



Edition 9 – March 29TH 2022

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Last Tuesday, the Meeniyan Primary School Council held our 2022 AGM. This was quite a significant meeting as it was the changing of the guard for our School Council President and Vice-President for the first time since 2018! For the past four years Danielle Lacy has done an amazing job as our school's School Council President and for three years prior to that as a School Councillor. Danielle is very modest about her time in these positions. She is not someone who desires the limelight but the support she has provided to our school for the past 4 years must be recognised. Here is a quick rundown of some major changes she has overseen:

- A School Review: where she took part in classroom observations, staff and student interviews and a general assessment of all matters relating to the school
- The election of a new Principal: including interview process and confidential meetings at many levels
- The planning and organisation of our new Administration block
- The growth of the school from 105 students to 155

Personally, Danielle has been a great support to me in my role as Principal. She has been a source of wisdom when working through complex matters and been an effective go-between for our parents/community and the school.

Simone Jans joined School Council one year after Danielle and became Vice-President at the same time Danielle became President. At times she conducted meetings and stood into the role of President but her real passion was connecting the school and the community. Simone played a massive role in the organisation of several Trivia Nights, Graduations and other school events. Like Danielle, she has been a massive supporter of the school. She has always taken the time to understand all perspectives and has a strong understanding on the demands of schools.

Both these parents will be sorely missed but thankfully we have other parents ready and able to take on the challenge. I'm very excited to announce a fantastic group of parents as our 2022 School Council:

President: Kate Thomas

Vice-President: Katrina Benson

Treasurer: Brad Kiljstra-Shone (re-elected)

Other School Councillors: Sarah Mitchem, Melissa Horkings, Rhys Livingstone, Tamara Symington, Katrina Neeson, Jo Healy (Staff), Rebecca Browne (Staff)

Gene VanderZalm

LOST GLASSES

One of our students is still desperately looking for their missing glasses. They have blue tinted lenses that are specifically for dyslexia. They also feature a pinky/peachy coloured front and red and black arms. If found, please return them to the office or to 3/4P.

CALENDAR

Current 29/3 – 5/4

1st Apr - Yr 3-6 Athletics

Upcoming

7th Apr - District Athletics 3-6

8th Apr – Last day Term 1
2.20pm dismissal. -
Buses will run 1hr earlier

25th Apr - ANZAC day (pupil free)

26th Apr - Student free day

27th Apr - Students return to school
for Term 2

29th Apr - Yr 3-6 Zoo Excursion

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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

Have you confirmed consent for..

- ❖ Year 3- 6 Waratah Athletics
- ❖ Year 3-6 Zoo Excursion

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

My Granny was born in 1927 and lived until she was 89 years old. In those 89 years she collected all sorts of photos, certificates, bits of writing, birthday cards, coasters, post cards and more. All of it from us, her people – the babble of noise, fun and stories which make up her family.

In the last 10 years of her life all these bits and pieces came from various boxes, drawers and even from the inside of a day bed and filled her front room – the tables were covered as were parts of the floor. I would walk into the front room and could feel the story of my family and would be drawn to one of the ‘piles’ which I would flick through as Granny told me the story connected to it. The piles were alive and everchanging as Gran cut, glued, laminated, and wrote her story in an enormous collection of scrap books.

When I say scrapbook, please delete the idea of anything with pretty stamps or stickers or themes or chronological order from your mind. These were put in the order she found them – deliberately enticing all readers. One could not just pick up a book and assume it would have the stories from the year they were born. A double page spread could have a letter from one of her grandchildren aged 6, a photo of one of the goats, a photo of the yard before the garden, an editorial about women’s rights and a favourite recipe. Meaning we had to learn it all – not just the bits about ourselves!

As the piles got smaller and the ‘books’ piled up I would find myself sitting in a sunny window flicking through the story of my family. And now that she has passed away, I read these books in her funny handwriting and I can hear her voice and I can still feel what it is like to be loved and known by my Granny.

In her 80s my Granny was not blustering in the shearing shed or raising orphaned lambs or bolting around the tennis court or as independent in the garden. Instead, she was keeping the story of her family safe and alive. Her ‘books’ scattered across various members of my family's homes.

