



MEPS MAIL

Create the Future

23rd September, 2020

Key Dates

TERM 3

Friday 25/09/2020

- Last day of Term 3

TERM 4

Monday 12/10/2020

- First day of Term 4

Monday 12/10/2020 -

Friday 16/10/2020

- Water Safety Program

Monday 19/10/2020 -

Friday 23/10/2020

- Book Week

Thursday 22/10/2020

- Book character parade

Wednesday 04/11/2020

- Annual Book Fair begins

Thursday 19/11/2020

- P&C Annual General Meeting

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Principal's report

Dear Parents and Caregivers



This term, I have been inspired by students and the way they have committed to their learning. All public school students in NSW are expected to make a year's growth in learning every year. This term, class teachers have been collecting work samples from students' assessment tasks and identifying the knowledge and skills learnt. I have seen a lot of work samples from the students and can assure you that students are making good progress despite the disruption that we have had during the year.

Where were you during the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000? It's 20 years since the amazing athlete Cathy Freeman lit the flame to signal the opening of the Olympic Games and 14 days of sporting competition. It was a time of elation as Sydney hosted a superb global sporting event. Along with Cathy Freeman winning the 400m, my own recollection included the wonderful volunteers who gave up their time to help generously at the games to make them a success. It is this volunteerism that is part of the Australian culture – people helping others in a time of need. We saw volunteers during the bushfires and floods earlier in the year but there are so many volunteers in our society that give up their precious time to help others in our community.

It is with great joy that we have reached the end of the school term with the knowledge that the number of NSW Covid19 cases has been very low. At the same time, the warmer weather brings out more opportunities for outdoor recreation and we need to remember to maintain social distance and to ensure that we continue to comply with the NSW Health guidelines.

Over the past month, our school has been reviewing our emergency plans to ensure that we are prepared in the event of a major incident. As part of this plan, it is essential that we have updated phone numbers to ensure that we can contact parents via SMS in the event of an emergency. If you have changed phone numbers and have not updated our school since you enrolled your child, please contact the school office to make the necessary changes.

The Department of Education has released guidelines for Year 12 formals and graduations. We anticipate guidelines will be released for Presentation Days, Year 6 Farewells and Kindergarten Orientation Days. We know that some events won't be the same as previous years but we hope that important milestone events can still take place, even if there are restrictions. I will keep you updated next term about the various events.

On behalf of my staff, I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable and relaxing school vacation. Classes commence again on Monday 12 October 2020.

John Goh
Principal



What's happening in 4 Inquisitive?

4 Inquisitive have been doing some great things this term.

'My favourite lesson this term was making a catapult. We researched it in groups and then made one and tested it. The winner won an ice block!' - Zohal A

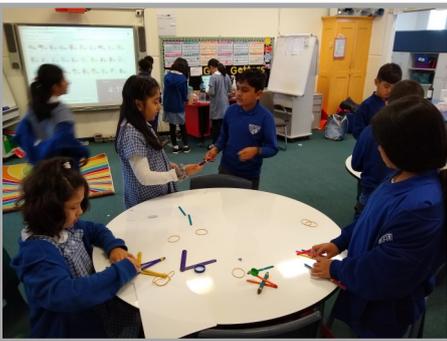
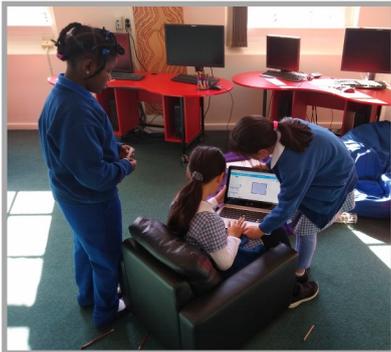
'We have been doing shapes this term. I really liked using the rulers. We also did some drawings in art.' - Josh B

'I have really enjoyed creating the school in minecraft. I liked it because you can use different blocks and design different things.' - Mohammed E

'My favourite thing this term was learning about Cyber Safety. It taught me how to be safe online and told me which apps not to download. Don't download TikTok' - Hasan M

'My favourite activity this term was drawing our classroom. We drew it, wrote north, south, east and west and made a path to walk around. We also recreated it on our laptops.' - Zainab A

'This term, I really enjoyed making books for Year 1. We were in groups of four and Year 1 really enjoyed their books.' - Faiqa A



Kindergarten Play Program Award

Congratulations to Mrs Noble and our Kindergarten teachers, Mrs Fernandopulle, Miss Gonzalez, Miss Stretton and Miss Wilson, for being named as NSW Department of Education Auburn Network Education Award recipients for their Play Program. Director of Educational Leadership, Mr John Kennedy, presented them with their award at school last week.

