From the Principal

Welcome back to Term 3. You will have noticed by now that we have a new format for our school newsletter. This format encompasses additional communication features such as audio/visual, online surveys and links back to our school website. Please provide me with feedback on the new format via the Newsletter Feedback button as we review the process during Term 3.

Traditionally, this is the busiest term of the year and this year will be no exception. Reports will be issued on Thursday 19th July providing timely advice about pre-requisites for subject selection at ECP on the 14th August. Please discuss your student’s results in individual subjects and how these results will inform subject selection for 2013.

I am very pleased to introduce our new school captains for 2012/2013 who were announced at the Senior Leader Induction Ceremony on Thursday 12th July. Congratulations to:

- Olivia Bateup
- Ebony Blackstone
- Stuart Reddan
- Calvert Tisdale

These students were selected by their peers from a very strong field of applicants. I would personally like to congratulate all year 11 students receiving their senior badges, on their presentation and their performance at the Leadership ceremony. The guest speaker talked about collective leadership and outlined some of the achievements of our past students to highlight the obvious leadership that is part of the Mountain Creek State High School tradition.

The following staff are on leave teaching in international schools – Ben Armstrong, Collette A’Bear and Sean Stitz. The international experience for these staff will make an enormous contribution to our school upon their return. Returning to Mountain Creek in Term 3 is Kate Benfield who has been teaching in England and returns with extensive experience. New staff to the school for Term 3 are: Sharen Olson (Maths), Sarah Laws (Music), Stacey Gibson (English/SOSE), Zain Divencha (Physics/Maths), Aaron Favell (SEU).

I would like to highlight the following three key academic dates for Term 3. They will be valuable in providing explicit information to assist you and your students with their education planning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 23rd July</th>
<th>QSC Parent Information Night (details to follow)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30th July</td>
<td>Career and Faculty Information night and Year 10 into 11 Subject Selection Information Evening (details to follow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14th August</td>
<td>Education and Career Planning Interviews (the focus is Subject Selection for 2013)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the absence of a musical this year, a large group of students is involved in a presentation ‘Two Minutes of Madness’ Talent Quest. In keeping with the popular reality TV shows, ‘The Voice’, ‘The X Factor’ and ‘Australia’s Got Talent’, ‘Two Minutes of Madness’ will flush out the talent at Mountain Creek State High School. I encourage parents and students to support the presentation which will be held on Thursday 2nd August and Friday 3rd August from 6.30 pm.

A summary of the Term 3 Calendar can be found on the left hand side of the Newsletter.

Cheryl McMahon
Executive Principal

From the Head of the Senior School

Senior Leaders Inducted

On the 12th of July a new era of student leadership began with the induction of all Year 11 students and the announcement of the new group of Sub-school Leaders, Programs of Excellence Captains and the School Captains positions. The school thanks all past leaders for their work which will be celebrated at a changeover lunch to congratulate them for the past year. Once again we are blessed with a talented group of young people who have been given the mission of service and legacy as their motto for the upcoming year. The new Sub-school leaders of the school are

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRIBIE</th>
<th>FRASER</th>
<th>MORETON</th>
<th>STRADBROKE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demi Williams</td>
<td>Sarah Naumann</td>
<td>Bernadette Hudson</td>
<td>Lily Wamins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Gilligan</td>
<td>Yanick Port</td>
<td>Georgie White</td>
<td>Georgia Wondly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Selvage</td>
<td>Olivia Bateup</td>
<td>Ali Toms</td>
<td>Jak Hardy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Curro</td>
<td>Morgaine Anton</td>
<td>Blaine Schloss</td>
<td>Laura Hutson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth Tolputt</td>
<td>Toni Woods</td>
<td>Hannah Pledge</td>
<td>Fasika Kitazume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart Reddan</td>
<td>Hannah Busutil</td>
<td>Ross Lake</td>
<td>Sarah Breeze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Major</td>
<td>Ashleigh Howell</td>
<td>Josephine Brown</td>
<td>Madeleine Walsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvert Tisdale</td>
<td>Jacinta Menzel</td>
<td>Natalie Jenkins</td>
<td>Cameron Stevenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia Shipton</td>
<td>Jade Dempsey</td>
<td>Yorik Janssens</td>
<td>Ebony Blackstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison Kealey</td>
<td>Brittany Williams</td>
<td>Ash Arrowsmith</td>
<td>Mikaela Davenport</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Creative Industries Captains – Sarah Naumann and Jacinta Menzel
Male Sports Captain – Cameron Stevenson
Female Sports Captain – Georgie White
Public Speaking & Debating Captain – Morgaine Auton
The International Student Program Captain – Fasika Kitazume
Student Council President – Matthew Gilligan
Public Relations Captain – Yorik Janssens

