



Nothing But The Best!

Mount Gravatt State School Newsletter

19 November 2015

Principal's Message....

Our four year strategic plan has been approved by the Assistant Regional Director. This document sets our direction for the next four years. Our focus is to continue to develop a school in which students are *Clever, Creative, Caring*, aiming for "Nothing But the Best".

Our core priorities for the four years are:

- * Reading (main focus in 2016)
- * Numeracy
- * Writing
- * STEM—(Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) - with a focus on coding and robotics.

At Mount Gravatt State School we value:

- ◇ Problem Solving—*creative thinking to solve social, academic and life problems*;
- ◇ Self-motivated learning, with independent thinking;
- ◇ Embracing diversity;
- ◇ Varied and challenging learning opportunities;
- ◇ Excellence—Nothing But the Best;
- ◇ Opportunities for success for all;
- ◇ Happy and engaged learners;
- ◇ Positive relationships;
- ◇ Consistency of practice;
- ◇ Safe, responsible and respectful behaviours;
- ◇ Academic rigour.

In 2016 we will continue our wonderful excursion and incur-sion program, along with introducing new lunchtime and extra-curricular activities.

Our planning phase now is writing our Annual Implementation Plan. IF you would like involvement, please let me know.

Regards

Jenny Watson

WEDNESDAYS ARE NUDE FOOD DAYS!

P&C Swim Club
Fridays 6.30pm

P&C Meeting
Thursday 19
November 7pm

Last Homework Club
Tuesday 24
November (finishes
4pm)

Thurs 26 /Fri 27 Nov
Fun With Maths

Fri 27 Nov
SEP 30th
Anniversary 2pm-
7pm

Parents & Citizens Association meets 3rd Thursday of month, 7pm - All Welcome!

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The Buzz

Be Safe!
Be Responsible!
Be Respectful!

Awards were recently presented to:

Student of the week: Lowana, Jack, Ann, Hannah T, Ryan, Jade, Freya, Breanna, Edina, Ebony, Jayden H, Giang, Deanna, Zachary G

You Can Do It!: Amir, Matthew, Sean G, Oliver K, Emma, Connor, Senadie, Molly, Zaynah, Kaia, Khalid, Abdi Duran, Aiden

Reading: Isaac, Deanna, Chloe L, Tasmiya, Shafi, Hassan, Cadil, Matt, Sueb, Lawrence, Tyler

Home Reading: Jack, Seyara, Noman, Ben P, Isaac, Maeve, Manaal

Silver Buzz: Ali S, Madison L, Aaleya, Anshuman, Lua, Ria, Haley, Khalid, Jakeel, Matt

Gold Buzz: Sarah A, Jaxon B, Shardee-Mae, Travis, Seyara, Ben P, Selina, Judy, Maya, Kira, Summer, Zaynah

P&C News

The next P&C meeting is TONIGHT— Thursday, 19 November at 7pm in the school library. We urgently need more families at our P&C meeting! Come along and do your bit to make the school a better place!

House names for 2016 will be decided tonight, along with confirmation of Strategic Plan for 2016-2019.

Parent Teacher Interviews

All classes have sent home notes regarding parent teacher interviews. It is important you meet with your child's teacher so that you understand their progress this semester. If you have not yet made a time to speak with the teacher, please contact us.

Homework Club

Next Tuesday, 24th November is the last day of Homework Club for the year. The children will not be required to bring homework as there are other activities planned. Please note the finish time for next week's homework club is 4pm.

We wish to thank the Homework Club staff for their wonderful commitment to the students this year! If any of the students would like to bring along a small card or token of thanks it would be appreciated.

Homework club will recommence for 2016 in approximately week 3 of the new year.

E-Newsletter

Our newsletter is available electronically via our website and Q-Schools app.

The Q Schools app is available for android and apple devices. You download the app, choose the schools you wish to connect to and you will receive quick updates from our website, with notifications available. Our newsletter should then appear every Thursday straight after print publication. Latest news and calendar items also appear.

Alternatively you can go to our website and read the newsletter.

Report Cards

Report Cards this semester will be emailed to families. Please check with us if you have changed your email address. Please also save the report card so that you have it for future reference.

If you have not provided us with an email address you will receive a paper copy.

Reports will be sent in the last week of term.

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 BPoint Website is the preferred and simplest method of payment. Details on invoices.***

Unfortunately we cannot accept EFTPOS at the school, however payments can be made via BPoint at the school if your Debit card is a Debit Mastercard or Visa.

Please also note that we cannot give change at the school.

Please send in correct money for payments.

Late payments for excursions cannot be taken. Please observe due dates for payments.

Fun with Maths

Our Fun with Maths incursion that was postponed earlier in the year will be held next week, on 26 and 27 November. Some families have already paid for this. Cost of the incursion is \$7.00. Invoices for this have been sent home. Payment is due by this Friday, with no payments able to be taken after Monday at the latest.

