



# MOUNT ISA SCHOOL OF THE AIR

Mount Isa School of the Air  
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## NEWSLETTER 3 – TERM 3 2014

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### PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

Our school community was saddened by the loss of one of our past students Steven Hutley. Steven passed away from a rare disease that developed and ended his life quickly. Our thoughts go to Lance, Kylie, Dusty and Taylor on the loss of their son and brother. The Hutley family has a long history with the school and we have had the pleasure of teaching all 3 children from preschool. The P and C and the school staff have expressed their condolences to the Hutley family.

#### Review of our Curriculum Delivery Model

We have now had a full semester of using the new curriculum delivery model that was developed in consultation with the school community last year. I would like to thank the staff, parents, governesses and students for their efforts in implementing this new model. It is now time to review and fine tune the model. Staff, parents and students will all be asked for input.

Included in the same mailing as this newsletter is a yellow Year 1-3 evaluation sheet and a blue Year 4-6 evaluation sheet for parents/governesses to complete by 1<sup>st</sup> August. Attached to the survey sheet is a document clearly outlining what the model is for your reference. Although there are many similarities between 1-3 and 4-6 we felt it important to make a distinction between these areas as often the learning characteristics of the students are different.

There is also a student's evaluation sheet that we would like completed, also by 1<sup>st</sup> August. We have included 3 sheets so that each child can complete one.

Please note that Prep hasn't been included as the changes of delivery in Prep this year were minimal. Years 7-10 are also not included as these year levels will be incorporated into our Western Alliance next year.

#### May Week

May is always a special month in our school calendar and this year was no exception. The feedback we have received from activity days, HT seminar, sports day and camp have shown that these functions were really well received. While these activities are still fresh in your minds please pass any feedback that you may have to me. Once again thank you for making the effort, in both time and money, to make these events great for the kids.

#### Semester One Reports

You should receive your Semester One report in the same mailing as your newsletter. All 7 SDE's across Queensland have collectively moderated aspects of our student's work to ensure consistency of reporting across the distance education community in Queensland. I invite you to contact your teacher to discuss any aspect of your child's report.

#### Canberra Trip

There is more information in this newsletter about the Canberra trip. This year we have both year 6 and 7 students travelling to Canberra which has resulted in a massive cost for our school's P and C. It has been pleasing to see the fundraising efforts of our students, we believe it is really important that every child makes an effort to fundraise as in the words of Malcom Fraser, "There's no such thing as a free lunch."

A big thank you must go to the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation for funding a significant part of the travel costs. This has been a massive help in a year that we are struggling with the drought and with such a large number of children travelling. Thanks to Annie Hacon for having the persistence to source this grant.

I look forward to catching up with our families at minischools.

*Tim Moes*

# TERM 3 SCHOOL ROUTINE

## PREP YEAR 2015

Children who are born between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010 are eligible for Prep in 2015. If there are people in your community with Prep aged children in 2015, could you please encourage them to contact the school to enrol.

Enrolment information is available from the school or at [www.mtisasde.eq.edu.au](http://www.mtisasde.eq.edu.au). Could current families please enrol 2015 prep children as soon as possible. This makes planning for 2015 more effective.

## ACTIVITY DAYS

There will be an activity day in Mount Isa attached to Rock Pop Mime in Term 4 Week 2, Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to attend but you **MUST** let Mandy or Ash know if you are planning on attending. Families are asked to bring a shared smoko and lunch. Children will need a hat and water bottle. The day will commence at 9.00am and conclude at 3.00pm. Please contact Ash on 07 4744 8360 or Mandy 07 4744 8354 if you have any queries

## GROUP DAYS

Thank you to all who have hosted and attended group days in semester one. We were most impressed by the amazing textures and designs the children created with their recycled paper. It seems a lot of stations are recycling, reusing and reducing! The giant ball seemed to be a hit as well so we will endeavour to bring it along for future group days. The second round of group days will begin in term 3 and continue into term 4. If you would like to host one at your place please contact Ash or Mandy. A list of dates and locations will be sent out to families as soon as possible. As always, group days start at 9am and finish 2.45pm and you are asked to bring along shared smoko and lunch. Please contact Ash on 07 4744 8360 or Mandy 07 4744 8354 if you have any queries.

## MINISCHOOLS

This year's theme is "Let's Celebrate Science". Our activities will focus on the amazing world of science by enjoying fun science experiments, cool facts, games and experts. We will also see the return of the talented Nicole Murphy, who will be running activities based around science and sound.

Miss Georgia will be attending most minischools as well. She will be there for one or two mornings depending on numbers and will be offering sessions for eKindy children until lunchtime. RAFS will also be in attendance for one day at each minischool. Outside of these sessions the eKindy children will need to be under the care of their parents or govies.

We will be conducting on air meetings in the coming weeks to discuss each minischool. Please stay tuned to notices for the date and time of your minischool's parent on air meeting.

The minischool order and dates are:

- Normanton Minischool ..... August 10<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>
- Bedourie Minischool ..... August 17<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Cloncurry Minischool ..... August 24<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>
- Camooweal Minischool ..... August 31<sup>st</sup> – September 5<sup>th</sup>
- Gregory Minischool ..... September 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>
- Julia Creek Minischool ..... October 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>

Please contact Ash or Mandy if you have any questions or queries.