Our School Captains for 2012/2013
Female School Captain – Olivia Bateup, Ebony Blackstone
Male School Captain – Calvert Tisdale, Stuart Reddan

Queensland Core Skills Test (QCS) 2012
The QCS test will be upon Year 12 students before too long. Parents and students are invited to an information night about the test on the 23rd of July where I will present important information about the test. This PowerPoint will be available on the schools website later. The presentation contains vital information for students about equipment, marking and secrets for success. A booklet from the QSA called the Student Information Bulletin https://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/memos/12/011-12.pdf is an extremely useful document for all parents and is a must read for any student who is OP eligible.

Andrew Stone
Head of Senior School

Preparation for Education and Career Planning (ECP) Evening
The Education and Career Planning Evening will be held on Tuesday 14 August, 2012. Prior to this evening there are a few key dates that you and your child/children will need to be aware of:

Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24 July, 2012</td>
<td>Students return booking sheets and meet with their ECP Teacher in Period 6 to co-ordinate interview times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 26 July, 2012</td>
<td>Subject Selection Handbooks are available via the school website: <a href="http://www.mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au">www.mtncreekshs.eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30 July, 2012</td>
<td>Subject Selection information Packs issued to students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30 July, 2012 (evening):</td>
<td>Careers and Faculty Expo and; Subject Selection Talks (Year 10 into 11 only)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Reports:
School Reports will be issued to all students on Thursday 19 July, 2012. A “Parent booking sheet” will also be issued on this day containing the name of your child’s ECP interview teacher. Students will be required to liaise with you on suitable times and return this booking sheet to confirm a meeting time when they meet with their ECP teacher on Tuesday 24 July, 2012 in Period 6.

Careers and Faculty Expo and Subject Selection Talks:
Our Annual Careers Expo and Subject Selection Information night on Monday 30 July, 2012 will be to:

- Showcase faculty subjects available.
- Give students the opportunity to collect subject information relevant to their proposed subject selection.
- Provide relevant information to discuss subjects with your child and make the right choices prior to ECP.

Two information talks will be held at the Performing Arts building adjacent to the Student Centre. These will be the Q1 presentation at 6.30pm and the Q2/Tech presentation at 7.15pm. Parents will be able to hear about current trends in educational pathways and the opportunities available to students. This is one of the few opportunities parents will have to meet senior staff one on one where the focus is on subject selection for specific careers.

Subject Selection Packages:
On Monday the 30 July, 2012 your child will receive a Subject Selection information pack containing information and procedures for the ECP evening 14 August, 2012 (subject selection and ECP interviews).

This year subject selection for the current Year 8, 9 and 10 students will be completed on-line through the OneSchool website (with the exception of those students enrolling in 2013 Year 10 IB program and students enrolled in 2013 Year 11 Tafe course). Current Year 11 students will not be completing a subject selection form as subjects automatically rollover to Year 12. The Subject Selection information pack will contain the following:

A - Instructions on accessing Subject Selection Handbooks
B - OneSchool - instructions on how to enter subjects online
C - Financial Commitment and Subject Selection Form (Please complete and submit with a printout of subjects from OneSchool on ECP night Tuesday 14 August, 2012).

ECP Evening Correspondence
This week you will receive via mail a letter in regards to the ECP evening. We apologise as unfortunately we omitted to enclose the 2013 Elective Subjects form as noted in the correspondence. (Now listed below and forwarded by email to all families).

Require more information?
If you have any questions regarding subject selection you may wish to discuss your concerns with the Head of Faculty at the Careers Expo on Monday 30 July, 2012 or with your child’s designated teacher on ECP evening.

