

# Enrolment advice 2015

In 2015, enrolment data will be collected by Department Education on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February. These enrolment collections determine our teacher numbers and also generate our grant income. Previously our collection dates have been in March when most of our students are on air and have returned from holidays.

Active enrolment in a distance education school is determined by paper return and/or attendance on air.

If you are enrolled with us in 2015 and **WILL NOT** be on air by either the 5<sup>th</sup> Feb and/or 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, could you please complete the enrolment advice form or ring Tim on 0428 455 852 or email [tmoes3@eq.edu.au](mailto:tmoes3@eq.edu.au) or Linda Ryan [lryan48@eq.edu.au](mailto:lryan48@eq.edu.au)

Thank you.

✂-----

## ENROLMENT ADVICE

\_\_\_\_\_ are enrolled in 2015. We will be absent from school  
(FAMILY NAME)

until \_\_\_\_\_ as we will be \_\_\_\_\_  
(Insert Date) (Reason)  
(eg. on holidays, returning child to boarding school, away for private and confidential reasons, etc).

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE





# MOUNT ISA SCHOOL OF THE AIR

Mount Isa School of the Air

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## NEWSLETTER 1 – TERM 1 2015

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## PRINCIPAL'S GREETING

Welcome to the new school year. One of the great things about being a teacher and involved in a school is that each year is a new beginning. Collectively we have all had a break over Christmas, hopefully had some drought breaking rain, we have new families and teachers joining us, we have farewelled families and teachers and we are fresh and enthusiastic to start again. Let's use this fresh start to build on the great work we do collectively to educate the kids of the North West.

A special welcome to the new families, govies and staff joining our school this year. I hope you enjoy your time with us, find it rewarding but most importantly we hope that we provide a great education for your children. I look forward to catching up with all families, particularly new families at our activity days during term 1.

The start of a new school year is always daunting, especially for new parents. There are so many boxes to unpack, setting up the school room and getting back into that "school mode". Don't let this time overwhelm you as there is loads of help at hand in the form of your class teachers, field team, the Parent Liaison Officer, as well as from our more experienced home tutors. So if you are feeling that you don't know where to start, just pick up the phone and give one of us a ring. Attached to this newsletter is a "Who to Contact" sheet, put it up somewhere as a quick reference. I feel so strongly about communication that I am happy for families to have my mobile number 0428 455 852 so that I can be contacted whenever the need arises.

Around the time of writing this section of the newsletter we were in the middle of Sports for Bush Kids, our graduation ceremony and our Christmas Activity Day and BBQ. It is a wonderful week full of fun and laughter; as a principal it is one of my favourite weeks. It's the week of the year where our school's strong sense of community is clearly visible. Thanks to everyone for making it happen.

Thanks to you all for being a part of our school community and let 2015 be a year to remember for all of the right reasons.

*Tim Moes*

*Principal*

# TERM 1 – ORGANISATION & EVENTS

## STAFFING NEWS

We are very fortunate this year to only have a handful of new staff.

At the end of 2014 we farewelled:

**Fermina Cadman** retired and has moved to be with her partner and family on the Gold Coast. Fermina had been our Print and Prep room teacher aide. We will certainly miss Fermina's kindness and amazing attention to detail.

**Kylie Juniper** moved with her family to Cairns. Kylie replaced Kara in year 5 and has done a great job for 3 terms with year 5.

**George Dau** left in late October. George was our technician for 18 months.

**Wendy Gunningham** after much consideration has decided to have a stint in mainstream schooling. Wendy will be teaching Year 2 at Healy State School in Mount Isa. We hope to see Wendy back at SOTA sometime in the future.

In 2015 we welcome

**Tash Nastasi** who has been teaching in Mount Isa for the past 6 years and it has been a long held dream for her to teach at SOTA.

**Moniqua Gorman** will be temporarily replacing Fermina. Moniqua has worked on and off at our school previously so has hit the ground running.

**Nataliya Vernon** is our new technician. Nataliya and her family moved to Mount Isa recently. Nataliya has a wealth of IT experience and she is looking forward to the challenges she faces with ICT in the North West.

I often say to continuing staff and families that we have a responsibility to make these new staff members the best they can be. We can all help by providing a warm welcome, taking the time to explain things well and to offer well-constructed advice when required. Our school community is particularly good at welcoming new staff and I thank you for that.

## OUR STAFF

Tim Moes	Principal	
Janeen Fricke	Deputy Principal (on leave for Term 1)	
Liz Bailey	Acting Deputy Principal Term 1/Learning Support Teacher	
Anne Coleman	Business Services Manager	
Linda Ryan	Parent Liaison Officer	
Prep	Rachel Tutauha	Jo Mills
Year 1	Di Crawford	Nikki Barlow
Year 2	Tanya Pollard	Tash Nastasi
Year 3	Mat Whitney	Jody Reader
Year 4	Bridoen Schloss	Claire Goodall
Year 5	Chris McIntosh	Lisa Ward
Year 6	Chris Kuhne	Katrina Kuhne
Di Knudson	Secondary Western Alliance	
Renee Moore	Secondary Western Alliance	
Michele Ridge	Secondary Western Alliance	
Alicia Morse	Learning Support (Term 1)	
Ash Quested	Field Team	
Selena Courtice	Field Team	
Raylene White	Library	
Katrina Kuhne	Library (.5)	
Yvonne Moore	Instrumental Music	
Nataliya Vernon	Technical Officer, Computer/Telephone	
Moniqua Gorman	Printroom	
Donna Carr	Learning Support Teacher Aide	
Debby Bishop	Reading Teacher Aide	
Deb Cobden	Admin Officer	
Leah Allingham	Mail Room/Curriculum Room Teacher Aide	
Loida Genc	Cleaner	
Greg Humphrey	Grounds	

## CLASS LISTS

Tentative class lists are attached for your information. Please look carefully at the class list and timetables and let Tim know immediately if there are any clashes for your family. Some of our larger families will be required to have two phone lines, this was negotiated with those families late last year. These lists will be confirmed on air on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 at 8.00am. Dial in on 1800 141 220 then follow the prompts and the conference code is 8145 968 840.

Thanks to all the families who made specific requests for times, teachers, class groupings in plenty of time for them to be carefully considered. As I often say it is easy to consider requests whilst planning but almost impossible to make changes after documents and plans have been put in place.

Our enrolment numbers and therefore our teacher numbers and budget are not confirmed until mid to late February. If adjustments to classes and/or teachers need to be made it will be in early March.

## ACCOMMODATION ASSISTANCE – CONNELLAN AIRWAYS TRUST FUND

The Connellan Airways Trust provides a nightly subsidy towards family accommodation costs to attend some school functions. Some of these include Home Tutor Seminar, NAPLAN testing, Sports for Bush Kids and Rock Pop Mime. If you require further details please contact the school office or Linda Ryan our PLO. A funding application form is included with this newsletter. Please complete the forms and return to the school office by 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015 by fax or email [acole42@eq.edu.au](mailto:acole42@eq.edu.au)

## FIELD SERVICES

Our Field Services in 2015 will be provided by Ash Qusted and Selena Courtice.

### *Home Visits*

Home visits in 2015 will be on a needs basis either requested by the family or determined by the school. (The majority of home visits will be conducted by centre teachers to ensure they are familiar with their students' context.) New Prep families to the school will receive a home visit from their teacher. Ash and/or Selena may also conduct some home visits on a needs basis. All requests for home visits should be directed through Tim or Liz/Janeen.

