



MOUNTAIN VIEWS

Quality, Opportunity, Excellence.

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Term 2, 24 June 2025

From the Executive Principal



I must congratulate the talented cast and crew of Mamma Mia. For those of you who could secure a ticket to our school musical Mamma Mia, what a performance! From start to finish I was captivated by the talent on display. The singing by the leads was first class and the dancing and choreography sublime. I was fortunate enough to attend the

rehearsal and the energy displayed by the cast of eighty students was mesmerising. The cast and crew have received many compliments from members of the community as well as friends and family. The work and dedication involved in creating a production of such quality takes many hours of planning and rehearsing. Members of the cast will remember their part in Mamma Mia for the rest of their lives. Well done students and staff.

We are fast approaching the end of Term 2 and end of Semester reporting will follow. If you have any worries or concerns, please get in touch with your son/daughter's teachers and have a catch up. Teachers are always available for teacher/parent communication whether it by phone or face to face. Communication between parents and teachers is an essential aspect of secondary schooling. You are always welcome to contact our staff.

I sincerely apologise to those parents and your students who, some 18 weeks after commencing the school year, are still not arriving on time due to lateness of transport. I convened a

meeting on Thursday 12 June with both CDC and Translink and this issue will be resolved as quickly as possible.

I have appreciated working with the students and staff at The Creek. You have a great school with excellent quality teachers and students who enjoy being engaged. I would like to wish everyone at MCSHS the very best for the future.

Michael Anderson

Executive Principal

From the Principal of Senior Secondary

Senior School Update

Year 10 Update

Assessment will be occurring in Weeks 9 & 10 of this Term. If your student has any concerns they need to contact their HOY Mrs Thomas.

Year 11 Leadership Camp

Our 20 Year 11 student leaders, Chappy Stu and Ms Wagner braved the cold weather and went on camp June 9 and 10. There was archery, leadership building activities and cups of tea by the fire. Even in near-freezing conditions, so much fun was had!



Year 11 Leadership Induction

Our new School Captains and Programs of Excellence Captains will be inducted in a ceremony taking place Tuesday 24 June at 10:45 am in the Student Centre. All inductees will be able to invite their family members to this event.

Year 12 Mock Exams Term 3 & QCE Checks

All General subjects will have Mock External Exams in Weeks 9 & 10 of Term 3 (8 - 19 September). A timetable will be given to students in during Term 3. A reminder to all families that AARAs (extensions) are not granted for holidays and all students are expected to sit all exams. Please refer to our school website for AARA eligibility as laid out by our curriculum authority the QCAA.

<https://mountaincreekshs.eq.edu.au/curriculum/senior-secondary/access-and-reasonable-adjustments-aara>

This Term students are completing Unit 4. As a matter of priority students should be checking their QCE credits.

Checking QCE Credits:

<https://myqce.qcaa.qld.edu.au/>



From left: Donna Lancaster, Principal - Angela Hix, Deputy Principal - Tina Smithard, Head of Senior School.

From the Principal of Junior Secondary

Enrolments 2026

Thank you to all the parents that attended our Year 6 into 7 Zenith information session on 26 May 2025. We had more than 130 people in attendance which shows us that families are very interested in this program. These sessions are a very valuable opportunity for families to gain a better understanding of the programs on offer in Junior Secondary as well as allowing us to answer questions that you may have.

The Enrolments for 2026 were due on 30 May 2025. We will still continue to take enrolment applications, however places in Zenith and all elective classes will be offered positions on a first in basis and all applications from the 30 May 2025 have been date and time stamped.

Students who have enrolment applications submitted by 22 August 2025 will be invited to attend our Year 6 Transition Day on 4 September 2025 from 9.30am to 2.15pm.

All students applying for exemptions under our enrolment management plan will notified of the status of their application in Term 4, 2025.

Young Scholars Program 2026

All parents with students currently in Year 4 that are interested in our Young Scholars program for 2026/27 are encouraged to attend an information session on 21 July 2025 from 5.30pm to 6.15pm in our Performing Arts Theatre. Parents with students in Year 5 are welcome to attend also however we do not make students reapply for Year 6 Young Scholars and we can only accept students when vacancies arise from students leaving the program - which is not very often.



From left: Craig Hegarty, Principal - Junior Secondary School, Carmel D'Arcy, Deputy Principal - Junior Secondary School, Lindsay Baker, Head of Department - Junior Secondary School.

Senior School Update

Headstart Success

Senior students have the wonderful opportunity to study in the Headstart Program at University of the Sunshine Coast while they continue with their school subjects.

