



# School News



Edition 15 – October 3<sup>RD</sup> 2023

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## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to the final term of 2023!

This term is packed full of different activities and highlights and perhaps what we as a staff are most looking forward to is a trialled change to our daily timetable. From Oct 23 to Nov 2 the school will be trialling a system that comes from Finland (widely regarded as the world's best education system) where students and teachers have smaller, regular breaks throughout the day. In this system, classes run for an hour and are then followed by recess breaks of 15 min and one lunch of 35 minutes at 12.30pm.

We anticipate benefits of this system are students being more alert and energised. Both students and teachers are also expected to benefit from focussing on a single class at a time before breaking and then focussing on another. Through our research we have spoken to different schools in Melbourne who use this system and they have all provided glowing reports on the changes to their students learning and the more explicit nature in their teachers teaching. We look forward to this trial later in the month and will let you know how it goes.

## School Communication

Clear communication channels are critical to the success of any organisation. The school is always reviewing our communication methods and we listen to the feedback of our key stakeholders. Late last term we added a school Facebook page as a means of sharing highlights and providing reminders.

The intended use of each communication mode are as follows:

*Newsletter – Key dates, Key school messages and other general school business*

*Compass – Student attendance, excursion/camp forms*

*School Website – Reference information regarding the school as well resource centre for past newsletters*

*Facebook – showcase of highlights and short term reminders*

Later this term we will survey families about which methods they utilise and see as beneficial going forward.

**Gene VanderZalm, Principal**

## SOCIAL MEDIA CONSENT

Given that we are now using Facebook, we would like to update our parent permission regarding the use of your children's photos in the public domain. At the end of the newsletter is a Consent form for parents/carers to complete detailing which platforms you give permission for your children's name/photo to appear on. Please return this form to school by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

## HATS

As we head into the warm months, students must wear a hat when outside during recess, lunch and sporting activities. As per our Sunsmart Policy, students without a hat will be required to stay in the undercover areas during these times.

## CALENDAR

### Current 3/10 – 17/10

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct - Swimming payment consent due via Compass  
Competency level due to office
- 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Oct P-2 swimming program
- 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Oct 3-6 swimming program
- 17<sup>th</sup> Oct - School Council, 6pm

### Upcoming

- 19<sup>th</sup> Oct - PST Open Night (TBC)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Oct - Trivia Night
- 20<sup>th</sup> Oct - Book Club orders close
- 31<sup>st</sup> Oct - Year 6 uniform orders due, 9am
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov - Stuart's Cup house sports
- 6<sup>th</sup> Nov - Student Free Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> Nov - Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
- 14<sup>th</sup> Nov - School Council, 6pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> Nov - Curriculum Day (pupil free)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dec - School Council, EoY
- 7<sup>th</sup> Dec - Yr 6 Graduation
- 12<sup>th</sup> Dec - Statewide Transition Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> Dec - Yr 6 Pool Party
- 15<sup>th</sup> Dec - Class parties
- 19<sup>th</sup> Dec - Last day for students
- 20<sup>th</sup> Dec - Last day Term 4, Pupil free

### **CLASS OF 2024 UNIFORM**

Order forms for next year's Grade 6 uniform items have gone home today. Sample sizes are now on display in the office foyer for students to try on. Please remember to carefully consider both sizing & quantity required for **all** of next year as this will be the one and only order placed with the company. There will be **no** exchanges or further orders placed next year.

### **STUART'S CUP SPORTS**

Our Stuarts' Cup house sports will be held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at the Meeniyah Rec Reserve starting at 10am. Students are asked to wear a t-shirt in their house colours, yellow (Wattle), red (Waratah) and blue (Bluegum). Parents/Carers are welcome to bring a chair and watch the students compete in a mixture of events including, tabloid sports, sprints, distance events, relays and ball games. Students come to school at the usual time and will leave school at 9.20, walking as a group to the Rec Reserve. At the end of the sports, parents can take their children home with them but please notify your child's teacher before taking them. More information will go home with the next newsletter.



Lloyd received a letter from the Hawthorn FC congratulating him on his great effort in football. Well done Lloyd.

### **BOOK CLUB**

Issue 7 catalogues have been distributed today. Orders must be placed by 9am, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October.

### **PYJAMA DAY**

Last term we joined many other local schools in wearing our pyjamas to school as part of the "Gippsland Biggest PJ Day". MPS raised \$207.55 to contribute to the 'Better Life for Foster Kids' charity.

