



Edition 15 – May 25TH 2021

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Last Tuesday I was very fortunate to travel to Melbourne with three other staff to attend a presentation by the Resilience Project team in Melbourne. This remarkable team is supporting thousands of schools across Australia to build resilience within their schools. Their simple message is that resilience is broken into three key areas:

1. Gratitude – being grateful
2. Empathy – being caring and kind to others
3. Mindfulness – being in the present

Like all good habits, we must practice each regularly and they have plenty of strategies for doing so. The great part is that most of the strategies take just a few minutes every day and have a profound effect. Here at MPS, we have incorporated gratitude diaries into the 3-6 classrooms and the teachers practice gratitude in our weekly Teacher Meetings.

I strongly encourage all our parents to read this book (The Resilience Project). The world health organisation has predicted a fairly dire scenario for the world by 2030. Within this prediction, Depression will be the #1 disease and suicide the #1 cause of death for anyone under 45. We don't share these statistics to scare anybody, they are our likely reality and it is imperative that schools are at the forefront in preparing our students with the tools to cope with this future.

Careers Day

I must share what a joy it was to have so many parents and community members come in to the school last Thursday to share their employment journeys with the Year 3-6 students. The students were fully engrossed with experience and we hope that they were able to share some of these stories with their families. I particularly liked the opportunity for the students to practice their communication skills with an unfamiliar adult. For some we could see they had had a lot of practice ☺

Principal

Gene VanderZalm,

GEORGE TELFORD PARENT SESSION

We are excited to host a parent session with **George Telford** on 3rd August. George is a highly engaging public speaker who has been working with our staff for the past few years. George has the ability to relate to any audience and he speaks with real life examples about learning that both parents can not only relate to but learn from. Our first parent session with George was hugely successful, with positive feedback from our parents. Further details on the event will be available closer to the date.

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE SURVEY

We are obtaining interest in providing 'Out of Hours care' at Meeniyian PS next year. If this is something that would be of interest to you or someone you know, please complete the attached survey and return to the office.

CALENDAR

Current 25/5 – 1/6

27th May – PST Open night

28th May – Winter Sport Yr 5/6

28th May – School bike ride

28th May – Zoo consent/payment due

Upcoming

3rd June – Zoo Excursion Yrs 3-6

4th June - Division Cross Country

6th June - Book Club orders close

14th June – Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

15th June – Division Winter Sports

15th June – School Council, 7pm

25th June – Last day Term 2

12th July – First day Term 3

27th July – School Council, 7pm

3rd Aug - George Telford Parent Session

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The newsletter is compiled on Monday.
All items need to be submitted by 1:30pm
to be included

MPS Cross Country - Years 3-6

Today, 25th May @ 2pm.

Meeniyian Rec Reserve



NEWSLETTER SURVEY

Due to recent feedback we have had about parents not getting information that has been put out to the school community in our newsletters, we are asking all families to complete the attached survey. We will assume no response means that you do not/have not read the newsletter. Responses will influence the future direction of our newsletter and our methods of communicating important information to families.

BOOK CLUB

Issue 4 Book Club catalogues have been distributed today. Please complete all orders via the LOOP app or online via the Scholastic website. Orders close Sunday 6th June. Do not send orders/money into the office.

MACS

Thanks to our generous MACS volunteers, we have received a cheque for \$1565.40. This money will support our IT budget ensuring IT equipment for student use in the classrooms.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

I often think back to the days I wandered around the country with my wild eldest daughter and I wonder "How did I get so brave?" other times the thought is more like "Why did I take so many risks?" Yet I think what it was, back then, was that I did not plan. I lived in the moment and had a firm sense that everything would work out the way it was meant too.

Things working out the way they were meant to was not always pretty. There was chaos, near misses and a whole lot of extraordinary juggling. Car breakdowns, no money, falling apart rentals, new jobs, new schools but for some reason there was so much joy. Sometimes the worst times were holding hands with the most joyful times, this is because of those tiny little magic moments. The ones that took my breath away and paused me, a warm wind, an after-school swim, a picture story book under a starry sky, my dog being hilarious, being caught in the wet season rain after a steamy day.

A pause to say - this, this moment is magic. This moment makes me feel alive and I am so very grateful for this.

Our Respectful Relationships Team went to the Resilience Project professional development on Tuesday. There were some daunting predictions about mental ill health for the future but these predictions need to be challenged by US! The parents, the teachers, and our kids.

There were so many marvellous stories but one that sat with me was about a child in India, he would pause his day and celebrate his moments by stopping and saying "Dis" (this) it meant - dis moment, my shoes, my food, the sky. Right now. Dis (this) is life and wonderful.