Congratulations to the following students who successfully completed their Headstart course:

Martha A
Megan C
Phoebe C
Hannah I
Rochelle J
Danush K
Raiyan K
Daniel M
Nicole R
Emma R
Myles R
Amy T

This Semester Lola is studying in the program and this is what she says about Headstart -

I chose CRIM101 to explore the crime/law side to see if it was

something I would be interested to study after graduating. A school subject that relates to this course is Legal Studies as it overlaps in multiple areas in understanding the crime and legal systems. If you do Headstart, a tip I would give to balance extra curricular activities, Headstart, and school would be to do your Headstart assessments as soon as you get them and prioritise them evenly to ensure you still have free time to do what you like. If you are interested in this program then I would suggest do Headstart to see if that subject you're interested in is actually a potential career pathway as it may be different from what you expected, and helps you deciding if university is actually for you.

At the moment Headstart students are undergoing their final assessment and we wish these students all the best for this time.

Students must have an academic average of B on their most recent report card for their application. The courses on offer can be found on the UniSC website and these cover a variety of fields such as Science, Psychology, Action, It and creative Writing. I encourage interested students and their parents/carers to contact the Headstart Coordinator Ms Acres or students can catch up at Mudjimba Sub-School during morning tea or at 1:00pm.



Tina Smithard

Head of Senior School

Business and Lifestyle News

Year 11 Legal Studies Excursion to the Supreme and District Courts

On Wednesday, 21 August, 50 Year 11 Legal Studies students from Mountain Creek State High School visited the Supreme and District Courts in Brisbane for an immersive experience in Queensland's legal system. The excursion provided students with firsthand exposure to courtroom proceedings and legal roles in practice.



A highlight of the day was an interactive session with a judge, who guided students through the structure and function of a courtroom. Each student took on a key role: twelve students sat in the jury box, where jurors assess evidence and determine a verdict; one student took the witness stand, the position from which sworn testimony is given; another sat at the judge's bench, donning the traditional wig and robe while overseeing proceedings; and Mr. Catterall was placed in the dock, the secure area designated for an accused person during trial. This hands-on experience allowed students to engage directly with the court process and understand the significance of each role.





Following this, students broke into small groups and observed real-world criminal trials in both the Supreme and District Courts. They witnessed barristers presenting legal arguments, judicial officers presiding over cases, and court personnel managing proceedings. This experience reinforced their theoretical knowledge and provided valuable insight into courtroom etiquette, trial processes, and legal advocacy in practice.

The excursion was an invaluable opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of the law and see the justice system in action. Court staff have since contacted the school to commend the students for their exemplary behaviour throughout the visit. A special thank you to Dylan Catterall, Julie Fielke, and Rebecca Suanes for their support and involvement.

Year 12 Business Students Explore Repositioning at Wildlife HQ

On 30 May our Year 12 Business class had the unique opportunity to visit Wildlife HQ Zoo as part of their studies on repositioning strategies. The excursion provided firsthand insights into how small businesses adapt and thrive in competitive environments. Wildlife HQ, located at the Big Pineapple site, has repositioned itself in response to competition from major attractions like Australia Zoo. Rather than competing head-to-head, WH has built its identity around affordability, close-up animal experiences—especially with primates—and a strong community presence. Students learned how the zoo has relied on grassroots marketing, passionate staff, and creative problem-solving to build its brand. With limited funding and no formal strategic plan until recently, the zoo has operated with resilience—hand-making signage, recycling materials, and engaging in outreach like the 'Zoo to You' program. Now, with plans to collaborate with nearby businesses and upgrade facilities, Wildlife HQ is ready to develop a five-year strategy. Students examined how the zoo aims to enhance guest experiences, increase conservation efforts, and eventually transition into a more structured, sustainable operation—all while keeping animal welfare at the forefront. The visit offered a rich, real-world case study in repositioning, strategic planning, and business growth under constraint—valuable lessons for our future entrepreneurs and business leaders.



Helen Young

Head of Department - Business and Lifestyle Industries

International Baccalaureate Update

Student's Shave the Way for Change!

