From the Principal

Hello Everyone

This is my first opportunity to officially welcome everyone back to school. I would just like to thank everyone for ensuring that students are smartly dressed in school uniforms and for making sure that students have the necessary equipment to start the school year.

This year our aim is to better promote sport and physical activity. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we will commence morning fitness at 8:50am and this will be for those children who are at school (School will still officially commence at 9:00). This will be followed by snack attack and the children are encouraged to bring a piece of fruit. We believe this to be a great way to start each day and it promotes healthy habits. The whole school will have a health lesson each Friday afternoon and there will be sport or games in the P/1/2 class. The students in years 3 to 6 will have sport based on lessons taught during PE or carnivals that may be occurring.

This year we will be having a homework club on Wednesday afternoons between 3:00pm and 4:00pm and this will commence on Wednesday 24 February. This is a trial. Students will be assisted by Karen Pomereneke and some volunteers. Please see the attached note and Expression of Interest.

There will be a change to our Gotcha Reward System this year. It is important to note that the Gotcha system is used to reinforce our expectations that are explicitly taught to all students. The children will keep all Gotcha tickets they have won. The P - 2 students will be assisted to do this by the school leaders. The students will be able to cash in their Gotcha tickets and win prizes. For example, they will be able to win prizes at the tuckshop. We will not be drawing these out on Friday parade as in the past. Class teachers will continue to nominate students for “Student of the Week” and parents will be invited to parade for the presentation of awards.

These are just some of the changes we have initiated as we move forward and continue to grow as a school. In coming newsletters I will outline our improvement targets and how we aim to achieve these targets. These will be the key improvements and I hope I am fostering a culture at school where we continue to change and strive to make things even better. I will complete final discussions of these targets with the staff and the P&C in the next fortnight.

What’s On

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 12 Feb</td>
<td>Election of School leaders</td>
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<td>Fri 19 Feb</td>
<td>Religious Instruction commences</td>
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<td>Wed 24 Feb</td>
<td>Homework Club Trial</td>
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<td>Thurs 25 Feb</td>
<td>Gifted &amp; Talented Science Day</td>
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<td>Fri 4 Mar</td>
<td>Performance at Biddeston</td>
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<td>Fri 11 Mar</td>
<td>School Cross Country Trials</td>
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<td>16-18 Mar</td>
<td>Choir Camp</td>
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<td>Wed 23 Mar</td>
<td>Super 8 Cricket</td>
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<td>Thurs 24 Mar</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
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Welcome back everyone!

Please take the time to add the ‘What’s On’ dates to your home calendar so you are aware of what is happening at school.

In this very hot muggy weather, make sure you drink lots of fluids and wear a hat in the sun.
**Important news for parents**

**We have a small cohort of Year 6 students in 2016. These students will fill the school captain and sporting house captain positions. This year the project club positions will be filled by our year 5 students. Election of school leaders will occur on Friday 12 February after Parade. It is to be noted that this arrangement is not permanent but due to our situation in 2016. Together I am sure we will make 2016 another great year. This year my Administration days are on Wednesday and Thursday so don’t hesitate to make an appointment if you require information or a meeting.**

**Chaplain News**

Welcome to 2016. First things first! One of my roles as a Chaplain is to support your child. In the case of the child reporting illegal activity, harm or abuse or potential harm or abuse, I am required to report these cases to relevant people (the School Principal). This is in the best interest and care of student/s and other members of the community. This is Education Qld and SU Qld policy.

SU (my employing body which is Queensland Scripture Union) ask us to work in different areas within this school. These are: social and emotional support; spiritual support; mentoring; community development; educational support and extra-curricular activities. Please know that if your child wishes spiritual support, I will not do so without written permission from you. I also am here to support you – not just the children. At SU conferences, it is often stated that we ‘walk with you’ throughout both good and bad times. I am not a counsellor, however can point you in the right direction if you have need of one. There is an attachment in the Newsletter of various counselling/help services you can access if the need arises. I look forward to getting to know you better this coming year.

