WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope that you have all taken the opportunity to share some valuable family time as a result of the extended Mid Semester break this year. This term is ten (10) weeks with the final day of term being Friday June 22nd. In effect, due to the holidays scheduled in Term 2 and the exam block for year 11 & 12 students in the final two weeks, student have approximately 71/2 weeks of intensive learning for Term 2. I have today addressed the year 11 & 12 cohorts about reviewing their results, setting short term goals for Term 2 as a result of their reports and aligning these short term goals to their long term career goals in preparation for the ECP interviews on the 8th May.

EXAMS AND REPORTING

I am aware that some of our seniors missed an exam due to the floods in the second last week of Term 1. These exams if not already rescheduled have been rescheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday of the first week to ensure that students in the senior years have a complete profile. Other students who have missed exams without adequate documentation will also be required to complete these exams as rescheduled. Reports will be issued on Friday 20th April along with the booking sheets for Education and Career Planning (ECP) meetings Term 2. Students in years 11 & 12 who missed exams due to flooding and who are scheduled to resit in Week 1 may receive a Not Rated (NR) on their reports; however their result will be counted in the summative results for Term 2.

A reminder to all senior students that the policy regarding missed assessment and assignments is very clearly stated on Page 31 of the Homework Diary which states that;
- Students in the senior school absent from an exam timetabled in the exam block for any reason (sufficient or insufficient documentation) MUST sit for catch-up exams immediately upon their arrival at school to ensure they have a complete profile. Insufficient assessment data may result in the student not receiving credit for the subject in that semester; Semester credits count towards the OP and towards the QCE.

EDUCATION AND CAREER PLANNING INTERVIEWS

For most parents the ECP meetings will be a familiar process but for our Year 8 parents new to the school I would like to ensure that at least one parent/guardian attends the ECP meeting with your student. Students do not attend the regular timetabled classes for Tuesday May 8th however they are required to attend a 15minute ECP meeting with their ECP teacher and one or both parents/guardians. The focus of the first ECP meeting is to determine how well students have settled into their studies and to their subjects in 2012 and to determine what changes need to be made to achieve their goals both academic and career.
YEARS NATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY (NAPLAN) TESTS MAY 15TH – MAY 17TH

Students in year 9 will be preparing for the 2012 NAPLAN tests in the weeks leading up to May 15th. We would ask your assistance in ensuring that your son/daughter in year 9 is prepared with the correct equipment for the tests. The other preparation – adequate sleep and appropriate nutrition to ensure that each student is able to give their best performance on the tests, should not be a special requirement for the tests. These habits should be universal for students in preparation for each day at school. However, encouraging your son/daughter to prepare for the tests will ensure that their individual results and the school results overall are maximised. Thank you for working with the school to optimise outcomes for all.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Interruptions to the school calendar will occur on:

- Wednesday 25th April – Anzac Day
- Monday 7th May - Labour Day
- Tuesday 8th May – ECP interviews
- Monday 11th June – Queen’s Birthday
- Friday 15th June – Nambour Show

The key activities that students and parents need to be aware of in term 2 are:

- Friday 20th April – Reports issued and ECP booking sheets sent home
- Monday 23rd April – Anzac Day ceremony Session 3.
- Friday 4th May – Leadership Day Year 11
- Tuesday 8th May – ECP meetings 2 pm – 8 pm
- Tuesday 15th May – Thursday 17th May – NAPLAN Year 9
- Friday 18th May – School Cross Country
- Monday 21st May – P&C Meeting – 5:30 pm Conference Room
- Thursday 24th & Friday 25th May – QCS Practice Year 12 OP eligible
- Thursday 31st May - Free Dress Day - Jumpers and Jeans
- Sunday 3rd June – Tuesday 5th June – Leadership Camp – selected leaders
- Tuesday 8th June – Regional Cross Country
- Thursday 14th – Friday 22nd June Year 11 & 12 block exams
COMMUNICATION

Communication with parents is via the school Newsletter which is to be distributed at the following times in term 2:

- Wednesday 18th April
- Wednesday 2nd May
- Wednesday 16th May
- Wednesday 30th May
- Wednesday 20th June

We have also installed a new electronic notice board at the front of the school which will allow us to advertise achievements of our students and staff and school events simultaneously. Please take the time to check out the new electronic notice board and provide us with feedback as to its effectiveness as a means of communication.

