



Edition 7 – May 16TH 2023

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

What an amazing place Meeniyan Primary is 😊

In the past week or so we have obviously been decimated with a range of different illnesses but that hasn't dampened our spirits or diminished our opportunities to learn.

On Friday we had a visit from the highly engaging Mark McBride who worked across all the classes for over two hours. Mark has illustrated countless texts but is perhaps most well-known as the illustrator of the Deltora Quest series. With his Irish accent a pleasure to listen to, Mark shared many amazing pictures with the students and taught us some of the finer skills of being an illustrator.

This Thursday as a part of Careers Week, we welcome around ten people from varied careers to share what their work entails with the Year 5 and 6 students. We haven't undertaken this Q&A for a couple of years, but we know from past sessions, that the students get a buzz from hearing about different employment opportunities and things that might interest them. On this same day, all students from Prep-6 will be dressing up as a career of their choice.

Finally, I am thrilled to announce that the school was successful in obtaining a \$25,000 grant to complete our amphitheatre and other landscaping projects. The school is gradually developing our base of outdoor learning facilities to not only minimise the spread of viruses but make learning more engaging for all.

Gene VanderZalm, Principal

Careers Day

On Thursday 18th May, the Junior Action Team have organised a careers day where you can come to school dressed up as what you want to be when you grow up. We are going to have guest speakers come and talk about their career (5/6 only). There will be a:

- Farmer
- University worker
- Factory trainer
- Farrier
- Builder
- And more!

Taylor and Jacob, Junior Action Team

CALENDAR

Current 16/5 – 30/5

- 16th May - MPS Cross Country
- 16th May - Melbourne Camp final payment due
- 19th May - Winter Sports 5/6
- 23rd May - School Council, 7pm
- 24th – 26th May - 5/6 Melbourne camp

Upcoming

- 31st May - PST Open Night, 3.30-5pm
- 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.

Meeniyan PS Beanies available for purchase from the office \$20



Careers Day costume ideas....

Teacher	Etymologist	Builder	Doctor	Vet	Singer	Actor	Chef	Biologist
Author / illustrator	Hair dresser	Lawyer	Stylist	Fashion designer	Plumber			
Road worker	Mythologist	Photographer	Technician	Mechanic	Emergency worker			
DJ	Gardener	Artist	TV superstar	Physicist	Video game designer	Youtuber		

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Yesterday I celebrated my 20th Mother's Day, 20 years of homemade craft, flowers from neighbours' gardens and handwritten cards. I would say 20 years of breakfast in bed but a number of those years I was a single mum with a young child, and she could not make the breaky – instead we would pack a picnic and go exploring on Mother's Day.

I had often hoped for Mother's Day to be relaxing but yesterday I decided to let go of all expectations and spent the day just enjoying the wild chaos of my kids. My eldest is moving to Tasmania on Thursday, so Annie, Daisy and I went up to Coburg to see her one last time before she goes. I knew what I was in for, her share house was filled with half packed boxes and things everywhere.

So, we pulled our sleeves up and we all got packing. We shuffled around each other, the youngest in roller skates, middle girl in one of her big sister's dresses, the dog following sniffing around the cheese, bread and dips. It was comfortable and made sense that it would be the 4 of us sorting through her things – with noise and colour.

And then our time was up. We collected the last load of drying from the laundromat and it was time to say our goodbyes. I stood out the front of my wild 20-year-old daughters share house with her henna red hair and her wings ready to fly and I sobbed because I gave her those wings and now, she is going to use them!

I drove home with my younger girls, they bubbled with the sound of a 9 and 11-year-old and I desperately wanted to pause time, to hold them here for a little bit longer! Instead, we sang Adam Newling songs and marvelled at the city lights - and I cherished the chaos of being mother to my wild daughters!

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

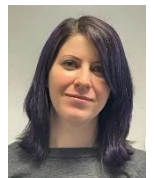
Science



Hamish and Cooper were very impressed with the results of their Skittles science experiment!

PROFILE OF THE WEEK

Samantha Bush - 5/6 Teacher



What were you doing before coming to MPS? I was teaching at Korumburra PS as a Grade 5 teacher

What are you looking forward to this year at MPS? Being a part of the MPS school and wider Meeniyah community, as well as seeing our marvellous students grow and achieve

Where did you grow up? Eastern suburbs of Melbourne, then moved to Phillip Island to start my teaching career

One word to describe you would be... Compassionate

What is something you have always wanted to try? Making prints of my artwork and selling them

What was your favourite bedtime story as a child? Little Red Riding Hood

What is your favourite past time? Drawing, sketching, painting, boxing and playing my Playstation 5

What is your favourite holiday destination? It's hard to decide between Fiji and France!

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

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

2024 Kinder enrolments now open:

To register your child for three and four year old kindergarten for next year, visit the South Gippsland Shire Council website from 1st May and complete a registration form nominating your kindergarten preferences. To be included in the first round offers you must register by 30th June.

You can register at: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/centralenrolment For more information, please phone 5662 9200 or text your contact details to 0447 965 850 and we will call you back.

Sessions for Distance Runners:

Craig Couper (PE teacher at Fish Creek, Foster & Toora) is running training sessions at Foster Secondary College for distance runners of all ages and abilities. These sessions will be held at the Foster Secondary College on a Monday 3.45 – 4.30pm and at Foster Primary School on a Thursday 3.45 – 4.30pm (meet at the oval playground).



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.