



# MEPS MAIL

## Create the Future

12th May, 2021

Key Dates	Principal's report
<p><b>TERM 2</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 11/05/2021 to Friday 14/05/2021</b> - NAPLAN Years 3 &amp; 5</p> <p><b>Friday 14/05/2021</b> - Final camp payment</p> <p><b>Thursday 20/05/2021</b> - P&amp;C general meeting</p> <p><b>Monday 31/05/2021 to Wednesday 02/06/2021</b> - Year 5 &amp; 6 Great Aussie Bush Camp</p> <p><b>Tuesday 01/06/2021</b> - Kindy dental check-ups</p> <p><b>Monday 14/06/2021</b> - Public Holiday Queen's Birthday</p> <p><b>Friday 25/06/2021</b> - End of Term 2 2021</p>	<p>Dear Parents and Caregivers,</p>  <p>Eid Mubarak to all those who are celebrating this week. It's wonderful that there are different celebrations for various occasions throughout the year. Each occasion is special and joyous for families, and a time of enrichment.</p> <p>The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) commenced yesterday with Year 3 and 5 participating in a writing, punctuation and grammar test. These tests are a snapshot of a student's performance on a particular day and do not give a full picture of a student's overall learning, abilities and achievements throughout the year. Our school uses the NAPLAN results to inform planning and to identify areas where we can provide further assistance in learning. Students who miss out on NAPLAN this week will have a chance to catch up early next week.</p> <p>Our school curriculum is broad, enabling students to have a wide range of learning experiences. Throughout this year, Year 2 and primary sport groups have been participating in a gymnastics program. This program enables students to develop locomotor skills and express rhythmic and expressive movements in a confident way. PSSA allows students to play competition sport with other schools in a low key and friendly environment. The next PSSA game for our students is on <b>Friday 28 May 2021</b> due to Eid and the Auburn Zone Cross Country Carnival over the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>The NSW Government has a range of vouchers to assist families with the cost of living. At present, there is the \$100 'Active Kids' voucher to assist with recreation and sport costs. Another voucher is the \$100 'Creative Kids' for performing arts, visual arts, coding, literature, music and other creative activities. Finally, there is the Discover NSW and Dine NSW vouchers. Each of the vouchers are on the Services NSW App or via the Services NSW website.</p> <p>Each year, our school participates in evacuation drills to ensure that our staff and students are aware of procedures to follow in the event of an emergency. This week, our school will have a practice to ensure that we are ready.</p> <p>John Goh Principal</p>
<p><b>TERM 3</b></p> <p><b>Monday 12/07/2021</b> - Staff Development Day No classes</p> <p><b>Tuesday 13/07/2021</b> - First school day of Term 3</p>	
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## Farewell and Thank You Mrs Noble



On Thursday 29th April, our staff and Auburn DEL Mr Kennedy, farewelled Deputy Principal Mrs Noble after 16yrs at MEPS as she moves towards retirement. It was a sad time for MEPS staff, students and parents. Mrs Noble has been an important part of our school, assisting all our students and mentoring many of our teachers. She has been a great source of comfort for many of our parents and an outstanding role model for students and staff alike.

Mr Goh organised a fabulous staff lunch in the school hall. The room was beautifully decorated and the staff enjoyed table service, thanks to the office staff, with gourmet



Italian food. Only the best for Mrs Noble! Students in every grade created hand made cards which were displayed on the walls of the hall. Mrs Noble is looking forward to reading every one of them. At the conclusion of the lunch, Mr Goh and Mr Kennedy made appreciative speeches applauding Mrs Noble for her dedication and service to students and staff over her years of teaching and she was presented with a lovely gift from the staff.



At 1.10pm on Mrs Noble's final day, every student at MEPS created a tunnel starting at the steps of Mrs Noble's office. As she emerged from her office onto the verandah the students and staff erupted with grateful applause and cheering. Mrs Noble definitely felt like a superstar! The students revelled in the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to Mrs Noble.



We wish Mrs Noble a wonderful and restful retirement where she can spend more time on her passions and hobbies and enjoy extended time with her family and friends. We will miss you!



## ICAS Assessments - 2021



Year 3-6 students at Merrylands East have the opportunity to take part in the 2021 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).



All assessment will be conducted during August at school under the supervision of teachers and the Principal. The cost for each test is \$17.05.

If you would like your child to participate, all registrations must be completed and paid online.

**The parent page link is:** <https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>.

This link is case sensitive so be sure to use all lower case letters.