Lisa Dunsdon
Business Manager

Student Resource Scheme (SRS) 2013
If you wish to join the SRS in 2013 the cost is $350.00 (this cost has not changed for the last three years). This scheme will provide textbooks and learning resources across all core subjects. A Participation Agreement contained within the “Financial Commitment and Subject Selection Form” will be included in your child/children’s “Subject Selection Information Pack” issued on Monday 30 July, 2012. Detailed information regarding the Student
Resource Scheme can be found in the Parent Handbook located on the school website.

**Elective Subjects - User Pays fees 2013**

In addition to core subjects, elective subjects are chosen. Some elective subjects attract fees. The ‘Take-home’ laptop option is a user pay cost of $170 per year. Detailed information regarding subjects and any cost that may be additional to the SRS of $350 can be found in the “Subject Selection Handbooks” located on the school website from Thursday 26 July, 2012.

**Payment of SRS and User Pays:**

We are requesting payment of both User Pay fees and SRS on ECP night, 14 August, 2012 so that we can be assured that we have funds on hand in January 2013, to pay for the learning resources that we order in October – November 2012. The annual fee for the “Take home” laptop option will be invoiced later in the year.

The “Financial Commitment and Subject Selection” form will contain information on payment methods. Please note that if you elect the direct debit option it will still be necessary to see the ‘direct debit processing officer’ on the 14 August, 2012 (ECP) to confirm subjects and total fees payable.

Lisa Dundson  
Business Manager

**International Baccalaureate Pathway – Applications now open for 2013**

Applications are currently being taken from Year 9 students interested in entering the IB programme pathway in 2013. Applications can be downloaded from the school website or collected from the main office or IB office (Resource Centre). Applications for first round close 27th July.

The IB is an internationally recognised, pre-university programme offered in selected schools around the world. MCSHS has been an accredited IB school since 2005. The IB Diploma programme is growing around the world. Figures just released show a significant increase in the number of students taking exams in the May 2012 session.

‘Results from the 2012 International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme examination session were issued today with over 119,000 students across the world receiving their diplomas or course results, an increase of over 8,000 from 2011.’

Sebastien Barnard, Regional Communications & Marketing Manager AP

The International Baccalaureate is a not-for profit foundation, which offers four high quality and challenging educational programmes for a worldwide community of schools. For over 40 years, IB programmes have gained a reputation for their high academic standards, for preparing students for life in a globalised 21st century, and for helping to develop the citizens who will create a better, more peaceful world. Founded in 1968, currently there are close to 1 million IB students at 3,440 schools in 141 countries across the world. For more information view www.ibo.org.

The Asia Pacific Region of which MCSHS is a part supports over 540 IB schools, providing over 760 IB programmes. 373 schools in Asia Pacific offer the Diploma programme with 16,000 students taking their Diploma exams in 2012, a 7% increase from 2011 and 100% increase since 2006.

**About the IB Diploma Programme**

Students study six subjects: five chosen from five groups (literature in the student’s native language, a foreign language, a science, mathematics, a humanity or social science) in addition to an art or another choice from groups 1-5.

In addition to these subjects, all students complete three core requirements that are included to challenge and to broaden the educational experience:

- The extended essay (4,000 words) which requires independent research related to a subject of their choice
- Theory of knowledge that encompasses 1) critically examining different ways of knowing – perception, emotion, language and reason and 2) examining the different kinds of knowledge – scientific, artistic, mathematical and historical
- Creativity, action, service (CAS) that requires students to engage in 1) arts activities and demonstrating creativity, 2) taking action by participating in sports (team and individual), local and international projects and expeditions and 3) participating in community and social service activities. Students are expected to be involved in CAS activities during their DP studies and it is hoped that they will always continue to be active, concerned and creative citizens.

Trisha Valentine  
HOD IB

**Rustic Pathways IB trip to China**

Welcome back

Eight intrepid Year 10 and 11 IB students and their two teachers Ms Kay Davenport and Mr Ramesh Patil have just returned to Australia after two amazing weeks exploring China. As part of their adventure, students worked with pandas in a panda sanctuary; restoration work at an old temple; teaching in a rural school; experienced work in the fields; walked the Great Wall; explored Beijing; got lost amongst the ‘forgotten warriors’ and generally experienced a country exploding in economic activity and social change.

Could I take the opportunity to thank Ms Kay Davenport for her leadership in getting this trip to happen and for both teachers for finding that fine balance where students had the freedom to explore, were guided to appreciate and develop an awareness of differences yet got to have a great time – hopefully one that will be formative in their memories for a lifetime.

