



Nothing But The Best!

Mount Gravatt State School Newsletter

13 August 2015

Principal's Message....

Please support the P&C's 5 cent fundraiser. Send along your loose change each Tuesday morning. Money collected goes towards more resources for the students!

We are having an exciting and busy term with many new activities in academics, art, cultural and sport.

Thank you to the P&C Association for donating funds to purchase a major set of Lego Mindstorms Robotics. We hope to give opportunity to students to learn computer coding and robotics, as we build our students up to be the creative, clever and caring students they are.

As part of our strategic planning process, we are reviewing our school programs and beginning development of our four year plan and Annual Implementation plan for 2016. We invite parent discussion on our future plans. Please come along to our P&C meetings to take part in the planning process. Our aim of "Nothing But the Best" via leading our students to be clever, creative and caring will be achieved via high expectations and standards, consistent curriculum and pedagogy and innovative programs. If you would like to have a say but cannot make it to P&C meetings, please email me at the.principal@mtgravatss.eq.edu.au

Thank you to all staff who are working very hard to refine our school programs and activities. I am very proud of the work done in our school and commitment shown by staff.

Regards

Jenny Watson

**5 cent Fundraiser
every TUESDAY!
We need your small
change!**

**WEDNESDAYS ARE
NUDE FOOD DAYS!**

**27 August—Year 3
and 4 Toohey
Forest Excursion**

**3 September
Father's Day Stall**

**11 September
Art Show & BBQ**

Parents & Citizens Association meets 3rd Thursday of month, 7pm - All Welcome!
1263 Logan Road • PO Box 678
Mount Gravatt Q 4122
Telephone: 3343 0777 • Fax: 3343 0700
Email: admin@mtgravatss.eq.edu.au • Website: www.mtgravatss.eq.edu.au

The Buzz

Be Safe!
Be Responsible!
Be Respectful!

Awards were recently presented to:

General Awards: *Freya, Thomas, Alif, Lua, Prabhdeep, Caitlynn, Shiiqey, Luqman, Hannah LL, Rhys, Neo, Cherise, Jade, Shaelyn, Luke, Zeina, Haley, Luke, Lowana, Aaleya, Deanna, Chelsea*

Reading Awards: *Nicholas, Cilicia, Aston, Carlos, Aaron, Chloe, Joshua W, Olivia, Judy*

Silver Buzz Awards: *Zainab, Caitlyn, Emily, Hannah ML, Josh T, Emma*

Gold Buzz Awards: *Lucy*

P&C News

The next P&C Meeting will be held on Thursday 20th August at 7pm in the school library. At this meeting the revised School Dress Code (Uniform Policy) will be tabled for approval.

Art Show Raffle

The P&C will be holding a raffle in conjunction with the school Art Show. First prize will be a family pass to Seaworld, Movie World and Wet 'n' Wild thanks to Mr Joe Kelly, State Member for Greenslopes. We would greatly appreciate any donations of food items for a gourmet food hamper, please no perishables, and toys, craft items or stationery suitable for a children's gift hamper. In the event that we are unable to use any items donated for any reason they will be donated to charity.

Father's Day Stall

The father's day stall will be held Thursday 3rd September. All gifts \$5.00 each.

Tuckshop

We are still working on getting tuckshop up and running again as soon as possible. Watch this space for another Meal Deal day coming soon!

5 Cent Fundraiser—send in your loose change each Tuesday in August! Every little bit helps!

Absences

A reminder that all absences from school must be explained to enter into our system. Data regarding absences is tracked. Research shows that high absence rates lead to lower outcomes. Each day away can make a difference.

If your child is away you can notify us by:

- ◇ Phoning 3343 0777 and leaving a message
- ◇ Emailing us on admin@mtgravatss.eq.edu.au
- ◇ **NEW**—Sending a text message to 0475 826 141. It is essential in the text you say your name, your child's name and the reason for absence. There will be no replies from this text service and it is only to be used for absences.

Student attendance rate should be above 90% where at all possible. Every day counts.

We have some students coming regularly late to school.

School starts at 8.50, with roll being called. Important liter-

acy lessons begin at 9.00am. Time missed disrupts the learning process! Please be on time!

Uniform News

Parents should ensure that your child has a **plain BLACK** jumper / jacket for winter wear. Black jackets / track-suits are available at most chain stores (e.g. Big W, Best & Less, K Mart, Target). The only acceptable jumpers are the school jumper/jacket or plain black. There should be no pattern / pictures on the jackets.

The Uniform Shop has some second hand winter wear for very reasonable prices.

Please make sure you mark your child's name on their jackets and jumpers, as we have quite a collection in lost property that belong to no-one!

Mount Gravatt State School P&C and community strongly values the uniform we have. We encourage pride in the uniform. We request that parents abide by the uniform policy. If you have difficulty in obtaining uniforms, please have a chat to us so that we can assist.

The School Dress Code (Uniform policy) has been reviewed by the P&C and will be endorsed at the next P&C meeting.

