20 June 2013

From the Principal

As term 2 comes to a close it seems fitting to highlight some of the achievements of our students and staff over the last term. As always our key focus is student engagement - every student, every day in every classroom. To achieve these outcomes requires a strong partnership between home and school – student and teacher partnerships and parent/student/teacher partnerships.

Student/Teacher: At the start of the term all students worked with their teachers to document their goals for each subject for Term 2. At ECP meetings students were asked to discuss these goals with parents and the ECP teacher. Throughout the term teachers and students have been working together to ensure that learning goals for each subject are clearly stated, that formative assessment is provided to allow students and the teacher to track progress toward the learning goals and to celebrate success in achieving progress along the way.

Parent/Student/Teacher: Parents play a vital role in discussing with students their learning goals in each subject, working with the teacher and their student to determine improvement strategies that will promote success in achieving the learning goals and celebrating success (however incidental) along the way.

The formal testing process should be final confirmation of each student’s level of success at achieving the learning goals outlined at the beginning of each unit of work.

Musical: If you were fortunate enough to purchase a ticket to the Musical - Back to the 80’s, you would have been entertained by a very large group of talented students and staff. The breadth of involvement from all sectors of the school was a testament to the rewards of having a whole school activity such as a musical. The relational benefits of having staff and students work side by side in developing a work of art and celebrating the success of such an inclusive activity will be obvious in the school for the next two years between musicals. Congratulations to all involved.

Leadership: Our new student leadership team for 2013/2014 has been elected and all that remains is for the school captains and the specialist captains to be named at the Induction Ceremony early in term 3. The team leaders at the Leadership Camp were suitably impressed with the quality of leaders that were once again chosen to represent MCSHS. Thank you to the staff who once again braved the leadership activities along with the students.

Junior Secondary: Our work in developing the Mountain Creek model for Junior Secondary is progressing well with a forum for parents and students of our feeder schools to be held at Mountain Creek State School on Monday 2nd September. Information brochures detailing the programs aligned with Junior Secondary have been delivered to our feeder primary schools to promote discussions for the forum on the Monday 2nd September.

Facilities Development: I am hopeful that the refurbishments to the Hospitality kitchen will be completed early Term 3. There may be some minor disruptions to the use of HE08 for the first three weeks of Term 3 to allow this refurbishment to be completed.

LAPTOP Program: Our proposed User Pays Laptop program for Year 9 was supported by the required number of parents to allow the school to progress with the purchase of 250 laptops for a take home option. Families who have signed the take home contract and have paid the user pays fee for 2013 should have the student laptop provided in the last week of this term. If you missed out on the roll out date the next issue will be in week 4 of Term 3. This rollout date will also include those students wishing to take part in the Stay at School option. Thank you for your support to enable a laptop program and the use of technology as a learning tool to be fully implemented.

I have in the past two weeks provided an update to students about their responsibility for use and care of the laptops that have been issued as part of the National Secondary School Computer Program. If students have opted for a take home program they MUST bring the laptop to school every day for use in class. These laptops are the property of the school and are leased to students via a contract. Part of the lease agreement is that the laptops are brought to school for use every day. I have confirmed with teachers that they require students to use laptops at some time in class every day. If laptops are not working or are damaged students MUST return the laptop to the IT Technicians for assessment and repair.

Communication: We are trialling Facebook for parents to keep up to date with what is happening on a weekly basis in the school. The school Facebook page will be updated regularly with alerts and information about what’s happening in the school. The Facebook page can be viewed at https://www.facebook.com/MountainCreekSHS

I would also like to direct you to a new app ‘QSchool’ which you can download for free from the iTunes store or Google Play. Information about school news, school events and newsletters are sourced from the school website. If you have students at two or three campuses, you can select several schools and keep up to date with what’s happening in all schools with ease.
Expressions of Interest are called from any organisation/ business interested in partnering to develop outdoor hard courts for school use during the day Monday to Friday and community use outside school hours. Expressions of interest should be addressed to: 
The Principal 
Mountain Creek State High School 
PO Box 827 Mooloolaba or 
the.principal@mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au

P&C News
The P&C Association has endorsed a proposal to fund a 5 hour/week grants writing position to support the school in accessing community grants available for development of facilities and programs. A Grants Writing workshop is scheduled for Wednesday 31st July in Brisbane. The successful applicant would have access to this workshop funded by the school.

