## Coming Events - Term 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 20 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>COLA Assembly Years 3-6</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Life Education</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, 21 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>Life Education</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Student Banking</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Whole School Assembly 1:50pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, 22 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</strong></td>
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<td><strong>8:00-9:00am – BAND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, 23 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>Kindergarten Orientation 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, 24 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>Swimming Notes &amp; Money returned</strong></td>
<td><strong>No Newsletter</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PSSA Starts</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Grandparents’ Day</strong></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 4</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 27 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, 28 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student Banking</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>No Assembly</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, 29 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</strong></td>
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<td><strong>8:00-9:00am – BAND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, 30 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>Kindergarten Orientation 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, 31 October</strong></td>
<td><strong>Newsletter</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK 5</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 3 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>COLA Assembly Years 3-6</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, 4 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student Banking</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Whole School Special Assembly 1:50pm</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>**School Service, <em>Flags, Electricians and <em>Chess Awards</em></em></td>
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<td>*** Nebo 1 Item**</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, 5 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>8:00-9:00am – BAND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, 6 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>No Newsletter</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:30pm Smart Start BBQ</strong></td>
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<th>WEEK 6</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 10 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, 11 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Public Speaking</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student Banking</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO Assembly</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 17 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>COLA Assembly Years 3-4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stage 3 leave for Camp at 8:00am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, 18 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student Banking</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>NO Assembly</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, 19 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>8:00-9:00am – BAND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, 20 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stage 2 PSSA Gala Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>No Newsletter</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Stage 3 return from Camp app. 4:30pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK 8</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 24 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>Swimming Scheme starts 9:15 – 10:00am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>COLA Assembly Years 3-6</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, 25 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student Banking</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1:50pm: Last Whole School Special Assembly: Enviro and Premiers’ Reading Awards</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, 26 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>8:00-9:00am – BAND</strong></td>
<td><strong>Last Scripture Day - combined</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, 27 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:30am Captains’ Speeches</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, 28 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Newsletter</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 1 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>COLA Assembly Years 3-4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, 2 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student Banking</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CANTEEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO Assembly</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, 3 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>8:00-9:00am – BAND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, 4 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>1:50pm Presentation Assembly TBC</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, 5 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christmas Raffle Tickets back</strong></td>
<td><strong>No Newsletter</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Swimming Scheme – last day</strong></td>
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PRINCIPAL’S WELCOME:

Dear Parents,

RISE AND SHINE COMPETITION
Congratulations to all the students who recently submitted entries in the 2014 Rise and Shine K-2 Competition – Draw, Colour & Paint, What the Environment Means to Me.

Your poems, essays and paintings demonstrated your love and appreciation of our environment and you should be very proud of your achievements.

Many thanks to Mrs Davis for promoting and organising this competition. We hope you enjoy reading some of these entries published in our newsletter, over the next few weeks.

Let’s hope our students and school can win some awards at The Rise and Shine Awards Night, on Thursday, 4th December, 7:00pm at the Salvation Army Function Centre, 13 Burelli St Wollongong.

SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOLS, YEAR 7, 2016
In 2014, students seeking placement for Year 7 at a Selective High School in 2016 are required to make an application while they are in Year 5. These can now be completed online (there are no printed paper application forms).

Parents must apply online at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

Online applications can be made between 14 October and 17 November 2014. Applications will not be accepted for any reason, after 18 November 2014. The Selective Schools test will be held on Thursday, 12 March, 2015.

If you have any further enquiries please contact the school or simply request/pick up an Information Booklet using the Intention to Apply Letter, sent home today.

FLASHING LIGHTS
The NSW Government has provided funding for the placement of school zone signs with flashing lights, at all schools by the end of 2015, to alert motorists to the 40km speed, during school drop off and pick up times.

We are very pleased that the Roads and Maritime Services have completed the installation of the signs outside Mount St Thomas Public School on St Johns Avenue.

These flashing lights will hopefully improve driver awareness of the need to drive at a lower speed to ensure the safety of our children and others coming and going from the school area.