Unit 6 will coincide with our minischools in term 3. Teachers will accommodate the fact that students will miss a week of C2C work whilst attending minischool. Teachers will during the first half of the term explain how each year level will cater for minischool attendance.

## SCHOOL MAGAZINE - GUMBUYA

Term 3 is the term that the magazine is compiled. Gumbuya is a whole school production requiring input from the whole school community, so please if you have any property pictures, stories, poems, etc. and think they would be suitable for the magazine, send them in to Anne Coleman via mail or email [acole42@eq.edu.au](mailto:acole42@eq.edu.au) The more input we get the better the magazine!

We are asking for P&C reps to help gather sponsorship for the school magazine. If you can help out, please give the office a ring on 4744 8333. Sponsorship is \$75 for a coloured page. Extra magazines can be ordered. Magazines will cost \$15 each.

We are looking for ideas for the cover of Gumbuya this year. The theme is "Let's Celebrate Science in the Outback". Please send ideas and thoughts to Ash Qusted by mail or email [aqest1@eq.edu.au](mailto:aqest1@eq.edu.au).

# **TERM 2 IN REVIEW**

## **CAMP NEWS**

### **YEAR 4/5 CAMP – MAGNETIC ISLAND**

This year 42 students and 7 teachers had a great time at Magnetic Island. We had awesome weather which allowed the students to fully engage in beach activities, hiking, playing ukuleles, craft and sports. The food and facilities at camp were top class. We enjoyed our day trip to Townsville travelling on the barge, visiting the aquarium and museum. The day was complete with a shopping experience. A highlight was definitely Bungalow Bay Wildlife Park, where we got to hold a range of animals including pythons, lizards and to pat a koala. We trust the students really enjoyed their time on camp. As always we welcome parents taking the opportunity to discuss individually with any staff member attending how their children participated in the week.

*Bridoen Schloss and Lisa Ward*

### **YEAR 6/7 CAMP - CANBERRA**

Year 6 & 7 Camp to Canberra is not far away now! On the 14<sup>th</sup> of July, the year 6 & 7 students will be jetting off to chilly Canberra for a week, along with Tim Moes, Chris Kuhne, Chris McIntosh and Lisa Ward.

Students will participate in many interesting, educational and fun activities including visits to Parliament House, National Museum of Australia, Australian War Memorial, Australian Institute of Sport and Questacon. A day at the snow will be the first time that most students will have seen the snow, outside of their freezers! This also gives them an opportunity to experience tobogganing.

The Year 6 & 7 Camp is an excellent opportunity to immerse the students in studies related to civics and citizenship. Our P & C is very supportive of the camp, funding the cost of the camp travel costs. The Commonwealth Government, through the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program, funds each student to allow them to experience government in action first hand. With these significant contributions, the cost on families is reduced significantly and each family contributes to accommodation and the food costs.

Mount Isa School of the Air wishes to acknowledge the support of the school's P & C and the Commonwealth Government for their invaluable financial support of these essential experiences for our students. Without this support, the costs would be prohibitive to travel so far to study government and our national capital.

To all the Year 6 & 7's...Don't forget to pack your winter woollies!

*Lisa Ward*

## **HOME TUTOR SEMINAR WEEK FEEDBACK**

"Shining Minds, Strong Children". It was with this in mind we developed a bank of workshops and information sessions that were to engage all participants in the development of the 'whole' child. Current research in neuroscience is influencing what teaching environments need to provide to best engage a learner of any age. Our Guest Speaker, James Ryan, from Pathways Resilience Trust, introduced us to the latest research and techniques to use in our classrooms, in conjunction with ideas for us to consider when teaching children, and for ourselves. I have had several follow-up phone calls with regard to James's sessions indicating that these sessions provoked people to examine how we approach tasks in daily life and the importance of self-care. James has also thanked our school community for our hospitality and feedback which has been beneficial in his role working with various communities throughout Queensland.

Participants also gave positive feedback on the relevance and great opportunity to meet with invited professional presenters; Jenn O'Neill (Occupational Therapist), Ava Duszko (Speech Pathologist) and Dr Don (Royal Flying Doctor Service) - to assist them as parents and governesses living in remote locations. Together with these sessions, we continued a curriculum focus on sharing ideas for grammar, reading, learning styles and managing relationships in learning environments.

The venue once again was very suitable in regards to location to the school and availability of parking. It is unfortunate that we cannot break into separate rooms for workshops to assist with noise levels, however we manage the space as best we can. Thank you for your patience with this and your flexibility to move furniture and work on tables and floors in the process of workshop delivery.

In 2015 we will have to make changes to how we manage the week of events, as Spinifex may not be able to assist with rooms for students for NAPLAN or activity days. So if you can think of alternative sites for any of the events in our action packed week, please share them with Tim, Linda or myself. Also, if you have ideas about types of workshops you would like to see in the 2015 program please share your ideas, as we want to provide our community with what they need.

