Dear Parents, Carers & Community Members,

Time is flying by so quickly! We have just passed the halfway mark for the term and this term is well and truly into full swing. The students and staff have been extremely busy ensuring a smooth and positive start to the year. Although our school does feel a little different now that we no longer have Year 7 students with us.

Recently students from Year 6 represented our school at the GRIP Conference in Cairns. This conference allows students the opportunity to further develop their leadership skills and bring ideas back to the school to implement as student leaders. From all accounts the day was extremely well received and our students were complimented on their behaviour and participation. Well done MCSS students!

Last week some students unfortunately contracted chicken pox even though they had been previously vaccinated. Information is included in this newsletter alerting you to the symptoms and treatment of this disease.

I am pleased to warmly welcome several new students and their families to our school. The year began with 41 students and our student population has now grown to 46. Also a very warm welcome goes out to Mrs Amanda Kirley who has recently relocated from the Brisbane region to teach in the Year 4-6 classroom until Cameron returns from leave.

Please take the opportunity to meet the new families and staff as well as catch up with old friends at the social being hosted by the P&C on Friday 20th March. Hope to see you there.

Until next time,

Jennifer Abbott

P&C Meet & Greet

Friday 20th March
6pm—8pm

Dessert...
Bring a plate!

Everybody Welcome!

Spaghetti, Sausages, Salad
Provided by the P&C

Pink Stumps Day

School Times: First Bell 8:40 am • Morning Tea 10:30—11:00am
Lunch 12:40—1:30pm • School Concludes 3:00pm

Dates to Remember

Raffle Tickets Due

Friday 6th March

Wednesday 11th March

Soccer/Netball Carnival

Monday 9th—Friday 13th March

20th March

4-6 Swimming

Thursday 19th March

P&C Meeting

Friday 20th March

P&C Meet and Greet!

Saturday 28th March

Pink Stumps Day

Our School Details:
Principal: Cameron Wedgwood
Phone: 4065 3221
Fax: 4065 3131
Mobile: 0428 762 147

School Watch: 13 17 88

P & C Association
Meetings every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 4:30pm

News from the Creek

Mena Creek State School
A Member of the Canecutter Cluster of Schools

NEWSLETTER 4th March 2015 - Term 1 Week 6

www.menacreess.eq.edu.au

Weekly Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>PINK STUMPS DAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL VISION

Mena Creek State School is committed to delivering explicit learning opportunities in a safe environment, embracing and respecting students and families to nurture students who believe in themselves and value learning.

NEWSLETTER 4th March 2015 - Term 1 Week 6

www.menacreess.eq.edu.au

Dear Parents, Carers & Community Members,

Time is flying by so quickly! We have just passed the halfway mark for the term and this term is well and truly into full swing. The students and staff have been extremely busy ensuring a smooth and positive start to the year. Although our school does feel a little different now that we no longer have Year 7 students with us.

Recently students from Year 6 represented our school at the GRIP Conference in Cairns. This conference allows students the opportunity to further develop their leadership skills and bring ideas back to the school to implement as student leaders. From all accounts the day was extremely well received and our students were complimented on their behaviour and participation. Well done MCSS students!

Last week some students unfortunately contracted chicken pox even though they had been previously vaccinated. Information is included in this newsletter alerting you to the symptoms and treatment of this disease.

I am pleased to warmly welcome several new students and their families to our school. The year began with 41 students and our student population has now grown to 46. Also a very warm welcome goes out to Mrs Amanda Kirley who has recently relocated from the Brisbane region to teach in the Year 4-6 classroom until Cameron returns from leave.

Please take the opportunity to meet the new families and staff as well as catch up with old friends at the social being hosted by the P&C on Friday 20th March. Hope to see you there.

Until next time,

Jennifer Abbott

P & C Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 19th February and the following Office Bearers were elected:—

President—Gary Bonello
Vice president—Nicole Bonello
Treasurer—Gayle Sly
Secretary—Katie Utschink

Spaghetti, Sausages, Salad
Provided by the P&C

School Times: First Bell 8:40 am • Morning Tea 10:30—11:00am
Lunch 12:40—1:30pm • School Concludes 3:00pm
Chickenpox Varicella

Chickenpox (varicella) is a highly contagious disease caused by the varicella-zoster virus. The disease starts with cold-like symptoms such as a mild fever, headache, runny nose and cough. A day or two after the rash begins, small pink blotches rapidly progress to itchy blisters which usually last three to four days before drying out and turning into scabs.

No specific treatment is recommended or required for otherwise healthy children and adults with chickenpox. It is important to try to prevent a young child from scratching the rash as this can result in permanent scarring or secondary infection. To reduce the itchiness, try adding an anti-itch solution (eg. Pinetarsol) to frequent baths.

Use paracetamol to lower temperature or to reduce discomfort. Aspirin must not be given to young children and adolescents due to the risk of developing a severe condition called Reyes Syndrome. This is particularly important for children who have or who may be developing chickenpox.

Prevention
Immunisation is the best way to protect against chickenpox. However, it is also important to maintain good hygiene practices, such as regular hand washing, particularly after contact with a sick person.

Health outcome
For the majority of children, chickenpox is a mild illness of short duration with complete recovery. While chickenpox is usually a mild disease in healthy children, life-threatening complications such as pneumonia or inflammation of the brain (encephalitis) are possible. It can be fatal in about three in 100,000 cases.

Chickenpox is more severe in adults and can cause serious and even fatal illness in immunosuppressed individuals of any age. Chickenpox can also cause shingles (herpes zoster) in later life.

If a woman develops chickenpox during pregnancy, there is a very small but real chance of damage to her unborn baby. If she develops chickenpox late in pregnancy or very soon after birth, the infection can be serious and even life threatening for the newborn baby.

Control
People with chickenpox should be excluded from childcare facilities, schools or work for at least five days after the rash first appears and until dry scabs have replaced all blisters.

Transmission
Chickenpox is spread through coughing, sneezing and direct contact with the fluid in the blisters of the rash. The dry scabs are not infectious. An individual with chickenpox is infectious for about one to two days before the onset of the rash and until the blisters have all scabbed, usually four to five days. The usual time between contact with the virus and developing the illness is about 14 to 16 days, although sometimes it can take longer.