

MIDDLEMOUNT COMMUNITY SCHOOL

James Randell Drive, Middlemount Qld 4746

Email: admin@middlemountcs.eq.edu.au

Website: www.middlemountcs.eq.edu.au

Phone: (07) 4981 2333

Absentee Line (07) 4981 2360

Fax: (07) 4981 2300



FROM THE PRINCIPAL – SHARON ANDERSON

Playgroup

As part of our transition process for 2017 Prep students, we will be holding our second “Stay and Play” session at school on 29 July for children who are eligible for Prep in 2017. We invite all parents with children who turn 5 before 30 June 2017 to join us for this session. Children and parents will have the opportunity to get to know our school and meet our staff. The session will run in A block (Prep classroom), 11am – 1pm. Please reserve a place for your child by calling the school office on 49812333.

Uniforms

Parents are reminded of the MCS Dress Code. For winter, students should be wearing royal blue/yellow or royal blue jackets or pullovers and royal blue track pants. The formal secondary uniform includes grey stockings/tights for girls (not footless) or long grey pants and the royal blue knit jumper with school logo. All of these items are available through the school uniform shop.

Readers’ Cup

I would like to congratulate the following students and their teacher, Tristan Ellul for their wonderful representation of our school at the regional Readers’ Cup: Alex Druery; Leandri De Jager; Artur De Sousa; Angela Jackson; Noah Symes; Brooke Adams; Mitchel Harris. An article below outlines their success. It is great to see Junior Secondary students get involved in an academic competition and do so well!

Annual School Opinion Survey

The annual School Opinion Survey will be conducted 11 to 29 July 2016. All families, school staff and a random sample of students will be invited to participate. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what this school does well, and how this school can improve. Access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey will be sent home with students in the first week of next term.

Parents/caregivers are welcome to complete their survey online at the school, and school computers will be available should parents wish to access the survey at school. Survey queries or requests for translations can be directed to Sharon Anderson on telephone 0749812333 or email sande107@eq.edu.au.

Absentees

All students will receive a letter and printout of their absence details for semester one. I ask that all parents give consideration to the amount of time away from school their students have had. In order to maintain a 95% attendance rate, students should have had no more than 5 days off school this semester.



Week 10 Term 2

Dates to Remember

Thursday 23 June –
Peak Downs Track &
Field 10 – 12 yrs

Friday 24 June – Last
Day Term 2

Friday 24 June –
Tuckshop Closed

Monday 11 July – First
Day Term 3

11 – 14 July –
JCU Experience

11 -15 July – Year 10
Work Experience

11 – 15 July – Cert 11
Tourism Camp

Fri 22 July – Jump
Rope for Heart Jump Off

28 – 29 July –
CH Track & Field 10 –
18 yrs

Friday 29 July – Spirit
of the ANZAC Centenary
Experience

Friday 29 July – Stay
and Play Session

Monday 1 August –
Dinosaur Science P – 6

Monday 8 August –
Wakakiri Performance

8 – 10 August – Fun
with Maths P - 8

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

Our unexplained absences for 2016 are significantly lower than 2015. Thank you to parents for helping us out with this.

Congratulations

I am pleased to announce that Sarah Quinn has been appointed to the permanent position of Deputy Principal. Congratulations Sarah.

Have a great holiday

This is our last newsletter for semester one. I hope all of our families have a great June/July break after a long term! See you back at school on Monday 11 July.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – SARAH QUINN

Spirit of the ANZAC Centenary Experience

On **Friday 29 July** our Year 5 – 9 students will be attending the SACE Expo being held at the Mackay Entertainment Centre. There will be no cost for entry into the exhibition as this is a free event and the bus travel has been subsidised by a successful application of the school travel bursary offered by the Queensland Government. However, if students wish to purchase lunch or snacks during the day, this will be at the cost of each individual. A lunch stop at McDonalds will be offered to the students after the SACE expo.

Depart: Bus will depart Middlemount Community School at 7:30am

Where: Arrive MECC South Complex at 11am

When: Friday 29 July at 11am

Return: Arrive Middlemount Community School at 4pm (approx.).

Dress Code: Students are required to wear full school uniform. Secondary students to wear formal uniform.

If you wish for your child to participate in the activity, please complete the consent and medical forms and return to the school office **by Friday 24 June**.

School Dental Van

Students in Prep – Year 10 have been issued with a medical/consent form from the School Dental Van. If you wish for your student/s to attend, please complete the forms and return to the school office by June 17.

Semester 1 Report Cards

Semester one Report Cards will be issued on Friday 22 July. Parent Teacher Learning Conversations will be held on Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 July. Bookings will be made using the online SOBS system again and instructions will be forwarded to parents closer to interview dates.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - CONT

Speech and Language Presentation

A Speech and Language Presentation delivered by Meg Becker and Stephanie Burke will be held on Monday the 13th of June from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at the C & K. The cost will be \$15 per person. Please RSVP to the C & K office.