*Janeen Fricke*

&

*Linda Ryan*

Deputy Principal

Parent Liaison Officer

## **NAPLAN**

Like all schools nationwide, our Year 3, 5 & 7 completed the National Assessment Program – Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests during our recent activity days in Mount Isa. MISOTA staff thanks families for bringing children in to participate and helping with the preparation of our students for this event. Congratulations go to all the children for their efforts over the three days. Year level teachers commented that all children worked to the best of their ability in a context very different to their usual classroom environment. Year 9 participated in NAPLAN in a supportive online environment the week following activity week with the Western Alliance.

We expect that the test results will be sent to our school later this year, and an individual NAPLAN report for each student will be sent home. These confidential reports will show your child's results against key national information in each year level. While NAPLAN reports are an important measure of how all students are progressing, it is important to remember that it is only one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace the more extensive and informed judgements made by our highly skilled and experienced teachers everyday while working with children and families.

## SPORTS DAY

### SPORTS DAY Friday 16 May

We had a terrific sports day to conclude a very busy week of Home Tutor Seminar, activity days and NAPLAN. A huge thanks to the Touch Association for providing the venue and running the tuckshop throughout the day. Congratulations to all students for their participation, great efforts and enthusiasm on the day. A big thank you to staff, parents and govies for helping out with the events. The day couldn't have run without you. Flynn team and O'Sullivan team kept everyone's spirit high with their war cries and encouragements throughout the day. Well done to Flynn for taking out the winner's trophy once again, perhaps there is something in water we don't know about! As the saying goes, 'break a leg' however we are awarding a 'tough nut' award to Wendy Wockner for her dedication to the Mother's race, who broke her toe but still finished the race! Thank you Dr Joe for coming to our assistance!

### Sports Day Age Champions:

Year 1 Boys	Jesse Remfrey
Year 1 Girls	Emily Towne
Year 2 Boys	Lachlan Hawkins
Year 2 Girls	Annabelle Towne
Year 3 Boys	Samuel Scott
Year 3 Girls	Millie McDonald
Under 9 Boys	Ben Hawkins
Under 9 Girls	Rachel Cook
Under 10 Boys	Dean Woods
Under 10 Girls	Chloe Towne
Under 11 Boys	Ethan Hannay
Under 11 Girls	Kathryn Fisher
Under 12 Boys	Hugh Smith Jackson Donovan
Under 12 Girls	Kate McDonald
Open Boys	Ben Hughes

And the successful division champions now have their names engraved on the Sports Day shields.

Open	McConachy Trophy	Ben Hughes
Senior	Curly Dann Trophy	Katie McDonald
Intermediate	McKerrow Trophy	Chloe Towne
Junior	The Curteis Trophy	Annabelle Towne

## EISTEDDFOD OF THE AIR 2014

2014 saw another successful Mount Isa School of the Air Eisteddfod. 35 students participated in Poetry and 15 students participated in the Music categories. The adjudicators of both sections were impressed with the standard of the performers and thoroughly enjoyed their experience. They provided comments to encourage and guide the children to improve their performance skills. This year Nicole Murphy, our minischool music tutor, was our Music Adjudicator. Nicole adjudicated from her home in Wynnum. Kylie Skelton, the Speech Adjudicator, listened in from her work base on the Gold Coast. Congratulations to all performers who practised and performed so well.

### 2013 MISOTA Eisteddfod Speech Awards

<b>Year 3 and under</b>
<b>Verse Award</b> - Adam Zlotkowski
Encouragement Award – Mehar Fegan
<b>Year 4 and 5</b>
<b>Verse Award</b> - Jack Towne
Encouragement Award- Kathryn Fisher
<b>Year 6 and 7 -</b>
<b>Verse Award</b> - Kimberley Brown
Encouragement Award – Darcy Wockner
<b>The Adjudicators Choice (poetry)</b>
<b>Trophy Award</b> – Bridget Zlotkowski
<b>Prep – Year 1 entries (non-competitive)</b>
Brodee Remfrey, Jesse Remfrey, Emily Towne, Lachlan McConachy, Penny Doherty, Jedd Fegan, Emily Zlotkowski
<b>Set Verse - Year 2 and 3</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Mehar Fegan, Adam Zlotkowski
2 <sup>nd</sup> Annabelle Towne
3 <sup>rd</sup> Joshua Hullock, Mitchell Doherty
HC Will Hick, Charlee Low Mow, Millie McDonald, Amy Bellingham
<b>Set Verse – Year 4 and 5</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Jack Towne
2 <sup>nd</sup> Chloe Towne, Hayden Doherty
3 <sup>rd</sup> Marleina Salter- Miller, Kathryn Fisher
HC Cody Wockner, Laura McDonald, Bridget Zlotkowski, Ella Hick, James Brown
<b>Set Verse - Year 6 and 7</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Kimberley Brown, Darcy Wockner
2 <sup>nd</sup> Haydn Low Mow, Carina Zlotkowski
3 <sup>rd</sup> Katie McDonald
<b>Australian/humorous verse - Year 3 and Under</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Adam Zlotkowski
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mehar Fegan
3 <sup>rd</sup> Johanna Lynch
HC Amy Bellingham, Lucy Folker, Joshua Hullock, Charlee Low Mow
<b>Australian/humorous verse - Year 4 and 5</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Kathryn Fisher, Bridget Zlotkowski
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ella Hick
3 <sup>rd</sup> James Brown, Hayes Cook

