13 November 2013

From the Principal

Thank you to those parents and students who attended Awards Night on the 30th October. This was truly a gala night of celebration. The creative industries faculty showcased their talents and the number of student awards indicated the outstanding academic achievements of Mountain Creek State High School students and the very dedicated staff. I would like to personally congratulate our leaders – school captains and excellence captains for the very professional manner in which they hosted the evening. Our guests including the Mayor, MPs, local councillors, principals and guest presenters, were generous in their praise of the student presenters, the performers and the awardees.

As we approach another major function – graduation, I would like to remind parents that the Guard of Honour is a special celebration for our Year 12 graduating students. Siblings of our graduates are not permitted to leave the school to participate in any graduation celebrations in school time. Please do not support any request for students other than Year 12 graduates to attend any celebrations in school time. The Day ceremony will be in Session 3 on Thursday 14th November and grandparents who are unable to attend the formal graduation on Friday evening are welcome to attend and see the students presented for the last time. This ceremony is not open to the public, however family members and past students are welcome to wait in the car park and see the graduating students through the guard of honour. The formal graduation ceremony on Friday 15th November at Suncoast Christian College at Woombye is only open to parents of students graduating due to restrictions on seating. Thank you for your support with these two very important ceremonies for our Year 12 students and their teachers.

End of year procedures for the remainder of our students include full attendance for our Year 10 and 11 students up until Friday 22nd November and then attendance for the Exam Block Monday 25th to 29th November which is the final day for all Year 10 and 11 students. I would like to remind all Year 10 and 11 students that attendance at the final exams is a prerequisite for enrolment in 2014. The only acceptable reason for non-attendance at an exam would be illness supported by a medical certificate or extenuating circumstances that have been discussed with Mr Stone (Year 11) or Ms Lancaster (year 10).

Report cards will be posted home

Students in year 8 & 9 must be in attendance up until the last day of the school year, Friday 13th December. Report cards will be distributed on Thursday 12th in Session 6. No reports cards will be available before this time.

In December our third overseas study tour departs for Japan. These students will be accompanied by three staff members Ms Jenkins, Mr Duus and Mr Boaza. We wish them well in their travels over two weeks. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Ms Nipperess who assisted with all the preparations for the tour but is unable to travel with the group.

As we move towards the end of another school year I would like to encourage parents to update email addresses and phone numbers in preparation for the new year as much of our communication is now done online. I would also encourage parents, grandparents and students to download the QSchool app which will allow you to easily access school information about special events, excursions and general school updates on mobile phones without having to go to the school website.

Best wishes
Cheryl McMahon
Executive Principal

From the Head of the Senior School

As our Year 12 students move into exam mode I have been stressing to them to ignore the traditional belief that these last exams carry less weight than previous terms and for that reason the students should not have to try too hard as the year is virtually over. This is of course incorrect. There are many reasons why students should make great efforts on these last assessment pieces but the main ones are as follows.

1. The process for making judgements about student results is not over until all assessment pieces are looked at as a package. The package of results takes into account trends in student work. If there is a downward trend in performance (usually due to effort) then the students’ final results are lower. Considering that students’ results are based on a competitive system where students are placed on rungs relative to each other’s performance this can have a duel effect. If students’ results are worse in Term 4, then other students can move past them on these rungs. If other students are performing even better than usual the gap can widen further, cementing a student in an even worse placement than they might have imagined.

Heads of Department use the concepts of “fullest”, taking into account the bulk of students’ results and “latest”, placing bias towards more recent efforts when making these final judgements. Students should be in no doubt that a poor effort could place university offers in jeopardy if the student is trending downward at this time of year.
2. In times past, all Year 11 and 12 work counted towards final results at the end of Year 12. This is no longer the case, as now only a few subjects use any Year 11 results at all when determining final results. This of course means that Term 4 carries more relative weight than it used to, and hence a good result on a final exam for instance could produce an upward trend on a student’s placement.

I hope all students use this exam block as a positive opportunity to improve their grades.

