



# MEPS MAIL

Term 3 Week 3 - 8th August 2024

## Key Dates

### Term 3

#### **Mon, 5 - Fri 9 August**

- Education Week

#### **Wednesday, 14th August**

- Art Exhibition

#### **Wednesday, 14th August**

- Open Classrooms

#### **Mon, 19 - Fri 23 August**

- Book Week

#### **Tuesday, 20th August**

- Book Character Parade

#### **Thursday, 22nd August**

- Kindy Excursion

#### **Tuesday, 27th August**

- Fathers' Day Stall

#### **Wednesday, 28th August**

- Whole School Assembly

#### **Thursday, 5th September**

- Author visit Stage 2

#### **Mon 16th - Fri 27th Sept**

- Swim Scheme

#### **Wednesday, 18th Sept**

- Whole School Assembly

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## Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Public Education Week is an important occasion to recognise and celebrate the collective efforts of everyone who supports the educational journey of our children and young people. This includes school staff, parents and caregivers, community leaders, and P&C Associations, all of whom play a vital role across over 2000 public schools in New South Wales.

The theme for this year's Public Education Week is "Proud to Belong." This theme resonates deeply with me as I reflect on my own educational journey, which began at two remarkable public schools: Hornsby Public School and Normanhurst Boys' High School. These institutions not only offered outstanding academic and extracurricular programs but also upheld principles of accessibility and inclusivity. My parents chose these schools because they were free and compulsory, ensuring that all students, regardless of family income, language, or cultural background, had equal opportunities. My career in education, spanning five public schools before arriving at Merrylands East PS, is a testament to the lasting impact of these early experiences.

Public schools have a rich history of nurturing exceptional individuals. Notable alumni include Michael Kirby, the longest-serving High Court judge; Jessica Fox, an Olympic gold medallist and dux of Blaxland High School, alongside her sister Noemie; Michelin Star chef Brett Graham; and celebrity chefs, Maggie Beer and Justine Schofield. These examples highlight how public education has played a pivotal role in shaping the lives and careers of people across various fields.

This week, we are thrilled to welcome officers from the NSW Department of Education on Thursday morning for a reception and tour of our school as part of our Public Education Week festivities. Additionally, next Wednesday, parents are invited to visit our Art Gallery in the Hall to appreciate the diverse talents of our students. We look forward to celebrating with you and showcasing the remarkable contributions of our public education system.

Earlier this week, our Stage 3 students embarked on an exciting educational journey to Canberra, Australia's capital, to deepen their understanding of the Federal Government and national heritage. Visiting Canberra is a crucial part of our students' education. It bridges the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world application, helping them understand and appreciate the foundations of our democratic system and cultural heritage. This immersive experience was designed to complement their classroom learning and provide them with a tangible connection to the workings of our country's political and cultural institutions.

John Goh (Principal)



## Attention Parents - New Gate Procedures

From Monday 12th August 2024, all gates except the Walker Street gate will be closed at **8am** each day. After 8am all students will need to **enter via the gate near the office in Walker Street**. We are doing this as there are no longer teachers on the playground to make sure that only authorised visitors are on the grounds after teaching begins. The Department of Education requires all students to be at school ready for learning at **8am**.



## Book Week & Character Parade

Book Week is a time when public libraries and schools across Australia celebrate children's literature by hosting activities and events centred on books. The Children's Book Council of Australia has been running it since 1945, with a focus on encouraging children to get involved in reading by introducing them to some of our most beloved authors and stories

This year the theme is "Reading is Magic" and is celebrated from 17th to 23rd August.



MEPS will conduct its annual Book Character Parade on Tuesday 20th August. Parents and caregivers are invited to watch the parade from 8.15am to 9.00am

## NSW Public Schools Education Week

This week we have celebrated Public Education Week, a state-wide annual event, held by the NSW Department of Education, to celebrate NSW public education.

The theme this year has been "Proud to belong". Public Education Week is a time for all of us to feel "proud to belong", sharing our pride in being part of NSW public education and the achievements of our students and staff.

As part of our celebrations MEPS will be holding an Art Exhibition and Open Classrooms on Wednesday 14th August from 12.30pm to 1.15pm. The Art Exhibition will showcase the wonderful works created by our students this year.