### Australian/humorous verse - Year 6 and 7

1<sup>st</sup> Kimberley Brown

2<sup>nd</sup> Carina Zlotkowski

3<sup>rd</sup> Haydn Low Mow

### 2014 MISOTA Eisteddfod Music Results

#### **Special Awards:**

#### **Adjudicators Choice Award (recorder)**

Kathryn Fisher

#### **Encouragement Award (strings)**

James Brown

#### **Adjudicators Choice Award (strings)**

Kimberley Brown

#### **Recorder Solo – 9 y.o. and under (non-competitive)**

Mehar Fegan, Charlee Low Mow, Lachlan McConachy, Joshua Hullock

#### **Recorder Solo – 10-12 years**

1<sup>st</sup> Haydn Low Mow,

2<sup>nd</sup> Kathryn Fisher

3<sup>rd</sup> Angus Watson

#### **Solo - Any other instrument -13 and under**

1<sup>st</sup> Carina Zlotkowski

2<sup>nd</sup> Johanna Lynch

#### **Strings –solo 9 years and under (non competitive)**

Mehar Fegan, Marthinus Farrell, Joshua Hullock, Lucy Kennedy,

Stefanus Farrell

#### **Strings –solo 10 years and under**

1<sup>st</sup> Sarah Hughes

2<sup>nd</sup> James Brown

#### **Strings –solo 11 -12 years**

1<sup>st</sup> Kimberley Brown

#### **Strings –solo 10 years and under - Baroque or Classical composition**

1<sup>st</sup> Sarah Hughes

2<sup>nd</sup> James Brown

3<sup>rd</sup> Marthinus Farrell

HC Joshua Hullock

#### **Strings –solo 13 years and under - Baroque or Classical composition**

1<sup>st</sup> Kimberley Brown

*Thank you ...* Our Eisteddfod happens each year with the assistance of many people. The Mount Isa Eisteddfod Committee provide wonderful support, the adjudicators and all the prizes. Sponsorship is provided by the ICPA Branch of the Air and many of our families. This year a number of our staff members reciprocated by assisting the committee and helped out at the local on stage eisteddfod. Thank you – Di Crawford, Janeen Fricke, Raylene White, and Donna Carr. Each year our teaching staff give support to their students by phoning in and providing an appreciative audience. This year Rachel Tutauha, Raylene White, Leah Allingham and Yvonne Moore assisted with the paperwork in the studio. It is a pleasure to provide this cultural experience for our students.

*Jo Mills,* On behalf of the MISOTA Eisteddfod Co-ordination Team



## WHAT'S NEW IN YEAR 2

The Year Two teachers agree – Year Two Students have been hard at work in Semester One! The start of 2014 was such a big start to the year. Students did a fantastic job getting used to new classes, new teachers and the one hour on air setting in Term One. While English has focused heavily on characters and their attributes, Mrs Pollard and Mrs Gunningham noticed some amazing attributes of the Year Two students. They are a clever and hardworking bunch! Activity Days and Home Tutor Week gave us awesome opportunities to work with our students hands-on. Many of the students in our classes this year are siblings to former students and it has made the year all the more enjoyable to get to know them even better.

We really enjoy teaching students on air each day. Our new on air format allows us to be more closely related to student work and the use of iConnect enables students greater opportunity to share their ideas.

We wish to thank our families for their commitment to our students. This year, like most, has come with its challenges and sacrifices. We appreciate families committing to larger internet usage so that we can deliver content more directly and enjoy video connections during on air lessons. Our Home Tutors work tirelessly to ensure students receive quality instruction throughout the day while bending in all directions mentally and physically.

It all adds up to some pretty remarkable students working with outstanding Home Tutors that are supported by a very caring school staff. We look forward to Semester Two because our students make each day exceptional.

## WESTERN ALLIANCE – SECONDARY MULTISCHOOL

The first multischool for 2014 was held in Longreach, the week prior to Mount Isa Home Tutor week. The students were able to meet and greet peers and teaching staff. Throughout the week, students were involved in many curriculum activities and social events. Everyone enjoyed the week and are looking forward to the next multischool to be held 24-29th August. Don't forget to return your permission forms for your attendance at the secondary camp during 19th-24th October at Currimundi.

## SPORTS NEWS

From 15-22 June, Katie McDonald represented Queensland in the U12 Girls Cricket Championships held in Darwin. Katie was chosen to be vice-captain of the team. She has shown excellent skill and determination to represent at such a high level.

On Friday 20 June, students travelled to represent the school in the McKISSA Athletics Carnival, competing with Julia Creek State School.