Exam Block

Parents are reminded that all secondary students are required to be at school for their exam block. This term, the exam block will take place Wednesday 22- Friday 24 June.

ICAS Test Dates

If you have nominated your child to participate in the ICAS tests, please note the following dates for the tests:

Test	Sitting Date
English	Tuesday 2 August
Mathematics	Tuesday 16 August

FROM THE SECONDARY DEPARTMENT – CHRIS SAVAGE

Dear Families,

As this is my last newsletter entry for the term, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable and safe school holiday period. Here are some notices for this fortnight.

Exam Block

Secondary students begin their term two exam block next week. As I have said and written countless times before, exam block is not optional. It is the obligation of each student and their parent to make every reasonable effort to attend exams and to sit them on the dates that they have been scheduled. Failure to do so may affect a student's grade.

I would like to remind students and parents that it is crucial students eat well, stay hydrated, (even in the cooler weather) and get enough sleep so as to ensure that their minds and bodies are prepared for the demands that exams bring.

In regards to study and preparation, it is imperative that students spend a small amount of time each night revising. Unfortunately, I have heard of some senior students who spend up to three hours revising the night before an exam – this is too late! Not only does studying for three hours the night before cause stress and a potential lack of sleep (and lack of ability to focus the next day), but revision only works if it is consistent. Studying for twenty minutes per day for a week will be far more successful than three hours on the night before.

FROM THE SECONDARY DEPARTMENT – CONT

Student Diaries

The MCS Student Diary is a fantastic tool for students and parents to use when keeping track of homework and assessment due dates. It is also a great way for parents and teachers to communicate regularly. I would like to remind all Secondary students and their parents that they should be taking their diary to each lesson of the day, including Care Group, and keeping it safe from damage or loss.

Year 11/12 Hospitality Function

This week, the Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students, along with their teacher, Mrs Lisa Small, are preparing to coordinate a function. The menu looks delicious and the event will allow students to demonstrate their skills for assessment. Good luck to those involved and we can look forward to photos of the function in the next term's newsletters.

LUI Cards for Year 10 Students

This week, Year 10 students were issued with their LUI cards. Each senior student (Years 10-12) are issued with a LUI Number and password by the *Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority* – this allows students to log in to the *Student Connect* website and check on their Senior Schooling progress. Their learning account will show details of subjects studied at school, as well as VET courses undertaken either at school or from other learning providers. If students change schools during the course of their senior schooling, information is carried with them when they transition, and study from each school they attend is recorded on in their learning account.

To access the *Student Connect* website, visit <https://studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au/>

If students need a second copy of their LUI number and/or password, they can see or email Mr Savage.

FROM THE PRIMARY DEPARTMENT – TAMARA STOLBERG

Building a Community of Writers

At MCS we adopted a number of new curriculum delivery strategies for 2016. One of these new strategies was to start the day with a literacy block. The aim of the literacy block is to improve student outcomes through targeted literacy skill development. Included in the literacy block is a writing workshop. Teachers use this time to embed the necessary skills needed to be a successful writer. To ensure consistency all P-6 teachers are using the Seven Steps to Writing Success program and *The Writing Book* by Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey. A whole school approach allows teachers to work cooperatively and engage in collegial conversations about writing to design lessons that engage students, improve writing outcomes and build a community of writers.

FROM THE PRIMARY DEPARTMENT – CONT

Mathletics

Is your child completing their Mathletics tasks? Mathletics is your child's numeracy homework. Each week your child's teacher will assign Mathletics tasks that consolidate and reinforce concepts being taught in the classroom. Each week our goal is to meet or exceed the 90% participation rate. At this stage we are not meeting our weekly participation goals. Please speak to your child's teacher if you are having trouble accessing Mathletics or have any other concerns regarding Mathletics.

Class	Week 8 Participation	Week 9 Participation
1A	69%	73%
1B	79%	71%
2A	75%	58%
2/3B	70%	81%
3A	70%	95%
4A	71%	76%
4B	75%	88%
5A	86%	86%
6A	75%	63%

Premier's Reading Challenge

Have you finished the challenge yet? Please return all completed challenge forms to your classroom teacher. The upcoming holidays are a great opportunity to spend some quality time reading.

Up Coming Events

Book Week Parade

Our annual Book Week Parade will be held on Friday 26th August. Students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. This year's theme is: *Australia! Story Country*. So get your creative thinking caps on and come up with a truly Australian book character costume.

CLASS NEWS

2/3B



On Friday 3 June, 2/3B travelled to the Capella Pioneer Village for our History excursion. The students learnt about daily life in the past by exploring an old homestead, store house, wool shed, school room and train carriage. We even got to take a piece of wool home!



We have also been busy making toys that move by a push, pull, twist or spin for our Design Technologies unit.

