PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

I would like to thank Dan Albright and the staff for their support last week whilst I was away in Tasmania. Dan did a fantastic job and his help was greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank all those families who offered their condolences on the passing of my father. It was great to catch up with all my family and friends in Tasmania.

It has been pleasing to see that the children are arriving at school at the correct time. Please remember that teachers are not on duty before school so it is essential that children report to the office if they arrive before 8:15 am. Mountain Mates provide Before School Care for those parents who need to drop their children off early.

I would like to remind all parents and carers that if you need to discuss any issues or concerns please feel free to drop in and see me.

ANZAC DAY

The ANZAC Day Ceremony is on Thursday and it is an extremely important day on the nation’s and school calendar. I would encourage all children to attend this special event, please wear school uniform and be at the Graceleigh Park Memorial by 11:10 am.

Year 7 student to wear their Leadership Shirt and cap.

SYDNEY & CANBERRA CAMP

The dates for the trip have been confirmed. The dates are August 26-30. We are still awaiting final costs and will advise as soon as they are confirmed. On confirmation of the final cost invoices will be generated and parents will need to make final payment by 31st July. The school has paid a deposit and this will enable the flights to be booked. Parents who wish to commence paying by instalment may do so, cost is approximately $820-$850.

BAND NEWS

There will be no Band rehearsal or lessons on Wednesday 24th April, due to Anzac Day performance commitments by Mr Clyde’s other schools.

Band and Violin lessons will be on Friday 26th April. There will also be band rehearsal on Friday at the usual time.

BAKERS NEEDED

Could some fantastic parents out there make and donate biscuits for Anzac Day on Thursday? If so, could you either bring them into the school tomorrow or on the day to the ceremony at the Hall.

Very much appreciated.
COMING EVENTS

APRIL

24 April  No Band
25 April  Anzac Day Graceleigh Park
26 April  Band Rehearsal
28 April  Crichton to Nerang Alliance Retreat
29 April  Crichton at Nerang Alliance Retreat
10 May   Mothers Day stall
 8 May    P & C Meeting
17 May   Interhouse Cross Country

MOTHER’S DAY STALL

Each year our P & C holds a Mothers Day Stall to raise funds for our children. It’s a fun little opportunity for the children to choose a gift for their Mum for Mother’s Day. We ask for your help with small gift donations. The gifts will be wrapped (in clear paper) and priced from $3 - $10. Suggestions for donations include: toiletries, small garden tools, soaps, coffee mugs, chocolates or anything you think a Mum would like to receive. There will be a box in the office for donations. Please no second hand or fragile items. If you would like more information or would like to help, please call Julie on 55333226.

MOUNTAINS MATES MUTTERINGS

Outside School Hours Care Service
Ph. 55459124 or a/h 55333340
email-mountainmates@bigpond.com

Welcome to Mountain Mates, your Before School, After School and Vacation Care specialists.

Our skills program is beginning this week. The Term program will be attached to this week’s newsletter. Have a look at the wonderful opportunities we have on offer for your children.

Coming into the cooler afternoons please ensure your children have a jumper tucked into their bag.

A BIG thank you to Steve and Melissa (Daniel’s Parents) for bringing along their lovely Alpaca and gorgeous goat for the children to pat and feed during Vacation Care. It was a real treat and we have loads of great photos.

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NEWS FROM THE TEACHERS

LIBRARY NEWS

It was great to meet all the students and staff last week, thank you for the warm welcome that I received. Throughout this term I will be working with students during their library lessons using de Bono’s thinking hats. This is a strategy that encourages students to direct their thinking in one direction at a time.

Remember that bookclub is due next Tuesday the 30th of April.

Have a great week.
Trish O’Connell pocon7@eq.edu.au

PREP NEWS

Hi everyone, I hope you have been having a good week.

In the homework folders children now have a reader, their sight word books and their sound booklets. The children’s readers are changed every day except Friday. Their sight words should be practiced frequently and when they know them well have them colour them in or let me know they are ready to be tested. There are new sounds that have been added to their sound booklets and please have the children tell you the actions and the sounds that they have been learning.

