6 May 2014

From the Principal

I trust that the mid semester break was an opportunity to take a breather, relax and enjoy family time together. Although Term 2 commences with a short week, the term ahead will be busy for staff and your students. With the hectic schedules that I know most families manage, it is timely to review the key dates for marking on your calendars. Students have received their reports on Thursday May 1st. Parents also received on Thursday 1st May advice about your ECP teacher for interviews on the 20th May and information about how to book online for the first time this year. A reminder that on the ECP day 20th May there will be no scheduled classes and interviews will take place form 1.30 pm until 8.00 pm. Students are required to attend with their parent/s/guardian.

Communication - FACEBOOK

We are endeavouring to provide information in a more easily accessible manner through our Facebook page with all Heads of Faculty and sub-school administration staff having access to distribute information. Please let us know how we can improve this service to parents and students.

Subject Changes

Since QSA provides credit for semesters of work completed, subject changes in Term 2 should only be considered where a student has extenuating circumstances. In all other requests, these will be considered for the start of Semester 2, July 14th. Requests should be submitted by the end of Term 1 June 27th, to ensure that interviews and changes can be made for the start of the new term.

Leadership Program

This year the leadership program involved all Year 10 and Year 11 students commencing with a Leadership Day on Friday May 2nd. The purpose of incorporating all Year 10 and 11 students in the Leadership Day is to provide opportunities for all students to develop leadership skills as they move into the senior years.

NAPLAN Tests

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests will be held on Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th May. Our Year 9 students will be involved in this testing. Communication regarding these tests has been provided to all students and parents and further details outlining the preparation and requirements for the testing sessions will be communicated to parents and students in the lead up to the testing days. Parents of Year 9 students are asked to ensure that all students have the correct equipment to complete the five tests session over the three days.

Building and room changes

During this term the completion of the Year 7 precinct will mean some small disruptions with room changes for classes that are timetabled into G4 block to accommodate this building program. Student will be advised by their teachers of the room changes required and alternate arrangements have been made for the Year 9 NAPLAN tests this year. The testing program will be held in the Student Centre which will be set up to accommodate the test standards. Further communication will be provided through the newsletter and through written communication to staff, parents and students.

Breakfast Menu

The new Creeker Coffee Shop and Breakfast Bar is open for breakfast from 6.30 am each day until 7.20 am. The breakfast menu is included in this issue of the newsletter, on the school website and at the Breakfast Bar.

Creeker Magazine - Autumn Issue

On Thursday, 1st May you would have received a hard copy of our Autumn Creeker magazine. It is an excellent summary of the many curricular and extracurricular activities available to students at Mountain Creek State High School. You will also enjoy the stories of past students which we feature in each Creeker. I’d like to acknowledge all staff, students and parents who provided stories and photos for this publication.

Any feedback regarding the magazine should be emailed to enquiry@mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au

ANZAC DAY Ceremony

Thank you to Donna Lancaster for the organisation of another outstanding ANZAC DAY ceremony this year. As always, the
cerebration was a wonderful tribute to those who served and continue to serve in our armed forces in so many arenas. My sincere thanks to Rob Hunt, Kawana RSL for his very special address which was of significant relevance to our students. My congratulations also to the following students for their significant contribution - the cadets, the school captains, the vocal group, the band, the strings symphony and the two year 8 students who placed the wreath. Thank you to our facilities staff for the setup, our very talented music staff for conducting our music groups and to Jo Reid for the visual presentation throughout the ceremony. I am always moved by the solemnity of the occasion. Thank you also to those students and staff from Mountain Creek SHS who also participated in the ANZAC Day march at Maroochydore on the 25th April.

Information about the Premier’s ANZAC Prize for 2015 (100th anniversary of ANZAC landing) can be found in this Newsletter and information outlining the process can be found at: http://education.qld.gov.au/students/grants/scholarships/anzac/2015.html.

**Changed Aquatic Centre Management**

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Michael and Genevieve King for their management of the Mountain Creek SHS Aquatic Centre for the past 10 years. During that time Michael and Genevieve have helped establish a strong Swimming Club, the development of elite athletes in the Mooloolaba surf lifesaving program squad training and have contributed to the safety of many young children through the operations of the learn to swim school. We wish them well in their future endeavours on the coast. The hire of the Mountain Creek SHS Aquatic Centre has been awarded to Barry Kime and Shannon Harben in partnership. Barry Kime is a respected and highly qualified swimming coach who was selected on the Australian Swimming Coaches team for the World Championships in Barcelona in 2013 and was awarded Swimming Australia National Age Champion Coach in 2013 and 2014. Shannon Harben has extensive experience as a learn-to-swim and stroke correction instructor and a school swimming coordinator. I know they will continue the excellent service provided by the previous tenants and will complement the school’s Health and Wellbeing focus.

**Cheryl McMahon**

**Executive Principal**

**The Premier’s Anzac Prize 2015**

Applications for the 2015 prize are now open.

**Student Applications**

Student applications must be received by DET International, the Queensland Department of Education, Training and Employment (the Department) by 5pm on Friday 19 September 2014. Late applications will not be accepted. Early lodgement is welcome.

Students are invited to submit a multimedia presentation between two and five minutes long and in one of the following formats: mov, wmv or mp4. Other formats will not be accepted. By applying, the applicant confirms they meet the conditions of entry on the student application pack. The multimedia presentation must address all of the following themes:

- How has the Anzac tradition shaped our nation?
- Why is the Anzac tradition still important?
- How will future generations keep the Anzac tradition alive?

**From the Head of Senior School**

**ECP Bookings Open Today!**

Today is an historic day for the Education and Career Planning process as online bookings open for the first time. It is vital that all parents book an ECP interview with the teacher on this memo (their ECP teacher) otherwise an interview will not go ahead. All students in the school received a memo about this on Thursday 1st May with their report cards. The link for online
bookings is on the school’s website under quick links, and the link is also on the School’s Facebook Page. Please access this facility as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

**Calling For QCS Community Representatives**

The school requires four community members (paid positions) to assist the Chief Supervisor for the state wide Queensland Core Skills (QCS) test held at school on the 2nd and 3rd of September 2014. Appointment is by application to the Chief Supervisor and there are two positions for Chief Community Representative which carry more responsibility and slightly more time commitment and two positions for Community Representative which only require attendance on the days of the test.

