



Edition 4 – March 19th 2024

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As Willy Wonka said, "So shines a good deed in a weary world..."

At Meeniyian Primary this week we have been celebrating our very own Random Act of Kindness (RAK) Week. The last few weeks have thrown more than a few challenges our way so it has been nice to step back for a minute and consider how we might make life a little easier for someone else.

The week was kickstarted by a donation from a family in our school community. They put a proposal to Francesco at Trulli's to provide a surprise gelato to each of the students. I announced at Friday's assembly that we would be having a special surprise on Monday and the students didn't forget. I was met on Monday morning by wave after wave of students wanting to know what the surprise is. In hindsight, I should have just made it a true surprise on the day, but we've never had such good attendance 😊 As well as the gelato, staff have all selected another staff members name to conduct a RAK for. Classes are also putting their own little spin on the theme. RAK is not about spending a lot of money on some major gift; it is simply taking the time to get creative and do something that is going to put a smile on another person's face. A wonderful reminder in our fast-paced world.

Special thanks to our anonymous family for spoiling us with gelato and to Francesco and the Trulli team for the time and efforts you put into supporting this event. And thank you to Roald Dahl, the wordsmith behind Mr Wonka, for providing a welcome reminder on what is truly important in this life.

Gene VanderZalm, Principal

EASTER RAFFLE

Raffle tickets and colouring competition entries are due to school Tuesday 26th March. Extra raffle tickets are available from the office. We thank those families who have already made a donation for the raffle prizes, we are hoping to still get prize donations in this week so that there are a good number of prizes for the raffle draw. On Thursday 28th March (last day of term), students will participate in an Easter parade with their decorated Easter mask or hat at 9am on the basketball court. Parents are welcome to come along and watch the parade.

LOST PROPERTY

As always when the end of term is approaching, we ask you to take a look through the lost property baskets and retrieve anything that belongs to you. There are a large number of items in lost property looking for their home. Staff will be going through the items at the end of the week and collecting anything there that is unnamed which will be donated to MACS. If there is a parent/carer who would be happy to wash the items for us and deliver them to MACS, please contact the school.

CALENDAR

Current 19/03 – 16/04

19th Mar - School Council AGM, 6pm
21st Mar - Yr 1/2 dinner / Yr 2 sleepover
22nd Mar - Yr 3-6 Athletic sports @ Foster
26th Mar - Easter raffle tickets & donations due to school
28th Mar - Easter parade, 9am
28th Mar - Last day of term 1, 2.30pm dismissal

15th Apr – First day Term 2

16th Apr - Somers Camp

Upcoming

22nd Apr - Student free day
25th Apr – ANZAC Day (student free)
29th Apr - District Athletics @ Foster
10th May – 5/5 Winter sports
14th May – School Council
15th May – MPS Cross Country
23rd May – Division Cross Country
31st May - 5/6 Winter Sport
6th June - Regional Cross Country
7th June - Pupil Free day
10th June – Monarch's birthday Public holiday
11th June - School Council
13th June – Division Winter Sports
28th June – Last day Term, 2.30pm dismissal

ICY POLES

The Junior Action Team will be selling icy poles **next Thursday** at lunch time. \$1 each with proceeds going to the Mirboo North swimming pool.



YEAR 1/2 DINNER AND YEAR 2 SLEEPOVER

Excitement is growing among the Year 1/2 students in anticipation for the dinner / sleepover on Thursday, 21st March. Please see the table below regarding meals on Thursday and Friday.

	Year 1 Students	Year 2 Students
THURSDAY 21st March		
Recess and Lunch	Bring recess snack and lunch from home	Bring recess snack and lunch from home
Afternoon Tea	PROVIDED	PROVIDED
Dinner	PROVIDED	PROVIDED
FRIDAY 22nd March		
Breakfast	Eaten at home before school	PROVIDED
Recess snack	PROVIDED	PROVIDED
Lunch	PROVIDED	PROVIDED

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

I spent last weekend poolside at the Gippsland Championships swim meet in Traralgon. Swimming is one of those sports that is very exciting to watch but it can be over in half a minute and then a parent can wait half a day to watch their kid swim again! Luckily it is also a perfect opportunity for fabulous conversations and observations of grit, resilience, good sportsmanship and fun.