### *Group Days*

Group days will continue in 2015, conducted by the field team. If you would like to host a group day with 2-5 other families joining in please let Selena or Ash know. Early in term 1 we will let all families know when and where the group days are.

### *Activity Days*

The activity days will remain the same as in previous years. Please see Calendar of Events for specific dates.

TERM 1: 6 activity days held in Cloncurry, Julia Creek, Mount Isa, Bedourie, Gregory and Burke and Wills

TERM 2: 2 activity days in Mount Isa attached to sports day

TERM 4: 2 activity days in Mount Isa, one attached to Rock Pop Mime and one attached to Sports for Bush Kids

### *Minischools*

Please check the Calendar of Events for minischool dates in 2015.

TERM 3: Camooweal, Normanton, Cloncurry, Gregory and Bedourie

TERM 4: Julia Creek

We would love to hear your ideas on themes and activities to do at minischool, please contact either Selena or Ash if you have any ideas to share.

## PREP ORIENTATION DAYS

Welcome to all the Prep students and their families. We hope all children, Home Tutors and parents enjoy the 2015 year of their schooling with Mount Isa School of the Air. We are certainly looking forward to meeting all of our youngest students. Our first school planned opportunity to meet face-to-face with our students will be at the activity days (see Calendar of Events for the one in your area). Your Prep teachers will attend every activity day where they have students in attendance and will use this time to get to know each child.

In 2015, we will be conducting "get-to-know-how-prep-MISOTA-style-works" sessions over the phone and via web conference. This will enable new-to-the-school and old-hands to share their experiences.

In the meantime, Prep staff have prepared 'Welcome to Prep' packs to assist.

Take particular notice of the 'Don't Panic' sheets and the Work Rate Calendar Term 1- 2015.

## NAPLAN TESTING

In 2015 all year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students are required to sit the NAPLAN tests. The children will sit the tests during the Home Tutor Seminar Week. The tests will be conducted on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May. This will necessitate families with children in the test year levels to come into town for an extra day. We ask that if your family cannot attend during that week that you notify your teacher during term 1 so that alternate arrangements can be made for testing. More information will be given closer to the dates but **PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE EXTRA DAY FOR ACCOMMODATION BOOKINGS.**

## CAMPS

With the Year 7's move to secondary school we have had to make some changes to our camp program. Some things haven't changed, we still provide great camps and there is still an expectation that all students from Year 4 to Year 10 attend their camp.

Our camp program for this year:

Year 4's will go to Magnetic Island and stay at the Picnic Bay camp site from 17 – 22 May. The children will catch a bus from Mount Isa to Townsville along the Flinders Highway. We will pick children up along the route. We expect this camp to cost about \$350.

Year 5's will be attending a leadership camp at Adels Grove from the 17 - 22 May. The children catch a bus from Mount Isa and travel via Cloncurry and Burke and Wills, children can be picked up along the route. We expect this camp to cost about \$320.

Year 6's will be travelling to Canberra in the first week of term 3. Please note that the days of travel are yet to be confirmed as QANTAS schedules may change. The students will visit Parliament House, National Gallery, Museum, Australian Institute of Sport, CSIRO, Snowy Mountains and many other attractions. The P & C will cover the cost of air travel and bus hire. It is expected that students do some fundraising for this camp as we believe that helps the students value the camp more. The amount of money raised is not as important as the effort put in by the students. The money fundraised goes to the P & C. Families are expected to pay approximately \$330 in addition to the fundraising.

Secondary students in the Western Alliance will attend a term 2 and term 3 multischool in Longreach with students from Charleville and Longreach SDE's. In addition there will be a Western Alliance camp in Brisbane during term 4.

More information and final costings will be sent to families well in advance of the camps. If you have any concerns at all that may prevent your child from attending please contact Tim

## NEW FAMILIES

We extend a very warm welcome to the following new families (correct at time of writing):

Cameron	Normanton
Ferriday	NT
Fricke	Mount Isa
Gurney	Boulia
Hacon	Cloncurry
Hammann	Karumba
Hill	Karumba
Hollingworth	Burketown
Ingram	Bowen
Jones	Karumba
Roos	Burketown
Smith	Boulia
Tritton	Burketown
Turner	Julia Creek
Verhoeven	Julia Creek

I encourage experienced Home Tutors to contact new families in their area to give them some encouragement, advice and comfort. As many of you may remember, starting School of the Air can be very daunting. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that every member of the school community feels confident and comfortable as they embark on the very important responsibility of educating their children.

## GOVERNESSES/GOVERNORS

As a school it is essential that we are kept up to date with who is the Home Tutor for your child at any given time. If you employ a Governess, please contact Linda Ryan as a priority so that she can provide an induction to our school and make that initial contact for your Home Tutor. Linda will also communicate this information with the staff of our school, including the teachers, field team, admin team and mail room. Linda will, with their permission, pass on their contact details to other governesses so that a network of governesses can be formed.

As a school, we are working at supporting and educating our Governesses so that they can perform their duties as the teacher of your children to the best of their ability. We feel confident that our ongoing support throughout the year will go a long way towards achieving this.

### **Home Tutor/Governess In-Service**

Mount Isa School of the Air is again holding a New Home Tutor / Governess In-Service in Term 1 2015. This in-service is intended to be a comprehensive induction for new home tutors and governesses working with students from our school. This is a great opportunity for all who attend to come away with some strategies and a deeper understanding of the curriculum presented to students.

We will be holding the workshop a few weeks into the school year enabling the new governesses who don't arrive in the first weeks of school to attend. It also allows them to come to the in-service with a little insight to the year ahead. Also, by this time all teachers at the school (new and old) will be able to meet and work with the governesses and home tutors so that all participants involved in students' learning will gain further insight into the distance education learning environment.

The two night residential in-service will be held at our Outstation building from Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, concluding Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

We will be holding a 2<sup>nd</sup> in-service in August to coincide with the Mount Isa Rodeo.

Please direct any questions to Liz Bailey (4744 83301-ebail18@eq.edu.au) or Linda Ryan (4744 8303) [lryan48@eq.edu.au](mailto:lryan48@eq.edu.au).

## OPEN COMMUNICATION

Communication is at the heart of what we do.

Email, phone, letters, faxes, edStudios, Blackboard, notices, on air lessons and carrier pigeons are all means of communication available to us as a school community. It is our collective responsibility to communicate well with each other. Please communicate to your teachers the joys, frustrations and the laughable moments so that together we can provide the best education for your children. Our frontline of communication is Daily Notices, and we encourage families to listen in on notices at 8.00am each morning.

**If you need assistance, do not wait for us to contact you, please call your class teacher or Tim and Janeen at your convenience.**

In our experience, families and teachers that discuss their expectations around communication are the most satisfied. Teachers will provide you with their Education Queensland email that can be used for all electronic correspondence. Parents and Home Tutors should ensure that email contact with the teacher is of a professional manner and no inappropriate content is forwarded to the teacher.

Teachers will also provide you with their school phone number and a timetable of their non-scheduled hours to ensure that you know the best time to call them. If you ring the school and you suspect it may be a lengthy call we are happy to call you straight back so that the school meets the cost. Alternatively you can request on notices that a teacher calls you sometime that day.

At times, teachers will provide you with their mobile number for use during special events or travel and we ask that families use these numbers respectfully. Under Education Queensland policy students should not call or text a teacher's mobile phone (unless directed to during specific events such as camps, where after the event, these are to be deleted from student phones).

