



Edition 11 – July 25TH 2023

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



The school recently appointed Kylie Mitchell to the role of Business Manager. Kylie is a highly credentialed replacement after years working in Administration. For the past 12 years she has been working at Foster Primary School as the Principal's personal assistant/administration officer. We welcome Kylie into our team and the MPS community.

I was reflecting on what has been happening for the first two weeks of Term 3 and the thing that stood out to me the most was how lucky we are to have the staff we do at MPS.

ES staff go above and beyond to ensure they support classroom teachers and students in and out of the classroom every day. Every recess or lunchtime ES staff are outside monitoring and engaging with our students, or working behind the scenes in the office to ensure our school keeps running along smoothly. We are also lucky they are so committed to the growth of our students, supporting students through intervention, small group tasks or one on one.

Our teaching staff have been organising and participating in many meetings already this term. From staying late for Parent Teacher Interviews, to Staff Meetings, Professional Learning Community Meetings and all the informal and incidental meetings and emails that take place each day, they go above and beyond.

I have been in awe of their passion and commitment to ensuring that our students receive the very best. We need to make sure we slow down every now and then and appreciate what it is they do 😊

Pete Harris, Learning Specialist

MOVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

I have had a couple of opportunities in mind for our Grade 3-6 students and so I would love to have expressions of interests no later than this Wednesday 26th July so I can get these up and running if there is enough interest.

The first is a Futsal (Indoor soccer) Tournament in Traralgon on Wednesday August 9th from 9am-3:30pm. Most likely this may need to be supported by parents depending on the level of interest and staff availability.

The second is The Great Victorian Bike Ride starting at Sale on Thursday November 30th and riding to camp in Port Albert on the Friday (101km) Fish Creek on the Saturday (78km) and finishing in Wonthaggi on Sunday December 3rd (59km). If registered for this ride by August 13th the cost for all food, support, entertainment will be \$347 a child. If registering later \$385. Parents are welcome to accompany at their own expense.

If your child is interested in either of these opportunities can you please let me know ASAP.

Kind Regards,
Bec Browne

CALENDAR

Current 25/7 – 8/8

- 27th July - Book club orders due
- 28th July - 2024 Prep enrolments due
- 31st July - Bread & Pickles reopen for lunch orders
- 4th Aug - Student Disco – gold coin donation

Upcoming

- 14th Aug - Curriculum Day (Pupil Free)
- 22nd Aug - School Council, 6pm
- 13th Sep - School Concert
- 14th Sep - Division Athletics
- 15th Sep - Last day term 3,
2.30pm dismissal

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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

We still have Meeniyan PS
Beanies available for purchase
from the office - \$20 each



RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Last Friday I had a phone call from my daughters' school. She had come off the playground in a game of tag and had given herself a fractured foot and a compound fracture in her arm

Teachers are in an industry where we come across broken bones, my daughters break was not pretty and when I saw it I was reminded of the other time I had come across a break like this, when I was teaching out bush in the NT. As I followed the Ambulance to Traralgon, I pondered on the two different scenarios for a similar break.

My daughter travelled by ambulance with me following behind with a full tank of fuel in a reliable car, on arrival she had access to pain relief, X-rays, excellent doctors and specialists and nurses caring for her. By 7pm that evening she had her arm straightened, she had surgery and she had bed, with me in a little fold out chair next to her. We listened to a talking book in our first language and quietly went to sleep. Each day she improved a little bit more in the hospital and on day 3 safely drove to our warm little home in Fish Creek. All her mates have spoiled her and her teachers too.

The little human who had the same break out bush had a different story. At the time he was between houses and families, he was a new student to our school and I did not even know his last name. I walked him to the clinic where he waited for most of the day for transportation to Alice Springs hospital, with excellent doctors, nurses and specialists but all treatment was done in English which was not his first language. After treatment, his situation had not changed much, so he was not coming home to the security that my daughter and I came home to.

It made me think about the 'gap' in our country and while I am incredibly grateful for the excellent care my daughter received, my heart also hurts that this is not the case for all children across Australia.

