16 February 2017

**MOUNT GRAVATT STATE SCHOOL**
**MEET THE TEACHER**
**CLASS EXPO**
**MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY**
**FROM 4.30PM-6.00PM**
Drop in during those hours to chat to the class teacher, find out about the learning programs and learn about class procedures. Copies of information about how to help with reading and maths will be available.

**FIRST P&C MEETING TONIGHT—THURSDAY—AT 7PM IN LIBRARY MEETING ROOM! PLEASE COME ALONG!**

Our Annual Implementation Plan for 2017 details our continued work to improve the results at Mount Gravatt State School. In 2017 our focus areas are:

**READINGS:** continuing the positive work from 2016, including case management, coaching of teachers, refining school programs and ensuring a coherent approach to the teaching of reading.

**NUMERACY:** 2017 will see our staff begin the review process of the teaching of mathematics across the school. Staff will engage with the research behind effective mathematics teaching. The data gathered in 2016 and 2017 will be analysed to determine student areas of need.

**STEM:** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths): Ensuring that all students have opportunity to engage in coding and robotics, along with increasing the profile of problem solving and creativity.

**COMMUNITY:** Providing more opportunities for parents to engage in the life of the school.

We will soon send out two surveys. The first survey is about our school website. Our School Opinion Survey in 2016 indicated that parents felt the information online was not very useful. We would welcome responses to this survey so that we can improve our school website.

We will also send a homework survey out so that we can begin to review our school homework policy.

Both surveys are online; however, if you need a paper copy, please contact the office.

Regards

Jenny Watson

**To report absences:**
Phone 33430777
text 0429 906 081
(text number only)
Or email
admin@mtgravatss.eq.edu.au

**Class Expo**
Meet the Teacher
Monday 20 Feb
4.30-6

**Robogals—Robotics**
20 Feb—Yr 5 & 6

**The Science Factory**
9 March
Prep-6
$8.00—payment due
7 March

**P&C Meeting**
Thurs 16 Feb
P&C AGM
Thurs 16 Mar
7pm
The Buzz

Be Safe!
Be Responsible!
Be Respectful!

Awards were recently presented to
Student of the Week: Catalina, Aston, Nate, Zaynah, Thomas, Shaheed, Madison, Lily F. Jarvis, Lochlan, Anshuman, Cadi, Natalia, Sophia, Seb U, Emily D, Zeyad, Kess, Brian, Kalisha

Reading Award: Lilly, Marli, Amelia, Minh, Chris L, Hannah, Lucy, Rehan, Angela, Neo, Lilly, Aled, Lasya, Amelia C, Asha, Emily U, Mali, Christopher, Emma R, Breanna

You Can Do It! Award: Kian, Alexis, Liam Elijah M, Maddie, Eligh, Seyara, Caleb, Janeth, Fletcher, Amir, Lua, Mia H, Emma, Judy, Deanna, Allanah, Magan, Caitlyn, Melissa

WELL DONE!

This year for Buzz Awards, students can earn special badges to proudly wear to show they are Safe, Responsible and Respectful. The badges are on display at the office.

Applications for Buzz Awards will be collected monthly, with the first application round on Friday 24 February.

Attendance — Every day counts!

Our school goal for attendance is 93%. Attendance is expected on every school day where possible. Students whose attendance dips below 90% will usually fall behind in their schoolwork. Research shows that absences do make a negative impact.

Parents must advise us promptly when children are absent from school. You can email us on admin@mtgravatss.eq.edu.au, phone on 33430777 or text us on 0429 906 081.

Attendance for the period 30 January to 10 February was 92.3%, so we need attendance to improve please!

We also ask that children are at school on time. Classes start at 8.50am. Rolls are marked before 9am. Students need to be in class by that time.

We do contact parents via text message if your children are not marked present in the morning. If your child is late to school it is essential they come via the school office to be registered as late.

Updating details

Please ensure you update the school office with correct mobile phone numbers and email addresses. If your details have changed at all over the holidays we must have updated information.

P&C NEWS

The P&C is your voice to have a say in the progress of the school. Meetings are not too long! The first meeting for 2017 will be held TONIGHT, Thursday 16th February 2017 at 7pm. The Annual Implementation Plan for the year will be discussed. Also to be discussed this year is a possible change to sports shirt.

