Parents should be aware that our school has now implemented same day notification for absences. We need parents to advise us by 9.30am on the day of absence for their child. We have been instructed by Regional Office to continue to attempt to contact parents until we can be assured the child is safe. Emergency contact numbers may be used in this process if we cannot contact a parent. This program is state-wide and helps ensure that students get to school safely. You can advise via email (to the office, not teacher), text on 0429 906 081 (new number) or phone call to 33430777. If you have changed contact numbers, please let us know.

If your child arrives late it is essential they go to the office for a late slip, as the roll may already be marked. Please delete the old absence number from your phones as this phone number is no longer monitored daily. All urgent calls should go to 3343 0777.

FREE DRESS DAY THIS FRIDAY—DRESS LIKE A SUPERHERO or regular free dress if preferred. Please make sure your child wears appropriate clothing for learning and play. Clothing must be sun safe (no singlet style tops) and shoes must be running shoes.

This term has been very busy and successful at Mt Gravatt SS. We have received our NAPLAN results, with excellent outcomes. Mt Gravatt SS showed the most improvement of the cluster of schools we belong to in the region. Our results in writing and spelling are outstanding, with our hard work in reading also paying off. Plenty of varied learning opportunities have been presented to students in areas of the arts, STEM, sport and academics. Planning for 2017 will begin next term.

Next term we also have many exciting events: School Concert, Camp, Excursions, great new English curriculum units of work, swimming lessons and robotics.

I hope you enjoy the holidays with your children.

Regards

Jenny Watson
The Buzz

Be Safe!
Be Responsible!
Be Respectful!

Awards were recently presented to
Student of the Week: Giang, Mazin, Abhijot, Cadil, Jaxon N, Lilly W, Mujtaba, Fabian, Ella R
Reading Award: Jamie, Max, Eva, Rehan, Ben, Rafail, Kaitlyn, Lucy F, Luke C, Shayna, Oliver K
You Can Do It! Award: Suhayla, Madison F, Agnes, Ramsha, Brianna, Ella O, Breanna, Allanah, Lilly W

Holidays
Last day of term is tomorrow, Friday 16th September. Tomorrow is a Free Dress Day or Dress like a Superhero day. Please send along a gold coin donation to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Please make sure your child wears sunsafe clothing (no singlets). Clothing should be appropriate for learning and play. Shoes and socks must be worn, as must wide-brimmed hats.

School resumes for term four on Tuesday 4th October.

Attendance Update
Every day counts!
Here is the attendance data for the two week period 29 Aug-1 Sept.
Our school goal for attendance is 93%. This fortnight attendance is at 91.2%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Attendance 6/6-17/6</th>
<th>Trending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>92.9%</td>
<td>😊</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade One</td>
<td>88.8%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Two</td>
<td>86.2%</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Three</td>
<td>91.8%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Four</td>
<td>91.3%</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Five</td>
<td>90.6%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Six</td>
<td>95.6%</td>
<td>😊😊</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance is expected on every school day where possible. Parents must advise us promptly when children are absent from school. You can email us on admin@mtgravatss.eq.edu.au or phone us on 33430777. Our new absences text number is 0429 906 081. Please note the change from previous text number and change it in your phone.
Absences longer than 10 days need to be approved in writing, as per Department of Education policy. Please contact us if you are going to be absent (e.g. family holiday) so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

Same Day Absence Notification
Following new Department of Education procedures, Mount Gravatt State School has now implemented same day notification of absences.
We require all parents to either phone, text or email us on the morning of your child’s absence. Please notify us by 9.30am. This is so that we know your child is safe with you. Parents will be contacted during the morning of an unexplained absence so that we can ensure your child’s safety and amend our records to be an explained absence.
Rolls are marked when school commences for the day. If we have not yet heard from you by 9.30am as to the reason for your child’s absence, you will receive a phone call or text message. Once you receive this please phone us on 33430777 as soon as possible so that we can verify your child’s safety and reason for absence. You may receive a text message, which you can reply to. If we do not hear from parents, emergency contacts may be called to check all is well. We have been instructed by Regional Office to phone / text until we get a message advising that the absent child is safe.
If your contact details (best to have mobile phone number) have changed, please advise us.

With this new process it will be very important that late arrivals go through the office. If your child is late and goes straight to class, they will have been recorded as absent on our system. Late slips are vital to ensure our records are correct.
If you have any questions about these procedures, please speak to us at the office.

P&C NEWS
The next P&C Meeting will be held TONIGHT—Thursday 15th September at 7pm in the school library meeting room. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

5 Cent Fundraiser
Thank you to everyone who sent in donations for our 5 cent fundraiser! $606.75 was raised, with 5/6M being the winning class, with $109.35 donated.

Uniform Shop
Uniform shop is open 8.30-9.30am Tuesdays and 2.30-3.30pm Thursdays.

Regards, Kelly Boyland, P&C President

Robotics News
Students in years 3-6 have now signed up to be formally part of Robotics Club. We have explored use of the Ozobots and will move on to using the Spheros next term. Year 2 will come on board next term as well. Students will be involved in solving problems and challenges using technology.

School Photos
School photos will be delivered after the school holidays.

Excursions
Year 5 ad 6 recently visited the Colonial Goldfields at Eureka Goldfields Experience. Students and staff alike dressed up in costumes of yesteryear and had the full experience of life on the goldfields: putting together basic shelters, panning for gold, baking break, working as a blacksmith and much more. They were even held up by bushrangers!
**YEAR 3 AND 4**

Excursion to Mount Coot-tha Botanical Gardens on Thursday 13th October for Science and Japanese activities. Cost is $25, with payment due Thursday 6th October. Invoices and permission notes have been sent home.

Camp deposits are now due for years 5 and 6 students. *Please remember that late payment for excursions cannot be accepted. Due dates are final.*

**Bits ‘n’ pieces needed**

For our Science room and maker-space we need some bits and pieces from home! If you have any of the following items, please sent them to the office: old scratched CDs, small boxes (e.g. from toothpaste, medication etc., no bigger than tissue box), plastic soft drink bottles (rinsed please), tin lids from jars, plastic milk bottle lids, newspaper.

**Art Show**

Thank you to all families who supported the Art Show! The bush dancing was very fun and the art work of high standard. Our next big project is our school concert “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” on Tuesday 25th October.

**Peer Mediators**

We will soon be recruiting year five students who would like to be peer mediators. We are on the lookout for students who are safe, responsible and respectful.

**Swimming**

Swimming should begin next term again. We are working with Facilities to ensure pool repairs are done as soon as possible. We hope to begin swimming classes in week two. A note about what is required will go home in week one. Over the holidays please check that your child has:

- ♦ Swimming togs
- ♦ Rashie / swim shirt / t shirt for over togs
- ♦ Towel
- ♦ Swimming bag (or plastic bag)
- ♦ Swimming cap (available from chain stores or pharmacies)

**Mount Gravatt SS PCYC OSHC**

For vacation care enquiries, please phone 38498233. Vacation care is being held onsite these holidays, with plenty of fun activities planned. Vacancies still available.

**Holiday Program—Griffith Sport**

Griffith Sport will be holding “Active Kids” for children aged 5-13 during the upcoming school holidays. Week one 19-23 September, Week two 26-30 September. A fun and active school holiday sports program designed to keep kids off the couch! Full week $250, single day $60. Monday—Friday 9am-3pm. For more information go to Griffith.edu.au/active-kids or phone 3735 5922.