Year 10 Opportunity
Aspiring Year 10 students who would like to enter the leadership process in 2014 were invited to attend the HALOGEN YOUNG LEADERS DAY event on 8th November at the Brisbane Convention Centre. A group of inspiring speakers from business, the arts, charities and sport delivered their stories to eager aspiring leaders. This is the third year the school has travelled to such an event. Further information can be found from Bree Brockenshire, Head of Department Senior School.

Senior Program to Change In 2014.
In 2014 there will be an improvement to the Senior QCS and NON-OP programs, taken as one lesson per week by all students in Year 11 and 12. In Year 11 all students will undertake a problem solving and assessment preparation program until Term 4 when they will be placed into the QCS Prep. or NON-OP program. The QCS program will be about test readiness for the QCS test and will remain a rigorous program for the purposes of ensuring the school performs well on this test. The NON-OP program will revolve around the choices, career paths and challenges for young people. All students will be required to complete one of these programs.

Best wishes
Andrew Stone
Head of Senior School.

Junior Secondary
I would like to congratulate all of the year 8 and 9 awardees and performers who attended Awards Night. This evening was a fantastic celebration of the achievements of so many of our students in our school community. It is also a reflection of the vast achievements of students throughout the year, with many of these opportunities being enabled by very capable and dedicated staff.

Enrichment programs
Earlier this year we wrote a grant proposal to support running three enrichment programs for students in our key partner primary schools and for students within our school. Students have been involved in a Mobile Apps Developers Program (IT), Creative Industries Workshops and currently some of our Year 8 and 9 students are developing their knowledge of Robotics. I would like to commend our Heads of Department – Jess Wall, Graeme Breen and Helen Gillis for writing the proposals for these enrichment programs and for supporting great opportunities for students.

Term 4 arrangements
The last day for Junior Secondary students is the 13th of December. Students should have completed all assessment by the 6th of December and the last week of school students will be involved in various activities. Reports will be issued on the 12th of December. If students are absent on this day they will need to collect their reports at the commencement of school in 2014.

Subject Selection for 2014
By now all students should have returned their subject selections for 2014. If you have not done so please make this a priority to ensure we have your information and can plan for elective choices and class groups.

Exams
All year 8 and 9 students should have received their exam timetable. Please ensure they know when exams and assessment are due. I wish them every success with their final results for 2013.

Andrea Evans
Head of Junior School

News from the SOSE Department
An Experience of a Lifetime
Earlier this year Taylor Winckle (year 11), entered a competition sponsored by University of Melbourne and Earthwatch that was advertised here at Mountain Creek State High School. Much to Taylor’s delight, and the envy of a lot of students and teachers, she won this competition and is off to Melbourne during the Christmas holidays for an all-expenses paid trip. This trip is not however just to see the sites of Melbourne and to do a little shopping - no Taylor is off to work with the University of Melbourne to help create a program to sustain Australia’s microbat population. Microbats are typically born in late spring and stay with their mothers until January when they become independent. There are a number of different types of microbat with the smallest weighing only 3 grams! These bats are important to keep our insect population in check with the average bat eating 40% of its own weight worth of insects which is several hundred a night. We wish Taylor luck with her scientific adventure and look forward to her story on her return.
Fraser Island – A Fantastic Adventure

In week three, 51 students and 4 teachers headed to Fraser Island to gather field data about the island for the student’s major piece of assessment this year. It turned out to be a fabulous trip with great weather – ideal for both fun times swimming and data collection. The group experienced 4 wheel driving at its best getting extremely bogged on the last day in the soft sand due to the severely dry spring the island has been experiencing. This unexpected delay meant that the trip arrived back at MCSHS at 1am rather than the expected 7pm. I would personally like to thank the staff and parents for their understanding in this unusual situation and especially thank the students who behaved incredibly well given the situation.

