



TO GROW CLEVER, CREATIVE
AND CARING CHILDREN

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8 May 2024

age groups and to Milla for placing ninth!

From the Principal

Our 2024 Targets

As a school, each year we set targets we would like to achieve. We know that a sharp and narrow focus is a common trait of highly effective and successful schools. Below are our targets for 2024. We will continue to work towards achieving our **vision** of growing **Clever, Creative** and **Caring** children and also our Statement of Purpose: **Every child counts, every teacher counts, every minute counts, Mount Cotton counts!**

[Click here to download the School Improvement Targets flyer](#)

2024 District Cross Country

An amazing day of racing from our Cross Country students last week. Congratulations to Mount Cotton who secured 10th position. All students performed well. Congratulations to Saxon and Matilda for placing first in their



Tallara

Congratulations to Tallara who was selected in the Bayside District 10 to 12 Years Tennis team and competed at the Griffith University Tennis Centre (Mt Gravatt Campus) on the 1st of May. Tallara played very well! 😊



Harlan and Carter

Over the school holidays, Harlan and Carter competed at the Baseball Queensland State Titles held at Redcliffe Baseball Club for the Brisbane South Representative Team. 3 days of Tournaments were played against many teams.

Harlan was asked to be his team's Catcher over the tournament, and did very well, and loved the experience. This is Harlan's second year of representing the Brisbane South Team.

This was Carters first time representing Brisbane South Representative Team as he only started Baseball this year. Carter ended up pitching and batting during the day. Due to sickness, he was only able to play on one of the three days, but loved the experience and getting to meet lots of new friends.

We are proud of you Harlan and Carter!



Under 8's Day

Tuesday 21st of May from 8:50am to 10.50am

Under 8's Day is an event that treats students under the ages of 8 to a morning of pure playfulness, spontaneity,

exploration, imagination and fun! The theme for this year is "Connecting to Culture through play".

We have many exciting visitors joining us including the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Ambulance Service, Bunnings, Frist Five Forever and NRL QLD. Our teachers from Prep to Year 2 are also busy creating exciting and engaging activities to make the morning fun.

ANZAC Ceremony

As you are aware, ANZAC Day was on Thursday 25th of April. It is the day we remember all Australians who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. The spirit of ANZAC, with its human qualities of courage, mateship, and sacrifice, continues to have meaning and relevance for our sense of national identity.

Below are some videos from the Redland Bay Dawn Service and photos from the Cleveland ANZAC March.

[Click here for more information](https://www.facebook.com/MountCottonSS/videos/3040571496083400)

<https://www.facebook.com/MountCottonSS/videos/3040571496083400>

[Click here for more information](https://www.facebook.com/MountCottonSS/videos/308361618820096)

<https://www.facebook.com/MountCottonSS/videos/308361618820096>



Curriculum Letters

Please find attached our Term 2 Curriculum letters. Our curriculum letters share information about the Term 2 curriculum in each Learning Area.

At MCSS exemplars are used by students and teachers to;

- develop student self-monitoring and/or self-regulation,
- to build student self-efficacy
- to encourage ownership over learning.

The aim of the development of these self-regulatory

practices is to improve academic performance.

A copy of the exemplar used in your child's classroom for their English assessment this term has been provided.

Prep

[Click here to download the PREP Curriculum letter](#)

P/1D

[Click here to download the P1D Curriculum letter](#)

[Click here to download the P1D PREP Exemplar](#)

[Click here to download the P1D Year 1 Bees A Exemplar](#)

[Click here to download the P1D Year 1 Bees C Exemplar](#)

Year 1

[Click here to download the Year 1 Curriculum letter](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Year 1 VH Exemplar](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Year 1 C Exemplar](#)

1/2D

[Click here to download the Year 12D Curriculum letter](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Year 2D Bees Very High Exemplar](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Bees Sound Y2D Exemplar](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Bees Very High Y1D Exemplar](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Bees Sound Y1D Exemplar](#)

Year 2

[Click here to download the Year 2 Curriculum letter](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Year 2 Dolphins C and A Exemplar](#)

Year 3

[Click here to download the Year 3 Curriculum letter](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Year 3 Exemplars](#)

Year 4

[Click here to download the Year 4 Curriculum letter](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Year 4 Exemplar A](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Year 4 Exemplar C](#)

Year 5

[Click here to download the Year 5 Curriculum letter](#)