ENGLISH COMPETITION
Students from Mount St Thomas Public School performed well when they competed in the Australasia Schools English Competition.

Students from Mount St Thomas were awarded:

- 1 Certificates of High Distinction;
- 5 Certificates of Distinction;
- 14 Certificates of Credit;
- 4 Certificates of Merit; and
- 23 Certificates of Participation.

Certificates are awarded on the following basis:

HIGH DISTINCTION to the top 1% of entrants in each year level in the state.
DISTINCTION to the next 10% of entrants in each year level in the state.
CREDIT to the next 20% of entrants in each year level in the state.
ACHIEVEMENT to students who are placed within the top 20% of their school, but who have not qualified for a state certificate.
PARTICIPATION to all students who do not qualify for one of the above certificates.

Congratulations are extended to the following students for their fine achievement.

HIGH DISTINCTION:
Caitlyn Todoroski

DISTINCTION CERTIFICATES:
Charlotte, Alexa, Esther, Ella, Sasha

CREDIT CERTIFICATES:
Tessa, Destiny, Imogen, Ella, Stella, Jagbir, Lucy, Jessica, Arabelle, Imogen, Hannah, Samuel, Ivy, Julian

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT:
Nikkita, Samuel, Guy, Zara

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION:
Joseph, Harrison, Evelyn, Sienna, Joel, Esmee, Alex, Emily, Jamison, Jack, Jack, Jade, Jasper, Bella, Brooke, Morgan, William, Trong, Claire, Catherine, Katherine, Brooke, Macy

Congratulations to all students who participated.
**KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS**

Just a reminder that Kindergarten enrolments are still being taken for in area students for 2015. If you or anyone you know is intending to apply for Kindergarten in 2015, please do it as soon as possible to avoid a last minute rush.

Application forms are available from the office.

**TRANSITION TO SCHOOL PROGRAM**

The **Orientation** component of our Kindergarten SMART START Transition to School program will take place over the next 3 weeks. During this time the children will visit Kindergarten rooms for lots of fun activities and the parents will be addressed on a number of topics in the Library.

Other activities planned for the **SMART START Transition to School Program** include:

**2014**
- Kindergarten Family SMART START BBQ – Friday, 7 November, 2014.
- An additional informal visit to a Kindergarten classroom by new Kindergarten children.
- Parent Mentor Program

These activities have been built into our SMART START program, where we provide informal and social occasions to develop relationships and clarify any aspects of school life that are unclear.

We're confident that involvement in our SMART START program will greatly assist families to make the transition to school, successful and happy.

**SUMMER UNIFORM**

A reminder to all families that, as of the beginning of Term 4, children are to wear summer uniform. If by chance your child has outgrown their uniform from last season, the school Uniform Shop will be open on Wednesday mornings from 8:30am to 9:30am.

The **Summer uniform** is as follows:

- **Girls Summer Uniform**
  - blue/maroon checked dress
  - short blue socks
  - blue or maroon hair ribbon/scrunchies
  - black leather school shoes
  - maroon school hat

- **Summer Sport**
  - school polo shirt
  - maroon culottes
  - maroon skungies
  - short white socks
  - sports shoes or joggers
  - maroon school hat

- **Boys Summer Uniform**
  - sky blue short sleeve button through shirt
  - grey shorts
  - grey socks
  - black leather school shoes
  - maroon school hat

- **Summer Sport**
  - school polo shirt
  - maroon shorts
  - white socks
  - sports shoes or joggers
  - maroon school hat.

A reminder that black bike pants or tights are not part of our summer uniform and should not be worn underneath girls’ tunics.

To support our School's commitment to the Sunsafe Policy, a **school hat** is available, as part of school uniform. The **school hat** is always available for purchase from the uniform shop and the front office at a cost of $17. Children must wear a **school hat** when playing, as a protection from the sun’s harmful rays. Children without a hat are asked to choose a shady area to play in.

