



Edition 10 – April 5TH 2022

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As we reach the end of an historic term it is time to look back and reflect on how far we have come. When the term started, Victoria was bracing for a COVID epidemic. At Meeniyan PS we have escaped this epidemic almost unscathed. We have had less than 10 students contract the virus and only one staff member. Many families have been affected when a household contact has forced them into quarantine, but all things considered, school has been a safe place.

Believe it or not, for our Year 2 students, who are in their third year at school, this was their **first full term of schooling uninterrupted by the COVID pandemic!** As a staff, we know the benefits of a full term of learning. With 10 weeks at school, we are able to give students the time they require to develop routines as well as an understanding of complex topics. Another benefit of this term has been the return of extra-curricular activities. Excursions, sleepovers and multiple sports days have been met with big smiles. Special thanks to our amazing staff for organising these events. On top of this organisation, the teachers have also provided lunch time 'Clubs'. Renegotiating the playground has been confronting for many students and these clubs have provided a welcome change. During the clubs, students have had the opportunity to take on a wide range of activities including Chess, Coding, Finger Knitting, Various Sports, Percussion and Creative Arts.

The 2022 Easter holidays are an important time to rest, reflect and prepare for the remainder of the year. Masks and RATs will be a part of the primary school landscape for a little while yet. Classroom attendance is still very low for many students and Term 2 will be an important time to improve this.

I wish you and your families a great Easter. Remember, students are encouraged to attend the ANZAC Day March in their school uniform at the Meeniyan Hall on ANZAC Day. Simply gather in front of the Hall at 9.15 for the 9.30 march.

Gene VanderZalm

ZOO EXCURSION YEARS 3-6

The Year 3-6 Zoo Excursion is on Friday 29th April (week 1 of term 2). This event has been published on Compass where parents can consent and pay by Friday 22nd April. The cost is \$20 per student. Alternatively, you can pay via Direct Deposit or cash but you will need to provide written consent to the office.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 😊 **Isla B** for her enthusiasm and positive attitude towards new learning.
- 😊 **Oscar B** for his improved attitude and effort towards his learning.
- 😊 **Alanah H** for overcoming her fears to have a terrific sleepover at school.
- 😊 **Pippa F** for showing kindness and resilience in all areas of her learning.
- 😊 **Destiny W** for her hard work and persistence during maths. The growth she has shown during their fractions unit is incredible.
- 😊 **Sam N** for seeking feedback and implementing it without getting disheartened on his fantastic narrative.
- 😊 **Josh A** for being a persistent learner who attempts all challenges to the best of his ability.



HOUSE POINTS

Last weeks winner: Waratah

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

On the weekend I went up to stay with my grown-up adult daughter Lola in her new house. She lives in Coburg and is close to the Merri Creek running trail. I was keen to check it out so Lola and I made a deal – she could walk her dog around the reserve, and I would run 5km.

Well, I quickly got distracted on my run. It was just so beautiful, and I nearly forgot I was only a hop step and jump away from the bustle and fun on Sydney Road. As I was running, I saw a massive community garden, they had a fire burning and vegetables for sale, I saw some scar trees, I ran past the Coburg Olympic pool. I broke my personal best time for 5km and as I hit pause on my tracker my phone went flat.

I was not worried and decided to jog on thinking I was looping back to Lola. As I jogged on, I saw a mum, with a pram and a dog. My heart ached to be back there again. To have prams, day sleeps, milk bottles and fascinating walks in the park or on the beach. I looked at the mum remembered the feeling I had, when I was there – juggling a dog, a pram, and a lukewarm coffee. I remembered how I would look at a cheery runner and my heart would ache for a solo run and a hot coffee!

I ran on, pondering on this and reminded myself to treasure the very MOMENT I am in because those moments pass so quickly.

I got so lost in all this thinking that I found myself in Brunswick, with a flat phone and the creek was no longer on my left or my right. The creek was gone! I had become lost in thought and geographically lost! So, I had to ask people for directions to all the things I had passed on the way. I talked to people with colourful looking dogs armed with vegetables from the market. All this getting lost with a flat phone added richness and joy to my day.

These thoughts were timely in the build-up to the holidays where there are longer days with my gorgeous, wild, active children. A reminder to switch off and look up for the break.

Have a safe, creative, warm, active, connected break.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

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.afl/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



Meeniyau Primary School Beanie Order Form (\$20 each)

Name _____

No. of Beanies _____ Total \$ _____



I have enclosed cash

I have paid via D/D (BSB: 063 518 Acc: 1007 1649) Rec No. _____