Enrolment advice 2016

In 2016, enrolment data will be collected by Department Education on the 5th and 26th 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 2016 and WILL NOT be on air by either the 5th Feb and/or 26th Feb, could you please complete the enrolment advice form or ring Tim on 0428 455 852 or email tmoes3@eq.edu.au or Linda Ryan lryan48@eq.edu.au

Thank you.

<-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**ENROLMENT ADVICE**

_________________ are enrolled in 2016. 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
Inside this Newsletter:
- Greetings & Welcome to Term 1
- Organisation & Events
  - 2016 - The Year of Review
  - Staffing News
  - Our staff
  - Class lists
  - Connellan Airways Trust
  - Field Services
  - Prep Orientation Days
  - NAPLAN Testing
  - Camps
  - New families
  - Governnesses/Governors
  - Open Communication
  - Family contact details
  - Computer Needs
  - Computer School Subscription
  - Access
  - Mail Room
- Curriculum
  - Additional Resources to support C2C
  - Diagnostic Assessment
  - Learning Support
  - The importance of hearing and vision screening
  - LOTE – Year 5/6/7/8
  - Strings News
  - Extra-Curricular Activities
  - Phone Etiquette
  - School Invoices
  - Material Requirement Prep – r 6
- Term 4 in Review
  - Graduation 2015
  - Staff Farewells
  - WA Mount Tamborine Camp
  - 2015 Competition Results
- General Interest
  - Gumbuya Magazine
  - Bushkids Calendar
  - MISOTA P&C Association
  - 2016 P&C Nomination form
  - 2016 P&C Membership form
  - P&C Media Consent forms
- Community Groups
  - ICPA Mount Isa Branch of the Air (BOTA) News and membership form.
  - VISE TUTORS

Attachments:
- Staff Contact list
- Who to contact
- School Class List
- ON AIR Timetable
- Western Alliance Timetable Sem 1 Calendar
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- Connellan Airways Trust Fund Application
- Govie In-service Registration Form

PRINCIPAL’S GREETING
Welcome to the new school year. A fresh start – new classes, new teachers, new students, new families, new govies and new homes! This is what I love about being a teacher and the life of working in a school like ours. Each day and each year is different, with many varied opportunities to meet families new to the school, getting to know current students further through lessons or field events and inviting and mentoring new staff to the distance education way.

On that note, a special welcome to 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. Tim and I look forward to catching up with all families, particularly new families at our Activity Days during Term 1.

Our school places great emphasis upon open communication and I am happy for families to have my mobile number 0448 847 047 so that I can be contacted whenever the need arises. Tim will be returning in January and of course would also appreciate your calls once he returns to the region. Another communication avenue to place into your daily routines is Morning Notices, which occurs each day at 8am, commencing with our National Anthem followed by details of any changes to schedules and also notification of school and extracurricular events.

It has been a wonderful opportunity to sit in Tim’s chair at this time of the year. It is a season of celebration for me personally, and now I share the graduation celebration of our Year 6 and 10 students and their families. Sports for Bush Kids Week, is looked forward to by so many children, along with Mount Isa Activity Day and the Family BBQ, all wonderful opportunities for us to stop and celebrate community and relationships.

2016 is our year of review. Tim and I will be seeking community input to establish goals that will drive our teaching and learning agenda for the next four years. Involvement in the school P&C is one way that you can access this process or otherwise you can contact Tim or I direct if you would like to express your interest. Later in the year we will have Education Queensland colleagues visit us to experience our school and review our programs, policies and processes to provide feedback to assist us in continually improving this great school by ensuring our students and families are always the focus.

Janeen Fricke
Acting Principal
TERM 1 – ORGANISATION & EVENTS

2016 THE YEAR OF REVIEW

During 2016, we will be seeking your input into what the major changes/goals for the school will be for the next 4 years. The last time we had a year of review was 2012 when the goals determined were:

- to implement the C2C curriculum,
- develop the Western Alliance,
- introduce reading lessons
- develop a broader assessment base.

During 2016 we will:

- Look at our results for the past few years
- Review School Opinion Survey data
- Discuss with staff and families areas for change or improvement
- Look at EQ priorities
- Survey staff and families
- Have a review of our school by 3 external principals.

