**Newsletter Issue # 3**  
**Friday 10th February 2017**

**Acting Principal 2017**

It is hard to believe we are at the end of week 3 already. We would like to welcome Sam Chalk to our teaching team. Sam will work with me on Thursday and provide the opportunity for us to further cater for the individual needs of our students. The Maroon State School newsletter will be sent home every second Friday. We hope you enjoy some happy snaps from our Big Day Out.

**Early Years Afternoon**

It has been lovely to embrace and extend our program through our Thursday afternoon activities. This is a nice opportunity to encourage the pre-prep members of our community and their families to come along and share in our wonderful Maroon State School experience. Mrs Hurren will continue to support this session along with Mrs Chalk.

**MEET AND GREET**

We had a nice relaxed gathering last Thursday afternoon even though it was extremely hot. The watermelon and coconut damper were well received and it was great to see so many parents and members of staff in attendance.

**P&C Meeting**

Tuesday the 14th of February at 7pm is our first P&C Meeting for 2017. Maroon State School has a very strong school community and I look forward to working with you as we continue to bring quality education and boundless opportunities to our students.

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**TERM CALENDAR**

**February**

- **Thurs 9th**
  - Early Years Afternoon 2:45pm
- **Tuesday 14th**
  - P&C Meeting 7pm
  - Big Day Out (Swimming)
- **Wed 15th**
- **Wed 22nd**

**March**

- **Wed 1st**
  - Big Day Out
    - (Mt Alford SS and MOEC only)
- **2nd /3rd**
  - Principal’s Conference
- **6th-11th**
  - Sam Chalk and Lauren Voigt
- **Wed 8th**
  - Big Day Out
    - (Mt Alford and MOEC)
- **Mon/Tues 13th-14th**
  - Maroon School Review
- **Wed 15th**
  - Pick up Maroon State School
  - No MOEC today
- **Fri 17th**
  - Say No to Bullying
  - School Leaders’ Forum
Big Day Out

Wednesday was our second Big Day Out and it was an extremely good day. We are very grateful to the hospitality of Mt Alford State School staff and community in warmly welcoming and integrating us into their school community every Wednesday morning. It is a big transition for some of us and we are very proud of the way our students are coping with this routine.

The students are making great progress with their swimming. They are gaining confidence, demonstrating resilience, showing respect and taking on responsibility in assisting and organising themselves and others. We are grateful to our expert swimming coaches Ruth and Nathaniel at the Boonah Pool for helping us to make such great progress.

MOEC: Our students experienced first-hand the topic of Life and Living at MOEC this week. Experiencing and immersing ourselves in the natural environment while using inquiry and discovery to extend our understanding is the best way to ignite a love of learning. It was great to see all of our students involved in locating and capturing living things. William was our scientific advisor as he guided and directed proceedings from the shore of the dam. The excitement was infectious as the students successfully captured fish in their nets. We will need our old shoes again next week as we endeavour to find and classify a range of other living creatures in the dam. Our pick up spot next week will be a little further down the road on the shore of the dam.
Car Park Safety
Thanks to everyone for supporting our safe car park routine. Please continue to use the side door under the Administration Building to exit of an afternoon. This way we can ensure the safety for all.

Sporting Opportunities
Fassifern Swimming Carnival:- On Thursday the 23rd of March there will be an opportunity for our students to compete in the Fassifern Inter-School Swimming Carnival. Students aged 9-12 years are eligible. Event distances are 25m or 50m. Carnival starts at 9:30am. Nomination forms need to be finalised by the 15th of March.

Squash:- 10-19 years Squash Regional Trials will be held on Wednesday 15th March 2017 at the PCYC Squash Courts. Information is on the noticeboard downstairs. Please see Shaan if you would like to participate.

Australian Rules Football: 10-12 years will be held Monday the 20th and Tuesday 21st of March. Please see Shaan if you would like any further information regarding these events or if you would like your child to participate in this competition. Parents will need to transport their children to and from these events.

Dental Forms/Speech Therapy Forms
Please make sure all forms for services are returned by Tuesday next week. The speech therapist will be conducting some screening of our Prep students over the coming weeks. We have access to the school dental van at Mt Alford SS. The dental van requires forms by Wednesday.

Library Borrowing- Monday
Library borrowing this year will be on a Monday afternoon. Students are encouraged to borrow books to read independently or share with their family and friends.

IMPACT
We were lucky to secure the expert tuition of Mr Greg Holdorf as our Solve It IMPACT coach this round. Our students will engage in mathematical tasks online designed to build on their skills and extend their problem solving strategies and processes. I would like to extend a big thank-you to Mrs Harvey for supervising and guiding our students through this program.

HOMEWORK
Students are setting learning goals around spelling, number facts and sight words homework tasks. Spelling and number facts for Years 1-6 can be done on the Virtual Classroom or in their homework book. Students will bring home their spelling words and number facts each week. We encourage them to look at their mistakes and learn their words and number facts to improve their accuracy and speed each day.

Sight words will be checked 2-3 times per week. Students will get their next set of words once they can successfully recall each list. Reading to your child and encouraging them to read every day makes a huge difference to their academic progress.

Kindest Regards
Shaan