may wish to contact me or click on the document below.

Click here to view Hi - My child has an Hearing Impairment
https://mountcottonss.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2482/hi_my_child_has_a_hearing_impairment.pdf

Technician positions have been finalized. Congratulations to the following gems who will receive their badges on Parade this week. It was fantastic to see so many students apply, and these students have already begun to support the school community in their new roles.

Our Student Librarians

5A – Lois, Rubie, Layla, Chloe, Emily, Lucy

5B – Anna, Ruby, Nika, Frankie

Our Student Technicians

5B – Charlotte, Indie, Sophie, Alicia, Frankie, Nika



Library News

Sora Access for students

All students in Year 4-6 have access to Sora an online library as part of our 1-1 iPad program. Students can access the library via the Sora app and using their MIS ID.



Applications for Year 5 Student Librarian and

Book Club

Scholastic Book Club catalogues for Issue 2, 2026 will be distributed to children this week. One brochure per family has been sent home with the **youngest** in the family. The school is rewarded with a 20% commission on each. When ordering -

Please use the LOOP (Linked Online Ordering and Payment system)

Order and pay directly to Scholastic via the link below, or download the app. You will need to specify your child's class and fill in their first name and initial of their last name. Orders will still earn commission for the school. Order forms do not have to be returned to school as they are processed with the school order.

Click here to view the Scholastic Website.
<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>

<http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP>

The due date for orders for Issue 2 is Wednesday 11th March .

If you do not wish your child to collect the order - For orders made online please use the GIFT option when ordering. The email address below can also be used to advise the library of your contact details.

Competitions

The Readers' Cup competition is a state-wide reading competition run by the CBCA QLD branch. Each year we enter a Year 5/6 team into the competition. Students in Year 5 and 6 are invited to nominate for a position on the School Readers' Cup team. We are urgently seeking 1-2 more students to join the team. If students are interested in participating in the Reader's Cup please see Mrs Wilkins.

Mt Cotton will participate in the Bayside District Readers' Cup Competition in June, up to 5 students will be selected in the team. Students read five novels (chosen for them) over three months, they will have regular meetings to discuss the books they are reading and to prepare for the quiz/trivia style questions they'll be asked at the competition.

Peer Support Program: Building Connections and Well-being Across Our School

We are excited to announce the launch of our Peer Support Program this Friday, a whole-school initiative designed to foster social and emotional well-being among our students. This program provides a wonderful opportunity for students to build connections, develop leadership skills, and create a supportive school community.

The Peer Support Program is led by our Year 5 and 6 students, who take on the roles of leaders and deputies. These students are equipped with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to facilitate small groups of 10–12 students from various year levels. The program runs over six sessions, held on Friday afternoons, with each group supervised by a classroom teacher to ensure a safe and positive environment.

Through engaging activities and meaningful discussions, the Peer Support Program encourages students to develop important life skills such as teamwork, empathy, resilience, and effective communication. It also provides a platform for younger students to connect with older peers, fostering a sense of belonging and community across all year levels.

We are proud to see our senior students stepping up as role models and leaders, and we are confident that this program will have a lasting impact on the well-being and personal growth of all participants. We look forward to seeing the positive outcomes of this initiative as it unfolds over the coming weeks.

If you have any questions about the Peer Support Program or would like to learn more, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can continue to support the social and emotional development of every student in our school community.

Did You Know? Our Library is a Hub of Activity!

Did you know that our school library is one of the most popular places for students during lunch times and before school? It's a safe, cool, and welcoming space where students can relax, connect, and explore their creativity.

The library offers a variety of activities to suit all interests, including reading, craft, drawing, computer use, and imaginative play. It's wonderful to see students engaging in these activities and making the most of this essential space.

One of the most popular activities is colouring-in, and we're always in need of supplies! If you have any spare colouring-in felts, pencils, crayons, or colouring-in sheets, we'd greatly appreciate your donations to help keep this activity going strong.

Are you looking for a way to support our school? We're always happy to welcome volunteers in the library! Whether it's helping to organise books, assisting with activities, or lending a hand with other tasks, your time and support would make a big difference.

If you're interested in volunteering or have donations to contribute, please don't hesitate to email me. Thank you for helping us make the library a special place for all our students!

Happy reading!

Donna Wilkins

Teacher-Librarian/ICT Coordinator

library@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au

Chaplaincy News

Hi,

It is already halfway through Term 1, where is the time going?

