From the Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to school for the 2015! I trust you have had a great summer break and are ready for another exciting year of school. We have many new families joining us this year and I am sure they will feel welcome in our school community.

This year we have very few comings or goings in regard to staff with only one addition. We welcome Ms Lisa Tonscheck who is joining us as a Master Teacher and Literacy Coach. She will work fulltime for this Semester, assisting teachers to improve their teaching.

2015 signals the start of a new era with Year 6 students now firmly recognised as our senior students and student leaders. With the change in year levels, we have also reviewed the way we work with our students and so from this year, we will refer to Junior School as Prep to Year 2, and the Senior School will be from Years 3 to 6.

Leave Nothing to Chance

This is my catch cry for the year. The only way to ensure things change or improve is to have deliberate and explicit goals and strategies. This year we our intense focus on reading will continue. Our major focus will be on the strategies needed to ensure that at least 95% of our students can read at or above our minimum benchmark for each year level.
Hall Plans Progress...Finally

Oasis Constructions has been appointed as the successful tenderers to complete the work on our hall. I am expecting to attend a start up meeting this week and I am excited that this project has reached the stage where construction will begin.

2015 Student Resource Scheme

There are many costs associated with providing quality educational opportunities. Whilst the cost of providing instruction, administration and facilities for the education of a student at a State School is met by the State, the provision of resources is met through both school and parent resources. In previous years, the voluntary parent contribution has assisted us in providing extra resources but dwindling support of this scheme has forced us to explore other avenues.

In 2015, Mount Crosby State School will be operating a Student Resource Scheme (SRS) as an economical alternative for the provision of high quality resources for their students. SRS is organised by the school, operates under the policy and guidelines of the Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE), is approved annually and endorsed by the Parents’ and Citizens Association.

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For parents **NOT** wishing to participate in the Student Resource Scheme, you will need to purchase the following items:

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Specific information relating to the Student Resource Scheme was sent home at the end of last year. Parents were required to complete, sign and return a Student Resource Scheme 2015 Participation Agreement Form indicating whether they will participate in the scheme or whether they are happy to purchase the specific items needed.

If you have already returned the form, sit back and relax for your work is done at this point. If you have not already returned this form please do so by the end of this week. If you have not previously received a Participation Agreement Form, please collect one from the school office.

**P&C Meeting**

The first meeting of the year will be held on 3 February at 7pm in the Library. All are welcome. The AGM will be held on 25 February.

*Sue Phillips*

*Principal*
From the Deputy Principal

Welcome to a New School Year

I am looking forward to another great year at Mt Crosby State School and to working with both parents and students. I hope that you have all enjoyed the Christmas break and are ready for the new school year.

Spelling Program

The spelling focus for each week for each year level will appear in the newsletter and will commence in week 2 of term 1.

The spelling strategies that students will be using

- breaking words in syllables
- Counts and represents each sound
- Segments
- Finds smaller words in bigger words
- Thinks of rhyming words for similar letter patterns
- Applying spelling rules
- Using visual strategies
- Using other strategies

Interschool Sports for Year 5 and 6 Students

Trials for the winter interschool sports teams will commence on Friday 31 January. Interschool sports will commence on Friday 13 March 2015. More information will be sent home closer to the commencement of the sporting season.

June Riley
Deputy Principal

From the Deputy Principal

Welcome back everyone to a fun filled and fabulous new year of learning. I am sure that everyone is well rested and ready for action.

Senior Shirts

It is a watching and waiting game as we eagerly await the arrival of the Senior Shirts that were ordered last year. We are expecting them this week and they will be distributed to students as soon as they arrive.
Look Out Volunteers Needed!

Our loyal and generous band of Look Out volunteers is small but enthusiastic. It would be wonderful if they had some help though. The job is incredibly easy, only takes 20 minutes and makes such an incredible difference to the smooth running of our pick up zone.

If you are able to volunteer to help out at any time, your assistance would be most gratefully accepted. Full training is provided (it only takes 5 minutes) and you do not have to be available every week. Even if you can only help out now and again we need you!

Vacant spaces exist on our emergency list to back fill days when our loyal band can’t make it. Please consider volunteering to help out - once a week, once a month, once a term, once a year or as an emergency helper. Your school needs you!

