Ve could all be VISE if ve choose to be...
But no-one is...
choosing to be, that is!

MISOTA families will not have any VISE placements until a VISE co-ordinator for the NW region is in place.
The position requires a community spirit and an understanding of human relations.
The position can be both challenging and rewarding.

If you know of anyone (including yourself or past home tutors) who is VISE, and are just waiting their chance to show just how VISE they can be,
Please contact
Mount Isa School of the Air
Ph 07 4748 8303 – Linda Ryan

PS: It would be awful to be only VISE in hindsight and lose this wonderful service to our community and for our wonderful volunteers of Virtually Indestructible Senior Educators
PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

Just prior to the Home Tutor seminar the Queensland Education Minister Kate Jones announced a special one off drought assistance package to Schools of Distance Education to help geographically isolated families offset some costs associated with field services. The P&C in collaboration with myself had to decide on how to expend this money whilst interpreting the intent of the assistance package. Families will receive an amount of money per night for accommodation to attend activity days and sports day, an amount per kilometre for the return trip into Mount Isa and an amount per child to attend minischool. The actual amounts will be determined when we have all the claim forms in. The office will email all families (also on eLearn) the claim form. We hope this helps your family continue to attend field events.

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.

Biggest Morning Tea Last week the staff organised for our school community to get together for Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea. With many in our school and community being affected by cancer we felt this was a great thing to do. Fortuitously we also had the Australian Chamber Quartet to entertain us. We invited many people in Mount Isa who volunteer or help our school and thanked them for their service. The morning tea raised close to $1000. Thanks for your contribution.

Staff News Rachel Tutauha is leaving us to get married and return to New Zealand. Rachel has been a delight to have on staff and I know staff, parents and kids have just loved her. We wish Rachel all the best. Jo Mills will return to full time Prep teaching and Tiarna Rogers will be appointed half time to cover Rachel’s Prep classes. Tiarna previously taught Prep at Happy Valley School.

Kara (staff member on leave) and Nathan Thompson welcomed baby Hamish James into the world on the 5th June. Hamish is a great little brother for Laney.

Computer Hardware Subsidy As many of you are aware there has been much discussion as to whether Education Queensland should provide a computer for each student or to continue with the computer hardware subsidy. Anton Tomasson has been employed to do a feasibility study across the 7 SDE’s. As yet no decision has been ratified but we are assured that families and schools will know prior to the end of this year so that adequate planning can take place, if required.

An Amazing Service Jenny Staddon has been our voluntary Scout Leader for 38½ years. Scouts of the Air started on September 11 1976 with Jenny as leader. This is by far the longest period of service by anyone in the history of this school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jenny for her wonderful service to this school and the hundreds of Scouts she has led in this time. We wish Jenny and Bob a well earned retirement as they move to Townsville, thanks Jenny.

Tim Moes
TERM 3 SCHOOL ROUTINE

PREP YEAR 2016

Children who are born between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011 are eligible for Prep in 2016. 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. Could current families please enrol 2016 prep children as soon as possible. This makes planning for 2016 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 14th. All are invited to attend but you MUST let Bridoen or Selena 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 Bridoen 07 4744 8360 or Selena on 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 have had such a wonderful time. We have been amazed with how quickly students have learnt to play songs on the ukulele. The music inspired artworks have been very creative depicting what makes each child happy. 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 Bridoen or Selena. 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 3:00pm and you are asked to bring along shared smoko and lunch. Please contact Bridoen on 07 4744 8360 or Selena on 07 4744 8354 if you have any queries.

MINISCHOOLS

This year's theme is “Horrible Histories”. Our activities will focus on history in a range of fun and exciting ways, from learning about local history, to enjoying cool facts, games and learning where things originated from. This year we will be having a dress up night where everyone is encouraged to come as a historical figure of your choice. This year our Minischool artist is Helen Stevens from 'The Dead Puppets Society', who will be running activities to build students skills using puppets and performing to an audience.

Miss Georgia will be attending most Minischools as well. She will be there for one to two days depending on numbers and will be offering sessions for e-Kindy children. 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 9th – 14th
- Bedourie Minischool .............................. August 16th – 21st
- Cloncurry Minischool .............................. August 23rd – 28th
- Camooweal Minischool ........................... August 30th – September 4th
- Gregory Minischool ............................... September 6th – 11th
- Term 4
- Julia Creek Minischool ............................ October 18th – 23rd

Please contact Bridoen 07 4744 8360 or Selena on 07 4744 8354 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. 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 $20 each.

We are looking for ideas for the cover of Gumbuya this year. The theme is “Fences.” Please send ideas and thoughts to Ash Quested by mail or email aquest1@eq.edu.au.
SCHOOL OPINION SURVEYS

The School Opinion Survey is undertaken each year by Education Queensland to obtain the opinion of parents, students and school staff about important aspects of schooling. The survey is designed to help schools identify what they do well and what they can improve.