The interaction between teachers and students (including past students who are under the age of 18) using social networking sites e.g. Facebook and MySpace is not permitted under Education Queensland policy. We have also requested that staff do not engage in these sites with home tutors, parents or governesses. We would appreciate that you discuss this policy with your child so that teachers are not put in the awkward position of having to refuse contact with them. Could I also caution our school community to be very careful about passing comment on staff and other community members on these sites, as these sites are far from private.

This school is proud of the open and honest communication it has established between students, teachers and home tutors. Attached to this newsletter is a list of all staff with their school contact numbers and emails. We have also attached a 'Who to contact list' which details the relevant coordinator for a range of activities and programs within the school and we recommend that you look to this form to ensure that you get to speak with the most appropriate staff member in relation to your specific enquiry. If you wish to talk to Tim please call 4744 8333. Tim is also available after hours if required on 0428 455 852.

## FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS

It is important that the school has correct family details on our database. From time to time the school will seek updated contact details from you. If your address, email or phone number do change, it is important that you let the school know, through Linda Ryan our Parent Liaison Officer (PLO).

The majority of our families now have a regular and reliable internet service. Your email address is a very important part of your enrolment information. Please identify which email you prefer to receive general school information (distributed from the school office) and that required for Class teacher contact (e.g. schoolroom email). If you change internet providers and/or your email address changes, please notify Linda or the school office. If you do not receive your monthly P&C minutes via email this is evidence that we do not have a record of your email address.

## COMPUTER NEEDS

As mentioned previously in the newsletter, we believe that every child should have access to a computer.

- Education Queensland offers a Distance Education I.C.T. Subsidy (\$250 per year computer subsidy for hardware purchases and \$500 per year per student to subsidise your Internet connection). To be eligible for this subsidy, families must be enrolled with the school for a minimum of six months. Enrolment type Geographically Isolated and/or Medical.
- We can provide Microsoft Office products free of charge to families in receipt of the ICT subsidy.
- We have Nataliya Vernon employed at the school to help with technical issues and Ash Qusted to help with eLearning issues.

The school makes use of "point to view" digital cameras to show students how to do their lessons. Families are encouraged to get their own "point to view" digital camera so teachers can see what students are doing and will be pivotal in the direct teaching method of on air delivery. These cameras are available on-line at <http://mwave.com.au/>

Please remember the school has funds, the personnel and vehicles to provide technical support on your property if required. We will do whatever we can to support you with ensuring your classroom technologies are working. Please contact Nataliya if you require assistance.

## THE COMPUTER SCHOOL SUBSCRIPTION - ACCESS

### 'THE COMPUTER SCHOOL' FAMILY RESOURCE

Our school has a license to access 'the Computer School', an online resource designed to teach a wide range of computer skills for home tutors and students. (To access the resource go to MISOTA Home Tutor Blackboard site/Computer School button on the left/Enter the password, *(as shown on the screen)* and away you go! Note, The Learning Place will not be available for most of the holidays due to major updates.) Check out the range of courses.



## MAIL ROOM

Each family has their mail sent to them on one day per week. Return mail should also be sent in one day per week. Please use only one mail bag. Only use two if you cannot possibly fit it all in one bag. School is only funded for this provision. Extra mail is therefore at the expense of other activities. If you are experiencing delays with your mail, please let Leah Allingham know on (07) 4744 8309. A change in mail day may help. **MI DISKS, SENT OUT IN PAPER ENVELOPES, DO NOT HAVE TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL. YOU WILL REQUIRE THEM AT DIFFERENT TIMES THROUGH OUT THE YEAR.**

### FIRST TERM MAILOUT

Instruction papers and resources were collected or dispatched before the holidays. Every effort is made to ensure that all resource packs and boxes are sent complete and are in working order. It would be to the student's advantage if items are checked and DVD's and CD's are tested on your equipment at home. If you have problems let us know and the items may be able to be replaced in time for that particular lesson.

It is important that the resource packs are returned as soon as indicated on the pack, or requested by the teacher, and that these are returned inside the clip lock bag provided. Please don't keep them to send back once or twice a year. This is very inconvenient. Some resources are used across year levels at different times therefore they need to be checked and on the shelf as soon as possible.

The Mailroom Aide will send an email if resources are missing from the bags, as these are costly items. If resources are damaged or lost then we consider it is the family's responsibility to replace them, therefore an invoice will be raised to cover the cost.

To assist with reducing costs, we encourage recycling of some Home Tutor Guides/Learning Guides so we are asking home tutors to return these items when requested on the pack. We save approximately \$5,000 through recycling and have purchased more supplementary readers with these savings.

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:

**Mount Isa School of the Air , Reply Paid No 1683, MOUNT ISA QLD 4825**

When sending the children's completed work back to the teachers, please use a folder or plastic bag for each child with their name, year level and teacher's name clearly on the front. **Do not use anything other than a document folder or plastic bag.** Please be aware of the size of the blue mailbag or mailing envelopes when purchasing new folders. A3 or 300mm x 420mm or smaller are ideal. **Please do not use ring binders, concertina folders or large zip folders. This adds to the cost of the mail.** If you only have one child, it is required to have their work in a folder so bits and pieces don't get lost amongst other children's work in teachers' pigeonholes.

If you are re-using folders from previous years, make sure the child's year level and teacher's name is changed. **Please don't send completed work back in resource packs as these do not go to the teachers. It could be a while before the work is found in the bag.**

## MAILBAGS

For the information of new families, a mailbag scheme operates at MISOTA. For an initial family contribution of \$15, three vinyl mailbags are provided, four in larger families, for mailing of materials. These bags are strong, zip-locked, and only require you to reverse the mailing label in the window for return. The school covers the cost of printing on the bags for school identification, and the continuous mail costs to and from the property. The school also provides extra bags to those families where three bags prove insufficient. Please contact Leah on (07) 4744 8309 for more information.

## RETURN OF RESOURCES

These points need to be considered when returning the resource packs:

- Packs do not go to the teachers so please do not return completed assignment books in the bags. Make a separate folder or bag with the child's name, year level and the teacher's name clearly marked. This way children's work is not likely to go astray.
- Please use the plastic bags to return resources, they are used for listing and protecting the contents.
- Home Tutor Guides/Learning Guides should be placed back into the CLC packs when they are returned, not returned separately.
- Packs should be returned when requested, so they can be checked and shelved in readiness for the following year.
- If a CD/DVD is broken or scratched, or if a book is damaged, please attach a note letting us know so it can be replaced. Don't forget, they are fragile items, please look after them. Please do not mark books with pencil. Any sticky notes or blu tac should be removed before returning books.

