FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

What a busy and productive first two weeks of term we have had here at Mount Rogers.

MELBA PRESCHOOL ASSESSMENT AND RATING

I am delighted to announce our preschool program at Melba has been rated as Exceeding National Quality Standard in all seven quality areas:

1. Educational program and practice
2. Children’s health and safety
3. Physical environment
4. Staffing arrangements
5. Relationships with children
6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
7. Leadership and service management

The rigorous assessment process to determine this rating is run by the Australian Children’s Education and Care Quality Authority. I would like to congratulate our amazing preschool team and particularly recognise Jo-Anne, Belinda, Diane, Margie, Daryl and Marika for all they did towards gaining this well-deserved result. I am sure any of you who have children at Melba Preschool appreciate the wonderful program and care this team offer. I would also like to thank the rest of our preschool team and Nicole for all their support during the process.

NAIDOC ASSEMBLY

I would like to congratulate our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students for organising and leading such a wonderful NAIDOC Assembly on Friday, 25 July. I look forward to displaying their banner in the foyer of our school.

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT LEARNING

Voluntary Contributions provide our school with much needed money to purchase extra resources to support your children’s learning. So far this year 30% of families have paid voluntary contributions. With this money we have purchased books for the library and classrooms; maths and science resources; and lots of hands-on equipment for our preschools. Being just over half way through the school year we would like to buy more resources to support classroom programs. If you have not already made a voluntary contribution towards the school and your child’s education this year please consider doing so. Details about making a contribution can be found later in the newsletter.

TRACK AND FIELD RIBBON PRESENTATION

We will be presenting Track and Field Carnival place ribbons straight after morning fitness on Monday next week. I would like to thank Katie Fleming for printing names on all these ribbons. Parents are welcome to stay for this presentation.

Sue Harding

2014 Voluntary Contributions

| % of families contributed | total |

2014 TERM DATES

Term 3 21 July to 26 September
Term 4 13 October to 17 December
CONGRATULATIONS

MERIT AWARDS

To be presented at our Assembly on 14 August at 2pm

Hosts – Year 3/4 Diamonds & Sapphires

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>RECIPIENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K Amber</td>
<td>Tyler N, Sonja J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Opal</td>
<td>Promit S, Jane K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Emerald</td>
<td>Cooper B, Tiyana H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Ruby</td>
<td>Flynn O, Harry H, Brandon P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Amethyst</td>
<td>Jacob C, Hakim S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Topaz</td>
<td>Amelie B, Annika P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Obsidian</td>
<td>William P, Jordi S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 Sapphire</td>
<td>Zia M, Will B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 Onyx</td>
<td>Bella M, Ryan D</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4 Diamond</td>
<td>Mariama S, Anja C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 Jade</td>
<td>Avi C, Caitlin F, Mohana B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 Zircon</td>
<td>Sophie B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 Aquamarine</td>
<td>Yiorgos S, Samuel H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 Tiger’s Eye</td>
<td>Ayden R, Will M, Riley L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INTRODUCING STAFF MEMBERS

My name is Jenni Wittchen and this is my second year at Mount Rogers. I have been teaching in the ACT for 14 years and this year I am working with the wonderful 3/4 Diamonds. I have two daughters, one who is in Kindergarten at Mount Rogers so I enjoy being part of the wider school community.

I grew up in Lithgow and was always inspired by my Mum who was the Deputy Principal of my primary school. I saw the joy she had from helping students become the best they could be and I never wanted to do anything except teach. I studied at Wollongong and then started my career in Canberra. I like to keep fit and active and am currently learning German as my husband’s family all are in Germany and do not speak any English!

I have always been an advocate for Public Education and believe every child has the right to a quality education. I believe students should be provided with authentic learning experiences to provide them with the skills necessary for life. Students should have the opportunity to inquire and investigate as well as reflect on their own learning. School should empower students academically, socially and emotionally to help them become the best person they can be. Learning should also cater for individual needs so students are learning from their point of need.

My passions as a teacher are to evoke a love of reading in students through the use of quality literature and author studies and promoting the education of the whole child. This includes explicitly teaching social skills and giving students the opportunity to practise these in a range of situations. This was one of the reasons why I became involved with implementing KidsMatter in the school.

2014 SCHOOL SATISFACTION SURVEYS

The 2014 School Satisfaction Surveys will be conducted later this term. Parents and carers, school staff and students (in years 5 and 6) will be asked to participate in these important surveys. The survey results will contribute to the school improvement process, which aims to achieve high standards in student learning, innovation and best practice in ACT public schools. The surveys include nationally agreed parent and student items and our 2014 School Board Report will include a summary of our school survey results for these national items.

Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate. It won’t take much of your time and it will help us understand areas where we are doing a good job and areas for further development. Information about the parent survey will be sent home via your child/ren in August. The key results from the 2013 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published in a brochure which is available at www.det.act.gov.au under publications.

MOUNT ROGERS MUSICAL - ‘THE BUSH BOOK’

This year Mount Rogers will be putting on a musical. Our year 5/6 students have been busy writing a script and we have just recently had ‘try-outs’ for the speaking parts. All students in the school will be involved from years P-6. Each class will be singing as part of the chorus. There will be two matinees and two night performances on Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 September, so please keep these dates free.