All children participating in sports and PE activities at school and away from school are required to wear the school hat.

**SKOOLBAG APP LAUNCH**

Last term, we were very pleased to inform you about the launch of our new communication app **Skoolbag**.

**Skoolbag** is a school Mobile App that communicates directly with iPhone and Android devices. It provides schools with an easy way to tell parents/carers everything they need to know, and it provides parents with the most convenient way to receive school notifications.

School newsletters, school notices and alerts are communicated directly to parent’s smartphones through the **Skoolbag** App.

At first we will be adding the newsletter and attachments and as time goes on, we will have the facility to send reminders, permission notes and other useful features.

Please be patient with us in this period of transition. The school newsletter and all content will still be available on the school website. To download the app, simply search for **Mount St Thomas Public School** in your app/play store. A brochure to explain how to install **Skoolbag** on your phone is included again in this edition of the newsletter. Soon the app will be added to the school website, so those without access to a smart device can view the app content.
Please Note: iPhone iOS 8 Issue
Apple’s latest iOS 8 update managed to break various functions in the Skoolbag app, however this has been rectified and the update 2.6.0 is available now.

If you have any questions, please email support@skoolbag.com.au for more information.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS IN TERM 4
Schools have the opportunity to have 2 additional school development days at the end of Term 4.

This means that the last day of school for children is Wednesday, 17 December 2014. All teachers are required to attend on Thursday, 18 and Friday, 19 December, 2014.

2015 RETURN TO SCHOOL DATES
Next year, Term 1 commences on:
- TUESDAY, 27 JANUARY, 2015 (for staff only)
- WEDNESDAY, 28 JANUARY, 2015 (for Years 1 – 6)
- MONDAY, 2 FEBRUARY, 2015 (new Kinders)

The following dates may also be of assistance:
- TERM 1 HOLIDAYS: Fri 3 APRIL–Mon 20 APRIL, 2015
- PUPIL FREE DAY: Mon 20 APRIL, 2015
- STUDENTS COMMENCE TERM 2: Tue 21 APRIL 2015

Have a great week.

Christine Schnebli
PRINCIPAL

GRANDPARENTS’ DAY
Reminder - Celebrations will be held on Friday, 24 October from 11:50am. Don’t forget to send in your photo electronically or in print. Each family (K-2) is asked to please donate a small plastic/paper plate of food to assist with morning tea for our special guests.

WET AND WILD COMPETITION
This week, I have had the pleasure of working with an eager group of inquisitive Stage 3 students. Our challenge is an environmentally themed competition, which sees 24 random clues released on a Monday, to be sorted and solved by each Friday. Students are required to uncover four mystery organisms. The clues have led us down many paths, with lots of learning and adventure along the way. Great first week ‘Mountso Magic’! Best of luck for the next 2 weeks of the competition

Karen Brown- Assistant Principal

LIBRARY NEWS:

LIBRARY STOCKTAKE
It’s that time of the year again!! Mrs Skarpona will be conducting a Library Stocktake this term and would like to encourage children to look for books at home, that they may have forgotten about. Overdue notes will be sent home in the next few weeks. If books cannot be located in the family home, try looking in your classroom, under desks and on bookshelves.

Finally, if books are still missing, please see Mrs Skarpona. Remember, if a book is borrowed out in your name, it becomes your responsibility. If you are unable to find it you will need to reimburse the Library, so that Mrs Skarpona can buy a new book to replace the lost one.

P. Skarpona - Library

CANTEEN NEWS:

CANTEEN NEWS
CANTEEN CLOSED: Every Monday & Tuesday
TRADING HOURS: 8:30am to 2:00pm
Wednesday to Friday
FREE RANGE EGGS
Now available at the Canteen - Free Range Eggs $5.00 per dozen. Each box (15 dozen) that is sold; a $5.00 donation will be given to the P&C Association.
Due to food ALLERGIES, it’s a MUST that only parents pick them up from the canteen.