The following MISOTA students achieved Age Champion: 2009 Boys Jedd Fegan, 2008 Boys Lauchy Wier, 2008 Girls Emily Cook, 2004 Boys Luke Stevens, 2002 Boys Hugh Smith, 2002 Girls Chloe Curr

In the 800m event, MISOTA student placings were: 2004 Girls 2<sup>nd</sup> Ella Hick, 2002 Girls 1<sup>st</sup> Chloe Curr, 2002 Boys 1<sup>st</sup> Hugh Smith.

Natalie Cook was awarded the Jim & Sherly Eckford Sportsman's shield and the MISOTA team won the Bruce & Silvia Crawford track points shield as well as the Joe Dawes aggregate points shield.

Mandy Hamilton, Mat Whitney and Lisa Ward travelled down to help out for the day. They reported that all students represented their school well on the day with a sense of fun and sportsmanship. Congratulations to all the students who competed and thank you to the families for making the commitment to physical activity and school spirit.

In Term 3, students born in 2002, 2003 and 2004 who received a first or second in their event at Sports Day are eligible to compete in the Mount Isa District Athletics Carnival on Friday 30 July. Please forward nominations to me as soon as possible. Contact me at [lward68@eq.edu.au](mailto:lward68@eq.edu.au) or 4744 8341 if you would like to find out about district sport trials. There is often little time between notifications of trials and when they are held in town, so let me know early what you might be interested in and I can fill you in on dates and venues as soon as I am informed.

*Lisa Ward*

## CURRICULUM UPDATE

### MID YEAR REPORTING

With report cards being completed for the end of semester 1, it is worthwhile to remember some important information concerning grades. Our assessment and reporting framework provides that a "C" on the report card means that your child is demonstrating learning at an age/grade appropriate level. Children develop socially, emotionally and academically at different rates. Some children can work at an above year level standard one semester and a lower standard the next. This occurs for a variety of reasons e.g. a developmental growth spurt, the work covered was an area of interest, standard of work has increased in complexity etc.

This year considerable time and resources have been dedicated to reviewing our Assessment Framework to ensure that our expectations match the National Curriculum and follow the improvement agenda of Education Queensland. Our new curriculum materials now contain standardised criteria and exemplars to assist us in making professional judgements that are consistent with other schools in Queensland. However, we can be more confident now that a "C" at MISOTA is comparable with a "C" at any other school. This is reassuring for teachers and parents and in the future will create a smoother transition for students moving to other schools within our state and federal systems

## STRINGS NEWS

We are pleased to be hosting an Opera in Mount Isa on September 4 at the Mount Isa Civic Centre. Tickets will be available soon. In association with the Opera Queensland Project, the Queensland Symphony Orchestra will be hosting workshops for our senior string students in Mount Isa.

The 12 Queensland Symphony Orchestra members will also return for the District Gala Concert on November 1.

*Yvonne Moore*

*Instrumental Music*

## LIBRARY NEWS

Thanks to all those who have been returning library books within loan periods. Just a reminder that when returning library books, they are to be sent in a library bag as this protects the books and makes it easier for Leah and the library when allocating them to a pigeon-hole. New library bags are available for \$6.00

**Book Week** (Connect to Reading) is fast approaching and you will be receiving your competition details in the post. All entries need to be returned to school by Friday 8 August (Week 5) to allow for the entries to be displayed at school and school level category winners to be selected. Winners will be displayed at the City Library during Book Week.

**Premier Reading Challenge** details have been sent out to all families with students in Prep through to Year 7. The school has registered so if you are wanting your child/children to be involved please contact Katrina on [kkuhn5@eg.edu.au](mailto:kkuhn5@eg.edu.au) and she will register for you. Any books read for the Premier Reading Challenge can also be counted as books read for the MS Readathon should you choose to register for this worthy fundraiser. A flier will be sent out but this doesn't start until August 1. Look forward to hearing from you and happy reading!!!!

**Kid Zone Magazines** are being sent out regularly. We hope you are enjoying them.

**Book Fairs** will again be at each of the minischools. We hope you enjoy the opportunity to browse through the selection.

*Raylene White & Katrina Kuhne*

## MAILROOM NEWS

To assist with reducing costs, we encourage recycling of CLC Home Tutor Guides/Learning Guides, so we are asking home tutors to return these items when requested on the pack. All items listed on the pack should be returned inside the plastic pack bag that it was sent in. We save approximately \$5,000 through recycling and have purchased more supplementary readers with these savings. We currently cannot recycle C2C Learning Guides. Please either keep or destroy the Maths, English, Science, History and Geography Learning Guides/Home Tutor Guides etc.

There may be times when you don't have a blue bag at home or have too much mail (eg. library books) to fit in a bag. Please place the mail in a postpack or box and use the following Reply Paid number:

The Principal  
Mount Isa School of the Air  
Reply Paid No 1683  
PO Box 1683  
MOUNT ISA QLD 4825

If you do not often send mail to school and have three or more blue satchels at home, please keep one and return the rest, some packed inside one satchel. The satchels are easily identifiable by Australia Post and save the cost of tough bag purchases.

# GENERAL INTEREST

## ICPA & SFBK

If you're not already a Mount Isa ICPA Branch Of The Air (BOTA) member, you are encouraged to join and attend our monthly teleconference - usually held on the third Tuesday of each month at 3pm.