I listened to a story by a doctor recently and she said 'once you have been in the gap, you can't not do anything about it'.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

STUDENT DISCO

The Parent Connect Group have organised a whole school Disco to be held at the Youth Hall on Friday 4th August from 2pm to 3pm. School will remain as normal for the day until 2pm.

The Junior Action Team has been busy creating posters for the Disco and has also opted for a 'Pick your favourite decade' dress up for the day. Students wear their disco outfit to school, they do not need to wear school uniform this day.

Parents may like to run through the memories of disco trends to help your children decide which decade they want to dress in.

There was the 50's rock 'n' roll slicked hair and leather jacket fashion. The 60's Flower Power, 70's funk era with big hair and bell bottoms, 80's big glasses, leg warmers and parachute outfits. Then the 90's to today's trend which almost anything goes. You can get creative and have some fun with your favourite fashion.

This is a gold coin donation event that will assist the hiring of a smoke machine, bubble machine and lazer light display.

If you have any queries about the Disco, please contact your child's teacher or Parent Connect Member and School Council Member Tamara Symington on 0497 647 320



Our new Environmental Officers, Sophie and Angus, keeping MPS litter free!

Final Reminder

2024 Prep enrolments
due this Friday, 28th July



The Grade 5/6 Mathematical Research Groups Findings

Last week as part of our research we collected all packaging from every grade at recess. Today we counted all the packaging and discovered the following results;

Total amount of packaging was 107 pieces in one day. If we multiply this by a week, that means there would be 535 pieces of rubbish, per month 2140, per 6 months 12,840 pieces of rubbish and per school year 22,470 pieces of rubbish and this is only recess. We have now put bins around the school to remind students to place all their rubbish in the recycle bins. It is extremely important that we all respect our school grounds and place rubbish in the recycle bins. Also if you see some rubbish on the ground STOP and pick it up.

James, Liam, Thomas, Harriet and Monty.

Part of the Mathematical Research Group Team pictured right.



COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Fishy Stories Writing Challenge 2023:

The writing challenge is open to students from Grade 1 to Year 8 from across Australia and encourages imagination and creativity.

An exciting change this year is the inclusion of picture stories as part of the writing challenge!

Twenty stories will be selected from entries and performed at the Fish Creek Children's Festival of Stories in November 2023.

Save the date! Fishy Stories Festival 18-19 November 2023.

Find out more at fishystories.org



TO ENTER OR FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT OUR 2023 WRITING
CHALLENGE, SCAN HERE!



Fishy Stories

FISH CREEK CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL OF STORIES

MDU Junior Disco Night:

When: Saturday 12th August Time: Doors open 6.00pm – 9.00pm

Cost: \$15 per person – drinks and food included

DJ Music and Lighting

Pedal and Plant 2023:

Join South Gippsland Landcare Network for a fun-filled day to plant 1500 native plants along the Great Southern Rail Trail. Cycle or walk from Loch or Korumburra and stop at Jeetho where they will plant 1500 seedlings and enjoy a light morning tea and lunch.

When: Sunday 6th August, 10am-3pm

Where: Meet and park at Jeetho Hall, 207 Jeetho Road, Jeetho

Registration: for planning and catering purposes please register at

<https://pedalplant.eventbrite.com.au>

Information: jane@sgin.net.au or ph 0419 761 531



1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Program:

FREE live Online program for parent of children aged 2 to 12. You can do this highly sought after program live online from the comfort of your own home!

When: 11.30 – 2.30 over 3 Thursdays – Aug 31st, Sep 7th, Sep 14th 2023

Cost: Free

Bookings: Essential!! Applications close Monday 28th August.

Contact: Uniting Gippsland, 3 Church Street, Leongatha

Ph; 5662 5150 or e; gippsland.leongatha.reception@vt.uniting.org

In 3 sessions parents will learn how to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking; how to handle difficult behaviours; strategies for encouraging good behaviours and how to strengthen your relationship with your child.



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.