



Edition 31 – October 11th 2022

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Meeniyān Ball

From all accounts the Meeniyān Ball was a great success on Saturday night. This is the first time that an event of this kind has been held by parents from our school. The inspiration for the event was to connect our community and to start our fundraising for a covered area over our basketball court. This project will be expensive, but the \$8,000.00+ raised from the night has made a start towards our total. At the end of this year the school will have a better idea of funds we are able to direct towards this project. From there, we will develop a graphic of funds achieved and funds required to inspire any future fundraising efforts. Special thanks to our parents in the Meeniyān Primary Connect Group who collaborated to put this event together. Further thanks to the many parents and community members who donated goods and services towards this event and for the many parents and friends who supported them by attending the night.

Hats

A reminder that students need to be wearing hats (preferably navy blue and broad brimmed) when outside during play times. As most of you would already know, the UV index right now is regularly reaching a level of High even when days are overcast. At this level, skin can begin burning in just 11 minutes. As someone who has had a melanoma, I can tell you that the damage to my skin was caused in the first 16 years of my life. Please support us in this message by talking with your child about the dangers of too much sun, provide them with a hat and where necessary apply sunscreen at the start of the day.

Gene VanderZalm, Principal

MEENIYAN COMMUNITY BALL

On behalf of the Parent Connect group we would like to thank everyone who came and supported our major event this year. Everyone had such a wonderful night. The dance floor was full, the Meeniyān Hall was lit up with smiles and laughter and it truly had the happiest vibe about it!

A huge thank you to many people who made the night happen from organising, to setting up all day Saturday and packing up at all hours of the morning and well into Sunday. The word on the street was they have never seen the Meeniyān Hall look so fabulous. Thank you to all the families and students of MPS that helped set up on Saturday, we know the kids loved watching the band do their sound check and set up all of their equipment.

Thank you to Kate Thomas, our wonderful MC and to every single family and community member that donated and dug deep into their pockets for a very successful auction raising very close to a whopping \$8,000! A huge thank you to Amanda Calder for organising the Auction to such a high standard and ensuring it ran smoothly! We all felt very privileged to be out Saturday night connecting with our amazing Community.

Sheree Livingstone – Connect Group.

CALENDAR

Current 11/10 – 18/10

- 17th Oct** - Consent/payment for Coal Creek excursion due via Compass
18th Oct - School Council, 7pm

Upcoming

- 19th Oct** - Book Club orders close
20th Oct - Yr 1/2 Coal Creek Excursion
20th Oct - PST Open Night
24th Oct - P-2 swimming program commences
28th Oct - Yr 6 uniform orders due
31st Oct - Student Free Day
1st Nov - Melbourne Cup Day
2nd Nov - 2023 Prep Information evening, 6.30pm
4th Nov - Stuarts Cup
11th Nov - Colour Run
14th Nov - 3-6 Swimming program commences
15th Nov - School Council, 7pm
6th Dec - Statewide Transition Day
6th Dec - School Council EOY
8th Dec - Year 6 Graduation
19th Dec - Final Day for students
20th Dec - Final Day for staff

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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

2023 Prep Enrolments

Parents enrolling a child in Prep for 2023, are reminded to complete their child's enrolment form and return to the office by Friday 28th October.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Tonight, I am sitting outside under a full moon near the Murchison River in Kalbarri WA. The sky is beautiful, and my body is tired after exploring the National Park with my family today. I have just finished listening to my daughter read 'Rabbit Proof Fence' aloud and I have been reflecting on my day.

Today, my breath was taken away by the wildflowers, the gorges, the ocean and the rivers in this area, I felt so lucky to be here, so grateful that I have this opportunity. Yet, there was also a feeling of intrusion. A feeling of walking on ancient lands of the Nanda people, lands which I do not belong to, and I am not entirely sure if I am even invited to be here.

I ponder on this with my kids, we decide that the message from the Nanda people, in the National Park, welcomed people from all over the world – using paintings, totem poles and stories to ensure when we visit, we are informed. While visiting, we are asked to behave in a way which respects the beliefs of the Nanda people.

So, we tread lightly, we treat the land with respect and love. We thank the places we visit and the custodians of each country as we pass through their lands and relish in its beauty.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- ☺ **Riley H** for his ever growing confidence and giving things a go even if they're scary.
- ☺ **Jonathan T** for his effort and attitude shown during all rehearsals and the concert.
- ☺ **Liam T** for taking risks with his writing when attempting to spell unknown words.
- ☺ **Ayme D** for thoughtful and focussed efforts in modelling and recording fractions.
- ☺ **Isla B** for amazing energy and focus at EVERY rehearsal and the school concert.
- ☺ **Lenny P** for his effort learning 'The Locomotion' and his groovy moves at the concert.
- ☺ **Kieran S** for working so hard to improve his math skills and understanding.
- ☺ **Olive S** for asking thoughtful questions to clarify her understanding of a math concept.
- ☺ **Ariya H** for making great (persistent) effort with French.
- ☺ **Tilly B** for great persistence in French!
- ☺ **Hayley D** for being kind and considerate on Grade 5/6 camp.
- ☺ **Tilly B** for the energy and passion she brought to concert rehearsals and performances.



HOUSE POINTS

LAST WEEK: Bluegum

OVERALL: Bluegum

Meeniyan Community Ball



COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Meeniyank United Junior Cricket Training:

Training will commence for U/12's and U/15's at the Meeniyank Recreation Reserve on 11th October. 4pm - 5.30pm. This is a mixed competition for both boys and girls.

If you have participated in the Master Blaster program in the past and are looking to take the next step to begin competitive cricket, please come along to this training session.

For any girls interested in possibly playing in a girls only side, a come and try day is set down for Sunday 9th October from 11am - 12pm for girls aging 9-15.

Enquiries Welcome for either of the programs -

Phil Allen 0408 366 229 (U/12's or U/15's)

Russell Widdows 0415679778 for girls only.



1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Program:

FREE online program for parents of children aged 2 to years. Learn how to resolve difficult behaviour over 3 sessions. Learn how to discipline without yelling or smacking, how to handle challenging behaviours and strategies to strengthen your child's resilience and their relationship with you. Parents will receive a free workbook and a certificate of completion.

When: 11.30am – 2.30pm over three Tuesdays, October 25, November 8 & 15

Bookings: Limited places so bookings are essential

Contact: Mark Brookes, Uniting Gippsland on 5662 5150 gippsland.leongatha.reception@vt.uniting.org

DRUMBEAT Program:

Building resilience in young people for later in life. The DRUMBEAT program uses hand drumming to engage participants in a co-operative group process that explores relationship issues. Structure sessions cover topics such as; values, peer pressure, identity, social harmony, teamwork and emotional expression.

Contact Mark Brookes, Uniting Gippsland 5662 5150 or

0438 204 437 e: mark.brookes@vt.uniting.org



Screening of Embrace Kids:

This is a special event for kids in Bass Coast and South Gippsland. This film will screen at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre on Tuesday 25th October at 6.30pm. The film is rated G and aimed at children aged 8-14. This is the next stage of Taryn Brumfill's Embrace project and hopes to spark and build generational change for healthy body image. For information on the film -

<https://bodyimagemovement.com/embrace/embrace-kids/>

All money raised from the screening will go to YES Youth Hub who provide a safe and fun space for our young people locally. Cost: \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. Book your tickets through TryBooking

[Embrace Kids \[G\] 1h19m Tickets, Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre, Wonthaggi | TryBooking Australia](#)





CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS WHAT WE EXPECT AT MEENIYAN 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.