



# Nothing But The Best!

## Mount Gravatt State School Newsletter

30 July 2015

### *Principal's Message....*

Staff at Mount Gravatt State School are currently engaged in on-going school improvement. Following on from the recent school review we are working significantly on the area of Literacy. New reading and writing programming has begun, and staff are engaged in Action Teams to pursue further progress. Our new timetabling school-wide brings greater consistency. Our reading program ensures that students are engaged in Modelled Reading, Shared Reading, Guided Reading and Independent Reading regularly throughout the week. Data indicates that Mount Gravatt State School students need further development in the area of inferential comprehension. Parents can help with this by asking questions of what your child reads, not just "right there" questions, with the answers obvious, but questions that require the child to make inferences, using information from the book and from their prior knowledge. Please read with your child each night. It really makes a difference!

We have noted that some children are regularly late to school. First bell rings at 8.50am. We expect students here by that time. Between 8.50am and 9.00am the roll is marked, messages given and students prepare for the day. By 9am intensive literacy work begins. If your child is not here on time it disrupts their learning and the class learning. Please make sure your child is on time each day!

Please keep in touch with your child's teachers so we can best help them achieve "Nothing But the Best"!

Regards

Jenny Watson

**School Opinion  
Survey closes  
TOMORROW, 31st  
July!**

**7 August  
Year 5 & 6 Green  
Energy Lab  
Incursion**

**10-11 August  
District Track &  
Field**

**12 August  
Public Holiday**

**5 cent Fundraiser  
starts next  
TUESDAY! We need  
your small change!**

**WEDNSDAYS ARE  
NUDE FOOD DAYS!**

**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](mailto:admin@mtgravatss.eq.edu.au) • Website: [www.mtgravatss.eq.edu.au](http://www.mtgravatss.eq.edu.au)



## The Buzz

***Be Safe!***  
***Be Responsible!***  
***Be Respectful!***

Awards were recently presented to:

General Awards: *Sophie, Seyara, Neo, Kira, Tasmiya, Molly, Katie, Victoria, Luke, Selina, Blake, Jordan, David, Caleb, Josh, Drew, Shayna, Oliver, Sarah T, Daniel, Tyler, Aiko, Tamsin, Jaydane, Kai, Ally, Randima, Neo*

Reading Awards: *Sebastian S, Jack, Benji, Rehan, Prab-hdeep, Giang, Jesse, Abdi Duran, Noman, Amir, Joya, Suhayla, Piper, Natalya, Judy, Sanjay, Abdikarim*

Silver Buzz Awards: *Sueb, Sana, Irene, Eve, Kaitlyn, Jade, Jessica, Breanna, Tasmiya, Ann, Rehan, Savannah, Ar-mandeeep, Matthew, Sean G, Maeve, Nathan, Senadie, Jakai, Travis*

Gold Buzz Awards: *Olivia*

### Public Holiday

The public holiday for the Brisbane Exhibition (Ekka People's Day) is Wednesday 12th August.

### Calendar

An updated school calendar has been sent home today. Don't forget to download the QSchools app to your smart phone. Add Mount Gravatt State School and you can be updated on events and news. School Newsletters can also be accessed electronically through this app and the web-site.

### P&C News

The next P&C Meeting will be held on Thursday 20th August at 7pm in the school library.

### 5 Cent Fundraiser

The annual 5 cent fundraiser starts NEXT WEEK for the month of August. Bring in your small change (and big change too!) every Tuesday. The money is collected at the classrooms so that we can see which class raises the most money! All funds raised go to buy new equipment for the students to use.

### 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](mailto: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.

### Tuckshop

Currently there is no regular tuckshop on Fridays. We have a special pizza "Meal Deal" day coming up soon.

### Year 4-6 Sports Day

Well done to all competitors on the Sports Day.

Age champions were:

10 years: *Aaliyah, Josh T*

11 years: *Kai, Jaxon, Victoria*

12 years: *Josh B, Cherise*

Well done to the winning house: *Hinkler*

### School Opinion Survey

Parents/Caregivers, school staff and a random sample of students are encouraged to have their say in this year's *School Opinion Survey* by providing their opinions about what this school does well and how this school can improve. Each of the online surveys are currently open and will remain so until 31 July 2015.

Access details for the *Parent/Caregiver Survey* have been sent home with students, and parents/caregivers are welcome to complete their survey online at the school. School computers will be available by phoning the office to make an appointment.

Last day for completing the survey is TOMORROW, 31st July. ***We urgently need more surveys completed, so please find the time to do this before end of the day tomorrow.***

### 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 uniform shop is open Tuesday mornings from 8.30-9.30am and Thursday afternoons from 2.30pm-3.30pm.

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

### 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 school photos will be sent home later this term.

### Year 6 Shirts

The order for the Year 6 shirts will be sent tomorrow. Any last minute orders **MUST** be in by 9am tomorrow (Friday).

### Dance Fever

Dance Fever is now underway, with students and staff alike enjoying the fun. The make-up lesson for missing week one was held today.

### Fun with Maths

The Fun with Maths program has been postponed until 26th and 27th November. All payments for this activity will be held over to that date and those who have not paid will be re-issued invoices in term four.

### Green Energy Lab Incursion

The year 5 and 6 students are involved in the Toohey Forest Green Energy Lab Excursion on Friday 7th August. Cost is \$5.00 per student.

### 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 \$20. Invoices will be sent home soon.

### 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.*

### Keys

We still urgently need your old keys for our You Can Do It! Program! If you are going past a locksmith / key cutting shop, please ask if they have spares for us! Check your house and ask friends and family for old keys. We need about 1000 keys for our program as we hope all students will earn keys for Getting Along, Persistence, Resilience, Organisation and Confidence.

### Term Three Fun and Learning

SPELLING BEE  
CHESS TOURNAMENT  
SOCCER TOURNAMENT  
POETRY RECITAL COMPETITION  
CREATIVE KIDS CLUB

### Peer Mediation

Thank you to our Peer Mediators who have been do-

ing a wonderful job supporting other students in the playground. The Mediators have been encouraging 'Getting Along' and have shared some of their conflict resolution success stories. They feel like they are making a positive difference.

A special thank you to **Stormboy Australia**, a local promotional business in Mansfield, which has generously donated lanyards to our Peer Mediation Program.



### 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> August. Balance is due: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September.**

### You Can Do It News

Getting Along is the Key for Term 3 and our students are proving that they have plenty of getting along skills- *kindness, tolerance, understanding, thoughtfulness, active listening and positivity.*

Getting Along Day is the Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> of August! **Children can wear something yellow** (a hair band, socks, ribbon on their shirt) to mark their commitment to Getting Along. **This is not a free dress day** as our school uniform is yellow...Perfect!

### Getting Along Challenge: Say Something Nice!

- 1. Give a Compliment**  
"you look nice today, I love that colour on you!"
- 2. Say Thankyou** "Thanks bus driver!"  
"Thank you for holding the door for me!"
- 3. Encourage Your Children to Say Something Nice**  
"Would you like to come and play with us?"
- 4. Be Polite on Social Media**  
"Thank you for sharing my post!"  
"Good luck with this venture; I'm sure you'll be great."
- 5. Send an Email**  
"Just thought I'd drop you a line as we've not talked in a while..."