The Parents and Citizens’ Association at Mountain Creek SHS is seeking Expressions of Interest for a 5 hours per week Grants Writing position. The position requires capabilities in grants access and grants writing to support the P&C and the school’s access to community grants. Expressions of Interest are due by the 21st June 2013 and should be emailed to: PandC@mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au

Year 11 2014 – Making the right choices
This feature allows parents and students to have the right information when making choices for subject selection for Year 11, 2014. This information may also be useful for Year 12 students and parents in ensuring that all options for work and further study are explained clearly so the right strategies can be put into place for the coming years. A Common Myths section also outlines some of the misinformation that exists and the correct alternatives to this information.

Our aim at Mountain Creek State High School is to ensure that 100% of our students completing Year 12 have a level of certification that will allow them to A) access further education and training or B) to move into the workforce with entry level qualifications. One of the following is required for graduation purposes – QCE, Certificate II, III or IV, IBDP. While an OP is also a tertiary entry requirement it is not a level of certification and is an additional tertiary requirement to a QCE. In order to ensure graduation requirements, this school has designed a pathway program that will provide opportunities for all students to meet the graduation requirements. Selecting the appropriate pathway will avoid unnecessary subject changes midway through the course and avoid the possibility that students will not meet graduation requirements.

For 2014, current Year 10 students will be asked to choose subjects from one of three strands namely the Tertiary or University Pathway, Alternative Tertiary or Vocational Pathway. Each of these strands is explained in detail below.

Tertiary or University Pathway (formerly Q1) – University bound
Students in this pathway are OP eligible. That is they are seeking entry to University after school via the OP (Overall Position) system. A student is OP eligible if they study 20 or more semesters of OP subjects over Year 11 and 12 and sit the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test. Students in this strand will study 6 OP subjects for 4 semesters over 2 years (24 semesters). In 2014 students must choose English, Maths B and 4 other subjects.

The QCS test is a rigorous set of tests over 2 days that all OP eligible students must sit to gain an OP score. The QCS test has two 1 ½ hour Multiple Choice papers, one 2 hour Written Task and one 2 hour Short Response task. All students in Queensland must sit the QCS test at the same time and day. Mountain Creek State High School runs an equally rigorous QCS preparatory program every week that is mandatory for OP eligible students. Successful completion of this course is a requirement for every OP eligible students. The combination of individual student grades and the group grade for the QCS test, for the whole group and each group of subjects gives the student an OP score between 1 and 25, with 1 being the highest. Highly sought after places at University in Medicine, Law, Physiotherapy and Engineering require high OP scores to gain entry. A score below 15 provides limited university entry options and our aim is for all students who are OP eligible to gain a score between OP 1-15.

Year 10 students wishing to choose the Tertiary or University Pathway must have a consistency of A’s and B’s in English, Mathematics and other subjects.

Alternative Tertiary Pathway (formerly Q2) – Flexible options.
Students choosing this pathway have the option of OP eligibility or the alternate tertiary entry Selection Rank. Students studying in this strand are able to choose 5 OP subjects maximum (5 subjects at 4 semesters = 20 semesters) and must also choose one NON OP Certificate course. Students who do not wish to be OP eligible must choose 2 or more NON OP subjects (out of 6).

