From the principal’s desk

Thank you P&C and greater community!
I would like to take this opportunity to share my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful work of our P&C. I would also like to extend a thank you to the greater community for supporting our school at the Fun Run and Athletics Carnival. I am astounded by the generosity and support that this community provides.

The Fun Run was a huge success with a great turn out. We could not have asked for a better day for the Athletics carnival either. The P&C ran both events like a well-oiled machine – they are truly a special group of hard working people!

The Mistake Creek State School children did a tremendous job representing our school and upholding our school values of Safety, Responsibility, Respect and Resilience. I could not have been more proud to wear my Mistake Creek badge!

Well done and thank you to you all!

Look for photos of the Fun Run and Athletics Carnival further down the newsletter or on our website.

Camp Updates
Winchester Foundation Whitsunday Voices Camp
Dates: Wednesday 16th July—Friday 18th July
Permission, medical and dietary forms for the Winchester Camp will be sent home this week. Please complete these forms and return them to me no later than the 20th of June. Permission slips, schedules and equipment lists will also be sent out this week. Thank you for your assistance on this matter.

ICPA Sporting Camp
Dates: Sunday 24th August—Friday 29th August
Students in 4-7 attend this camp. Parents are responsible for getting their children to the camp and collecting them. Thank you for getting the forms back to the ICPA.
Brisbane Camp

Dates: Monday 13th October—Friday 17th October

Students may bring $30 spending money to buy souvenirs while on camp. This money is to be brought in a marked envelope and given to the teacher prior to departure. The first instalment of $225 will be due in Week 3 next term.

Day excursion for P-2 students

Tentative date is Thursday 16th October

We are in the process of finalising the details about our Day Excursion for P-2 students while the 3-6s are on their Brisbane Camp. Thank you to all the parents who have offered ideas and suggestions about what activities are available in this area.

End of term notes

School Watch over the holidays

With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to watch for crime around our school. If you see anything remotely suspicious, please remember to call the School Watch number without delay – 13 17 88

Thank you for another great term – I can’t believe we’re already halfway through 2014! Please stay safe and healthy over the break and I look forward to seeing all the bright smiling faces of the MCSS kids on 14th July 😊

Please note that this will be the final newsletter for Term 2.

Warm regards,

Jonas Shantz
Teaching Principal

Curriculum Update

Report Cards

As you are aware, report cards will be going home next week. All the teachers have been working on them in order to provide students and parents with how students are achieving this year. I wanted to remind you all of how our grading system works.

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland have been gradually becoming more familiar with a more uniform process for reporting in all schools. The use of a more consistent 5-point scale (e.g. A-E) has been one of the significant developments.

Most of us who were schooled in generations past are a little familiar with the A-E scale and for many it offers a great deal more comfort and better understanding of achievement than statements like “Developing”, “Very High” or “Satisfactory”.

An important point that deserves clarification though is that the A-E scale has some subtle differences these days and that when we see a “C” on our child’s report cards it means something a little different to what it used to on our own report cards, many years ago.

In the past A-E used a “Bell Curve” distribution - meaning a small group of top students in the class got an “A”, the next group got a “B”, the majority of the class were given a “C” and so on until the whole class represented a distribution from A-E. This means that it was harder to get an “A” in a school filled with academic students and easier to get one in a school with less academic students.

The new system works more on “benchmarks of achievement” or “criteria” such that what makes an “A”, “B”, “C” etc is predetermined. Any student then who shows evidence of meeting that level deserves that grade.

This is where we consider the difference in what a “C” really means. It no longer means that the student is simply in the middle of the class, it means that the student has met the criteria for a learner at the appropriate age level. It means that the student is doing everything required at their year level. The best description is to say that a “C” means that the student’s academic development is exactly where it needs to be - a “C” is ON TARGET.
With all of this in mind we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or “B” than it used to be. These grades are no longer awarded simply to the top students in the class, they are only given to students who show that they are independently capable of working beyond the criteria for their Year Level.

