



Edition 6 – May 2ND 2023

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The start of Term 2 has provided several highlights from our amazing students.

ANZAC day is quickly becoming our 'national day of pride' and the way that our students represented the school at the Meeniyan service was exemplary. The morning started with Luka carrying the Victorian flag alongside other flag bearers and leading us through the ANZAC march. Close to 30 students participated in the march with a few others looking on from the sidelines. What was particularly pleasing this year was that some students were joined by family representatives who have served for Australia.



Next, we had several speeches from different dignitaries including two speeches from Grade 6 students Alastair and Josh. Both boys researched local Meeniyan soldiers who are listed on the epitaph in the main street and did a fantastic job of taking the information and sharing it in a way that was relatable for all. Afterwards, a number of community members approached myself and the boys to share their thanks. This presentation which is offered to students when they are in Grade 6 has become a fine tradition of our school and one that we hope to continue for many years to come.

Congratulations to the 3/4 students who represented the school at our District Sports last Friday. The student's attitude and sportsmanship were on full display and a pleasure to be a part of. Special acknowledgement must go to Joseph on winning the '10 year old Boys Age Champion'. Joseph consistently demonstrates the qualities of a champion and it is just reward that he received this medal. Any students who received a first place ribbon will now move on to the Division Sports in late term 3.

Gene VanderZalm, Principal

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos were distributed to students at the end of last term. If you have any queries or issues with your photos, please contact Foons Photographics directly on 5672 1411.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS FOR PURCHASE:

Families who wish to purchase the following photos can do so by sending cash (as this gets given directly to Foons) in a clearly labelled envelope to the school office.

- School Leaders
- School Captains
- House Captains
- Junior Action Team Leaders

These photos are on display in the school foyer and can be purchased in two sizes. 8x10" photos are \$27 each and 6x8" photos are \$22 each. Orders close Friday 12th May.

CALENDAR

Current 2/5 – 16/5

- 2nd May** - Melbourne Camp instalment due
- 3rd - 5th May** - 3/4 Wilson's Prom Camp
- 12th May** - Year 7 applications due
- 12th May** - Book club orders close 9am
- 12th May** - School photo orders due
- 16th May** - MPS Cross Country
- 16th May** - Melbourne Camp final payment due

Upcoming

- 23rd May** - School Council, 7pm
- 24th – 26th May** - 5/6 Melbourne camp
- 5th June** - Student Free day
- 12th June** - Monarch's Official Birthday Public Holiday (student free)
- 20th June** - School Council, 7pm
- 23rd June** - Last day Term 2, 2.30pm dismissal

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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



BOOK CLUB

Book Club catalogues have been distributed today. Please place all order via the LOOP app or Scholastic website by Friday 12th May, 9am.

2024 YEAR 7 PLACEMENT FORMS

Students in Year 6 will have received their Year 7 placement packs with the newsletter today. Parents are required to read the information booklet and complete the Year 7 application attached. This must be returned to school by **Friday 12th May even** if your child will be attending a non-government school.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

My cousins have this holiday house in the Gippsland Lakes, at the Barrier Landing, you can only reach the house by boat. We meet the boat in Lakes Entrance and load all our gear into it and then get dropped at the jetty, the kids run up the black dirt sand track to the house and grab the trolley to put all a gear on to carry back to the house.

Once we are unpacked we switch off. I have come here for holidays with my cousins for my whole life, it is amazing – beach one side, lake the other. As kids we never wore shoes on 'The Barrier' and we always smelt of campfire smoke and had sand in our bunk beds. History repeats itself when I meet my cousins here and the kids do all the things we used to do.

We had so much freedom and all I ever wanted to do was keep up with my big cousin Rebecca. She could do the best pike dive off the jetty, she could easily swim out to the sand bar in wild ocean and she always had the best ideas for fun.

On the beach we had a magic spot, we named it Sun Valley. Sun Valley was about 1.5km down the beach away from EVERYONE. We created an amazing cubby and imagination game which lasted for days. We would leave in the morning and play there for most of the day.

One afternoon at Sun Valley, Rebecca, our friend Peppy and I all swam out to the sandbar. It was easy for the older girls, but it was hard for me, really hard but I was so desperate to keep up with them I kept swimming past my ability. Once I got to the sandbar the current was ripping the water off the sandbar and I was not strong enough to hold my ground. I was pulled to my knees and the current was ripping me off the sandbar. I was panicked and terrified. We were 1.5km away from any adults and I was in serious trouble.