As the ICPA Australia website explains "ICPA ... is a voluntary, non-profit, apolitical parent body dedicated to ensuring that all rural and remote students have equity of access to a continuing and appropriate education". ICPA are responsible for things such as the recent increase to hardware and software subsidies received by distance education families, travel funding for Bachelor of Education students undertaking remote placements as part of the University of Southern Qld ICPA Project, and locally, the ICPA BOTA coordinates the annual Sports For Bush Kids (SFBK), sponsors the Mount Isa Eisteddfod of the Air and is involved in various other school related activities.

Whilst we are a local branch, ICPA BOTA, has a very strong involvement with State Council; Wendy Hick is Vice President, Lorraine McGinnis is Immediate Past President, Kim Hughes is State Vice President and Kylie Camp – who is our standing Branch President – is Research Officer. In addition, some of our branch members are actively involved in the C2C reference group, advising Education Queensland on the new curriculum content as it is developed.

SFBK is our biggest annual event. SFBK is held in Mount Isa at the end of term four and coincides with school break-up. Coaches provide intense but worthy sports development skills which, because of their geographical isolation to such activities, children might not otherwise learn during their primary school years. Swimming is a huge focus, as well as sports instruction sessions (and games on the last day) for up to nine different sports.

The dates for 2014 are 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> December.

Please contact the executive listed below if you would like to become involved or have any enquiries.

### Executive for 2014

President: Kylie Camp - Floraville Downs, Burketown 07 4748 5585 [floravilledowns@optusnet.com.au](mailto:floravilledowns@optusnet.com.au)

Secretary: Rose-marie Newton - Talawanta Station, Julia Creek 07 4745 3526 [talawanta@reachnet.com.au](mailto:talawanta@reachnet.com.au)

Treasurer: Tina Barrett - Avon Downs, Mount Isa 08 8964 5551 [tbarrett@aaco.com.au](mailto:tbarrett@aaco.com.au)

Publicity Officer: Sarah Cook - Oban Station, Mount Isa 07 4748 4818 [cpcook74@bigpond.com](mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com)

SFBK Co-ordinator: Wendy Wockner - Glenore Station, Normanton 07 4745 3488 [wendywockner@gmail.com](mailto:wendywockner@gmail.com)

## GUITAR TUITION

The school has been successful in finding a private tutor for guitar. If you are interested in your child receiving guitar tuition, please contact Kerry Melamed on 0412 900 609 or [melamedmusic@gmail.com](mailto:melamedmusic@gmail.com). The fees charged depend on the size of the grouping, ranging between \$18-25. The school is happy to coordinate and provide the facilities for instruction, but families will need to pay the professional fees for the tutor.

## STAFF PROFILES



### *Bridoen Schloss*

Hello everyone, my name is Miss Schloss and I have been teaching Year 4 at MISOTA this year. I am a born and bred Sunshine Coast girl from Coolum Beach. For the past 4 years, I have taught at Peregian Springs State School. I feel extremely privileged to be teaching at MISOTA and working with such dedicated staff. The highlight of my year so far would definitely be travelling and visiting so many amazing places and getting to meet our wonderful students, parents and govies. In my spare time I enjoy playing netball, softball, making jewellery, cooking and singing. I look forward to meeting you all throughout the year, if I haven't already. I am thoroughly enjoying my time in the North West and am thankful for all the wonderful opportunities I have had so far.

### *Claire Goodall*

Hi everyone, my name is Claire Goodall and this is my first year at MISOTA. I have been teaching at the Brisbane School of Distance Education for the last 4 years. I find the Distance Education mode very interesting and have thoroughly enjoyed my first semester at MISOTA. I grew up on the coast in Hervey Bay and spent my first 23 years there before moving to Brisbane. Mount Isa is quite a change for me (I have never lived this far away from the beach) but I am enjoying the new experiences. My dad worked on Toorak station near Julia Creek many years ago and would always tell many great stories about living out here, so I was very excited to be able to experience the 'outback' for myself. I love playing sport, going to the gym and being active in general, but I also cherish my time on the couch watching a movie ☺

I am really enjoying working with the MISOTA family and I look forward to many more fun times.



### *Kylie Juniper*

Hi Everyone ☺ I'm Kylie Juniper the newest addition to the MISOTA team. I graduated in Cairns with a Bachelor of Education in 2007. Then, in 2008 we moved to New Zealand for 5 years where we experienced living and working in some beautiful destinations (Wanaka, Rotorua and Picton). While there I was employed in a variety of roles from prep-year 12 which amongst them included a year 7 digital class. My husband Matt, our two sons (Jett, 7 and Levi, 5) and I moved to Mount Isa last year





and we are enjoying being back in the Queensland sunshine. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family, sewing, mosaics, playing the guitar and ukulele. I love working at MISOTA and feel lucky to work in a professional, vibrant place with amazing people AND to have a wonderful class of kids to teach. I love my job ☺

### *Rachel Tutauha*

Hi, I am Rachel Tutauha (also known as Miss T) and have been teaching Prep at MISOTA since the beginning of the year. I am originally from New Zealand and moved to Mount Isa three years ago with my partner. Before we left New Zealand I was teaching in a small rural school and living on a very small 900 acre sheep and beef farm. This job has given me opportunities to travel around this big and beautiful country of yours and allowed me to meet some wonderful families along the way. I can say that I am now fully adapted to outback weather and don't miss the freezing cold at all. I feel extremely privileged to work in this fantastic school and I look forward to some more fun and rewarding times.