All parents with children enrolled in our school will receive their survey request via email from Education Queensland’s central office. Please keep an eye out for it.

Students in Years 4-10 will receive a letter with their codes to also complete their survey online. Teachers in these year levels will remind students to complete the survey early in term 3.

The survey will remain open until the 31 July. Thanks for your attention to this.

TERM 2 IN REVIEW

CAMP NEWS

YEAR 4 CAMP – Magnetic Island

The year 4 students spent a fantastic week on Magnetic Island. Students thoroughly enjoyed spending time on the beach swimming and exploring the flats at low tide. We ventured over to Horseshoe Bay where the students were able to get up close to the wildlife at Bungalow Bay Koala Village. A fascinating morning was spent at Reef HQ followed by the Museum in Townsville. Then students had a great time spending money on themselves and their family at Castle Town Shopping Centre.

Many wonderful memories were made.

Claire Goodall
This term Year 5 students attended the Year 5 Leadership Camp at Adels Grove. They were accompanied by Chris Kuhne, Chris McIntosh, B Rodrigoen Schloss, Nataliya Vernon and Lisa Ward. The days were action packed with activities like canoeing, bushwalking, snorkelling and a visit to the Riversleigh Fossil site. Students also participated in challenges like the Tower of Terror, Spider Web and the Burmese Bridge. Evenings were finished off with damper and pancakes, and stories and games by the campfire. Year 5 students should be congratulated on a very successful camp due to their energy, enthusiasm and brilliant behaviour. Throughout the week we had many positive comments about the manners and conduct of our students from other campers in the area. A great time was had by all.

Lisa Ward & Chris Mc
YEAR 6 CAMP

Year 6 Camp to Canberra is not far away now! On the 11th of July, the year 6 students will be jetting off to chilly Canberra for a week, along with Chris Kuhne, Katrina Kuhne and Raylene White.

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

The Year 6 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 flights and bus travel around Canberra. 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 as, without this support, the costs would be prohibitive to travel so far to study government and our national capital.

To all the Year 6s…Don’t forget to pack your winter woollies!

Katrina & Chris Kuhne

HOME TUTOR SEMINAR WEEK FEEDBACK

This year teachers have been examining how to improve pedagogy through the use of IMPACT – an approach to transforming learning for students in the digital learning environment. With this in mind we invited Anna Clarke from Sensis to introduce the framework to families, which incorporates the latest in neural research and its ‘impact’ upon teaching and learning. Anna did a commendable job, trying to share the basics in 4 hours, when she had spent several days earlier this year with teachers.

Participants provided positive feedback on the relevance of the IMPACT framework, and the usefulness of the information in the isolated classroom. Several workshops were scheduled on the Thursday, including –

- Jenn O’Neill (Occupational Therapist) “Helping Learning Happen in your Classroom”
- Jim D’Castro, Karen Edwards (DET Information & Technologies Branch EQ) “Using iConnect effectively and your computer setup”
- Tim Moes & Linda Ryan “How to make a govie job great “ and “Boarding School Readiness”
- Liz Bailey “Hints and Tips for the classroom”
- Janeen Fricke “Assessment”

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.

Tim, Linda and I are always willing to chat with anyone about ideas for our annual seminar, and structure the content of the two days around school and community needs. As we head into minischool season please approach any of us to discuss content for the 2016 event.

Janeen Fricke & Linda Ryan
Deputy Principal & Parent Liaison Officer

NAPLAN

Like all schools nationwide, our Year 3 & 5 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 7 & 9 participated in NAPLAN in a supportive online environment the week following activity week with the Western Alliance. Some of our primary school families who were unable to travel to Mount Isa were fortunate to be part of a Queensland trial for digital NAPLAN tests, and were able to give valuable feedback for future implementation when families cannot attend their school for tests.

We expect that all 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. We use the data at MISOTA to inform curriculum changes and respond to individual needs.
SDE’s eTEACH PROJECT

A small project team in Brisbane, is developing the distance education materials for ‘below the line’ subjects of Health & Physical Education (HPE), Business and Economics, Civics and Citizenship and The Arts. Recently several students, governesses, parents and teachers of MISOTA were asked to give feedback on materials developed for HPE. The materials are particularly engaging visually, are on the whole digital (Blackboard) with paper materials as support. The lessons include theory and base activities for getting students moving. The feedback from our school community and others around the state, was predominantly positive. Suggestions for improvement were made and the following occurred in response –

1. Home tutor guides will now -
   • include a table of resources needed throughout the unit
   • provide ideas for family discussion with lessons, if appropriate
   • chunk information with bullet points as much as possible.

2. Schools will be in charge of printing and distributing activity booklets for families to support the digital materials.