Cheers,
Gail– Canteen Supervisor

Super Mountso Responsibility Bands will be presented at the Whole School Assembly on Tuesday, 21 October, 2014

SUPER MOUNTSO
RESPONSIBILITY BAND
KEIRA 1: Elijah, Aiden, Tatiana
OUSLEY 2: Chloe

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SAFETY

Page 4
SPORTS NEWS:

**SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME**
Mount St Thomas Public School will be participating again in the School Swimming Scheme (SSS). The SSS will run for 10 days in Weeks 8 and 9. This is a great opportunity for Year 2 students to learn and improve their swimming skills at a warmer time of the year. It is open for all Year 2 students and possibly some Year 3 students whether they are beginners or proficient swimmers, as the students will swim in groups at their skill level.

The swimming lessons and pool entry are FREE! It costs $40.00 for ten days of bus travel to and from the pool.

Would parents of Year 2 students please return their permission notes and money to school by **Wednesday, 24 October**, so we can offer any available positions to other primary students.

**GALA DAY**
A note went home this week with Stage 2 students in regards to a GALA DAY being held at Figtree Oval on **Friday, 21 November**. Permission notes are to be returned to Mount St Thomas P.S. office.

*Peter Davies – Coordinator*

**BASKETBALL**
On the 7th October, Mount St Thomas Public School entered into the local after school basketball competition at the Snakepit. We have registered two teams of 8 very enthusiastic players. Players range from Years 3 - 5.

The teams **Heat** and **Blaze** displayed a brilliant performance of teamwork and comradery, as both teams supported each other from the sidelines. It was so pleasing to see so many parents supporting and encouraging all players. A special thanks to the parents who happily took on bench duties.

I cannot wait to watch our teams develop over the season.

*Kelly Judd – Coordinator*

**P&C NEWS:**

**UNIFORM SHOP**
The school uniform shop is open every:

**WEDNESDAY** - 8:30am – 9:15am

**HOW TO RAISE AN AGENDA ITEM AT A P&C MEETING**
If you have an item that you would like to raise with the P&C at a meeting, then use the following procedure:

1. Put the item or concern in writing along with your name and contact details.
2. Leave at the front office with Denise. Similarly, you can email the written agenda item to [mstpca@gmail.com](mailto:mstpca@gmail.com).

The written agenda item must be in **1 week** prior to the next P&C meeting.

*Please note*: Contact the P&C committee on the email above if you would like to discuss the agenda item or any other P&C matter.

Kind Regards
P&C Executive

**FAMILY CONTRIBUTIONS 2014 DON’T FORGET**
The P & C Association would appreciate parents paying their Voluntary Family Contributions of:

- **$30 per single child**
- **$10 for each additional child.**

The P&C has decided **not** to increase this amount at this point in time. Help us provide your school with much needed resources that will enhance your child’s learning opportunities.

By working together we can **really** make a difference. Many thanks for your support.

*Shellie*  
*Mount St Thomas PS P&C Association President*

**SOUTH COAST ENTERTAINMENT BOOK!!**
We are excited to be selling the **NEW** South Coast Entertainment book again! Not only is it filled with $15,000 worth of fabulous discounts and vouchers from businesses all up and down the coast, but with each book sold $11.00 goes towards fundraising for Mount St Thomas Public School.

Books are available now available from the school office. Call Cindy 0407297081 for more information.

*Cindy*  
*On behalf of the Fundraising Committee*
MOUNT ST THOMAS P&C ASSOCIATION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY 8th October 2014

ATTENDANCE

Present: Christine, Shellie, Kobe, Danyelle, Nicole, Diane, Keith, Rosemarie, Cindy, Sharyn, Jo Anne, Deanne, Karen, Michelle, Nicole

Apologies: Geoff, Sheree

MEETING OPENED: 7.15 pm

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Cannot be moved at tonight’s meeting. Will move at November AGM.