### *Chris McIntosh*



Hi everyone, I'm Mr McIntosh, the other Chris when it comes to the Year 6 teachers. Most people call me Mr Mac around here and it works, so let's go with that. I am a real golf tragic, but any sport will do. As the name suggests I am also a bit of a computer nerd as well, but that's not a bad thing around here. I am in my 5<sup>th</sup> year of teaching here in Mount Isa, but had a small gap of 2 years in Newcastle (for my wife's work, she's the miner in our family). I moved back with my family of 5, but we just recently added to that and welcomed our 4<sup>th</sup> little bub (now we have an even split 2 boys, 2 girls). Family is important to me and that has been one of the biggest positives of being at MISOTA. Not only are the people here in the school like a family, welcoming and supportive, but we get to meet so many other great families from far and wide. I am really looking forward to my time here and seeing my family both at home and at school grow. Doing everything I can to make that time the best and most enjoyable experience it can be for all. Thank you to the wonderful students, families, govies and staff of MISOTA for welcoming me and making my time here so enjoyable. I'm really looking forward to many more great memories to come.

## ASG INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING AWARDS NEITA

Our school is fortunate to have a quality staff. I know from numerous comments, that many children, govies and parents hold a staff member in high regard. These Inspirational Staff awards are an opportunity to nominate a staff member and give them special recognition for their effort and commitment. If a staff member is nominated, we make a presentation to them at our graduation night at the end of the year. It has an amazingly powerful effect on the staff member and is valuable encouragement for them to continue to do a great job.

I would encourage you to nominate a staff member, prior to the **closing date of 31 July 2014**, by completing the online nomination form at: [www.asg.com.au/nominate](http://www.asg.com.au/nominate).

*~ It's always easy to find fault, but it is more productive to reward success.*

## BULLYING

Fortunately, in our school, bullying is a rare occurrence. However from time to time it does occur at some of our field events and in online situations. It is important when it does occur for it to be reported and appropriately dealt with. Please report any instances of bullying to the teachers in charge of the field event or, if online, to the principal.

As our children go off to boarding schools, the incidence of encountering bullying is more likely. Education Queensland has a wonderful resource called "*Working Together: A toolkit for parents to address bullying*". This gives information on how to spot the signs your child is being bullied, tips on dealing with bullying and how to keep your child safe.

An initiative of the Queensland Schools Alliance Against Violence (QSAAV), the toolkit draws on research from around the world and complements the toolkit for schools released earlier this year.

Supporting the toolkit is a series of short videos, "*Six Quick Tips for Parents About Bullying*", presented by leading child expert and psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg.

The videos and the toolkit are free to download from the Department of Education and Training website at [www.education.qld.gov.au/student-services/behaviour/qsaaav/index.html](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/student-services/behaviour/qsaaav/index.html)

## EKINDY PROGRAM

My how our first semester has flown! We have been very busy in eKindy with many face to face opportunities throughout the terms and with most families now up to Unit 4 – My Family, My Friends. It has been wonderful getting to know the eKindy families and children and learning alongside the children in various settings. Some of the highlights include going camping, exploring and a collaborative project making various things from recycled materials! I have enjoyed seeing all the feedback coming through and the various ways in which eKindy has been embraced in each setting.

This term most children were able to participate in two activity day's during Home Tutor Week and a School Sports Day. We were very fortunate to have Miss Mon join us for these days and really enjoyed her helping us during this time. Home Tutor week was a fantastic opportunity for us to be able to develop our relationships with our peers and flex our creativity and planning skills!

The rest of the year sees many minischool opportunities. I am keen to hear from the eKindy families what minischools they would be attending, please contact me as soon as possible with these details. I would like to offer up to two days for eKindy sessions; however this is dependent on numbers at each minischool setting. The next term sees us continuing our learning and development with the opportunity to add another group session into the mix! We will be working our way up to having three web sessions a week by term 4!

The waiting list for eKindy 2015 is now open and can be found on the Brisbane School of Distance Education web page: <http://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/wcms/index.php/ekindy>

If you are interested, or know of anyone interested in registering a child for eKindy in 2014, please feel free to contact myself or Janelle Engel at BSDE. Janelle can be contacted via phone 07 3727 2421 or email [eKindy@brisbanesde.eq.edu.au](mailto:eKindy@brisbanesde.eq.edu.au).

I am looking forward to the next two terms and all the exciting things happening in the school as well as eKindy!

*Georgia Plant*  
**eKindy Teacher**

# **P&C PRATTLE**

## **P&C progress - Term 2 meetings & activities**

The monthly P&C meetings are informative & *worthwhile attending*. Tim, Janeen and Linda attend, providing a really good opportunity for questions and discussions as a school community. Agendas, minutes and meeting papers are circulated for your information. If something interests or involves you, please attend the meeting.