The team is currently developing units of work for Civics & Citizenships (Year 3+), and Business and Economics (Year 5+), which we may see for trial in Term 4, however this is a large task and we do not want to rush this process. The Arts, for primary students, are being developed to compliment current subjects of English, Science, History and Geography. This will see a reduction in lessons in the current units, replaced by specific Arts units around visual arts, drama etc…to support the core unit. For example, a current History unit has a poster for an assessment piece. Arts lessons will be incorporated to include specific techniques & strategies to use in creating the poster.

The secondary sector is also having new units developed for Civics & Citizenships, Business and Economics, The Arts and HPE and once these have been trialled and developed in full, MISOTA, Charleville and Longreach schools will incorporate these into their subject offerings.

The eTEACH project is being managed by Judith Felton, and experienced lead educator based at BSDE. Judith has been active in seeking input from schools and isolated families to ensure the success of the project. If you would like to be part of future trial materials, please contact Tim or myself.

Janeen Fricke

SPORTS DAY

SPORTS DAY Friday 15 May
What a wonderful jam packed busy week we had with Home Tutor Seminar, Activity Days and NAPLAN and then ending with a fantastic Sports day. 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 teachers, parents and govies for helping out with the events. The day couldn’t have run without you. Flynn and O’Sullivan kept everyone’s spirits high with their war cries and encouragements throughout the day. Well done to Flynn for taking out the winner’s trophy once again.

Sports Day Age Champions:

| Year 1 Boys | Harry Hacon |
| Year 1 Girls | Emma Locke |
| Year 2 Boys | Cooper Sedon |
| Year 2 Girls | Emily Cook |
| Year 3 Boys | Lachlan Johnson |
| Year 3 Girls | Madison Simms |
| 2006 Boys | Lachlan Bishop |
| 2006 Girls | Annabelle Towne |
| 2005 Boys | Ned Alexander |
| 2005 Girls | Olivia Rasheed |
| 2004 Boys | Jack Towne |
| 2004 Girls | Chloe Towne |
| 2003 Boys | Cooper Beasley |
| 2003 Girls | Katherine Fisher |

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

| Open | Isabelle Jones |
| Senior | Cooper Beasley |
| Intermediate | Lachlan Johnson |
| Junior | Madison Simms |
| Senior | Kathryn Fisher |
| Intermediate | Olivia Rasheed |
2015 saw another successful Mount Isa School of the Air Eisteddfod. We had students participate in Poetry and in Music categories. For the first time we welcomed students from Richmond and Prairie State Schools to our music section. 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, Mrs Helen Little adjudicated the music section from the Gold Coast hinterland. Mrs Bryanne Jardine, the Speech Adjudicator, enjoyed listening to our poetry performers from her home in Murwillumbah, Northern New South Wales. Congratulations to everyone who practised and performed so well.

**2015 MISOTA Eisteddfod Speech Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 4 &amp; under Verse Award</th>
<th>Emily Towne</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 &amp; 6 Verse Award</td>
<td>Marleina Salter Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouragement Award (poetry)</td>
<td>Kathryn Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Adjudicators Choice (poetry) Trophy Award</td>
<td>Amy Bellingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep – Year 1 entries (non-competitive)</td>
<td>Marcus Lynch, Bridget Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set Verse - Year 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Zack Salter-Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Emily Towne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set Verse – Year 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Amy Bellingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Annabelle Towne</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Millie McDonald</td>
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<tr>
<td>HC Joshua Hullock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set Verse - Year 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Cody Wockner</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Chloe Towne</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Marleina Salter-Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>HC Jack Towne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian/humorous verse - Year 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Amy Bellingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Johanna Lynch</td>
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<td>3rd Joshua Hullock</td>
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<tr>
<td>HC Clayton Tait</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian/humorous verse - Year 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Cody Wockner</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Kathryn Fisher</td>
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**2015 MISOTA Eisteddfod Music Results**

**Special Awards:**
- Encouragement Award (recorder) Kathryn Fisher
- Encouragement Award (strings) James Brown
- Adjudicators Choice Award (strings) Marthinus Farrell

**Recorder Solo – Year 4 & under (non-competitive)**
- Joshua Hullock, Charlee Low Mow

**Recorder Solo – Year 5 & 6**
- 1st Kathryn Fisher
- Solo - Any other instrument – Year 7 & under
  - 1st Johanna Lynch

**Strings – solo beginner players Year 7 & under (non competitive)**
- Sean Phayre-Lueng, Josie Muston, Lily Duddy, Georgie Jonnson, Bella Duddy, Angus Jonnson (all Prairie students)

**Strings – solo Year 7 & under**
- 1st Marthinus Farrell
- 2nd James Brown (Richmond)
- 3rd Joshua Hullock, Angus Muston
- HC Josie Muston (Prairie), Mia Maluga (Richmond)

**Strings – Year 7 & under - Baroque or Classical composition**
- 1st Marthinus Farrell
- 2nd James Brown
- 3rd Joshua Hullock
- HC Lucy Kennedy

**Strings – Year 7 and under - 20th Century composition**
- 1st James Brown
- 2nd Marthinus Farrell
- 3rd Joshua Hullock
- HC Mia Maluga, Lucy Kennedy

**Thank you** ... Our Eisteddfod happens each year with the assistance of many people. The Mount Isa Eisteddfod Committee provided wonderful support, the adjudicators and all the prizes. Sponsorship is also provided by 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, Deb Cobden and Donna Carr. Each year our teaching staff gives support to their students by phoning in and providing an appreciative audience. This year Rachel Tutauha, Raylene White, Donna Carr and Yvonne Moore assisted with the paperwork in the studio. Di Crawford stepped in to do a wonderful job of chairing the Music section in my absence. It is a pleasure to provide this cultural experience for our students.

