Music Count Us In is an initiative of the Music Council of Australia to promote music in schools. Last Thursday marked the day for this year’s national simultaneous singing of the 2016 song titled Let It Play. At 12.30 pm, the whole school was assembled in the PAC to participate in this musical event. Schools all over Australia also assembled in their communities at the same time. Our students had been practising the song leading up to the day, and unbeknownst to them, so had the staff! The students were surprised and excited to see members of staff dressed in Count Me In t-shirts walk onto stage and perform the song. It was so wonderful for the students to hear the talented musicians we have on staff and see that everyone can enjoy music! Thank you very much to Mrs Johnston for leading this experience and for the fun you encouraged for both staff and students!

Sharon

End of Year Dates
Monday 12th Dec
Leaver’s Dinner
6.00 pm

Monday 19th Dec
Early Childhood
End of Year Assembly
1.30 pm

Tuesday 20th Dec
Primary End of Year Assembly 9.00 am

Wednesday 21st Dec
Last day of school for students
Diary
Thurs 10th Nov  ‘The Sound’ on Tour - Ravenswood Heights Primary School
Thurs 10th Nov P&C Monster Raffle Draw 2.05 pm
Mon 14th Nov Primary Dance Party 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm
Tues 15th Nov Early Childhood Dance Party 9.00 am - 10.00 am
Thurs 17th Nov Community Concert 1.00 pm - 2.45 pm
Mon 21st Nov P&C Book Fair 3.00 pm in the PAC
Wed 23rd Nov P&C Book Fair 3.00 pm in the PAC
Thurs 24th Nov Schools Triathlon - Devonport
Thurs 24th Nov Whole School Assembly 2.05 pm
Thurs 24th Nov P&C Book Fair 3.00 pm in the PAC
Thurs 24th Nov School Association AGM 7.00 pm
Fri 25th Nov ‘The Sound’ on Tour - Sidefest (RHS)
Tues 29th Nov Kindergarten A, B & C Excursion to Hagley Farm
Wed 30th Nov Orientation Day for Year 6’s - Brooks High School
Wed 30th Nov Baby Playgroup Christmas Party 9.30 am - 10.30 am
Wed 30th Nov Pre-Kinder A & B Christmas Party 1.30 pm - 3.00 pm
Thurs 1st Dec Early Childhood Assembly 2.05 pm
Fri 2nd Dec Pre-Kinder C & D Christmas Party 9.00 am - 10.30 am
Fri 2nd Dec Playgroup Christmas Party 1.30 pm - 3.00 pm

Dance Party
This year we have decided to have a Dance Party, two in fact! This event replaces the Disco which is usually held after school. Holding it during school time allows all our students to be involved.

When: Monday 14th November (Years 3 - 6)
Time: 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm
When: Tuesday 15th November (Kinder - Year 2)
Time: 9.00 am - 10.00 am
Venue: Performing Arts Centre
Dress Code: Free dress
Cost: Nil

Year 6 Leaver's Dinner
We are very much looking forward to joining our Year 6 students at the Leaver's Dinner. This evening is a wonderful occasion, celebrating learning, friendships and all that makes their time at MHPS memorable.

When: 12th December 6.00 pm - 9.00 pm
Venue: Aurora Stadium Function Centre
Cost: $30.00 to be paid by 19th November at the office
Professional photographs are an option available for families by paying an additional $30.00 at the office.

Student Awards

Friday Sport - Friday 11th November
Basketball Summerdale v MHPS
Dev Basketball MHPS v Norwood
T Ball Punchbowl v MHPS
Speedball MHPS v Trevallyn

P & C Monster Raffle
Thank you very much to everyone who has returned their Raffle Book.
The raffle will be drawn tomorrow Thursday 10th November at 2.05 pm in the Performing Arts Centre.
Good luck everyone!