If you are able to assist in any way please contact the school office on 38132222 or by email admin@mtcrosbyss.eq.edu.au and we will forward your details to our fabulous coordinator Helen Perry.

How Look Out Works

1. Clearly display your surname in the front of the car – the outside of the sun visor is a great place because it is easy to read from a distance (don’t forget to put it down though!)
2. Pull up in the 2 minute zone. Please DO NOT get out of your car - the 2 minute zone is NOT a parking zone!
3. Students will assemble in the waiting area under the supervision of a staff member.
4. Our parent volunteer will call out the surname displayed in the car windscreen.
5. Staff will locate the child/children and bring them to the car.
6. Children get in the car and off you go!
7. If your children are a little slow coming up to Look Out, you may be asked to move down to the 10 minute parking zone to wait or you may have to go around the block again and re-join the rear of the queue – this ensures that traffic flows smoothly.
8. Please respect others, especially our volunteers and use this area correctly so that pick up time runs smoothly and efficiently.

Two Minute Drop Off/Pick Up Zones

Parking around schools is limited and drivers have been parking in Two Minute zones, and No Stopping/Standing/Parking zones and bus stops. These actions are dangerous for children travelling to and from school and are also illegal. Some parents often park in driveways which results in calls from irate home-owners unable to get their cars in or out of their own driveways. Parking across driveways is also illegal.

Police and the council have advised they will visit schools periodically during the year to issue traffic offence notices to offending drivers.
The success of the two minute zones requires cooperation from all parents to ensure quick movement of vehicles through the area.

Please observe the time restrictions (see example and check times at your school) and only stay in the area for as long as it takes to get the children in to or out of the car. **The driver must not park the car in these signed areas and go into the school with the children.**

In some instances parents stop their car and stay in it while waiting for somebody to take their children to class and then come back. **PLEASE NOTE!** This area is designed for **dropping off and picking up passengers only**. It is not to be used in this manner.

Please

- Plan your trip to avoid arrival at peak times,
- Pick-up or drop-off children via the car’s kerb doors,
- Drive out safely, and
- If your children are not at your arranged spot, go around the block and try again.

Do not

- Get out of your vehicle,
- Double park,
- Stay more than 2 minutes,
- Arrive early in the afternoon and sit in the zone, or
- Use staff parking areas.

If you would like more information on this or any other road safety issue, please phone Transport and Main Roads on 1300 360 135 or visit our website [http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/safety/road-safety.aspx](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/safety/road-safety.aspx)

**Ruth Kelly**  
*Deputy Principal*

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**Chappy Corner**

Our annual TEA, TISSUES and TIMTAM morning tea was held this morning. It was good to see a great turn out of parents giving support to each other. I am pleased to report that very few tissues were needed this time around!

I will be at school from Monday to Wednesday. If you would like to contact me please do so via the office or alternatively via email on ndurr5@eq.edu.au
Chappy Niki
School Chaplain

School Crossing Supervision

There has been a change to our School Crossing hours commencing 2015: Our School Crossing will be supervised from 7:50am until 8:50am, the PM time 2:50pm until 3:50pm has not changed.

P&C Association

Welcome to 2015 from the P&C!

Our P&C is dedicated to enhancing the learning experiences and opportunities available to Mt Crosby State School students.

The P&C runs the Out of School Hours and Vacation Care service (OSHC), the Tuckshop, Uniform Shop and supports the school in many other ways. You might find us:

- Helping in classrooms and supporting school activities such as working bees and Garden Club
- Organising community events (in 2014 we held a Family Fun Day)
- Organising school events (in 2014 Mother's and Father's Day stalls returned, and the biannual student disco is a huge hit!)
- Participating in school working groups & lobbying for the school within the wider community
- Organising fundraisers and writing grant applications
- Coordinating the school banking program

In 2015 we're looking forward to catching up with old friends, and meeting new ones. If you've always wanted to get more involved at your child's school make this the year you do it.

Feel free to email us at pandc@mtcrosbyss.eq.edu.au or give us a call on 3813 2222 if you've got any questions.