PARENTS’ AND CITIZENS’ ASSOCIATION

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the retiring members of the Parents’ and Citizens’ Association for their extensive work in the operations of a vibrant P&C in the school. While the operations of the P&C at Mountain Creek are less fund raising focussed and more business focussed, the work of the P&C in sustaining community involvement in the school and supporting school activities is much appreciated. I would like to on behalf of the school community thank Cherie Humrich, President for the past 2 years, Steve Kealey, Vice-President for the past 12 months and Lucy Hazzard, Treasurer for the past 2 years for their contribution to the school as the executive of the P&C Association.

At the AGM held on the 19th March the above positions were declared vacant due to retirement of the executive members. Further elections to fill the positions of President and Vice – President will be held at the general meeting on Monday 21st May. Nomination forms are available at the front office.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TEACHING AND LEARNING

Professional Development for staff is a continuous process of skillling which enables our staff to deliver high quality focussed teaching in a rapidly changing education environment. In Term 1 staff have attended professional development sessions relating to Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting (ACARA) but more specifically relating to the QSA translation of ACARA curriculum through the Curriculum into the Classroom (C2C) documents. If your son/daughter is in years 8 – 10 in English, Maths and Science, the ACARA curriculum is being taught by teachers using the C2C documents.

Aligned with this curriculum development staff have also been engaged in a whole school pedagogy focus through the Art and Science of Teaching (ASOT). Specifically staff are working collaboratively in a peer mentoring program to implement, assess and review their skills in curriculum delivery across all faculties in all year levels. The focus for Term 1 has been interacting with new knowledge with staff using a range of strategies to assist student to interact effectively with new knowledge. Terminology such as working in dyads and triads, using a graphic organiser, or anticipation guide or jigsaw, reciprocal teaching, chunk and chew, pictographs, flow charts and predictions should be part of each student’s vocabulary, student work samples and academic notes stored either digitally or in notebooks. I would encourage parents to discuss these teaching strategies with students to determine if they have been embedded successfully in the teaching and learning process.

To the support the full implementation of the National Secondary Schools Computer Fund (NSSCF), 1-1 laptop program staff have also been engaged in professional development focussing on the effective use of technology in the teaching and learning process. I would like to congratulate our highly skilled and dedicated teachers for their commitment to continuous learning in their profession – teaching and skillling your sons and daughters for their future.
ANZAC DAY SCHOOL SERVICE - Monday the 23rd of April

Parents and relatives are invited to attend Mt Creek State High School's Anzac Day Service to be held in the Student Centre on Monday the 23rd of April from 10.45am until 11.40am.

All Year 8 students, International Students and Year 12 students are invited to attend the Anzac Day Service, as well as those students who have nominated a relative for the Anzac Day Honour Roll.

All other year levels will have an ANZAC presentation as part of their assembly during ANZAC day week.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support.

Best wishes

Cheryl McMahon
Executive Principal
Karawatha Drive, Mountain Creek – lane widening for bikeway

Project summary
Council is committed to increasing the cycle networks across the region.

Work will shortly commence to widen Karawatha Drive by 1.8 metres to allow for a new kerb-side bike lane as shown in the work plan overleaf.

The widening will narrow the existing island between Prelude Drive and Satinay Street.

During construction, council will endeavour to avoid disturbing large and established trees.

Commencement date
The project is programmed to commence on 13 April 2012, and completion anticipated within two weeks (weather permitting).

Property access and parking
During construction, property access may be affected for short durations. Council officers will contact residents, where relevant, to discuss timing for access or parking if work is likely to block entrances.

Traffic management
Your patience during construction is appreciated. Traffic management measures will be in place to ensure the safety of pedestrians and motorists.

Further information
Please contact council’s Project Coordinator, Russell Higgins - details below.

Sunshine Coast Council
www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
T 07 5475 7272 F 07 5475 7277
Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560
New bike symbols explained

- A white bicycle symbol means this lane is for bicycles only.
- A yellow bicycle symbol indicates a shared zone between cars and bicycles.
- A green lane means this is an area where both cyclists and drivers need to pay more attention and signal clearly.

For more information visit council’s website under Road Safety.

Figure 1: Karawatha Drive, Mountain Creek – road widening