At each activity day and minischool during 2016, Janeen and Tim plan to discuss aspects of the review. This is a really great chance to influence how the school will operate over the next four years. We look forward to your input. In a review year we need to have a school council made up of staff and families to look at all the information collected throughout the year and then determine the main priorities for the next 4 years. Each minischool area will have a parent/govie representative who will be on the school council. Please let Tim or Janeen know if you are interested in being a minischool representative on our school council.

IN THE INTERIM there may be some minor changes we can make before this full review. Please use the following headings if you have any suggestions for us to consider:

- On Air,
- Feedback sessions and response to student’s work,
- Reading lessons,
- Field activities,

OUR STAFF

Tim Moes  Principal
Janeen Fricke  Deputy Principal
Anne Coleman  Business Services Manager
Linda Ryan  Parent Liaison Officer
Luke Hughes  Technical Officer
Deb Cobden  Admin Officer
eKindy  Georgia Plant
Prep  Tiarna Rogers  Jo Mills
Year 1  Di Knudson  Danya Benson
Year 2  Tanya Pollard  Liz Lindenmayer (.5)
Year 3  Mat Whitney  Kelly Green
Year 4  Claire Goodall  Graeme Foster
Year 5  Roo Landman-Tyrie  Lisa Ward
Year 6  Chris Kuhne  Katrina Kuhne
Secondary Western Alliance  Chris McIntosh, Michele Ridge & Renee Moore
Field Services  Selena Courtice, Bridoenschloss
Liz Bailey  Learning Support Teacher
Nikki Barlow  Master Teacher/Coach
Liz Lindenmayer  New HT C2C Induction (.5)
Kara Thompson  Modified C2C Student Programs
Peta Wirth  Library (.2)
Yvonne Moore  Instrumental Music - Strings
Leah Allingham  Mail Room/Curriculum Room/Printroom Teacher Aide
Moniqua Gorman  Mail Room/Curriculum Room/Printroom Teacher Aide
Raylene White  Library
Donna Carr  Learning Support Teacher Aide
Debby Bishop  Reading Teacher Aide
Loida Genc  Cleaner
Kim Shelley  Scouts of the Air
We are very fortunate this year to only have a handful of new staff. Sadly though, that means we have to farewell some very familiar faces to our school and ones that will be missed greatly. At the end of 2015 we farewelled the following staff who are off to other pastures -

- Ash Quested - Cairns School of Distance Education
- Di Crawford - Hambledon SS, Cairns – Di is returning to her home and will enjoy being closer to her family
- Alicia Morse - moving to New South Wales and new horizons for her teaching career

In 2016 we welcome two experienced teachers to our school; Kelly Green will be teaching Year 3, who is coming to us from Sunset SS in Mount Isa and Danya Benson Year 1, transferring from Barkly Highway SS in Mount Isa. We welcome back Kara Thompson who will return one day a week to work on a school based project.

Although not totally new to the school, we still welcome Graeme Foster to Year 4, Roo Landman-Tyrie to Year 5 and Luke Hughes as our Technical Officer.

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.

Tentative class lists are attached for your information. Please look carefully at the class list and timetables and let Janeen/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 Wednesday 27th January, 2016 at 8.00am. Dial in on 1800 141 220 then follow the prompts use Studio 4 conference code (8145 968 840).

Thanks to all the families who made specific requests for times, teachers and 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.

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 12th February 2016 by fax or email acole42@eq.edu.au

Our Field Services in 2016 will be provided by Selena Courtice and Bridoen Schloss.

Home visits in 2016 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. Selena and/or Bridoen may also conduct some home visits on a needs basis. All requests for home visits should be directed through Tim or Janeen.

Group days
Group days will continue in 2016, 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 Bridoen 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 however we have alternated the days.

TERM 1:
- 6 Activity days
- Cloncurry – Monday 22 February
- Julia Creek – Tuesday 23 February
- Mount Isa – Wednesday 2 March
- Gregory – Thursday 10 March
- Burke & Wills – Friday 11 March
- Bedourie – Thursday 17 March

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 2016.

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

TERM 4: Julia Creek

We would love to hear your ideas on themes and activities to do at Minischool, please contact either Selena or Bridoen if you have any ideas to share.
Welcome to all the Prep students and their families. We hope all children, Home Tutors and parents enjoy the 2016 year of their schooling with Mount Isa School of the Air. We are certainly looking forward to meeting all of our new students.