Regards  
Leah Allingham

# TERM 1 - CURRICULUM

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT C2C

To support the Curriculum Papers in 2015, the following tools are available to assist teaching and learning in distance education contexts. Some of these are –

- **The new Home Tutor Website** for Queensland Distance Education - [www.elearningbank.net](http://www.elearningbank.net)
- **Spelling City P - 7** - an online tool available to all families. A range of online games and teaching methods mapped to the C2C curriculum spelling papers. This subscription was kindly donated by the 2013 Govie Group.
- **ABC Reading Eggs/Express** - digital online reading materials in addition to school packs.
- **The Computer School** - a one stop shop for all your ICT learning needs (information in this newsletter).
- **Year 3 Typing Program** - a child friendly CD will be supplied with Unit 1. This has been slotted into the daily timetable and will help students prepare for more online typing during class lessons.
- **Year 4-7 Typing Program** - students will access the Computer School program (info in this newsletter) to engage with a typing program.
- **Targeting Handwriting Year 4-6** - will have a commercial handwriting book in the Unit 1 pack to continue the P-3 focus learning the Queensland Cursive Script for their year at school.
- **Targeting Maths – Aust Curriculum Version – Yr 1 - 6** - a commercial text to engage students in Maths warm-ups preparing for C2C Maths papers.
- **Sound Waves Words & Sounds Book & Extended Chart Year 1** – a handy early dictionary/spelling book for most used words in young children's writing, with additional space for children to write personal words of importance. Year 2 will use the My Macquarie Word Book that they began in Year 1.
- **Sound Waves Foundation Prep** – a whole school phonemic approach to phonemic awareness and early spelling.

## LEARNING SUPPORT

As Home Tutors, you may have concerns about your student, or see them struggling in certain areas. It can be quite upsetting for both your child and yourself, and can affect social, emotional and academic growth. We are very lucky at SOTA to have a great depth of experienced teachers and staff who have a vast amount of knowledge and abilities to help you.

If you do have any concerns, here are some steps that will help us to help you:

1. Notify your class teacher.

2. Have a hearing and vision screener to rule out any underlying issues (This is imperative as 4 out of 5 struggling readers have difficulty with their vision. A Behavioural Optometrist can check not only for vision, but tracking issues and how the eyes work together).
3. Give detailed feedback to your class teacher on the type and amount of support you are giving on each lesson, and any other observations you have made.
4. Your class teacher will make adjustments and modifications according to your feedback.

If your student is still having difficulties, the class teacher will discuss these with the support teacher and further modifications and interventions will be implemented, which could take the form of:

- alterations to the curriculum
- deletions
- extra phone lessons with support staff

External support services such as a Guidance Officer, Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Bush Children's or a Paediatrician may be contacted for a consultation or assessment to help provide further strategies and modifications according to the specialist reports.

This process takes time, so please notify your class teacher as soon as you have any concerns

## DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT

### Diagnostic Assessment

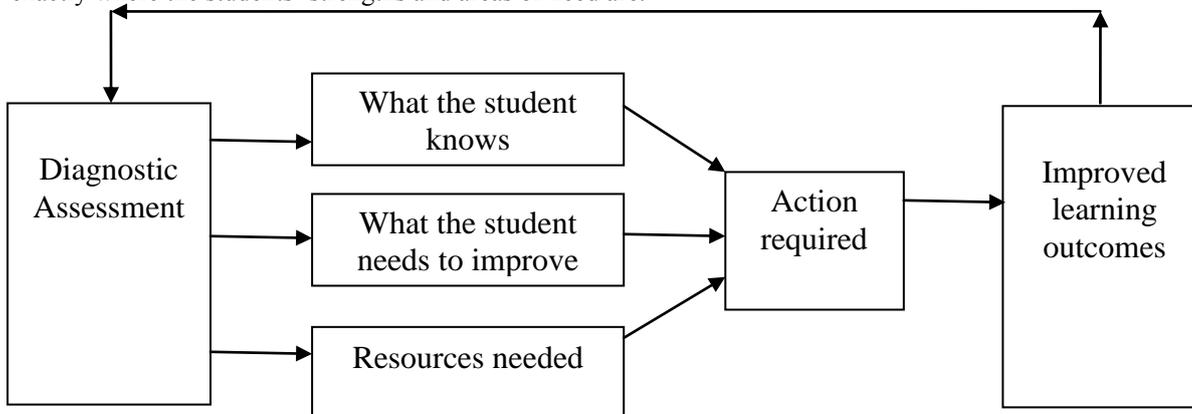
Diagnostic Assessments are designed to identify or "diagnose" strengths and areas of need in all students. It involves gathering and evaluating data to help understand students' knowledge and skills in a learning area, which is then used to help in the development of differentiated lessons to meet the individual needs of the student.

Some examples of diagnostic assessment that are used at MISOTA are:

- Checklists
- Running records (PM and Probe)
- Words Their Way
- Pat Maths
- Concepts About Print

Below is a flowchart to show how diagnostic assessments are used at MISOTA to assist teachers to cater for all individual students. The same diagnostic assessment can be done more than once throughout the year to show the growth the student has made over a period of time, but ultimately they are all used to improve the learning outcomes of each individual student.

It is extremely important that the student complete these diagnostic assessments independently, so the class teachers can gauge exactly where the students' strengths and areas of need are.



*Adapted from the 'decision-making loop', Saubern, R. (2010)*

## THE IMPORTANCE OF HEARING AND VISION SCREENING

### THE IMPORTANCE OF HEARING AND VISION SCREENING

#### **Hearing:**

The purpose of hearing screening is to identify students with possible hearing losses which may affect their intellectual, emotional, social, speech, and/or language development. Early identification and intervention may prevent educational problems and permanent hearing loss. Even mild hearing loss may be educationally and medically significant.

School-age children should be screened for hearing loss as needed, requested, or when conditions place them at risk for hearing disability. Screening for hearing loss identifies the school-age children most likely to have hearing impairment that may interfere with development, communication, health, and education. School age children with even minimal hearing loss are at risk of academic and communication difficulties.

Periodic screenings are recommended because of the increased potential for hearing loss due to overexposure to high levels of noise and the importance of identifying children at risk for hearing impairment that may affect their future educational, vocational, or social opportunities.

School age children should be screened at the following times:

1. on first entry into school
2. every year from kindergarten through 3rd grade

3. in 7th grade
  4. in 11th grade
  5. upon entrance into special education
  6. upon grade repetition
  7. upon entering a new school system without evidence of having passed a previous hearing screening
- Dept. of Otolaryngology, Columbia University*

#### **Vision:**

Healthy vision is an important part of the learning process and can certainly determine success at school. Reading, writing and computer work are among the visual skills that students are required to perform daily. Many experts believe that approximately 80% of learning comes through the eyes.

The link between vision and learning is very well established. No matter how good the quality of the education, no matter what the teaching approach is, if the student can't keep their work single and clear, if they can't move their eyes from place to place accurately and efficiently, they will not perform up to their potential in school. If a student has difficulties with learning, chances are they may also have a vision problem. How the brain and eyes work together has a tremendous impact on the learning process for both children and adults. Some interesting facts:

- 4 out of 5 children with reading difficulties also have a vision problem
- 1 in 5 children have a vision problem that impacts on efficient learning
- Many of these vision problems are related to focusing and eye teaming problems and may be corrected with glasses and/or vision training
- Some vision problems occur as the child gets older when they begin reading for comprehension
- Many of the symptoms of common vision problems are identical to the symptoms used to diagnose dyslexia and ADHD and many children are labelled as lazy which further adds to reduced self-esteem, frustration and issues with confidence
- Undetected vision problems persist into adulthood affecting a person's quality of life and ability to function at their best for study and work, and may even influence career choices and earning potential.

*Outlook Eye Centre, Toowoomba*

### **LOTE – YEAR 5/6/7 & 8**

LOTE is a mandatory subject for all Year 5, 6, 7 and 8 students in Queensland primary schools. Learning a Language Other Than English -

- introduces students to other languages as a means of accessing other peoples, ideas and ways of thinking;
- inspires interest in and respect for other cultures;
- intersects with a range of communication technologies;
- develops an array of transferable skills that support other areas of the curriculum.