Some key items discussed during term 2 meetings include;

- SODEAs submission to the Australian Curriculum review, on behalf of the SDE community.
- Cadbury fundraiser, coordinated by Michelle Low Mow, which raised nearly \$2000.
- Mini school shirts, an idea presented at a meeting, have been designed, ordered & sold in time for 2014 mini schools, raising around \$1500 so far. Thank you to Christine Peart and Kym Hughes for their hard work.
- Submission, coordinated by Annie Hacon, to the Fairfax group requesting funding assistance for the year 6/7 camp. Fairfax Group recently confirmed they will donate *up to* \$20,000 towards the camp.
- Year 6/7 students have been fundraising hard throughout the term to contribute towards their Canberra camp in July.
- Ongoing feedback on the Bush Kids Calendar – and photos are still required! Westpac confirmed donation of \$2000 towards the Calendar.
- An internal review of MISOTAs direct teaching approach will be conducted over the next few months, as per information provided in this newsletter.
- Distance education schools will start to write curriculum for the new KLA's and there will be home tutor input through P&C, SODEA and ICPA.
- Schools of Distance Education Alliance July 16 & 17 draft meeting agendas circulated for your comment/feedback/contribution.

**Governesses are encouraged to attend as well as parents!**

### **P&C EXECUTIVE FOR 2014**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Bernadette Lyttle - Canninton Station, McKinlay 08 4746 8693 <a href="mailto:canningtonstation@bigpond.com">canningtonstation@bigpond.com</a>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Tarna O'Brien – Rocklands Station, Camooweal 07 4748 3110 <a href="mailto:rocklandssota@hotmail.com">rocklandssota@hotmail.com</a>
<b>TREASURER</b>	Annie Hacon – Cubbaroo Downs, Cloncurry 07 4742 5933 <a href="mailto:cubbarooschool@hotmail.com">cubbarooschool@hotmail.com</a>

### **VICE PRESIDENTS**

Sancia Fegan - Kelloshiel Station, Julia Creek 07 4746 7890 <a href="mailto:sancia_ashley@hotmail.com">sancia_ashley@hotmail.com</a> - Souvenirs
Sarah Cook - Oban Station, Mount Isa 07 4748 4818 <a href="mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com">cpcook74@bigpond.com</a> – Home Tutor Seminar/BBQ
Michelle Low Mow - Adels Grove 07 4748 5502 <a href="mailto:michelle@adelsgrove.com">michelle@adelsgrove.com</a> . - Fundraising
Kirsty Sullivan - Wave Hill Station, Katherine NT 08 8975 0344 <a href="mailto:wavehillsschoolroom@gmail.com">wavehillsschoolroom@gmail.com</a> - Bush Kids Calendar

<b>SODEA REPRESENTATIVE</b>	Sarah Cook - Oban Station, Mount Isa 4825 07 4748 4818 <a href="mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com">cpcook74@bigpond.com</a>
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### **NEW FAMILY CONTACTS FOR 2012**

**P&C are currently calling for members of our school community (don't have to be a member of the P&C) to be the contact/resource person in their local area, for new families. If you wish to be available to make contact with new families that enroll in our school in your area or need further information please contact Kym Cairns. Please see the related areas listed below.**

<b>Boulia</b>	Sarah Cook - Oban Station, Mt Isa 07 4748 4818 <a href="mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com">cpcook74@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Cloncurry</b>	Annie Hacon - Cubbaroo Downs Station, Cloncurry 07 4742 5933 <a href="mailto:cubbarooschool@hotmail.com">cubbarooschool@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Gregory/Burketown</b>	Michelle Low Mow - Adels Grove 07 4748 5502 <a href="mailto:michelle64@activ8.net.au">michelle64@activ8.net.au</a>
<b>Julia Creek</b>	Megan Folker - Pelham Station, Nelia 0747418588 <a href="mailto:pelhamstn@activ8.net.au">pelhamstn@activ8.net.au</a> Deborah Keats – Bow Park, Julia Creek 07 4746 8603 <a href="mailto:deborah@rqkeats.com">deborah@rqkeats.com</a>
<b>Mount Isa</b>	Jodie Grant - Manners Creek Station, Mount Isa 07 4748 4820 <a href="mailto:jodie.nicole1983@gmail.com">jodie.nicole1983@gmail.com</a>
<b>Normanton</b>	Rosemarie Newton – Talawanta Station, Julia Creek 07 4745 3526 <a href="mailto:talawanta@reachnet.com.au">talawanta@reachnet.com.au</a>
<b>Northern Territory</b>	Margaret Jones – Anthony Lagoon Station, Mount Isa 08 8964 4665 <a href="mailto:anthonylagoonsota@aaco.com.au">anthonylagoonsota@aaco.com.au</a>

### **WISE LOCAL AREA COORDINATOR (Volunteers For Isolated Students' Education)**

Jodie Grant, Manners Creek Station 07 4748 4820 [jodie.nicole1983@gmail.com](mailto:jodie.nicole1983@gmail.com)