There are a few exciting things happening in the Chappy space:

Major Fundraiser – Read-a-thon

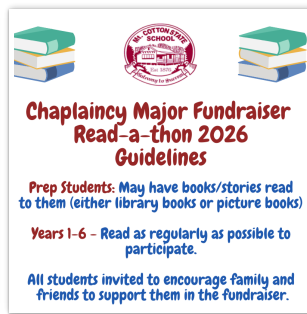
The Major Fundraiser to support the School Chaplaincy Program is up and running. The Read-a-thon is running from Week 5 to Week 10. Registrations are now open. Lots of amazing prizes to be won. Check Facebook for the link to the fundraising page and crack open the books to raise money so the Chaplaincy programs can continue at Mt Cotton State School.



Chaplaincy Major Fundraiser Read-a-thon 2026 Register Now

This fundraiser will run from Weeks 5 - 10
Open to all students

Registrations are now Open:
<https://fundraise.su.org.au/event/mt-cotton-chaplaincy-read-a-thon>



Chaplaincy Major Fundraiser Read-a-thon 2026 Guidelines

Prep students: May have books/stories read to them (either library books or picture books)

Years 1-6 - Read as regularly as possible to participate.

All students invited to encourage family and friends to support them in the fundraiser.

Parents Social Group and Play Group

This continues on **Fridays 9:00am-10:00am**. You can register your interest with Chappy – email nchon10@eq.edu.au.

Come along and have a chat with other parents while your younger children play.



HAPPY

Come & Join Us
Parents' Social Group & Playgroup
Every Tuesday Morning
8.40am - 9.45am
Venue: Chappy Room
B Block
(near 2C classroom)
RSVP via email

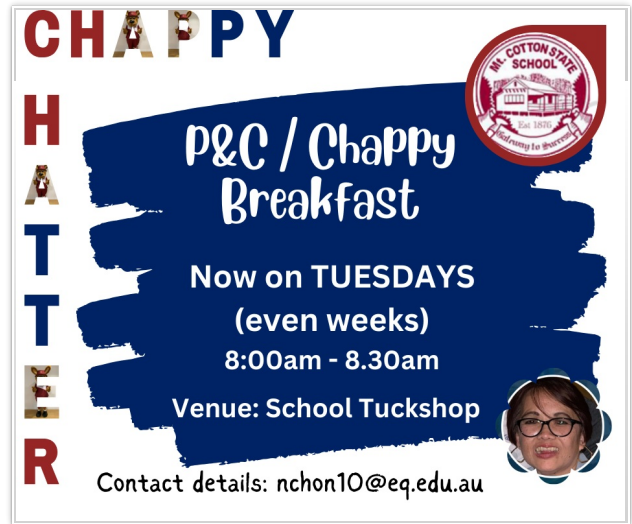
Contact details: nchon10@eq.edu.au



P&C / Chappy Breakfasts

Breakfasts are continuing every fortnight. We need about **3-4 volunteers** to assist at each breakfast.

Parents - If you are able to assist us at the breakfasts (so we can operate on a roster basis) please contact Chappy Nina – nchon10@eq.edu.au, or the P&C.



CHAPPY HATTE R

P&C / Chappy Breakfast

Now on **TUESDAYS**
(even weeks)
8:00am - 8.30am

Venue: School Tuckshop

Contact details: nchon10@eq.edu.au

SUBWAY

We are holding another Subway Day on Tuesday 17 March. Orders now open on the FlexiSchool App. Monies raised support Chaplaincy in our school.



MT. COTTON STATE SCHOOL
Est 1876
Highway to Success

Mount Cotton State School
Mount Cotton SS Subway

SUBWAY

Tuesday 17 March, 2026
Place your orders via Flexi Schools
Orders close Friday 13 March, 2026

Student Programs

This term the focus is on our Senior students. Programs for students in other year levels will occur later in the year.

U-Swap

U-Swap (Uniform Swap)

Hello Parents, Guardians and Carers,

Do you have any uniforms you no longer require, or no longer fit? Please come by the Chappy Room (upstairs above the tuckshop) and we will happily exchange them for a larger size, or if you just want to hand them in.

Wednesdays
8.00am – 8.30am

I look forward to seeing you soon

Chappy Nina

Have a great week.