Families can purchase their child's artwork with a donation. These donations will go towards school resources and equipment. Parents and caregivers are also invited to visit classrooms where students will showcase their learning.

## Kindy Enrolments for 2025

Merrylands East Public School is accepting Kindergarten enrolments for 2025. To be eligible to enrol, students need to be turning 5 years old by 31 July 2025.

For enrolment purposes, you will require proof of age (birth certificate or passport), proof of citizenship (passport, citizenship certificate or visa documents), proof of residential address (a gas or electricity bill, rate notice or a lease agreement), and immunisation history from Medicare. Original documents need to be shown to the office after the online enrolment is complete.

Visit:

[Merrylands East Public School](#) website [Enrolments](#) tab





## Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

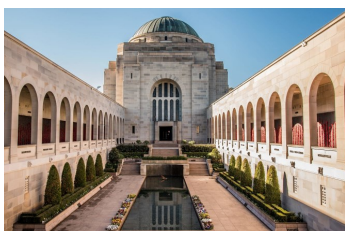


Stage 3 had an exciting excursion to our nations capital. They had a whirlwind tour of so many of Canberra's landmarks and points of interest.

The trip included a visit to Parliament House, where students had the opportunity to witness firsthand the processes of Australian democracy. They explored the chambers where critical decisions are made and engaged with interactive exhibits that brought the complexities of federal governance to life. At the Australian Electoral Commission, students learned about the electoral process, gaining insights into how elections are conducted and the significance of every vote.

The educational adventure continued with a visit to the Australian Institute of Sport. Here, students saw the dedication and talent of elite athletes and understood the importance of sports and physical fitness in our national culture. The National Museum offered another enriching experience, showcasing Australia's diverse history and cultural heritage through engaging exhibits and interactive displays.

The Australian War Memorial provided a poignant and reflective moment as students paid tribute to those who have served our country. They learned about the sacrifices made by past generations and the values of courage and commitment that continue to shape our nation. Lastly, Questacon, Australia's National Science and Technology Centre, sparked curiosity and wonder with its hands-on science exhibits, encouraging students to explore and question the world around them. Thank you Ms Mirzaee, Miss Babic and Mr Bramall for making the trip a memorable occasion for our students.



## Swimming Scheme

The NSW Department of Education School Swimming and Water Safety Program commences on Monday 16th September concluding on Friday 27th September 2024. It is a 10 day program that provides students with the opportunity to develop water safety skills along with very beginning skills to swim. For those more advanced in swimming, the program enhances their skills in swimming techniques. Notes will be coming home soon and is open to Years 2 - 6.



## Kindy Visits the Farm

On Thursday, 22nd August, Kindergarten students will visit Calmsley Hill City Farm, in Abbotsbury. Kindy students will have a great day learning about different farm animals and how they help us. It will be exciting to ride behind the tractor, try to crack a whip, see the cow being milked and patting some of the animals.





## 100 Days of Kindergarten



On 25th July, Kindergarten students celebrated 100 Days of Learning. The students had great fun dressing up and enjoying this milestone. They all looked Amazing, Confident and Inspiring! Thank you Kindy teachers for making this day very memorable and thank you Mr Nick for sharing your vintage car with us.



## Term 3 Assemblies



Parents and Caregivers are invited to the following whole school assemblies for Term 3 starting at 12.30pm.

Week 6 Wednesday 28th August

Week 9 Wednesday 18th September

## Help!

Our school canteen serves delicious food each day for our students. All food is cooked on site from fresh ingredients and fresh fruit every day.

The Canteen needs **volunteers** to help our Canteen Supervisor continue to offer this delicious food to our students. If you can help please contact the office.



## Fathers' Day Stall

The Fathers' Day Stall will be held on Tuesday 27th August. There are lots of exciting gifts for dads, grandfathers and other special people in your children's lives. Gifts range from \$1 to \$10.



## P&C NEWS

MEPS P&C is always looking for new members.

The next P&C meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd August, 2024. This is not a meeting about your child.

The meeting will be held at 12.30pm in the Community Room under the verandah of Block C.