[Click here to download the Term 2 Year 5 Persuasive Writing A and C Exemplars](#)

Year 6

[Click here to download the Year 6 Curriculum letter](#)

Team IQ

Team IQ is when our teachers meet in small groups, to share expertise and work collaboratively to improve the academic performance of students. Each teacher has an explicit focus for 6 weeks (written below). Our students complete a pre-check (Week 2) and then after the intensive focus (6 weeks) they complete a post-check/test (Week 8). The teachers have additional staff meetings in Week 2 and 8 to discuss their explicit focus and their students. **Every student counts!**

[Click here to download the TEAM IQ Term 1 and 2 flyer](#)

Year 1 and Year 2 Life Saving Visit

Recently, we had a visit from the Royal Life Saving team. They shared water safety with our students.



Year 4 Incursion – Street Science



ICAS

[Click here to download the 2024 iCas Letter](#)

Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month

Each May, Queensland marks Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month to raise community awareness of domestic and family violence and to send a clear message that violence of this sort will not be tolerated.

Throughout the year at Mount Cotton, we explicitly teach our 3Rs (Respect, Responsibility and Resilience) and 3Cs (Clever, Creative and Caring). Through our 3Rs/3Cs, we discuss respectful relationships, inclusivity, and seeking help and proposing and practicing realistic response (reporting concerns).

With the implementation of the Health curriculum across the school, our students are taught about communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing, contributing to healthy and active communities and being healthy, safe and active.

Peer Support (our pastoral care program) helps educate our students and gives them the necessary skills. We also involve outside agencies to support our students e.g. the Ditto Program and Life Education van. Our Guidance Officer, School Psychologist and school Chaplain also support individual children if needed.

What is domestic and family violence?

Domestic and family violence is more than just physical violence.

It is when one person in a relationship uses violence or abuse to maintain power and control over another person. It causes the person being abused to live in fear.

Abuse is not always physical — it can be emotional, verbal, sexual and financial, or involve threats and controlling behaviours. All forms of violence and abuse should be taken seriously.

Find out more about:

- [domestic and family violence](#)
- [the signs of domestic and family violence](#)
- [how to get help](#).

In an emergency call the police on triple zero (000).

DVConnect Womensline

Phone: 1800 811 811

(24 hours, 7 days a week)

Womensline helps women to obtain safe refuge accommodation, confidential counselling and referral to other services.

DVConnect Mensline

Phone: 1800 600 636

(9am to midnight, 7 days a week)

Mensline provides confidential counselling, information and referral to men affected by domestic and family violence.

Kids Helpline

Phone: 1800 55 1800

(24 hours, 7 days per week)

Lifeline

Phone: 13 11 14

(24 hour Crisis Counselling Line)



End domestic and family violence

May is the month Queenslanders come together to say 'no' to domestic and family violence. As a community, we must work together to end domestic and family violence.

www.qld.gov.au/dfvpmth
www.qld.gov.au/dosomething
[#endDFV](https://twitter.com/endDFV) [#dosomething](https://twitter.com/dosomething)



[Click here to download the Support Someone Brochure](#)

[Click here to download the Increasing Your Safety flyer](#)

Carly Ryan Online Safety Resources

Click here to download the Online Contracts flyer

Click here to download the Settings Booklet

Click here to download the All Apps Fact Sheet

Click here to download the Childs New Device Checklist

Helping Hands (Outside School Hours Care) Building

We have been advised that due to safety precautions it has been recommended to vacate the building. This building will be removed from the school site. We are currently working with Helping Hands around their new spaces within the school.

Term 2 Parent Events

Please find attached our Term 2 Parent Calendar.

Click here to download the Term 2 Parent Calendar

Fire Ants

Fire ants are one of the world's most invasive pests and they have the potential to devastate our environment, economy and the outdoor way of life we know and love. To stop the spread of fire ants, the Department of Education is collaborating with the [National Fire Ant Eradication Program](#) to manage fire ants across schools within South East Queensland. This important work will help protect our schools and community from the dangers posed by fire ants.

An initial pilot program has treated 46 schools across the Logan, Ipswich, Somerset and Gold Coast City local government areas (Metropolitan and South East education regions). This will expand over the coming years to include additional schools. The treatment consists of applying two rounds of an insect growth regulator which sterilises the fire ant queen and prevents new ants from maturing into adults. These types of products are widely used in mosquito control programs, cockroach treatment and pet flea collars and when used according to instructions, are not harmful to humans, pets or wildlife.

