



Welcome to Term 3!

Term 2 saw many an event on our school social calendars, and Term 3 is shaping up to be the same! Throughout Term 3, we welcome the opportunity to meet our community out in Regional Centres for a week of primary Minischool events. Where once there were 7 Minischools, there are now 4 due to a number of contributing factors. This has translated to a higher-than-usual attendance of both students, and therefore teachers, at a number of Minischools.

MISOTA staff welcome the opportunity to travel out to either Julia Creek, Normanton, Boulia or Gregory to see our students as close to their 'element' of learning as we can get for a week. The purpose of Minischools is to meet families as close as we can to their places of residence and to provide opportunities for students to learn alongside each other. I am sure that many of us can attest to the plethora of positive outcomes that our Minischools provide and I look forward to hearing and seeing the students relish being together with their friends and teachers.

The theme of our Minischools this year is *MISOTA Rocks* which will result in many planned learning experiences of topics from everything to do with Geology to Rock N Roll. Minischools will also see our consultation round with a leadership team member. The agenda for this will be shared at each Minischool.

Thank you for the enormous community spirit that you brought with you to our major event for Term 2 - Home Tutor Week! I think we had a record number of people registered to participate in our Home Tutor Seminar. Feedback on this event will be gathered at Minischool via a survey, and we certainly encourage all who attended to feedback with a mind towards refining its delivery in 2025 and beyond.

At times, when we are content or happy with things to proceed without our input, it is important to note that without feedback, events such as Home Tutor Week may not occur in the manner in which they could, or even, occur at all. Filling out the survey will ensure that the events of home tutor week achieve their purpose.

Upon reflection of the content of our Keynote speakers address – Trudy Graham – Leading with Influence – I wonder how this is going in your schoolrooms and homes? I know that at MISOTA our thoughts around leading were in the forefront of our minds with our recent school review. Whilst this process can feel challenging at times, the ability of a system to offer support to our community through a systems review is quite a huge growth piece for the continual growth of our school.

I personally would like to take this opportunity to thank the leadership team for their vital role in this process, along with all staff, students, parents, govies and partners in education throughout our community for their contributions to not only the Review itself, but to the healthy state of our school.

There are quite a few staffing changes happening across Prep-Year10, and sadly we say goodbye to some staff members, including Meg Kerrison. Meg came to MISOTA just prior to Home Tutor Week last year and will be returning home to the green pastures of Tasmania. Whilst I know that Miss Meg will miss her children dearly, I think that a return to the cooler climate of Tassie is just what she might need – as we caught her the other day making comment that Mount Isa is 'too cold'! In any regard, we wish Miss Meg all the best and know that the warmer weather and our school will always welcome her back in the future should she decide that 40degree heat better suits.

We also say goodbye, although temporarily to Ms Sue Morey who will be undertaking further studies alongside a fractional District Relieving Teacher role. Ms Morey and her little partner in crime (her lovely little granddaughter) will no doubt be missed at our school social events and throughout the Western Alliance. Thank you to both teachers for your contributions to our school.

Anna Dooley will enter the Western Alliance from the V9 Writing Team as an English teacher and Morgan Cullen will undertake a writing role with the V9 project. Alex Stewart will replace Meg Kerrison and Renee Moore will return to the Head of Department – Engagement. This role will be reviewed for continuation or otherwise by the end of the term.

Special mention and congratulations also to Lhen Efe and Mary Ann Ryan for their permanent appointment to our staff.

We warmly welcome Ms Koina back to her role as Principal of MISOTA in Term 3. I would like to thank you all for your continued support in her absence. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in the 'big chair' and look forward to seeing you all around the ridges throughout our Minischools and community social calendar in my role as Deputy Principal.

**Yours in Excellence in Education in the Outback,
Nikki**

Deputy Principal

Term 2 has certainly been a busy time for all. With the public holidays encroaching into prime teaching time, I appreciate the efforts family's and teachers have gone to, to ensure the best possible outcomes for student learning.

As a school, we have undertaken the Wellbeing and Engagement surveys from Years 4 – 10 plus engaged in the Australian Early Development Census for Prep.

The QEW survey was conducted through weeks 1 – 4 of Term 2. The results of the survey provide an insight into your students' perception of their wellbeing and engagement.

The findings can assist and not limited to:

- Inform conversations between schools, staff and students about what students think about their wellbeing and engagement
- Help identify students' strengths and how these can be encouraged, and any issues or challenges students are facing that may require development and support.