Students who are OP ineligible may also be able to attend University via the Selection Rank (SR) system. The SR system assigns a score to each grade or qualification received in each subject. Students may also, for no penalty, ask to sit the QCS test in an attempt to boost their SR. Though OP subjects are attributed a higher score than NON OP subjects in the SR system, a Selection Rank can be used to enter University in...
2016. The popularity of this system also becomes apparent when one considers the inclusion of Certificate Level subjects. At the time of writing, a student completing Maths A and English and passing both, and who also has a Certificate 3 qualification is assigned the equivalent of an OP 16 (OP 15 at University of the Sunshine Coast). Students should check whether the university accepts Certificate 3 as an entry level for the course they wish to enter before planning to choose this pathway as not all institutions do.

Year 10 students wishing to enter this pathway must have passing grades in English, Mathematics and other subjects.

**Vocational Pathway (formerly Tech) – Qualified and Employable**

Students in this pathway complete a series of Certificate level courses (Certificate 2 or 3) and other NON OP subjects. Students in this strand are aiming to gain as many qualifications as possible so that they can access further training or be employed when they finish school. The school has recently added three further Certificate level courses to its subject list being Certificate 2 in Sampling and Measurement, Certificate 2 in Volunteering and Certificate III in Music. The addition of these courses means that students have even more options to successfully gain a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). Students in this strand may also elect to study a certificate course outside school via a School Based Apprenticeship/Traineeship or through an alternate Registered Training organisation such as TAFE.

**What is a QCE?**

To gain a QCE at the end of Year 12 students must complete

- 20 credits of study over 2 years made up of
  - At least 3 subjects or Core areas of study over 2 years and
  - Must pass or complete their courses to gain credit and
  - Must complete minimum Literacy and Numeracy requirements.

At this school students are placed in subjects so that by passing their subjects they easily meet these requirements. Common traps include;

- Not completing a course and
- Departing a subject when failing, gaining no credit

Senior students are monitored so that this seldom if ever occurs. The very reason that the three strands exist is so that students can pass subjects that are suited to their abilities. It is vital then that students plan their subject choices around their abilities so that they are afforded the best opportunity to gain a QCE as a minimum.

The link below is useful when seeking further information about a QCE. [http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/589.html](http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/589.html)

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**Common Myths**

**Myth 1 - I need an OP to go to University.**

- **Fact** – Only about 55% of Year 12 students are OP eligible. Only about half of first year university students have gained entrance via the OP system. As explained above, there are other ways to go to University.

**Myth 2 – If I choose a subject that ends up being too hard I’ll just change it in Year 11.**

- **Fact** - Whilst this is possible to do, students changing subjects make life for them usually harder – not easier. There is the work missed they have to catch up on and the risk to their core QCE requirements 3 subject for 4 semesters. The common outcome is that the grass is not always greener on the other side.

**Myth 3 – I need this subject to go to University.**

- **Fact** – this is rarer and rarer these days and the only real subject requirement for most University courses is English though for some high level courses Maths and Science prerequisites exist. The QTAC guide for Year 10 students is a good start for research in this area.

**Myth 4 – If the Maths subject I am doing is too difficult, I’ll get a tutor.**

- **Fact** – tutors can support some students, but cannot reteach work that you have not understood. If students are not trying their best at school and committing to a disciplined study program, a tutor is an expensive waste of time.

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**Assembly presentations Term 3**

From the start of Term 3 and in the lead up to ECP night, Mr Stone and Mrs Lancaster will be giving a presentation on each of the three strands at Year 10 assemblies, in order to answer questions from students. Term 2 results from all Year 10 students will be analysed so that students can be advised which strand is best for them.

**Andrew Stone**

**Head of Senior School**

**The IB Pathway – A World Class Education on your Doorstep**

Next term Year 9 students will be making decisions about their pathways into senior school. One of the pathways for Year 9 students is the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme . The IBDP is a highly regarded two year pre-university course that is offered to students throughout the world. The IBDP not only provides students with an enhanced academic focus it also provides a curriculum with an international perspective. The IBDP suits highly motivated senior students and is designed to equip them with the skills and attributes necessary for success in higher education and life.

