



### THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF CATS!

Our first year has been a great success! In total **1238 children, 1220 parents, 141 teachers, and 43 schools** participated in 2012. We encountered many colourful classrooms, interested faces and lots of smiles along the way! We would like to thank all the principals, teachers, school administration staff, parents and children for taking part and supporting this ground-breaking study.

#### CONGRATULATIONS!

*To say thanks for completing the Parent Questionnaires in 2012, we have drawn 10 families who will each receive a \$100 Coles Myer Voucher and a further 10 families for the \$50 Coles Myer Vouchers. Families were randomly drawn from the \$50 and \$100 draws according to the competition timelines.*

### WATCH OUR VIDEO: The Truth About CATS

Want to know what happens after we collect the data? Our 5 minute video goes behind the scenes of the CATS study. Find it at [www.mcri.edu.au/truthaboutcats](http://www.mcri.edu.au/truthaboutcats)

### BACK IN 2013

The CATS team will be returning to schools during terms 2 and 3 with our iPads and measuring stations! We will be asking the children to complete a questionnaire and have their measurements taken. The scientists in our laboratory are having a rest this year so no saliva samples will be taken in 2013. Parents will be asked to complete a follow-up questionnaire, which will be much shorter than the first one. Your child's new teacher will also be asked to fill in a questionnaire.

### KEEPING IN TOUCH

Over the next few years we hope to continue collecting information from you and your child to learn about how your lives change over time. If your child changes school or if your contact details change (postal address, email address, home number or mobile number) please let us know either by completing the attached contacts page, or by phoning or emailing the CATS team.

**P: (03) 9345 6732      E: [cats@mcri.edu.au](mailto:cats@mcri.edu.au)**

## RESULTS SNEAK PEEK



The CATS team are very excited to be returning in 2013, but before we do, here is a sneak peek at what the data from 2012 are showing so far...

The children were aged between 8 and 11 years, the average age was 8.5 years old	English is the most common language spoken at home (85%)	11% of parents reported their child has a food allergy
There are slightly more girls (54%) than boys (46%) in the study	12% of children were born overseas, with at least one child from each continent (except Antarctica!)	64% of children play a team sport and 74% play an individual sport
One set of triplets, 24 sets of twins and 2 pairs of siblings are taking part in CATS	91% of children said their health was either good, very good or excellent	55% of children see their friends outside of school every week



## MEET THE STUDY DIRECTOR

Professor George Patton



George Patton is the Professor of Adolescent Health Research at the University of Melbourne and Royal Children's Hospital. He has advised the World Health Organisation, UNICEF and the United Nations on child and adolescent health. George answers some questions about himself and why CATS is so important.

### What made you set up the CATS study?

After birth there is no more exciting and life changing experience than the journey from childhood to the teenage years. How a child and his/her family manage the great physical and emotional changes through puberty has a great bearing on how a child goes on to cope with the exciting and challenging adolescent years.

### Why is CATS such an important study?

There is no other study anywhere in the world like CATS. Earlier studies of child development have skipped over these years so we know little about the different ways in which children and their families experience all the changes that happen in these years between primary and secondary school.

### What do you like to do in your spare time?

I get to travel overseas a lot and love visiting new places. I also like doing things like going on a long bike ride, swimming at the beach or just reading a good book.

## QUIZ: WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG

### 1960s

1. Which famous musician returned to civilian life after serving 2 years in the US army?
2. The Soviet union were the first to send a man to \_\_\_\_\_?

### 1970s

3. Which band wrote the soundtrack to the 1977 film Saturday Night Fever?
4. In 1976 an earthquake with a magnitude of 8.0 killed 255,000 people in what country?

### 1980s

5. What was the female hair trend for this decade?
6. Which movie starring Tom Cruise popularised Ray-Ban sunglasses?

### 1990s

7. What was the name of the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell?
8. Which girl band took the world by storm in the 1990s?

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



## CAN YOU SPOT THE 3 DIFFERENCES?

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR WONDERFUL FEEDBACK

*"I didn't know what this would be like but it's so much fun!"* - Student

*"You've been so patient and understanding with our kids it's been great. We look forward to seeing you next year"* - School Staff

*"Will you come back next year so we can see you again?"* - Student

*"My daughter really does enjoy participating in the study and enthusiastically tells me about what she has done"* - Parent

*"I really liked CATS today. I hope we see you again."* - Student

## ANY QUESTIONS FOR THE CATS TEAM?

**P: (03) 9345 6732**

**E: cats@mcri.edu.au**

**For more information and regular updates, please visit our website or become a friend of the CATS study on Facebook.**

**W: [www.mcri.edu.au/cats](http://www.mcri.edu.au/cats)**

**F: Cats Study**

### QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Elvis Presley 2. Space 3. The Bee Gees 4. China 5. Perm 6. Top Gun 7. Dolly the Sheep 8. Spice Girls

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