



Merrylands East Public School

Create the Future

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Welcome back to MEPS 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2022 school year. The official starting date for children to return to school is **Tuesday 1st February 2022 for Years 1 to 6 students and for all Kindergarten students Friday 4th February 2022**. Kindergarten will have Orientation Days on the 2nd and 3rd February 2022, 8:15-9:30am prior to **ALL** students starting full days on Friday 4th February 2022.

Students will be placed in grade groups and will work with groups of teachers until all students have commenced school. It is anticipated that 13 classes will be formed early in the second week of the year after our new enrolments have been finalised. The NSW Department of Education provides classroom teachers on the basis of total school enrolment, not individual grade enrolments. Therefore, there will be occasions when our enrolments are finalised that multi-age classes may need to be created. This is the same for all public primary schools across NSW. Students who were in composite classes in 2021, where possible, will not be placed in a multi-age classes in 2022. Academic results in multi-age classes are no different as some of the highest contributors to student success are teacher quality, students' motivation to learn, the support of families and regular school attendance. Homework will commence for the majority of grades soon after classes are formed. Home Reading is the compulsory homework throughout the school.

As you are aware, **we start at 8:00am (playground supervision from 7:30am) and finish our school day at 1:15pm. Students should not arrive at school before 7.30am.**

In the afternoon,

New K: (and older brother / sister) will leave via the Walker Street Gate (next to the Office)

Year 1: (and older brother / sister) will leave via the Myee Street Gate (next to the Heritage Building)

Year 2: (and older brother / sister) will leave via the Myee Street Gate (near the Year 2 classroom)

Year 3/4: York Street Gate (near Canteen)

Year 5/6: York Street Gate (near Year 6 rooms)

The school swimming carnival, for Years 3-6 and Year 2 students turning 8 years old in 2022, will be held on Wednesday, 16th February 2022, at Guildford Swimming Centre. Children who can swim 50 metres independently may attend the carnival.

Attendance at school is compulsory and important in maintaining continuity in learning. The state average for attendance is **94% or no more than 12 days absent in a school year**. Students can only be absent from school if they are genuinely sick or need to have a medical appointment that cannot be scheduled outside of school hours. Students must not stay at home for birthdays, caring for members of the family or catching up with visiting relatives. School absences affect your child's learning performance. Students who are late to school and arrive after 8:05am will need to enter via the Walker Street Gate and get a late note.

We must not be complacent about Covid19. Students with flu like symptoms must not attend school. Parents must provide a reason for their child's absence within 7 days of returning school.

NSW School Terms 2022 for Students and Classes:

- **Term 1** Tuesday 1 February to Friday 8 April
- **Term 2** Wednesday 27 April to Friday 1 July
- **Term 3** Tuesday 19 July to Friday 23 September
- **Term 4** Monday 10 October to Monday 19 December

School Uniform is part of the dress code of our school. All students are expected to wear school uniform. Orders for school uniforms can be made at the office. **The uniform shop will be open during the school vacation on Monday 31st January 2022 from 9am – 12pm. Please go to the Myee Street gate at the railway line end of the Heritage building (white building).**

All mobile phones are to be handed to the office in the morning and collected in the afternoon.

In preparation for the school year the following stationery is required;

Years 3-4 will require:

- 2 HB lead pencils, 2 whiteboard markers, ruler, rubber, sharpener and glue stick

Years 5 and 6 will also require:

- 2 blue pens, 2 HB lead pencils, 2 whiteboard markers, ruler, rubber, sharpener, glue stick and a protractor

Stationery is provided for Kindergarten to Year 2 students. Years 1 and 2 students might like to bring their own HB and coloured pencils to school.

Liquid Paper and thick permanent markers are not permitted in our school.

Over the past two years, the NSW Department of Education has recognised our canteen as a Healthy Canteen. For students bringing in their own recess it is important that students **avoid bringing chips, lollies and soft drinks to school.** Instead, fresh and dried fruits, vegetables like carrot sticks, sandwiches and wraps are preferable. Our school is aiming to reduce waste and rubbish to improve our school environment **so please limit the use of plastic wrappers where possible.**

On behalf of my staff, I wish everyone a wonderful school year.

John Goh
Principal
18th January 2022

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CHANGE OF DETAILS FORM

If any of your details have changed please fill in the form below and return to office.

Oldest child's name _____

Mobile Mother: _____ Mobile Father _____ Home _____

Address: _____