

# MEPS MAIL

*Create the Future*

26th May, 2021

## Key Dates

### TERM 2

**Monday 31/05/2021 to  
Wednesday 02/06/2021**

- Year 5 & 6 Great Aussie  
Bush Camp

**Tuesday 01/06/2021**

- Kindy dental check-ups

**Wednesday 02/06/2021**

- MCA & Botanical  
Gardens - Stage 3

**Monday 14/06/2021**

- Public Holiday  
Queen's Birthday

**Friday 25/06/2021**

- End of Term 2 2021

### TERM 3

**Monday 12/07/2021**

- Staff Development Day  
No classes

**Tuesday 13/07/2021**

- First school day of Term 3

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Covid-19 news

## Principal's report

Dear Parents and Caregivers,



This is the last week before the commencement of the winter season. Already, we have experienced a number of very cold days. It is important that children come to school wearing warm clothes and drink plenty of fluids during the day. Our P&C volunteers run the school uniform shop and sell school jumpers. Orders can be made at the office.

The installation of the sun shade cover outside the Kindergarten classrooms is still in progress with a temporary fence surrounding the poles that will hold up the cloth. This will be a welcomed addition for our school and provide additional shade for our students, especially during hot days. It is anticipated that the Department will commence work on replacing the covered walkway from the double storey block to the single storey block some time this year, along with installing a new walkway from the office gate to the office.

How much screen time does your child get each night? According to the Australian Government Department of Health and NSW Government's Active Eating and Living websites, primary aged children should be getting between 9-11 hours of sleep each night with regular routines at least half an hour before bedtime. Too much screen time can delay bedtimes and affect children's concentration levels and full participation at school due to a lack of sleep. It is important for cyber safety that children are never left alone in their rooms using devices but are in common spaces at home.

Our school bans the use of mobile phones by students during the school day unless a device is requested for educational purposes by class teachers – this is very rare. Students who have mobile phones at school are required to give them to the office in the morning before school and pick them up in the afternoon. Mobile phones can be a distraction in class and can also be damaged by other students if left in bags. If parents do need to contact students during school hours, messages can be passed on via the office by phoning 9637 2638 or 9637 8119.

Two weeks ago, our school had an emergency evacuation drill in the event of an emergency. The students left their classrooms on the continuous ring of a handbell and quickly made their way to the grass area with their teacher. In the event of a 'real' emergency, it is important that all parents can be contacted. This means that our school office needs accurate and up to date phone number for parents and emergency contacts. Your child will soon be taking home the details we have on our school records. If the information is incorrect, please amend and return to our school office. We will also be using contact details to trial the sending of SMS messages and alerts.

Next week, Year 5/6 students will be attending the Great Aussie Bush Camp for three days of activities and team building skills with Ms Mirzaee and Miss Nguyen. It is important that children attending the camp arrive at school on Monday 31 May no later than 7.00am for roll marking. Students are due to return back to school on Wednesday 2 June around 3.45pm.

John Goh  
Principal



## Canteen—Term 2 winter menu

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Variable Menu</b>	Mini pancakes with mixed berry sauce \$2  Chicken Salad Sandwich \$2  Salad Sandwich \$2	Sliced chicken with potato wedges \$2  Rice with Lentils \$2	Vegetarian Pizza \$2  Cheese Pizza \$2  Oregano Pizza \$2	Lamb Nachos with Sour Cream \$2  Vegetarian Nachos with Sour Cream \$2	Seasoned chicken drumstick with rice and chickpeas \$2  Seasoned chicken drumstick with couscous salad \$2
<b>Every Day Menu</b>	Fruit Cup \$1 Hummus Dip with Vegetable Sticks and Lebanese Bread Crisps \$2  Popcorn \$1  Date slice \$1  Ice Block \$1	Fruit Cup \$1 Hummus Dip with Vegetable Sticks and Lebanese Bread Crisps \$2  Popcorn \$1  Date Slice \$1  Ice Block \$1	Fruit Cup \$1 Hummus Dip with Vegetable Sticks and Lebanese Bread Crisps \$2  Popcorn \$1  Date slice \$1  Ice Block \$1	Fruit Cup \$1 Hummus Dip with Vegetable Sticks and Lebanese Bread Crisps \$2  Popcorn \$1  Date slice \$1  Ice Block \$1	Fruit Cup \$1 Hummus Dip with Vegetable Sticks and Lebanese Bread Crisps \$2  Popcorn \$1  Date slice \$1  Ice Block \$1
<b>Drink</b>	Bottled Water \$1				

### Uniform Shop

Order forms are available from the school office. Orders will be filled on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Cash only.