Chappy Nina

150 Year Celebration

From the 125th Anniversary Book, 2001.

With regard to the article in the previous newsletter A block has been on the current school site since 1897 (completion date) before the school transitioned from a Provisional to State School.

A request made on 5/10/1903, for a subsidy to fit the old school (*unsure which building this refers to or its location*) out as a teacher's residence (£27) was refused because regulations "do not provide for the granting of a subsidy towards the residences for provisional school teachers" and "funds are not available for the purpose". A school residence for the Head Teacher (Principal) was built in 1960 at 1247 Mount Cotton Road was used for this purpose until July 1997.

Early crops in the district were cotton, corn, and sweet potatoes but cotton was not a success due to the influence of the American market. Sugar cane was later grown and three mills, Heinemann's (the biggest), Senden's and Holzapfel's were established. Pacific islanders provided much of the labour in the cane fields and were known as '*kanakas*' – a term no longer used. The islanders were paid wages of about £16 a year, while white labour was paid from 10 to 15 shillings (20 shillings = £1) a week. One of the original bells used to summon the workers from the fields was used as a bus bell to call the children to travel on a bus driven by the

nephew of our first pupil. Aboriginal people living in the area had a camp and ceremonial ground at the lower end of Mount View Road.

Student of the Week

Name	Class	Term 1 Week 5 and 6
Lily	Prep A	Respect
Evie Thomas	Prep B	Responsibility Responsibility
Hadley	Prep C	Respect
Maddie	Prep/1 D	Responsibility
Danike Teddy	1A	Respect Respect
Ta'Mya	1B	Clever
Leo	1C	Responsibility
Sigrid	2A	Clever
Alice	2B	Clever
Fearn	2C	Respect
Daxton Evelyn	3B	Creative Responsibility
Levi	3D	Clever
Elyssa Lila	4A	Responsibility Responsibility
Leo Lorina	4B	Clever Responsibility
Holly Harry	4C	Responsibility Responsibility

Liam	5A	Responsibility
Chloe		Clever
Emily	5B	Creative
Xavier		Clever
Sophie	5C	Responsibility
Chad		Clever
Mae	Snr A	Responsibility
Mitchell		Responsibility
Zoe	Snr B	Responsibility
Angus		Resilience
Evie W	5/Snr C	Clever
Oliver		Responsibility

Thur 5 Mar	School Photos Tuckshop
Fri 6 Mar	Peer Support Chappy Playgroup Tuckshop
Week 7	
Mon 9 Mar	String Ensemble + Lessons Mini Melodies
Tue 10 Mar	Mt Cotton Voices CGEN Choir Junior Assembly: Prep - Year 3
Wed 11 Mar	Year 4: Australia Zoo Excursion Year 3 and 5 NAPLAN Breakfast NAPLAN Year 3 and 5 Concert Band + Lessons Cottonhoppers 1pm Tuckshop P and C Meeting 6pmm
Thur 12 Mar	NAPLAN Year 3 and 5 Subway Orders Due Tuckshop
Fri 13 Mar	NAPLAN Year 3 and 5 Chappy Playgroup Religious Instruction (RI) Tuckshop
Week 8	
Mon 16 Mar	NAPLAN Year 3 and 5 Mini Melodies String Ensemble + Lessons

Money Due

CGEN Rehearsal Mansfield \$25.00 payment due Wednesday 11th March

Year 6 Tallebudgera Camp \$160.00 second deposit due Wednesday 18th March

Year 4 Kindilan Camp \$167.00 first non-refundable deposit due Wednesday 25th March

Dates to Remember

Term 1	
Week 6	
Wed 4 Mar	Concert Band + Lessons Cottonhoppers - 1pm Tuckshop

Tues 17 Mar	<p>Chappy and P&C Breakfast 8am</p> <p>NAPLAN Year 3 and 5</p> <p>Mt Cotton Voices</p> <p>Senior Assembly: Year 4 - Year 6</p> <p>CGEN Choir</p>
Wed 18 Mar	<p>Concert Band + Lessons</p> <p>Cottonhoppers 1pm</p> <p>Tuckshop</p>
Thur 19 Mar	<p>Tuckshop</p>
Fri 20 Mar	<p>Peer Support</p> <p>Chappy Playgroup</p> <p>Harmony Day (week 17-23)</p> <p>Tuckshop</p>