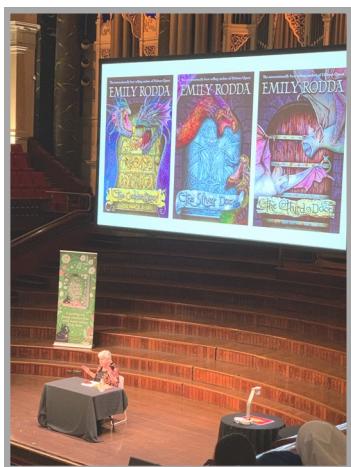
**Our school access code is:** **IYZ286**

## Sydney Writers' Festival



On Monday, 3rd May, several Stage 3 students had the opportunity to be inspired by their favourite authors and illustrators in a fun, educational and interactive way at the annual Sydney Writers' Festival, Town Hall, Sydney. The writers spoke about their craft, read from their work and took questions from the audience.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed this experience. Year 4 students can look forward to attending this festival next year!



## Library News

We asked some Kindergarten students what their favourite thing about coming to the library is.



Mithran: I like reading the books and then drawing the pictures. I also like to borrow books.

Yasemin: My best thing in the library is to get a book to take home.

Tahlia: I like listening to Mrs Papadopoulos read us a story.

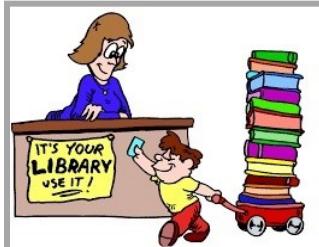
Logan: To get some books, of course.

Haadia: The cushions, the books and I like borrowing the penguin books the best.

Caden: I like how there is \*100 books in there!

\*We have about 10,000 books in our library 😊

Kindergarten	Wednesday
Year 1	Tuesday
Year 2	Monday
3 Achievement	Wednesday
3/4 Gratitude	Wednesday



4 Consistency	Tuesday
4/5 Perseverance	Thursday
5 Fearless	Thursday
5/6 Unity	Monday
6 Integrity	Monday

### My Library Day is:

To borrow, students will need a library bag or other suitable bag to protect our books from being damaged. Library bags are available from the uniform shop or the office for \$10.

## P&C NEWS



The next P&C meeting will be held on Thursday 20th May, 2021. We are still hoping to meet in person once again despite the new restrictions. Please contact the office on Wednesday 19th if you are interested in attending the meeting.

The meeting will be held at 12.15pm in the community room under the Year 6 verandah.

We look forward to seeing you there for a quick meeting about what the P&C will be doing for the rest of the year while sharing a cup of tea and a chat. Preschoolers are welcome.

## NSW Health—Covid testing

The Department of Education requires any child with a sore throat, runny nose or any other flu like symptoms, to get a covid test. Following the latest covid-19 cases in Sydney, it is even more important to follow NSW Health guidelines and get tested and stay home until a negative test result is received.

If your child's test is negative, but they are still feeling unwell, please keep them home until they have recovered.



## Parent Survey

### Have Your Say on Before and After School Care

Does your child need before and after school care? We want to hear from you – please complete a short survey to help us understand your family's needs for care out of school hours. Your responses will shape what we do to expand and deliver Before and After School Care services in your community and across NSW.

**Please complete the survey via the following website link:**

<https://surveys.education.nsw.gov.au/s3/OSHCParentsSurvey>



Term 2 Parent Survey

**The survey will be open until 24 May 2021.**

The survey has been designed to be easy to use and should take no more than two minutes to complete, with a few extra minutes for those who would like to supply additional information.

If you need a paper or over-the-phone version of the survey, or require a survey translation, please contact the Department of Education Before and After School Care Program team by phone on 1300 244 145 or email at: [BASCReform@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:BASCReform@det.nsw.edu.au).

## Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush Camp

Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush Camp is getting closer and students are excited about the fun they are going to have at this great camp, participating in activities including archery, ropes course, abseiling, and orienteering.

Students will be leaving early in the morning on Monday 31st May and will return in the afternoon on Wednesday 2nd June.

Final payments must be made before Friday 14th May, 2021.

This is a fantastic camp and our students enjoy it every time they attend!



## Kindy Dental Check-ups

As part of our screening program for our new Kindergarten students, we have partnered with local dentist Taylor Groenlund & Doan to complete a FREE dental check-up.



The dentist will be visiting on Tuesday 1st June, 2021, so if your child is in Kindergarten please return the permission slip that came home with your child last week as soon as possible. If the dentist recommends treatment you may take them to Taylor Groenlund & Doan or a dental practice or your own choice. There is NO obligation from this visit.

Year 1 students who missed out on this program last year due to the Covid-19 issues will be offered this service later in the year.

## New shade sail

A new shade sail is being erected over the Kindergarten play area outside their classrooms. This sail will protect our students from the sun as they learn during their 'play based learning' program.

There may be some interruptions to access during this time. Please follow any directions around this area during this time.



## Did you know?

NASA has sent a 3D printer to the International Space Station so that when a tool is needed to repair the station a design can be emailed from Earth and printed in space. NASA is working on this technology now!



## Hindu Scripture



Hindu scripture is looking for teachers at MEPS.

If you are interested please call Ranjana on 0403 011 568.