



Edition 24 – August 9TH 2022

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The first of our school values 'Diversity' will be a major focus for our Year 5/6 students in the coming weeks. At MPS, Diversity is all about exploring what is different in our world and developing an understanding of these differences. We continually encourage students to try different things and develop an understanding of different perspectives.

Before COVID, developing an understanding of different cultures was an important part of our school curriculum. Students from MPS took several opportunities to meet with different schools across Melbourne and developed an understanding of different cultures and acceptance for others. Likewise, our city counterparts developed some understanding of what it is like to grow up in the country. Now, we are excited to be bringing it back.

On August 25th our 5/6 classes will partake in a unique excursion to Melbourne where they will visit several Jewish sites and enjoy lunch with their pen pals from the Jewish school – Leibler Yavneh College. Staff and students from our two schools have been in regular contact for the past 18 months. After having to cancel this excursion in 2021, we cannot wait to finally discover new things and learn from them.

During Week 8 of this term, our 5/6 students will be putting their interviewing skills to the test when they host a range of different professionals from our region. From doctors to the police workers, our students will learn all about what these jobs entail and the hard work and dedication it took to achieve them.

My special thanks to our tutor Rob Robertson for your energy and drive to make these events happen. Rob's experience in coordinating such experiences has been invaluable. Further thanks to our 5/6 teacher's Eliza Dickie and Pete Harris for incorporating and delivering such important work.

Gene VanderZalm, Principal

SCHOOL CROSSING



Just a reminder to please use the school crossing when dropping your child off in the morning and picking them up after school. We have never had an accident before and we never want one. Using the crossing teaches your child the importance of being orderly at certain times for the safety of everyone. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

CALENDAR

This week 9/8 – 16/8

15th Aug - Student Free day

Upcoming

17th Aug - MPS Parent Connect meeting, 11.30am @ school

19th Aug - Consent due 5/6 Jewish Excursion

23RD Aug - Colouring Comp due

23rd Aug - School Council, 7pm

25th Aug - 5/6 Jewish Exc, 7.15am

26th Aug - Book Week Dress Up Day

31st Aug - Parent Connect meeting, 2pm @ school

9th Sep - Division Athletics (selected students)

15th Sep - School Concert

16th Sep - Last Day Term 3 – 2.20pm dismissal
Footy colours day (gold coin donation)

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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

Book week colouring comp closes Monday 22nd August

Extra copies available from MARC library or school office

Reminders:

- ❖ Consent for 5/6 Jewish Excursion due 19/8. No cost, bus leaves at 7.15am. Consent via Compass.
- ❖ Consent slip for Division Athletics (selected students) due 19/8

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Once, when I was googling one of my favourite ever humans 'Albert Einstein' I found that he once said this 'Common sense is the collection of prejudices acquired by age eighteen' This quote made me exhale with relief as I had always felt so uncomfortable with people stating something was 'common sense'. I worried that it did not allow for people to challenge common thinking or common sense.

I grew up in a time when phrases like 'you run like a girl' or 'don't be such a sissy' or 'boys don't cry' or 'boys will be boys' or 'girls are just like that' were common phrases. These words made us think that girls could not run, boys should not cry or being a sister was a bad thing or it excused unacceptable behaviour just because of a person's gender.

This 'common' language shamed people, it assumed girls were weak and assumed if boys cried they were weak too. It expected boys to be hard and tough and this language silenced girls. Both our boys and girls had limits put on the things they could do with their lives.

It is so exciting hearing the conversations around gender at our school. Boys AND girls can be leaders, girls AND boys can have long hair, girls AND boys can be a stay-at-home parent, boys AND girls can run, climb, play with Lego, play with dolls, play with trucks, play in the sandpit or build wonderful cubbies.

I get goose bumps thinking about the endless opportunities our kids have because they are humans, and they are not limited by the gender stereo types which were once 'common' language.

Equality is for everyone.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Meeniyon Mid - Week Ladies Casual Basketball:

When: Starting August 17th 9.30am 5 weeks of casual Basketball *Cost:* \$2

Further Information: All skill levels welcome, children welcome. Teams decided on day based on numbers, round robin format. Tops Supplied.

Expressions of interest preferred but not essential. Sheree Livingstone 0437 076 953



CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS WHAT WE EXPECT AT MEENIYON 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.