Interested persons should collect an application pack from the school office as soon or click on this link at www.qsa.qld.edu.au/2324.html, as soon as possible as applications close on 23rd May.

**Study Skills - Why Do We Have To Do Homework?**

Homework in secondary school serves many purposes. It could be to consolidate or check or extend the learning from the day or prepare for the learning to come in subsequent days. It could be to do with longer term work such as assignments or preparing for tests and examinations. Ultimately it comes back to what school is all about – learning. Learning not just content, but learning and developing skills. At times students feel that the work they are doing at school is not relevant to their lives, however sometimes we need to look beyond the content to the purpose of the learning exercise. At times the content will be a vehicle to teach particular skills. Much of what we learn in Mathematics develops the problem solving circuits in our brain. When you are analysing Shakespeare you are learning not just about Shakespeare but to think critically and expand your point of view and broaden your experience of the world through examination of different lives, emotions and experiences. The message is that everything you learn at school has purpose and value, even if you can’t quite see it at the time.

There is much debate in the media as to the value of homework. In Primary school it has been shown that only a small amount of students actually benefit from doing homework in terms of academic achievement. The exception to this is reading at home – every student benefits from this. However, the other benefits can’t be discounted: developing independent working skills, establishing study routines necessary for learning in later years, helping students’ master things they are struggling with and allowing parental involvement. In secondary school homework has been proven to be an essential component of academic success in the senior years. The reality of Year 11 and 12 is that a large component of independent learning needs to be undertaken at home. One of the biggest problems for students transitioning to the senior years is that they have not learnt to work effectively and efficiently in the home environment. This is why developing good habits and learning to do at least a solid hour a day of home study is essential in Years 7-10. It is also about developing the qualities of discipline and perseverance, both essential for senior studies. Students will not like every subject equally; students need to learn how to make themselves do the work even for their least favourite subjects.

So what can you do to manage your homework effectively? Try these top tips:

1. As soon as you get home unpack your bag before you have a break and something to eat. Lay out all the work first. It is easier to get started if you have everything ready to go.
2. Before you start work, write a list of what needs to be done and decide what order you will do it. Focus on what is most important, not just what subject you like best! Also write down how long you think each task will take to do.
3. Keep in your mind that it is all about learning. Try and look beyond the actual content to what type of skill this homework might be developing in you – analysing, critical thinking, writing skills, or problem solving skills for example.
4. Do your work in 20-30 minute blocks with no distractions during that time. So switch off the TV, turn off your phone for that 20-30 minutes. When you just focus on the work that needs to be done you’ll be amazed at how much work you complete. Of course if you are on a roll, you can keep going past the 30 minutes.
5. If there is a task you really don’t want to do then alternate this with a task you enjoy doing. For example 15 minutes on the homework you like, 5 minutes on the homework you don’t like. When you chip away at it you will be surprised how quickly you get through the work.

Learn more this year about how to improve your results and be more efficient and effective with your schoolwork by working through the units on www.studyskillshandbook.com.au - our school’s access details are:

**Username:** formcshsonly
**Password:** 75results

A vital skill for students is research, and there is a valuable document that students can link to on the website under the MORE menu on the Things to print page or in the relevant unit. As a subscriber to the website www.studyskillshandbook.com.au students at Mountain Creek can access this for free.

Best Wishes

**Andrew Stone**

**Head of Senior School**
From the Head of Middle School

National Assessment Program – Literacy & Numeracy – Year 9 Students

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy tests will be conducted across 13th, 14th and 15th May 2014 for all students in year 9. Year 9 students have received an initial information letter re this testing in term 1 and will be issued a second letter on the 28th of May. If your student did not collect a letter, these can be picked up from their sub-school or the main administration office.

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy tests will have all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 undertaking the same tests as students at these year levels in other states and territories.

These tests will assess students in the areas of literacy (including reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar) and numeracy (number, measurement, chance and data, space, working mathematically, algebra function and pattern).

Following the tests, schools and students will receive a statement of performance in relation to the national benchmarks.

Information about the tests can be found on the NAPLAN website:
http://www.naplan.edu.au/

Enrolment in Junior Secondary – 2015

Year 7 and 8

By the end of week 2, Term 2 a representative from Mountain Creek State High School will have visited all of our key partner primary schools to speak to year 6 and year 7 students about enrolment for 2015.

Enrolment

Year 6 and 7 students will be or have been given a general enrolment application to complete. All students need to complete a general enrolment application. This general enrolment package has a lot of information about programs of study and enrolment at the school, including due dates for all events and various applications. They have also been given information about applying for specialist programs: The Zenith Program and the Creative Industries Academy Programs (Visual Art, Dance, Drama and Music).

Scholarships

Mountain Creek State High School’s P and C has kindly donated 10 scholarships for year 6 students coming into year 7 in 2015 and 10 for year 7 students coming into year 8 in 2015. Applications forms are available at your primary school or may be collected from the main office at the high school.

Young Scholars

Information regarding the Young Scholars program has also been delivered to schools. Entry into this program is by application. This year students in year 4 and 5 can apply for the 2015 Year 5 and 6 program.

Further information will be available on our website from the 22 April OR from your student’s primary school OR may be collected from the main office at Mountain Creek State High School.