*Jo Mills* - On behalf of the MISOTA Eisteddfod Co-ordination Team
WESTERN ALLIANCE – SECONDARY MULTISCHOOL

The first multischool for 2015 was held in Longreach during Week 3 of Term 2 where 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. The week was enjoyed by all and now everyone is looking forward to the next multischool to be held 24th-28th August. Don't forget to mark your calendars for attending the secondary camp during Week 4, 26th-30th October at Thunderbird Park on Mt Tamborine.

SPORTS NEWS

On Friday 19th June, students travelled to represent the school in the McKISSA Athletics Carnival, competing with Julia Creek State School. Teachers Mat Whitney and Jo Mills also attended. They reported that all students represented their school well on the day. The brand new equipment made the Mini Olympics for the younger grades a huge success. A special mention goes to Trent Folker, who managed to complete the entire march past on crutches, refusing any help from Mrs Mills. Congratulations to everyone who participated and thank you to the families for making the commitment to physical activity and school spirit.

In Term 3, students born in 2003, 2004 and 2005 who received first or second in their event at Sports Day are eligible to compete in the Mount Isa District Athletics Carnival on Friday 31st July. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in nominating. Contact me at 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. Trials will be advertised in notices with as much notice as possible.

CURRICULUM UPDATE

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. As distance education schools and mainstream schools work together for moderation processes, 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.
**Mount Isa Celebrates** brings together a star-studded line-up of performing artists, with an impressive array of instrumental and vocal talent born and bred in the city.

Mount Isa Community Ensembles (MICE) has inspired the creation of one of the world’s most remote symphony orchestras. In their debut performance, the orchestra will share the stage with more than 300 musicians, including the Mount Isa Community Chorus and Combined Schools Choir.

Headlining both performances will be jazz star James Morrison, stunning vocalist Emma Pask, internationally renowned concert pianist Ambre Hammond, violin virtuoso Ian Cooper and the John Morrison Trio.

The grand finale will be a world premiere performance of *Symphony of the Inland Sea* by acclaimed Australian composer, Matthew Dewey. This evocative work is inspired by the extraordinary landscape in and around this iconic city.

Tickets for this free community event at the Mount Isa Civic Centre are available online and at Outback at Isa. Preshow entertainment on Thursday evening from 6pm by the “Spinifex Concert Band.” Local performers include the Mount Isa Community Orchestra and massed School Choir. Performances commence at 7pm on Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th July.

Compliments of Mount Isa Mines, a specifically designed school show will be held at the Mount Isa Civic Centre on Thursday 23rd July at 1pm. The Queensland Music Festival proudly present Emma Pask and the John Morrison Trio showcasing Jazz, Blues and Soul music during this performance. Please email ymoor2@eq.edu.au if you would like free tickets to the School Show.

Yvonne Moore
Instrumental Music

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Thanks to all 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 from the library for $6.00.

**Book Week** (Books Light Up Our World) is fast approaching and you will be receiving your competition details in the post. All entries need to be returned to school by Wednesday 12 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.

**Premiers Reading Challenge** details have been sent out to all families with students in Prep through to Year 6. The school has registered so if you are wanting your child/children to be involved please contact us on kkuhn5@eq.edu.au; rwhit161@eq.edu.au and we will register for you.

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

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

**QSS eBooks Digital Library** is now available for your students to access. You can start reading eBooks in 4 easy steps:

1. Go to [http://educationqld.lib.overdrive.com](http://educationqld.lib.overdrive.com) and enter your MIS ID
2. Search or browse for eBooks
3. Sample before you borrow
4. Borrow and download. You can read online using OverDrive Read or read offline using Adobe Digital Editions. There are step-by-step instructions on the site but if you have any hassles please don’t hesitate to call Raylene or Katrina or Nataliya.

‘*Star of Deltora*’ Library Competition: Thank you to our entrants. Your entries will be submitted to Scholastic and the winning school will be announced around Book Week.

Our MISOTA winners are:

1st - Kathryn Fisher - $10 Bookclub Voucher
2nd - Tom Doyle - $5 Bookclub Voucher
3rd - Harry Doyle - $5 Bookclub Voucher

Raylene White & Katrina Kuhne
MAILROOM & PRINT ROOM NEWS

To assist with the smooth running of your classrooms, please keep all C2C discs. These discs are sent out in paper envelopes. Sometimes a unit on the disc will not be needed immediately but will be required at a future date. If you do happen to return these discs from now on, I will automatically return them to you.