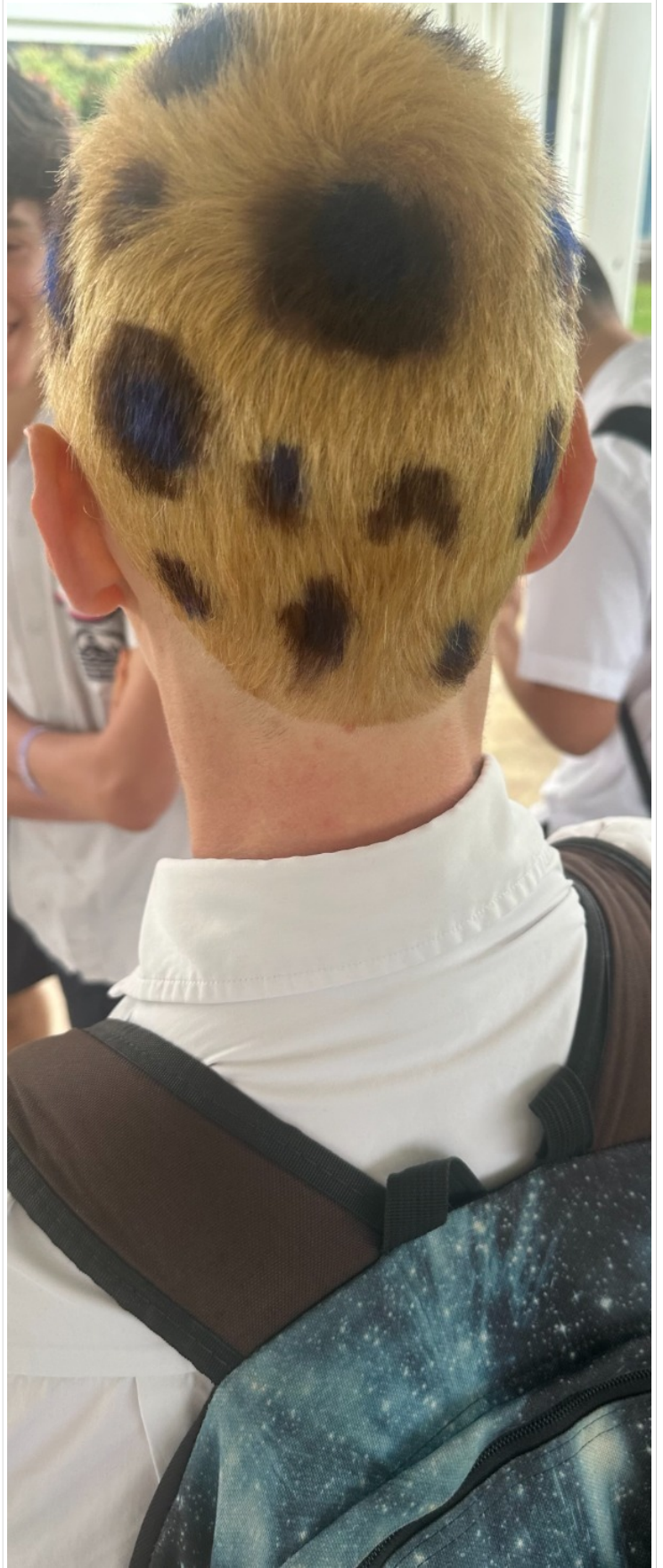
From brave shaves and bold hair colours to digging into their pockets for change, Creekers showed their support for the Creek's World's Greatest Shave event.

We celebrate the incredible efforts of our students and staff who have gone above and beyond to make a real difference in the lives of those affected by cancer. This Term, our school community rallied together to support the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave, raising vital funds and awareness for blood cancer research and support services. One of these support services is our local organisation, Bloomhill, which provides compassionate care and support to individuals and families navigating the cancer journey right here in our community.

Together, the Creek raised an astounding \$16,390 through online donations and a further \$700 in sales from our sausage sizzle and bake sale, proving that when young people unite for a cause, they can move mountains.

Congratulations to our brave student shavers as they wear their new looks into a cold winter; Jack S, Jude M-P Kai C, Raphael K. Joe M, Will H, Jackson H, Max S, Brodie G, and Jett L. Our very brave Isobel A, in Year 7, also took a whopping 15 centimetres off her long locks while many others got on board colouring their hair for the cause.







More fun was also had as our Principal of Junior School - Craig Hegarty - turned his locks black for the occasion before rocking the dome!



Our hype-man Mr Lindsay Baker also got in on the action early, raising awareness of our big event.



Special shout-outs go to:
Jack S, school captain, IB student and event organiser extraordinaire! From corralling volunteers to shave, publicity, or coordinating a team of students and teachers to sizzle and

bake, his hard work was topped off by raising \$5,007 to shave his own long, curly locks!

Our wonderful hairdressers - Elisa-Jayne Brown, Melissa Lehuray, Jaynie and Alex.