What an absolute privilege to have a Granny, a safe home, a place to keep our stories safe and to create many more stories. My heart breaks for those who are displaced right now, for those who do not have a safe place or are not connected with their old people.

Storytelling and sharing are such an important part of what makes us human. I challenge everyone to share part of your story with someone this week and listen to theirs. When we weave our stories together, we become more connected. Sit, talk, share and learn.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

Last week (March 22nd), Meeniyan Primary School held the School Council’s Annual General Meeting. There have been a few significant changes to the school council team. Danielle Lacy has stepped down from the position of President, after serving for 5 years. Danielle has been involved in so much in that time, including the appointment of a new Principal, helping manage the grant for the new school office building, and negotiating a full school review – huge jobs, and we have all benefited from her positive, considerate and inclusive approach.

Simone Jans also steps down from school council and her role as Vice President. Simone has been on council for six years and has been Vice President for the last 4 years. In this time, she has been a fantastic support to both Danielle and the rest of the school council. In addition, Claire Guy’s two-year tenure as staff representative also comes to an end this year – her positive energy and infectious laughter will be missed!

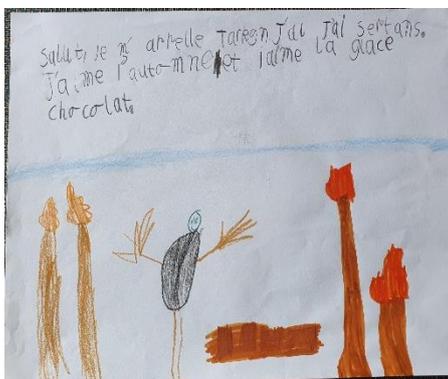
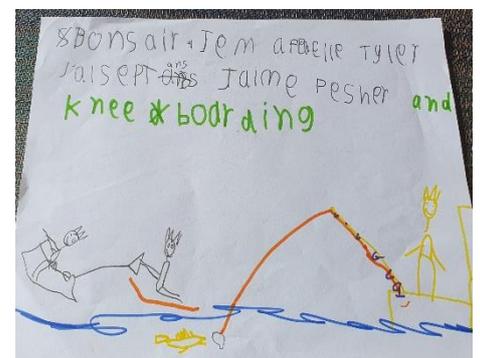
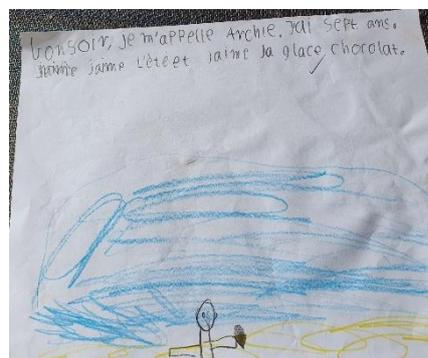
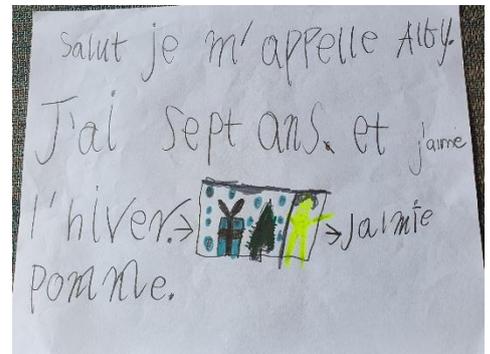
We appreciate the dedication shown by the departing council members and would like to acknowledge the time and effort that they have put into their respective roles. We would also like to welcome in new council members: Rebecca Browne as the staff representative, parents Tamara Symington and Katrina Markley. Last but by no means least, I would like to welcome the existing members who are stepping into new roles, including Kate Thomas as school council President, and Katrina Benson as Vice President. Looking forward to working with you all for the 2022 school year.

Brad Kijlstra-Shone, Meeniyan Primary School Council

YEAR 2 FRENCH



Grade 2 have produced some excellent work about themselves and their favourite things in French this term. Voilà.....



