It has been great to welcome back so many familiar faces this week and very special to welcome so many new families. Of course there is a special hello to our Preps, starting their first week of school. We have had 10 Preps start with us this year and they are doing a great job of settling in. We have also had 4 new students start in grades 3, 4, & 5 making our total school numbers slightly higher than last year.

If you haven’t had a chance to meet you children’s teacher, please feel free to pop in and do so. Maybe even try and make it to parade each Friday. Parade starts at 8:45 am and usually goes to 9:10 am. This is the time when we give out our weekly awards and discuss important issues with the students. Parents are very welcome to attend.

**Family Welcome-Big Breakfast**

As we did last year, we are going to have a Big Breakfast on Friday 5th February, at 7:30 am in the eating area at school. We would like to take this time to meet new and current families and to create community connections between school and home.

This is a very important component of our school’s Kids Matter initiative. During the breakfast I will take the time to tell you about the Kids Matter program, what we have achieved and what we have planned for 2016.

Breakfast is supplied free of charge. Breakfast will consist of sausages, bacon, fruit, cereal, tea/coffee and juice. Arrive when you can, relax, enjoy and start your day in a positive and social way. Breakfast finishes with parade at 9:10 am.

**Date Claimers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kids Matter Welcome breakfast</td>
<td>5 Feb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parade</td>
<td>5 Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgroup starts</td>
<td>5 Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuckshop</td>
<td>10 Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parade</td>
<td>12 Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;C AGM and meeting</td>
<td>17 Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival Gatton</td>
<td>19 Feb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Murphy’s Creek Challenge**

Complete the pattern:

7 + □ = 16
70 + □ = 160
700 + □ = 1,600
7,000 + □ = 16,000

Register to use Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) on-line by following this link:
**Playgroup Changes - Come & Try Feb 5th**

Due to changes in the main school timetables we have had to change the day our playgroup operates on. It will now operate on a Friday morning from 9-11am. We will still be located in the community room at the school.

After 5 years of very diligent service, Mrs Greene has been called back to the classroom to work with her new group of Prep students. I wish to thank her for her excellent service.

We would like to welcome Miss Cherie Imms to the position of Playgroup Co-ordinator.

Attendance is free but we ask for a gold coin donation to cover tea & coffee for the parents. It is open to children 0-5 years and is a very popular event. Come and meet other parents in the area and make connections in the community.

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**New Curriculum Areas in 2016**

**Digital Technology**

This year all students from Prep to Year 4 will start a new technology subject called Digital Technology. Learning in Digital Technologies focuses on students developing understanding and skills in coding. Students start at a very basic (non-computer) level but quickly work their way up to programming animations and making simple games. This is a great step in education as it opens up an opportunity for students to access a growth industry and an essential skill for their generation. Some of the examples of activities are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>Examples of digital solutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P – 2</td>
<td>using a robotic toy to navigate a map, a digital data display such as a class profile, recording data with software applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 – 4</td>
<td>interactive adventures, simple guessing games, an interactive learning object that delivers information.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Let's Meet...Miss Judd**

Let me introduce to you Miss Kylie Judd. Some of you may remember Miss Judd from a 6 month teaching contract she did at MCSS in 2013.

Since then Miss Judd has been teaching in Chinchilla.

This year Miss Judd will be working Thursday on curriculum and assessment tasks, providing non-contact time for teachers and taking the 5/6 class on Friday. We are very happy to have Miss Judd back with us again.

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Watch this space... new sign coming soon!
We Love our Tuckshop!- Starts Feb 10 & 12
The kids & (staff) love Tuckshop but we can’t operate it without some parent volunteers. This year Kym Webb has very kindly offered to be our volunteer convenor but volunteers are always welcome on the day. Kym will arrive from 8:45am each tuckshop morning.
This year tuckshop will run on a Wednesday and a Friday. Kym has asked that orders for the Friday be in by the Wednesday before and orders for the Wednesday be in by the Friday before.
Attached to the newsletter today is a Tuckshop Menu. Orders need to be written on a brown paper bag, with the child’s name, order and class clearly marked.
Please support the tuckshop if you can as all profits go to the P&C and our chaplain Don’s position.

P&C AGM and First Meeting
To be a member of the school’s P&C is to have a hand in helping to shape the school into the place you want it to be for your children. P&C’s are the voice of the parents and the driver behind many, many school improvements and initiatives.
Our school P&C is having their annual AGM and first meeting on:

February 17th @ 7pm
In the Staffroom
This meeting is a family friendly event with children welcome. A sausage sizzle and soft drinks will be provided from 6:30pm to welcome all attending.
New parents to the school especially welcome.

Friday Electives
Friday afternoons for Years 3-6 will involve students signing up to an elected activity. These activities will involve students committing to a seven (7) week period.
A sheet outlining the activities and the expectations will accompany this newsletter and will need to be filled out and returned by Wednesday next week.
Activities include:
- Drumming
- Construction and coding
- Construct a garden
- Paper Craft
- Helping in the Prep room
- Cooking

OSHC
This acronym stands for Out of School Hour Care. This includes before school care, after school care and vacation. This facility is run by PCYC and can run from 6:30am and will finish at 6pm in the evening.
To attend this service you will need to register on-line by following this link:
We encourage every family to register and have the details in place in case emergency care is required. If you get caught in town or the car breaks down, you can just call the school and have the children cared for and fed. The centre has a set cost but the cost is reduced using your Childcare Rebate percentage.
OSHC includes breakfast and afternoon tea, structured games and supervised play. Call the school if you need help to register.

Murphys Creek State School Phone 46305167 Email admin@murpcreess.eq.edu.au Web https://murpcreess.eq.edu.au
Congratulations to Students’ of the Week, High 5 winner and a very special ‘Bucket Filler’.