



MT CHARLTON STATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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14 August 2009

INFORMATION EVENING

(Thursday 6:00 – 8:00pm 20 August)

The meeting last Tuesday afternoon with Ms Jan Jarratt MP Member for Whitsunday was very well attended. Thank-you for the **overwhelming** support for Mt Charlton School. Following are some of the **POINTERS** that you raised at the meeting

...

1. Roads, bridges and crossings are unsatisfactory.
2. PREP to YR: 12 students sharing the bus for one hour every day.
3. New families welcomed to Mt Charlton and now told to leave ...
4. Loss of an educational, community, cultural and recreational centre.
5. **Overwhelming** support by the whole district, voicing **Protest**.
6. Building will become an Environmental "Eyesore"...
7. Equal or better education than any alternative ...

Please come again on Thursday and have your say! Your attendance will be greatly appreciated ...

SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY

Each year, the Department of Education and Training (DET) undertakes a survey of parents and students to gauge their satisfaction with important aspects of schooling. You have been selected to participate in this survey, and I hope you will take a few minutes to complete the enclosed questionnaire.

Later in the year, the school will receive a report outlining the results of the survey for our school. These results will help the school to evaluate and to reflect on how well the school is going, and to identify areas for future development. The survey results are also an important part of the school's annual report. For these reasons, I hope you will

complete the questionnaire and help make the school a better place for your child(ren).

Your response is completely confidential. The confidentiality envelope will remain sealed and forwarded to an external contractor where your responses will be scanned and the school's data forwarded to the central office of DET for analysis. The information that you provide will not be reported in ways that would allow you to be identified.

The number on your questionnaire has not been assigned to you individually. The number is only used to ensure that forms are distributed to the correct school and to allow the information to be analysed for the school.

Please seal your completed questionnaire in the envelope provided and return it to the school by 20 August 2009. If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, please contact Ms Esther Lando, Ph: 4958 8074.

PUBLIC NOTICES

- **14 August – Friday at 7.30pm**
Mass at Mt Charlton Church. All Welcome.
- **17 Aug – Monday**
Ministerial Holiday.
Student Free Day.
- **20 Aug – Thursday (6:00 – 8:00pm)**
INFORMATION EVENING.

FOR RENT

1 bed unit in Calen, dining, lounge, laundry, toilet, shower, fully a/c, fully self-contained with crockery & linen etc, stainless steel convection microwave, toaster & kettle, in very nice van park with water views and inground pool, bbq etc \$220/wk + 2 week bond. Call owner 49588123 or 0419722600. available now.

Brothers Junior Cricket Club Inc. - Sign On
Friday, 14th August between 3.30pm and 5.00pm
at Mercy College Hall, Penn Street.
Registration Fee New Player \$70.00 (inc. shirt)
Returning Players \$60.00
Further Details Lee-Anne 0429 595 228/4959 5228

Getting back into the workforce and finding flexibility

*Need a job that suits your lifestyle?
 Long absence from the workforce?
 Not sure how to get back out there?*

The Getting Back into the Workforce and Finding Flexibility Event is an opportunity to come and hear from employers about a range of flexible job opportunities currently on offer.

- Get advice from the experts on how to put your best foot forward
- Hear success stories from those who've been out of the workforce and made a return
- Speak to organisations with free programs to assist you with improving your confidence, job readiness, skills, qualifications and getting back into the workforce.

Ocean International, 27th August 2009, 7-9pm

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Laura Sorensen at REDC on 4953 2655 or email l.sorensen@mwredc.org.au



Who do you work for?
 Hello, my name is Marcus Hansen.
 I am a Youth Support Coordinator working in your school. Usually people refer to me as a YSC for short. Let me tell you more about me and what I do.

What do you do?
 I work for Mackay Youth Support Service (MYSS), an independent community organization. I can be contacted there on 4953 2299 but I am not always there as I will be out visiting other schools like this one. I have a mobile number that I can give you if an emergency comes up and you need to talk and I am not at your school.

Why do young people see you?
 I support young people at school. My job is to help young people who are at risk of dropping out of school or young people who live in an unsupportive or unstable environment. The youth support coordinator service was set up because staying in school and achieving your best is tough for everyone, especially if you are dealing with other stuff like personal problems, problems at home or at school.

How do you do this?
 Young people come and see me for many different reasons. Some of the things might be family difficulties/breakdowns; conflict with parents/other students; homelessness; income/centre link issues; drug and alcohol use by themselves or someone they care about; relationships; self esteem; feeling low or stressed out; violence or sexual assault; and school difficulties like bullying, wagging or not coping.

Will you tell others what I say?
 Mostly I meet students one to one; this is called c. Sometimes I might refer a student to someone who has more specialist skills like the school nurse, or a counselor outside of the school if this is what they want. Sometimes I run groups and sometimes I might just meet a student once to give them some info. Other times I might work with them for a few months.

When will you be at my school?
 Your privacy and confidentiality is protected in an agreement. I work in the school but I am not employed by the school. Your confidentiality and privacy is protected by YSC & MYSS policy and this is explained and agreed when we meet.
 I am at Calan District College every second Thursday in the interview room near administration.
 I am looking forward to seeing you again and please ask me any questions, anytime if you are not clear about something.