The Australian Early Development Census data can help schools plan for the needs of children arriving at school. Some benefits for schools and children can include:

- Parents being better informed about how to support their child to thrive in the social and learning environment of the school.
- Parents becoming involved with the school early to help their children become active and engaged learners
- Children feeling more connected with the school environment and in turn settling into school more quickly when first attending

As a school, we endeavour to understand what resources are available throughout community to better support students and families. We also collaborate with the development and implementation of planning for children and families during our quality teaching time, cohort and staff meetings.

Keeping in mind, our School Review recommendations may have aspects of further developing our approach to children starting school and working towards ensuring wellbeing and health development.

Engagement across Prep – Year10:

The HOD:SE position has been on hold for the term however, the consistent retention of data entry across P-10 by teachers, based on student work return (engagement) has been refreshing. We can see students are proactive with embedding the required tasks plus reviewing and implementing teacher feedback through the OneNote platform.

With this term being a Reporting Period, I am pleased to see a wide range of results at year level and above, which is a true comparison to the quality and capability of student returned work submitted.

Enrolments:

We are consistently receiving enrolment inquiries which are predominantly Geographically Isolated (GI) in the lower primary and high school setting. We welcome any families who feel distance education could be the 'Cinderella slipper' to their needs and we are fortunate to have Human Resources (Coach, Diverse Learner & HOD:SE) to support student learning.

In saying this, sometimes staffing may change to best cater for class sizes, we appreciate the resilience from teachers, students and families when these change takes effect.

Finally, I would like to mention how fortunate I am to have had the opportunity to backfill Nikki Barlow as Acting Deputy Principal this term. I have appreciated learning new information regarding policy and procedures and reflecting on my own understanding.

I look forward to further developing my capabilities and being an active MISOTA team member.

Enjoy the holidays – ready for Term 3!
Acting Deputy Principal: Renee Moore

Prep – Year 10 Support Coach

Hello MISOTA families,

For those of you who haven't met me yet, my name is Sarah Zaghini and I am the Prep – Year 10 Support Coach at Mount Isa School of the Air. This semester, I have been working alongside our teaching staff to ensure your child is supported throughout their learning journey. It has been a wonderful experience being able to jump on air as well as attending face-to-face events and getting to know your child as well as what happens in and around your school rooms.

Next term, one of my main focuses will be to work alongside our leadership team in preparation for the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD). Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the NCCD on School Students with Disability. The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the NCCD guidelines (2019).

When providing support for your child, there are 9 focus areas our teachers relate back to:

- Attendance
- Behaviour
- Communication
- Curriculum
- Health and Personal Care
- Learning Environment
- Safety
- Social/Emotional Wellbeing
- Transition

If your child is receiving extra support in your school room in any of these areas, it is important that their classroom teacher is aware so they can document these adjustments appropriately. This documentation may lead to funding provided by the government which would then be used to further support your child throughout their schooling.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the information above, please do not hesitate to make contact via email: szag0@eq.edu.au or phone: (07) 4744 8353.

Happy holidays!

V9 Head of Curriculum

Term two brought with it some changes to our team, with us welcoming back Fiona H. We also had Louise from Longreach SDE join us to do some part-time desktop publishing. This brought us to three writers (Anna, Ashleigh and Fiona), a part-time desktop publisher, a HOC and a partridge in a pear tree. In Term 3, we say a fond farewell to Anna who returns back to her teaching position next term and we know she will just love teaching with the Western Alliance. Morgan joins the team and we will also have Stephen writing from Longreach SDE.

Term 2 concepts being taught and assessed are Number and Measurement, and Term 3 will focus on Number, Space and Measurement. We continue to use assessment tasks and marking guides from the Curriculum Gateway, and are still waiting on monitoring strategies for Term 2 and 3 units – we hope they'll drop soon.

As part of Version 9 of the Australian Curriculum, mathematical modelling is one of the four mathematical processes and is an integral part of how our students approach and ultimately, show their understanding of mathematics. Examples below are statements directly from the V9 year level achievement standards and show where mathematical modelling fits in for Years 1 to 6:

Year 1	They solve problems involving addition and subtraction of numbers to 20 and use mathematical modelling to solve practical problems involving addition, subtraction, equal sharing and grouping, using calculation strategies.
Year 2	They use mathematical modelling to solve practical additive and multiplicative problems, including money transactions, representing the situation and choosing calculation strategies. Students identify and represent part-whole relationships of halves, quarters and eighths in measurement contexts.
Year 3	They use mathematical modelling to solve practical problems involving single-digit multiplication and division, recalling multiplication facts for twos, threes, fours, fives and tens, and using a range of strategies.
Year 4	They use mathematical modelling to solve financial and other practical problems, formulating the problem using number sentences, solving the problem choosing efficient strategies and interpreting results in terms of the situation.
Year 5	Students use mathematical modelling to solve financial and other practical problems, formulating and solving problems, choosing arithmetic operations and interpreting results in terms of the situation.
Year 6	They use mathematical modelling to solve financial and other practical problems involving percentages and rational numbers, formulating and solving the problem, and justifying choices.