Service work at Shaxi monastery

Restoration work
**Restoration and building**

**Arriving in China**

**Service work Wolong Panda Centre**

For pictures and some travellers’ accounts, see some more in the next Creeker Magazine.

*Trisha Valentine  
HOD IB*

**2012 Cross Country**

MCSHS Cross Country for 2012 was held on 18th May in absolutely beautiful weather conditions. All students and many teachers participated again this year with the emphasis being on “Getting Active”. Bribie won the day with an overwhelming majority.

La Balsa Cross Country Finals day was a fortnight later with the day beginning wet and sloppy…great cross country weather! Age Champions were decided and results were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>BOYS</th>
<th>GIRLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 yrs</td>
<td>Harry Gill</td>
<td>Lucinda Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 yrs</td>
<td>Bryce Street</td>
<td>Drew Beveridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 yrs</td>
<td>Jarrah Armstrong</td>
<td>Mikayla Leslie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

June 5th saw 60 of our best runners compete at the Sunshine Coast Regional Championships. All runners gave their best and did MCSHS proud by bringing home Overall Boys Champions, Overall Girls Champions and Overall School Champions.

Great running by all of our students, we are very proud of you.

Harry Gill, Drew Beveridge, Jack Bowen, Matt McCosker and Henry Zimmermann all qualified to run at Qld State Championships. These are being hosted by Sunshine Coast on July 22-23rd 2012. We wish our athletes fast running legs and good luck.

*Madonna Reynolds  
Carnival Co-ordinator*

**Bribie’s attempt at the triple crown is washed out**

Bribie Sub-school’s attempt to complete the three Carnival Victory in 2012, after outstanding victories in the Swimming and Cross Country Carnivals, came to a damp end last week when the annual Track & Field Carnival suffered from the continuing inclement weather. The Carnival commenced with the Seniors participating at the USC Track under heavy skies but with the radar looking quite clear. As the morning progressed the slight drizzle increased into a steady light rain (the radar was still clear at this time!) which meant that some of the Field Events had to be cancelled. At the close of the Seniors, Bribie held a strong lead in the points table and everything looked promising for the afternoon events with the Year 8’s and 9’s well primed for full participation and great excitement.
Rain came down

The Seniors headed back to school a little early and the rain slowly increased in volume. As the skies lightened and the radar still looked clear the afternoon session held promise. The 200m events took place for the Juniors as the weather slowly deteriorated. By the time these runs had occurred the rain had set in and unfortunately the carnival had to be cancelled.

The events that didn’t get finalised are going to be held at school during the next two weeks. Unfortunately this has led to the overall carnival results being abandoned for 2012. Bribie Sub-school is claiming a moral victory as the lead had been secured prior to the cancellation of the afternoon events!

Zoe – long jump

Students who are successful at the school level will be invited to represent Mountain Creek at the annual Central District Track & Field Carnival in early August. It is really important that the main placegetters from the school carnival are available and perform to their best at the next level as we try to break the monopoly of another school at this carnival! To win this level in 2012 would be an outstanding achievement by Mountain Creek High.

Griffith University: Aptitude for Engineering Assessment

Are you a Year 12 that wants to study Engineering but don’t have the Pre-requisite subjects to apply?

Griffith University is offering an alternate pathway for students to study an Engineering degree by sitting the Aptitude for Engineering Assessment (AEA exam). Successful students will receive an admission offer from Griffith university into B.Engineering or B.Engineering Technology on either Nathan (Brisbane) or Gold Coast campuses.

Register online: http://www.acer.edu.au/tests/aea/registrations

See Guidance Officer (Student Services) for further information.

Tania Hill
Guidance Officer

Study Skills

Following a most active and informative conference day, Year 10 – 12 IB students have been given the tools and the methods to streamline their study techniques, improve note taking, increase their ability to memorise; tips to overcome procrastination; strategies and tools to improve time management.