Moniqua Gorman has been working hard in the printroom and in the mailroom to learn every part of both these areas. She has also been working on the old Prep themed boxes and therefore next term we will be releasing new Prep resources. The themed play boxes have been reconfigured into smaller bags that can be mailed back and forth. The prep teachers will let you all know when this exciting opportunity is available.

When visiting Mount Isa please come into the mailroom to collect your mail. If possible, please let me know that you will be visiting. I can hold sending any mail for a couple of days before to assist you with receiving your mail faster.

If you feel it is taking too long to receive mail from school and I can make a difference by sending out your mail on a different day, please contact me so a solution can be worked on.

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.

Leah Allingham

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 very strong involvement with State Council; Wendy Hick is Vice President, Kim Hughes is State Vice President & Kylie Camp – who is our standing Branch President – is Portfolio Research Officer. Wendy Hick has also recently been co-opted onto Federal Council. 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 & 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 SFBK dates for 2015 are 30 Nov – 4 Dec.

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

Executive for 2014

President: Kylie Camp
ph 07 47485585
email floravilledowns@optusnet.com.au
Floraville Downs, Burketown

Secretary: Rose-marie Newton
ph 07 4745 3526
email talawanta@reachnet.com.au
Talawanta Station, Julia Creek,

Treasurer: Tina Barrett
ph 08. 89645551
email tbarrett@aaco.com.au
Avon Downs, Mount Isa

Publicity

Sarah Cook
ph 08 8956 9706
email cpcook74@bigpond.com
Aileron Station, Alice Springs
Office:

SFBK

Wendy Wockner
ph 07 47453488
email wendywockner@gmail.com
Glenerie Station, Normanton

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. 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.
Corlia Pienaar

My name is Corlia Pienaar. I am originally from South Africa and migrated to Australia in 2008 with my family. My husband works in the mines and he is the most amazing person I know. I have two beautiful sons (23 and 19) who live in Perth and Townsville.

Before becoming a school chaplain, I was a Teacher Aide at Spinifex State College for 7 years. I began my journey as a School Chaplain last year at Mount Isa State Special School. At the beginning of this term, I took over from Graeme Foster and I’m now working as a full time chaplain in three different schools. I’m also a full time student, studying a Diploma of Counseling. After finishing my Diploma, I am planning to finish my Social Science degree.

My role as a School Chaplain is to support students, parents and staff, socially, emotionally and spiritually. One of the programs that I facilitate at MISOTA is called ‘Friends for Life’. It is a social skills and resilience building program that teaches participants to cope with their feelings, build confidence and how to be happy and brave.

Tiarna Rogers

Hi, I am Mrs Rogers, the new Prep teacher. I come to MISOTA from a school in Mount Isa where I have previously taught LOTE (Japanese), Year One and Prep. My husband (Lee), works in and around the Mount Isa area as a field service diesel fitter. Our daughters (Charlotte, 7 and Matildah, 5) attend school in Mount Isa. They both love to dance. I am looking forward to working at MISOTA for the remainder of 2015.

Graeme Foster

Hi I am Graeme Foster (used to be Chappy). I’ve started working with Year 4 since the start of term 2. It’s a change from being the school Chaplain to a class teacher and I’m enjoying the change and challenge that it is. I’ve lived with my wife and two girls in Mount Isa since 2010 and have been at School of the Air since last year. I’m really excited about being a teacher and looking forward to the changes and challenges that the rest of this year will bring.

Donna Carr

Hi, I’m Donna Carr, and I’ve been working at MISOTA on and off for the last 12 years, well more on than off. I had a 2 year sojourn at the Laura Johnson home a few years back. I’ve had varying jobs here at school. I started off filling in for Dot O’Neill who was the Parent Liaison Officer at the time, and I’m sure whom some of you will have fond memories of Dot. Then it was on to the mail room helping Judy Cooper for a while, but for the most part (and the most rewarding) I have been in a Learning Support Teacher Aide role. The more time you spend with the kids the better the rapport you have with them, and I have a soft spot for them all. I have three beautiful boys, 18 ½ year old twins and a 20 year old. Sad for me to say they are all at university in Brisbane now, I’m sure they may not miss me as much as I miss them. Still, not happy suddenly finding ourselves “empty nesters”. I have a mining engineer husband who’s unemployed at the moment (he likes to say under-employed as he is getting some part time work), but he’s very much a keeper.

Nataliya Vernon

Hello everyone, my name is Nataliya Vernon and I have been the technical officer at MISOTA since October 2014. I was born in Russia (as you have probably guessed from my accent!) then lived in the UK for many years. After coming from a law enforcement background, where paperwork takes up most of your day, I find my current role more interesting and challenging as every day is not the same. I am responsible for providing ongoing support for teachers, students, home tutors and parents, resolving a variety of technical issues.