Marcus

Keep children at home if they are sick



As school resumes for Term 3, parents are being urged to keep their children home if they are sick with flu-like symptoms.

Queensland now has more than 1600 confirmed cases of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 (Human Swine Influenza).

Symptoms of human swine flu are similar to seasonal influenza and include a fever, cough and/or sore throat. Other symptoms can include fatigue, myalgia, headache, body aches or chills.

Queensland Health says one of the best ways to stop the spread of the flu is to keep sick children home and encourage good hygiene.

If children are sick the best thing to do is keep them away from school and other events such as socials and sporting carnivals. This might mean that some children will miss interstate and other planned school trips.

People generally have to be mindful that there are some who are more at risk from swine flu so those who are sick need to do the right thing and stay at home from school and work.

School closures remain an option in very limited circumstances but the likelihood of disruption during the new school term has lessened.

Queensland is now in the "protect" phase in managing the influenza outbreak and parents need to be aware that while most people who contract the flu are making rapid and full recovery, some who are particularly vulnerable need to seek medical help at the onset of flu-like symptoms.

The essence of the "protect" phase is to concentrate on the early treatment of those in the community who may be more vulnerable to severe outcomes if they contract the virus.

Those identified as being vulnerable include pregnant women, Indigenous Australians, people with respiratory disease (including asthma and COPD), heart disease, diabetes, renal and liver disease, obesity and immunosuppression.

If you have any questions regarding symptoms or illness, contact your general practitioner or call Queensland Health on 13 Health (13 43 25 84)

For education related questions, contact your school principal. Further information is also available from the Queensland health website.

Queensland Health Swine Flu Response website:
www.health.qld.gov.au/swineflu/html/schools.asp

Specific information and advice for parents:
www.health.qld.gov.au/swineflu/documents/parents_advice.pdf

**AUZ QUIZ 2009
WEEK 23**

Question One: Why was the world's longest fence built in Australia?

- a) To prevent Queenslanders from moving to Sydney
- b) To stop the spread of cane toads
- c) To protect sheep from dingoes
- d) To get Australia into the *Guinness Book of Records*

Question Two: Last week, Miss Universe Australia was attacked by..?

- a) her make-up artist
- b) the second runner-up
- c) anti-fur protesters
- d) a five-metre crocodile

Question Three: Which movie was 'number one at the Australian box office' last week?

- a) *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*
- b) *Ice Age 3: Dawn of the Dinosaurs*
- c) *Hannah Montana: The Movie*
- d) *Shrek 4: Shrek sells out*

Question Four: For the last month, a Japanese astronaut has..?

- a) been stranded at the International Space Station
- b) not changed his underwear
- c) been communicating with aliens
- d) not had any sleep

Question Five: In Muslim countries, the International Red Cross is called the..?

- a) Red Crucifix
- b) Red October
- c) Red Crescent
- d) Red Lobster

Question Six: Which major sporting event did the Aussie Steelers win recently?

- a) The Wheelchair Rugby World Cup
- b) The South Pacific Sheep-Shearing Title
- c) The Men's World Softball Championships
- d) The Wrestlemania Tag Team Title

Question Seven: It is illegal to..?

- a) buy vegetables at the fruit market
- b) bargain for specials at the farmers' market
- c) criticise prices at the flea market
- d) sell objects on the black market

Question Eight: If someone gives you a yellow rose, it usually means that he or she...?

- a) is madly in love with you
- b) wants to be your friend
- c) wants you to pay for lunch
- d) never wants to see you again

Question Nine: What do Arachnophobia, Claustrophobia and Melissophobia have in common?

- a) They are irrational fears
- b) They are fears of crawling animals
- c) They are fears of particular people
- d) They are fears of being alone

Question Ten: Two and a half thousand years ago, what did athletes wear while exercising at the gymnasium?

- a) Togas
 - b) Full body armour
 - c) Nothing
 - d) Kilts
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ANSWERS
WEEK 23

- Question One: c (The longest fence in the world was built to protect sheep from dingoes. The Dingo fence runs for more than 5,300 kilometres.)
- Question Two: d (Rachael Finch, who is Miss Universe Australia, had a narrow escape last week when a five-metre crocodile named 'Eric' lunged at her.)
- Question Three: a (*Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* was the most watched movie at Australian theatres last week, making it 'number one at the Australian box office'.)
- Question Four: b (For the last month, a Japanese astronaut has not changed his underwear. The underwear, called J-Wear, is a new type of anti-bacterial, water-absorbent, odour-eliminating item of clothing designed for space missions.)
- Question Five: c (In Muslim countries, the version of the International Red Cross is called the 'Red Crescent'. The crescent is used because the cross is associated with Christianity.)
- Question Six: c (Last week, the Aussie Steelers beat the New Zealand Black Sox in the final of the Men's World Softball Championships.)
- Question Seven: d (Stolen, illicit and untaxed goods are sold on the black market. It is illegal to buy and sell objects on the black market.)
- Question Eight: b (A yellow rose is a universal symbol of friendship. However, in Victorian England, yellow flowers were a sign of jealousy.)
- Question Nine: a (Phobias are irrational fears. Arachnophobia is the irrational fear of spiders, Claustrophobia is the irrational fear of confined spaces and Melissophobia is the irrational fear of bees.)
- Question Ten: c (At the first gymnasiums, athletes exercised naked as a tribute to the gods.)

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