Students study six subjects from a broad curriculum covering Literature, Science, Humanities, The Arts, Mathematics and a second Language.
The process for entry into IB is as follows:

1. Applications open Week 10 Term 3. Application forms can be downloaded from the MCSHS Website.
2. Parent Information Evening – 18th July 6.30pm in the Performing Arts Block
3. Applications Close 29 July
4. Interviews 1st and 2nd August
5. Notification 7th August
6. Meeting on 13th August (ECP day) 3.30 – 4.00 or 6.30 – 7.00

In the meantime to get more information about the IB Diploma Programme check out the following links:

- International Baccalaureate Diploma Organisation: http://www.ibo.org/
- IB Blogosphere: http://blogs.ibo.org/
- IB at MCSHS: https://mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au/Curriculum/Excellenceprograms/Pages/International-Baccalaureate-Diploma-Program.aspx

Trisha Valentine
HOD International Baccalaureate

Parent and community engagement framework launched

Research tells us that students achieve more when schools, parents and the local community work together.

To this end our school will be using the newly-launched Parent and Community Engagement Framework to better work with you for the benefit of our children.


Also visit this link for information on parent/school strategies to enhance opportunities for student learning http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/parent-community-engagement-framework/partnerships/school-strategies/

Cheryl McMahon
Executive Principal

Year 12 Modern History Students Explore the Taste of the Orient

In keeping with our traditional end of term cultural tasting experience, year 12 Modern History students were treated to Japanese delights as 17 students and teachers dined at Sakura Japanese restaurant, Buderim on Monday 3rd June. From seasoned seaweed to tofu fried in potato coating, we were treated to an amazing culinary experience as a celebration of exploring Japanese History for this term’s unit of work. These nights are an important aspect of extending students taste buds as well as consolidating the complete study of a country’s history, in a social atmosphere outside of the classroom- a big thank you to those who tried a bit of everything and to Ms Leoni Nipperess, Japanese teacher, who helped serve and translate for us on the night.

Mrs Lisa Kempf
HOD Business/Lifestyle Industries

Young Entrepreneurs

Year 11 students studying Certificate III in Business put their entrepreneurial skills into action by setting up bagged Lolly sales at the recent school musical. The students were exposed to real life experiences such as contacting suppliers, employing marketing skills, managing operations to produce a saleable product and utilising selling techniques. The finance team calculated a small profit that will be used to enhance our mock office in the classroom.

Helen Young
HOD Business/Lifestyle Industries

Year 8 Geography Students Get Out and About

In a growing world of IT and mobile phones, students are losing basic map reading and navigational skills. This is why the current year 8 Geography students are getting out in the open spaces and ‘playing’ with compasses, hand held GPS’s and engaging in basic map reading skills. The unit focuses on all aspects of mapping skills from scale conversion, various types of maps and their uses, to navigating a set course using
compensate bearings. So next time you need directions, ask your student to show you the way using 'old fashioned' methods but reliable.

Mrs Lisa Kempf

Bond University Faculty of Law – High School Mooting Competition

Congratulations to year 12 Legal Studies students – Georgie White, Jess Bowen and Jak Hardy – who are one of 16 teams from across Australia who have made it to the Finals of this years’ High School Mooting Competition. Bond University is providing transport and accommodation at the Gold Coast for the Mooting team and coach, Mrs Young, on the weekend of Friday, 26 July and Saturday, 27 July 2013 to compete in this prestigious event.

Special congratulations to Georgie White whom the Judges have awarded an Advocacy Merit Award.

Thank you to Kane Stegeman, Senior Associate of Schultz Toomey O’Brien Lawyers who gave hours of his time to assist our students to the level of success they achieved.

What is a Moot?

A moot is a legal argument based on a prescribed set of facts. Mooting is designed to teach and test a range of intellectual and practical skills, and to give you an insight into the operation of the legal system. Moots simulate as closely as possible the operation of a real court – in our circumstances, the conduct of an appellate court. It is an intellectual exercise that requires research, advocacy, teamwork and interaction with the audience (ie, the bench). Something Georgie, Jess and Jak are clearly awesome at!