The first round of treatment occurred in early 2023 and round two is being completed during April and May. The fire ant bait is being applied by experienced

pest management technicians.

The school treatment program supports efforts to [eradicate fire ants](#) within South East Queensland by suppressing the fire ant population in areas until eradication treatment takes place. Under the [Biosecurity Act 2014](#) all Queenslanders have an obligation to manage biosecurity risks. The Department of Education is meeting its obligations by managing fire ants on land it owns or manages.

The [National Fire Ant Eradication Program](#) is also running a range of [community projects](#) to provide residents in selected suburbs with free fire ant bait to treat their yards to support eradication goals. For the latest information on community projects or for more information about fire ants visit: <https://www.fireants.org.au>

Statement of Purpose: Every Minute Counts!

At Mount Cotton State School, our attendance target is **95%**.

Below is the [Week 2 and Week 3 of Term 2](#) attendance percent for each class.

	Week 2	Week 3
PA	94%	91%
PB	92%	85%
PC	97%	95%
P/1D	98.09%	95%
1A	94%	96%
1B	95%	91%
1C	90%	97%
1/2D	90%	89%
2A	93%	85%
2B	97%	87%
2C	96%	88%
3A	93%	91%
3B	86%	77%

3C	98.3%	94%
3D	89%	96%
4A	96%	79%
4B	89%	88%
4C	92%	85%
5A	96%	85%
5B	87%	93%
5C	97%	88%
5D	96%	84%
SA	92%	81%
SB	90%	89%
SC	87%	80%

We look forwards to seeing you throughout the term and thank you for your ongoing support of the school.

Kind regards,

Meagan Steward

mstew40@eq.edu.au

4. Increases Motivation

If the big picture seems too overwhelming, teachers break bigger goals into short-term goals. This separates long-term goals into smaller, more manageable steps so students doesn't get discouraged.

5. Measures Progress

Setting clear goals makes it easier for students to track his or her progress. Seeing how far he or she has come and how much is left to do motivates him or her to continue working toward (and achieving) goals.

6. Gives Focus & Purpose

Setting goals determines a clear pathway to success, allowing your child to focus on what needs to get done. This goes a long way to preventing students from becoming overwhelmed, frustrated, or discouraged. It lessens feelings of being disheartened and encourages students to spend time on activities that contribute to his or her goals.

7. Boosts Self-Confidence:

Students come to the office to receive a photo and sticker! Students confidence in his or her abilities is important for self-image in the long run, helping him or her tackle future goals with less anxiety.

8. Provides Challenges

Goals help students to be engaged in the classroom and encourages your child to think of new areas he or she can continue to improve.

Ask your child/ren what their Literacy and Numeracy goals are!

From the Deputy Principals

Ways Goal Setting Helps Your Child Succeed

1. Provides A Clear Path To Success:

When setting goals, it gives students steps to follow so tasks are completed according to importance. This allows more time and energy to be spent on the next step in achieving his or her goal rather than tackling tasks as they come up.

2. Teaches Time Management & Preparedness

Students know what he or she needs/wants to achieve and knows the steps required to achieve it. Setting effective goals also teaches students organisation, planning, and time management skills he or she can use in the classroom and at home.

2024 School Leaders – Wear PJs to school day!

Through the wellbeing committee surveys completed by students at MCSS, we have been informed that many students are not getting enough sleep. On Thursday 23rd May, the Student Leaders will be running a PJ Day. This is a free event with the focus being on getting enough sleep. Students will be allowed to wear their PJs (school and sun safe appropriate) and come and join the leaders for events that promote and educate about the benefits of sleep.

The following events will be happening:

Activity	Purpose	Venue
Colouring Competition	Add a sleep tip to picture.	Library

Quiz	All about sleeping well.	Mi-Hub
Sleep Games	Being restful.	Hall
Sport inspired games	Activity helps people sleep better!	Oval

From the Head of Inclusion (HOI)

Sensory Processing Difficulties (SPD)

The student leaders and Mrs Pavey put together this presentation about the importance of sleep which will be shared by our Student Leaders.