In 2016, 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 provide some 'getting started' information. These packs have been sent to all families who have enrolled a Prep student. Take particular notice of the 'Don't Panic' sheets and the Work Rate Calendar Term 1 - 2016.

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 at which they have students in attendance, and will use this time to get to know each child. Please direct any queries to Jo Mills jmill158@eq.edu.au

In 2016 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 10th, Wednesday11th and Thursday 12th 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.

Our camp program for this year:

Year 4’s will go to Magnetic Island and stay at the Picnic Bay camp site from 15 – 20 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 approx. $350.

Year 5’s will be attending a leadership camp at Adels Grove from the 15 - 20 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 approx. $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 $400 in addition to the fundraising.

Secondary students in the Western Alliance will attend a multischool in Longreach with students from Charleville and Longreach SDE’s during Week 8 of Term 1 and Week 2 of Term 4. More information and final costsings 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

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acton</th>
<th>Julia Creek</th>
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<td>Castle</td>
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<td>Daniell</td>
<td>Julia Creek</td>
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<td>Flemming</td>
<td>McKinlay</td>
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<td>Fry</td>
<td>Normanton</td>
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<td>Gordon</td>
<td>Cloncurry</td>
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<td>Healey</td>
<td>Karumba</td>
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<td>McInnes</td>
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<td>Pedler</td>
<td>Normanton</td>
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<td>Saunders</td>
<td>Travelling</td>
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<td>Taylor</td>
<td>Georgetown</td>
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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.
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 2016. 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.

The two night residential in-service will be held at our Outstation building from Thursday 18th February, concluding Saturday 20th February 2016. We will be holding a second in-service in August to coincide with the Mount Isa Rodeo.

Please direct any questions to Janeen Fricke (4744 8333) jfric1@eq.edu.au or Linda Ryan (4744 8303) lryan48@eq.edu.au

**OPEN COMMUNICATION**

Communication is at the heart of what we do.

Email, phone, letters, faxes, ed Studios, eLearn, 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) lryan48@eq.edu.au

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.
- Microsoft Office products are downloadable for all students enrolled in our school through the Learning Place – Talk to Luke our Tech officer.
- We have Luke Hughes at the school to help with technical issues and your class teacher 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/](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 Luke 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.
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.

**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, CD’s and USB’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 2016, 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
- 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.
- Beginning Writing Program - Casey Caterpillar (Prep – Year 1)
- 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.
- New Wave Mental Maths Book - a commercial text to engage students in Maths warm-ups preparing for C2C Maths papers.
- M100W Sightword Kits – a kit of cards, charts and games to assist with developing fluency in reading and writing of the most common words used in the English language.
- Sound Waves Foundation Prep – a whole school approach to phonemic awareness and early spelling.
- EdAlive Software Program – access to 60 titles covering numeracy, literacy, typing, fonts & clip art to aid in lesson warm ups, mental maths, spelling and reading.

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'
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

THE IMPORTANCE OF VISUAL TIMETABLES

THE IMPORTANCE OF TIMETABLES AND TIMERS

Timetables:
Having a visual weekly timetable in the classroom helps to communicate to the students the upcoming daily and weekly events. It tells the student when they are to be doing a KLA and for how long. Visual timetables enhance receptive language skills (how a student receives information) and can be designed to meet the needs of the student by using words, pictures, icons or photos.

Visual timetables help students to become independent of adult prompts and cues. They assist with comprehension of the day’s events and are easily accessible to the student. They can see and understand what is going to happen next and they can therefore organise themselves for the next thing on the timetable.

An example of a schoolroom timetable is shown below:
Timers:
Timers tell the student how long and when they are going to have to do an activity. Timers can be used to break down an activity into achievable tasks and lets them know how long they have to go for an activity. They can be used to develop independence in students by setting a time for them to complete an activity independently while the home tutor is working with other students. They can be used to increase work productivity in the student. For example: 10 minutes writing, 5 minutes break, 10 minutes writing, gradually increasing the writing time while decreasing the break time. They are a great visual aid for all students – use a clock, an iPad or iPhone, or any appliance where you can set specific times and the student can see this counting up or down.

Setting up a classroom timetable and the use of timers will be addressed in sessions at the Governess/New Home Tutor Inservice.