<b>Dresses &amp; Skirts</b>	
Blue Checked Dress	\$40
<b>Shirts and Jumpers</b>	
Shirt- Short Sleeve Blue	\$20
Shirt- Long Sleeve Blue	\$20
V Neck Jumpers	\$25
Zip Jacket	\$30
Nylon Jacket	\$45
<b>Shorts and Long Pants</b>	
Shorts – Boys Grey	\$20
Long Pants – Boys Grey	\$25
Long Pants – Girls Blue Bootleg	\$22
<b>Sport Uniform</b>	
Shirt- Short Sleeve White	\$20
Shirt- Long Sleeve White	\$20
Tracksuit Pants – Blue Fleecy	\$20
Shorts – Blue	\$15
Skorts – Girls Blue	\$20
PSSA Soccer Socks (Yrs 3-6 only)	\$2
<b>Hats and Headwear</b>	
Hijab ninja – white (1 piece)	\$9
Hat – bucket style	\$12
Hat - cap	\$12
<b>Other</b>	
Library Bag	\$10

### 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. Closing dates vary for each assessment. Digital Technologies closes on 25th July, English closes on 1st August, Science closes on 8th August and Mathematics closes on 15th August.

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**



### PSSA

#### Friday 28th May, 2021

Netball—against Blaxcell Street Public School at Blaxcell Street Public School

Soccer—against Lidcombe Public School at King Park

\$8 bus fare **IS** required for Netball only

#### Friday 4th June, 2021

Netball—against Rosehill Public School at MEPS

Soccer—against Guildford Public School at King Park

Good luck all players!



## P & C News

Last year the MEPS P&C approved the release of funds to supply the school with a new LED sign for our playground. The sign will face inside the school so all families can read the latest news each morning and afternoon when they drop off and pick up their children. Construction will begin soon.

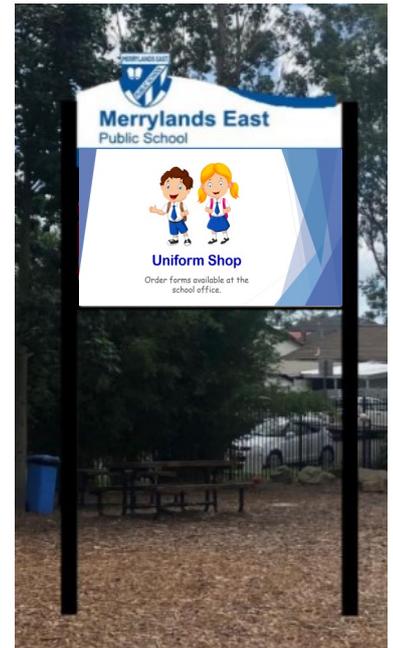
This is one of many projects the P&C helps fund within the school. Funds were given last year to help with the purchase of the second set of bubblers outside 'C' Block. The Mother's Day gift bags were fully funded, put together and handed out to students by a small number of P&C members. The next big project will be ordering and manning the Father's Day stall at the end of August.

The P&C are always ready to welcome new members. It's a great opportunity to meet other parents and be a part of a community that gives assistance and support to the school.



The next P&C meeting will be held on **Thursday 17th June, 2021 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 before picking up the 'kids'. Preschoolers are welcome.



## Library News

My Library Day is:

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

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.

## Meet the Teacher

### Mrs Kalank

What do you love about being a teacher?

The thing I like most about teaching is seeing my students every day. I love seeing them grow, learn and become resilient. It's amazing watching them learn new things and get excited when they achieve their personal goals. Every day is a new adventure and an opportunity to learn and have fun.



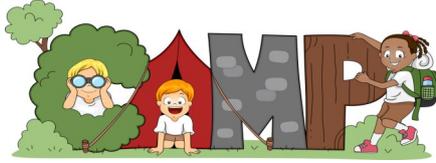
### Favourites

What is your favourite:

- Book - *'Thelma the Unicorn'* by Aaron Blabey
- Book Character - *Cinderella*
- Subject - *PE sport*
- Hobby - *Catching up with friends*
- Movie - *The Wizard of Oz*
- Movie Character - *Donkey from 'Shrek'*
- Sport - *Soccer*
- Colour - *Pink!*
- Food - *Burgers!*
- Drink - *Banana or vanilla thick shake*
- Singer or group - *Back Street Boys!*
- Childhood Toy - *Bratz!*

## Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush

Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush Camp is on next week and students are getting really excited about the fun they are going to have at this great camp.



Students must arrive at school no later than 7.00am and early in the morning on Monday 31st May and will return at approximately 3.45pm on Wednesday 2nd June.

Remember to give any medication to the teacher and definitely **NO PHONES** are allowed. Make sure all belongings are labelled.

Keep your eye on Merrylands East twitter for great photos of the students' adventures!

## 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>

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).

## Did you know?



It is a tradition in Iceland that all students from the age of seven must learn to knit as part of their regular school syllabus.

It's very cold in Iceland so this would be a great skill to learn!

## 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 of 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.



## 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.



Health

