



# MEPS MAIL

Create the Future

4th November, 2020

## Key Dates

### TERM 4

**Tues-Friday 3-6/11/2020**  
- School Leaders at MCA

**Wednesday 4/11/2020**  
- Kindy 2021 Orientation

**Thursday 05/11/2020**  
- Annual Book Fair begins

**Wednesday 11/11/2020**  
- Kindy 2021 Orientation

**Thursday 19/11/2020**  
- P&C Annual General Meeting

**Monday 23/11/2020 -  
Thursday 26/11/2020**  
- Presentation Day/s

**Wednesday 2/12/2020**  
- Year 6 Graduation and farewell dinner

**Wednesday 9/12/2020**  
- Year 6 Market Day

**Tuesday 15/12/2020**  
- Convict Day

**Wednesday 16/12/2020**  
- End of Term 4 2020

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## Principal's report

Dear Parents and Caregivers



It was a real delight to be able to take students on school excursions to NSW Parliament House and Calmsley Hill City Farm. This was the first time our school was able to take students on an excursion this year. Excursions supplement students learning and reinforces the knowledge learnt in classroom programs. This week, Year 1 and 2 students visited the NSW Department of Education Field Studies Centre called Longneck Lagoon, Years 3 and 4 had a lesson at the Sydney Botanical Gardens and I am taking 12 students to the Museum of Contemporary Arts over 4 days.

On Wednesday morning, our school held the first of two Kindergarten Orientation Sessions. This year, the sessions are different in that parents cannot stay on the school grounds for more than 10 minutes. Instead, students were dropped off at the gate and escorted to the kindergarten classrooms for a session of structured activities. The second orientation session will be next Wednesday 11 November.

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020, all Year 6 students entering a public high school for 2021 will have their Orientation Day. Parents will need to make arrangements for their child to travel to and from the various high schools. Our school does not provide transport for Year 6 Orientation Day.

## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per fortnight  
W X W T F  
M T W T F

=

**4** weeks



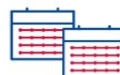
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Over **1** year missed

**1** day per week  
M X W T F  
M T W X F

=

**8** weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au

Regular attendance at school is extremely important if students are going to maximise their potential in learning. Each term, attendance is monitored by the NSW Department of Education Home School Liaison Officer and unsatisfactory attendance of students is followed up with informal and formal processes. It is important that students are:

- at school daily.
- at home because they are currently unwell (if students have flu like symptoms, a negative Covid19 test is required before returning back to school).
- at home because they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition.
- at home due to self-isolation requirements.

It is an unjustified reason for students to be not attending to school due to a parent's illness, car maintenance issues, birthday celebrations and visiting relatives. Parents need to have contingency plans to ensure their child attends school every day and are picked up at 1:15pm.

## Principal's report (continued...)

The NSW State average for primary school students is around 94%. This is the equivalent to **no more than 2 days absence per term**. Parents are required to provide a reason for their child's absence for each occasion.

Applications for Year 7 entry into a Selective High School 2022 are opened and the website **closes on 16 November 2020**. No late applications are accepted. Applications can be made online by following the links at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/application-process>

As we move into the warmer months, it is important that students bring a bottle to refill water. Bubblers cannot be used due to Covid19 plan.

Classes will resume for Years 1-6 students on Friday 29 January 2021. Please could you inform the office if you intend on moving during the vacation period.



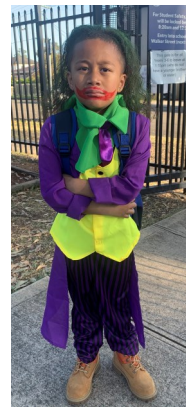
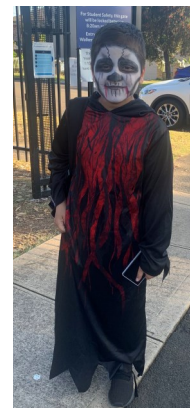
## Book character parade



Our Book Character Parade on Wednesday 21st October was great fun for students and teachers.

So many fantastic book characters stepped out of their books and paraded under the COLA for everyone to enjoy. The students particularly enjoyed the

parade of teacher characters as they danced their way around a large circle to the smiles and laughter of their students.