The team from Bloomhill who helped us with donations, raising awareness to the broader community and on-the-day support. Mountain Creek Meats and Maud Street Grocer who donated sausages and food items for the event.

And every student, teacher, and family member who donated, cheered, and shared the message.

The funds raised will help the Leukaemia Foundation continue its life-saving research and provide emotional and practical support to patients and families. Locally, Bloomhill Cancer Care will benefit from additional resources to continue their incredible work offering counselling, wellness therapies, and community connection.

This event has not only raised money—it has raised spirits, awareness, and hope capping off a great end to Mental Health Week at the Creek. We are so proud of our students for showing what it means to be leaders, changemakers, and compassionate citizens.



Adam Duus

IB Coordinator

International Studies and LOTE

Japanese Excursion

The stunning Brisbane Mt Cootha Botanic Gardens provided the backdrop for our Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 Japanese students as they immersed themselves in a day of Japanese language and culture.



Bamboo towered above them as they stepped into the tranquil, picturesque Japanese garden, imagining a future of travel to the “Land of the Rising Sun”. The students soaked up the zen atmosphere as they explored the garden and its adjacent bonsai house.



The booming rhythm of the Japanese drums echoed across the valley beckoning the students to participate in the traditional Japanese art of “wadaiko”.



Tokoton, a Brisbane based drumming group skilfully guided the students as they embraced the unique opportunity to play the Japanese drums in the beautiful, natural amphitheatre of the Botanic Gardens.



The workshop was followed by a Japanese banquet at Wagaya Japanese restaurant. The students used flash, new touch screen technology to order an array of Japanese dishes. Mastering their chopstick skills they feasted on delicious Japanese cuisine including sushi, kaarage, chicken katsu, curry and ramen.



Some of the braver students tried takoyaki (octopus balls) and unagi (eel). The special Japanese style functions rooms transformed the students dining experience, allowing the students to temporarily drift off into a different world of tatami, kotatsu and fusuma.



The students returned to the Sunshine Coast with a greater understanding of Japan, its language and culture, and a hunger to learn more.

Special Guest - Hosea Gear



Earlier this year our Japanese language students interviewed former All Back, Hosea Gear about his life and experiences living in Japan, travelling and playing professional rugby.



My Gear spoke about his time as an All Black



and the importance of being disciplined and always trying hard.



He fondly recalled living in Japan with his family. He trained and played for Honda Heat, a Japanese rugby union team,

based in Suzuka City in Mie Prefecture.



Mr Gear spoke about how living overseas brought with it challenges, especially with regards to the language barrier.



By studying Japanese and stepping out of his comfort zone, he was able to make new friendships and really enjoy everyday life in Japan. Mr Gear said his favourite Japanese words were "sugoi" (awesome) and "Otsukare" (thanks for your hard work).



When asked what he wished he had known as a 12 year old, Mr Gear replied, "take a language class."



Highlights from Mr Gear's life in Japan included relaxing in the onsen or hot springs after training, winning second division and moving up into first division,



riding his scooter to training, eating at the local yakiniku restaurant and the connections and friendships he made while he was overseas.

Mr Gear's parting advice to us was; "going to class is an opportunity to learn". Being a professional sports person means lots of hard work and discipline. It has also brought opportunities to travel, meet new people, learn new languages and experience the world.

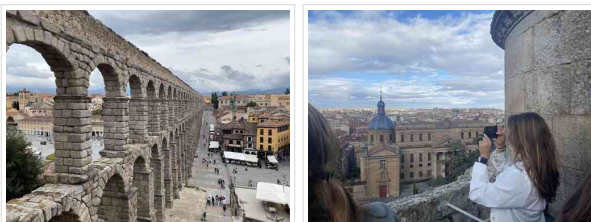
A special thank you to Mr Hosea Gear for giving up time in his busy schedule to share his wisdom and life experiences with us.

Spanish Language Immersion Trip 2026

The languages department is excited to announce a proposed trip to Spain in 2026, supported by our school's P&C at a recent meeting. Senior students of Spanish at MCSHS will have the opportunity to participate in this enriching overseas experience aimed at fostering language excellence—closely aligned with our school's values of Quality, Opportunity and Excellence.

This trip will support and enhance students' Spanish studies by providing them with the chance to improve their language proficiency and deepen their understanding of Spanish culture,

society, and people along with gaining confidence though new experiences.



The trip is proposed for 20 senior students of Spanish with 2 accompanying teachers and will travel to Madrid & Salamanca with excursions to nearby cities and sites alongside language lessons and immersion experiences.