This week we have read and been exploring the book The Jolly Postman. The children have started writing their own letters to a character from the book. We will be looking at postcards too. This term we have begun reading in our small literacy groups as well continuing to learn their sight words and sounds through fun games.

In history this week the children will be bringing home two questions to ask you about what things were like when you were younger. Could you please help them with this and write the answer on the back of the strips. Also if you have any photos of your sessions are funded by the Australian Sports Commission Active After School Care Community and we appreciate the opportunity.

You may be aware that Kerry hasn’t been at Mountain Mates for some time now. Kerry is quite unwell at the moment and is taking some time off to get better. The children have been missing her and we have made her a beautiful card which I delivered and she loved. We are all sending out lots of love from Mountain Mates for Kerry.

From Kim, Janine, Kerry, Clare and Kara.
Your Mountain Mates Team.
family that you can send in that would be great. Thanks to Ruby who has already done this.

Last week the children brought home a pet booklet to work on at home. I haven’t put a time limit on this as I know some people need more time than others to complete it. As long as it is done within a few weeks that would be great.

Hope you have a great week, warm Regards,
Tania Evans
tevan27@eq.edu.au

YEAR 1/2 CLASS

Firstly, thank you for sending the children to school in their sports shoes. The weather has been so wonderful that we are getting in plenty of cross country practice as part of our daily exercise program.

Since the start of the year I have been working on an EdStudio for our class and while it is nowhere near finished there are some pages ready for the children to navigate. To access the EdStudio go to the school website and find the 1_2 class page under ‘Facilities’, on the right side of the page there is a link for the studio and children will need to log in using their MIS ID and password which I will stick in their homework books when they come in this week. They have used the studio before and should be familiar with it.

If there is anything you wish to discuss you are welcome to contact me on 55459100 or kpryo8@eq.edu.au

Wishing you all a good week,
Kerry Pryor
kpryo8@eq.edu.au

YEAR 3/4 CLASS

In Science this week we are conducting our experiment to determine if the growth of a plant is affected by temperature. The children are learning to plan, control and carry out an experiment in a scientific way. We are now finishing up our unit on Living and Non-Living and will be moving on to a new unit next week.

In Maths the children have been investigating number patterns. Some children are working with basic patterns using addition and subtraction while others are using a variety of operations with more complex patterns. We have also begun to investigate patterns and strategies for the 3X and 9X tables. We are also using knowledge of odd and even numbers to look at the answers to larger, more complex problems and decide if these are reasonable.

In English we have begun to work with Persuasive Text. We have been working in groups to brainstorm interesting ideas for a variety of topics. We have also begun to work hard on our editing and proofreading of written work.

Have a good week. Regards,
Dan dalbr1@eq.edu.au

YEAR 5/6 CLASS

In the next couple of weeks our class will be doing some practice tests in order to get ready for the upcoming NAPLAN tests in week 5. The practice will be looking at how to focus on decrypting the questions, strategies to use for multiple choice questions and when to ask for assistance. We will try to build up the children’s confidence in their ability and eliminate the pressures that come with testing. This practice will benefit the year 6 children even though they will not be sitting the test this year.

An assignment on the Australian Gold Rush was handed out yesterday. Children will be given class time to do some of the research, but most of the work will need to be completed at home as part of their homework. The class has been shown a sample of a quality assignment on this topic, so they know what the expectations are. They also have a criteria checklist to assist them with completing the tasks set.

Award winners for week 1 were: Madeline Evans, Claire Muir-Smith, Natasha Trikilis, William Kattajan-Blackwell, Heidi White and Austin Meadowcroft. Congratulations to all.

Have a great week, Regards
Katie and Joyce
kmann38@eq.edu.au
jobur96@eq.edu.au

YEAR 6/7 CLASS

Welcome to week 2. Of course you are probably aware of the many school activities coming up this term. One of those activities is the Cross Country day. We will be practising for this event each day, aiming to improve and increase each child’s fitness level. The children will need to wear shoes suitable for jogging through grassy areas. If your child is unable to participate in this practise or on the actual Cross Country day please inform Mr Roberts or I.