The program implemented is an outstanding English and Play Based Learning program that enables students to develop high levels of literacy and oracy skills.



School Swim Scheme

Our Water Safety Program starts on Monday 12th October which is the first day of Term 4. All participating students should receive an information sheet today.

The program is now full so we cannot take any more students into the scheme.

Parents should apply sunscreen to their child/children before leaving home and children should wear their **swimming costume and a rash vest** under their uniform - there is no time to change at the pool. Students should also bring a towel and hat. Underwear should be packed in their bag to change into when they have finished swimming. If they haven't worn a jumper to school please also pack one in their school bag.

Be on time! We are on a tight schedule and the bus will not wait.



PSSA NEWS

Congratulations to all the netball and soccer PSSA players. It's been a difficult time due to the weather and Covid-19, but we still managed to play a few games.

There will be no games this Friday and all students will play school sport.

T-ball and Softball - Term 4

If your child was in a T-ball or Softball team in Term 1 they will continue their competition this term. We will be notified of the draw very soon.



Book Week

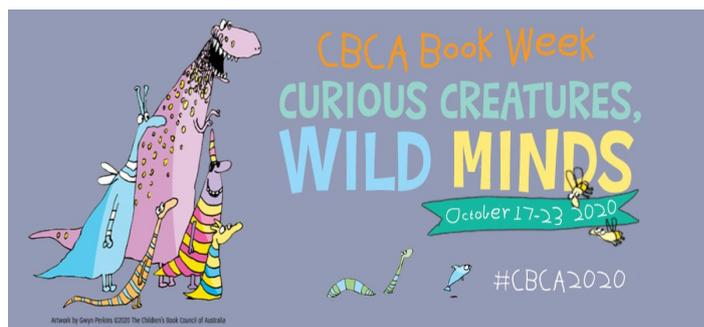
The Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) Book Week 2020 begins Week 2 of Term 4. The theme this year is *Curious Creatures, Wild Minds*.

During this week we will be celebrating books and Australian children's authors and illustrators.

It will be a week filled with literacy activities, including a Book Character Parade, story-telling and book review competitions to highlight the importance of reading.

We will be celebrating with a Book Character Parade Thursday 22nd October. The Book Character Parade is a special time when many of the characters that we have grown to love and cherish step out of their books and into our school. Now is the time for students and teachers to start thinking about which character they will dress-up as.

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be held later in the term, arriving 4th November 2020.



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** are **NOT** part of our school uniform.



If you don't have the correct uniform please do so before Term 4. 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.

Meet the teacher

Mrs Cruz - 3 Gratitude

What do you like about being a teacher?

It is the best job in the world! I love it when children learn something new and they have developed a new skill. I also enjoy getting to know the families of my students and being part of the school community. I like to help others.



Favourites

What is your favourite:

- Book - *'Pride and Prejudice'* - by Jane Austin
- Book character - *Elizabeth Bennet*
- Subject - *English*
- Hobby - *Reading*
- Movie - *Lord of the Rings*
- Movie character - *Iron Man*
- Sport - *Lawn Bowls*
- Colour - *Red*
- Food - *Creamy Lentil Soup*
- Drink - *Chocolate Milkshake*
- Singer or group - *Latin Music & Queen*
- Childhood toy - *Marbles*

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 cannot STOP for any length of time, in a 'Bus Zone' or 'No Stopping Zone'.

We have a 'Bus Zone' in Myee Street and a 'No Stopping Zone' in York Street. Many people have already been fined for stopping in these zones.



Please keep our students safe by keeping the areas outside our school gates clear of cars.

Canteen news

We will return to our summer menu next term. Look out for the revised menu in your child's bag tomorrow.