Moved: Seconded:

CORRESPONDENCE IN/OUT:
Felton Industries Seating Catalogue
Warilla Public School, John – Thank you for Spring Ball
Parent and Citizen Magazine

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:
School Excursion – to be discussed at a future meeting when Principal is prepared.
Interrelate - To be discussed at a future meeting.

REPORTS
Principal’s Report:

PRINCIPALS REPORT OCTOBER 2014

1. CANTEEN
Mrs Gail has one more year left on the lease. Gail is very happy to continue in this role until the end of 2015 and is not looking for alternative arrangements to reduce her lease time. We will begin a new leasing process in September 2015- if this is the agreed method by the P&C.

2. KINDERGATEN 2015
45 Kinders- 2/2 Kindergarten Classes
Placement Panel met on Monday 15 Sept. All 7 Out of Area siblings able to be taken 2 other Out of Area applications Waiting list in place (5 In Area enrolments after Placement Panel meeting took place).
Orientation -Weeks 2, 3 and 4: Friday 17 Oct, Thursday 23 & 30 Oct - 12-1:00pm SMART START BBQ-Nov7
P&C parent reps needed for Informal visits- organise the morning tea and chat with new parents while they wait for their child- 3 Nov- 7 Nov- 12:00pm- 1:40pm TBC.

3. SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLANNING 2015-2017
As a school, we have commenced the strategic planning process for our next three year plan (2015-2017).

We have begun with staff, executive and students working together to define our School Vision, identify our 3 Strategic Directions and map the most effective way that people, products & practices and processes can be aligned to maximise school success...

Principals in the Figtree Community of Schools continue to work together to design the Figtree Community of Schools Strategic COS Plan.
School Planning Committee dates TBA.
Need a parent rep to attend meetings.

4. SCHOOL PLANNING CYCLE/ SCHOOL EVALUATION
3 surveys sent home to a random selection of families in Week 3.
Responses to these surveys will give us a broad overview of the community's understanding of:
• Anti-Bullying
• Reading
• Quality of School Life

5. SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS IN TERM 4
• 2 additional School Development Days at the end of Term 4.
• This means that the last day of school for children is Wednesday 17 December.
• All teachers are required to attend 2 school development days on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th December.

6. COMMUNITY WORKING BEES
• Many thanks to Rosemarie Bowden and all the community members who continue to come once a week to clean up the gardens around the whole school.
• Also the Jamie Oliver Book initiative
• Class gardens
• Cleaning out storerooms - Science Storeroom, General Stores- many thanks to Rosemarie

7. THE FIGTREE COMMUNITY OF SCHOOLS YEAR 5 ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT CLASS
• Graduation - Congratulations to Caitlyn, Finlay & Imogen.

8. LIFE EDUCATION
• Over the next 2 weeks all students will attend lessons in the Life Education Van at our school.
• Starts Wed 15 Oct.

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SAFETY
**9. NEW CLASSROOM TEACHER POSITION**
- To be advertised soon
- Merit Selection Panel Member will be required– dates to be advised

**10. SRC INITIATIVE**
a. Mrs Judd will run a “M Factor” talent quest this term with the SRC. Tuesday 16 Dec.

**11. MOUNT ST THOMAS BASKETBALL TEAMS**
b. 2 teams of students will play after school at the Snake Pit this term

**12. SPRING BALL**
- Congratulations Shellie, Danyelle and the P&C Fundraising Committee for their hard work to organise the first Mount St Thomas PS P&C Association Spring Ball – it was a great night with a fantastic fundraising result.

**13. SKOOL BAG APP**
- School newsletters, school notices and alerts are communicated directly to parent's smartphone through the Skoolbag school Mobile App.
- At first we will be adding the newsletter and attachments and as time goes on, we will have the facility to send reminders, permission notes and other useful features.

**14. GRANDPARENTS’ DAY**
- K-2 will celebrate Grandparent's Day on Friday, 24 October.

**15. PUBLIC SPEAKING 2014**
Our annual Public Speaking Competition commences in Term 4. The topics this year are:
- Kinder - When I Grow Up
- Stage 1 - Talk Me Into It
- Stage 2 - People Changing the World
- Stage 3 - An Issue that Concerns Me

Our Public Speaking Final will be held on Tuesday, 11 November in the school hall, (times will be advertised early next term).