2014 P&C Achievements

In 2014 the P&C contributed over $70,000 in donations and projects around the school including:

$33,780 paid out of the building fund towards the A2H project
$13,000 for maintenance and improvements around the school (including to OSHC and tuckshop)

$7,600 for new air conditioners to the OSHC building

$5,349 to upgrade the wireless internet capacity in the junior school

$3,215 for a turbo fan oven for the new hall kitchen (including $3,000 Caring for our Communities grant)

$2848 year 4 working bee donation (including $1000 Hydrobiology grant)

$2,234 new house flags for sports days

$2,220 towards the school’s chaplaincy program

$1,660 for new high jump mats

$1,360 for two new trombones

$1,150 for new cameras and equipment for student use

$1,000 in student achievement sponsorships

$960 for coffee machines for school & community functions ($1000 Rotary grant)

$400 towards Year 6 & Year 7 graduation awards

$50 “Fed Up” book and DVD resources to the school library

We look forward to your support to help us achieve even more in 2015!

**P & C Business Opening Hours & Contact Details**

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<tr>
<th>OSHC</th>
<th>TUCKSHOP</th>
<th>UNIFORM SHOP</th>
<th>P&amp;C OFFICE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:mcrosbyoshc@bigpond.com">mcrosbyoshc@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>ouronline canteen.com.au</td>
<td>ouronline canteen.com.au</td>
<td>pandc @mtcrosbyss.eq.edu.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 3201 0841</td>
<td>Phone: 3813 2257</td>
<td>Phone: 3813 2259</td>
<td>Phone: 3813 2222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinator: Belinda Beckham</td>
<td>Convenor: Jodie Coutts</td>
<td>Convenor: Michelle West</td>
<td>Operations Manager: Lisa Evans</td>
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<td>Before School Care: 7-8.30</td>
<td>After School Care: 3-6.30pm</td>
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<td>Breakfast served til 7.50am</td>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
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<td>Wednesday: Order lunch online by 9am</td>
<td>Thursday &amp; Friday: Order lunch on line or at the counter by 9am</td>
<td>Open 1st and 2nd</td>
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<td>Open every Tuesday during term 8.30 - 10am</td>
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P&C Back to School Meeting

Tuesday 3rd February 7pm in the Library

Come along and hear from the Principal what's planned for 2015, and have input into how the parent body is involved.

Diary Dates - 2015 P&C Meeting Schedule

The P&C has traditionally met on the 4th Wednesday of each month, however late last year we identified that Tuesday nights were better for many members. The meeting schedule will be finalised at the AGM, in the meantime make sure you get along to our first meeting of the year on Tuesday 3rd February at 7pm in the library.

At the AGM nominations and acceptances are taken to appoint the 2015 Executive Committee, which is then followed by a General Meeting. The AGM is scheduled for Wednesday 25th February at 7pm in the library.

Current members should note that all memberships lapse at the AGM. The AGM is the only meeting that you don’t have to attend to become a member. To receive P&C meeting minutes regardless of meeting attendance, and to have voting rights, all parents should complete and submit a membership form by completing the form and posting it in the P&C’s mail box in the main admin office, or bring it along to the meeting.

PC_Membership_Form_2015.pdf

NOMINATIONS OPEN for the following roles:

President (Executive Committee)

- provides leadership by presiding at meetings
- oversees the Association's accountability
- encourages participation and fosters relationships within the school and wider community
Secretary (Executive Committee)

- assists the President in preparing meeting agendas and collates agenda papers
- prepares Executive Committee and P&C meeting minutes and maintains meeting records
- oversees the P&C's correspondence and record-keeping

Vice-President (Executive Committee) multiple positions available

- offers support and assistance to the President
- chairs meetings when the President is absent
- undertakes special projects for the P&C

Treasurer (Executive Committee)

- has overall responsibility for the financial management of the P&C
- oversees compilation of documents, and preparation of annual statements for audit.

Fundraising Coordinator/s (Support Role)

Fundraising Coordinator/s can choose to coordinate the entire year's fundraising, or may adopt a single project. If you're interested in project management or events coordination this is a great place to start!

Working Bee Coordinator (Support Role)

The working bee coordinator is usually a handy sort of person, who organises the occasional get together to get odd-jobs done around the school. After the success of the Year 4 erosion project in 2014, the major working bee this year will again form part of the Year 4 science curriculum.