For access to lots of freebies (including timetables, note outlines); tips to improve memory; ways to overcome procrastination; tips for helping your own children in their studies check out Enhanced Learning Educational Services web site or subscribe to their email list http://www.enhanced-learning.net/, or to access the study skills handbook www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

Username: formchsonly
Password: 75 results

Hint

To control procrastination use The Salami Technique: The Salami Technique: If you think of a task as one big job, it will seem insurmountable. Instead start thinking of attacking one small piece of the task instead of trying to mentally grapple with the whole thing. Rather than saying to yourself ‘How can I ever finish this?’ say ‘What step could I take right now?’ If you start a task enough times, eventually you will finish it. Slice the job into pieces and eat one piece today and one piece tomorrow….

Try it!

Tim Wilson
HOD HPE

Trisha Valentine
HOD IB
Going cold turkey

Finding it difficult to manage your use of favourite websites? Spending too much on Facebook or gaming? Addicted to online shopping? Some genius has found a way to help you manage this behaviour by putting you in control. Limit your access to specific websites. Decide how much time you can afford to spend of your favourite online shopping or social media networks! Go cold turkey!

For PC users http://getcoldturkey.com
For Mac users Programme called ‘Self Control’

Trisha Valentine
HOD 1B

Australian Defence Force - reminder

Are you interested in joining the Navy, Army or Air Force? Would you like to know more about the Australian Defence Force Academy? What is the difference between a Maritime Aviation Warfare Officer and an Air Combat Officer?

If you would like to know more come and visit the Defence Force Recruiting stand at Mountain Creek State High School Student Centre Monday 30th July 2012 between the hours of 6pm to 8pm.

Tania Hill
Guidance Officer

School Careers Advisor Tour to Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) and Royal Military College (RMC)

On the 9th May 2012 to 11th May 2012 our schools Guidance Officer Tania Hill attended the Defence Force Recruiting - School Careers Advisor (SCA) tour to the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) and the Royal Military College (RMC). Tania was one of 40 School Career Advisors selected from across Australia to participate in tours of ADFA and RMC. Tania received updated advice regarding career and educational opportunities for our students and gained a better understanding of the differences between both facilities.

I have arranged for Defence Force Recruiting to be available to answer questions students/parents may have about the military Monday 30th July 2012 between the hours of 6pm to 8pm here at Mountain Creek State High School Student Centre.

Tania Hill
Guidance Officer

Readers’ Cup 2012

Term 2 saw the year 9 Readers’ Cup team compete in the Regional Readers’ Cup competition. For this we had to read six books and answer questions about them on the night of the competition. The team consisted of Hannah Buckle, Alexander Hendry, Manon te Riele and Cody Redjeb. Due to other commitments Cody could not compete, so we went into the competition with a team of three (+ our Creeker Mascot ). On the night itself, we got into the finals, which was a great achievement. Many tough questions later, we came fourth in the finals, with Chancellor SHS winning overall. We would like to thank Ms Mullighan for helping us this year, and arranging everything for us.

Read these books:
- Unwind – Neal Shusterman
- Ranger’s Apprentice: Ruins of Gorlan – J Flanagan
- Grace – Morris Gleitzman
- My Australian Story: The Hunt for Ned Kelly
- When You Reach Me – Rebecca Stead
- Hitler’s Canary – Sandi Toksvig - By Manon te Riele

Readers’ Cup Team

English Department

Congratulations to our Creeker QDU Teams!

The preliminary round of the Queensland Debating Union Tournament has been completed with three out of the six Mountain Creek SHS teams through to the finals commencing in Brisbane on the 25th July. This is an outstanding achievement by ALL students involved, considering four debates have been undertaken by each team – both prepared topics and secret topics where students are allocated only an hour to write speeches (up to eight minutes for senior teams)!

Finalists from the Year 11 & 12 Teams will be mentioned once their prolonged season runs its course, but congratulations to the following students and their coaches who represented the school with panache in the preliminary round:

- Year 8 (Coach- Mrs Wendy McDermott)
  - Ben Magao, Sarah Samuel, Isabella Blackstone, Acquaviva Frost-Innes and Ainsley Van Egmond
- Year 9 (Coach- Mr Quenton Wong)
  - Hannah Buckle, Ashleigh Hawkins, Alexander Hendry, Manon Te Riele
- Year 10 (Coach – Ms Michelle Williams)
  - Lydia McCracken, Sophie Murphy, Megan Smith, Samuel Weiss-Marsch

Voices on the Coast

In Term 3 students were given the opportunity to attend the Voices on the Coast event. This is an excellent opportunity for students with an interest in writing and literature to hear from those working in the field. Thank you to Ms Lisa Quintal for organising our visit. Eleven MCSHS students attended and participated in a number of workshops and presentations. A highlight was Charlie (The Educator) Thomson. Charlie is a rapper and teacher and engaged students in a Shakespeare workshop where students learnt about Shakespeare’s cool rhymes.
Student Work

In Term 1, Yr 12 English students were asked to write an editorial focusing on the media’s role in presenting a particular issue. Henry Zimmermann chose the interesting issue of public versus private schooling and how certain media outlets position their audiences. Well done Henry on the following article!

