Principal’s Update

Celebrating our successes...again!

On Monday 27th October we had our Teaching and Learning Audit combined with our Discipline Audit. In celebrating our successes, I am pleased to share this snapshot with you on how we did:

The information and full audit reports will be uploaded onto the Mistake Creek State School Website once they have been received. [www.MistakeCreekSS.eq.edu.au](http://www.MistakeCreekSS.eq.edu.au)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8 Domains of the Teaching &amp; Learning Audit</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An Explicit Improvement Agenda</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis and Discussion of Data</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Culture That Promotes Learning</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted Use of School Resources</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Expert Teaching Team</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systematic Curriculum Delivery</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differentiated Classroom Learning</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective Teaching Practices</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would like to sincerely thank the hard work and dedication of all the staff, students, parents and community for making these results possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5 Domains of the Discipline Audit</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal Leadership</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent and Community Engagement</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Informed Decision-Making</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Consistent Expectations for Behaviour (this include consequences)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explicit Teaching of Appropriate Behaviour to All Students</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrolments for 2015

We are now taking enrolments for the 2015 school year. I would encourage anyone who is considering moving to the area, changing schools or starting Prep, to contact us ASAP.

If you would like to come and have a look at our school, please get in touch with us for an appointment. At this stage our projected numbers will stay the same 2015 with 2 students leaving us in 2014 and 2 new Prep students starting.
Remembrance Day Ceremony
Mistake Creek State School will be holding a small Remembrance Day Ceremony on 11 November.
The ceremony will be held beneath the Flag on the front lawn of our school. We will sing the national anthem, hold a moment of silence and share a few words to remember our armed forces who have died in the line of duty during the World Wars.

Adopt-A-Cop Visit
The students of MCSS were surprised to find a Police Officer arrive at school last week Wednesday! Constable Luke Allen-Ankins is our Adopt-A-Cop from Clermont. He visited us to talk about safety, traffic rules and to meet and greet the kids. He graciously asked many many many questions from our enthusiastic students. Constable Luke showed us many of his official police equipment, completed a breath test on a student, radar tested how fast students could run, handcuffed the teacher, and allowed the students to get an up-close look at his police car.
On behalf of the Mistake Creek community, thank you for your visit, Constable Luke! We look forward to seeing you again!

Are you receiving our newsletter?
It has come to my attention that some people have not been receiving the Mistake Creek State School e-Newesletter. If you know of anyone else who would like to receive a copy, please contact the school on 07 4983 5335 or email us at admin@MistakeCreekSS.eq.edu.au.

Warm regards,
Jonas Shantz
Teaching Principal
Curriculum Update

Sight Word List Benchmarks

Benchmarks give an idea of the approximate level of sight word knowledge that a child should be on for each Term. Once students complete level 30, they should have a competent knowledge of their sight words. Each List has approximately 10 words.

Reading strategies to try at home

**Strategy: Skip the Word, Then Come Back**

As experienced readers, when we come to an unfamiliar word in a text, we are usually able to use context clues to help us figure out what the word is. We use the accuracy strategy Skip the Word, Then Come Back without even thinking about what we are doing. We have enough experience and practice as a reader to know this strategy works.

When children come to words they don’t know some stall on the unknown word and are unable to move on. These children must learn strategies to help them move. These children must learn strategies to help them move forward. Your child is working on the accuracy strategy “Skip the Word, Then Come Back.” This strategy teaches a reader to skip over the word until the end of the sentence or passage. Then, the reader should back up and read the sentence again, using the first letter or letters of the skipped word and their context clues to decode the unknown word.

**How can you help your child with this strategy at home?**

1. When listening to your child read, help him/her realize it is okay to skip over a word and then come back to it. If, when reading, your child gets stuck on a word, encourage the use of this strategy.
2. Model this strategy for your child. Read aloud and stop at a word they may find difficult. Think out loud. Say, “I am going to skip this word because I’m not sure what it says. I will read the rest of the sentence and then come back to it to see if I can figure it out.” Hearing someone else think through the use of a new strategy can be helpful to a reader that is learning to use that strategy for the first time.
3. Play a game of “Guess My Word” with your child. Write a sentence and cover up one word. Have your child read the sentence and guess what the word might be. Then, uncover the first letter of the word and help them use the first letter and context clues from the rest of the sentence to figure it out. You may also want to reverse roles and have your child write a sentence and cover a word for you to guess. This will allow you another opportunity to model this strategy for your child.

**Thank you for your continued support at home!**

* Ideas and strategies are taken from: The CAFE Book, written by Gail Boushey & Joan Moser
Playgroup & Prep Transition

Please find the most current information re: Playgroup/RAFS/Prep Transition Days for Term 4. Please continue to refer to the most recent newsletter for accurate information.