Uniform Shop

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

Please make sure your child has a school hat — available for $12.

If you cannot come to uniform shop at those times, send in your order with payment and it will be filled when shop is open and sent home with your child.

Tuckshop

Ice-blocks are on sale at tuckshop during second break on THURSDAYS for $1.00.

Textbooks / Stationery

It is vital that all students have the required items to participate fully in class activities.

Booklists were sent home last year and are available on our school website: www.mtgravatss.eq.edu.au

You can request a copy at the office.

Please make sure your child has what they need!

Some parents have told us that the texts are not currently available, but we have confirmed with SchoolStuff that they are definitely available!

Parents can phone SchoolStuff on 33917000, visit the store at 81A Caswell Street, East Brisbane or order online at www.schoolstuff.com.au

The text books may also be available from other educational booksellers (eg Edsco) or online, but please make sure you get the correct edition.

Text books must be obtained by next week.

If you have difficulties, please speak with your child’s teacher or the office.

Swimming

At this stage all classes are swimming on a Tuesday.

Please make sure your child has all they need, including a sun-safe shirt for swimming and a swimming cap (available from sports stores or pharmacies).

Please advise the school if your child is unable to swim due to medical or other reasons. It is expected that all students participate in the school swimming program.

Interschool Sport

Thank you to those who have responded to our note regarding interschool sport for years 5 & 6. At this stage we will be entering the netball competition.

Costs are quite high sadly, due to transport and
match expenses. Another note is being sent home today, with payment due next week.

You Can Do It!
All classes in the school teach the You Can Do It! Program. This program teaches the five keys to success: Resilience, Persistence, Getting Along, Organisation and Confidence.
This term we are focusing on the life skill of ORGANISATION.
Please help your child to be organised and ready to learn:
◊ be on time to school
◊ have all the equipment needed for school
◊ Make sure pencils sharp and ready
◊ Have homework completed and ready
◊ Have things needed for each day: swimming / forms / library book
◊ Be back at class on time after breaks.

Car Park
Please remember to follow common sense rules and all signage in the car park.
The car park gets very busy at 3pm. Parents of older students may wish to wait a few minutes for pick up. By 3.10pm the car park is much easier to move in! There are also many surrounding streets that may be easier for pick up.
In the car park, parents must NOT leave their cars that are parked in the parallel car parks beside the oval. These are for quick pick up and drop off only. Please keep moving through these parks safely.
We ask that everyone keeps student safety in mind! Be calm and patient!
We also wish to advise that Queensland Police will be monitoring the safety around our school closely this term. They will be checking that the 40km/hr speed limit is adhered to on Logan Road in mornings and afternoons, so take care as you leave the school.

Crossing Safety
Please remember to ensure your children use the supervised crossing if they enter via Loreburn Street. Parents should also set a good example by obeying the school crossing supervisor’s directions. Always STOP when the sign is displayed, wait for direction to cross.
Please also do not stop in the taxi zone or near the crossing at the back of the school.

Class Expo—Meet the Teacher!
On Monday 20 February we will have our meet the teacher evening! Teachers will be on hand to talk to parents about classroom programs and expectations, homework, curriculum and assessment. There will be take-home information packs.
It is a great chance to see what is happening in our school!
We were originally scheduled to have Channel 10 news broadcast weather from our school that day, but unfortunately channel ten has cancelled all school weather visits. We will still have a fun afternoon, with lots of information for you all!
Date: Monday 20 February
Time: 4.30pm-6pm
Venue: MGSS Hall

The Science Factory
All students from years P-6 are invited to participate in a fun Science Factory activity on Thursday 9th March.
The Science Factory provides students with activities in the areas of Technology, Robotics and Creative Thinking. The workshop is fully hands-on and activities are different than experienced in previous years.
Cost is $8 per child, with payment due by 7th March. Invoices have been sent home. Preferred payment method is via BPOINT. Please use correct reference when making payment (detailed on invoice).

QSchools
This newsletter is available electronically each week via our website and the QSchools App (available for both Apple and Android devices).