I feel extremely proud to be working at MISOTA as part of dedicated school team. I look forward to meeting you all throughout the year, if I haven’t already. Thank you to the wonderful students, families, governesses, home tutors and staff of MISOTA for welcoming me and making my time here so enjoyable.

Debbie Cobden

Hello everyone, I’m Debbie Cobden – usually the voice at the end of the line when you telephone MISOTA. As the Administration Officer, I work in the office with Anne. My family moved to Mount Isa, from Cairns, at the end of 2012 when my husband joined the RFDS as a pilot. Our children both attend Spinifex State College. Mount Isa is such a welcoming and community oriented place and working at MISOTA with terrific staff and families really is the icing on my cake. I enjoy reading, music, walking, cooking, the distant horizon of western Queensland, wide open spaces and road trips. It’s really great to see you all in person when you come to visit the school and I can put another face to a name and voice.
Rachel Tutauha

It is with deep sadness that I say goodbye to the wonderful staff, students and families of MISOTA. I am homebound for New Zealand at the end of this term and look forward to starting the next chapter of my life at home. I feel extremely privileged to have been given the opportunity to work at this amazing school and I take with me incredible memories and experiences that I will never forget. I’d just like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students, home tutors and families who have helped make my time at MISOTA a special one. Thank you all, and goodbye from Miss T.

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. A wonderful resource for students and families, Bullying. No Way! focuses on bullying between students. This site 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.


ASG INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING AWARDS NEITA

Our school is fortunate to have a quality staff. I know from numerous comments, that many children, govises and parents hold a staff member in high regard. These National Excellence in Teaching 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 2015, by completing the online nomination form at: www.asg.com.au/nominate.

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

E-KINDY PROGRAM

Hello everyone!

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 exploring and collaborative projects 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 Liz and Miss Mon join us for these days and really enjoyed their help 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 Mini School opportunities. I am keen to hear from the eKindy families what Mini Schools 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 Mini School 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 group web sessions a week by term 4!

The waiting list for eKindy 2016 is now open and can be found on the Brisbane School of Distance Education web page: https://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Curriculum/eKindy/Pages/eKindy.aspx

If you are interested, or know of anyone interested in registering a child for eKindy in 2015, 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

I am looking forward to the next two terms and all the exciting things happening in the school as well as eKindy!
P & C Progress - Term 2 Meetings & Activities

It has been a good start to the year for the P&C; our meetings have been well attended and informative, always providing plenty of discussion on school issues. Everyone is always welcome on our meetings and all contribution ensures we are providing the best education possible for our children.

Some key items discussed during term 2 meetings include;

- Cadbury fundraiser, coordinated by Michelle Low Mow
- The successful mini school shirts fundraiser from 2014 is again being carried out this year
- Home Tutor Seminar and activity week input and fundraisers
- Year 6 students have begun fundraising to contribute towards their Canberra camp in July.
- Bush Kids Calendar photos are still required!
- IT issues faced in our schoolroom including collaborate, Java updates, internet capacity needs for SDE students, placemat development for tips and checklists, and IT roadshows to SDE’s.
- Proposed SDE Device Loan/Hire Scheme
- Schools of Distance Education Alliance May Meeting Minutes circulated for your comment/feedback/contribution.

The P&C is desperately looking for a VISE coordinator. VISE is such a worthwhile organization enabling retired teachers to assist in our classrooms. We require a coordinator for this area to enable families to source this assistance. If interested could you please contact Tim or myself.

We are also asking for contribution towards ideas and suggestions for fundraising ideas. We are hoping to do one or two larger fundraisers in the later part of the year to cover our expenses rather than the continual raffles. Any suggestions please attend one of our meetings or contact any of the executive.

P&C EXECUTIVE FOR 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Bernadette Lyttle</td>
<td><a href="mailto:canningtonstation@bigpond.com">canningtonstation@bigpond.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECRETARY</td>
<td>Tiarna O’Brien</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tobrie25@myune.edu.au">tobrie25@myune.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREASURER</td>
<td>Annie Hacon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cubbarooschool@hotmail.com">cubbarooschool@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICE PRESIDENTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemarie Newton</td>
<td>Talawanta Station, Mt</td>
<td><a href="mailto:talawanta@reachnet.com.au">talawanta@reachnet.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiarna O’Brien</td>
<td>Rocklands Station, Camoowea</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tobbie25@myune.edu.au">tobbie25@myune.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Low Mow</td>
<td>Adels Grove, Ph 07 4748 5502</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michelle@adelsgrove.com.com">michelle@adelsgrove.com.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsty Sullivan</td>
<td>Calton Hills Station,</td>
<td><a href="mailto:k_sully@outlook.com">k_sully@outlook.com</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>