The **uniform shop** is open Tuesday mornings from 8.30-9.30am and Thursday afternoons from 2.30pm-3.30pm. Outside of these hours, please leave your order and payment at the office and it will be attended to as soon as possible.

School Photos

School photographs are on Wednesday 9th September. *It is expected that students wear the formal (striped) school shirt for photos. Please make sure you have one of these shirts for the photo day.*

Information about purchasing the photo packs has been sent home this week.

Toohey Forest

Year 3 and 4 students are invited to attend an excursion to Toohey Forest Environmental Education Centre on Thursday 27th August. Students will be involved in Cost for the excursion is \$22. Invoices have been sent home. Payments for this excursion are due by 18 August. No late payments can be taken as we have to finalise numbers with the bus company and the venue ahead of time.

Payments

A reminder if paying by BPay or Direct Debit, please include your child's name in the reference, otherwise it can be difficult to match payments to students. Please mark the date paid on the permission form.

If you are using the new BPoint Website to make payments to school, please ensure you use the correct customer reference number, invoice number and amount. If you do not enter the correct invoice number it does not match against your child in our finance system. *The new*

Term Three Fun and Learning

SPELLING BEE—Trials underway

CHESS TOURNAMENT

SOCCKER TOURNAMENT— Training underway

POETRY RECITAL COMPETITION—Entries due now!

CREATIVE KIDS CLUB

Nude Food is here to stay!

Last term, we held our first Nude Food Day and it was a great success. Students were excited and made a great effort to pack a rubbish food lunch. Our school leaders undertook a rubbish audit both before and after the Nude Food Day and the results showed a dramatic decrease in the rubbish around our school and the environment. Starting on the 5th of August, every **Wednesday will be Nude Food Day** and our leaders will be on the look-out with lucky tickets for students with rubbish free lunches.

School Camp

This year's Camp for our year 5 and 6 students is a beach camp at Camp Mudjimba on the Sunshine Coast. Invoices will be sent home this week. **Deposit is due: Thursday 13th August. Balance is due: Wednesday 16th September.**

School Concert 2015

As part of the upcoming school concert a group of students, under my supervision, will be constructing sets and props for the event. We have a place to work and many ideas to pursue, however we only have a limited supply of tools and resources.

If you have some old (or new) hand tools that are no longer required or needed and are in working condition we would love to put them to use here at school. What we require are hammers, screwdrivers, wood planes, try squares, paint brushes and anything else that we can put to work.

If you can help please bring your unwanted tools to the school office. For any further information please speak to me directly.

Thank you and kind regards, Troy Maher

You Can Do It! News

Good News!! The key hunt is over. Thank you to everyone who donated keys to our You Can Do It Program. Special thanks to Kaba Australia who generously donated 750 key blanks. Students are working hard at demonstrating their Getting Along Skills and some students should soon be receiving their first key for their key ring – The yellow Getting Along Key.

Art Show

The Mt Gravatt State School Art show is coming up soon on the 11th September from 3:30 – 6:30pm. Come along with your family to appreciate the variety of fabulous artwork from our students and enjoy a sausage sizzle, too. Each class will contribute a special canvas made by the students for Silent Auction to raise funds for art supplies. Start saving those pennies and you might just find yourself picking up a bargain piece that rivals Picasso or Monet! More information to follow.

Free Dental Treatment

Metro South Oral Health provides free dental treatment to **all** school students up to Year 10. As well as to those 0-4yr olds, and Year 11 & 12 students who hold a Health Care Card or receive the Child Dental Benefits Scheme.

Call **1300 300 850** to book an appointment at a clinic near you.

Please note that there is no longer a regular check up service with bus transport from the school. Parents must arrange their child's appointments and transport them to this free service.

Treatment for children (aged 8 to 12 years) who WORRY a lot

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Parents, is your child a worrier or a "worry wart"? Does your child worry a lot about everything like school, family, friends, their health and saying the wrong thing? At Griffith University we are offering a low cost group treatment program for children aged 8 to 12 years who worry a lot. **Interested?** Contact the Griffith University Psychology Clinic at Mt Gravatt on [\(07\) 3735 3301](tel:0737353301) or email psych-clinic@griffith.edu.au

MT GRAVATT KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL: 2016 enrolments

Mt Gravatt Kindergarten & Preschool has limited vacancies now available for Group B (Thursday, Friday & alternate Wednesday; 8.45am – 2.45pm) in 2016.

To register your interest email us on mtgravattkindy@bigpond.com or call our office on Tuesdays or Thursdays between 9am and 2pm – 3349 2995

Waiting lists for 2017, 2018 or 2019 are also open – visit our website to download an application form (a \$20 waitlist fee applies): www.mtgravattkindergarten.asn.au

Netball at Mt Gravatt SS 2015

An Unexpected Origin

I was happily surprised when Haley and her mum approached me about helping Haley practice for District Netball trials. "Sure!" I said, "Find a friend or 2 and we can have a training session once or twice a week". 2 became 10, and 10 became 30 + and suddenly we had a Netball Squad. The most I had ever coached in one session previously was 10 so this was going to be a challenge for me. 30+ girls and boys and only a couple with any notable Netball experience. This would be interesting... **CHALLENGE ACCEPTED!**

It was amazing how quickly the kids took on the basic concepts of the game, and the determination and level of competition inspired me to create some form of tournament and with State of Origin in the News, a **CLASS OF ORIGIN** rivalry was created.

