FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

Dear Mount Rogers families,

PARENT PARTICIPATION
Mount Rogers Primary is well known for the active involvement of parents and community members in the school. I would like to thank parents for all your support so far this year, particularly in meeting with class teachers to share information about your children; assisting at the swimming carnival, volunteering in our canteen and helping to create our new kinder playground space. We have another playground working bee scheduled for Thursday afternoon this week 3 April from 4 – 7pm. If you have a spare half hour or more please come along and help us finish four garden beds and spread more mulch. If possible please bring your spade, garden fork and a wheelbarrow.

Another way parents participate in our school is through the P&C. Again I would like to thank our long-standing committee members for all your support of the school through fundraising and organisation of community events. Later in the newsletter is information from our P&C president Richard Helliwell. I encourage parents to come along to the meeting this evening and become involved in this vital element of our school community. We will be discussing plans for our playground and the possibility of P&C financial support towards a new set of playground equipment as well as planning Mother’s Day events at the school.

SCHOOL BOARD
The Directorate’s Returning Officer has confirmed the appointment of two School Board members for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2016. I am delighted to announce that Nicole Slater has been appointed as parent representative and Jodi Stoneman will be joining the Board as staff representative. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank retiring parent member Penny Dakin, and staff member Tracey Hanlon, for their valuable input and support of the School Board over the past two years. Your contributions were greatly appreciated.

REFLECTION AND PLANNING
Classroom teachers at Mount Rogers are provided with a day each term to reflect as a team on teaching and learning, and plan for the following term. This will happen next week. The focus in these meetings is on analysis of student achievement, reflection on the planned program and preparation for the next steps in learning for our students.

MATHLETICS
Students at our school have accessed online learning through the Mathletics program for a number of years. This week information regarding access to Mathletics will be sent home to families. The annual subscription fee is $10 per child through the school. This is a significant discount compared with $99 if you register your child privately. I encourage parents to return the permission note and money before the end of term, to allow for access from the beginning of next term.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the P&C meeting 7:30pm tonight.

Sue Harding
Principal
INTRODUCING STAFF MEMBERS

Hi, I’m Sue Harding. I have been principal of Mount Rogers Primary since July 2009.

I grew up in a family where the importance of quality education was recognised and valued. Both my parents were teachers and passionate supporters of public education. Dad also spent many years working in the Australian Government Department of Education. My years as a student at Red Hill Primary and Narrabundah High, and as the first group in the new college system at Narrabundah were wonderful.

I think I always wanted to be a teacher. I have been teaching and leading education in ACT public schools for over 30 years where my passion for making a positive difference for every child drives what I do.

My beliefs about learning are:

• Every child can learn
• Literacy is key to learning
• You work hard to get smart
• ‘It takes a village to educate a child’

MERIT AWARDS

To be presented at our Assembly on Thursday, 10 April at 2pm Hosts – Year 5/6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>RECIPIENTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Emerald</td>
<td>Benson B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Amethyst</td>
<td>Ella H,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Topaz</td>
<td>Charly A, Sasha A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Obsidian</td>
<td>Daniel R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 Sapphire</td>
<td>Ella H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 Onyx</td>
<td>Chenise N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>Shonda L, Courtney M</td>
</tr>
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MOUNT ROGERS PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

The nomination and election process has been completed and the following candidates have been appointed to the Mount Rogers primary School Board.

• Mrs Jodi Stoneman Staff member
• Mrs Nicole Slater P&C member

These appointments commence on 1 April 2014 for a period of 2 years.

Thank you to outgoing members, Tracey Hanlon and Penelope Dakin, for your contribution to Mount Rogers Primary School.

Bronwyn Stone
Assistant Returning Officer

Congratulations

Congratulations to Nicole (our Year 5/6 Zircon and whole school music teacher) and her team who won gold in the Super 6 Ladies Triples lawn bowls event. Nicole is competing in the 2014 Australian Sides Championships and Super 6 lawn bowls competition in Tasmania.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The House results for our Swimming Carnival held in February are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Yellow Cockatoos</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Red Kangaroos</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Green Tree Frogs</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Blue Tongue Lizards</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH READING WORKSHOP

Please let us know if you were interested in attending the workshop but unable to make it during the day.

If there is sufficient demand we will run an afternoon session on the same topic. Can you please leave your details with the front office, including the day and times that best suit you.

Marika Vrieling

WELCOME TO THE WORLD

Congratulations to Alyssa and Brent Owen on the birth of their daughter Maddox Rayne Owen on 30 March.