This week the children will be aiming to finish off a history project, they have been working on in the afternoon sessions, based on an ancient artefact they have chosen. Many children have been working hard on the art presentation and short speech in their own time at home. Well done! There are no changes to the ordinary homework routine, you may have noticed we began homework last week as usual. Children need to hand in their sentences and dictionary meanings on Wednesday and the remainder of their homework to Mr. Roberts on Friday.

Elizabeth Perkinse perk17@eq.edu.au &
Crichton Roberts crobe60@eq.edu.au
Awesome Authors of the 5/6 Class

Using the 7 Steps to Writing Program, our class has been busy trying to write in a manner that makes the reader want to read on. We have now looked at 4 steps so far: Sizzling Starts, Tightening Tension, Planning for Success and Dynamic Dialogue. Below are a couple of the pieces of writing that were based on these steps and is focused on the Dynamic Dialogue in particular.

Plane Crash
The plane is heading towards the city.
“99 the wing is on fire,” screamed 77 - one of the pilots.
“Oh no! The whole plane is on fire and I can feel blood pouring out of my leg,” 99 yelled.
The fire is getting closer to the passengers 99. I can smell it.” moaned 77.
“I can see the Eiffel tower already!” screamed 99.
“Let’s eject,” said 77.
“No! The other passengers 77!”
“I don’t care,” yelled 77, jumping out the window - without his parachute.
By Ula Trulson

Plane crash
I’m beginning to suffocate the fumes are overwhelming, I can see about a meter ahead of me. Someone’s calling me, the calling stops. A second later I hear a thud. The person has either passed out or died. Either way I can’t help them. I yell out. My whole family’s on board. I hear a moan in answer, they say something. I move closer in the direction of the voice. As I move closer I hear them better.
“Help,” they moan.
“I’m coming,” I yell back. I trip over a dead body. “We have to get out of here!”
“I think there’s a lake below us,” they mumble.
“We’re going to have to jump,” I say. By this time I’m right next to the person, I open the plane door, grab the person’s hand and jump. I look down and realise all too late that the lake was far behind us.

By Taylor Sawatzki
COMMUNITY NEWS

HOUSE - Rent to Own
- $445.00/wk
- Small deposit
- 2 bed + 1 study + 2 bath
- 1200m2 block
- Solar Water & Power
- School bus across road
- Avail mid April
  - 95 North Rd, Lower Beechmont
  - Call Angela 0433 329 620, Or 3415 3997

FAMILY HOME FOR RENT
- 5 x bedroom
- 3 x living areas-
- walking distance to school.
- $375/week
- garden maintenance included
- Phone 0412 313 310

THE BEECHMONT SOCIAL CLUB
Is on this Friday 26th April from 7pm onwards. We will be playing bowls and will be having a quick meeting.
All welcome for information contact Greg on 0405206076

CRICKET NEWS
On behalf of the Beechmont Cricket Club I would like to thank Mike & Martin from the Social Club, Sidney & Allie Slater, Patrick, Sunisa & Whishy for their help at our Bunnings BBQ. We raised $1215.00 A great effort and so much needed funds raised.

Soccer News
A fantastic Saturday morning for soccer. Beechmont had great results, with the first games being held at away clubs. This round gave us two draws, a win by one point and only one point going to the other side for the very committed under 7’s team. You all must be having some great defensive games. Well done. All four teams have a bunch of very dedicated children and parents.
Home games this week.

REMINDER
CONSENT FORM MUST BE EMAILED TO US ASAP

For further information contact Rich 56331227 or Anita at info@manakihomes.com.au

Beechmont Netball Club News
Congratulations to all players and Coaches. We had three wins out of four games. The Saints only going down by two goals in what was a thrilling game. Well done everyone and Good Luck next week.