Commencement Arrangements for the first day in 2015

Year 7 - 10.30am on 27th of January, 2015
Year 8 – 11.30am on the 27th of January, 2015

School Tours

As part of Education Week – in week 5, Term 2 we will offer an opportunity for parents of year 6 and 7 students to participate in a tour of Mountain Creek State High School. These will occur on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd of May. There will be two tours each day, with the first one commencing at 8.30am and the second one at 9am. Please contact the school if you would like to book in for one of these tours (Ph: 54578333)

Andrea Evans
Head of Middle School

News from Middle School

Year 8 Pastoral Care

As part of their schooling at Mountain Creek SHS, year 8 undertake a weekly session for Pastoral Care. This session incorporates a weekly assembly for each sub-school, providing the respective Year 8 HOSS (Head of Sub-school) weekly access to their group of students to discuss pertinent issues. The second part of the session involves class groups completing an array of activities related to their pastoral care and wellbeing. The focus for Term 1 was Student Organisation.

Career Talks

Week 9, Term 1 Term saw a number of parents come to the school in their own time to speak to our year 8 cohorts about their current career, some of the positive and negatives of their careers, qualifications required and what students needed to achieve at school if they were interested in such a career path.

The students were encouraged to start thinking generally about what careers they might consider for themselves and, in particular, what high school results they needed if they were considering those careers, compliment the schools ECP (Education & Career Planning) process. All speakers spoke of the need to have good grades in Maths and English as a minimum which is an aspect that all students can work on now – regardless of what eventual career path they choose.

The talks incorporated a variety of careers including, Police Force, Architecture, Engineering, Social Work, Psychology, Fabricating, Training and Employment as well as relevant skills for today’s workforce provided by a local Training Organisation.
A very special thank you to parents Belinda Ring, Carl Voller, Elissa Mizell, Dominic Vrolijks, Graham Hall and Alex Brain (Guidance Officer @ MCSHS), for your ongoing support and contributing their own time to provide our students with this invaluable insight into different career options.

Lindsay Baker  
Head of Department Middle School

Year 9 Focus Fun Day

On Tuesday the 25th March the students from 9N and 9T, under the guidance of Lindsay Baker, Therese Hewgill and Stuart Cran, attended a day of fun and challenges at Ewan Maddock Dam Camp and the Bli Bli Wake Park.

The day started with a bus ride to the peaceful surrounds of Ewan Maddock Dam, where the students met their instructor and were briefed for a morning of challenges: both mentally and physically.

The students took turns to participate in a rock climbing course and a high ropes challenge called the ‘Sky Surfer’, which involved a gruelling climb through various obstacles before trying to clamber onto the surfboard suspended at the top. For some students, this morning was about overcoming mental barriers and trying something new, while the other, more confident climbers supported their peers by cheering them on and encouraging them to push their limits.

The students on 9N and 9T demonstrated both courage and perseverance as they took on these challenges amidst a downpour of rain that made climbing even more challenging.

Both soaking wet and elated from their success the students then travelled by bus to the Bli Bli Wake Park where they grabbed helmets and life jackets and hit the water. For some, the challenge here was to maintain balance on a knee board with the goal of making around the first corner, while others braved a wakeboard for the first time and some more experienced boarders impressed us all with their confidence and skills! Whether the thrill came from surviving the tight bends, standing up on a wakeboard for the first time or landing some impressive tricks, all students experienced success and came out of the water with a grin on their faces.

This day was about pushing personal boundaries and supporting each other as they faced new challenges. The students of 9N and 9T should be proud of themselves for their effort, positive attitude and for representing the school with excellence.

Senior School

Year 10 and 11 Leadership Day – The Legacy of Leadership

“Example is not the main thing in influencing others, it is the only thing.” - Albert Schweitzer

On Friday 2nd May all Year 10 and 11 students participated in the annual Leadership Day. In 2014, Year 10 Aspiring Leaders will be appointed for the first time.

The day forms an integral part of the pastoral care program at Mountain Creek State High School as students are engaged in activities designed to challenge and inspire them. In order to further promote engagement with the greater community the school utilises a range of speakers and facilitators from outside agencies. In 2014, these include:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Darren Periera</td>
<td>guest speaker regarding Careers and Individual Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachael Sharman</td>
<td>Lecturer and Course Co-ordinator – Psychology - University of the Sunshine Coast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y Lead</td>
<td>Positive Education and Leadership Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motivational Media</td>
<td>challenging and inspiring young people to develop strategies that will enable them to reach their true potential</td>
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All students gained inspiration and motivation from the day which provided a sound basis for their engagement in their Senior Studies at Mountain Creek State High School.

QCS Practice for Year 12 students

All OP eligible students will have a full practice of the QCS test on the 27th and 28th of May to focus them on the rigours of the test and the organisational aspects of the two day testing program. It is mandatory for these students to attend these tests. The test results will be made available to students after the test, so that students can focus on particular areas of weakness and further strengthen their responses.

Bree Brockenshire
Head of Department Senior School

ANZAC Day

Anzac Day School Service

Anzac Day was remembered by students and staff at Mountain Creek State High School through a ceremony held on Thursday the 25th of April. Many special guests attended the ceremony including special representative Rob Hunt from the Kawana RSL/RAAF, Ms Fiona Simpson MP State Member for Maroochydore and Mr Steve Dickson MP State Member for Buderim. The ceremony was a moving one including some amazing talent from the students at Mountain Creek SHS. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the cadets, vocalists, speakers, wind symphony, string ensemble, special guests, our parents and students who participated in this solemn event.
On the day of the ceremony all students observed a minutes silence in class as a mark of respect for those who fought or continue to fight in regions of conflict.

On Anzac day a number of our staff members proudly marched with Mountain Creek students at the Maroochydore service.

Over the past few weeks at Mountain Creek State High School a number of student have been immersed in numerous ANZAC related activities. During Week one of this term members of the History Club sold wristbands to raise awareness about the day, the History Club also organised a display in the library. On Thursday the 24th of April year 8 and year 12 students attended an ANZAC ceremony at school. On ANZAC Day, Friday the 25th of April, approximately 60 keen students, parents and families attended the march at Cotton Tree, the school was represented wonderfully.

By Lara Coleman 12G

Grants and Funding opportunities for Students

Here are a few opportunities spotted by our Grants Officer that students can apply for.

