

MIDDLEMOUNT COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL – SHARON ANDERSON

Congratulations

Thank you to everyone who supported our Colour fun run last weekend. It was not just a hugely successful fundraising exercise, but a wonderful community event and it was great to see so many people supporting our school. A special thank you to the P&C executive and the volunteers and staff who helped out on the day. I would like to particularly congratulate Melissa Travers, who was the driving force behind this project!



Staff

At the end of last term, we were advised that the following staff members have received transfers:

- Tamara Stolberg
- Lynn Mattingley
- Caitlin Craig
- Nicole Evitt

The following teachers will join our staff next year:

- Ryan Van Vuuren (Manual Arts)
- Kirri Fielding (Primary)

I am currently involved in recruitment for Head of Curriculum, Head of Department and Master Teacher positions for 2018. These will be announced at the end of November.



Week 2 Term 4

Dates to Remember

11 – 12 October –
Parent Teacher
Interviews

Tue 17 October –
Stay & Play Session 4

23 – 27 October –
Tourism Camp

23 – 27 October –
Spelling Bee Week



Mon 23 October -
2018 Prep Interviews
Day 1

Thu 26 October –
2018 Prep Interviews
Day 2

Thu 31 October –
2018 Prep Interviews
Day 3

Wed 1 November -
Stay & Play Session 5

Thu 2 November –
Secondary Awards
Evening 6pm

Fri 3 November –
2018 Prep Interviews
Day 4

Working together to ensure that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning for life and achieving their personal best, in a supportive and caring environment.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL – CONT

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent teacher meetings occur this week – 11 and 12 October. Bookings can be made on line. This is the last formal Parent Teacher Meetings for the year, but parents are always welcome to come in at any time to meet with teachers. Please take this opportunity to catch up with your child's teacher. We are always glad to work with you.

Attendance

Attendance is at 92.5% overall. I remind parents that EVERY Day counts. As we are coming to the end of the year, please ensure that your child is in attendance every day. Students whose attendance has dropped below 85% are of great concern to us and we will be contacting parents to advise you of your child's attendance rate.

Challenge Days

We will be holding three Enrichment Days for students this term.

- Wednesday 11 October - QMEA Engineering Challenge Day – secondary students. Industry representatives from the mine will work with students on engineering, geology and environmental science challenges and talk about career pathways.
- Wednesday 25 October – Science Challenge Day – years 3-6. Science workshops facilitated by Sarah Quinn. Students will be selected on the basis of report card results.
- Wednesday 8 November – Maths Challenge Day – years 3-6. Mathematical problem solving facilitated by Sarah Quinn. Students will be selected on the basis of report card results.

Subject Selection

Our current year 10s are in the process of subject selection for their senior phase. The Guidance Officer and I will be interviewing every student with their parents this week and negotiating their Senior Phase agreement. This will be the last group of students to receive an OP – a special group.

Upcoming events

- Parent Teacher Interviews – 11 & 12 October
- Certificate II Tourism students go on camp in week 4.
- Spelling Bee – week 4
- Secondary Awards night – 2 November

Leaving?

To assist us with our preparations for 2018, please let us know of your intentions for next year. If you are leaving us, please call the office on 49812333.

FROM THE ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – DARRAN STUTZ-GRIMMOND

Term 4 is always a hectic, crazy sort of time as Year 12 students finalise their last few outstanding assessments. It is less than 30 business days for these graduating students before their last-minute stresses turn to celebrations and we farewell them into the next phases of their lives.



In other areas, there's also plenty happening. Last week was our subject selection evening for Year 10 students and their parents. This was a critical night – parents and students don't have to wait until Year 10 to set the ball rolling in determining their future direction. In fact, parents are well advised to begin discussions about career options (without the pressure of forcing choices) with students as soon as they enter high school, or even before. If parents missed the subject-selection evening, some of that information will be caught up in upcoming SET (Senior Education and Training) Plan interviews which will take place between individual Year 10 students and parents and our Guidance Officer, Mrs Leon-Mason and our Principal, Mrs Anderson, very soon. Or parents can catch up on the information from my presentation on the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) by visiting <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/certificates-qualifications/qce>.

As a leadership team, our focus continues to dwell around writing improvements as well as Explicit Instruction and the Essential Skills of Classroom Management. Many teachers and teacher-aides have been voluntarily attending a three-month long, after-school Professional Development series entitled *How to Teach Writing* based on resources developed by Education Queensland. This, along with our continued focus on improvement strategies are designed to ensure that students are receiving the best education possible here at MCS.

Thanks to the P&C for their tireless efforts in the organisation of the Colour Fun Run on the weekend. It was a massive event and a testament to our community's commitment to work together to optimise resourcing for our school. Thanks also to all of our school staff who turned out as volunteers. Working in a school can be stressful at times and all staff certainly value their downtime. It is a clear signal of the commitment of our staff here that so many EQ employees joined with the P&C to ensure that the day was a successful one.



