



MEPS MAIL

Create the Future

18th September, 2019

KEY DATES

TERM 3

16-27/09/2019

- Swim Scheme

20/09/2019

- Year 6 Market Day

27/09/2019

- Last day of Term 3

TERM 4

14/10/2019

- First day of Term 4

17/10/2019

- Sydney West Athletics

30/10/ & 6/11 & 13/11/2019

- Kindy Orientation Days

28/11/2019

- Presentation Day

11/11/2019

- Remembrance Day

25/11/2019

- Volunteer Morning Tea

3/12/2019

- Year 6 High School Orientation Day

4/12/2019

- Year 6 Farewell at Club Merrylands

16/12/2019

- Convict day

18/12/2019

- Last day of Term 4

In this issue:

PSSA success

Year 6 Market Day

Stage 1 excursion review

School sport - karate

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Our school has received the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results for 2019. NAPLAN occurs in May each year and provides a snapshot of Year 3 and Year 5 students in the areas of Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy each year. The results help our teachers to plan and does not serve as any measure beyond our school.

The NAPLAN 2019 results indicated:

56% of Year 3 students were in the top two bands in Writing and Spelling.

Year 3 Girls were above state average in Writing and Spelling.

100% of Year 3 students were above the national minimum benchmark for Reading and 91% in Numeracy

Year 5 as a cohort were above state average in Reading and Numeracy

98% of students were above the national minimum benchmark in Reading and Numeracy.

While the results are generally pleasing, our school fluctuates from year to year and we need to treat these results carefully as different cohorts sit NAPLAN each year. The individual student results are due to arrive in our school this week. As soon as they arrive, they will be sent home. Please ensure they are kept safely. For Year 5 students, the new enrolment policy for students entering public high schools 2021 makes it clear that academic material is not used as a consideration for enrolment.

Today, our school welcomed and hosted 20 Principals from the Queanbeyan Network for a visit. It is always refreshing to have education visitors to our school to see the wonderful learning taking place each day. Our students are very used to visitors and they remained on task and focused on their teachers during the visits.

The school Swimming Scheme has commenced for students from Stage 1 to Stage 3. Each day the students need to make sure they have their towel and costume. Parents are invited on the morning of the final day (Friday 27 September 2019) to Merrylands Pool for a celebration of the program.

Unfortunately, the Stage 3 (Year 6) Market Day had to be postponed due to the poor weather. The new date for Market Day is Friday 20th September, weather permitting. We look forward to a day filled with a lot of fun and learning with an assortment of games, the petting zoo, face painting and hair spraying, along with the opportunity to wet their teachers.

I have been advised that within the next year, the NSW Department of Education will be replacing the roofs on the Heritage building, the single storey and double storey building and the top toilets with colour bond steel. This is part of the NSW government commitment to eliminate the maintenance backlog. While the roofs are still in reasonable conditions, over a period of time, the tiles have become brittle and cracks may readily appear.

John Goh

AWARDS

Merit Awards

ES1 Red & Yellow

Hussein Z
Simione S

S1 Burgundy & Fuschia

Ali F
Yusuf D

S1 Ruby & Violet

Lucas H
Aydin I
Jocelle A
Elaha G
Noah S
Tiamana K

S1 Blue

Modasser H

S1 Silver

Siddique K

S2 Rose & Wisteria

Somaya Z
Tamkeen M
Mojibullah M
Arshpreet S
Hazehn H
Sarah M

S2 Teal

Masooma R
Shabir S

Stage 3 Magenta, Lime & Crimson

Fatima A
Sania R
Danyal R

Aisha F
Jerry N
Kiara D

5 Class Awards

Maher M
Ayah E
Michelle L

Jalal S
Fatima A

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held in October next term. The exact date will be stated in the next newsletter.

All welcome.

All executive positions will be open for nomination. Please consider volunteering with the P&C.

FREE CLOTHING

At 1.15pm on Friday 20th September there will be free, brand new clothes available in the school hall. This clothing has been donated by Big W.

There is a limited number of children's clothes so please limit your choice to 2 items per child. We have plenty of babies wear and adult clothing.

SCHOOL SPORT

PSSA

PSSA winter sport has finished for the year.

PSSA summer sport will begin in Term 4. The teams will be the same as Term 1.



CONGRATULATIONS to the Senior Netball Team for winning the Grand Final against Rosehill Public School. An impressive win with a final score of 19-3.



YEAR 6 MARKET DAY

The Year 6 Market Day has been postponed until Friday 20th September due to the poor weather.

Year 6 will be hosting Market Day in order to raise money to contribute to their Year 6 Farewell Dinner and a gift to the school.

The event will run from 11.15am - 12.45pm.



Some of the stalls for Market Day include Soccer Shoot Out Competition, Outdoor Obstacle Course, Jelly Bean Guessing Challenge, Hit the Target, Wet the Teacher, Guess the Teacher, Ping Pong Bounce, Basketball Shoot Out Competition, Colouring In Competition, Hair Spray Salon and Face Painting. Please fill out the permission note if you would like your child to participate in the face painting and hair spraying.

STAGE 1 EXCURSION

Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) excursion to Muru Mittigar

- Tamim K (Stage 1 Ruby)

Stage 1 had a fabulous time at the Muru Mittigar Cultural Education Centre on Friday 13th September.

We went by coach to the centre, leaving school at 8.00am. We were very excited.

When we arrived we ate our morning tea, then we sat down and listened to the rules of the centre.

It was exciting to start doing the activities. We did aboriginal painting, learnt about aboriginal weapons and how they are used and learnt how to throw a boomerang. We also had our face painted. The girls had a wavy line out of spots and the boys had the coolest painting. We had a stripe down our nose, a stripe down our chin and three stripes on our cheeks.

My favourite activity was throwing the boomerang. Uncle K told us that if you threw the boomerang you had to catch it. But we couldn't catch it. Uncle K threw the boomerang and it came back to him and he caught it in his hand. That was really good.

After all this fun we caught the bus back to school and went home and told our parents about our fun day.



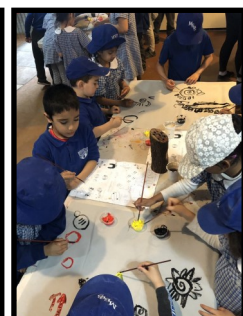
Boomerang throwing



Face painting



Aboriginal story time



Aboriginal painting

SWIM SCHEME

Our school learn to swim scheme has begun and the students are enjoying learning to swim under the experienced guidance of the NSW Department of Education swimming instructors. The lessons will continue until the end of term, Friday 27th September.

Each lesson is 45 minutes long and after two weeks of tuition each student should show significant improvement.

Please remember to send your child to school each day wearing their swimming costume so that no time is wasted at the beginning of each lesson getting changed.

All students should have dry clothes, including underwear, to change into after their lesson. A jumper is a must as students can feel quite cold after they get out of the pool.

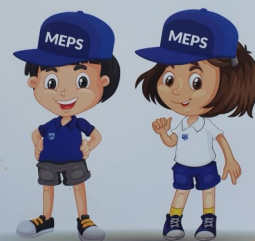
Make sure you pack a dry towel each day.



BRING YOUR HAT TO SCHOOL EACH DAY

It is very important for every student to have a hat at school each day. The sun in Australia is very strong so to protect our skin and eyes an appropriate hat is necessary. Hats should be worn during recess and sport.

WEAR A HAT OR PLAY IN THE SHADE
(Especially in Terms 1 & 4)



SCHOOL SPORT

Karate

by Hazehn & Marshall (S2 Rose)

Karate has been running for nine weeks this term and has been taught by our Sensei, Mr Taylor. All the students have been loving these few weeks.

We have learnt different Japanese stances and karate traditions. Before we enter the Dojo (our school hall) we must bow. We do the same on the way out. We've learnt different punches and kicks. We've also learnt some Japanese words and counting.

We are looking forward to next term so we can continue to do more training and learn more about karate. We encourage everyone to give it a try.

How do you like karate?

"We love it!" - *Felix and Temuulen*

What's your favourite thing about karate?

"The kicks!" - *Neda*

Why did you join karate?

"Self defence!" - *Heinah*



"Our students have shown an understanding of etiquette and respect and have learnt that better awareness means that we will hopefully never have to use their karate skills for anything other than fitness and preparation." - *Mr Taylor*

FREE BOOKS

BIG W is bringing back its free book give away starting on 19th September. One new book will be released each week. There are limited stocks with up to 3 books per family.

All you have to do is visit your local BIG W store and ask the door greeter for your free book.

There are 8 books to collect for children aged 5-8 years who are learning to read and looking for that first chapter book experience.

The books are written by Australian authors to appeal to Aussie kids.

KINDY 2020

Kindy enrolments are now open for children turning five any time before the 31st July 2020.

If you have a child starting Kindergarten next year or you know of someone who has a child turning 5 before the 31st July please collect an enrolment form from the office. Parents of children born between 01 January and 31 July can choose between sending their child to school the year their child turns five or the year they turn six. It is recommended to seek advice from your preschool to check if your child is ready for school. By law, all children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.

The office staff will inform you of the required documents you need to supply in order to complete your child's enrolment. Original documents must be sighted and copied by the school.

KINDY 2020 ORIENTATION

Our Kindergarten Orientation program is about making your child's transition to school a smooth and settled beginning to their new and exciting environment.

We have organised three morning sessions for you and your child to attend.

Wednesday 30th October

Wednesday 6th November

Wednesday 13th November

8.30am - 9.45am each day

On 30th October you and your child will experience the first session together in the Kindergarten classrooms. On the 6th November and 13th November you will be encouraged to leave your child in the capable hands of the Kindergarten teachers and move to the school library. Here you will have the opportunity to meet staff and cover a range of topics including getting your child ready for school. Each session will conclude with a "question and answer" time followed by morning tea. This is a great opportunity to meet parents of other children beginning school.