**16. FLASHING LIGHTS**
Roads and Maritime Services installed signs outside Mount St Thomas Public School on St Johns Avenue. Installing these flashing lights in school zones has shown to improve driver awareness of the need to drive at a lower speed to ensure the safety of children and others coming and going from the school area.

**17. PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS POP**
New method of parent payments will be available in the 2015 financial year. This new method will enable parents to pay directly into the school's bank account via a Westpac secure online payment portal. This payment portal is accessed via the school's website and SkoolBag (in the future) and allows parents to pay using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card.

The payer enters the student's name, date of birth and class and what they are paying for. They can pay for voluntary school contributions, up to 5 each – excursions, sport activities, sales to students and creative & practical arts activities, we have also included an option for 5 other types of payments.

If payment is made by 6:00pm, the funds are deposited in the school bank account overnight, and the School Administration Manager, or other office staff, access Quickweb (through the Westpac banking site) and download a 2 column spreadsheet that details all of the daily transactions enabling accurate receipting into OASIS.

**There are fees attached to the process.** The access fee is $11.00 per month (GST inclusive) (compared to an Eftpos terminal which is $22 per month). The transaction fee is 0.38c per transaction + the interchange fee.

Schools are not charged a setup fee as the Department has met this cost.

This method of payment will commence in 2015-information will be sent to parents this term.

Refer to the P&C folder for further details (Christine Schnebeli)
Moved: Diane Crittenden Seconded: Keith Howson

**Treasurer's Report:**
Balance of $2 000.00

Refer to the P&C folder for further details (Nicole)

Moved: Kobe Seconded: Nicole

**Uniform Shop Report:**
Refer to the P&C folder for further details (Nicole)

$12 000 approx balance
Summer tunics ordered and due to arrive ASAP.

Moved: Rosemarie Seconded: Deanne
Fundraising Treasurer’s Report:
Refer to the P&C folder for further details (Kobe)

**BALANCE** $4 699.37

Moved: Danyelle  Seconded: Deanne

**AGENDA ITEMS:**
Venue for Christmas Dinner to be decided on. Alaseel, Wed 10 December.

**INTERRELATE** – Discuss at a later date. Sharyn Low

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**
Sharyn suggested that the evaluation committee could be more flexible in their meeting dates. This would allow working parents to become involved.

P & C Christmas Dinner date 11 December – Venue to be advised. All welcome

**NEXT MEETING:** AGM – Wednesday 12th November 2014

**MEETING CLOSED:** 8.20 PM

**ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS:**

**RISE and SHINE COMPETITION**
Congratulations to all the people who participated in the Rise and Shine student’s competition. Many excellent entries were handed in by our enthusiastic environmentalists.

Mrs Davis spent some time on Thursday afternoon perusing the entries before delivering them and has awarded places for the top entries from our school.

Over the next few weeks some of these poems and essays will be published in our school newsletter. So keep an eye out. The winners are listed below.

**The Infant’s Competition – draw, colour & paint – What the Environment Means to Me.**

**Kinder**
1st – Ellie, K3
2nd – Matilda, O1
3rd – Jacob, K3

**Year 1**
1st – Kaylan, O1
2nd – Jayden, O1
3rd – Marc, O1

**Year 2**
1st – Nicholas, K2 – an outstanding painting, that the judges have already been talking about.
2nd – Alex, D1
3rd – Daisy, K2

The Primary Competition – Poetry

**Year 3**  Brooke, N3

**Year 4**  There were many excellent poems, which I couldn’t decide between, so first place was shared by 4 people.
1st – Alice, N1; Stella & Violet, N2; Maddison, N2

Highly commended: Elsie and Ella

**Year 5**
1st – Arabelle, N4
2nd – Caitlyn, Kem 2
3rd – Zoe, Kem 2

The Essay Competition – (open)

**Year 2**
1st - Dechen, D1
2nd – Destiny, D1
3rd - Sierra, D1

**Year 3**
1st - Payten, N3
2nd – Dakota, D1
3rd – Stella, D1
**One Little Seed**

by Stella and Violet

One little seed can change the world,
In deep rich soil.
Water, water! It needs water,
For one little seed can change the world.