Sports Participation

Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing - Young Athlete Assistance Program for grants up to $200

If you are under 18 and you are participating in a QLD Championship sporting event more than 200km away from home, then you are eligible for this grant to assist with the cost of travel and accommodation. More info on: http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/funding/overview/young-athlete.html

Australian Sports Commission- Local Sporting Champions Program for grants up to $3,000.

Applicable for students aged 12-18 participating as an athlete, coach, umpire or referee in a sporting event more than 125km away from home. More information can be found on: http://www.ausport.gov.au/participating/schools_and_juniors/local_sporting_champions

Study

Department of Education, Training and Employment (QLD)- Textbook and Resource Allowance for grants up to $250 p/a

Applicable for students in Years 8 to 12 who need some financial help to pay for text books. More information can be found on: http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/grants/state/core/textbook.html

Achievements

Future Leaders Environment Awards

If you are in Year 12 and think that you have shown outstanding environmental leadership, mention this Award to your teachers and they could appoint you for this Award. The winner of the Award will receive a fully funded Fellowship to participate in an Earthwatch Expedition to Australia or New Zealand. More info on: http://www.futureleaders.com.au/awards/Environment_Award_2014.pdf

The Grants Officer ( Davinia Nieper ) can be found at the P&C Office Student Services on Wednesday mornings. If you need any further information or help compiling your grant application please ask for an appointment by email to dniep1@eq.edu.au. Good luck

News from the Maths Department

Special NAPLAN preparation.

Dear Parent/Guardian

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you information regarding our specific NAPLAN preparation (in addition to our normal curriculum) in Year 9 Mathematics this year. Thank you for your continuing support of your child in Mathematics and Numeracy across all subjects at MCSHS.

In term 2, all Year 9 students will be participating in a specific NAPLAN preparation course in Mathematics for the first 3 weeks. This course is made up of a series of lessons developed by enthusiastic experienced Mathematics teachers using a combination of ICT, past NAPLAN exams and tips targeting the development of specific skills. The areas of focus in these lessons are based on areas of misconception and areas of weaknesses recognised in the data in the NAPLAN – year 7 data for this cohort and diagnostic tests. MCSHS also employed the services of Mighty Minds to review our NAPLAN data and to assist with ideas of implementation.

Each session will have optional homework or further practice and follow up post-tests which will be compiled and used as part of the overall data for reporting in term 2 for mathematics in lieu of an assignment.

The goal of these sessions is that students will develop skills in these areas of identified weaknesses and that these skills will assist our students with the NAPLAN specific testing but also with their Mathematics at school.
In the last week of term 1, each class was introduced to a structured format for solving problems and some district resources developed over the previous 2 years. We are employing a method of SEE, PLAN, DO, CHECK that has been used in primary schools successfully. Some students were already familiar with this structure.

I would also like to bring to your attention two resources our students can access via websites 24/7. MC SHS has initiated a learning place site for NAPLAN preparation where students have access to past papers, power points for the upper two bands and activities on problem solving. All students are registered in the NAPLAN learning place site and just need to follow the link in the email that would have been issued to them during term 1. MC SHS continues to pay for the registration of each student in Mathletics and there is some NAPLAN practice on this website.

Yours Sincerely

Naydeen Soward (Mathematics HOD)

International Baccalaureate Update

The Creeker goes to China

Xiamen, China has a sister-city relationship with the Sunshine Coast Regional Council. Three Year 11 International Baccalaureate Diploma students – Ted Miles, Alexander Hendry and Mitch Duggan, as ambassadors for this programme, were given the opportunity to travel to Xiamen as part of a cultural exchange programme. Ted, Alexander, Mitch and students from Maroochydore SHS, Nambour SHS, Kawana SHS and Suncoast Christian College experienced Chinese traditional art activities, played with an orchestra from the Xiamen Childrens’ Palace, visited a Music School on Gulangu Island and were given a very serious lesson in ping pong. Perhaps though, the highlight was the opportunity for homestay with families from the Childrens’ Palace.

In a city where there are few western travellers and few people outside our translators who spoke English, communication was animated. However there was no doubting the welcome and the extraordinary generosity of the families and community of the Xiamen Music School and the Xiamen Childrens’ Palace.

Our students were challenged immediately by the size of the apartments of their homestays. One girl even commented that she had nowhere to open her bag and was reluctant to do so because of the inconvenience to the family. One girl negotiated washing her hair in a fully tiled bathroom but with only a bucket. In contrast, one traveller enjoyed the attention and help of a driver, a translator, a cook and a maid at her homestay families. Each traveller went into a family where there was only one child and this child had no cousins. Yet each traveller had a different experience so there was much to talk about when they all got back together again.

The food too was a highlight and a challenge. With banquets at virtually every meal, students could and in fact usually did try it all – rooster beak, chicken feet, beef with lots and lots of chilli, jellied sea worm, who tiny prawns, various soups and broths and the combinations of food – entire dragon fruit topped with a crab mayonnaise salad! On two nights we had pizza at the pizza hut!!

As part of this cultural exchange, students from Xiamen Childrens’ Palace will be coming to our school in July this year. Please extend the same welcome when you see them around our school.

For those wanting to go next year and I highly recommend this, start saving, for we are looking to going again during the Easter break 2015.

Ms Valentine

HOD IB/Resources

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

– Pathway 2015

The process for consideration of the Year 10 preparatory pathway for the IB diploma begins this term.

Date Claimer

16th June – Year 9 into 10 Parent information meeting for preparatory programme
24th July – Applications close

For information in the meantime view Mountain Creek SHS website or IBO website or phone Trisha Valentine – IB HOD

54578344

Voices on the Coast

What a fantastic day for Voices on the Coast last Wednesday 23rd April, students, authors, illustrators, parents, teachers with the wonderful University of the Sunshine Coast as a venue. Students attended workshops and presentations by some of Australia’s best known and loved authors and illustrators. These comments from the students, say it all:

“As an avid reader of fan fiction it was interesting to hear about the history and process of writing and editing fanfics … I especially liked meeting other fanfic readers and writers.” Abbey, Year 9.
Illustrator Mark McBride … airbrushed a dragon, then taught us how to draw a dragon. It was easy and fun.” Ellen, Year 10.