Term Dates for students in 2017
Term 1 Wednesday 8th February - Wednesday 12th April
Term 2 Monday 1st May - Friday 7th July
Term 3 Tuesday 25th July - Friday 29th September
Term 4 Monday 16th October - Thursday 21st December

2017 Student Free Days
The Minister for Education and Training, Jeremy Rockliff MP, has approved the following professional learning days for staff:
Term 1 Tuesday 7th February 2017
Term 2 Thursday 13th April 2017
Term 3 Monday 24th July 2017
Term 4 Friday 3rd November 2017
Easter Friday 14th April - Tuesday 18th April

Dollarmite Award
Last week’s winner was - Estia Busch from Grade 5-6 McKenzie.
**Student Assistance Scheme 2017**

Student Assistance Scheme (STAS) 2017 application forms are available from the school office. **STAS application forms are for NEW enrolments only, or for families who have not applied for, or been in receipt of, STAS in 2016.**

Families who were approved and received STAS in 2016 have been sent correspondence regarding STAS 2017 directly from the Department.

Completed application forms can be returned to the school office, or emailed directly to the Department of Education stas@education.tas.gov.au

If you have any queries regarding STAS applications, please contact Maree Phillips (School Business Manager).

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**Awards for high-achieving students**

Celebration events for students who achieved in the top 1% of NAPLAN results in 2016 and the highest achiever in each school, were recently held in our Northern Region Learning Service. The ceremonies recognise student excellence and achievement.

**Top 1%** is not just for the Northern region, but for all eligible Tasmanian students. **Top of School** is the top student at Mowbray Heights Primary School.

The awards are based on a calculation across the various NAPLAN domains. It does not involve simple averages, but weights various assessments. The general calculation is based on an overall percentile - computed as 80% literacy and 20% numeracy. Literacy is computed as 50% reading, 30% writing, 10% spelling, and 10% grammar and punctuation.

Pictured here with the Minister for Education and Training, Jeremy Rockliff MP, is Braeden Abbey - Top 1% and Top of School.

Congratulations Braeden, your school and family are very proud of you!
Singing proud at Count Us In

EDUCATION
THE enthusiastic sounds of 600,000 students singing in time could be heard across Australia on Thursday.

Mowbray Heights Primary School was just one of thousands of schools that simultaneously sang and danced to Let It Play.

The annual campaign was designed to promote musical education and to prove that everyone in society can enjoy singing.

Grade 6 pupil Blake Pyle, 11, said after several weeks of practice, it was exciting to be able to take part in the sing-a-long.

“It was really fun and the way it sounded made you feel good,” Blake said.

“I like learning about the different ways you can sing a song,”

Mowbray pupils received a shock of their own when their teachers formed a surprise band on stage.

Music teacher Jenny Johnston said it was encouraging to see the students so excited about music.

“The initiative has been put in place to promote music in schools and to give music another focus,” Mrs Johnston said.

Class Placements for 2017
In the last two weeks of November we will begin working on class placements for next year. Placing children in classes is always carefully considered and many things are taken into account, including the educational needs of students, behaviour, gender, friendships and work habits. We also consider parent knowledge, as parents often have important information to share with us about their child, in addition to what we are already aware of, which can be very helpful. Information about the way your child learns, their work habits, strengths and challenges are significant considerations for you to share.

If you would like to communicate information that will support your child’s placement in 2017 you are welcome to write a note, phone or make a time to meet. It is important that you either write or speak to me and not discuss individual needs with class teachers. In a school as big as ours, it is important to keep track of the information.

The information you give us will be taken into account, along with the knowledge our staff has of your child. We commit a great deal of thought and time into arranging classes. Once we start placing over 500 students in classes, it is difficult to make changes, as so many factors have been considered which affect not only your child, but also the other students in their new class.

It is essential to know that requests for a particular teacher will not be considered. The opportunity to provide information supporting class placements closes on Friday 18th November. Sharon

Christmas Celebration with our Chaplain Silja
On 28th November, 2nd December, 6th December and 9th December, Year 3 - 6 students are invited to join Silja during their lunchtime to hear about the story and traditions of Christmas. They will also have the opportunity to make some Christmas craft.

If you would like your child to participate in this experience please return the form below to the Office by Tuesday 22nd November.

Christmas Celebration with our Chaplain Silja
I ___________________ give permission for my child ___________________ to participate in the lunchtime Christmas experiences with Silja.

Signed ___________________ Date ___________________

CONTACT DETAILS
Postal Address: PO Box 131, Mowbray Heights 7248
Street Address: 20-30 Cadorna Street, Mowbray Heights
Phone: 6326 1892 Fax: 6326 6119
Email: mowbray.heights.primary@education.tas.gov.au
Web: mowbrayheightsprimary.education.tas.edu.au