## Kindergarten visit Calmsley Hill City Farm

On Tuesday, 27th October, our Kindergarten students visited Calmsley Hill City Farm in Abbotsbury. Despite the threat of rain they travelled well prepared by bus to visit the farm animals, watch a cow being milked and ride a farm tractor. The students had a fabulous day and learnt a lot about farms and farm animals.



## P&C NEWS

MEPS P&C will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Thursday 19th November, 2020. Due to Covid-19 restrictions this meeting will be held online through Zoom. Please contact the office for the link to this meeting.

This is the end of financial year for the P&C.

At this meeting the financial position of the P&C will be tabled and discussed including how Covid-19 has impacted the fundraising of the P&C. The financial position of the Canteen will also be discussed.

All executive positions will be vacated and nominations will be accepted for each of these positions and new leaders will be appointed.

We are looking for members to take on:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary



If you are interested in any of these positions please contact the office for more information.

## PSSA NEWS

### T-ball and Softball - Term 4

**No** bus fare is required this term as all games will be played at Granville Park. All games this term will be played during school time.

### Games for Friday 6th November

T-Ball - against Granville Public School at Granville Park

Softball - against Lidcombe Public School at Granville Park

### Games for Friday 13th November

T-Ball has a bye and will train at King Park.

Softball - Granville Public School at Granville Park

**There will be NO training sessions this term.**



## Book Fair

This year's book fair will be held on Thursday 5th November to Thursday 12th November. Students may come to the school library before or after school to look at the great books on display. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, parents are unable to attend this year. Students will be given a wish-list to take home and parents can either give their child cash to purchase any books on this list or parents can pay online and send the receipt to school to receive the chosen books/s.

### Opening times:

Thursday 5th November	7.30am - 7.55am and 1.15pm - 1.30pm
Friday 6th November	CLOSED
Monday 9th November	7.30am - 7.55am and 1.15pm - 1.30pm
Tuesday 10th November	7.30am - 7.55am and 1.15pm - 1.30pm
Wednesday 11th November	7.30am - 7.55am and 1.15pm - 1.30pm
Thursday 12th November	7.30am - 7.55am and 1.15pm - 1.30pm



## Uniform rules

Many students are not wearing the correct uniform each day. School shoes must be black and sport shoes must be predominately white. **Red, pink or any other bright coloured shoes** are **NOT** school uniform.

The sport uniform for girls is a blue skort, blue shorts or blue track pants. **Leggings** and **hoodies** are **NOT** part of our school uniform.



If you don't have the correct uniform please arrange for one as soon as possible. The Uniform Shop is still only taking orders. Ask your child to collect an order form from the school office. Cash payment must be left with your order.

Orders will be filled on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and will be sent home with your child.

## Stage 3 visit state and local governments

Some student's in Years 5 & 6 had the opportunity to attend the Parliament of NSW and see how our State Government works. Our local member, Julia Finn, was there to run our students through some role plays of legislative processes. Other students visited Cumberland Council to see how our local government body helps the local community.



## Kindergarten Enrolments for 2021

We are now accepting Kindergarten enrolments for 2021. If you have a child born between 1st January and 31st December 2015 you must enrol him/her for Kindergarten next year. If your child is born between 1st January and 31st July 2016 you have the choice to send them to kindergarten next year or wait for them to mature a little more and start them in 2022.

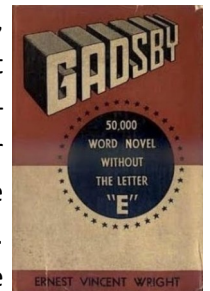
If you have moved and are living out of the MEPS local school intake area you will have to apply as an 'Out of Area Enrolment'. Please see our website to determine if you are still in our local area.

You can collect an enrolment form from the office or you can enrol online. If you require an 'Out of Area' form, or you are a temporary resident, the forms must be collected from the office.



## Did you know?

Did you know you that back in 1939, American author Ernest Vincent Wright published Gadsby, a 50,000-word novel that doesn't use the letter 'e' once. What's more, it's not the only novel that ditched the letter. Author Georges Perec also wrote the French-language book La Disparition without the letter 'e' in 1969. That's even more astounding when you consider that 'e' is the most commonly used letter in the English (and French) language.



## Canteen news

### ORDER YOUR LUNCH!

Students **MUST** order their lunch first thing in the morning to guarantee their order is ready for recess. Food is made at 9.00am according to the orders given in the morning.

If your child comes to the canteen at recess and has not put in an order, there may not be any food left to give them.