The first game set a standard of play much higher than I expected when girls such as Kiamah and Sarah, who had struggled during training, took the match on and played fantastic games. Meanwhile Arafo and Tahlia proved a handful through the midcourt and were key factors in 5/6M's 1 goal win. With Zainab difficult to stop in the centre and Chelsea and Emmersen switching to defence and standing up to 5/6M's attack, it was

obvious that 5/6S were never going to be out of the match.

The start of the final quarter had 5/6S trailing 1 goal to 5 but a

stunning final quarter by Irene saw the final margin reduced to 5 goals to 6 in 5/6M's favour. **Player of the Match** was Nargis who was almost unanimously chosen by her peers for her amazing defensive effort.



Match was Irene who led the attack from the front. Thank you also to Serani who stood in for Emily as team manager at very short notice.

The Second game was almost a mirror image of the first. Sumaya found her place at GK, Jade, Cherise and Sana controlled the centre while Kaitlyn was pivotal in attack. As Ms Scandrett (a netball champ in her own right) watched on, 5/6S held off a spirited final quarter from 5/6M who, led by fighting efforts from Xantayne, Nasra, and Haley, saw another 1 point margin as the final score. 5/6S defeated 5/6M 5 goals to 4. A 3rd and deciding game was now on the cards. **Player of the**

Match was Irene who led the attack from the front. Thank you also to Serani who stood in for Emily as team manager at very short notice.

Not to be forgotten, the Year 4/5 challenge match was played over 2 lunch breaks with a high level of participation and an awesome amount of crowd support from year 5/6 students who had already shown their netball prowess. Too many names to mention in one A4 page but a special mention must be made to Hannah, Hannah and Hannah who were the standouts over the entire game, and of course Loch who was **Player of the Match**. It was a great game to watch, well done to everyone. Thankyou also goes to Cherise who made her umpiring debut, and Caitlyn A. who was a spot on time keeper.

On the final day of term 2 the weather stayed away as all the year 4, 5 and 6 classes converged on our transformed Basketball court for a School House Netball

Tournament. Mitchell, Henrik and Emily each managed their respective house teams while Connor,

Gursewak taking on official roles, and with Molly the official scorer we were set for an awesome afternoon! As I was umpiring I wasn't able to see who was cheering but I felt proud by the level of excitement coming from the grassy hill and surrounds. The games progressed as each team played each other once for two halves. Churchill defeated Cook – Hinkler defeated Churchill – Cook defeated Hinkler, a





better scenario could not have been scripted. It all came down to the replay games where Cook gained the momentum and won the overall competition by a single point! It was an AWESOME afternoon. Emmerson was Player of the Tournament and Irene, Haley and Kaia were the grade players of the day. A special award was given to Deeqa who, although her game skills were lacking during the match's she showed an amazing level of persistence and resilience – Great Job Deeqa, Awesome Job EVERYBODY!!!



The day finally arrived when the 3rd Class of Origin game was to be played. 5/6M v 5/6S

THE DECIDER. The pressure was on as both teams struggled with the nerves and excitement of the big day. I left control of positions to the teams themselves for this game and aside from a few minor disagreements both classes did a great job which set up what was to be an epic event. It was a low scoring affair as the game was dominated in the defensive thirds. Sumaya and Emmersen were steadfast for 5/6S while Nargis and Haley stood strong for 5/6M. The game played out with neither side able to get any advantage as **EVERY** player showed their skills and talent. It was awesome to see Toby and Daniel finally get to play for their respective classes and both played with skill, spirit and determination. I made the announcement prior to the match that if the scores were tied at the end of the allotted time we would continue on until one team was victorious, and sure enough the game was tied. As the final bell rang we continued into overtime and quickly the ball landed into the hands



of Xantayne who, like a master under pressure, shot the goal from close to the edge of the shooters circle. The high levels of both despair and exultation demonstrated just how much these young people gave of themselves, and the final score of 4 goals to 3 reflects that. Congratulations 5/6M and commiserations to 5/6S. The closeness of the 2 teams in skill, ability, persistence and resilience cannot be overstated.



Thank you to Cherise (injured and unable to play), Jayden, Caitlyn A. Gursewak, Emily and Mitchell for their sideline support. A very special thankyou to Haley who started this whole process (*this is all your fault*) and who also played a key role in all 5/6M's games even though she is from 4/5D – Haley, you are Awesome!

Player of the Match was Xantayne for amazing resilience under pressure.

Player of the Series was Nargis who consistently over the 3 games showed focus, determination and great skill – 'A Rock in Defence'.



Troy Maher