



**Edition 35 – November 30<sup>TH</sup> 2021**

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**Supervision Times:** 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Over the past few weeks, I was fortunate to take part in a Professional Learning seminar about 'Conflict'. The timing of this training is not by mere coincidence. Our society is unsettled at the moment, and everybody is wishing for a return to normality. However, the premise that we will simply have a few celebrations over the Christmas holidays and everything will be better next year is naïve. Moving ourselves and schools to a more settled place will take effort and a special focus. The training was very insightful and there are a few key points I would like to share:

1. Blame – All of us blame but some of us are certainly more prone to it than others. There is a wonderful 3 minute Brene Brown clip I encourage you to watch on Youtube that outlines why we blame and the dangers of blaming. The key point is, blaming is simply an expression of discomfort and pain.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZWf2\\_2L2v8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZWf2_2L2v8)
2. Conflict is inevitable – each year we all experience conflict and there are many benefits that come from these conflicts. Conflict, although uncomfortable for many of us, is always a means to grow and adapt. Conflicts don't have to lead to World War 3; the trick is intervening early by listening to one another and working through things.
3. People are different, not difficult. This belief is critical to working through conflict. All of us have jumped to perceptions when we have only had half of the story. Sitting down, putting our perceptions to the side and working through the facts is the key to any conflict resolution.
4. Ditch the 'Why' questions and focus on 'What' and 'How' questions. This is a good one to start practising with your children. Rather than 'Why is there a mess left all through the kitchen?' Try, 'How did the milk come to be on the ground in the kitchen?' Then 'What do you think you can do about it?' Why questions are attribute to blame whilst what and how seek to find solutions.

I've started applying these key points into my everyday life and the benefits are immediate. Have a go at them, I'd love to hear how it turns out and advise you if you so need 😊

**Gene VanderZalm**

## OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE INFORMATION SESSION

We are pleased to be partnering with Our Patch for our Outside School Hours Care (OSCH) program starting in Term 1 2022.

Our Patches' vision – a patch for every child to GROW, aligns with our school well.

Our Patch will be hosting a Parent Information Session to talk about the program, how to register and answer any questions you may have,

**Date / Time: Wednesday 1 December, 5.30pm**

**Location: Meeniy Primary School, Shared Space**

**Our Patch looks forward to seeing you there!**

## **CALENDAR**

### Current 30/11 – 7/12

- 30<sup>th</sup> Nov** - Prep Beach excursion
- 1<sup>st</sup> Dec** - OSHC Information Session
- 1<sup>st</sup> Dec** - Yr 6 Graduation money due
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec** - Consent due for 3/4 excursion
- 7<sup>th</sup> Dec** - State wide transition day

### Upcoming

- 9<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Year 6 Graduation
- 13<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Year 6 Pool party
- 14<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Year 3/4 Wilson's Prom excursion
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Students last day, **3.20pm finish**
- 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2022** - Student's first day

### NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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

## **TIME TO RETURN LIBRARY BOOKS**

All MARC library books and MPS library books should now be coming back to school in order for the end of year stocktake to be completed. See flyer at the end of the newsletter

### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

The final breakfast club for 2021 will be Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December. All students are welcome to come along for breakfast and a chat.

### **GRADE 3/4 WILSON'S PROM EXCURSION**

Year 3 & 4 students will head off to Wilson's Prom on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December for a day excursion. The bus will leave school at 9.15am and arrive back at **5.00pm**. The \$20 per student fee has been offset by the \$20 that families paid for the cancelled zoo excursion. Parents will need to consent via Compass for their child to attend. Online consent closes at midnight on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

We have a very large number of unnamed items in Lost Property. We encourage students (parents welcome to come and take a look too) to have a look and claim anything that belongs to them. Items that are still sitting in the lost property baskets next week will be donated to MACS.

### **BELEZA VIP UNIFORM SALE**

Beleza Pakenham store will be holding a VIP Sale with 20% off full priced items. The sale will run from Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. In store only.  
Ph 5941 4989



## **RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS**

We are in day 5 of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence.

It is uncomfortable thinking, talking or writing about Gender Based Violence. It is uncomfortable for many reasons, but it is essential that we DO talk about it.

Because...

1 in 4 women (23%) has experienced physical or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner since age 15.

There are 4 women in my family. That means one of us either has been or potentially will be a victim of family violence. 3 of those women are my daughters.

I will let that sink in.

Gender based violence is happening in communities all over Australia, including ours. A driver for Gender Based Violence is inequality between men and women.

And while we have come a long way from the days where my great grandfather did not allow my great grandmother to drive, we still live in a world where 34% of people surveyed by 'Our Watch' **think** it is **natural** for a man to want to appear to be in control of his partner in front of his male friends. I do not want to live in a world where it is considered **natural** for either partner to be in control of the other.

Please do not think this is a message about men being controlling and women being victims. It is not. It is a message to explain WHY we need to teach the Respectful Relationships curriculum in our schools and why we need to strive for equality.

I am so proud of your children for walking for a brighter future last Friday. I am so proud of the age-appropriate conversations your children engage in around this and I am excited for a world where we are all equal.

*Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer*

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

- 😊 **Amelia W** for her growth in reading skills.
- 😊 **Cole M** for pushing himself to extend his learning.
- 😊 **Lana M** for her dedication to completing all tasks to the highest possible standard. Great integrity!
- 😊 **Eli A** for engaging in swimming sessions and being a respectful listener.
- 😊 **Sam N** for determination to learn new mathematics concepts.
- 😊 **Sophie J** for being a consistent, conscientious worker.
- 😊 **Sofia E** for being brave and resilient during swimming lessons.
- 😊 **Bentley S** for being brave and having a go at trying a new skill at swimming.
- 😊 **Nakayla J** for a thoughtful approach to her math tasks and achieving excellent improvement as a result.
- 😊 **James N** for working hard to improve fluency and showing creative and artistic flair in Readers Theatre!
- 😊 **Charlie C** for improving his time management skills.



# Walk Against Gender Based Violence



## CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS WHAT WE EXPECT AT MEENIYANI 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.

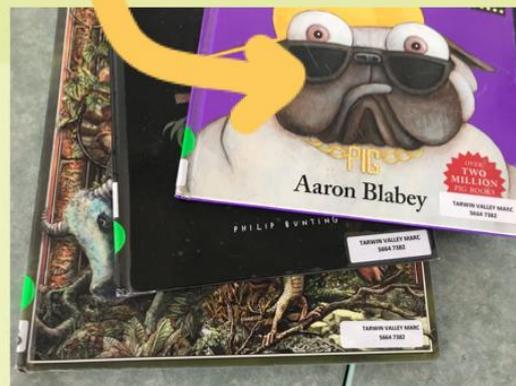
Community members are encouraged to raise any concerns about child abuse with the Principal or report directly to Child Protection / Police.

# MARC Library Book Returns



As we are approaching the end of 2021, it is now time for students to return their MARC library books.

This week, students will be coming home with a bright yellow slip of paper listing the items they have out on loan. Could you please help your child/ren to locate their books and return them to school ready for the end of year stocktake. They are identifiable by a green dot on the spine, a barcode on the back and a sticker which reads 'Tarwin Valley MARC' on the front cover. With thanks for your cooperation, Sophie Callcott and Jeanette Johnson.



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