The best part of Voices on the Coast was the Fantasy World Building workshop … the activities were very engaging and helped me to understand how to build a fantasy world that I could use in a short story or even a novel … it was an experience I would love to do again.” Lucas, Year 10.

“My favourite part of Voices was a presentation by Pamela Rushby about light horses in war. She told us lots and interesting facts, and it was really good because she was so passionate about her subject” Piper, Year 9.

The thing I liked most about Voices was learning about new literature styles … especially a fascinating talk by author Richard Harland, with his steam punk hat and guitar.” Zai, Year 9.

**Study Skills Handbook**

Need the study and research edge? Visit: https://mtncreeks.eq.edu.au | Facilities | Library | Reference material | ELES Study Skills, then enter the school username: formcshsonly, and password: 75results. This month’s featured topic is: Goal Setting. Information and activities are available for Parents and Students to develop strategies for managing the inevitable end-of-Term assessment commitments.

**Winners are Grinners**

The Resource Centre both sponsors and promotes numerous creative and literary competitions and events. Details are advertised in Student Notices and also on the ‘Winners are Grinners’ notice board in the Resource Centre.

**Mark Tredinnick True Story Award**

Entries are open for Mark Tredinnick True Story Award for Young Writers. This year’s theme is Real Love. Entries close Tuesday 1st July.

For more information visit the Resource Centre or www.realitybitesfestival.org

**Ipswich Poetry Feast**

Entries are open in several student categories for the International Poetry Writing Competition. Prizes include: cash, certificates and medallions. Entries close Friday 1st August.

For more information visit the Resource Centre or www.ipswichpoetryfeast.com.au

**My Story My Content Short Film Competition**

Create a 60-second film and win one of three $1000 cash prizes, plus DVD packs, movie tickets and more. This year’s theme is Movies make a Difference. Entries close Thursday 14th August.

For more information visit the Resource Centre or http://mystorymycontent.com

by Mark Wedemeyer
Teacher-Librarian

**Science Update**

**Licence to Burn**

Students of 8B attained their Bunsen burner licences during their science lesson in the last week of term 1, after extensive practicing throughout the term. There were some anxious moments as matches snapped and Bunsen burners were less than co-operative, but all students passed the rigorous testing process with flying colours. The newly qualified science students will now be able to safely setup and ignite their Bunsen burners in preparation for further experiments to be performed throughout the year. The students of 8B have certainly improved their laboratory skills from the beginning of the term. They are now proficient with all manner of science lab apparatus and procedures.
Robotics
In Term 1, a group of fifteen students came together each week awaiting their exciting enrichment class with robotics. The sessions included programming and debugging the robots that they built at the start of term. With challenges of increasing difficulty, students needed to work well together as a team. Problem solving skills were needed to fix and diagnose complex problems in code, human error and robot measurements and weight distribution. The students’ task in Term 1 was working on their ‘robot golf’ project. In Term 2, students will focus on visual sensors including touch, light and sound to complete a number of various challenges.

Harrison Weitenberg

Young Achievers
In Term 1, 28 students from Mountain Creek Primary School took part in the Young Achievers program – a 6 week workshop aimed at increasing the science based enquiry skills of high achieving students. As part of this years’ experience which focused on Forensic Science, Young Achievers were joined by a group of inspirational students from the Year 11 International Baccalaureate course. The Years 11’s played a key role in teaching and mentoring the budding young scientists during the course.

The enthusiastic young students began by processing a mock crime science, employing the use of iPads to carefully photograph and collect trace evidence. Over the proceeding weeks they took to the laboratory to carefully deconstruct the crime scene and analyse the evidence. In the last week the stage was set for the students to present their case through the use of a digital media presentation.

The Young Achievers partnership with the IB students was a great success and all students involved should be congratulated for their efforts.

Mr Chris Buswell

News from the IT Faculty
Google are almost here – Reminder of Open Invitation to all Parents
As we confirmed in our last newsletter, on Friday May 30, MCSHS will be hosting a visit from Google Australia!

Presenting on the day from Google will be Sally Williams (Engineering Community & Outreach Manager) and a software engineer. They will be accompanied by a representative from FIRST Robotics.

We have arranged with the staff from Google to host an open forum from 8.45-9.45am. All year 10 students will be in attendance, and we extended an invitation to parents of any MCSHS student to attend this event and hear direct from the experts what industry expectations are for future employment, career pathways, emerging trends and how students may best prepare for the demands of living in a 21st century society.

We still have limited seats available for parents to attend the open forum. If you would like to attend, please email to book your seat.
gbree3@eq.edu.au

Follow us on social media
We’re trialling a Twitter stream in 2014 to keep parents and interested others up to date with current happenings in the IT Faculty at MCSHS. Follow us at @CreekerIT and find out about our new courses, new software and technology being introduced, and additional pathways to universities being added all the time!
Free Tip of the Day

Do you do a lot of searching using search engines such as Google, Bing, etc? Here are some tips that may make the task easier:

**Quotation Marks**
Use quotes to search for an exact word or set of words. This is useful for searching quotes and song lyrics.

Example: "To be or not to be"

**Dashes**
Put a dash before a word that you want to exclude in your search.

Example: jaguar -animal

**Tilde**
Use a tilde before a term to include results with its synonyms.

Example: Christmas -desserts

**Site**
Use site: to search within a specific website.

Example: site:nytimes.com

**Link**
Use link: to search for sites that link to the specified site.

Example: link:creattica.com

**Two Periods**
Use two periods between two numbers to express a range of things like date, measurements and prices.

Example: movies 1950..1970

**Related**
Use related: to find sites that are related to the specified site.

Example: related:appstorm.net

What is happening in IT in term 2?