28 students have already expressed their interest after school notices and emails advertised the upcoming opportunity and both students and their parents have now been invited to a parent information night on Tuesday week 10. With a variety of previous (and upcoming) language trips to both Japan and to Spain, we are pleased to be working towards another chapter.

Young Scholars - Grades 5 and 6

Konnichi wa and ¡Hola! This term, Grade 5 and 6 Young Scholar students enjoyed a full day immersed in Japanese and Spanish language and culture.



For Japanese, students experienced a round robin of 5 activities. These included Kendama- landing a ball on a stick, chopstick lolly races, paper plane and ninja star throwing competitions and tama-ire- a variation of basketball played at sports days in Japan.



Our young scholars then used their Spanish to complete activity passports, first of all taking a quick (virtual) trip to Madrid and Barcelona, before learning a bit about self-introductions, countries, numbers and art, disguised within games set in the Amazon region, activities learning about famous Spanish artists and Spanish conquest stories about the Americas including the

legend of El Dorado.



As well as walking away with new knowledge and some Spanish Gold, the students also received a handout about the Online Global Passport program and the Online Beginners Language Program run through Education Queensland to discuss at home with parents and classroom teachers.



The students gained an understanding and an appreciation of different languages and cultures and we look forward to welcoming them to our language classes at MCSHS in the future.

A special thank you to our Spanish teacher Señora Edington and our Japanese teachers, Jenkins Sensei and Matsunaga Sensei.



We also greatly appreciated the support we received from our Japanese senior and junior leaders;

Indi, Luca, Georgia, Emmeline, Leilani, Leni, Millie, Sierra, Grace, Rhea, Teale, Eva, Lilla, Travis, Fletcher, Kiyah, Alix, Keeta, Izzy, Amelia, Zoe, Jo, Fox, Jude, Sydney, Keeley, Hannah, Zoe, Laura and Madi.

Our Spanish group leaders were also amazing, with a wonderful mix of students and year levels helping out. Thanks go to: Winifred yr 8, Heidi yr 8, Evie yr 8, Layla yr 8, Sophie yr 10, Michaela yr 10, Ava yr 11, Teagan yr 11, Max yr 11 and Jack yr12

All of these exciting activities couldn't have run without our helpers. Thanks for making it so much fun and motivating the next group of aspiring language learners. Hontou ni Arigatou Gozaimashita and Muchisimas Gracias.





Clementine Hyndman

Head of Department - International Studies and LOTE



Miranda Streeter

Teacher Librarian

Resource Centre News

Premier's Reading Challenge

This year we are delighted to offer the opportunity for our junior secondary students to take part in the Premier's Reading Challenge. The aim of this challenge is to encourage students to engage in reading for pleasure, and to support their reading journey by exposing them to a range of books, while also setting a personal reading goal. The challenge commenced on Monday 6 May, and runs through until to Friday 22 August, which will coincide with CBCA Book Week celebrations.

During this time, we encourage our students to aim to read 15 books, and to log their achievements on a reading record, provided by the Resource Centre staff or their English teacher. Students who achieve their reading goals, and students who participate in the challenge will receive certificates, and there will be some additional challenges and competitions hosted by the Resource Centre for all challenge participants.

We have a fantastic collection of books at the Resource Centre to share with our students and are more than happy to help them with their selection. For further information about the Premier's Reading Challenge, included some great suggested reading lists.

visit:<https://readingchallenge.education.qld.gov.au/>



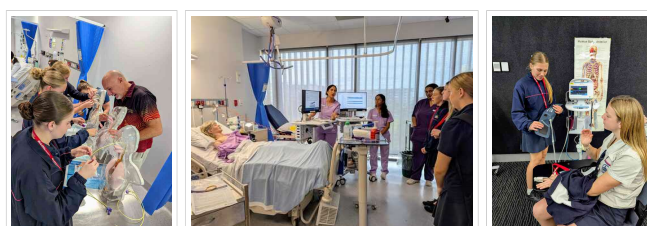
Science Department News

Certificate II Health Students - Careers in Health Day at SCHI

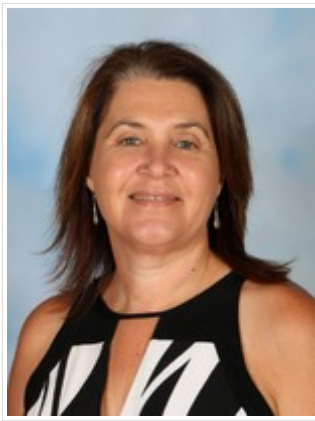
On Tuesday 13 May some of our Year 11 Health Support Services Certificate II students visited the Sunshine Coast Health Institute at SCUH for a 'Careers in Health' day.