[Click here to download The Importance of Sleep flyer](#)

Parenting Ideas

Please find attached two articles:

[Click here to download A Mothers Day Message For Dads flyer](#)

[Click here to download the A Parenting Style For The Ages flyer](#)

Mates

[Click here to download the Great Mates flyer](#)

Kind regards,

Sally Bedford

Stacey Dabelstein

POLICY

Our School Uniform

[Click here to download the School Uniform Policy and Student Dress Code](#)

Before School Arrival Procedures

Please find attached a copy of our Before School Arrival Procedures. We would like all students to sit in the designated area if they arrive before 8:30 am. Could we please request parents/guardians also sit in the designated area as often parents will have other children (not their own) join them? This will assist us with the management of our before school behaviour.

[Click here to download the Before School Arrival Procedures](#)

The following information has been collated from the [SPD Australia](#) website.

SENSORY PROCESSING is a complex neurological process that influences the functional skills in most individuals. People with **Sensory Processing Difficulties** misinterpret everyday sensory information, such as touch, sound and movement. They may feel **overwhelmed** by sensory information, may **seek out** sensory experiences or may **avoid** certain experiences. Sensory Processing Disorder is not a recognised disorder and is not listed on the DSM-5.

People with SPD experience their world as either **Hypersensitive** (over reactive, sensory avoidance) or **Hyposensitive** (under reactive, sensory seeker). They may also present with motor skill problems. They may react with strong emotional behaviours and experience what may be described as 'melt downs'.

When there is a Sensory Processing dysfunction, it is hypothesized that the brain does not process or organise the flow of sensory impulses in a way that gives the child precise information about themselves and their world. As a result, learning can be difficult and children may feel uncomfortable, or have difficulty coping with the stress of daily sensory and organizational demands. This often results in additional or behavioural difficulties.

The following, compiled by SPD Australia, is a list of indicators that may suggest someone has Sensory Processing Difficulties:

- Child may seem to be in constant motion, unable to sit still for an activity
- Has trouble focusing or concentrating, can't stay on task
- Seems to be always running, jumping, stomping rather than walking
- Bumps into things or frequently knocks things over
- Reacts strongly to being bumped or touched
- Avoids messy play and doesn't like to get hands dirty
- Hates having hair washed, brushed or cut.

- Resists wearing new clothing and is bothered by tags or socks
- Distressed by loud or sudden sounds such as a siren or a vacuum
- Has poor fine motor skills such as writing and cutting, difficulty with buttons and tying shoelaces
- Has poor gross motor skills such as body co-ordination, riding a bike, swimming, running
- Hesitates to play or climb on playground equipment
- Difficulties with balance
- Difficulty with eyes tracking objects and often loses place when reading or copying from board
- Marked mood variations and tendency to outbursts and tantrums
- Avoids eye contact
- Has trouble following and remembering a 2—3 step instruction
- Fussy eater, often gags on food
- Reacts to smells not noticed by others

Only a qualified professional, such as an Occupational Therapist (OT), should diagnose sensory integration/sensory processing issues. Some behaviours that appear to be related to sensory issues are actually behavioural issues independent of sensory needs. If you have concerns regarding your child, consult your GP who may then refer you to an OT. For further information regarding the above, please access the [SPD Australia website](#).

Autism Hub – Parent/Carer Sessions

The [Autism Hub](#) has the following upcoming parent/carers sessions. Visit their [Workshop Calendar](#) for more information.

- Understanding Autism
- Understanding Demand avoidance in children and youth
- Putting positive behaviour support into place

Annett Wellard

Head of Department - Inclusion

awell39@eq.edu.au

We encourage all students to borrow weekly from the library. Why not try something different? Fiction books range from picture books which may be read in one sitting to chapter books that may take a few days or a week.

If your child does not like reading why not try a graphic novel. Graphic novels are written in comic form and have small amounts of text that are often easier and more enjoyable for some students. Non-fiction books can be found about most student interests and do not need to be read from cover to cover. If you cannot find a book you are looking for, please ask library staff?

The library is open to all students from 8:30am each morning, students are welcome to use the computers, come in and find a quiet space to play or draw, borrow or return library books, ask for some IT help with their iPad, or just come in for a chat.

Thank you

Thank you very much to our families for their donations to the library, for books and resources. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who help assist in the library with book covering and reshelving.

Peer Support

Our Peer Support sessions held every second Friday have been looking at Brain Breaks. What is a Brain Break?

A “brain break” is an activity that takes you away from hard mental work and allows your brain and body to reset. Together our Peer Support groups looked at Whole Body “Rock Paper Scissors”, Balancing exercises and the week prior we participated in desk drumming. Why not have a “brain break” with your gem during their homework session to help them refocus.