Helen Young
HOD Business/Lifestyles Industries

Eco Youth Group Get Busy with Local Aboriginal Artist

The Eco Youth Group, guided by teacher Mr Jon O’Connell, has been working with Mr Mick Linthorne negotiating an indigenous mural on one of the library walls. The proposed artist Mr Rory Bonner is a parent of one of our indigenous students and is the grandson of Mr Neville Bonner. We believe his contribution to this mural will be invaluable and create a legacy that Mountain Creek can proudly display. The dimensions of the mural will be 3800mm in width and 2450mm in height. The mural is to be placed on the resource centre wall as per photo. The artwork should depict the Bunya Nut Festival and the significance that this played in the indigenous way of life. The journey to the Bunya Mountains was undertaken in order for the various tribes to engage in trade, arrange marriages and other important matters. As a large number of people would be gathering in the one area supply of adequate food was of high priority therefore the festival was only held once every three years when the Bunya nut was plentiful. It is also hoped that the Eco Youth Group will plant local native vegetation to compliment the mural and further enhance the garden around the library. Well done to these dedicated students and teachers involved. It will be exciting to see the end product.

Mrs Lisa Kempf

Innovations in Hospitality and Home Economics – Partnerships for Excellence

In the beginning…..

The beginning of what is now a strong partnership with Via Italia Restaurant at Mooloolaba, opposite the Loo with a View, was first formed just two weeks after Via Italia opened in July 2010. Owners Rob and Sarah, offered to take a few of our hospitality students for work placement, while juggling the demands of a newly established restaurant. Since then, they have hosted hospitality staff and many more of our students for industry experience, in both front and back of house.

A new look for Via Italia…..

Via Italia has recently undergone renovations and, with a new logo, are again open for business. The menu would have to be one of the most extensive on the Sunshine Coast.

Chefs Jodie and Luke are now partners in the business with Rob and Sarah, and with Kylie managing front of house, customers can’t help but sense their passion for food, while experiencing a “touch of class” experience at Via Italia.
Culinary challenge and mentor chefs.....

This year, chefs Luke and Corey became our industry mentors for the Junior Secondary Schools Culinary Challenge, an Australian Culinary Federation initiative. Luke & Corey have spent many hours of their own time providing feedback for students’ trialling for the school team, judging the school competition, conducting training sessions at school and attending ACF Master Classes with our two teams, who will represent the school at the regional finals in August. The teams include Josh Marsden & Josh Keenan, and Georgia Beaumont & Emily Withers. At present, only Year 10s are involved, but in future years, students who have taken our new subject (see below) will be eligible to trial for the senior competition, which is a world-wide culinary challenge.

As a result of the rapport built between students and the chefs, Via Italia is offering traineeships and apprenticeships for our students....

Via Italia has strengthened their partnership with our school through their generous offer to provide a number of traineeships in Certificate III in Hospitality each year, with some of our current Year 10 students taking this opportunity in term 3 this year. This year, Via Italia has offered a school-based chef’s apprenticeship to Josh Marsden, beginning in term 3 and, as positions arise, other Year 10 students will be eligible to receive the same opportunity.

A difficult decision for the judges to select only two teams from five

And a new Year 10 subject is being introduced in 2014! ..... 

“Developing Future Chefs – A Journey in Excellence”

This is not just for students wanting to become chefs. This subject is open to any student who is passionate about food and highly motivated to produce dishes of industry and competition standard. Studying Home Economics in Years 8 & 9 is not a prerequisite. This subject may also be suitable for students considering a university pathway after Years 11 & 12. Six month traineeships will be offered to some students completing the course, leaving pathway options open in Years 11 & 12.