(1) all non-school age children + Distance Ed children + RAFS Visits

We will still run our RAFS Playgroup every term. This will be open to all non-school aged children and distance/home schooled children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Helpers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 27th November</td>
<td>All parents welcome</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) students starting Prep in 2015 & 2016

This playgroup is open to students entering Prep in 2015 and 2016 only. As this will be more structured, we kindly ask that all other children not join in the activities. Our theme for this term will be *Making Friends!*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Parent Helpers</th>
<th>Parent Helpers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 13th November</td>
<td>Rhiannon</td>
<td>Bindy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 27th November</td>
<td>RAFS – all parents welcome</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) Prep Transition for 2015

Prep transition is for students beginning school in January. No parent helpers will be required.
Thursday 23rd October (wk 3), Thursday 6th November (wk 5), Thursday 20th November (wk 7), Thursday 4th December (wk 9)

School & Community

Conveyance Committee Meeting
When: Wednesday 3rd December (tentatively)
at Mistake Creek State School - Classroom
Time: 2:00-2:30

P&C Meeting
When: Wednesday 3rd December (tentatively)
at Mistake Creek State School - Classroom
Time: 2:30-3:15

Round Table for Isaac Council
When: Tuesday 11th November
at Mistake Creek State School – Undercover area
Time: 10:00 - 2:30
*(see flyer for details)*

Cricket Day
When: Saturday 13th December
At Mistake Creek State School – undercover area
*More information to follow*
P&C Melbourne Cup Celebration *(a thank you celebration day for the community)*

Health and Wellbeing

Have you read the Mistake Creek State School’s Learning and Wellbeing plan? Copies of it are available in the school office and on our website under the ‘Support and resources’ menu at [www.MistakeCreekSS.eq.edu.au](http://www.MistakeCreekSS.eq.edu.au)

Connecting with flowers
By Dave Pyne

I’ve taken some time this spring to connect more with flowers and do some research on them, being in the season of blooms at the moment!

“*Flowers are physical representations of love from our creator. They serve as reminders of the heavenly presence that surrounds us in nature.*” – Robert Reeves

This is a wonderful viewpoint and I feel it is so true. Flowers, like crystals, are a physical sign from the earth to us, reminding us all of the beauty and preciousness that nature is capable of reproducing. In saying this, it is good to remember that we are created from this same natural life force - we too are capable of displaying such a beauty that is admirable!

Sometimes you might be overwhelmed with the going on’s in your daily life. When this is the case it’s difficult to be
headed in a direction that is conducive to being your very best, beautiful, authentic self. Taking a moment to literally stop and smell the roses helps you to feel more focussed and clears your mind and heart. By welcoming flowers into your space, you’re effectively lifting away any negative energy you may be feeling at the present moment.

I have a quick list* of some flowers that assist in clearing thoughts and emotions, diffusing stress: 
**Agapanthus** – reminds that you’re not alone; accept the help of others
**Begonias** – clear away distractions and help you to be more patient
**Daisies** – remind you to get some rest take on less tasks
**Fuchsias** – help you to keep plugging away and a difficult challenge
**Gardenias** – remind us to have fun and let go of our worries and concerns
**Hibiscus** – remind that we are always supported by life even if it isn’t immediately apparent
**Jasmine** – helps us to meditate, and to feel at peace
**Jonquil** – helps to create distance from those who are more interested in receiving favours than giving them
**Lavender** – calm and relaxes. Helps us to ‘see the path’ to happiness
**Lilacs** – help fight fatigue from a busy routine. Great for anxiety and depression also, changing each day from a effort into a gift
**Orange lilies** – assist in seeing past the small things, letting you see yourself for who you really are
**Yellow roses** – calm the mind, releasing stressful thoughts and concerns
**Tulips** – help when you feel like you’re not making progress, removing feelings of annoyance and anger.

* inspired by the book ‘Angel Detox’ by Doreen Virtue and Robert Reeves

**Affirmation:** "I constantly find new ways of looking at my world. I see beauty everywhere."

### Term 4 Calendar

Please note that this Calendar is accurate to the best of our knowledge. All items are subject to change without notice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10 NOVEMBER Off Road Drama at Kilcummin SS</td>
<td>11 Isaac Round Table (see flyer) Remembrance Day</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13 PRE-PREP Playgroup <em>Mrs Martyn teaches</em></td>
<td>14 SWIMMING + MUSIC IN CLERMONT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>17 Mr Shantz Away <em>Mrs Martyn teaches</em></td>
<td>18 Mr Shantz Away <em>Mrs Martyn teaches</em></td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20 Prep-Transition Day #3 Finance, HR &amp; WHS Audit <em>Mrs Martyn teaches</em></td>
<td>21 SWIMMING + MUSIC IN CLERMONT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>24 Swimming Carnival in Clermont</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 ALL AGES Playgroup (RAFS) <em>Mrs Martyn teaches</em></td>
<td>28 NO SWIMMING (due to carnival)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1 DECEMBER</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 Conveyance Committee and P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>4 Prep-Transition Day #4 <em>Mrs Martyn teaches</em></td>
<td>5 SWIMMING + MUSIC IN CLERMONT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10 Report cards to go home. Swimming Wrap-Up Party (TBA)</td>
<td>11 Christmas Concert <em>Mrs Martyn teaches</em></td>
<td>12 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 2014 (no swimming)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>