Harvey Nish to Represent Australian Cadets

Late last week Harvey Nish (Year 12) found out that he was one of only 50 Australians heading to New Zealand to represent the Army Cadets. He is going over as acting sergeant to lead and support the rest of the cadets in the lower ranks. Harvey admits that to get to this level of cadets has been a hard journey with his platoon starting off with 17 people at the start of his course and ending with just 11. He feels that although getting to this point was so hard, it actually bonded the group together very well. This trip helps to celebrate 150 years of NZ and Australian cadets with the celebration lasting from 22nd of January until the 1st of February 2014. The event is aimed at improving leadership, medical knowledge and military knowledge while pushing the cadets both mentally and physically. In the next couple of weeks Harvey is interviewing for a place in the army and hopes to be stationed as a medic – we wish him the best of luck and we are sure that he would be a great asset to the Australian Services.

Kate Benfield
HOD Social Science

Resource Centre

Readers’ Cup 2013 – A Great Read!

Well another year’s competition has come to an end. Our very competitive team for year 8 comprised of: Amr Ramji, Piper Lenske, Emma Shields and Zai Stephens. Placing 2nd in their heat, the team came in with a sensational 47 points. Students were presented with 6 questions from each novel of which there were 8. It is no mean feat for students to not only read 8 books but remember exact information about those books – right down to visual elements in the text! Amr, Piper, Emma and Zai did Mountain Creek proud with their amazing efforts and brilliant team work! Amr says of his experience that Readers’ Cup really created a great bond between the students and that they all know each other better and even their parents got to meet!

The evening was made even more exciting with an entertaining talk by Richard Harland, author of the Steampunk fiction novel “Song of the Slums.” Dressed in his full Steampunk outfit, Richard gave us all a marvellous insight into his personal writing process.

Readers’ Cup is an annual event for year 8 and 9 students, it provides a fantastic opportunity for students to work in a team and celebrate their love of reading.

Well done Team!

Ms Mullighan
Resource Centre

Skills Centre News!!!

We need your help... Please vote online to help secure a $5000 grant for our Special Education students.

We are seeking the grant for our Skill Centre to expand their garden small business project. The Skill Centre’s organic herb
garden is a dynamic, hands-on project that provides valuable opportunities for students with disabilities to learn vital work and independence skills. These skills are a platform for these students to gain certificate level qualifications, traineeships and future employment, all of which create enriching and sustainable futures for our kids.

To help us achieve the grant we need as many people as possible to vote on the Sunsuper Dreams website. Simply go to the Sunsuper web address below and click to vote for Davinia’s Nieper’s dream.


Many thanks to Davinia for sparking our grant dream, and to our whole school community for getting behind our students with your vote. Quite simply, the dream with the most votes will win the $5000 grant, so please spread the word to all your contacts.

Mick Linthorne
Head of Special Education Services

**SKILL Centre Garden News**

Students and staff are currently undertaking the ambitious project of expanding the SKILL Centre Garden. To date, the construction project has involved erecting the perimeter fence, constructing a parking bay, designing and constructing a concrete drain and building raised garden beds. Thank you to Craig Brown of RMC Constructions for sharing his time and expertise with the students. Craig designed and donated the materials for our new raised garden beds and also gave his time to instruct the group on how to build the beds. The students are developing many skills as they tackle new projects and work together towards achieving a bigger and better learning environment.

**Film, TV and New Media Gala Awards Day**

Term 4 brings our annual Film and TV Gala Awards day where the students, parents and a few lucky teachers dress in their finest clothes and travel to the oldest theatre in Australia, the Majestic Theatre at Pomona. We watch a silent film, this year was a Buster Keaton comedy *Battling Butler* (1926), accompanied by the organ. Morning tea follows before presentation of trophies are made to the best and brightest film students of the year. This year we would like to particularly congratulate Levi Cranston as the best student in Year 12 QSA and Marz Milojevic as the best student in Year 12 IB film. Other Year 12 winners in categories such as best editor, best director and best cinematographer include: Kait Stockton, Alex Major, Brett Armstrong, Jy-Leigh Wilson, Tayla de Clara, Woody Hohaia, Tara O’Brien, Brooke Shepherd, Holly Oakes-Ferguson and Tal Szumer-Menashe.

**Mathematics**

**What is numeracy?**

To be numerate is to confidently and effectively use mathematics to meet the everyday demands of life.