We have these moments everyday, but we so often forget to pause and acknowledge them. I feel so grateful that 42-year-old Donna was reminded to pause and honour those moments, to be in them and let the magic feeling in. Imagine if we could NOTICE our 'dis' moments every day and tell our kids about them, we don't need BIG to be grateful.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer Donna.giliam@education.vic.gov.au

Narrative Writing in 3/4D

In 3/4D this term we have been working hard to create interesting characters for the narratives that we are writing. We are working on trying to 'show rather than tell' our reader how our character is feeling.

Geffrey the giraffe is a happy giraffe who loves to laugh and play with the other giraffes. Sometimes he can become very nervous and get butterflies in his tummy, rattly legs and a shivering mouth. *Nikita*

Alex the Atlantic Torpedo was a very friendly and affectionate Atlantic torpedo who glides through the water in a joyous way. *Monty*

Gerald the giraffe hums like a bee. He's never afraid of a challenge. He laughs until he cries and gets nervous when he is chosen for races. He bites his hooves before the race he gets so nervous. *Penny*

Baxta the brumby has eyes that bulge with happiness. All the other brumby's thought he was MAD! Baxta hummed and skipped everywhere, no matter how bad his day was. He had a voice that was high and squeaky. *Winnie*



CAREERS DAY



VEGETABLE SOUP



Our Prep students eating their vegetable soup while learning about the /v/ sound. Thank you to Jess Bright and Rhys Livingstone for helping them out in the kitchen!

COMMUNITY NEWS

The following Community News articles promote community connections and communications.
They are not considered school activities

Meeniyian Preschool Open Day:

Meeniyian Preschool are opening their doors to the parents and children of Meeniyian and district on Wednesday 2nd June from 2-3pm for an Open Day. Meet the wonderful educators and see the gorgeous kindergarten and it's facilities. Enrolments for first round offers will be accepted from 1st May -30th June in the year prior to your child/ren attending.

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/centralenrolment Further enquiries to Meeniyian Preschool on 5664 7316.



Australian Government Mobile Service Centre:

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people. Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

When: Thursday, 27th May 2021, 9.00am to 3/30pm

Where: Opposite Moo's Café, Whitelaw Street, Meeniyian

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice



CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS WHAT WE EXPECT AT MEENIYAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

- ❖ Everyone connected to our school can help children be safe.
- ❖ We have zero tolerance of any abuse of children.
- ❖ We have policies and procedures in place to protect the care, safety and welfare of children.
- ❖ There are clear boundaries about how adults in our school community may interact with our students.
- ❖ The new Child Safe Standards go further than child protection arrangements did in the past.
- ❖ The Child Safe Standards apply to school staff, volunteers, contractors, visitors and students' family members.
- ❖ Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility.
- ❖ We want to ensure you know how we are keeping your children safe at school, and how we would like you to support us.
- ❖ Unsupervised contractors will be asked about their child safety arrangements as a condition of working with us if they work with children enrolled in the school (or children can reasonably be expected to be present while they are at the school).

Please see further information on Child Safe Standards on our school website.

Community members are encouraged to raise any concerns about child abuse with the Principal or report directly to Child Protection / Police.



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Principal: Gene VanderZalm

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE - PARENT SURVEY

Q1. How old will your child be in 2022? (select multiple answers for multiple children in your household, as required).

- 4 or younger
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13 or older

Q2. Do you currently use childcare services for your school aged children out of school hours?

- Yes
- No

Q3. Are you interested in accessing Outside School Hours Care in 2022 at Meeniyian Primary School?

- Yes
- Maybe, if extra numbers were required to make the program viable, I would consider it.
- No

Q4. How many days per week would your child/children attend? (select all days that apply)

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Less frequent than weekly _____

Q5. What sessions would you be likely to use? (select all sessions that apply)

- Before School Care
- After School care
- Holiday Program

Q6. Would access to an Outside School Hours Care program provide you or your family with greater employment or further study opportunities?

- Yes
- No

Q7. If a service was available, what perceived barriers are there for you as a parent for your child/children to access Outside School Hours Care?

- Cost
- Time
- Transport
- Other _____

Q8. Other comments:



Newsletter Survey

Q1. How often do you read the school newsletter?

Weekly

Every now and then

Never

Q2. Which of the following statements is most accurate about your experience with reading the newsletter?

Read all of it

Read some of it

Q3. In which format do you prefer to receive/read the newsletter?

Paper copy

Compass

Email

Website

Q4. Do you have any suggestions/feedback regarding the newsletter?