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- ☺ **Huey H** for using sounds and letters he knows to begin writing independently.
- ☺ **Hamish G** for enthusiasm and willingness to learn.
- ☺ **Tarkyn Z** for his thoughtful contributions to his class discussions.
- ☺ **Albie H** for his wonderful attitude to all aspects of his learning. His writing is amazing along with all of his work.
- ☺ **Jordyn B** for giving every task her best effort, even when it is challenging.
- ☺ **Alyssa D** for always seeking help when her learning challenges her and trying her best.
- ☺ **Makayla H** for challenging herself during maths sessions.
- ☺ **Hannah H** for showing great persistence and grit during our 'Quantum' Excursion.
- ☺ **Lucas M** for resilience in French and providing solutions.



HOUSE POINTS

Last weeks winner: Wattle & Bluegum

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Meeniyau Auskick:

Register now for AusKick 2022! Ages 5-12 yrs. Season begins Monday 2nd May. Sessions start at 4pm, with Walking School Bus available to lead kids to Meeniyau Rec Reserve after school.

Register via link: play.af1/auskick and be sure to join the Meeniyau AusKick Facebook page to stay up to date. Further enquiries: Steve Trotman PH:0438762068 Or add your child to the Walking School Bus: Emma Trotman PH:0448438610



Free Parent Webinars:

Run by a child psychologist, these webinars will look at supporting your primary school aged child with worry and managing tricky behaviour. See flyer at the end of the newsletter for further details.

South Gippsland Landcare Network:

Younger veterans and their families are invited to join South Gippsland Landcare groups in protecting our local environment. Ten sessions will run monthly across South Gippsland, including: putting out cameras to take photos of wildlife and pest animals, tree planting and weeding bushland areas. Sessions will be on weekdays and weekends in different locations, running from March – December from Nyora to Mirboo North to Foster and lots of places inbetween. Register your interest online <https://forms.gle/YWWa7kDvNdVrNAwo6> , email cassie@sgln.net.au or phone 0448 739 559



CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS WHAT WE EXPECT AT MEENIYAU 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.

Here's what's been happening at MPS



AFL Clinic



Year 5/6 Quantum Excursion



Year 3/4 Bug Blitz Excursion





4 **FREE** Parent webinars by child psychologist: Learn to support your primary school aged child with worry, frustration, managing impulses and tricky behaviour. Zoom into 1 or all 4 – 1 hr duration

1) Tuesday 15th of March 2022 at 7pm (ADEST) - *“Helping Children through the Emotional Challenges of Primary School”* - learn about the challenges children experience with emotions, learning and friendships during primary school - and what they need from parents/caregivers to succeed.

Click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83297305374?pwd=Uzg0REpiN2ZzTG1xRWE3eThrTHJPZz09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 832 9730 5374 Passcode: 732897

2) Monday 28th of March 2022 at 7pm (ADEST) - *“Calm and Confident Kids”* - learn to help children with a tendency towards worry or anxiety - or who are dealing with difficult life situations.

Click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88695370225?pwd=cVhac2JNVUxuVEZqUzVnR1owell1UT09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 886 9537 0225 Passcode: 719597

3) Wednesday 11th of May 2022 at 7pm (AEST) - *“Calm and Connected Kids”* - learn to help children to develop positive friendships and manage peer difficulties which often arise in primary school.

Click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81238889177?pwd=NIRnYVpJbXJxR3R3a1FvYUdjZFBFZz09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 812 3888 9177 Passcode: 159022

4) Wednesday 8th of June 2022 at 7pm (AEST) - *“Calm and Co-operative Kids”* - learn to help children who have a tendency towards frustration, have difficulties managing impulses or feeling unco-operative.

Click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87172614896?pwd=K0YxWU5Yy9aYnZgcjlsakw1RXNRZz09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 871 7261 4896 Passcode: 276561

No RSVP necessary but “zoom in” quickly as only 100 zoom spots available each session.



Presented by clinical child psychologist Kirrilie Smout. Kirrilie has had 25 years experience in working with children and families, is the author of two books about children and mental health and regularly consults with national bodies about child mental health concerns. She is the Director of Calm Kid Central, an online program of courses to help children manage emotional health challenges.

www.calmkidcentral.com (Free using FIRSTYEAR access code).

Any questions please contact Sandra on: sandra@developingminds.net.au

Funded by Gippsland Primary Health Network (GPHN)