In our next Peer support session on the 10th May students will learn about the “Stress Curve”. Some stress helps our body perform, but how much stress is too much?

Donna Wilkins

library@mtcottonss.eq.edu.au

Library News

Has your gem borrowed from the library this week?

Hi Everyone,

Term 2 continues to fly by. Here is an update from the Chappy Space.

Student Programs

We are continuing with these programs this term

GRITT – For Year 6 Boys

Li'l Bros – For Year 4 & 5 Boys

A2B – For Year 2 & 3 Boys and Girls

All the groups have been received well and the students are all participating and contributing to the group sessions.

Parents Social Group and Play Group

We have this every Tuesday morning – 8.40- 9.45. We had so much fun. Please feel free to join us.



CHAPPY

**H
A
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R**



Come & Join Us
Parents' Social Group
& Playgroup
Every Tuesday Morning
8.40am - 9.45am
Venue: Chappy Room
B Block
(near 2C classroom)
RSVP via email



Contact details: nchon10@eq.edu.au

P&C / Chappy Breakfasts

We will return in Week 6. Thanks to all the helpers at this mornings Mother's Day Breakfast.

Subway Fundraiser

Thank you so much for the support for this fundraiser. It is greatly appreciated.

Our next one is booked in for Tuesday 04 June. More information to follow.

Hope you all had a lovely long weekend.

Chappy Nina

Money Due

Events Money Due:

- *Prep – Yr 6 Student Resource Scheme \$50.00 payment NOW OVERDUE*
- *Yr 1 Big Bang Education Push and Pull incursion \$12.00 payment due Wed 8th May*
- *Yr 6 Tallebudgera Camp Second deposit \$150.00 due Wed 22nd May*
- *Prep – Year 6 NAIDOC Incursion \$10.00 payment due Wed 5th June*

Please send permission forms to the class teacher.

Important Notice:

The BPoint invoice numbers are specific to each activity. Please do not use a single invoice number repeatedly for different activities. Transactions will not credit against your child/ren name/s as a result.

[Click here to download the How to use BPoint to make a payment flyer](#)

Please contact the school office, **prior to the deadline**, if you have difficulty meeting the deadlines, to make alternate arrangements.

Student of the Week

Congratulations to the following students on their achievement!

Name	Class	Awards Week 7 & 8 Term 1
Hayden Mia	4A	Responsibility Clever
Dakota Mason	4B	Clever Responsibility
Isabelle Eva	4C	Responsibility Responsibility
Beau Hailey	5A	Responsibility Clever
Isabelle Carter	5B	Responsibility Clever
Nate Kai	5C	Clever Creative
Miller Elias	5D	Respect Responsibility
Malcolm Rahni	SNR A	RespectCaring

Phoebe Tu. Cohen	SNR B	Clever Clever
Chloe Lily	SNR C	ResponsibilityResponsibility

Wed 15 May	Mini Melodies Concert Band + Lessons Tuckshop
Thurs 16 May	Cottonhoppers 7:30am Tuckshop
Fri 17 May	Aerobics 7:45am Religious Instruction Tuckshop

Dates to Remember

Term 2, 2024	
Week 4	
Wed 8 May	Concert Band + Lessons Mini Melodies Tuckshop
Thurs 9 May	Prep How Things Move Incursion P&C Mother's Day Stall Cottonhoppers 7:30am Tuckshop
Fri 10 May	Aerobics 7:45am Peer Support Chappy Mother's Day Breakfast
Week 5	
Mon 13 May	Prep – 3 Assembly 2:15pm
Tues 14 May	Yr 3 QLD Museum excursion Mt Cotton Voices Senior Assembly 2:15pm CGEN Choir Chappy Play Group Sushi

Week 6	
Mon 20 May	Prep – 3 Assembly 2:15pm String Ensemble + Lessons
Tues 21 May	Senior Assembly 2:15pm Mt Cotton Voices CGEN Choir Chappy Play Group Prep – Yr 2 Under 8's Day
Wed 22 May	Concert Band + Lessons CGEN Massed Choir Rehearsal Mini Melodies Tuckshop
Thurs 23 May	Cottonhoppers 7:30am Student Leader/Council – the benefits of a Good Sleep PJ Day
Fri 24 May	P&C and Chappy Breakfast Aerobics – 7:45am Yr 1 Big Bang Incursion Peer Support