To broaden our students' experiences with LOTE we are pleased to be able to offer Indonesian, Mandarin Chinese, German, French, Japanese and Italian to our students. The six languages will be taught by teachers who are based at Cairns School of Distance Education. As per time requirements for LOTE, the following on air times generally occur in the afternoon and encompass all course material (there is no homework). Extra study may be required for exams.

- Students in year 5 & 6 will participate in 1 x 1 hour lesson per week
- Students in year 7 & 8 will participate in 2 x 1 hour lessons per week

Families often confer with their future High School options (e.g. boarding school) and choose a language on offer that will be available for the child in his/her future years of schooling. We require **all students in Years 5, 6, 7 and 8** to select **one** of the languages on offer. Please let Janeen or Tim know of your decision.

However, students may be exempt for the following reasons –

- Student identified as being below the national minimum standard in literacy and/or numeracy as determined by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).
- Student has been granted an exemption from NAPLAN testing as per the established criteria.
- Student has cultural, religious or political reasons for an exemption, e.g. a student's religious beliefs or other circumstances may prohibit the study of specific languages.
- Student is already fulfilling the requirements of school-based language studies.

The Principal will decide on a case-by-case basis whether it is in the best interests of a student to be granted an exemption. While language studies are an important component of the curriculum in Years 5, 6, 7 and 8, there will sometimes be exceptional circumstances that need to be taken into consideration. Please contact Tim if you wish to discuss this option.

### **STRINGS NEWS**

2014 was a highly successful year of Instrumental Music, with the year culminating in a Gala Concert with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra. We are looking for new string players for 2015. The instruments on offer are Violin, Viola and Cello. It is a

wonderful experience for your child to be part of an instrumental music program. They are welcome to join in with all events held here in Mount Isa, with the major project for 2015 being scheduled with the Queensland Music Festival here in Mount Isa..

Please contact Yvonne Moore, 4744 8301 or [ymoor2@eq.edu.au](mailto:ymoor2@eq.edu.au), if you would like your child to start string lessons in 2014 and we can discuss how to start an instrument and the great years your child will have playing music. It costs only \$190 for the whole year and instrument and music are supplied.

### EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There are numerous activities, events and programs that our students can get involved in during the school year. Attached to this newsletter is an information sheet about our extra-curricular offerings. Instead of registering for these activities for the year ahead we have provided you with the possibilities and the name and contact details for the responsible person. You should register your interest for these activities with this person and also keep listening to daily notices for further updates throughout the year.

### PHONE ETIQUETTE

1. Always use 1800 141 220 (HS FAMILIES 07 3181 5999)
2. Please ensure the Press to Talk (PTT) switch is installed in the headset cord.
3. Hang up immediately after the lesson.
4. Log off immediately from iConnect sessions (unless approved by the class teacher to stay online).
5. Always use the school issued phone (when at home).
6. Contact Nataliya (07) 4744 8306 if you have any problems.

*Please encourage your child to:*

1. Answer in sentences.
2. Listen carefully so repeats are not necessary.
3. Finish with the teachers name as a cue.
4. Do not talk over others.
5. Call in with just their name rather than "with a question" or "with a comment".

### SCHOOL INVOICES

Please note that the school's accounts are completely separate from the P&C accounts. The school operates on an invoicing system. Families will be issued invoices for activities throughout the year. These invoices will be sent home/emailed at the time of invoicing. It would be greatly appreciated if you pay your accounts on the issue of the invoice. Payment plans can be arranged by contacting Anne Coleman, Business Services Manager. A statement will be issued at the end of each term.

The following options are available for the payment of School invoices:

1. **BPAY** School invoices will include a customer reference code and biller code which you will use if you choose to use BPAY for payments.
2. **EFTPOS** Visa/MasterCard facilities - for payment by Credit Card in person or via authorization slip. The authorization slip is available on invoice or on Blackboard to print off, complete and send into the office with a copy of the invoice.
3. **CHEQUE** – please make cheques payable to Mount Isa School of the Air and attach to a copy of the invoice and send into the office.
4. **DIRECT DEPOSIT** – information for this method is printed on the bottom of each invoice. Please ensure that you include family name and invoice number as a reference with payments and email/fax the confirmation to [acole42@eq.edu.au](mailto:acole42@eq.edu.au) or fax (07) 4744 8300.

We have also moved with the times and our preferred method of payment to families is by Electronic Payment and Direct Deposit. You will notice that the ICT levy forms, Connellan claim forms and travel claim forms all include a section for your account details so that we can make the payments directly into your accounts.

### MATERIALS REQUIREMENT PREP – YR6

This year we have again revised the Material Requirements Booklet to compliment the new curriculum. Please take the time to peruse this version to make sure you have what is required for 2015. Once again OfficeMax (stationery suppliers) are available for the purchase of schoolroom requirements. OfficeMax offer very competitive pricing for our school community. However, you are always able to choose your local suppliers for materials. Please see attached information sheet for ordering from OfficerMax as the process has changed and is now online. If you require any information please still contact Maureen Carthy Phone: 4774 9002 or email [Maureen.carthy@officemax.com.au](mailto:Maureen.carthy@officemax.com.au)

Please note that MISOTA is putting new Science Kits together, where possible some of the suggested science items on the lists will be provided. However we strongly suggest that once you have your science kit, go over the list to ensure you have access to all items on the Science list. Some items may be general household items that you already have. If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact the school.

# TERM 4 IN REVIEW

## GRADUATION 2014

Graduation was a great night of celebration for our students. It was also a sad time as we had to farewell 3 year levels of students due year 7's transitioning to high school. A time of farewell to students leaving, a time of reflection on the past, anticipation of the future and a time to acknowledge achievements. Congratulations to all those graduating and to the award recipients.

The Award recipients were:

Year 10 Secondary All Rounder .....	Dillon Fletcher
Year 10 P and C Endeavour Award .....	Wade Wiles
Year 7 Academic Award.....	Katie McDonald (Maths/Science)
.....	Nalita Corlis (English)
ICPA Year 7 Citizenship Award.....	Kimberley Brown
Year 6 Academic Award.....	Darcy Wocknor (Maths/Science)
.....	Natalie Cook (English)
ICPA Year 6 Citizenship Award.....	Kate Lyttle
Year 6 Zanda McDonald Award.....	Emma Darcy
Year 6 Governess Bursary Award .....	Hugh Smith
MMG Young Leaders Award .....	Harry Kennedy
Year 6 P and C Endeavour Award .....	Clinton Bridges.
Zonta Special Achievement Award.....	Katie McDonald

## FAREWELL FROM MRS GUNINGHAM



Saying goodbye is one of the hardest things for me to do in any situation. When it applies to leaving such a beautiful school community, it becomes infinitely more difficult! After much thought and hesitation earlier this year, I decided to look at teaching in a mainstream school in 2015. It was a decision made to challenge myself and meet our family's needs in a different way. The outcome will be teaching in the early years at Healy State School in Mount Isa in 2015.