While sitting poolside I was talking to one of our younger swimmers who is a firecracker of a kid. She is usually bubbling around talking, cracking jokes and even adding in a wink or two. But this day it was backstroke day she was flat as a tack and feeling sick in the tummy- she was confused to why she was feeling this way.

Her mum was all over it, giving her an icy pole, a cuddle and encouraged her to go and marshal for her backstroke so she shuffled off for her swim. And what a swim! This little firecracker shot down the pool – sprinting out the last part of her backstroke with the confidence and strength of someone who had been swimming for years.

She came back to the grandstand from her swim and proudly announced that she had solved her problem. She explained that she was really worried about hitting her head on the end of the pool in backstroke and that she just told herself, 'don't hit your head on the end of the pool, don't hit your head on the end of the pool, don't hit your head on the end of the pool!' and she didn't, instead she made the finals!

She could have asked not to swim that event because of her fears. Instead, she got some love and support from her mum and gave herself some positive self-talk and came out a finalist! I think she actually grew in front of my eyes!

This week for respectful relationships we will be talking about positive self-talk, taking risks and getting help when we need it because taking risks and making mistakes is how we grow and learn.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

Riddles

1. I can fill up a room but take up no space. What am I?
2. What goes up and down but never moves?

Answers at the end of the newsletter



Congratulations to Penny and team who won a bronze medal in the U13 Medley Relay at last week's Regional Swimming sports in Sale.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Meeniyau Auskick:

Registrations are now open for the 2024 Auskick season. Sessions will be Monday nights 4pm to 5pm at the Meeniyau Rec Reserve, commencing Monday 15th April with the last session to be held Monday 24th June.

There will be a walking bus again from Meeniyau Primary for those interested. If you would like to be added to the list or for any enquiries contact Steve 0438762068.

To register, simply follow the link: play.afl/auskick and select Meeniyau Auskick Centre.



Australian Government Mobile Service Centre:

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

When: Tomorrow, Wednesday 20th March, 9.00am – 4.00pm

Where: opposite Moo's Café (old roadhouse) in Meeniyau

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

Meeniyau Junior Football:

A promotional poster for Junior Footy Registration Night. The background shows a group of young football players in red and blue uniforms huddled on a field. The text is overlaid on the image. At the top left, it says 'JUNIOR FOOTY REGISTRATION NIGHT' in large blue and red letters. Below that, it says 'We are very excited for the CGJFL Junior Football Season to kick off for 2024! We will be holding a Meet the Coaches/Information/Registration & Pie Night for all players and their parents.' There are five icons with text: a calendar icon for 'Thursday the 21st of March', a clock icon for '5pm at the MDU Social Rooms', a pie icon for 'Free pie and drink for the kids', a boot icon for 'Boots & Merch Swap Bring anything that no longer fits & swap it for the next size up', and a checkmark icon for 'Age Groups Under 10, Under 12, Under 14 & Under 16'. On the right, a blue circle with a red border says 'ALL NEW PLAYERS AND FAMILIES WELCOME!'. At the bottom left, a red rounded rectangle says 'For any enquiries please contact Dave Trotman on 0418 589 805'. A red devil logo is in the top right corner.

Riddle solution

1. Light
2. Stairs

Meeniyán Preschool Picture Plate Fundraiser:

The Meeniyán Preschool are holding a Picture Plate Fundraiser to help raise funds for new balance boards in their playground. Templates can be collected from the preschool or downloaded from the website

www.pictureproducts.com/drawing

Order forms and information are available from the school office. All forms, drawing and payment **must** be returned to the Preschool by **16th April 2024**.

What better way to preserve your child's precious drawings than to turn them into something practical such as a plate, clock, tote bag or even a calendar.

Your child can use photos, paint, stickers, markers and even handprints to create their artwork!



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.