### **AUCTION ITEMS REQUEST**

Our Parent Connect Group are requesting donations for the Auction at our upcoming Trivia Night. If you are able to make a donation, please email [meeniyah.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:meeniyah.ps@education.vic.gov.au) with the details.

### **RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS**

When my children are at the cusp of their teen years and completing Grade 6, I take them on a journey to where they are born. Lola and I camped through Tassie for her trip and right now I am on Annie-Jean's trip through Central Australia – I will have to get creative for Daisy as she was born in Foster.

Annie and I head off on our trip filled with excitement and some nerves. The media has been unkind to Alice Springs and communities surrounding and I was so scared of arriving here seeing the town I love so much broken.

The words of 'Goanna' in the song Solid Rock have been in my head on repeat for the whole trip 'nothing out here changes, not in a hurry anyway.' Ancient languages sing through the wind, above politics, above the scraps the media print. The languages weave through rocks with stories and ghost gums clinging to rock faces.

Women paint their stories with pride, seated in the beautiful red sand, with children and dogs running around and the song of language rises and falls with the wind.

This town is not broken, a contradiction of change and old are on the breeze and the future is hopeful.

We're standing on sacred ground – what a privilege.

*Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer*

### **GARLIC FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS**

We are looking for volunteers to run the kids activities on the oval at the Garlic Festival next year, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February. We only ask for two hours of your time and you will get free entry into the festival! Bring your kids along to enjoy the activities on offer. Activities will include veggie sculpture, billy cart trials, tattoos and mini golf. MPS will be running this as a fundraiser so the more parents/carers we can get, the shorter the timeslot for each person will need to be and the more rewarding for our school. Please contact the school via email or phone to put your name down.

## 5/6 JEWISH EXCURSION



## COMMUNITY NEWS

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

### Corner Inlet Swimming Club:

The Corner Inlet Swimming Club (CISC) welcomes existing and new families to the start of our 2023/2024 training season commencing Term 4, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**When:** Mondays Junior squad 5.30 – 6.30pm Senior Squad 5.30 - 7.00pm  
Fridays Junior squad 4.00 – 5.00pm Senior Squad 4.00 – 5.30pm

**Where:** Toora Swimming Pool

**Who:** 7yo to 100+ yo who can competently swim 2 laps of the pool in 3 strokes

**Contact:** Bree 0407 354 618 or Jess 0413 954 333 e: [dolphiniscisc@gmail.com](mailto:dolphiniscisc@gmail.com)

Facebook - Dolphins – Corner Inlet Swimming Club

Come and try, first session is FREE (pool entry fee still applies)



MEENIYAN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
INVITES YOU TO A



# TRIVIA NIGHT!



Fundraiser for Science and Tech Resources

**FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2023**

MEENIYAN MEMORIAL HALL

DOORS OPEN @ 6PM

PRE EVENING ENTERTAINMENT BY

FIONA CURRAM

TRIVIA @ 7PM

ADULTS ONLY EVENING

BYO DRINKS AND NIBBLES



GATHER YOUR TEAM OF 10 OR  
SINGLES ARE WELCOME.

\$20 PER PERSON

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH  
MEENIYAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

ON 5664 7382 OR FOR ANY QUERIES CONTACT  
TAMARA SYMINGTON 0497647320



SILENT AUCTION, PRIZES, GAMES AND TRIVIA.

**DON'T MISS THE FUN!**



# 2023 SOCIAL MEDIA/ WEBSITE CONSENT FORM

**Please return by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level \_\_\_\_\_

The purpose of our school website is to promote the quality education that takes place at our school and to allow parents and the community another avenue through which to connect to our students' learning. We have recently created a school Facebook page to share information, news and photos of the school's day to day operations with our parents and families.

During a school year, students are often photographed involved in class or whole school activities. We seek your permission for these photographs to be included in our weekly school newsletter, website and our Facebook page, or occasionally in the local newspapers.

## Student Photographs and Names

I give permission for my child/ren's work, photo & first name to appear in the following public domains:

- ☐ School Newsletter
- ☐ School Website
- ☐ Meeniyen Community Newsletter
- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Local Newspapers

I give permission for my child to electronically send and store their work for educational purposes according to our Acceptable Use of Technology Policy.

☐ YES

☐ NO

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian)

Date \_\_\_\_\_