Throughout the day, students had the opportunity to observe a healthcare team in action during an emergency room simulation of a critical health situation.

There were many hands-on activities where students used healthcare equipment and practised techniques commonly used in the field. This included inserting nasogastric tubing, testing blood pressure, and using the latest virtual reality tools in nursing education.



Several further education providers were available to speak with students about future pathways into healthcare. It was a valuable experience that gave students insight into the wide variety of career options in the health industry.



Helen Gillis

Head of Department - Science

Diverse Learning News

Lifelinks Excursion

In Week 5 of this term, the Senior Life Links class headed off on a public transport excursion to the Mountain Creek shops. Students researched the most appropriate bus route to the local shops in a set timeframe.

After navigating to the appropriate bus stop the students tapped on and enjoyed the short ride to the shops. They went shopping for some supplies to make a healthy lunch and also had the opportunity to purchase morning tea from the local café or bakery.

It was a great day with some of the students learning new skills such as money handling and communicating with staff at the different stores as well as members of the public. Students experienced how to use public transport on the Sunshine Coast as an option to increase their independence.



Kate Benfield

Deputy Principal - Inclusion

Technology Department News

Year 11 VEP and Year 9 TMT

Year 11 VEP students have hit the ground running with a multitude of projects. While all students have now completed the Galvanized Toolbox, the experience in Mig, Arc and Oxy-Acetylene welding has just begun. Successful students walk away from this course with a Cert II in Engineering Pathways. Projects include a functional G-Clamp, Toolbox, Plumb bob, BBQ plate and experience across a range of welding disciplines.

Will B puts the finishing spot welds on his toolbox.



Riley N begins the process called Pad Welding using the Gas Metal Arc Welding Machine.



Cooper H cuts the coupons he and several of his friends will use to practice welding.



Year 9 TMT

While the Year 11 students are in the early stages of their Certificate, the Year 9 TMT students are coming to the end of their 6 month course culminating in construction of a Timber Card Box and Wood turned Hand Fishing Reel. With several students attesting to its effectiveness, the wood turned Hand-reel has been a project of great enthusiasm among the Year 9 cohort.

Connor P finalises the gluing process for the Timber Card Box.



A collection of some of the projects made this semester.



https://mtncreekshs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4711/insights070225_unhurryingchildhood_drjustincoulson.pdf

https://mtncreekshs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4712/insights080225_buildinghealthybodyimage_drjustincoulson.pdf

Job Opportunity

At Fisheries on the Spit, they have multiple positions available for senior students looking for casual work after school. This is a great opportunity for those looking to begin or continue their independent working career within a diverse, flexible and supportive business. They can offer 2-3 shifts during school weeks (12 hours max) and up to full-time hours during holidays. Shifts start between 2-4pm and finish between 7-8pm. Because of such, reliable transport is essential. Fisheries on the spit operates in accordance with the *Fair Work Fast Food Award* standards and offer penalty rates on weekends and public holidays.

Please get in touch with Holly at Fisheries on the Spit if you are interested.



Jacinta Ivory & Louise Francis, Simone Gaedtke



Sandro Cossa

Head of Department - Technology

Calendar of Events

Event	Date
Term 2 commenced	Tuesday 22 April 2025
IB Exam Block	23 - 27 June
Last day of Term 2	Friday 27 June
Term 3 commences	Monday 14 July 2025
Trek 1/2/3 Pre Trek activity day	18 July

Student Services News

Happy Families

Our school subscribes to the Happy Families website which provides access to many practical and insightful articles. These articles aim to assist parents and carers on the often challenging but rewarding journey of having a family. Please see the latest articles below.

https://mtncreekshs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4710/insights_060225_teachingselfcontrol_drjustincoulson.pdf

Event	Date
Year 4 into 5 Young Scholars Parent Information Evening	21 July 5:30PM - 6:15PM
Lockdown Drill	23 July
Evacuation Drill	24 July
Trek 1 - Sunday Creek	22 - 24 July
Canberra Digital Tour for girls	22/23 July
Trek 2 - Sunday Creek	29 - 31 July
Trek 3 - Sunday Creek	5 - 7 August
Support Staff Appreciation Week	4-8 August
Term 4 commences	Tuesday 7 October 2025