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 a 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
2015 was a highly successful year of Instrumental Music and now we are looking for new string players for 2016. 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. Please contact Yvonne Moore, 4744 8301 or ymoor2@eq.edu.au, if you would like your child to start string lessons in 2016 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 Luke (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. BPOINT 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 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 2016. 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 2015

Graduation was a great night of celebration for our students. It was a time of farewell to students, families and Home Tutors 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:
Western Alliance Year 9 Outstanding Effort Award ...................... Molly Lyttle
Year 6
Academic Award ................................................. Kathryn Fisher
................................................................. Ethan Hannay
ICPA Citizenship Award ........................................ Eliza Friend
Zanda McDonald Award............................................ Molly Thieme
Governess Bursary Award ....................................... Sarah Hughes
MMG Young Leaders Award .................................... Darcy Zammit
P&C Endeavour Award ........................................ Oscar Keats
Rotary Encouragement Award .................................. Angus Watson
Primary All Rounder............................................. Laura McDonald
STAFF FAREWELLS

In times of stress I reach for my bible - ‘The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy’ by Douglas Adams. In the story, the earth is about to be demolished by an evil race of Vogons to make way for a hyper spatial bypass and humans, the third most intelligent beings on Earth after mice and dolphins, are completely unaware! As dolphins leave the planet en mass having unsuccessfully tried to warn humans of the impending event, they leave a final message: “So long, and thanks for all the fish!” Over my nine years at MISOTA I am indeed very grateful for all the fish I have received: welcomed like family into homes, caravans and dongas, fed on some of the best food this land has to offer, experienced a lifestyle most Australians crave for yet only ever encounter in poems and movies and shared learning experiences with the finest young people on the planet! As Tim says ‘once a School Of The Air person, always a School Of The Air person’, and I will remain forever a passionate advocate for distance education and isolated families! So long folks, and thanks for all the fish!

Mr Ash Quested

I am very proud to say that I have been a teacher at Mount Isa School Of The Air for three years. However the time has come where I have had an overwhelming urge to return to my home town in Cairns to be closer to my family. Teaching your children and working with families has always been a great joy and an invaluable experience full of memories which I will treasure and speak of for many years to come. I can’t thank you all enough for your kind-heartedness, generosity and hard work. I would like to finish with the following quote:

*Goodbyes are not forever, Goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I’ll miss you, Until we meet again!*

Mrs Di Crawford

Farewell students and families of MISOTA. After four enjoyable years working with amazing staff, students and home tutors it is not an easy goodbye. I really do love working here and feel very much blessed to have had this teaching experience. The students have taught me so much about living on the land and the staff has been so supportive and caring. It really is a fantastic school to work at and I will certainly cherish my time here.

After eight years living in Mount Isa and the birth of my daughter in 2013 the long distance of family members became too great. Hence, my family and I will be moving to Wollongong in New South Wales to start the next chapter of our lives! I wish you all a safe, happy and productive new year.

Mrs Alicia Morse

WESTERN ALLIANCE – SECONDARY CAMP TO MOUNT TAMBORINE

At any school, camp is a time for adventure and excitement, however at Distance Education it is a special moment for students to conquer fears, push their limits, and make memories with their friends without barriers of distance or isolation.

In Week 4 of Term 4, students and teachers in the Western Alliance made the long journey to Thunderbird Park in Mount Tamborine. They were thrown into the deep end upon arrival and participated in an obstacle course through the mud – thankfully, we were able to clean ourselves up in the sub-zero waters of the beautiful creek. Laser Skirmish proved to be a popular activity with students showing off their sniper skills amongst insect bites and thorny bushes. Abseiling and the Tree Top Challenge were incredibly challenging but students put their fears aside and attacked these challenges (mostly) without hesitation. Other activities included miniature golf, volleyball, raft building, slacklining and marshmallows by the camp fire on the final night.

It was a terribly teary farewell, with most students (and teachers) reduced to ugly crying on the last day. Even though this will be the last time many students will ever see each other, the memories will last forever along with many friendship that were strengthened this week.
COMPETITION RESULTS 2016 – 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 2016. If you would like to participate in any or all of these competitions, please listen to daily notices where you will be kept updated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Maths Competition</th>
<th>Year 6: Fletcher Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 6:</td>
<td>Kathryn Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2: Clint Folker,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lachlan McConachy,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michaela Simmons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3: Lachlan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4: William White</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit: Year 2:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella Rasheed,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooper Sedon</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3: Lachlan Sedon</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6: Laura McDonald</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Merit: Year 3:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jake Cameron,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marney Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5: Jack Towne</td>
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<tr>
<th>ICAS Computer Skills Competition</th>
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<tr>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 4: William White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit: Year 4: Katie Brock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit: Year 3: Jack Barrett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4: Aidan Munchenberg</td>
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<td>Year 6: Claire Barrett</td>
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<tr>
<th>ICAS Science Competition</th>
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<tr>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 2: Lachlan McConachy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3: Jack Barnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4: Sam Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 2: Clint Folker, Emily Towne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3: Jemma Curr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6: Kathryn Fisher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit: Year 2:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Jones,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooper Sedon,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michaela Simons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3: Amy Bellingham,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lachlan Sedon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4: Charlee Low Mow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5: Breanna Curr,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Towne</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Australian Mathematics Competition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 6: Kathryn Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 6: Laura McDonald,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3: Jack Barrett, Joseph Simmons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4: William White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit: Year 3: Jake Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4: Charlee Low Mow, Archie Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5: Cody Wockner, Rachel Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6: Claire Barrett</td>
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<tr>
<th>ICAS Spelling Competition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 6: Kathryn Fisher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit: Year 3: Jemma Curr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5: Breanna Curr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit: Year 4: Charlee Low Mow</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Writing Competition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 3: Amy Bellingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4: Millie McDonald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6: Kathryn Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit: Year 4: Charlee Low Mow, Lucy Foker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit: Year 4:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aidan Munchenberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5: Olivia Rasheed</td>
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<tr>
<th>ICAS English Competition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinction: Year 2: Lachlan McConachy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4: Charlee Low Mow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6: Kathryn Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit: Year 5: Olivia Rasheed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit: Year 2:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michaela Simmons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3: Annabelle Towne</td>
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GENERAL INTEREST

GUMBUYA MAGAZINE

We hope that you enjoyed reading the 2015 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.
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.

On behalf of the MISOTA P&C, I take this opportunity to welcome all families back to our school in 2016. The MISOTA P&C Association is a dedicated group of parents, staff, home tutors and gobies who meet once a month on air, to discuss our children’s educational opportunities. The meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month, with the first meeting to be held on 2nd February 2016. I strongly encourage families to attend meetings, as it is a certain means of keeping abreast of the happenings in our school.

I would like to extend a sincere welcome to all the new families enrolling this year. MISOTA is a unique school offering our bush children a high quality education. The school is so fortunate to have experienced and dedicated staff to assist us with our children’s schooling. One of the many roles of the P&C is to support new families. Our New Family volunteer home tutors will contact new families early in the school year. I encourage you to use this contact, whether by phone or email, for any questions, queries or just support.

The value of being involved in the P&C cannot be expressed strongly enough. Our discussions and resolutions are more balanced when we have a number of families offering their experiences and ideas. Your involvement does not have to be a huge commitment; however there are a number of executive positions that will be vacant at the AGM in 2016. These positions will need to be filled for the P&C to function effectively. Please contact Linda or myself if you are interested.

As a departing family in 2015, after 12 years with MISOTA, please know that there will be a multitude of frustrating and difficult times, as it is never easy teaching at home. Internet issues, phone line drop outs, change of curriculum, slow delivery of unit papers and faulty CD’s, are all part of everyday life in the school room. However, be assured it is certainly a rewarding experience and an incredible opportunity to have a major influence on the education of our remarkable kids. The P&C endeavour to support our families in this journey.

Bernadette Lyttle
President
P&C Executive - 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</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>Treasurer</td>
<td>Annie Hacon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cubbarooschool@hotmail.com">cubbarooschool@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Tiarna O’Brien</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ifleyschoolroom@mdh.net.au">ifleyschoolroom@mdh.net.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V/President BK Calendar</td>
<td>Kirsty Sullivan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:k_sully@outlook.com">k_sully@outlook.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V/President Souvenirs</td>
<td>Rosemarie Newton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:talawanta@reachnet.com.au">talawanta@reachnet.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V/President Fundraising</td>
<td>Michelle Low Mow</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michelle@adelsgrove.com.au">michelle@adelsgrove.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V/President HT Seminar</td>
<td>Tiarna O’Brien</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ifleyschoolroom@mdh.net.au">ifleyschoolroom@mdh.net.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VISE Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Rachel Weir</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Rachel.weir08@gmail.com">Rachel.weir08@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SODEA Rep</td>
<td>Sarah Cook</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cpcook74@bigpond.com">cpcook74@bigpond.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEW FAMILY CONTACTS FOR 2016