In the lead up to the end of the year, we have a number of events designed to transition students effectively to the next phase of their learning. Critically, our Stay and Play sessions for students entering Prep have been ongoing for the last few months and this week, leaders will meet to finalise the transition program for Year 6 students entering Year 7 next year. More details will be communicated to parents in the upcoming weeks around that.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the relevant member of staff.

FROM THE SECONDARY DEPARTMENT – LISA SMALL

Welcome to Term 4!

My main message to students in the Secondary department this term is to continue to *Strive for Excellence*. Be the very best learner that you can in every lesson, every day, arrive on-time in the mornings, follow routines, show manners and participate in all classroom activities. Seek feedback from your teachers – they are here to help you! ***Achieve your personal best.***

Year 12 Students

Last Tuesday saw Year 12 students celebrating or commiserating their last, first day of term. Term four holds many potential distractions for Year 12 students. While this term will certainly be full of many wonderful memories for all of you, I want to make it very clear how important it is that you stay focussed on your school work right up until Friday of Week 7. Although much of your work has been completed, you must realise that the final assessment tasks for the year can and will make a difference to your overall grade – and to your academic success. Please come to see me if you have any concerns.

Assessment Calendars

Term 4 Assessment Calendars for Years 7-12 will be distributed by the end of week two. Please ensure they are kept in a safe place and referred to regularly throughout the term. Please note the days scheduled for exam block and avoid any unnecessary absences on those days.

Subject Selection Evening

This week, our Year 10 students and their parents attended our Senior Subject Selection evening and will soon begin their senior phase interviews. Transitioning to the senior phase of learning is an extremely important step in a student's education. If you would like a copy of the *2018 Year 11 Subject Selection Handbook*, please contact Mrs Lisa Small for a copy.

BOOK FAIR

Book Fair is on again - 23 October – 27 October
MCS Library
8:00 – 8:30am or 2:30 – 4:00pm

SPORT NEWS

Term 4 Primary Swimming

| Week for Term 4 Weekly Planner HPE Middlemount Community School 2017 | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 8:00 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 8:30 Care | | | | | |
| 8:40 Session 1 | | | | | |
| 9:30 Session 2 | | | | | |
| 10:20 | | | | | |
| 10:30 | | | | | |
| 11:00 Session 3 | Prep A Equipped to Move | 3/4 C Swimming | | | 2/3 B Swimming |
| 12pm Session 4 | 5/6 A Swimming | 2 A Swimming | | | 1/2 C + 1B Swimming |
| 1:00pm | | | | Duty: 7/Hall | |
| 1:30 Session 5 | | Prep 1/B Equipped to Move | | 5/6 B Swimming | 3/4 A Swimming |
| 2 pm Primary Parade Mon Parade | | | | | |
| 2:25 | | | | | |
| 2:30 | | | | | |

Swim Bag

- Include a plastic bag for wet items.
- Goggles
- Swimmers/Togs
- Water bottle
- Hat
- Swim shirt
- Board shorts (for boys or girls)
- Sunscreen

- Students are not to wear swimmers/togs to school they are to get changed during the break before they go swimming.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Olivia Kronk (Prep A) – For putting in your best effort in with writing and completing all of your school work with a smile on your face! Keep it up Olivia, you are a super-STAR!

Ahliya Busara (Prep/1B) – For always being a kind and considerate class member. Keep up the STAR effort Ahliya!

Mia (1/2C) – For putting in your best effort during reading and writing time. You are a STAR Mia, keep up the excellent work!

Kaitlyn Clark (2A) – For using extraordinary vocabulary words in your writing this week. You're a STAR Kaitlyn!

McKenzie Parfitt (2/3B) – For putting in your best effort during writing workshop this week. Your effort is displayed in the work you have produced! Keep up the STAR effort McKenzie!

Kalaya Williams (3/4A) – For always trying your hardest in everything you do. You have made great improvements this year! Keep up the STAR work Kalaya!

Darcy Frankish (3/4C) – For consistently making a huge effort in everything you do. Keep up the great work and STAR effort Darcy!

Secondary Stars

Sam Spark (9A) - For working diligently in class and managing your time to complete school work.

Macey Finlay (11A) - For showing commitment to your studies by actively participating and diligently completing class tasks to a high standard.

LOST PROPERTY

A pink Lorus child's watch was left on the drinks and food tickets table at the colour run.

AUTISM/ASPERGER'S SENSORY WORKSHOP

Link to Sensory workshop run by Nelle Francis for parents/teachers, etc. in Emerald.

https://www.stickytickets.com.au/55133/autismaspergers_sensory_workshop_emerald_qld.aspx