I feel so blessed to have been a part of this school community. I have learned so much from students, parents, home tutors and staff. Of course there are a few memories, such as home visits, that always come to mind. My first home visit was a huge highlight. We went croc hunting in a tinny that seemed to be just a bit too exposed, followed by a chopper ride the next morning to spot crocs from the air. I felt like a movie star when I arrived by plane another home visit. After landing and being collected from the airstrip, I was welcomed to breakfast and coffee on a lovely deck and selected my lunch from the menu! When visiting families, they often take you for a ride. It was a bit scary having the Year 1 and Year 2 students at the wheel, especially when they couldn't really see over the dash and push the pedals at the same time! I learned that it is more fun to collect the mail in a buggy

at another visit. This year during a home visit, the family took me to another world an hour away where we climbed rocks and had our own adventure. There is never a shortage of wonderful food and family to enjoy when visiting their properties. Sometimes, you even get to see a govie take on Mum during a visit. It was wonderful to see this happen in a game where we had to fill buckets with bean bags that were attached to our backsides! (Julie was very quick!) I won't start telling stories on the staff so that they can maintain their dignity!!

While I realise now that teaching at MISOTA will not be a lifelong position for me, this school has impacted my life greatly. I admire the remarkable strength and character that our staff and families possess. I will dearly miss the fun of activity days, mini schools, and sports days. I can't thank you enough for all the understanding, dedication, enthusiasm, hospitality, effort and care you have shown over my time at this amazing school. I look forward to catching up in the future wherever it may be.

## Western Alliance – Secondary Camp to Currimundi



During the third week of Term 4 from October 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> the Western Alliance students travelled to Currimundi on the Sunshine Coast for a week of team building and water focussed activities. The students demonstrated a wonderful ability to 'gel' as a unit when they came together despite being based at three separate school campuses across the western corridor of Queensland. The water based activities proved extremely popular with the canoeing and stand-up paddle boarding a stand-out for most. Students challenged their nerve on the high ropes course and tested their screams on the giant swing. The students demonstrated their ability to work as a team during the Orienteering course which proved challenging with the added obstacle of rain. By week's end there was sadness as it was the last time the Year 10 students would be together as a group but all agree it was a great camp.



## COMPETITION RESULTS 2014 – OUR STUDENTS ARE FANTASTIC!

A big thank you must go to Miss Michele Ridge for her coordination. Congratulations to all of our participating students on a job well done. Keep up the great work in 2015. If you would like to participate in any or all of these competitions, please listen to daily notices where you will be kept updated.

### **ICAS Maths Competition**

Distinction:	Year 2: Jack Barrett, Harrison Doyle, James Geeves, Joseph Simmons
	Year 3: William White
	Year 5: Kathryn Fisher
Credit:	Year 2: Jemma Curr, Lachlan Sedon, Annabelle Towne
	Year 3: Charlee Low Mow
	Year 4: Jacob Kath, Rachel Cook, Breanna Curr, Cody Wockner

### **ICAS Computer Skills Competition**

High Distinction:	Year 3: William White
Credit:	Year 3: Charlee Low Mow
	Year 4: Marleina Salter-Miller
	Year 6: Clinton Bridges
Merit:	Year 3: Lucy Folker
	Year 4: James Brown

### **ICAS Science Competition**

High Distinction:	Year 2: Jack Barrett, James Geeves
	Year 5: Kathryn Fisher
Distinction:	Year 3: Charlee Low Mow
	Year 4: Marleina Salter-Miller
Credit:	Year 2: Harrison Doyle, Annabelle Towne
	Year 4: James Brown, Chloe Towne, Cody Wockner
	Year 6: Darcy Wockner

Year 7: Carina Zlotkowski

### **Australian Mathematics Competition**

High Distinction:	Year 5: Kathryn Fisher
Distinction:	Year 4: Laura McDonald, Fletcher Price
Credit:	Year 3: Rachel Cook, Jacob Kath, Cody Wockner,
	Year 5: Hugh Butcher, Hugh Smith
	Year 7: Sam Smith, Charlie Wockner

### **ICAS Spelling Competition**

Credit:	Year 4: Breanna Curr
	Year 5: Kathryn Fisher

### **ICAS Writing Competition**

Distinction:	Year 6: Natalie Cook
Merit:	Year 4: Chloe Towne
Credit:	Year 3: Charlee Low Mow
	Year 4: Jack Towne
	Year 6: Hugh Smith

### **ICAS English Competition**

High Distinction:	Year 2: James Geeves
Distinction:	Year 5: Kathryn Fisher
Credit:	Year 3: Charlee Low Mow
	Year 4: Chloe Towne
	Year 6: Clinton Bridges

## **GENERAL INTEREST**

### **GUMBUYA MAGAZINE**

We hope that you enjoyed reading the 2014 Gumbuya. It is a great record of the school year and events throughout the year. Thank you to all who have contributed to putting the magazine together to make it the amazing production it is. Visitors from far and wide comment on the magazine and also on our students' vast range of activities and achievements. Each year the magazine looks better and better, so if you haven't had a chance to read the magazine yet, take some time out and sit back and reflect on the wonderful 'year that was' at our school.

### **BUSHKIDS CALENDAR**

The P&C organise a Bush kids Calendar every year with photos of our kids on their properties. So remember to get your cameras out and click away as families will be asked to provide photos for the next year's calendar. Calendars are distributed on the last week of school through an ordering system.

### **MOUNT ISA SCHOOL OF THE AIR PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

Welcome to MISOTA. I hope you had a great Christmas break and Santa was generous and spread the rains over the region.

On behalf of the Parents and Citizens Association, I would like to welcome all new families to MISOTA. One of the roles of the P & C is to support new families and make your transition to MISOTA as easy as possible. As we are all so far spread across QLD and NT, we have allocated a New Family Contact for each region. This person has volunteered to be the support person for all new families in their area. The New Family Contact for your area will make contact with you early in the year, and will continue to provide support in the form of phone calls or emails should you ever need them. I strongly encourage you to use this contact if you have any questions, whatever they may be.

Just remember, we all have been new families at some stage and have been just as overwhelmed and daunted as you are probably are at this stage. One of the most positive attributes of MISOTA is that the school community is very supportive to all families and students.

The P & C is a valuable mode of communication between the school and the school community. The value of becoming involved in the P & C cannot be expressed enough. The P & C is a devoted group of everyday Mums, Govies and Staff who all have a commitment and passion for education. I strongly encourage becoming a member of the P&C and consider nominating for one of the executive positions. It is a great experience and certainly a great way to meet people and be involved in your child's education.

P& C Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, with the first meeting held on air on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2015.

Please complete the attached membership form and return to Linda at the school. If you are interested in being on the executive please contact myself or any other member of the P & C. However, your involvement in the P & C does not have to be a huge commitment, as it is your valued input to meetings that ensures our children get the best education possible.

Lastly, value your time and input in your child's education. Every struggle in the home classroom, can be offset against the incredible opportunity of having a major influence on the education of bush children. This is something that people in other walks of life, just do not get to experience and cherish.