SODEA REPRESENTATIVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Cook</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com">cpcook74@bigpond.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEW FAMILY CONTACTS FOR 2015

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 who enrol in our school in your area or need further information please contact Kym Cairns. Please see the related areas listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bouli</td>
<td>Sarah Cook - Oban Station, Mt Isa 07 4748 4818 <a href="mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com">cpcook74@bigpond.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloncurry</td>
<td>Annie Hacon - Cubbaroo Downs Station, Cloncurry 07 4742 5933 <a href="mailto:cubbarooschool@hotmail.com">cubbarooschool@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory/Burketown</td>
<td>Michelle Low Mow - Adels Grove 07 4748 5502 <a href="mailto:michelle64@activ8.net.au">michelle64@activ8.net.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Creek</td>
<td>Megan Folker - Pelham Station, Nelia 0747418588 <a href="mailto:pelhamstr@activ8.net.au">pelhamstr@activ8.net.au</a> Deborah Keats – Bow Park, Julia Creek 07 4746 8603 <a href="mailto:deborah@rqkeats.com">deborah@rqkeats.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Isa</td>
<td>Currently vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normanton</td>
<td>Rosemarie Newton – Talawanta Station, Julia Creek 07 4745 3526 <a href="mailto:talawanta@reachnet.com.au">talawanta@reachnet.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>Margaret Jones – Anthony Lagoon Station, Mt Isa 08 8964 4665 <a href="mailto:anthonylagoonsonata@aaco.com.au">anthonylagoonsonata@aaco.com.au</a></td>
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VISE LOCAL AREA COORDINATOR (Volunteers For Isolated Students’ Education)

Co-ordinator urgently required
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>EXT.</th>
<th>EMAIL ADDRESS</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alicia Morse</td>
<td>4744 8331</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amors19@eq.edu.au">amors19@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Coleman</td>
<td>4744 8333</td>
<td><a href="mailto:acole42@eq.edu.au">acole42@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Business Services Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash Quested</td>
<td>4744 8339</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aques1@eq.edu.au">aques1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Boost Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridoen Schluss</td>
<td>4744 8360</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bschl27@eq.edu.au">bschl27@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Field Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Kuhn</td>
<td>4744 8332</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ckuhn2@eq.edu.au">ckuhn2@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris McIntosh</td>
<td>4744 8342</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cmin109@eq.edu.au">cmin109@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire Goodall</td>
<td>4744 8349</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cgood135@eq.edu.au">cgood135@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corlia Pienaar</td>
<td>4744 8320</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cpien2@eq.edu.au">cpien2@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Chaplain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debbie Cobden</td>
<td>4744 8333</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dcobd1@eq.edu.au">dcobd1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Admin Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debby Bishop</td>
<td>4744 8345</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dbish24@eq.edu.au">dbish24@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Teacher Aide - Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Di Crawford</td>
<td>4744 8336</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dcraw7@eq.edu.au">dcraw7@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Di Knudson</td>
<td>4744 8356</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dkmud3@eq.edu.au">dkmud3@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna Carr</td>
<td>4744 8315</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dccarr55@eq.edu.au">dccarr55@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Teacher Aide – Learning Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Plant</td>
<td>4744 8357</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gplan9@eq.edu.au">gplan9@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>eKindy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graeme Foster</td>
<td>4744 8343</td>
<td>g <a href="mailto:fost11@eq.edu.au">fost11@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janeen Fricke</td>
<td>4744 8333</td>
<td>j <a href="mailto:fric1@eq.edu.au">fric1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Deputy Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo Mills</td>
<td>4744 8328</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmill158@eq.edu.au">jmill158@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jody Reader</td>
<td>4744 8338</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jread71@eq.edu.au">jread71@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katrina Kuhn</td>
<td>4744 8334</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kkuhn5@eq.edu.au">kkuhn5@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 6/Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Shelley</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:kshel40@eq.edu.au">kshel40@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Scouts of the Air - Leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leah Allingham</td>
<td>4744 8309</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lallli12@eq.edu.au">lallli12@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Teacher Aide - Mail/Curriculum/Print</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Ryan</td>
<td>4744 8303</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lryan48@eq.edu.au">lryan48@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Parent Liaison Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Ward</td>
<td>4744 8341</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lward68@eq.edu.au">lward68@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Bailey</td>
<td>4744 8301</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elbail18@eq.edu.au">elbail18@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Learning Support Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Lindenmayer</td>
<td>4744 8358</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elind56@eq.edu.au">elind56@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Boost Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loida Genc</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lgenc1@eq.edu.au">lgenc1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Cleaner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathew Whitney</td>
<td>4744 8348</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwhit243@eq.edu.au">mwhit243@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michele Ridge</td>
<td>4744 8347</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mridg12@eq.edu.au">mridg12@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moniqua Gorman</td>
<td>4744 8313</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mgorm17@eq.edu.au">mgorm17@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Teacher Aide - Mail/Curriculum/Print</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nataliya Vernon</td>
<td>4744 8306</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nvern0@eq.edu.au">nvern0@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Technical Officer, Computer/Telephone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikki Barlow</td>
<td>4744 8329</td>
<td>nb <a href="mailto:arl13@eq.edu.au">arl13@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 1/Master Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raylene White</td>
<td>4744 8352</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rwhit161@eq.edu.au">rwhit161@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Teacher Aide - Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renee Moore</td>
<td>4744 8346</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rmoor151@eq.edu.au">rmoor151@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selena Courtice</td>
<td>4744 8354</td>
<td><a href="mailto:scour21@eq.edu.au">scour21@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Field Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanya Pollard</td>
<td>4744 8337</td>
<td>t <a href="mailto:poll116@eq.edu.au">poll116@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tianna Rogers</td>
<td>4744 8335</td>
<td><a href="mailto:troge48@eq.edu.au">troge48@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Moes</td>
<td>4744 8333</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tmoes3@eq.edu.au">tmoes3@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yvonne Moore</td>
<td>4744 8319</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ymoor2@eq.edu.au">ymoor2@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Instrumental Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE – Jayne Phillips</td>
<td>4080 9118</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jphill74@eq.edu.au">jphill74@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>LOTE – French Yr 5/6/7 – German Yr 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE – Sabina Fernandez</td>
<td>4080 9113</td>
<td>sf <a href="mailto:ern8@eq.edu.au">ern8@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>LOTE – Indonesian Yr 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE – Giuliano Alberti</td>
<td>4080 9147</td>
<td><a href="mailto:galbe10@eq.edu.au">galbe10@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>LOTE – Italian Yr 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE – Miki Saiki Green</td>
<td>4080 9152</td>
<td><a href="mailto:msaik3@eq.edu.au">msaik3@eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>LOTE – Japanese Yr 5/6/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE – Sam Pentsa</td>
<td>4080 9173</td>
<td><a href="mailto:spent7@eq.edu.au">spent7@eq.edu.au</a></td>
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Talking to your kids about bullying

