



Edition 4 – March 21ST 2023

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

With seven weeks of the term already behind us it has been great to reflect back on what we have been through as a school so far. From a very thorough review to NAPLAN, our teachers and students have been extremely busy.

As a staff this year our main focus within our weekly staff meetings will relate to Mathematics teaching and learning. The staff have weekly Professional Learning Community meetings to examine student data, plan and learn as a group. This term the focus has been on Place Value and what that should look like from Grade Prep to Grade 6. Teachers have been discussing the progression of learning and have been completing readings around questioning. The purpose of well-planned questions during learning time is to assist with understanding student learning, to better inform our teaching and set appropriate challenges for students.

We are also extremely fortunate to have two staff members participating in the Primary Maths Science Specialist program this year. Both Donna R and Eliza have been busy two days a week upskilling themselves. The work these two have been doing is already transferring into all classrooms, where students have been completing a range of various activities that cater for all their specific needs.

As the Learning Specialist at MPS it has been brilliant to then have the opportunity to visit all classrooms to see what this looks like in the classroom each week. The discussions and learning from our weekly meetings are helping maintain the strong culture of collaborative learning we have at MPS, and most importantly the learning of our students.

Pete Harris, Learning Specialist

2023 CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to those families who have paid their 2023 Curriculum Contributions. It's **never** too late to make a contribution if you have not yet done so. Payments can be made either by Direct Deposit into our account or cash/EFTPOS at the office. The contribution amount for 2023 is \$150 per child and \$20 per family for voluntary grounds levy. If you are unsure if you have paid this or not, feel free to enquire at the office or send us an email (meeniyan.ps@education.vic.gov.au) and we'll check for you 😊

FREE DRESS AND CRAZY HAIR DAY



This Friday, 24th March, JAT will run a fun, Free Dress and Crazy Hair Day to celebrate national harmony week. We encourage you to wear clothes with bright colours. There will be **no** gold coin donation because the focus is on being connected and having fun.

The Junior Action Team (JAT)

CALENDAR

Current 21/3 – 04/04

23rd Mar - 1/2 dinner & Yr 2 sleepover

24th Mar - Free dress/crazy hair day

31st Mar - Waratah Sports Yr 3-6

3rd Apr - Easter Raffle Tickets due in

4th Apr - 5/6 Camp deposit & forms due

4th Apr - 3/4 Camp instalment & forms due

Upcoming

5th Apr - District Athletics

6th Apr - Easter Hat Parade

6th Apr - Last day Term 1, 2.30pm dismissal

Term 2

24th Apr - Term 2, Pupil Free Day

25th Apr - ANZAC Day (pupil free)

3rd - 5th May - 3/4 Wilson's Prom Camp

16th May - MPS Cross Country

23rd May - School Council, 7pm

24th – 26th May - 5/6 Melbourne camp

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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

EASTER RAFFLE



Raffle tickets are due back to school by Monday 3rd April.

Donations for the raffle can be placed in the tub at the school office.

CAMP FORMS AND PAYMENT

Notes for the Year 5 / 6 Melbourne camp have gone home with students today. Please complete and return all forms and payments by their due dates:

4th April – Deposit (or full payment) / Consent / Medical / Rules

2nd May – 2nd instalment

16th May – Final payment

Dates to remember for Year 3 / 4 Prom camp organisation:

TODAY - Expression of Intent and \$40 deposit

4th April – 2nd instalment and Permission / Medical / Camp Rules

26th April – Final payment

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

This weekend my kids were competing in a big swimming event in Melbourne. At this event the kids are treated like athletes, they are given an athletes pass to enter the pool deck and parents cannot join them.

They have a team manager and a coach down there supporting them in being race ready. Parents sit up in the grandstand and cheer on each other's kids and put our hands up to help with the timekeeping. For the kids it is so exciting and humbling at the same time. Sometimes they will get a PB or a medal and other times they will add time or get disqualified for getting the stroke wrong.

They run all the heats on Saturday and then the top 10 competitors from each event swim in a final on the Sunday. By this time the competition is really tight and there can be a second between 1st and 10th place.

One second. In that tiny little second, these kids can all tap that wall within milliseconds of each other and this defines who gets the medal.

So, a day at a swim meet is based around seconds. The events are short but the moments mean something. In a 'moment' one of our swimmers was struggling with her butterfly, our club started cheering her on, LOUD and I could feel the protective roar of her team cheering and then the clubs around us cheering and clapping for her too. Then she finished and we all wiped away our tears of pride because she had just done something hard and was beaming because she had.

And then the day went on, that moment lasting no more than 20 seconds.

This all made me think of all the moments that create a lifetime, a childhood. How moments in time can transform our lives, how some moments can be like a light switching on or learning from a mistake.

It made me think how quickly we move from one moment to another and how in the big picture, our moments are a flicker of change. It made me think of the risk we take when we put ourselves out there in our learning or sport or friendships and how quickly what can seem really difficult becomes easier or what seems really scary becomes comfortable – all for giving it a shot.

Life is full of precious little moments, use them bravely!

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Meeniyah and District Volleyball:

We are having 3 practice nights on the 22nd, 29th March and 5th April at the Meeniyah Stadium at 7pm. If you are interested, come along and try it out. There is not charge for the practice nights.

Age will depend on skill level but most likely to start at Grade 6 and up. All levels of players welcome, past and new.

If enough people are interested, the Comp will possibly start the second week of school term (date to be confirmed). For further information contact: Shane 0427 647 219 or Jess 0439 102 481.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK



Eloise O'Brien

3/4 Teacher

What were you doing before coming to MPS?

I taught at Yinnar South PS in the Senior room – Grades 2-6

What are you looking forward to this year at MPS?

Working with a team of teachers and getting to know how my class learns

Where did you grow up?

St. Kilda

One word to describe you would be...

Patient

What is something you have always wanted to try?

Canyoning in Tasmania

What was your favourite bedtime story as a child?

Ollie's ski trip

What is your favourite past time?

Motorbike riding and bush walking

What is your favourite holiday destination?

Mallacoota



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.