Bernadette Lyttle

President

P & C Executive – 2015

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Bernadette Lyttle – Cannington Station, McKinlay 4823 Ph: 07 4746 8693 <a href="mailto:canningtonstation@bigpond.com">canningtonstation@bigpond.com</a>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Tiarna O'Brien – Julia Creek Ph: 0488 770 693 <a href="mailto:tobrie25@myune.edu.au">tobrie25@myune.edu.au</a>
<b>TREASURER</b>	Annie Hacon – Cubbaroo Station, Cloncurry 4824 Ph: 07 47425 933 <a href="mailto:cubbaroschool@hotmail.com">cubbaroschool@hotmail.com</a>

#### VICE PRESIDENTS

Sancia Fegan, Kelloshiels Station 47468485, <a href="mailto:sancia_ashley@hotmail.com">sancia_ashley@hotmail.com</a> - Souvenirs
Sarah Cook- Oban Station,, ,47484818 <a href="mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com">cpcook74@bigpond.com</a> – Home Tutor Seminar
Michelle Low Mow, Adels Grove, 47485502, <a href="mailto:michelle64@activ8.net.au">michelle64@activ8.net.au</a> - Fundraising
Kirsty Sullivan, Calton Hills Station, 47483008, <a href="mailto:k_sully@outlook.com">k_sully@outlook.com</a> - Bush Kids Calendar

<b>SODEA REPRESENTATIVE</b>	Sarah Cook- Oban Station, Mount Isa 4825 Ph: 0747484818 <a href="mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com">cpcook74@bigpond.com</a>
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#### NEW FAMILY CONTACTS FOR 2014

**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:cubbaroschool@hotmail.com">cubbaroschool@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>	
<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)

**Nomination form for the 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Mount Isa School of the Air Parents and Citizens Association**

**Proposed date 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015**

At the Annual General meeting of the MISOTA P&C association all the executive positions are declared vacant. The positions are as follows: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President (4) and SODEA (Schools of Distance Education Alliance) Rep. The Vice Presidents are required to hold a portfolio: Souvenirs, Fundraising, Bush Kids calendar or Home Tutor Seminar/BBQ.

Following is a nomination form for the AGM. It is preferred that nomination forms are received by the returning officer prior to the AGM. Ideally nominees are current P&C members, have been notified that you wish to nominate them, giving them time to consider their ability to commit to attend meetings as well as contribute to the executive team. It is not appropriate to make a nomination from the floor of the AGM.

If you are interested in taking on an executive role in 2014 please contact the following current Executive members.

PRESIDENT	Bernadette Lyttle	Cannington Station, McKinlay 4823	Ph: 0439 677 181
SECRETARY	Tiarna O'Brien		Ph: tba
TREASURER	Annie Hacon	Cubbaroo Station	Ph: 07 4742 5933

**VICE PRESIDENTS**

Sancia Fegan	Kelloshiel Station	Ph: 47468485 - Souvenirs
Sarah Cook	Oban Station	Ph: 4748 4818 – Home Tutor
Michelle Low Mow	Adels Grove	Ph: 4748 5502 - Fundraising
Kirsty Sullivan	Calton Hills Station	Ph: 4748 0008 - Bush Kids Calendar

SODEA REP - Sarah Cook - 0413 919 272 – [cpcook74@bigpond.com](mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com)

**Bernadette Lyttle. President. MISOTA P&C**

.....  
.....

**Nomination form**

I,....., nominate ..... for the position of  
..... in the executive of the Mount Isa School of the Air Parents and Citizens Association 2015.

Moved.....Seconded.....

**Please return to the school marked ATTN: P&C returning Officer before the AGM**



## 2015 Registration of Membership

This completed form is your application to be a registered member of Mount Isa School of the Air Parents' and Citizens' Association. Unless notified in writing by the Association your application has been accepted. As set out by the Department's Model Constitution the Association requires the following information for the register of current members.

I wish to register as a member of the Mount Isa School of the Air Parents and Citizens' Association for 2015.

Name .....

Address .....

E-mail .....

Parent     Citizen over 18 yrs     Staff Member

New Member     Renewing Membership - Member since \_\_\_\_\_

Signature ..... Date .....

I wish to make a voluntary family contribution of \$20     yes     no

**Cheque:** MISOTA P&C Association

**Direct Debit Code:** VOCON followed by surname    Account Name: Mount Isa School of Distance Education Parents' & Citizens' Association    BSB # 06 4815    Account # 0009 0965

Invoice: Not available to new families until you have completed one term with the school

### **P&C Raffle Options - Please tick one box only**

**Option A:** When a raffle is advertised over notices and you wish to be involved you can give your name and the number of tickets required. Your family will be invoiced for the raffle at the end of each term.

**Option B:** You will automatically receive five (5) tickets in each \$1 & \$2 raffle. In addition you will automatically make a contribution (\$3) for hampers (Sports Day and/or Christmas) if conducted as a P&C fundraiser. At the end of each term your family will be invoiced for the raffles of that term.

Raffles more than \$2.00 / ticket will still be done over notices.

Family .....

Property .....

                     **Option A**

                     **Option B**

**Please complete and return marked ATTN PLO before 6th Feb 2015**





# Mount Isa School of the Air

"Parents' and Citizens' Association"

Dear School Community,

In 2010 the Mount Isa School of the Air P&C discovered that a consent form is required to be completed, to publish any item (e.g. photographs, students work) that has been given to the P&C by any member of the community.

The P&C would like to create a consent register – where everyone who wishes to, fills in the consent form, when the family commences with the school, to allow the P&C to publish items submitted to the P&C. The register will potentially save the P&C time during the year when seeking items for publication such as photographs for the bush kids calendar. All items that are utilised or not utilised by the P&C for a particular project are returned to the sender. If the P&C do not have a consent form the items selected for publication will not be able to be published and the P&C will be required to return the selected item unpublished.

As stated on the consent form, it will only have to be filled out once while you are in attendance at the school. You are also able to revoke your consent to publish items at any time. It would be greatly appreciated, if you have not previously filled in the attached consent form for yourself and individual family members, that you do so now and return it to Linda Ryan PLO at the school at your earliest convenience.

Thanks  
Bernadette Lyttle  
President  
MISOTA P&C





# Consent Form

to use copyright material, image, recording, name or personal information

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## 1. CONSENT GIVEN

On behalf of the individual identified in Section 6 of this consent form (the **Individual**), the person or persons signing this consent form (the **Signatory**) \* grant consent to the Parents & Citizens Association identified in Section 6 to use, record and disclose the Individual's

- name, image and other identifying information (**personal information**); and
- copyright material, including their written, artistic or musical works or video or sound recordings (**individual work**)

*\*NOTE: if the Individual is under 18 years of age, the Signatory must be a parent or guardian of the Individual. The Individual must also sign, if he or she is under 18 and able to give and understand the consent. If the Individual is 18 or older, the Signatory and the Individual will be the same person.*

## 2. PURPOSE

This consent applies to any use, recording or disclosure of the Individual's personal information or Individual work in connection with the P&C for the purpose of public relations, promotion, advertising, media, commercial activities or community events including for example, dramatic or musical performances, sporting activities and award ceremonies.

## 3. DURATION

This consent will continue :

- for an Individual under 18 years of age, until the Individual turns 18; or
- until the **Individual** or **Signatory** revokes the consent by writing to the P&C

## 4. UNDERSTANDINGS

- **'Use'** includes:
  - to create, make copies of, reproduce or retain in any form; and
  - to distribute, publish or communicate in any form, including in newsletters and other print media, television and the Internet in whole or in part and to permit other persons to do so.
- The P&C will not pay the Signatory or the Individual for giving this consent or for the use of the Individual's personal information or Individual work.