Alyssa was a kindergarten teacher in 2013 and a support kindergarten teacher this year.
Loving our Novel Study ...

Over the term we have been enjoying a novel by Gary Paulsen called ‘Hatchet’. It is an amazing survival story of a 13-year-old boy who crash lands in the Canadian wilderness. All he has is a hatchet and a desperate will to survive. The students have enjoyed learning about some of the basic necessities for life in such an inhospitable environment. It has also been interesting reading about how the students think Brian is coping with his situation.

‘I think Brian was very sensible under the circumstances. He made a reasonable plan on how to land the plane by himself and he even tried to contact people for help using the radio’. Elizabeth

‘For Brian to survive he must find food as well as dealing with any possible wild animals. Water is also a key part to his survival but that shouldn’t be too hard to find, he did crash land in a lake. For food he could eat insects, they contain many nutrients’. Frederik

‘I think there is a big benefit to positive thinking. If something bad happened and you were unprepared for it, nothing good would happen from you giving up and complaining. In fact sulking would just be a waste of energy. If Brian gave up and just cried, he wouldn’t even be alive. Being positive has helped him make a shelter and find berries’. Grace

A visit from Grace Kennedy ...

19-year-old Grace has Spina Bifida. She sailed in last year’s Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race, as part of a crew promoting empowerment for individuals with disabilities through sailing. Her inspirational story was told to the students from years 3-6.

‘It was pretty amazing to think her ship came 31st out of 94 boats. I learnt from her presentation, that you can never give up on your dream’. Brent

‘Grace really taught me a valuable lesson, that just because you have a disability doesn’t mean you can’t have a go at anything in life. And to keep moving forward.’ Acoya

‘I thought what you did to get there was amazing and I would like to do the same in my own life. I now know that it doesn’t matter what happens, you can always reach your goal’. Will C
**Reminders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DUE DATES FOR EXCURSION NOTES &amp; PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YEAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-6</td>
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*Excursion notes and payments received after the due date will not be accepted.*

**PRESCHOOL ENROLMENTS FOR 2015**

*Flynn – Melba – Spence*

On-line enrolments commence 28 April 2014.

For enrolment information go to: http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school

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.

**P&C UPDATE**

The P&C needs your help!

We currently have two committee positions vacant that need to be filled: the treasurer and the secretary. Both of these positions are vital for a functioning P&C. If you are interested in filling one of these positions or just helping in general, please let contact me for further details.

The P&C has some big plans for the year. Firstly the school has asked the P&C to assist in the purchase of new playground equipment for the junior school. This is a significant outlay and will require some additional fundraising. There are few fundraising activities planned, including a Bunnings BBQ and a fete later in the year.

The P&C also has a separate mailing list. It is very easy to subscribe, just send an email to: mtrogerspnc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

You will need to sign up for the first time (unless you have a yahoo login already). You can also use other electronic accounts including facebook, if that is easier.

The next P&C Meeting is tonight at 7:30pm. We would love to see you there.

Kind regards

Richard Helliwell, President
Mount Rogers Primary School P&C

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**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS**

We’re fundraising with Entertainment™

Pre-order your Entertainment™ Membership online and receive over $210 in bonus offers!

And this year you have a choice – the Entertainment™ Book or the NEW Digital Membership!

Entertainment™ Memberships are packed with hundreds of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers for the best local restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel and much more!

Available as a traditional Entertainment™ Book OR the new Entertainment™ Digital Membership for your Apple or Android device, your Membership gives you over $20,000 worth of valuable offers valid through to 1 June 2015.

Order your new 2014 | 2015 Canberra Entertainment™ Membership from Mt Rogers Primary School and 20% of your Membership purchase contributes to our fund-raising. Order either membership type before 10 April, and you'll receive over $210 worth of Bonus Offers which you can use straight away!

Go to www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2429e5

**CLICK HERE TO ORDER NOW**

The traditional Entertainment™ Book Membership

Available from 10 April the new Book is only $60, and you’ll receive $20,000 worth of valuable offers which are valid until 1 June 2015.

The new Entertainment™ Digital Membership

Puts the value of the Entertainment™ Book in your Apple or Android device. Search for businesses, show your phone to redeem and keep track of your savings.

Please contact me on 0408 625 900 or durrells@tpg.com.au if you have any questions.

Regards

Stacey Durrell
(on behalf of Mount Rogers P&C)