One of the ways that our team have embedded this process, is through the use of strategy boards. These strategy boards support our students to understand the problem, plan how to solve it, choose and apply effective calculations, consider how reasonable their response is, then explain, justify or check their solution. Students will be explicitly taught different strategies, and are shown how to use strategy boards to effectively solve problems. Here's a sneak peak of a lower primary and upper primary strategy board as they appear in the ILMs.

Our knowledge as a collective is growing and we are becoming more fluid in the ways we work as a team to create quality teaching and learning experiences for our families. We are feeling re-energised with the new team dynamic and are ready to tackle Term 3!

Di Knudson
Head of Curriculum
dknud3@eq.edu.au



MISOTA Staff Updates

Hi! I'm Miss Dooley and I'm super excited to be joining Western Alliance this term. I've been teaching in outback Queensland for a few years, and love everything the outback has to offer. I relocated to Mount Isa last year, and brought along my partner plus our pets. We've got a cheeky Cattle dog, a beautiful Kelpie, a 3-legged Great Dane X, a temperamental Tabby and a snuggly black furball. I'm looking forward to getting out and meeting you all!



Personal Information – Contact Details Updated

Please advise Linda asap via email Iryan48@eq.edu.au if your student's personal information, family residential, postal addresses or Govie details have changed. It is very important that all contact details, including emergency contacts stay up to date on our system.

MISOTA Invoices, Payment Options & Dunning Information

Invoices / Statements have been previously distributed to families both by email and post. They have been emailed directly to the email and postal addresses listed on the school system.

We have numerous invoices/statements outstanding from throughout this year 2024 and from previous years for Camps, Essential Resourcing Booklist, Instrumental Music and Activity Day Catering.

Upcoming: Western Alliance (WA) Magnetic Island Camp is fast approaching. Confirmation on final camp costing will be advised asap.

NOTE: Families are asked to ensure that their student's accounts are paid in full promptly on receipt of invoices.

It is a request from EQ that all fees are paid to date and in full and families are to be advised that there is a Dunning Process that MISOTA is requirement to follow if payments are not received.

Mailroom and Resourcing Team

All families are reminded to please return your Term 1 and Term 2 resources when you have been notified by your classroom teacher or the unit is complete. There is a list provided on the resource bags or science kits (or a copy from the curriculum room – staff contact details below) to ensure all items are included with the return of these resources.

Overdue lists are emailed to families and it is important for MISOTA to have these resources returned promptly so that we can begin preparing for our new cohorts in 2025.

If you are unsure if you have any outstanding items please contact Lhen (mailroom) or Cheryl (resourcing).

If you run out of blue bags or the blue bag is not big enough to fit the items you are returning in (eg library books), please place the items in a post pack or box and use the MISOTA Reply Paid address (below). If you have three or more blue bags, please keep one and return the others.

Reply Paid Return Address:

The Principal

Mount Isa School of the Air

Reply Paid No 1683

PO Box 1683

MOUNT ISA QLD 4825

Western Alliance (WA) Secondary Department

Our Secondary Department changed a bit this term and is changing again next term. Sadly, we say goodbye to Ms Morey & Ms Stewart – we wish them the best for their future endeavours. We welcome Ms Dooley to the secondary space who will be based at MISOTA with our other secondary teachers: Mrs Lobegeiger teaching English; Mrs Coquille, teaching Science & Maths and Mrs Kanwar teaching Maths.

This term, as with all terms, was filled with a rush and a blur of activities and adventure. We enjoyed a week of events during activity days which included our cross country and sports day events. We created our 'Do it for Dolly' poster that will be on display at this year's Mount Isa Show.

Secondary students continue to access a range of subjects including our favourites English, Maths, Science, Health and Physical Education and the added bonus of interesting electives such as Visual Art, Business and Economics, Geography, History, Digital Design and Technologies.

It was great to see that our students felt successful when applying their knowledge and skill whilst navigating NAPLAN. Thank you all for your patience and professionalism.

Ms Moore and Mrs Kanwar were able to travel to Julia Creek to have face-to-face time with some of our secondary students and new staff at the Julia Creek Learning Facility. We welcome our new Teacher Aides Miss McIntosh and Mrs Smith. Miss McIntosh says she is enjoying her new role and said, *'I want to make this learning space feel inviting, fun and productive. We have procedure and routine in place to prioritise learning but we also focus on developing a relaxed atmosphere built on positive and respectful relationships.'* The plan is to reach out to the Julia Creek community to see if the students can get involved in some extra-curricular activities. So, watch this space.