Entry is only by application and successful interview. Applications will be available from student admin at the beginning of term 3 and must be submitted by the end of week 2. Students who complete the Certificate III in Hospitality within this subject in Year 10 are not eligible to choose Certificate II in Hospitality in Years 11 & 12.

It has been created for a variety of reasons and offers a range of pathways.

• The opportunity to partner with industry to develop culinary skills at a very high standard.
• Provide a pathway to early career entry.
• Media saturation has increased community interest in culinary competitions.
• Australian Culinary Federation initiatives for school competitions encourage participation from Year 10. This subject allows students to focus on skill development for these competitions. ACF competitions are recognised world-wide.
• Provides students considering tertiary study in areas such as Tourism and Event Management, the opportunity to gain certificates in both Hospitality and Tourism while at school and still remain OP eligible. Students could gain the Certificate III in Hospitality in Year 10 and Certificate II in Tourism in Years 11 & 12.

• Students intending to study at a tertiary level may gain skills and knowledge that will assist in finding paid work to assist with the financial costs of tertiary study, particularly if students are living away from home.

• This subject allows students to explore their creative side or passion for food. These skills may not be used in their pursuit of a career, but can provide lifetime skills, interests and a balance to life, particularly for students intending to study six OP subjects in Years 11 & 12.

Karen Toomey

News from the Creative Industries

Sell out shows four performances running!

May 30 saw the first official performance of Mountain Creek State High School's ‘Back to the 80s’ Musical and audiences left in stitches after each of the sold out shows. Many hours were spent rehearsing, painting backdrops and organising students and staff. A big, big thank you for leading the charge must go to Directors Kate Benfield and Carly Cook, along with Producer Elizabeth Mulligan. Dance Directors Dimitry Perren and Tiffany Broad need a mention, as does Art Director Tarla Varney and her sidekick John Drake. There have been many others behind the scenes in the lead up to this big event, so thank you! Students we hope you enjoyed the experience, and we thank you for your continued commitment to making the Creative Industries a fantastic faculty!

“I am having a great time, working with different choreographers and learning nine routines as part of Creative Generation State Schools Onstage. It is like a family, dancing with like-minded people who all have a passion for dance and are committed to give their best. In between CGen rehearsals I also attended the ATOD (Australian Teachers of Dance) Queensland State Intermediate Jazz Scholarships, which consisted of a one hour adjudicated class on and two solo performances (Jazz and Lyrical) and I came first place. This achievement now qualifies me to attend the ATOD Australasian Scholarships in July.” Ellyn Gwillim, Year 10.

Creative Generation State Schools Onstage 2013

Over the next few newsletters we hope to feature some of our Creative Industries students achieving big things in their fields. This time round we are featuring Sarah Naumann and Ellyn Gwillim.

“This year in Creative Generation I have gained the position of concert master for the symphony orchestra. After three previous years in the Creative Generation orchestra I was honoured to be given this position. As part of being concert master, I get to have a short piece about me published in a Courier Mail newspaper spread. Last rehearsal a photographer come in to do a small photo shoot this article, and whilst it was quite a terrifying experience, I am really excited to be able to represent the orchestra and our school on this scale. Creative Generation is once again turning out to be an amazing experience. It has been really great to see the new musicians and the new show score. In addition to regular rehearsals in Brisbane, we have also had the opportunity to work with Chen Yang in a full tutorial day. This was a great experience as we were taught new techniques and given advice from one of the state’s top musicians, as well as having the opportunity to form connections with the other musicians from across the state.” Sarah Naumann, Year 12.
Monday Night Netball

MCSHS Monday Night Netball hosted 10 teams this season ranging from Junior C division to Open A. Battling the sometimes cold and wet conditions the girls and their teachers fronted up week after week. 6 teams made it through to the semi-finals and 4 through to the Grand finals.

Junior C team coached by Madonna Reynolds won their Grand final game in a nail-biter against Unity, winning by 4 goals. Intermediate B coached by Shannon Dawes dominated against Matthew Finders winning by 12 goals. Open C coached by Loretta Olsen drew at full time with Nambour Christian College and then went into 10 minutes extra time playoff and Creekers triumphed with a 2 goal win. Intermediate A coached by Helen Young won convincingly against St Teresa’s by 18 goals.

MCSHS certainly shone on the Grand final night and were placed 2nd in the Overall Champion School points.

Congratulations to all girls who participated throughout the season and a special thanks to Jacqui Sanham who co-ordinated the 2013 Monday Night Netball competition.

Regional Cross Country

Congratulations to all runners that represented MCSHS at Regional Cross Country on June 4 at Elisabeth Daniels Park Buderim.

The top four 15 years Girls were successful in winning their age group. Congratulations to Drew Beveridge, Chloe Travers, Maddi Korac and Jade Copus Cull.

Runners that came in the top 10 of their age categories were Courtney Webb, Drew Beveridge, Mikayla Leslie, Jack Murphy and Brock Rivenell.

Huge congratulations to both Drew and Brock as they have qualified through to State Championships in Bundaberg on July 21-22, 2013.

Madonna Reynolds & Jacqui Sanham

Year 10 Rugby League

The Year 10 Rugby League Team has been steadily improving this season. Following two wins against Nambour in the trial games, the boys faced tough opposition against St Mary’s of Toowoomba in the first round. After going down 18 -0 early in the second half the boys showed great resilience to fight back to only lose 18-8 with Liam Taylor earning Man of the Match honours.

In the second round we travelled to Ipswich to play St Peter Claver and in a solid team effort won the game 36-10, with a standout out performance from Jake Gray-Christison. Our round three match was against Redcliffe at home and in a strong defensive effort we won 46-6. The Man of the Match on this occasion went to Kieran Reekie.

In round four we faced Nambour at home and in a comprehensive victory won 56 – 0 in a strong team effort. Jake Gray-Christison was again a standout performer. Last week we travelled to a cold and windy Toowoomba where the boys prevailed to defeat Harristown 28 – 12, with Man of the Match awards going to Tom Miles and Cody Harrison.

The boys have continued to improve every week with their defence being the most pleasing aspect, only letting in four tries in their past four games. The attack is starting to click and support play is also improving. We have also seen excellent performances from Connor McCabe, Dylan Reich, Marshall Palmer and Liam Fraser who feature prominently in our Best and Fairest scoring. This week we face another tough challenge away against Sandgate SHS, followed by a home game against Beenleigh the week after.

AFL Academy News

MCSHS travelled to Yeronga on Wednesday May 29 to take on Palm Beach Currumbin in front of the AFL CEO, Andrew Demetriou and Queensland Minister for Sport, Steve Dickson. Fortunately both teams caught up with the big celebrities who smiled for a few photos to the delight of players, coaches and spectators alike.

The Junior Creekers had a tough battle from the start but their never-say-die attitude impressed the coaching staff. Coach, Peter Bock was impressed with the juniors’ effort considering the strength of the opponent.

“The boys were outsized in most of the match-ups around the ground but the boys were brave and never dropped their heads.

Best on ground performances came from Matt Holt, Jack Tomkinson and Bayden Goff.
The Senior Creeker boys then took to the field in what was a great contest against the School of Excellence Power House Palm Beach Currumbin State High School for a chance to go undefeated and have a crack at a Grand Final at the Gabba in July.

Last time they met at the Gabba in 2010, PBC kicked a goal after the siren to snatch victory from the Creekers grasp which still lingers in the minds of the players and coaches alike.

Coach, Justin Pritchett was impressed with the boys' performance.

“A win would have been epic but honestly couldn’t ask for much more out of our boys, it is our second season in the School of Excellence competition and to keep the competition favourite to just seven goals is a tremendous effort,” Pritchett said.

“Cam Stevenson provided some great direction through the middle and Nate Dennis did a great job in the ruck linking up with Clancy Miller to create some damaging entries from stoppages which was great to watch.