2016 School Year Change

The Minister for Education has declared that Monday 25th January 2016 will now be a Pupil Free Day for students. With Tuesday 26th January being a Public Holiday for Australia Day, this means that school will start on Wednesday 27th January, 2016.

School Camp

Our campers returned tired and happy—including the teachers! We had wonderful feedback from the campsite coordinators about the behaviour and manners of the Mount Gravatt State School students. When staff come back happy and excited from a camp it is an extremely good sign. Thank you to the Mrs Scandrett, Mr Meehan, Ms Delany, Mr Maher, Mrs Cahill and Mrs Webber for giving up their own time to take the students on camp, and to Mrs Greer for her organisation of the camp.

QParents App

Don't forget to download the QParents app (free on both apple and android devices). This app can help keep you up to date on school events. Calendar items are available via the app and you can read newsletters online through the app or our website.

Mount Gravatt Play Group

Mount Gravatt State School hosts a playgroup every Monday from 9am-11am in our school hall. All parents are most welcome to come along to take part. The playgroup is for children from birth—school age and is associated with Playgroups Queensland. For more information you can go to <https://www.playgroupqueensland.com.au/> or phone the school. Playgroup only operates in term time.

End of Year Awards Ceremony

This year the P&C Association is sponsoring our new end of year awards ceremony. Awards will be presented for *Learning Excellence* and for *Commitment to Learning*. There will be one main award for each grade, with certificates presented as well. The ceremony will be held on Friday 4th December at 9am in our school hall. Parents will be welcome to come along. The new awards are part of our focus on high achievement and positive learning habits.

Swimming Carnivals

The Junior Swim Carnival will be held on:
Prep- Year 3—Tuesday 1st December 9am
Year 4-6—Wednesday 2nd December 9am
Parents are most welcome to come along and join in the fun!
Students will need healthy snack, water bottle, hat, swimming togs, towel, bathing cap, swim shirt/rashie.

School Consumables

As the year has gone on, many students are not bringing equipment to school for lessons. Please make sure your child has pencils, exercise books etc needed for class. If you are not sure what they need, please speak with your child's teacher.

Booklists for will be available in the last week of term and will be available on the website as well.

Mt Gravatt Mackerels Swim Club

Swim Club is held every Friday night from 6.30pm at the school pool. Membership is \$40 for an individual or \$70 for a family of 2 children. \$20 each additional child. Everyone is welcome! Enquiries, phone 0434 461 388.

Carol White Swim School

Learn to Swim and Squad Training at Mt Gravatt State School pool. Please phone 38923683 or 0413170441 for more information.

End of Year Date Claimers

Thurs 19 November—P&C Meeting, 7pm, Library
Tues 24 November—Final Homework Club day 3-4pm
26 & 27 November—Fun with Maths Incursion
Fri 27 November MGSS Special Education Program 30th Anniversary Celebration 2pm-5pm
Monday 30 November—Japanese Restaurant Visit
Tuesday 1 December—Junior Swim Carnival (P-3)
Wednesday 2 December—Senior Swim Carnival (4-6)
Thursday 3 December—Prep 2016 Transition Day
Friday 4 December—Awards Ceremony & Art Display 9am
Wednesday 9 December—Year 6 Farewell Ceremony
Thursday 10 December—Break Up Day Celebrations
Friday 11 December—Final day of term
Monday 25 January 2016—Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 26 January 2016—Australia Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 27 January 2016—School resumes

Free Assessment and Treatment for Children with Depression, Sadness, Fear and/or Anxiety at Griffith University

Parents, are you concerned about depression or anxiety problems for your child? At the Griffith University Childhood Anxiety Disorders Research Program, we are conducting a large-scale study that includes a thorough depression/anxiety assessment and a new tri-component intervention that aims to improve mood and reduce anxiety by helping children overcome unhelpful thinking patterns, increase use of positive imagery and encourage engagement in enjoyable activities. These services are provided at no cost to families. If your child is between 7 and 13 years of age, please contact our research team on 07-3735 3349.

St Agnes Netball Club Registration

The St Agnes Netball Club at Mt Gravatt has just opened registrations for the netball season beginning in April 2016 and finishing in August. The games are played on Saturdays at Wembley Park, Coorparoo. Girls who are in grade 2 in 2016 and older are very welcome to join the club. Registrations close on Friday 27th November. **All new players who would like to play in 2016 please email stagnesnetballclub7@gmail.com** to receive further information. Registration occurs through an online system.

There will be no sign on day.

Fees are \$210 per player for the season. Uniform try on day will be Friday 27th November after school in the undercover area at St Agnes Primary School. New and second hand uniforms will be available. More details about uniforms will be provided in the email that will be sent to you.