Across the IT faculty in Term 2 we will be covering the following technologies: HTML/CSS, mobile app design, structured game design and development, graphic design principles for screen and print using Photoshop, introductory programming and the role of computing in society.

**Programming Challenge for Girls (PC4G)**

| Key Interest Areas: | Girls in IT, Google, UQ, Griffith Uni, PC4G |

Overview:

Encouraging girls to consider careers in IT is the aim behind a girls-only activity being held at Mountain Creek State High School (MCSHS). MCSHS is delivering a Programming Challenge for Girls for 70 of our year 9 Zenith students. The day-long immersion experience will be held on Thursday 22nd May on-campus at MCSHS on the Sunshine Coast.

Programming Challenge for Girls (PC4G) is a workshop designed to introduce programming to Year 9 girls who have never programmed before. By the end of the day, students will have learned the basics of object-oriented programming through a hands-on tutorial and challenge. Additionally the girls will also participate in a session on Robotics delivered by University of Queensland (UQ).

Sponsors of the day include Google and Tech Girls Are Super Heroes – both organisations keen to support the promotion of a career path in IT for the girls. The day is also supported by staff from Education Queensland (through their Regional Technology Manager), UQ and Griffith University. Academic staff from the universities and their various PhD students are keen to travel to the Sunshine Coast school to assist on the day and work with the girls in learning the programming involved and the Robotics, as well as speaking to the girls about their own experiences and the possibilities available to the students in the years to come in IT.

For further information, please contact the school directly via:

Graeme Breen
ICT Curriculum Coordinator
Ph: +61 7 5457 8354
eMail: gbree3@eq.edu.au

**Year 9 Zenith boys and Technology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When:</th>
<th>Thursday, May 22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
<td>10.30am-4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>On-campus at Mountain Creek State High School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cost: NIL

On Thursday May 22nd (week 5, term2), while the Year 9 Zenith girls are doing the PG4C Challenge, the boys will be involved in their own day of Technology. The boys will also be provided with specially designed sessions which will expose the boys to a number of different career pathways and give them a
greater understanding of the range of options open to them – particularly important given that they will soon be making the Year 10 subject choices.

The day will be broken down into 3 distinct strands, all of which are related to Science/Technology/Engineering/Maths (STEM). The boys will attend all 3 strands throughout the course of the day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strand 1</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strand 2</td>
<td>Robotics presented by the University of Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strand 3</td>
<td>Mobile App Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For further information, please contact the school directly via:

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ICT Curriculum Coordinator
Ph: +61 7 5457 8354
eMail: gbree3@eq.edu.au

Submitted by:

Graeme Breen
eMail: gbree3@eq.edu.au
Twitter: @CreekerIT, @BreenGraeme

News from the Creative industries

Sydney 2014

A group of Year 12 Art and Drama students started their Easter break a little different to most, making their way down to Sydney for a weekend of cultural immersion with five Creative Industries staff. Students stayed in The Rocks area, and began each day with a walk down to Circular Quay to catch a bus or ferry to numerous galleries, workshops and other cultural treats! Some common highlights for all was the night of fireworks and dancing at Darling Harbour with a very memorable ferry ride and dressing up to go and see ‘The Lion King’ at the beautiful Capitol Theatre in Sydney.

Creative Industries parents… we need you!

If you would like to be involved in the Creative Industries, we are looking for parents to be a part of our Creative Industries Sub Committee (a Sub Committee of the P&C), who meet just once a term to work on various projects, each raising the profile of the Creative Industries at Mountain Creek SHS. All interested parents and community members welcome.

Please contact Head of Department Jess Wall on jwall77@eq.edu.au or 54578337 for more details.

Jess Wall
Head of Creative Industries

News from the Sport Department

We have had to make a change to the dates for the Under 15 Girls Basketball Trials and the Under 15 Boys Rugby Union Trials. The new dates are attached. Please ensure your students are aware of the changes to these dates.

15 Girls Basketball – now Tuesday 13th May
15 Boys Rugby Union – now Thursday 8th May

Creeker basketball

Term 1 saw trials take place for our Open Boys and Open Girls and u17 boys teams to represent the school during terms 2, 3 and 4.

In term 2 these teams will contest the first “Super 10” competition- this is an invitational tournament run by Suncoast Basketball.
Congratulations to Max Kerle on his selection in the Sunshine Coast Regional team. Keep an eye on this name—another very talented player from the Creek!

Term 3 sees the popular Friday night competition resume. This competition involves teams from every age group (Junior, Intermediate and Senior) and caters for players of all levels. Interested students are encouraged to see Mrs Smith in Bribie Subschool as soon as possible so that teams can be entered.

At the end of term 3 is the Champion Basketball Schools of Queensland Tournament to be held again this year in Brisbane and contested by our 2 Open teams. We know the students selected in these teams are proud to continue the traditions of teamwork, hard work and good sportsmanship established by Creeker teams of past years. We wish them all the best in their training and playing.

My personal thanks go to all those staff members who give so freely of their time to coach and mentor our athletes. Without them our students would not be able to participate in these activities which form such a huge part of their school memories.

Our big news for 2014 is the continuation of our relationship with the Maroochy R.S.L. The school’s basketball program has been sponsored by the R.S.L. for a number of years and without their generous support it would be increasingly difficult for our school to continue to be the ‘go-to’ school for basketball in this region. Our community receives wonderful support from the Maroochy R.S.L. and I encourage you to support it in return.

Liz Smith
Basketball Program Manager

Jason Sprints to Victory

At the recent Australian Surf Life Saving Championships in Perth Jason Gough won the Gold medals in both the U17 Beach Sprints and Beach Flags.

This ended a very successful year in Surf Lifesaving for Jason after his Branch Championships Gold medals in both U17 and Open Beach Sprints and Beach Flags and State Championships Gold medals in U17 Beach Sprints and Flags.

Congratulations to Jason on these fantastic performances!