One little sprout,
with one little leaf.
Sun, sun! It needs more sun,
For one little sprout can change the world.

We’ve been waiting for days!
No hope! No joy!
We need more trees,
For one little tree can change the world.

A tree, a tree,
We finally see,
From one little seed
to one little sprout,
to one big tree
that can change the world.

**Why We Shouldn’t Litter!**

by Dechen

Everyone knows that littering is bad, but some people just don't care!
How would you ‘litter bugs’ like living in a disgusting, filthy dump?
We should not litter, because one day we'll probably live in a horrible dump as tall as a mountain.
So pick up your rubbish!

How horrid is it? Sea animals could eat your rubbish!
If you don’t pick up your rubbish, our world will be in BIG trouble!
Would you like to sleep on a metal can?
Look after our environment because someone could slip on your banana peel.
It's your responsibility to pick up your rubbish.
Don't expect other people to pick it up for you. (The ones that do the opposite to litter bugs.)
But luckily they do!!!

So be grateful that we have our wonderful environment.
Do you want to be a bystander or an upstander???
I think you would like to be an upstander, because you will be rewarded with a beautiful world.

So, LOOK AFTER OUR ENVIRONMENT!

**How Many Plastic Bags Do You Need?**

By Flynn

World experts think people should not need or use plastic bags. Litter could almost be called by another word ‘plastic bags’.

Litter is disgusting, filthy and full of germs. Because that, is what plastic bags become, when they hang around in our environment.

How would you like to swim in polluted water?

I know people litter because they do it in front of me.

So don’t use plastic bags. It pollutes the sea and the land. Bins are put around the place for a reason. If we don’t use bins, then our precious world will become a giant dump.

Each year, many animals die from swallowing plastic bags, mainly sea animals, such as turtles. Turtles think they are jellyfish and they swallow the floating plastic bags. Once the bags are in the turtle’s belly, the turtle feels full, but it is empty and it dies from starvation. Sometimes, they get stuck in the turtle’s throat and the turtle will suffocate.

This litter is causing pollution.
Pollution is not healthy for the environment or the atmosphere.

So from now on, I hope you don’t litter.
Otherwise you are a litterbug!

**AN IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER:**

**The Rise and Shine Awards Night**

Thursday, 4th December at the Salvation Army Function Centre, 13 Burelli St Wollongong   It usually starts about 7 pm and goes for approximately an hour with a free supper at the end.

You are welcome to come along to see if any of these clever students or even our school wins a prize.

*Mrs Davis – COORDINATOR*
**Clean the Environment!**
by James

Everyone should clean the environment!

Rubbish is horrid, dirty and you're lazy, if you don't bin it! People should not buy plastic bags, because if you do, you could kill every fish and bird.

If we don't pick up rubbish, we might have to swim or walk, because our cars will sink to the bottom of all the piles of rubbish. People may have to live underground.

If we didn't pick up rubbish, there would eventually be no food and no learning and no friends and no fun times!

If no-one ever cared about the environment, there would be nothing left of the world. Just rubbish, no nature, no animals. Just nothing!

If you don't bother putting anything in the bin, you will get sick from the stink, the horror and the disgust.

Do you like to pick your own and other peoples rubbish up?

'You MUST' to keep our world clean, to stop it getting dirty.

So don't litter or else you could recycle, instead of throwing your rubbish on the ground and in the trees or in the sea.

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Our Wednesday working bee volunteers have been working very hard this year and our beautiful environment is a testament to their hard work. Thank you to all of our wonderful workers, the gardens are looking great.

