



# School News



Edition 30 – October 26<sup>TH</sup> 2021

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### The Return

Last Friday was amazing 😊 A reminder of all the wonderful things we should see in schools and why they are places of such importance.

The day started with teaching staff spreading balloons around the school to acknowledge our first day since July where the whole school was together. Soon after we put some dancing tunes on and were delighted to see so many students begin dancing and running around with smiles on their faces. This mood carried on throughout the day but it was obvious by lunchtime that many students were out of condition and exhausted by the rigors of school.

This week will mark our first week altogether. We have told students to pace themselves but remind families to once again establish a consistent bed routine, so students are fresh and alert.

### Restrictions Easing

Restrictions continue to relax across the state. From November 1<sup>st</sup>, schools are allowed to have incursions, excursions and camps. The timing of this announcement will allow our Year 5 and 6 students to go to Licola on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The timeline for payments and permission will be tight so please get these in ASAP. Our Year 3/4 teachers will now look at suitable days for a trip to Wilsons Prom. Unfortunately, we won't be able to have a 3/4 camp due to missing our dates, but we still think it is important that all students get a taste of the Prom.

### MACS

Thanks to our lovely MACS volunteers donating their time, we have received a cheque for \$680.86 to assist in purchasing school resources.

### SWIMMING PROGRAM

If you are a parents/carer of a student in years in 3-6 and have not yet given consent via Compass for their swimming program, please log in and complete by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November. If your child will not be attending the swimming program, please phone the office on 5664 7382 or email [meeniyan.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:meeniyan.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

### DEVICES FROM REMOTE LEARNING

Families who borrowed school computers during Remote Learning, could you please return them with the chargers to the school office as soon as possible so that they can be returned to the classrooms for use.

### LICOLA CAMP FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 5 & 6

Notes for camp will be coming home with students today. Please complete forms and return them to school by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November. Payment for the camp will be set up to be completed through Compass Pay later this week. A message will be sent out to parents via Compass once it has opened for payment.

**Please inform the school if your child is NOT attending camp.**

## CALENDAR

### Current 26/10-3/11

29<sup>th</sup> Oct - P-2 swimming program commences

1<sup>st</sup> Nov - Student free day

2<sup>nd</sup> Nov - Melbourne Cup (pupil free)

### Upcoming

5<sup>th</sup> Nov - 3-6 swimming consent due (Compass Pay)

5<sup>th</sup> Nov - 5/6 Camp forms due

8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Nov – Years 5/6 camp

15<sup>th</sup> Nov - 3-6 Swimming program commences

16<sup>th</sup> Nov - School Council meeting

### NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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

### **Next Week's Newsletter**

Due to the Melbourne Cup long weekend, next week's newsletter will be sent out on Wednesday.

**Gene VanderZalm**

## RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Term 4 was always my favourite as a kid. The anticipation of all the fun things that came up before the end of the year, mum would sneak us out of school on a rainy day to go to Mid Valley Christmas shopping and THEN CHRISTMAS!

I still feel it now the excitement and anticipation– the weather brings it on first. Some hot days, some rainy but warmer. I am surprised that I get this feeling after nearly 2 years of cancelled events and lockdowns.

This anticipation brings up the hot topic of Christmas presents. I have always felt uncomfortable with the kids making Christmas lists or letters to Santa with a list of things they WANT! I want them to be surprised and grateful for a gift rather than expectant or greedy.

So, we fly blind, with no list but ideas of things that might be useful for our girls from observations over the year.

This year one of our girls has grown out of her bike, so we are engaging in trying to buy our robust, strong, capable rider a new adult bike. Up until now we have been able to buy our girls what look like gender neutral bikes (even though they are listed as 'boys' bikes) This time it is proving to be more difficult and highly gendered. In the 1890s women were expected to wear a dress or skirt so their bikes had a lower step-through design so they could get on and off without getting tangled. Thank goodness women can wear more practical clothes these days, yet, there is still a step through on a women's bike assuming that they need the step through or assuming that men do not.

There is also an assumption that people who would like a bike with a 'step through' would like it in soft pastels and light colours. Rather than black or bold colours. With names like 'Liv' rather than 'Giant'.