Editorial: Public or Private Schooling, Should the Media Decide?

Henry Zimmermann
6th March, 2012

Education is the tool which enables the human race to progress. It is the key to cognitive development, and the empowering force behind all medical scientific and social breakthroughs. Most would agree that the journey of education starts at school with 3,541,836 Australians attending either Private or Public schools. The decision for parents about which school their child should attend is a complex one, and should be made exclusively by the family.

However, media representation of public schools is giving an inaccurate portrayal of the high quality of the Government-run school sector, and impacting strongly on parental decisions about which school to attend.

While it may be true that a higher percentage of private schools students proceed into tertiary education, as is constantly recognised and applauded by certain sources of the media, this should not detract from the Public schools education value. In fact, research would suggest that once into tertiary education, Public school students have a substantially higher success rate due to the independence encouraged in government run schools. However, this trend of research is often omitted in current media coverage.

Often the only mention public schools receive in Australian media is one of negativity. Headlines such as ‘Muck-up day disgrace for Churchlands’, ‘Pupils' race hate on Facebook explodes at Hoxton Park High School’ and ‘Racial tension denied in school brawl’ occur frequently in state newspapers such as ‘The Courier Mail’. When this is compared to the glowing Private school headlines such as ‘Likely success greater for poor in private schools,’ ‘Private schools clear way for uni,’ and ‘Blood, sweat and tears a price worth paying’ how are parents expected to view the matter objectively.

In a democratic country, where the ethical media coverage would present an unbiased representation of society, the apparently biased view on Public and Private schools by certain sources of media must be queried. It is almost as if there is a push by the media to see the issue through a shuttered window. In order to unveil the bias we must look to the publishers of these news articles. All of the before mentioned Private school news reports were published by ‘The Australian’, a prestigious national newspaper which is a must have for Australia’s upper social class. With a majority of Australia’s upper class citizens sending their children off to ‘higher privileged’ Private schools, there is no doubt as to the reason behind ‘The Australians’ single minded view of Private schools.

The aim of any newspaper is to attract an audience. To continue operating, a newspaper must have an audience. The truth is the higher socioeconomic group of society who are devout readers of ‘The Australian’ do not wish to hear about Public school success. They pay to hear about the success of the Private school sector. The triumph, both academic and sporting, of its students, and the immense quality of its resources and education program when compared to the surrounding State schools, gives their dollar its worth. ‘The Australian’ pitches its articles to please the majority of its audience, and by doing so, gains popularity and power. So if newspapers such as ‘the Australian’ have a vested interest in the nurturing of their audience, we must question the validity of articles concerning Public and Private schools. The impact of the media on parental decisions regarding which school their child should attend is evident, with statistics showing that in 2011, the number of children attending Private run schools rose a collective 3.4 percent whereas attendance at Government run schools only increased by 0.5 percent. Percentages of all students attending government and non-Government run schooling facilities changed from 65.6% and 34.4% respectively in 2010, to 65.4% and 34.6% in 2011. This represents a net increase of 0.2% of students attending a private schooling facility.

Further research has found that 45% of parents currently sending their children to a Public school would send their children to Private schools if there was no additional cost. With research suggesting that children attending Public schools performed at a higher standard in tertiary education than their private school counterparts, we must question why an increasing number of Australia’s population seem to be leaning towards Private school education.

It is because of the biased coverage of Private and Public schools in our media reporting. In omitting information, the media is portraying an imprecise picture of reality and is undermining our democratic right for personal judgement. The truth is, there are students who succeed in public schools, and there are students who fail in private schools. Not to say that students don’t also fail in Public schools and succeed in Private schools, but this is not the reality we are being are being led to believe by the media.