More information and seating arrangements will be sent home via you students in the next couple of weeks. Thank you for your support of the arts.

Nicole Mengel

SRC FANCY DRESS DAY – FRIDAY 22 AUGUST

The Student Representative Council (SRC) in conjunction with Book Week organiser Mrs Comerford, are organising a Dress Up day for Friday, 22 August. The theme is ‘Favourite Book Character.’

If you come dressed in costume a gold coin donation is appreciated as all funds raised will be split between the RSPCA and the Orangutan Project – two organisations members of our SRC are passionate about.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

If you haven’t already done so, please consider making a voluntary contribution now to further the educational outcomes for our students. Forms are available from the front office, preschool or ECIU.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIMARY STUDENTS</th>
<th>Number of children</th>
<th>Full year</th>
<th>Per term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One child</td>
<td></td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two or more in family</td>
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<td>$150</td>
<td>$40</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRESCHOOL</th>
<th>Number of children</th>
<th>Full year</th>
<th>Per term</th>
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<td>One child</td>
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<td>$60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two or more in family</td>
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<td>$150 per child</td>
<td>$50 per child</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| ECIU            | Per child          | $80       |

Payment may be made in cash or cheque (payable to Mount Rogers Primary School) via the front office. Electronic payment may be made by direct deposit to the account (BSB: 032-777 Account: 001682.)

When making electronic payments please include a remark of “FamilyName VOLCON & Primary/ Preschool or ECIU”. This will ensure correct receipting.

EFTPOS is also available at the front office (between 8:30-3:15pm).
On a cold winter’s day there were lots of smiles at Spence Preschool. We all had fun wearing our pyjamas and having an indoors Teddy Bear’s Picnic.

Following are some highlights of our day:

- We introduced our teddy to the class.
- We acted out the story, “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt.” At the end of the story we all hid under lots of blankets with our teddy.
- We played “bounce the teddy” as we shook the parachute.
- We each had a turn at crawling under the parachute to find our teddy.
- We read the picnic menu and filled in what we wanted by circling the picture.
- Some children helped to wrap our picnic sandwiches in foil (because you can recycle foil).
- Some children wrote name tags for the sandwiches.
- We sang a teddy bear song that ended with, “throw you teddy in the air and catch it on your tum!”
- Bella Pope had an idea to have a bear competition. Some children got to pick the winner for the smallest, cutest, furriest, funniest, bears!
- And at the end of the day we played musical bobs with our teddy.
**Reminders**

**DUE DATES FOR EXCURSION NOTES WITH PAYMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>RETURN BY</th>
<th>PAYMENT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>Mathletics</td>
<td>Now</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band</td>
<td>Year 6 Band</td>
<td>Now</td>
<td>$115 – 20 June $115 – 1 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Belconnen Track &amp; Field Carnival (selected students)</td>
<td>Fri 8 Aug</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group Photographs (Year 5/6 Band and Captains)</td>
<td>Fri 15 Aug</td>
<td>Direct to MSP Photography</td>
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<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>Walkathon Sponsorship</td>
<td>Fri 22 Aug</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Excursion notes and payments received after the due date will not be accepted.*

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**School Banking**

**Rewards For Term 3**

Welcome to Term 3, this term we introduce the SWIMMING BAG and the DOLLARMITE MONEYBOX as well as the WHALE SHARK PENCIL CASE, DOLPHIN and SHARK KEYRINGS which are all available to redeem once you have reached 10 tokens.

For mums and dad’s that do not know about the program...

Children learn to save their money by bringing it to school every week, no matter the amount of the deposit the children receive a token, once they have saved 10 they get to choose a fantastic reward!

Do you know that for every new child that joins the program the school receives $5.00 and 5% commission with all the children’s deposits throughout the term! You can go to any Commonwealth Bank Branch and open a Youthsaver, don’t forget to take child’s ID and your own ID.

Come and join in the fun and learn to save with the School Banking Program and help your school in fundraising!

*This year we are deep sea savers so come and join in on the fun!*

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**P&C Festival/Fete Plant Stall**

Are your green fingers already potting plants for the stall? Please keep busy getting some plants ready – not many weeks to go!

Heather Wilford

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**Primary & Preschool Enrolments**


Please note: Original birth certificate, proof of residency and Immunisation records must be provided to Mount Rogers Primary School (Alfred Hill Drive, Melba) following the on-line enrolment process.

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**Mount Rogers Primary School P&C Association**

Can’t make P&C Meetings but would still like to know what went on, join the P&C Yahoo group. Simply send an email to mtrogerspnc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com saying you wish to join and you will then be included on all P&C emails.

Thanks, Lea Major

(Ph: 6258 4010 or 0421 708 896)

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**Head Lice**

Please be vigilant!

To help prevent the spread of head lice in our school would you please check your child’s hair REGULARLY – maybe once a week.

If head lice are found please treat them and notify the front office so action can be taken to help prevent it spreading.

Once treatment has been carried out, children are able to return to school.

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**Life pressers are getting to me.**

*NewAccess is a dependable program*

**Take action. Start solving.**

When life pressures are causing you stress, you can take action. NewAccess is a free service that provides support in the form of a coach. It’s someone who can guide you in setting practical goals that will help get you back on track.

Take action by calling (02) 6287 8945 or visit beyondblue.org.au/NewAccessCoach

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Heather Wilford