These roles are all supported by the P&C Operations Manager, ensuring all roles can be managed in conjunction with work and family responsibilities. If you're curious about how the P&C operates feel free to pop in to our office for a chat.

You can access the nomination form here: Executive_Officer_Nomination_Form.pdf Simply complete the form and post it in the P&C's mail box in the main admin office, or bring it along to the meeting.

Tuckshop News

Tuckshop will be open from Week 1 Term 1 for online & counter orders

** Don't forget to update your child's class details online.**

Our Tuckshop is available online. What does this mean for you?

- no more hunting around for change in the morning
- better awareness of the tuckshop healthy choices menu
- more input into your child's tuckshop choices
- it's quick and easy! Once your account's set up it only takes a couple of minutes to place lunch and snack orders for your children
• you can place orders up to two weeks in advance and cancel them up until 9am on the day
• your child can now have a healthy, homemade, hot lunch at school three days a week!
• Lunch bag orders are still available at the counter if required, however we encourage online ordering as it is much more efficient for our staff and volunteers.

How to get started online:

• Visit www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au
• Sign up by filling in the registration form with your contact details, user name and password
• Receive a confirmation email
• Log into the ouronlinecanteen.com.au website
• Select Mt Crosby State School and enter your children’s names and class names (ie. 2B)
• Add credit to your account

How to order meals:

1. Select your child.
2. Select the order date.
3. Add meal items to your order.
4. Confirm the order.

You can also place uniform orders online.

*A TUCKSHOP HELPERS ARE THE LIFE BLOOD OF OUR TUCKSHOP*

The P&C offers the Tuckshop as a service to the school community, and relies on helpers to run. Please let our Convenor, Jodie Coutts, know if you can help. Every little bit counts - even an hour now and then is greatly appreciated.

Peak time is 9-11am - only 2 hours of your time makes a HUGE difference to us!

If you are unable to help during opening hours, we can arrange for you to access tuckshop to help with food preparation and cooking at a time that suits you, or set up a home baker arrangement.

A sample tuckshop roster is provided below, please drop in, call or email us if you can help us out at any time in 2015.

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<th>Term 1 Tuckshop Roster</th>
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<td>Serving at counter, food prep and cooking</td>
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<td>1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleaning and restocking</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 6TH</td>
<td>Helper 1</td>
<td>Helper 2</td>
<td>Helper 3</td>
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<td>9-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food preparation and cooking</td>
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Uniform Shop News

We offer a 'one stop shop' for all of your school uniform needs and are open every Tuesday during term from 8.30 - 10am. If you can’t be there at this time simply fill out an order form in the school admin office and post it in the P&C mailbox, or order online at www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au as detailed above. We can even deliver to your child's class!

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) News

We offer a quality OSHC service with highly qualified, caring staff, some of whom have been with us for over 20 years. Our program is tailored to the needs and interests of our students.

Did you know? You can complete OSHC enrolment forms now in case you need to use the service unexpectedly. It costs nothing to enrol and offers you peace of mind in an emergency.

**Before School Care** 7am – 8.30am

Before school care offers breakfast until 7.50am to get our students' day off to the best possible start. In addition to craft and unstructured play, a structured physical activity is often offered to help students "get the wriggles out" before their school day.

**After School Care** 3pm – 6.30pm

After School students are given the opportunity to attend to their homework, have a healthy afternoon tea, and take part in a variety of activities including arts and crafts, sports, dance, cooking and unstructured play.

**Vacation Care** 7am – 6.30pm

Mt Crosby State School P&C Association's OSHC offers a value-packed vacation care program during pupil-free days and school holidays. Students bring their own morning tea and lunch, and afternoon tea is provided.

**We will be open for the April School Holidays as follows:**

**Week 1:** 7-10 April

**Week 2:** 13-17 April

For enquiries & bookings please call Belinda on 3201 0841.
6 tips for a better school year

#1: Keep lunch boxes easy - provide simple, nutritious, easy to eat lunch and snack items.