Coming up:

Term 3- Week 6: 12-16 August WA Camp

Term 4- Week 3: 16-20 October WA Multischool (2)

On behalf of the Secondary department, we would like to wish you all a safe and happy holiday and look forward to working with you all in Term 3.

Cheers from the Secondary Department.

P & C Association- 2024 Committee Members

2024 P&C POSITION	MEMBERS NAME
President	Tara Locke
Treasurer	Jenn Ruska
Secretary	Sammy Campbell
SODEA Rep	Catherine Woodhouse
Vice President (VP)	
VP Bush Kids Calendar	Bec Fry
VP Fundraising	Haylie Hill
VP Souvenirs	Maree Power
VP HT Seminar	Catherine Woodhouse

AREA	REPRESENTATIVE
Normanton	Bec Fry
Gregory	Tanya Gould
Cloncurry	Tara Locke
Boulia, Bedourie and Birdsville	Tannas Godfrey
	Sarah Malloy
Mount Isa and NT	Margaret Brock
Julia Creek and Richmond	Catherine Woodhouse
	Cassandra Bjurstrom

2025 Bush Kids' Calendar – Get Your Camera's Out & Click Away

The Bush Kids Calendar is available for purchase every year. It is a wonderful action-packed calendar that captures our MISOTA families. Flyer with full information – following.

ALL Photos DUE Prior: Friday 01st September bushkidscalendar@gmail.com

**2025 MISOTA
Bush Kids Calendar**

**IT'S THAT
TIME AGAIN...**

The MISOTA P&C Association are once again compiling the annual Bush Kids Calendar. If you would like your students featured in the 2025 calendar, please send your photos through to bushkidscalendar@gmail.com

All photos must be a minimum of 1MB in size for printing purposes. A consent form must be completed for each family.

**ALL PHOTOS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024**

Q Parents

Department of Education and Training

QParents

Your child's educational journey in your hands

Would you like to:

Online Consent is Coming to QParents!

Have you activated your QParents Account? QParents is a portal that links you to our school. Through QParents you can:

- ✓ Enter student absences (including future and past dates!)
- ✓ View invoices and pay on the spot!
- ✓ Access, view and reprint report cards!
- ✓ Inform the school of change of details (Like important phone numbers and addresses!)

And soon...

- ✓ Complete excursion permission and other consent forms from your phone or computer!

Check your email for your invitation to join QParents.

You'll need to have 100 Points of ID handy, and your child's EQID - this can be found on any invoice that the school has sent you.

2024 Gumbuya School Magazine Page Sponsorship Form

Each year, Mount Isa School of the Air produces a school end of year magazine called Gumbuya. This is a high quality magazine published in late November featuring school activities from throughout the year, with contributions from our MISOTA students, their families and our staff. Our magazine is distributed throughout the coverage area of Mount Isa School of the Air and directly into the homes of our families across Queensland, Northern Territory and beyond.

Mount Isa school of the Air and our P&C Association are seeking sponsorships for this year's magazine. Sponsorship costs **\$75.00** per each page and contributes towards the printing cost of the magazine. Your sponsor's name and business details and logo are displayed at the foot of each page that you have sponsored. Each sponsor will receive a complimentary copy of the magazine (optional).

MISOTA families are welcome to sponsor a page, you don't have to be a business to sponsor.

If you would like to generously sponsor our Gumbuya magazine, please email the completed form with your sponsorship details and include your business logo (PDF saved as business name).

Email: smcca174@eq.edu.au **Prior to: Friday 5th July 2024**

Please ensure page sponsorship payments are directly paid to the P&C Association (details following)

Name: School of Distance Education Mount Isa P&C Association

Bank: Commonwealth Bank

BSB: 064 815 **ACC:** 0009 0965

REF: "your business name / surname MAG24"

Proof of Payment Emailed: P&C Treasurer misotapctreasurer@gmail.com

We look forward to and appreciate your continued support.

Business / Family Names – Details for display on sponsorship page:		
Page may include company logo. LOGO Supplied: Yes / No <i>*Please ensure we have received a copy of your logo in PDF format and saved as Business name</i>		
Number of Sponsorship Pages:	\$75.00 per each page	
Complimentary Magazine Copy:	Yes / No	
If Yes, Postal Address for complimentary copy to be posted:		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES, I require an Invoice generated from P&C Association for \$.....		
Please provide details for invoicing purposes:		
Contact person's name:	Email:	Phone: