



Edition 6 – April 30th 2024

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It is easy to forget the important role our school plays in the Meeniyan community. Tucked up on the hill, we as a school sometimes go weeks without engaging with members of the public but when we do, it is important to acknowledge the joy that Meeniyan students bring to our little town.

ANZAC Day was a prime example of this. With over 30 students participating in the march, we made up over half the marching participants. This year, perhaps more than ever before, a number of our students adorned the war medals of family members. Although many of these medals were awarded over 100 years ago, it is great to see that the legacy is being passed on.

Special thanks to some important contributors on the day. To our Year 6 presenters, Nikita and Winnie, along with their families for their careful research and wonderful speeches about two soldiers listed on the Meeniyan cenotaph. In it's ninth year now, these student speeches have become a cherished part of the Meeniyan ANZAC Day schedule. Once again, the students and myself received warm thanks for bringing to light the sacrifices and stories of some of our brave locals. Thankyou Katrina Markley for reaching out last week and offering to make a wreath on behalf of the school. The wreath was a beautiful native creation and we are much appreciative. And finally, to our flag bearer Luka. For the second year running, wearing his slouch hat and other military items, Luka carried the national flag with great pride at the front of the march.

Gardener Position

The school is seeking anyone interested in a few paid hours gardening at the school each month. The position will require general pruning, sweeping, planting etc. If this is of interest to you or someone you know, please contact Gene or Kylie ASAP.

Gene VanderZalm, Principal

2024 MPS CROSS COUNTRY

On Wednesday 15th May we will be running our MPS Cross Country at the Recreation Reserve for all Year 3-6 students. The results will determine students going through to the Division Cross Country, on Thursday 23rd May at the Stony Creek Rec Reserve. Students in the 8yo age group will compete in the 9/10 age group. Students may bring sports clothes and shoes (no spikes) to compete in and don't forget a water bottle! (Be aware that shoes may get wet and muddy while running the event.) Asthmatic students will need to follow their prevention and reliever routines. Parents/carers and families are most welcome to come and watch. If you are able to assist on the day (directing students), please complete and return the slip at the end of the newsletter. Competition starts at 2:00pm.

YEAR 3/4 EXCURSION

On Thursday 16th May, students in Years 3 & 4 will be going on an excursion to Melbourne where they will undertake an 'Explorer's Walk' as part of their History studies. The bus will leave from MPS at 8.30am and return around 4.30pm. Further details can be found on the Compass consent form.

CALENDAR

Current 30/04 – 14/05

- 1st May - Book club orders close
- 10th May – 5/6 Winter sports
- 10th May - Year 7 applications due
- 14th May – School Council, 6pm

Upcoming

- 15th May – MPS Cross Country
- 16th May - 3/4 Melbourne excursion
- 23rd May – Division Cross Country
- 29th May - 2025 Prep Info night, 5pm
- 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, 6pm
- 13th June – Division Winter Sports
- 21st June - Trivia Night
- 28th June – Last day Term, 2.30pm dismissal

Have you returned / consented:

- Year 7 application
- 5/6 Winter sport (Compass)
- 3/4 Melbourne excursion (Compass)

SAVE THE DATE

Friday 21st June
MPS Trivia Night
Details to come soon



SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PHOTOS

The School Leadership Group photo is available to purchase. It is available in two sizes; 8x10" \$27 and 6x8" \$22, the 8x10" photo is on display in the office foyer. If you wish to purchase a copy, please send cash to the office in a clearly labelled envelope by Friday 10th May.

LIBRARY ASSISTANCE REQUIRED

From time to time the school receives orders of library books. To make these books last, we cover them with contact and then catalogue them on our system.

Our long serving volunteer Deb Craig continues to toil away at these jobs and others to keep our library in ship shape however it would be of great support if we had some extra hands to lighten the load.

If you are interested in either covering and/or cataloguing for a few hours per term, please contact the school.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

I have really mixed feelings when I watch the final siren of an AFL grand final. I feel so much joy and excitement when I see the winning team, they have this huge burst of adrenaline and they jump, hug and cry. I often ponder on how they don't even look remotely tired, in fact they look more spritely than they do at the start of the game. Then the camera will scan over to the team who lost and my heart hurts. Players will also be crying but not tears of joy, they might be hugging but with condolences. Often these players will sit on the ground, heads in hand – looking tired, done.

Everyone played the same game but collectively each team is having a different reaction to the results. This can happen to us all throughout a school day – we can feel really excited with positive emotions flowing through our bodies and later we can feel flat or sad or even angry.

This week for Respectful Relationships the 3-6s have been learning about how our emotions can ebb and flow throughout a day and different things we can do to change our mood such as; reset, have something to eat, go outside, have a run / swim, listen to music and we have also discussed how to support our mates when they are feeling flat too.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

COMMUNITY NEWS

The following Community News articles promote community connections and communications.

They are not considered school activities.

Fishy Stories Writing Challenge:

The Fishy Stories Children's Literature Day is a festival of children's stories held annually at Fish Creek. This year's festival is **Sunday 17th November** in the Bendigo Bank Village Green in the centre of town and the Town Hall.

Each year we host a writing challenge for students in grade 1 through to year 8, featuring two categories: written stories and picture stories. Students are able to enter either category or both.

For further information [General 2 – Fish Creek Children's Literature Day \(fishystories.org\)](http://fishystories.org)

Twenty of the written stories will then be chosen to be performed by local artists over the day of the festival. All successful entries will then be compiled into an eBook by Cambridge University Press, available free online.

Submissions open 8th July and close 14th September 2024





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.

Meeniy Primary School Beanie Order Form (\$20 each)



Name _____

No. of Beanies _____ Total \$ _____

Cash Direct Deposit (BSB: 063 518 Acc: 1007 1649) EFT

Rec No. _____



Assistance Required for Cross Country

Yes, I am able to help with the MPS Cross Country* at the Meeniy Recreation Reserve at 2:00pm on Wednesday 15th May.

*stand and point

Name: _____

Phone: _____