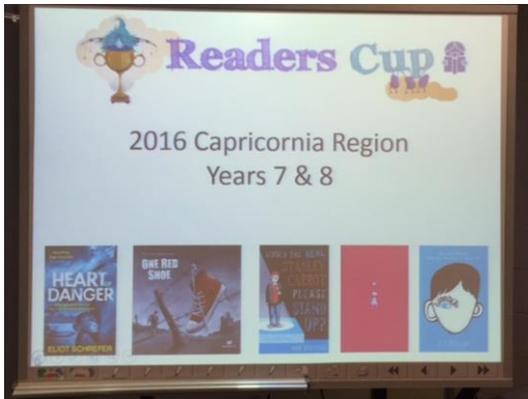
3A

This term in 3A, we have been learning about continuities and changes between past and present life. As part of our assessment, we went on an excursion to the Capella Pioneer Village with 2A and 2/3B. At the village, students were able to explore the homestead, general store, classroom, wool shed and movie cinema. They couldn't believe how much the classrooms have changed over time! The students had a fantastic day and have been using the information they gained from the excursion to help them with their assessment.



READERS CUP

On Friday the 10 of June we sent two teams of Year 7 and 8 students to attend the Readers Cup in Blackwater. They were tasked with reading a selection of books and worked in teams to respond to questions competing against 17 other teams. Both teams worked extremely well and one of our teams managed to take 4th place.



TUCKSHOP NEWS

Tuckshop will be closed Friday 24 June

STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby Smith (Prep A) – For working hard to sound out new words to write. Well done Ruby! You are a STAR writer in Prep A.

Hugo Petrovich (Prep A) – For working hard to learn your sight words and practice your reading. Keep up the STAR effort Hugo!

Dakota Dennis (Prep B) – For wonderful writing this week and trying your very best. Well done Dakota! Keep up the STAR effort!

Jak Noon (Prep B) – For putting in a STAR effort with your sight words and writing this term. Well done Jak. You rock!

Alex Campbell (Prep B) – For excellent listening this week and really trying hard to do your best! Great work Alex, keep up the STAR effort!

Fletcher Walsh (Prep B) – For an excellent fairy- tale retell and for really trying to use your listening ears in class. Great work Fletcher! You're a STAR!

Ayla Moss (1A) – For being very creative when brainstorming ideas for letter writing. Keep up the STAR effort, Ayla!

Charlotte Donald (1A) – For always being an enthusiastic class member and putting lots of effort into your work. You truly are a STAR Charlotte. Keep it up!

Jayden Bambrick (1B) – For working hard to improve the spelling in your writing. Keep up the amazing work, Jayden!

Isabella Evitt (2A) – For persevering and consistently trying your best in class. You're a STAR Bella!

Emmett Rodier (2A) – For an excellent effort in your writing. It was wonderful to see you using your persuasive devices. Keep up the STAR effort Emmett!

Nate Patch (2/3B) – For being a responsible student who shows initiative and a great work ethic. Keep up the STAR effort , Nate!

Billy Cox (2/3B) - For continuously improving your effort in all subject areas. Keep up the STAR work, Billy!

Grace Kenny (2/3B) – For working hard on your persuasive writing. Keep up the STAR effort, Grace!

Kalaya Williams (3A) – For always being kind and caring to others in the classroom. You are a STAR Kalaya! Keep up the great work!

Brandi-Lee Foster (3A) – For working hard to revise and edit your writing. Keep up the STAR work Brandi-Lee!

Annalyse Gaiter (4A) – For using persuasive features effectively to help sell a product and becoming an excellent advertiser. Keep up the STAR effort Annalyse!

Bryce Evitt (4B) – For constantly improving his handwriting. Keep up the STAR effort, Bryce!

Dakoda Scales (4B) – For taking on feedback and using it to improve her writing. Keep up the STAR effort Dakoda, well done!

Daniel Travers (4B) – For improving his reading by using a range of reading strategies. Keep up the STAR effort Cayden. Well done!

Rafael De Sousa (5A) – For working hard to complete difficult maths problems. Keep up the fantastic work, Rafael!

Becki Warhurst (5A) - For consistently trying your best when writing with different genres in class. Keep up the great work, Becki!

Charlotte Paxton (6A) – For using excellent sizzling starts whilst writing. Keep up the STAR effort Charlotte!

Ryan Abell (6A) – For always willingly sharing his Mathematical knowledge to assist others in the classroom. Keep up the STAR effort Ryan!

Angus Smith (6A) – For working hard on his reading using a range of strategies. Keep up the STAR effort Angus!

Shona Barber (6A) – For improving her reading strategies and skills. Keep it up Shona, you're a STAR!

SECONDARY STARS

Jhett Muller (8A) - For applying himself effectively to his studies and working hard to catch up on missed work.

Maddison Hite (8A) - For working diligently in your subjects and demonstrating responsible behaviour.

Edward Fowke (10A) - For working extremely well and displaying exemplary behaviour in his classes.

Matthew Darwen (11A) - For consistently applying yourself to your subjects and thinking outside the box for Biology.



MIDDLEMOUNT RACES

Middlemount Race Club will be once again holding their annual colouring-in competition for children Prep – Year 6.

Entry forms will be available at the Middlemount News Agency or the School Office.