My younger cousin and sister had to run all the way back to the house for help and fortunately, before the adults even arrived the older girls were able to safely bring me to shore. And this is where I learned about setting my own limits – just because everyone else is doing it, it does not mean it is good for me.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer



2023 Easter Hat Parade Winners



MPS Playground Builders and Architects

PROFILE OF THE WEEK



Gemma Dixon
Grade 1/2 Teacher

What were you doing before MPS?
Working in Childcare and studying

What are you looking forward to this year at MPS?

The Grade 1 Dinner / Grade 2 sleepover and meeting everyone in the school community

Where did you grow up?
Korumburra

One word to describe you would be...
Friendly

What is something you have always wanted to try?
Bungee Jumping

What was your favourite bedtime story as a child?
The Pocket Dogs

What is your favourite past time?
Playing sport – basketball and netball

What is your favourite holiday destination?
Somewhere warm like Qld!

Meenivan PS
Beanies available
for purchase from
the office @
\$20 each





MEENIYAN TIE CLUB

A small portion of the Meeniyian Tie Club gathered here in the rainbow room for a photo shoot. They are Thomas, Monty, Jacob, Alastair and Bianca (left to right). The Meeniyian Tie Club represents the values of Meeniyian Primary School: **D**iversity **R**espect **I**ntegrity **V**oice **E**xpectations. It also embraces circles of friendship. In the following months, the Meeniyian Tie Club plans to organize guest speakers to visit our school to speak to our students. Through these special events we hope to inspire our fellow Meeniyian Primary School students.

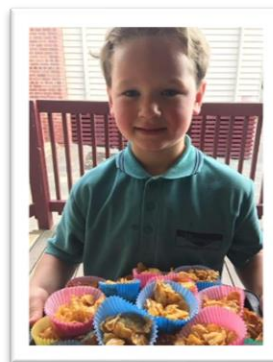
-Jacob T (Meeniyian Tie Club representative)



Meeniyian 2023



Cooper did some cooking with Ms Giliam and Fergus as his prize from the happy bucket. He was put in the draw for being resilient on the footy field at lunchtime – great nomination Josh!



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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

LSC Year 7 Information and Open Morning:

Monday 8th May – 9am start beginning in the Performing Arts Centre (PAC). Students will assist with directions (as you arrive).

All Grade 4, 5 & 6 students and families welcome.

Meeniyán Preschool Information Evening:

Meeniyán Preschool invites all new and returning families to an information evening for children enrolling in 3 year old and 4 year old kinder in 2024.

When: Wednesday May 17th

Time: 7:00pm

Where: Meeniyán Preschool

The information session will include an overview of our kinder programs, providing families with the opportunity to ask questions and have a look around. Families will have the opportunity to discuss with our educators about their child/ren and their readiness for kinder.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact Meeniyán Preschool, ph: 5664 7316 or e: meeniyán@kindergarten.vic.gov.au



Meeniyán Auskick:

Register now for AusKick 2022! Ages 5-12 yrs. Season begins Monday 1st May and runs for 10 weeks. Sessions run from 4 - 5pm, with Walking School Bus available to lead kids to Meeniyán Rec Reserve after school.

Register via link: <https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/b5be19> and be sure to join the Meeniyán AusKick

Facebook page to stay up to date. For further information contact Steve Trotman on 0438 762 068 or to add your child to the Walking School Bus contact Emma Trotman on 0448 438 610

Bass Coast Softball:

Bass Coast Softball is coming! A 5-week Spotlight on Softball Program is being held for all ages from 7 year upwards! Yes, kids and adults.

When: Friday 5th May (until 2nd June)

Time: 5pm – 6.30pm

Where: Bass Recreation Reserve

Thanks to the VicHealth's Future Healthy Big Connect funding we can provide Bass Coast Softball with enough equipment for FOUR TEAMS to function in a competition, and two diamonds to be set up.

Coaches will initially include Softball Victoria staff, and any community members who would like to step up to the plate and help out!

To join the 'spotlight on softball' fun, please register here: <https://www.softballvic.org.au/registration/>

Because of the Big Connect funding:

You do NOT need to bring or purchase any equipment – everything is provided for you & will belong to Bass Coast Softball when it's operational

1. We are able to keep the cost of participating very low – only \$45 for Senior (18+) & \$35 for Juniors (17U) for the 5 week program

This will be the beginning of a healthy future for Bass Coast Softball and we really look forward to seeing you all at Bass Recreation Reserve.

If you have any questions or comments, please email jo.schutt@softball.org or call on 0425 785 161.