Mike Blake, one of our volunteer garden helpers, has been busy potting lots of healthy plants and they are available for sale at only $2.00 or $1.00 each.

Money raised from the sale of the plants will go towards further improving our school environment.

*Thank you Rosemary Bowden*

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**IMPORTANT**
Managing ANAPHYLAXIS in our School
We currently have **7 students** in our school with severe food allergies (anaphylaxis) to combinations of all types of nuts, eggs, dairy and seafood.

In order to minimise the risk in our school, we **request** that parents **not send** peanut butter on sandwiches or any nut products to school in your child's lunch box, especially, if a class member is Anaphylactic, in early primary years.

Please check below to see if there is an anaphylactic child in your child's class.

**Bringing Food to School:**
Also check with your child's teacher if you are bringing in a Birthday Cake or other food, as steps must be taken to ensure that the anaphylactic child is not exposed to an allergen via this food source.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kembla 1</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Nuts*, salmon, tuna and shellfish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nebo 2</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>All nuts* including Sesame Seeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keira 2</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Eggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ousley 1</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Tree nuts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ousley 1</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<td>Ousley 2</td>
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<td>All nuts*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ousley 1</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Dairy, Eggs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All Nuts include
- Cashews
- Walnuts
- Pecans
- Almonds
- Hazelnuts,
- Brazil
- Peanuts
- Macadamia
- Pistachio
- Pinenuts
- Sesame Seeds.

Many thanks for your support to ensure the safety of our students.
**COMMUNITY NEWS:**

### School Canteen Licence – Unanderra Public School

Tenders are called for the licence of the School canteen for the school year commencing 27th January, 2015 for a term of approximately 2 years. Annual school enrolments will be approximately 460 students. General enquiries and requests for a Tender Information Package should be referred to:

- Mr Gavin Hoy (Assistant Principal) Telephone: 4272 8730

Tenders must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Confidential – School Canteen Tender” and sent to:

- Mr Gavin Hoy – Assistant Principal, Unanderra Public School, 49 Derribong Drive, CORDEAUX HEIGHTS, 2526

Tenders close at 3pm on Friday, 31st October, 2014.

A tender visit and briefing session is planned to be held in the near future.

All applicants must make themselves familiar with clause 2 of the tender offer.

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### LEAVERS IN 2014

As all families would be aware, applications for Kindergarten to Year 6 enrolment in 2015 are now being taken. In 4 weeks’ time the decision will be made as to how many of the non-local applications can be accepted.

To do this as accurately as possible, we need to determine how many Year 6 students will be leaving, as well as how many other families will be leaving the school and NOT RETURNING IN 2015.

Please help clarify next year’s numbers! If you know or expect you will be leaving our school before the commencement of the 2015 school year, **except for the current Year 6 going to High School**, please complete and return the form below, as soon as possible.

We would be very grateful of your prompt advice, so we can more accurately estimate our enrolments for 2015.

**WHERE WILL YOU BE IN 2015??**

[Please complete and return to the school office]

If you expect your child will not be attending our school in 2015 (except Year 6), please complete the form below and return as soon as possible.

**CHILD’S NAME:**

**CLASS:**

**REASON:**

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**CHILD’S NAME:**

**CLASS:**

**REASON:**

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**CHILD’S NAME:**

**CLASS:**

**REASON:**

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**Come on a Great Family Adventure in Nepal**

**Easter School Holidays:** 2nd April – 18th April 2015

- Trek in stunning mountain scenery
- Enjoy as a family the simplicity of life in the Himalayas
- Experience our education projects first hand
- Have fun in the beautiful lakeside town of Pokhara
- Join the amazing activities on offer at an adventure resort close to the Tibetan border
- Relax in luxury hotels mixed with the authentic experience of off the beaten track Nepali villages

Join this incredible 15 day tour co-ordinated by the directors of the charity First Steps Himalaya

www.greatadventures-nepal.com

Email: greatadventures@firststepshimalaya.org

Ph: (03) 5451903