Karen.

**STUDENT BEHAVIOUR**

This fortnight we are focusing on our SAFETY value. You may reinforce these expectations with your child at home:

- * Walk bikes in the school
- * Play in the correct area
- * Hats and shoes used outside
- * Never hit or kick others
- * Sticks and stones down
- * Wash hands after using the toilet and before eating
- * Use the toilet correctly
- * Walk on steps and concrete
- * Avoid pushing and shoving

**The Arts**

**Arts Lessons:** In 2016, every student at Mt Tyson State School will have the opportunity to learn Music, Dance, Visual Arts and Drama. Rather than weekly Music lessons, students will each participate in a 40-minute ‘Arts’ lesson which – during the year – will provide learning experiences in all four subjects. The first four weeks of term one will be focussed on Visual Arts.

**CGEN:** Students who have nominated to participate in this year’s Creative Generation – State Schools Onstage will be required to attend rehearsals with the Pittsworth Cluster participants every Tuesday morning. Music has not yet arrived, but all CGEN students and parents are asked to attend an information session on Tuesday, 9 February at 8.00am in the Pittsworth State School music room.

**Date Claimer:** 16, 17 and 18 March – Choir Camp (invited students from year 4, 5, 6)

**Mrs Beth Wheeldon** (Arts Teacher)

Why is education in ‘The Arts’ so crucial?

Involvement in the arts is associated with gains in math, reading, cognitive ability, critical thinking and verbal skill. Arts learning can also improve motivation, concentration, confidence and team work. The intrinsic pleasures and stimulation of the art experience do more than sweeten an individual’s life. They can connect people more deeply to the world and open them to new ways of seeing, creating the foundation to forge social bonds and community cohesion.

**Mt Tyson State School**

**P&C News**

If you have anything you wish to add to the agenda or the P&C News, please let Amanda Pollock know on 0428 285 818.

**P&C EVENTS**

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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>P&amp;C News</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 9</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
<td>March 19</td>
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<td>Council Election Stall</td>
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**Welcome to the 2016 School Year.**

With the new school year comes the opportunity to hold a position with the P&C. All positions will become vacant and new members will be voted in. If anyone is interested in a particular position please see myself or Michael. The P&C meetings are held in the school hall at 7.00 pm and the AGM will be held on March 8 at 7.00 pm.

New P&C members are required for 2016. It only involves filling out an application form, and is for the benefit of the students at our school.

**Tuckshop Roster**

Wed 3rd: NO TUCKSHOP
Wed 10th: Donna & Amanda
Wed 17th: Sharlene & Keturah

*New volunteers are needed *

Please contact Donna if you would like to put your name on the tuckshop roster. It is only 1 day a term.

If you can’t do tuckshop maybe supplying homebake is an option.

**Tuckshop Roster**

Please find the tuckshop menu and roster attached to this newsletter.

**Student Behaviour**

* Walk bikes in the school
* Play in the correct area
* Hats and shoes used outside
* Never hit or kick others
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**Uniforms**

New and second hand school uniforms can be purchased from Karen and there are some new school bags still available.

Senior shirts will be ordered within the week.

Please name ALL your child’s belongings as there are already hats and water bottles in the lost property container.

**Lost Property**

There is a collection bin for lost property under the school. Please check this often as this is where any lost property or un-named items will be placed.

**First Monthly P&C Meeting for the Year,**

February 9 at 7.00pm

**Your P&C Committee:**

Donna Schultz (president) 46937138/0429879745
Dawn Schelberg (vice president) 0427 915992
Lyn Brown (treasurer) 46937258
Amanda Pollock (secretary) 0428 285 818
Donna Schultz (tuckshop convenor) 4693 7138
Karen Dow (uniform convenor) 0409 267 384
Meg Kummerow (publicity officer) 0427 606 983