Get Active Day – Friday May 9 – Everyone is Involved!

The 2014 Get Active Day will be conducted during Sessions 3 and 4 on Friday 9th May 2014. The purpose of this event is two-fold. Firstly the event is the Inter-sub-school Cross Country Championship. Secondly the event allows for staff and students to be actively involved in physical activity.

The Cross Country Championship is the second event in the Creeker Cup Competition.

The Cross Country races will be run whilst the remainder of the staff and students participate in their Get Active Program. The sub-school Cross Country runners will assemble in the Student Centre at 10am. They will then walk up to the Maroochydore Cricket Club where they will then complete their respective Cross Country races. These races will commence at 10.45am and conclude with presentations at 12.20pm. They will then walk back to school.

All other students and staff will participate in the Get Active Program. This will involve the students walking to the Maroochydore Cricket Club where they will then complete a mini-cross-country run as well as 2 other physical activities. At the completion of these activities the students will then walk back to school.

All Senior Students are to attend their normal Sessions 1 and 2 before joining the Get Active Day and the Junior Secondary Students will be back at school to complete their normal Sessions 5 and 6. It is expected that ALL students attend this day for both their normal lessons that Get Active part of the day.

All class rolls will be marked before students depart school and on their return to school. Students cannot be dropped off or picked up from the cricket club. Parents are very welcome to come along and spectate.

Students may wear their sub-school sports shirt to school on Friday 9th May. Sub-school shirts are available for purchase from your sub-school offices for approx. $5. If students do not have a sub-school sports shirt they will need to wear their school sports polo shirt. The Sub-School shirts must be in very good condition — marked, torn, ripped or damaged shirts are not acceptable under any circumstances. If in doubt, students should wear their normal day uniform shirts.

Students also need to make sure they wear a school hat and bring a water bottle.

The details below are for all students who are competing in the Cross Country Event. For ALL other students there will be assemblies for Roll Marking at 10.30am. All Year 8 and 9 students will be assembling in the Student Centre and the Seniors will go to their normal assembly areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td>All Cross Country Runners to assemble in the Student Centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rolls Marked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students walk to Maroochydore Cricket Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45am</td>
<td>16 Open Boys</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Time | Information
--- | ---
6km |  
10.55am | 13 Girls  
3km |  
11.05am | 13 Boys  
3km |  
11.15am | 14 Girls  
4km |  
11.25am | 14 Boys  
4km |  
11.35am | 15 Girls  
4km |  
11.45am | 15 Boys  
4km |  
11.55am | 16 & Open Girls  
4km |  
12.20pm | Presentation of Age Champion Medals  
12.25pm | Presentation of Sub-school Trophy  
12.30pm | Competitors Walk back to school with their Sub-school Sports Co-ordinator and assemble in Moreton Shelter for roll mark.

### South African Cornwall Hill College Netball Match

Tuesday 29th April brought a surprise to Mountain Creek SHS in two of the touring Cornwall Hill College netball teams visiting and playing games against our girls. On such short notice, we managed to put together a Year 9 junior team and a senior team. The majority of our girls had never played together as a team before, so their love of netball and their strong commitment to MCSHS was a wonderful display of tenacity and sportsmanship.

Thanks to our Junior players of Olivia Blake, Emma Heffernan, Georgia Holmes, Makenzie Howard, Chelsea Jamieson, Elissa Kemsley, Elise Logan, Ebonny Marr, Aleah Murray, Lily Paltridge, Eden Rooney, Mikki Williams & Madi Van den Heuvel for giving up their lunch time and session 5 class to play an outstanding game of netball. Creek were victorious winning 20 -14 in a very exciting match displaying fantastic netball skills and determination. Look out in the future, MCSHS has bucket loads of talent!

Thanks to the senior girls, who had already finished their shift and stayed behind to represent our school with pride. Emily Acharmer, Marlee Cameron, Tara Clegg, Darcy Goss, Tara Krome, Ali Scholten, Maddi Spencer, Ellen Stanton, Dana Torpy, Millie Winkler & Chloe Wotton showed great skill in dominating play and winning 29-18. Great display of netball prowess at MCSHS!

Special mention of Alyssa Kirwan and Shona McCreath who stepped up to umpire both matches. Great job girls and thank you. Also to Darcii Perrin who lived out the dream (although very hot and sweaty) and wore the Creeker and entertained the crowd, thank you.

Last thank you to all the Grade 8 girls who wanted to play, I know you were disappointed, but you will be up there with the rest before you know it. MCSHS has a very strong contingent of Netballers who I anticipate supporting our Netball Programs in year 9 and 10 and keeping the dream alive!

**A very proud Madonna Reynolds**

### State Swimming Championships

Congratulations to our Mountain Creek SHS representatives Kyanna Ayres 13yrs, Jayden Soanes & Aaron Mansfield 14yrs and Isabelle Blackstone 14yrs who swam in Brisbane at the State Secondary Schools Swimming Championships from March 27-30 March 2014. We are proud of your results and look forward to your swimming careers making headlines in the future.

**State Swimming Qualifiers**

**Results are as follows:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kyanna Ayres</th>
<th>Competed in</th>
<th>13 years 100m Back (11th)</th>
<th>13 years 400m Individual Medley</th>
<th>13 years 200m Back (15th)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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13
Kyanna Ayres

Isabella Blackstone

Competed in:
- 15 years 100m Fly (22nd)
- 14 years 200m Free (14th)
- 14 years 100m Back (16th)
- 14 years 200m Fly (11th)
- 14 years 400m Individual Medley (9th)
- 14 years 200m Back (17th)

Jayden Soanes

Competed in:
- 14 years 200m Free (14th)
- 14 years 100m Back (16th)
- 14 years 200m Fly (11th)
- 14 years 400m Individual Medley (9th)
- 14 years 200m Back (17th)

The fastest 800m Freestyler in Australia coming home with Gold, and the 2nd fastest 200m and 400m Freestyler, bringing home silver in these two events. Fantastic effort Aaron!