#2: Keep time - whether you're trying to speed your kids up (to get them out the door) or slow them down (as they practice reading), explaining time, routines, and showing children how to read the time will help them stay organised without having to be nagged.

#3: Ready, set breakfast - a healthy nutritious breakfast puts kids in the right mood for learning.

#4: Parents/carers are the best teacher - learning always starts at home and your child's mood affects how well they learn. A positive outlook is the best thing you can inspire in your children to keep them performing well at school.

#5: Labels, names and ownership - label all your child’s belongings - especially the school hat and encourage them to take ownership of their belongings. Teach your child to dress themselves so they can manage things like taking jumpers or coats on and off at school.

#6: Remember the night before - encourage children to lay out the next day's uniform, pack lunch boxes and think about what they will need for the next day the night before will avoid the morning chaos and help everyone leave the house in a calmer frame of mind.

Adapted from 12 tips for a better school year by Alex Brooks, [http://www.kidspot.com.au/Back-to-School-For-parents-12-tips-for-a-better-school-year+3904+153+article.htm](http://www.kidspot.com.au/Back-to-School-For-parents-12-tips-for-a-better-school-year+3904+153+article.htm)

Recycle Your Cans
Community News

Tennis Lessons on the School Court:

- Prep / grade 1 beginners Monday 8am to 8.45
- Grade 1/2 Tuesday 7.45 am to 8.45
- Grade 3/4 Wednesday 7.45 to 8.45 Grade Intermediate
- 4/5/6 Thursday 7.45 – 8.45 Grade Intermediate
- 5/6 Friday 7.45 to 8.45

Bookings:

Info@scorpiontennis.net
0418 875 913
Web: www.scorpiontennis.net

Junior racquets available for purchase.
COLLEGES UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB 2015 Information Day for junior players aged U6-U13 years will be held where you can pay by cash or eftpos facility, purchase uniforms, show proof of age and ask questions:

Saturday, 31 January 9AM – 11AM
Saturday, 7 February 9AM – 11AM
at the Mount Crosby Sportground, Allawah Road, Mt Crosby UBD Map 194 Ref C2.

A $20 discount to the registration fee applies if you sign on and pay by 7th February. Training for all teams will commence mid-February with first fixtures early March. For more information or to register on-line visit our website and follow the links at www.collegesunited.org.au or call Jenine on 0409 563 457.

Harry Potter Book Night
Kenmore Library

On Thursday 5 February, Harry Potter fans from all over the world will celebrate the first ever Harry Potter book night. Libraries across Brisbane will celebrate with their own magical Harry Potter events.

Come dressed as your favourite witch or wizard and share in themed activities, games and quizzes. Ages 6 – 16.

Thursday 5 February 5.30-6.30pm *

*Bookings essential.

Call Kenmore Library on (07) 3407 0258 for more information.

For more events at Kenmore Library visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/libraries or pick up a copy of What’s On in Libraries.

Brisbane Libraries
@BNElibraries
Dates to Remember

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>31 January</td>
<td>Trials for winter interschool sports teams will commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 February</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting - 7pm in the Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 February</td>
<td>Year 3 Pullenvale Excursion - 3R, 3H &amp; half of 3SM</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 February</td>
<td>Year 3 Pullenvale Excursion - 3T, 3P &amp; half of 3SM</td>
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Bellbowrie “Strikers” Hockey Club

Need a sport for your child?
Get in 2 Hockey!!
Players of all ages welcome.
Fabulous deals for the 5’s to 9 years age group in the Hooked in2 Hockey Program.
Play at the same ground every weekend and save time and fuel.
Think hockey, a sport that the whole family can play & enjoy.
Older players also most welcome.

Club Sign-On 7th Feb 9-1pm at Bellbowrie Tavern

For more information visit our website:
www.bellbowrie.ipswichhockey.com

Or Contact us:
Girls-Ladies - Julie 0422 986 848
Boys-Men - Barry 0488 132 486
Or Email: bhc.strikers@gmail.com
### Money Collection Closing Dates

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<tr>
<th>Payable Now</th>
<th>Student Resource Scheme</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 February</td>
<td>Year 3 Pullenvale Excursion - cost to be advised</td>
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**Money Window Opening Times:** 8:00am to 10:00am only - Monday to Friday