**Why is numeracy important?**

Numeracy enables you to develop logical thinking and reasoning strategies in your daily life. We need numeracy to solve problems and make sense of time, numbers, patterns and shapes for activities like cooking, reading a map or bill, reading instructions and even playing sport.

**Ways to support your child’s numeracy development**

Research has shown that children’s motivation and achievement improve when their parents or carers are involved in their education.
There are many everyday things you can do to encourage numeracy learning. These include:

- encouraging your child to use mathematical language – how much, how big, how small, how many
- discussing the use of numbers, patterns and shapes in your day-to-day life – numbers found on library books, spatial patterns or shapes in playgrounds, in the home and architecture
- talking about occasions when you are using mathematics in daily jobs and real-life situations – cooking, map reading, building and playing sport
- exploring situations using money such as shopping, budgets and credit cards
- estimating, measuring and comparing lengths and heights, how heavy or light things are and how much containers hold
- talking about different ways to solve a problem
- using everyday tools like tape measures or kitchen scales and discussing the units of measure
- asking ‘does that make sense?’ ‘is the answer reasonable?’ or ‘what other ways could we do this?’
- observing and using timetables, calendars and clocks for different purposes like study periods, holiday planning and catching public transport
- helping our child to work out how much things cost and what change they will receive
- playing number games using magazines, books, newspapers and number plates
- organising, categorising and counting collections of things like toys, books, clothing and shoes.

For more information about how you can help your child with literacy and numeracy visit www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map or contact your child’s teacher or school.

News from the Creative Industries

MADD Week 2013

As promised, this newsletter we feature a number of images from the 2013 MADD Week; a fantastic array of excellent Creative Industry student work showcased. Congratulations also to the Visual Art students who were acknowledged at this year’s opening. Receiving a Highly Commended were students Jye Williams, Brandon Deavin, Chloe Frew, Georgie Hall and Lachlan Conway, with overall winners being Tesh Scholefield (Junior) and Nathan Grisciti (Senior). The people’s choice award went to Denise Schiernann in Year 12. Congratulations students on your fantastic achievements.

CIA Showcase Evening Wednesday November 27

Creative Industries Academy students will have an opportunity to showcase the work they have been doing this year in a culminating event to be held on Wednesday evening, 27th November. CIA students are encouraged to return their RSVP slips as soon as possible so that seating can be reserved.

Please be quick! These nights always have a huge attendance. Don’t miss out on your seat! Please contact your child’s CIA teacher or the Head of Department for more information.

Sax Quartet Continue to Entertain

The Sax Quartet performed at the Sunshine Coast Guidance Colloquium on Sunday morning 20th October at Twin Waters Resort. The girls played music on the veranda as people arrived and signed in before moving inside to perform a feature piece. Congratulations ladies on your continued success!

Fr Francis Hefferan Memorial Bursaries & Awards

Two of our students were lucky recipients of the Father Hefferan Memorial Awards last month. Congratulations to Ashleigh Howell and Alex Hendry for their respective achievements.

Jessica Wall
A/Head of Creative Industries
Student Services

Aspiring Women’s Leadership Program – Australian Defence Force

Three aspirant leaders were selected from Mountain Creek State High School to attend the inaugural Aspiring Women’s Leadership Program. The event was set as a High Tea with team building and leadership activities throughout the morning. Female guest speakers from the business community and military shared their journeys, successes and barriers faced in their respective careers.

Initiatives such as the Aspiring Women’s Leadership Program are an important step towards helping our female students better understand the unique challenges and opportunities experienced by women working in non-traditional employment fields. As of January 2013 women are able to serve in many more positions in the Australian Defense Force. As part of the overall implementation plan for the removal of combat restrictions women currently serving can now apply to transfer into these roles. Direct entry recruitment for these roles will commence in Jan 2016. More than 300 exciting and challenging careers are available to women including Combat Systems Operator, Surveillance Aircraft Operator and Pilot.

Congratulations to Alysha, Lauren and Mikaela on their selection to attend the forum.

Students open 13th Biennial Queensland Guidance Colloquium

Mountain Creek State High School Guidance Officers Tania Hill and Alex Brain along with 180 professionals from around the state attended the 13th biennial Queensland Guidance Colloquium at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort October 19 to 21. The program offered a rich source of wisdom and inspiration and new insight into the importance of understanding the relationship between young people’s environmental experiences and the impact on the developing brain. Guest presenters included world leaders in the field of neuro-science: Max Bennett, Professor of Neuroscience, Dr Roy Sugarman, clinical psychologist and clinical neuropsychologist, Dr Michael McDowell, Paediatrician and senior lecturer University of Queensland Department of Paediatrics and Child Health and Dr Wayne Warburton lecturer in developmental psychology, Macquarie University, Sydney.

Four Mountain Creek State High School students were selected to play a musical suite at the official opening of the conference.

Alyssa Dagomenos (alto), Ebony Blackstone (tenor), Ashleigh Howell (baritone) and Georgia Rolls (alto) played beautifully and received thunderous applause from the appreciative audience. The girls, pictured below, are to be congratulated for their outstanding presentation and performance.

RYAN CAVANAGH (Year 12) Schultz Toomey O’Brien - Sunshine Coast Student Athlete Award

Friday 1st of November, Mountain Creek State High School hosted the Hot 91.1 Breakfast Team who transmitted their outside broadcast to interview the monthly winner of the Schultz Toomey O’Brien Lawyers Student Athlete Award. The Sunshine Coast Daily was also in attendance to cover the morning with a story to appear on Seven Local News.

Now entering their third year, the Schultz Toomey O’Brien Lawyers Student Athlete Awards formally recognise and support Sunshine Coast sporting heroes at a school level. The awards not only provide recognition but some financial support to both the school and the individuals who are the monthly winners. Mountain Creek State High School’s Year 12 student Ryan Cavanagh was selected as the October recipient of the award.

Ryan has just completed a successful season racing in Australia and Europe with the Queensland Academy of Sport Cycling Squad and represented Australia (U19 Men’s Team) at the World Road Cycling Championships in Italy. Ryan trains approximately 600 kms per week before and after school.
aims to race in a development squad in Europe in 2014 with a longer term goal to ride for Australia in the 2018 Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast. A major achievement for Ryan this season, was winning the Oceania Road Championships (Australia, New Zealand and other Oceania countries) in the U19 Men’s division.

Ryan is also nominated as a finalist for the Australian Junior Cyclist of The Year – to be announced in Melbourne Friday 8th November.

Ryan has had to juggle significant training demands with his senior school studies. Ryan has proven himself as a quiet achiever, demonstrating to students and staff that with focused goals and disciplined application, dreams can be achieved.

During November, all nine monthly winners of the Student Athlete Award (and their schools) will be featured in the Sunshine Coast Daily. Readers will be encouraged to vote for the Sunshine Coast Daily “People’s Choice Award”, with the winner announced at the end of year awards. The People’s Choice Award winner will be announced at the End of Year Awards in November.

Please ensure you cast your vote for Ryan!

University scholarships, early entry schemes and Centrelink entitlements for year 12 students

Universities offer scholarships for students. Some of these are related to academic ability however others are based on different criteria around income and equity. A range of links are provided below about scholarships at some institutions.

University of the Sunshine Coast
http://www.usc.edu.au/study/scholarships

University of Queensland
http://www.uq.edu.au/study/scholarships/

Queensland University of Technology
http://www.scholarships.qut.edu.au/commencing/

Griffith University
http://www.griffith.edu.au/scholarships

CQ University (Noosa Campus)
http://www.cqu.edu.au/study/scholarships

Centrelink Youth Allowance

Calculations may change slightly and some students who do not currently qualify for youth allowance may begin to qualify. Any qualification for Youth Allowance means that student gain access directly to equity scholarships. Centrelink manage this program of scholarships.


Centrelink Healthcare cards

Students at the end of year 12 begin to qualify for the above card independently of their parental income. This card may give some discounted rates at TAFE and also allow students to generally gain bulk billed doctors appointments and reduced cost medications.


If you need information about the early entry scheme and scholarships at other institutions search the institution’s website to find further information or see Guidance Officers Tania Hill or Alex Brain at school for further information. Please see Centrelink at the end of the year to check on your students eligibility for Youth Allowance and Health Care Cards.

Tania Hill
Guidance Officer

Roadcraft

October 14 & 15 saw 24 students attend the Roadcraft driver safety course at Gympie. The Chaplain, Stu Cran, has run the Roadcraft course for the last 7 years. Mooloolaba Lions club have generously subsidised the course costs each year since. Roadcraft is a Non-profit organisation initially set up over 34 years ago by a group of businessmen in Gympie who wanted to reduce the number of crashes involving young people. They have recently won the contract for Queensland Ambulance Service and so are recognised as providing quality training. The student courses they run involve 24 students. The students are split into 2 groups so that while one group is out on the track in the cars, the other group is learning very important information that they will apply, when they get into the vehicles.

Roadcraft is not designed to teach your students how to drive but gives them knowledge and skill to help them avoid having a crash. We run 2 of these courses each year. One parent commented “every student should do this course and parents should think seriously about it being a part of their child’s preparation for a life of safe driving. It is usually best for students to do the course either just prior to getting their learners permits or while they have their learners. Feel free to contact Chappy Stu if you want information about the courses. The next course will run during term 1 in 2014.

From the HPE Department

2013 Co-Curricular Sport Awards

At the recent Inter-School co-curricular Sport Awards presentation morning the following students were recognised for the contribution to the Sports Program at Mountain Creek.

These students were presented with Certificates and embroidered towels or iTunes vouchers.
Congratulations to all these students and thank you to all parents and to the coaches of all these teams – a fantastic effort by all during 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Most Valuable Player</th>
<th>Most Consistent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Girls</td>
<td>Samara Christmas 12H</td>
<td>Mel Ingall 10N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Girls</td>
<td>Courtney Webb 9S</td>
<td>Brooke Littler 9B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Boys</td>
<td>Cam Stevenson 12S</td>
<td>Clancy Miller 12M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Boys</td>
<td>Bayden Goff 9G</td>
<td>Jack Tomkinson 9B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Player of the Year</td>
<td>Loche O’Toole 11U</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior ‘A’ Boys</td>
<td>Adam Kerle 8N</td>
<td>Mitch Keefe 8C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Girls</td>
<td>Taisha White 9T &amp;</td>
<td>Piper Lenske 9M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate ‘B’ Boys</td>
<td>Donovan Hicks 10G</td>
<td>Adam Rae 10I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior ‘A’ Girls</td>
<td>Demi Williams 12A</td>
<td>Morgan Crawley 12N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior ‘A’ Boys</td>
<td>Max Kerle 11N</td>
<td>Nate Dennis 11S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior ‘B’ Boys</td>
<td>Cameron Stevenson 12S</td>
<td>Lachlan Keenan 12C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open ‘C’ Girls</td>
<td>Olivia Bateup 12G</td>
<td>Claudia Dawson 12A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate A Boys</td>
<td>Andre Scheu 10G</td>
<td>Zac Camille 10A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Club Person of the Year</td>
<td>Jess Gajewski 12M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best &amp; Fairest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vicki Wilson Cup Senior</td>
<td>Darcy Goss 9T</td>
<td>Tayla Spier 12S</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creekers 1</td>
<td>Toni Woods 12J</td>
<td>Kristy Barker 12G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creekers 2</td>
<td>Pania Onekawa 12O</td>
<td>Kayla Hems 12G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creekers 3</td>
<td>Dana Torpy 11J</td>
<td>Mikala Murphy 11G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Player of the Year</td>
<td>Emily Wotton 11I</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rugby League</td>
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<tr>
<td>Most Valuable Player</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 8 Girls</td>
<td>Michael Litau 8U</td>
<td>Kyle Ringsell 8C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Girls</td>
<td>Carter Wedd 9B</td>
<td>Cody Coulter 9F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Boys</td>
<td>Cody Harrison 10T</td>
<td>Liam Allen 10T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12 Boys</td>
<td>Mike Gilmour 12N</td>
<td>Dylan Wilson 12V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Best &amp; Fairest</td>
<td>Most Improved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Boys</td>
<td>Josiah Bettaney 8M</td>
<td>Mitch McLachlan 8G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Girls</td>
<td>Emily Baldry 9M</td>
<td>Poppy Sinclair 9G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Boys</td>
<td>Ronin Struyf 9J</td>
<td>Wil Tolputt 9A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Boys</td>
<td>Caitlin Bettaney 10M</td>
<td>Oliva Carlisle 10C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Boys</td>
<td>Scott Sinclair 11G</td>
<td>Cobby Wilks 10H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Girls</td>
<td>Jaimme-Lea Dishington 11B</td>
<td>Lateisha Kenny 11C</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Basketball report

During terms 3 and 4 Mountain Creek State High School had a total of 9 teams entered in the very popular Friday Night Basketball competition. We encourage players of all standards to be involved in this competition as there are grades to suit players of all levels of experience and ability. It will be on again next year so have a chat to Mrs Smith if you think you would enjoy being involved.

We are so fortunate to have so many generous teachers who are willing to give up their free time to coach our teams. This year some new faces joined the ranks—my very sincere thanks to Ms Kaergaard, Mrs Williams, Mr Harding and Mr MacDonald (along with ex-student Stuart Stevenson) who joined Ms Nash, Mr Hegarty, Mr Duus and myself to make it possible for our teams to compete.

Once again this year, Mountain Creek SHS was well represented in this competition. 4 teams made the semi-finals and in the Senior A Divisions of both the Boys’ and Girls’ competitions our teams made the Final. Our girls played St Andrews and our boys came up against arch rivals Matthew Finders.

Grand final night really showed that school spirit can make a huge difference to a team. A very vocal group of staff, students and of course the Creeker himself saw both our Open A teams come away victorious—making 4 successive victories for the girls and an historic 12 years for the boys. This was a fitting farewell for the departing grade 12 players in the teams. To Zac, Reece, Harrison, Takashi, Samantha, Morgan, Demi and (U.S. college-bound) Jess—you will all be sorely missed. Thank you all so much!

Particular congratulations to the Open A girls who were this year awarded the title of “Team of the Year” at Awards Night.

We again recognise the assistance given to our Program by the Maroochy R.S.L. whose generosity allows us to maintain the on-court appearance of our many teams.

2013 has certainly been a memorable and enjoyable year for the basketballers of the school.

Mrs Liz Smith
Basketball Program Manager

Volleyball – Tin Can Bay Day

On the 19th of September our Creeker Volleyball Program played hosts to the Tin Can Bay Taipans. Over 50 players from the Tin Can Bay P-10 School made the journey for some vital match practice for both schools in preparation for the 2013 QLD Junior Schools’ Cup in Brisbane in October.

Over 24 matches were played, involving our boys and girls teams from Year 8 to Year 10. This also gave students in our Volleyball Development classes an opportunity to put into practice some of the skills and strategies they have been working on in class time.

This event has now been running for 10 years and we are already looking forward to our return meet in Term Two 2014.

Tim Wilson
HOD HPE

Tayla Spier 12S

Ariana Damiani 11B

Cameron Stevenon 12S

Lachlan Keenan 12C

Player of the Year

Ash Arrowsmith 12M

Waterpolo

Best & Fairest

Most Improved

Senior Girls

Zoe Parker 12S / Mikaela Davenport 12V

Kirrena Raymond 11B

Intermediate Girls

Brittany-Lee Lewis-Cooke 10S

Jacob Ayres 8M

Senior Boys

Louis Brunner 10S

Jacob Gatehouse 11U

Player of the Year

Riley Korac-Stevens 11S

Cricket

Best & Fairest

Most Improved

Senior Boys

Ash Arrowsmith 12M

Lachlan Kropp 11T

Player of the Year

Bryce Street 10M

2013 Boys open team after winning

2013 Girls Open team after winning
**Volleyball Qld Junior Schools’ Cup**

From the 18th – 20th October 53 Creeker Volleyballers participated in the Queensland Junior Schools’ Cup held in venues all over Brisbane. It was a tournament full of high drama with injuries, early starts and a lot of sets that came down to the wire. Our two Honours teams, Year 10 girls and Year 9 girls both finished a creditable 5th in Queensland after taking sets and going down by the smallest of margins against the eventual medallists in their divisions.

The Year 10 boys were unlucky not to return with a medal finishing 4th in Division 1. The Year 8 and 9 boys teams also played in Division 1 and overcame some early losses to finish in the top half of their divisions 9th and 6th respectively. The Year 8 girls also made the top half of their division finishing 8th and the Year 10 “B” team girls who actually had five year 8’s in the team finished their tournament with an awesome record of winning ten sets and only dropping six.

Many thanks to our coaching staff for many hours coaching and for giving up their weekend to take our teams: Tim Wilson, Andrew Soward, Cam Bettenay, Derek Ranclaud and Stacey Gibson. A special mention to Lilli Wallis, Samara Christmas, Jaimme-Lee Dishington, Ash Arrowsmith, Stuart Stevenson, Georgie White and Katherine Needham who came along as student coaches and were so very valuable in assisting our students in their matches.

On a final note, Volleyball Queensland have only recently published the overall results for the QLD Senior Schools’ Cup held in August in Toowoomba this year. We are proud to announce that Mountain Creek SHS came second in the Overall Champion School to Browns Plains SHS with Craigielea Volleyball Academy third. Great work Creekers. For the full results visit www.vq.org.au.

**Paddling to Success**

Scott Sinclair in Year 11 paddled in the Queensland Schools Kayaking Sprint Championships 2013 for the first time last weekend. He won 2 Gold Medals and 1 Silver Medal. The first Gold came in the K1 U16 500m sprint. His time was the second fastest time of the carnival. The second Gold was in the 200m sprint. In both races Scott defeated boys from the Gold Coast who earlier this year had represented Australia in competitions overseas.

Scott and Kaelan Lockhart paddled together in the 500m pair’s event and in a very close race they finished a tight second place to get the Silver Medal in the K2. This was an outstanding effort given that the boys haven’t paddled together competitively until this event.

**State Track and Field Championships**

All athletes represented our Region and MCSHS with dignity and respect for other athletes and courtesy towards officials and teachers. These Queensland Track and Field Championships are the largest Australian Schools Sporting Championships and we should all be proud of these young MCSHS representatives.

Kai Barnett competed in 13 years 90m hurdles. He finished 2nd in his Heat, then progressed through to Finals and came 4th by 4/100’s second. This was a new Personal Best (PB) time for Kai.

Jack Bowen competed in 14 years 800m. He finished 2nd in his Heat, then progressed through to Finals and finished 6th. Jack also competed in 14 years 400m. He finished 3rd in his Heat, then progressed through to Finals placing 7th.

This is Brad Costelloe’s final year. He competed in 17 years Long Jump and this resulted in a Silver medal. Congratulations Brad. He also competed in 17 years High Jump placing 7th in Queensland.

Alessandro Novelli, one of our International students, competed in 17 years Triple Jump placing 19th.

Tom Patton competed in the 16 years 200m and placed 5th in his Heat.

A huge Creeker congratulations to these athletes.

**Madonna Reynolds**

**General Manager Sunshine Coast**

**Water polo report**

A very successful Water Polo season finished on Monday night with the Open Boys being the best performing Creeker team. These lads, with a very strong international connection, reached the Semi-Final stage after playing some strong and powerful ball during the season. In a close fought match against Siena, our Creekers finished scoring the last three goals but ran out of time to complete the comeback going down 8-10 in a really high quality match played in excellent spirit.
The Open Girls and Intermediate Girls both had good seasons but just couldn’t score vital goals at important times in a number of matches. Both teams finished just outside the top four and with a little luck and some more experience they could easily have made the finals. Their improvement has been fantastic to watch as both teams were highly competitive and really made their opponents fight hard in every match.

Special thanks must go to Mrs Karen Armstrong who has been coaching Water Polo for the Creek for more than 10 years – a person who will be very hard to replace in 2014! Thank You Karen! Also thanks to Mr Graeme Harding from Bribie Sub School for being involved this year – get ready for 2014.