Conversations are critical to ensuring your child feels safe at school. You can have a positive influence on your child’s social, emotional and academic development by talking with them and being engaged in their education.

While conflict is a natural part of growing up and learning how to socialise, bullying can have long-term effects on the wellbeing of your child.

What are the common signs that my child is being bullied?
Knowing whether your child is being bullied is sometimes hard to work out. Some common indicators to look out for could include:

- unexplained crying, moodiness or anger
- not wanting to go to school
- less social contact with friends
- frequent disagreements with you or their siblings
- unexplained missing personal property
- a decline in the quality of their school work.

How should I talk to my child about bullying?
If you think your child is being bullied, the most important thing to do is to talk to them about it. Try to:

- stay calm and let them know you’re happy they’ve told you
- listen to them and tell them you believe them
- explain that it’s not their fault and it’s never ok to be bullied
- ask them what they want you to do
- let them know you are there to help them practise responsible ways to respond to bullying.

You may also like to contact your school to ensure teachers know about the situation and find out if anything is being done to address it.

There is help available
There is also a range of resources out there to help you and your child deal with bullying, including:

Safe Schools Hub - [www.safeschoolshub.edu.au](http://www.safeschoolshub.edu.au)

Through the Safe Schools Hub, the Australian Government is empowering parents with information and advice on how families can support a safe school culture and manage problems when they arise.
The Safe Schools Hub for Parents provides you with information and resources that you may find useful in helping to make your child's school experience a positive and happy one. On the Hub you will find links to many of the websites listed below.


Bullying. No Way! has a dedicated parents portal providing useful information for parents and carers specifically about bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in schools.


Cybersmart is a national cybersafety and cybersecurity education programme managed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, as part of the Australian Government’s commitment to online safety.

Department of Communications - [www.communications.gov.au/online_safety_and_security](http://www.communications.gov.au/online_safety_and_security)

The Australian Government Department of Communications provides links to Australian Government measures to improve online security and fraud awareness and includes information about online safety for children

Think U Know - [www.thinkuknow.org.au](http://www.thinkuknow.org.au)

ThinkUKnow is an Internet safety programme delivering interactive training to parents, carers and teachers.

eheadspace - [www.eheadspace.org.au](http://www.eheadspace.org.au)

eheadspace is a confidential, free and secure space where young people 12 - 25 or their family can chat, email or speak on the phone with a qualified youth mental health professional

Mychild - [mychild.gov.au](http://mychild.gov.au)

Mychild.gov.au is Australia’s online child care portal. The site also has information and links to other useful websites about children’s health and wellbeing, parenting and family support services.

Raising Children - [raisingchildren.net.au](http://raisingchildren.net.au)

The Raising Children network provides information that can help parents with the day-to-day decisions of raising children, and to also help parents and carers look after their own needs.


Parentline is a confidential telephone counselling service providing professional counselling and support for parents and those who care for children.