Youth Girls AFL

The Mountain Creek U15 Youth Girls cup team is in their inaugural season in the AFL Sunshine Coast Juniors Competition. Starting the season with two narrow losses, the girls have quickly found their feet and have notched up wins against 2012 Premiers, Kawana Park, Nambour and in the wet over the long weekend, the North Shore Jets. The girls are looking to make it four wins in a row and beat the bottom of the ladder Noosa Tigers this weekend, to move into second spot at the half way point of the season.

Aimee Dawson is the team’s leading goal scorer and has given the team some potency in attack since moving to the forward line. Brittany-Lee Lewis-Cooke has been turning heads with her tackle breaking runs. Brittany-Lee looks like a real league Best and Fairest contender. Mel Ingall week in and week out wins the contested ball and provides some great structure off half back. Mention also has to be made of Calista McKenzie, the team’s fullback, who is ever reliable with a great mark and a thumping drop punt. She has been awesome in the toughest position on the ground.

Interschool Sport News

Preparations are currently underway for the 2013 Central District Winter Sport Finals. Twenty out of a possible twenty-two Mountain Creek teams have made the finals to be played at Kawana State College, Fisherman’s Road and Meridan State College.

This solid representation has placed the Creekers in a great position to defend their title of Champion School which they have held since 1999. Coach Bock (year 8 AFL) is looking forward to the day, “Hoping to cap off a great season with one of the best days on the junior secondary calendar”.

Students are reminded that is an early, 7.30am, start on Wednesday the 19th of June. Parents are welcome to come and spectate on day. Draws have been distributed to all students involved, so we hope to see you there. Good luck.

Andrew Denny
Sports Co-ordinator

Teenager

You have a teenager at home and they are not the young person you used to know! Your relationship is changing; it is whole a new world of communicating!

Its true relationships change during teenage years. Your teenager wants to spend more time with their friends and they often want privacy. They also still want the luxuries you provide and need your support and guidance. Research shows that your teenager needs family, love and support as much as they did when they were younger.

Below are a few tips on how to maintain your relationship:

Stay Connected: Arrange times to do things you all enjoy. Maintain regular family meals. Have fun outings (they don’t have to cost) beach, walk etc. One on one time (they may want their privacy but they also want time with you). Have Family meetings to sort out problems.

Tim Wilson
HOD HPE
Communicating: Active listening is the key to good communication and provides positive outcomes. If you are unable to discuss with them an issue they present you with there and then, make time to talk later and keep it. Give them your full attention (good eye contact) as they are like you, they know when you’re not interested. Listen without interrupting, judging or correcting (Good news your teenager doesn’t always want you to solve the problem, they often have the answer, they just want you to hear their problem without solving it).

Every teenager is different as are family relationships. The following link to Raising Children Network, has lots of great tips to support you through this transition.

http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/early_teens_communicating_nutshell.html

Kerry McClosey
Youth Health Nurse

Date Claimer

Treat yourself to a great night out and support our hospitality students at the same time……..

Via Italia has kindly offered to provide an opportunity for our Year 12 students with a “real food service” experience for one of their assessments, so

- You are invited to treat yourself to a three course evening meal, prepared by the Via Italia chefs and served by our students.
- Special menu for the night
- Three options for each course
- More information regarding the menu, price and booking arrangements will be included in the next newsletter.
- Please save one or more of the following August dates in your diaries.

August: Wednesday, 7 & 14 and Tuesday, 20 & 27.

Benefit Gym

Buy one get one free for your buddy!

Benefit Health and Fitness want to get you and your buddy into shape.

- BUY A 12 MONTH M’SHIP – GET A 12 MONTH M’SHIP FREE.
- BUY A 6 MONTH M’SHIP - GET A 6 MONTH M’SHIP FREE.
- BUY A 3 MONTH M’SHIP - GET A 3 MONTH M’SHIP FREE.

Limited numbers available – Hurry don’t miss out. Sale will end 8th July (No exceptions).