So what does all this mean?

✓ Many parents are likely to see more “C” grades on their child’s report cards.
✓ The “Effort” grades are a really important reflection of whether the student is achieving the best they can
✓ An “A” for effort and a “C” for achievement indicates that your child is “On Target” for their age. This grade should be celebrated with students because they have worked hard to be where they need to be.

As usual, if you have any questions or concerns about your child’s development, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Library
We have been working hard to keep the library organised, functional and updated. If any parents have time to cover some library books, it would be greatly appreciated. A big thank you goes to Danielle who’s already taken a big stack of beautiful new books to cover.

Also, all library books are due back next week. We will be printing late-notices for all overdue books.

TOPIC: Apply Different Reading Rates to Match Text

When reading, more experienced readers often adjust their speed to match their purpose for reading. If reading a story for pleasure, a reader may use a constant pace that allows them to fully enjoy the entire story. If reading for information, a reader may read quickly or scan text to find specific information. If reading to remember new material, a reader may read more slowly.

Many readers are unaware that other readers adjust their rate to match their purpose for reading. These readers often read everything at the same rate and struggle to complete and comprehend lengthy text. By learning to shift reading gears based on the purpose for reading, readers gain fluency and are better able to meet their needs.

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

1. Remind your child that the low reading gears are slow and powerful and that the higher gears are speedy but are the least powerful. Our reading rate changes depending on the purpose for our reading and what we are reading.
   • 1st gear – slowest and most powerful, used to memorize material
   • 2nd gear – used to learn material
   • 3rd gear – used in most of our reading
   • 4th gear – our quickest speed, for skimming and scanning

2. Help your child to be aware of his/her own reading rate. Your child can learn to self-monitor, when to speed up and when to slow down, when recorded and given time to reflect on what is heard during playback. This can help slow readers increase speed, but will also help speed readers slow down and gain more understanding.

3. When working with your child, ask the following:
   • “What is your normal speed for reading one of your favourite books?”
   • “What rate might you use if you were reading your science text?”
   • “Will you change your rate during this reading?”
School & Community

Tentative Date for Conveyance Meeting
Wednesday July 23rd 1:30-2:15
Library at MCSS

Tentative Date for P&C Meeting
Wednesday July 23rd 2:30-3:15
Library at MCSS

Hip-Hop Dance with James & TK --- Fun Run --- Athletics Carnival

Term Planner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>16 LOTE</td>
<td>17 Hayley Away (finance training)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19 Mrs Martyn Teaches</td>
<td>20 Playgroup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24 Semester 1 Report Cards go home.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 Mrs Martyn Teaches</td>
<td>27 HPE/Music</td>
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*thank you to Rhiannon Finger for the photos
### Term 3
#### Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td><strong>TRE</strong>M 3 STARTS</td>
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</table>
| 15   | **W**inchester Camp Yr 3-6  
Mrs Martyn teaches  
Tia Page (Pedagogy Coach) |
| 21   | **W**inchester Camp Yr 3-6  
Mrs Martyn teaches  
Tia Page (Pedagogy Coach)  
HPE/Music |
| 22   | Conveyance & P&C Meeting  
1:30PM |
| 24   | Mrs Martyn teaches  
Playgroup |
| 30   | Mrs Martyn teaches  
HPE/Music |

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**Playgroup calendar (save the dates)**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>21 Feb</td>
<td><strong>RAFS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21 Mar</td>
<td>Rhiannon &amp; Bindy</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9 May</td>
<td><strong>RAFS</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>8 June (FUN RUN)</td>
<td><strong>RAFS</strong> tent set up in AM</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>25 Jul</td>
<td>Krissy &amp; Loretta</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15 Aug</td>
<td><strong>RAFS</strong></td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>12 Sept</td>
<td>Danielle &amp; Renee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td><strong>RAFS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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