5. LIMITATIONS ON CONSENT

The Individual or Signatory wishes to limit the consent in the following way:

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6. DETAILS

Name of Parents & Citizens Association (at which the Individual volunteers)

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~~~~~  
*(If over 18 yrs of age, or if under 18 yrs of age and capable of understanding and giving this consent)*

Name of Individual

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Address of Individual

---

---

Signature of Individual

Date

---

/ /

~~~~~  
*(Required if the Individual is under 18 years of age)*

Name of parent or guardian

---

Address of parent or guardian

---

---

Signature of parent or guardian

Date

---

/ /

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

## MOUNT ISA BRANCH OF THE AIR (BOTA)

The Isolated Children's Parents' Association Qld Inc (ICPA Qld Inc) 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 Qld Inc represents forty-seven branches, comprising over 1200 families scattered throughout regional and remote areas of Queensland. Mt Isa ICPA Branch of the Air (BOTA) is one of those.

ICPA is the only community based parent group with interests in all sectors and levels of education – state schools, independent, church or boarding schools, early childhood and care through to tertiary education and all methods used to facilitate access to that education

Our Branch has been very active in its participation in ICPA over many years both at Branch and State levels. Currently we have two Branch members on State executive – Wendy Hick (Vice President) and Kylie Camp (Portfolio Research Officer). Lorraine McGinnis, past Branch and Qld ICPA State President, was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by State Council at the recent conference.

We have regularly sent resolutions to both State and Federal conferences, wrote submissions in response to Government policy as well as written letters to various State and Federal members and had various politicians/departmental representatives come onto our meetings to speak with members on issues relevant to members..

For the past 16 years the branch has also run Sports for Bush Kids (SFBK) a week long camp in which we seek to expose children to a variety of sports, increase base skills and promote water safety. A small band of dedicated volunteers coordinates coaches, venues and accommodation/travel as needed for coaches, sources funding, organises family lists, timetables and class sizes as well as liaising with the school and RAFS to disseminate information to families. It also seeks to promote the event through the media. We have been fortunate to develop some strong relationships with our supporters and are grateful for their ongoing assistance. If you see any representatives of our supporters out and about be sure to thank them and let them know how much you value their commitment to this great week.

We recently held our AGM. Our executive for 2015 are as follows:

PRESIDENT: Kylie Camp "Floraville Downs: Burketown 4830

SECRETARY: Rose-marie Newton "Talawanta" via Julia Creek 4823

TREASURER: Tina Barrett "Avon Downs" via MT ISA 4825

We hold our meetings via teleconference on the third Tuesday of each month (though this may change in response to school holidays and the school calendar) at 3pm.

Please contact the President Kylie Camp on 4748 5585 or via email [floravilledowns@optusnet.com.au](mailto:floravilledowns@optusnet.com.au) should you wish to discuss the wonderful work ICPA does and how you can support their efforts by becoming a Branch member. Membership is \$45pa and a membership form is attached to this newsletter. Associate membership is available to those who are already full members with another Branch but are interested in what happens within our Branch. If you would like to help out with SFBK (even if you aren't a branch member) we would also like to hear from you. We look forward to have you joining us and helping our Branch continue to be part of a dynamic and vibrant voice advocating for our families.

AVON DOWNS,  
PMB 40  
MT ISA QLD 4825  
Ph 08 89645551  
Email [tbarrett@aaco.com.au](mailto:tbarrett@aaco.com.au)

November 2014

**Hello to all our Members of the "ICPA, Mt Isa BOTA",**

Membership is due again on January 1st 2015.

Support the work of the ICPA in giving outback families assistance in ensuring geographically isolated children have access to appropriate schooling.

Receive News & Views and Pedals magazine to keep up to date on what's happening and feel welcome to join in on monthly meetings by phone. Invite a friend to join as well, the more feedback that we have on issues relevant to you, the better ICPA can represent you.

To renew your membership, please forward this form and your membership fees in the school mail bag, see me at Sports for Bush Kids, post to me at the above address or direct deposit.

Please would you be able to return this form even if you are no longer renewing.  
Many thanks,

Tina Barrett  
Treasurer  
ICPA Mt Isa BOTA

Working together for equality of access to education  
for all students in rural and remote Australia.

NAME :.....

**I**

**will be continuing my membership (\$45.00 which includes Federal affiliation of \$18.00, State affiliation of \$18.00 and branch donation of \$9.00)  
Cash, Cheque, Direct deposit BSB 034-205 A/C 117-224**

**Please list your email address and postal address below – our minutes and other information are circulated via email- if you are not receiving these, please let us know.**

Email address:

Postal Address:

- I am transferring to another Branch**  
**Please state branch: .....**
- I no longer wish to be a member**

*Thank you*

## WISE TUTORS

Dear Families

WISE had a successful 2014 with tutors placed with families and a very positive attitude towards the program. The VISE program will be running again in 2015 in a very similar format as last year.

We ask for a minimum parent contribution of \$500 towards the tutors travel as tutors are placed with families for a 6 week period. The fee is very minimal considering the one on one attention your children receive from a qualified teacher for such a length of time.

It is important parents remember that this is a volunteer program and the tutors are not getting paid as such, however if placed correctly, the experience can be very rewarding for both the tutor and family. This is our aim to continue in 2015, to ensure the placements are suitable and both parties come away with positives from their involvement in VISE.

Please, if you are after a tutor for 2015, contact your co coordinator asap to arrange a tutor in advance - it increases the chance of a successful placement. Often tutors put these placements into their travel plans and need advance notice. Your chances of finding a placement are slim with only a few week's notice.

Contacts are as listed below

### WISE Coordinators' Contacts:

Charters Towers LAC	Robyn Brown	<a href="mailto:bogunda@skymesh.com.au">bogunda@skymesh.com.au</a>
Mount Isa LAC	Sarah Cook	<a href="mailto:cpcooki74@bigpond.com">cpcooki74@bigpond.com</a>
Longreach LAC	Kerry Lloyd	<a href="mailto:lloydrome@bigpond.com">lloydrome@bigpond.com</a>
Charleville LAC	Sally Campbell	<a href="mailto:abc_campbell@harboursat.com.au">abc_campbell@harboursat.com.au</a>
Capricornia	Maureen Stumer	<a href="mailto:capricornia@vise.org.au">capricornia@vise.org.au</a>
NT	Ruth Woerle	<a href="mailto:nt@vise.org.au">nt@vise.org.au</a>
NSW LAC	Norma Colclough	<a href="mailto:nsw@vise.org.au">nsw@vise.org.au</a>

WISE is there to assist our valuable rural families.

Cheers

Mike Stock AM

**CEO VISE**

**Reading tutors:** VISE has some reading tutors to take placements in 2015, especially trained to help children in Prep to Year 2. These tutors have first rate materials to teach the 350 key words that make up 75% of what we all read (100 key words make up 50% of what we all read.) The reading tutor can come for four weeks and needs two hours a day to work with the student; an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon. The materials do not conflict in any way with other methods however this method makes sure the student knows every one of the 350 words, as it is structured. Please note though, VISE will only consider reading placement requests where a student has two hours a day to work with the tutor on reading specifically.

**Rebate extended:** VISE is very aware of the dry conditions at present and have extended the travel rebate *further*, so families requesting help in paying their tutors travel now need only contribute \$500 (instead of the usual rebate amount of 50% toward the tutors travel costs).

**Better equipped for C2C:** VISE are actively speaking to tutors about being better equipped to take placements in Queensland. For example, tutors seeking placements in Queensland are now more aware than ever that it is necessary to at least have basic computer skills and the more skills in this respect the better. It is also becoming more common in Queensland for placements to last 5 weeks instead of the usual 6 weeks, and many tutors have given positive feedback about the advantages of starting placements at the beginning of a new unit. However, families are entitled to six weeks, so the length of placement is still mutually agreed between the tutor and family.

**PLEASE CONTACT**

**MISOTA FOR**

**NEWSLETTER**

**ATTACHMENTS**