Aaron has also qualified in the 14yrs for Secondary State School Nationals for these 3 events and will also compete in the Relay. This is in Melbourne from July 20-26th, 2014.

We wish him our best of Creeker luck!

Madonna Reynolds

Aaron Mansfield

Volleyball Regional Champions

Congratulations to the Senior Girls Volleyball team who recently went through the Regional Trish Buckley Championships undefeated. This was an outstanding effort from a very talented group of young athletes. The team, led by Captain Keeley Hamilton, were dominant across the court throughout the tournament. Their overall serving and hitting power was too much for the other teams who struggled to compete.

This team is aiming towards the Honours competition at the August Senior Schools Cup. The Senior Boys team were unlucky to be defeated 2 -1 in their Grand Final. They had some excellent opportunities to win the match but couldn't quite manage to hold out the more experienced opposition.

For the girls, Caitlin Bettenay was named as the Most Valuable Player for the tournament.

Over Easter Aaron attended the All Age Nationals Championships in Sydney. He swam in 13yrs division (as competitors swim in the age division that are that day). Aaron is...
New from Student Services

A Wedding and A Baby for Student Services!

Student Services Faculty is buzzing with excitement. Two of our valued staff members have experienced significant and joyful events recently.

Our School Chaplain Sarah married the love of her life Tom in a lovely ceremony held on the Sunshine Coast Hinterland. The location was picturesque but nothing compared to the radiance of the beautiful bride, beamming with happiness and joy, as she arrived at the ceremony in a Kombi. We wish Sarah and Tom a life filled with love.

Equally exciting for Guidance Officer Alex Brain was the arrival of his healthy, handsome baby son, Texas Alexander Brain. Texas is the second child for Alex and his wife Kate, and is baby brother to his beautiful big sister Tillie. The Brain family are all delighted, and busy – a new born and a toddler! We could not be happier for them, congratulations.

Agencies and Programs run for teenagers and/or parents

Each newsletter Student Services will be advertising support services/agencies that run programs for teenagers and/or parents/guardians.

This week we would like to provide details of the Youth Groups that operate on the Sunshine Coast.

Youth Groups provide an opportunity for young people to have fun in a safe, supervised environment.

Amplified Youth:
City Edge Caloundra. Friday nights 7.00pm. @ 1 Development Court, Caloundra.
Ph: 5438 0882 Pastors Luke and Nikki Nucifora: 0405 766 246

C3 YOUTH:
C3 Church Kawana. Friday night’s 7-9pm. Grades 6-12.
@ 3 Premier Circuit Warana.
Phone 5493 1243.

Chancellor Park Community Church:
Friday nights 7pm - 9pm. Meet at Chancellor Park State College Hall on Scholars Drive. They have a program per semester. Graeme Kell - 0412508777

Elevate Youth:
Calvary Christian Church: Friday nights from 7pm-9.30pm during the school term. Cnr Crosby Hill Rd & Tanawha Tourist Dr, Buderim, QLD 4556. Ph: Dustan Bell 0402 672 698

Goodlife Youth:
Goodlife Community Centre: Friday nights 7pm-8.30pm.
Grade 8-12 @ 100 Buderim Pines Drive, Buderim. Contact- Shane Horton on 5444 2126

Lifepointe:
Lifepointe Baptist Church: Friday night 630pm-830pm.
Grade 8-12. @ 186 Wises Road, North Buderim. Call Neil Champion on 5443 1582

Nova Youth:
City-Church. Friday nights 6.30pm-8.30pm. @ Off Evans St and School Rd- behind the Plaza. Phone Youth Pastor Carey: 5452 7161, Grade 7-12

The Community:
Life Church: Saturday nights from 7pm 125 Sugar Rd Maroochydore. Phone Pastor James on 5443 8306.

YHIGH/Suncoast Youth:
Every Friday starts 615pm. Suncoast Woombye,Cnr Kiel Mountain & Schubert Roads, Woombye QLD 4559 Phone: +617 5442 2200 www.suncoast.org.au

Surge:
Every 2nd Friday from 730pm at Kawana Life Church (the Greenhouse) Cnr Main Dr & Tex-tile Ave, Warana. Contact office: 5437 6332

SoulariseYouth:
Immanuel Lutheran Church. Grade 7-9. Every second Friday night 6.30-8.30pm. @ Wises Rd, Buderim. Costs: $3. Phone Tom Schmidt: 0413 515 069 or office: 07 5445 6894
This week’s ‘Parenting Tip’:

Every Wednesday morning of the school term, if you walk past Home Ec and Bribie Subschool from quarter to 7 until the bell goes for Session 1, you will be greeted by the friendly welcomes of the local Red Frogs crew cooking up pancakes!

These pancakes are free and delicious and are a little gift from the Red Frogs crew to help you get through the rest of the week!

All are welcome to come and enjoy!

We hope to see you there!

Sarah Guest
Chaplain

Tania Hill
Guidance Officer

The Lunch Group

Every Tuesday starting Week 4 (13th of May) there will be a lunch group for Junior students in G604 at 1pm. Students are welcome to pop in and play some board games, or just hang out and chat with the Chaplains and some of our awesome (and trained and approved) volunteers. This group ran last term and saw many students participating in many epic games of UNO at lunch time. It is a brilliant time for anyone who wants to get to know some new people or if you just want to mix things up and do something different at lunch time.

Where: G604
When: Tuesday during Junior lunch at 1pm
Who: Bring a friend or come solo. Everyone is welcome.

See you then!

Sarah Guest
Chaplain

Wednesday Pancakes for Seniors

Every Wednesday morning of the school term, if you walk past Home Ec and Bribie Subschool from quarter to 7 until the bell goes for Session 1, you will be greeted by the friendly welcomes of the local Red Frogs crew cooking up pancakes!

These pancakes are free and delicious and are a little gift from the Red Frogs crew to help you get through the rest of the week!

All are welcome to come and enjoy!

We hope to see you there!