These are gender stereotypes – assuming the Liv is soft, with an easy step-through, weaker and the Giant – is bold and strong without the step through.

Assuming men are giant and strong and women are tiny, gentle and soft.

I don't want to give my daughters this message this Christmas or ever. I also don't want to give young boys the message that they need to be giant and hard to be good men.

Please reach out if you need a chat.

*Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer, 0493 131 403*

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

☺ **Kaleb B** for making a huge effort to show growth in his learning. Well done Kaleb.



### STAFF PROFILE OF THE WEEK

**Rob Robertson, Teacher**

**Where did you grow up?** Camberwell

**One word to describe you would be..** a collector

**What do you love about MPS?** Community involvement, quality of leadership and the staff and kids

**How long have you been involved with MPS?** 30+ years

**Favourite movie?** Shawshank Redemption

**Favourite bedtime story as a child?** The Famous Five

**What are you looking forward to this year at MPS?** Getting back to normality!!

**Something you have always wanted to try?** Working on an aboriginal dig

**Your favourite holiday destination?** Europe

# COMMUNITY NEWS

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

## **Leongatha Little Athletics:**

The 2021/2022 season commences 6<sup>th</sup> November, 9am at the Leongatha Velodrome. (Dependent on government restrictions) For kids aged 5-15 years old. New athletes 'Come and Try' prior to paying. All returning athletes must be registered and paid for prior to competing. Register online at [www.lavic.com.au/membership/](http://www.lavic.com.au/membership/) or for information, email [leongathalac@gmail.com](mailto:leongathalac@gmail.com)

## **Free online Emotion Coaching Parenting Program:**

Free live ONLINE program for parents of children aged 2-12. Stop yelling and nagging and learn how to resolve difficult behaviour over 3 sessions. Parent will receive a free workbook to apply the concepts learnt and a certificate of completion.

When: 11.30 – 2.30 over 3 Tuesdays. November 30<sup>th</sup>, December 7<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup>

Cost: Free but bookings are essential.

Ph: Mark Brookes, Group Work Facilitator, Uniting Gippsland on 5662 5150 or 0438 204 437

Email: [mark.brookes@vt.uniting.org](mailto:mark.brookes@vt.uniting.org)



## CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS WHAT WE EXPECT AT MEENIYAH 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.
- ❖ 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.

Tarwin Valley MARC

Fish Creek—Meeniyan—Tarwin Lower—Toora—Welshpool

Term 4, 2021

# MARC Library News

## PREVIEW OF LEARNING

Why are quotes important? Consider this one—*“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body”* – Joseph Addison. Quotes can inspire and encourage. It is what we, as MARC Library teachers, work towards as we guide our readers through the process and journey of being a reader who enjoys reading and gains learning and knowledge from picture fiction, fiction and nonfiction books. And so, in Term 4 2021 MARC Library will not disappoint. We have the books and our schools have the readers! A successful combination.

In the first three weeks of Term 4, junior students will listen to stories written by Philip Bunting. The book 'Another Book About Bears', shares humour and problem solving and 'Give me some Space', invites students to be curious about and to appreciate that we are part of that great wonder, space. In weeks 1 to 3 students in Grades 3 to 6 will study several books written by the author, Claire Saxby. Titles such as 'Emu', 'Iceberg' and 'Bird to Bird' feature the author's skilfully crafted descriptive text and are complemented by beautiful illustrative techniques.

In week 4 we will move on and all students will read Halloween stories. Week 5 will use the theme of the Melbourne Cup to engage students with stories highlighting the achievements that horses are capable of. In Weeks 6-8 we aim to inspire the love of literature for students and teachers using some of the beautiful new books which have arrived on our shelves recently. Week 9 reviews and educates all on how we can be safe in bushfire season. Week 10 is the time for the sharing of Christmas through stories, discussions about family traditions and the making of a Christmas decoration.

Yours in reading and learning,

Jeanette Johnson and Sophie Callcott

Can families please have a hunt for MARC books at home. They have a large green dot on the spine.

New books in the van—available to borrow now!



## AUTHORS IN FOCUS THIS TERM

Philip Bunting

<https://philipbunting.com/>



Claire Saxby

<https://www.clairesaxby.com/>



Quote by author Neil Gaiman.