Public schools are a crucial aspect of our modern society. They enable students of all ethnic backgrounds, regardless of social standing, to interact and learn together; which, in itself, is a realistic portrayal of the world as a whole. If we allow the media to drive the agenda on modern education, we risk regression back to a less integrated, more dismissive social construct, where the wealthy are segregated from the less economically advantaged. The social standing that a school can offer should never outweigh the schools educational benefits.

References


Internet safety presentation helps children stay safe online

Young people today are immersed in digital technologies. They use the internet and mobile phones to socialise, study, exchange ideas and play. While online activity has many benefits, there are also risks.

To help your child stay safe online, Mountain Creek State High School is hosting a Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation. Designed for parents, teachers and students, this presentation is provided by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA) as part of a national program of cybersmart initiatives.

The Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation is thorough and non-technical. It covers a range of issues including:

- the ways children use the internet and emerging technologies
- potential risks for children online, such as cyberbullying, identity theft, inappropriate contact and exposure to inappropriate content
- tips to help children stay safe online.

The presentation is conducted by an ACMA Cybersmart trainer and is free of charge.

Mountain Creek State High School is committed to helping students develop appropriate behaviours when using digital technologies, both at school and home. The Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation will be held on:

| When:      | Tuesday 31st July from 5.30-7pm |
| Where:     | Student Centre |

To register your attendance, please email gbree3@eq.edu.au as soon as possible and include how many people will be attending.

Graeme Breen  
A/HOD Middle School

Creative Industries Happenings

Has Mountain Creek Got Talent?

The Mountain Creek SHS Talent Quest is quickly approaching! Thursday 2nd August and Friday the 3rd August in week 4 this term will see the Performing Arts building come alive with two nights of madness as the Creative Industries faculty host the Two Minutes of Madness Talent Quest. The nights will feature student acts who have successfully passed the audition round, and include talented singers, musicians, actors and much, much more! Thursday night will host the Junior Talent Quest, and Friday night will host the Senior Talent Quest. Tickets are available for $5 each from the Fraser Sub School office, and will also be available for sale on the night at the door. For further information, please call Jess Wall A/Head of Creative Industries on 54478337.

School Musos Crack the Big Time

Our very own musicians Stuart Reddan (bass trombone) and Ashleigh Howell (baritone saxophonist) were chosen to star on stage with James Morrison as part of this year’s Creative Generation – State Schools Onstage. Both students have represented Mountain Creek SHS exceptionally well throughout their schooling years as committed and passionate musicians, and it comes as no surprise that they have hit the big time this year.

The Creative Industries faculty would like to congratulate these two students on their exceptional achievement, and wish them both well for the upcoming Creative Generation performance in Brisbane, on July 20 and 21.
Playing up a storm

Jess Wall
A/HOD Creative Industries

Benefit Health and Fitness

Buy one 6 month membership for the price of a 3 month membership!

That’s right. Just $150 for a 6 month student membership!

DON’T MISS OUT. ONLY LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE!

*Sale only available for High School Students.

*Program $20 extra – We highly recommend a program for all students.

PH: 5478 0001

www.benefithealthandfitness.com.au

The event you cannot afford to miss!

The 10th annual Sunshine Coast Daily Careers Expo including the CCIG Job Shop and WorldSkills Australia Try’a Trade will be the largest and most comprehensive careers & employment event on the Sunshine Coast, providing information on tertiary studies, employment opportunities, career pathways and further training from over 80 exhibitors including:

- Universities from Queensland and interstate
- Private education colleges
- WorldSkills Australia Try’a Trade
- Government Agencies

What can you expect?

- Information on study & career options
- Scholarship, financial & bursary information
- Motivational speaker
- Chance to win an Apple iPad
- Hands-on demonstrations

Where can you find more info?

- The lift-out feature in the Sunshine Coast Daily during the week leading up to the event
- The website www.careersevent.com.au
- Full exhibitor listing
- Student worksheet
- iPad competition details

Scan this code with your smart phone for more event information.

Proudly supported in 2012 by –

Sunshine Coast Daily
MyCareer.com.au
University of the Sunshine Coast
CQ University Australia
Claremont Resort International College

For further information e-mail interchaps@sunshinecoast.com.au or phone: (07) 5635 2002

Ph: 5478 0001

www.benefithealthandfitness.com.au

9