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 Bernadette Lyttle. Please see the related areas listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boulia</td>
<td>Currently vacant</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>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Creek</td>
<td>Currently vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Isa</td>
<td>Nic Kennedy – Ardmore 07 4748 4858 <a href="mailto:candnkennedy@gmail.com">candnkennedy@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normanton</td>
<td>Currently vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>Margaret Jones – Austral Downs, Mount Isa 07 4748 4811 <a href="mailto:miones@aaco.com.au">miones@aaco.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VISE LOCAL AREA COORDINATOR (Volunteers For Isolated Students’ Education)
Rachel Weir – (07) 47468674 Rachel.weir08@gmail.com
Nomination form for the 2016 Annual General Meeting
of the Mount Isa School of the Air Parents and Citizens Association

Proposed date 2nd February 2016

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 2016 please contact the following current Executive members.

PRESIDENT                                  Bernadette Lyttle            canningtonstation@bigpond.com       Ph: 0439 677 181
SECRETARY                                   Tiarna O’Brien               iffleyschoolroom@mdh.net.au          Ph: 07 4742 5933
TREASURER                                   Annie Hacon                   cubbarooschool@hotmail.com

VICE PRESIDENTS
V/President BK Calendar                      Kirsty Sullivan               k_sully@outlook.com
V/President Souvenirs                       Rosemarie Newton             talawanta@reachnet.com.au
V/President Fundraising                     Michelle Low Mow              michelle@adelsgrove.com.au
V/President HT Seminar                      Tiarna O’Brien                iffleyschoolroom@mdh.net.au
VISE Co-ordinator                           Rachel Weir                    Rachel.weir08@gmail.com
SODEA Rep                                   Sarah Cook                     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 2016.

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

Please return to the school marked ATTN: P&C returning Officer before the AGM
2016 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 2016.

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 5th Feb 2016
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
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);
   - 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:


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


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

Name of Individual


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


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. This year we are also privileged to have the Federal ICPA President as a member of our branch, Wendy Hick. Associate member Kim Hughes has also taken on the role of Qld ICPA State President. Currently we also have one Branch member on State executive – Kylie Camp (Portfolio Distance Education). Lorraine McGinnis, past Branch and Qld ICPA State President was also very active during her time with ICPA.

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 17 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 RAFTS 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 2016 are as follows:

PRESIDENT: Sancia Fegan “Kelloshiel” Julia Creek 4823
SECRETARY: Jacki Bishop “Gallipoli” Camooweal 4825
TREASURER: Tina Barrett “Avon Downs” via MOUNT 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 Sancia Fegan on 4746 8850 or 0427 468 850 during school terms or via email sancia_ashley@hotmail.com should you wish to discuss the wonderful work ICPA does and how you can support their efforts by becoming a Branch member. Membership is $50pa 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.
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 Mount Isa BOTA

I will be continuing my membership ($50.00 which includes Federal affiliation of $22.00, State affiliation of $18.00 and branch donation of $10.00)

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
Dear Families

Well another year is nearly done and school holidays are almost here. Now is a good time to think about whether you would like to enlist the help of a VISE Tutor for next year.

VISE had a successful 2015 with tutors placed with families and a very positive attitude towards the program. The VISE program will be running again in 2016 in a very similar format to 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 2016, 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 2016, contact your co-ordinator 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:

**VISE Coordinators Contacts:**

- **Charters Towers** LAC: Robyn Brown, bogunda@skymesh.com.au
- **Mount Isa** LAC: Rachel Weir, rachel.weir08@gmail.com
- **Longreach** LAC: Kerry Lloyd, lloydforme@bigpond.com
- **Charleville** LAC: Sally Campbell, abc_campbell@harboursat.com.au
- **Capricornia** LAC: Maureen Stumer, capricornia@vise.org.au
- **NT** LAC: Ruth Woerle, nt@vise.org.au
- **NSW** LAC: Norma Colclough, nsw@vise.org.au

VISE is there to assist our valuable rural families.

Thank you and I hope everyone gets some much needed rain,

- **Rachel Weir**

**Reading tutors:** VISE has some reading tutors to take placements in 2016, 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 tutor’s 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