



Mernda Park PS Newsletter

ISSUE #2

Principal's Message

Respectful Relationships

Yesterday was International Women's Day which is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. This day also highlights the unacceptably high rates of family violence, in particular violence against women and their children, which are well documented. We know that cultural change is necessary and evidence shows that schools and early childhood services can play a powerful role in changing this story for future generations. The implementation of the program **'Respectful Relationships' in schools and early childhood education and care settings is about tackling family violence.** We have applied for a grant to be a partner school with Mernda Central College to implement and support the delivery of respectful relationships education, through the new Victorian Curriculum across all year levels. A good education is about more than simply getting good marks. It is about becoming a member of society and succeeding in life – knowing how to build respectful relationships is key to achieving this. At MPPS we believe, "Everyone has the right to feel safe, to be treated with fairness, to be valued and feel accepted for who they are. Respectful relationships are important because: they contribute to your growth, maturity and sense of self-confidence. They promote healthy self-expression and awareness of yourself and others." Our staff and students have done a lot of work over the past few weeks establishing what we believe the values and culture of MPPS should look like. As you will see below kindness and looking after each other has been a strong focus of these discussions, note our use of the acronym **CARE**.

At MPPS we care about each other and value:

Collaboration	- Working together
Achievement	- Doing our absolute best
Responsibility	- Choosing right, doing right
Empathy	- Being kind, considerate and helpful

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to all of our parents who attended Meet the Teacher Interviews. From all reports it was an invaluable experience for all concerned to meet and share information. There was also lots of opportunity to celebrate successful achievements attained to date and identify pathways for

Labour Day Public Holiday

Don't forget there will be no school on Monday 13th March due to the Labour Day public holiday. After a busy but amazing start to MPPS I'm sure our staff, especially our Prep teachers, will appreciate an extra sleep in day! I hope all families have a relaxing, safe and enjoyable long weekend and we look forward to having all our students return on Tuesday 14th March.



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What's been happening...

Simon Learning Community

Last week in SLC, the 1/2 students read 'The Rainbow Fish' and created their own fish to display in the Learning Community.



"The Rainbow Fish is about sharing and we learnt all about how the Rainbow Fish shared his shiny scales with all the other fish."
- Armani

"We had to decorate our own colourful rainbow fish and had to trace out two shiny scales to stick onto our fish." - Josh



Plenty Learning Community

Prep testing has now concluded, all prep students will now attend school Monday to Friday.

Yan Yean Learning Community



Soccer Report

On Friday morning Mernda Park Central went to Whittlesea Primary to play soccer. Our team was playing really well in defence and blocking the goal attempts. Near the end of the first half Whittlesea Primary scored a goal, 4 seconds later the whistle blew. No more goals were scored but we tried hard.
By Khaled and Luca

Cricket Report

On Friday morning MPC went to Whittlesea Primary to play girls' cricket. We lost 77 to 137, but it's not about winning or losing. We played better than last week. We are expected to play again on Friday. Our team worked together and we are making new friends along the way. Thank-you
Hannah and Clare



Net Set Go! Report

Suncorp NetSet GO is Netball Australia's only junior entry netball program. It provides children from 5 to 10 years with a positive introduction to netball, incorporating skills activities, minor games, music, dance and modified matches. Delivered in a fun and safe environment, the weekly program is coordinated by accredited coaches like our own Briony Ralph to ensure all participants have an enjoyable experience, while developing fundamental life skills. This week in NetSetGO students have been learning goal shooting and passing skills.



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Student of the Week

Focus — Kindness

Term 1 week 4 & 5

Yan Yean LC / 3-6

Olivia S

Clare T

Simon LC / 1-2

Ethan B

Brayden V

Plenty LC / Preps

Liam S

Sarah W

Dilsher K

Ashleigh V

Visual Arts

Nickola J

Pritika S

Physical Education

Anakin T

Gabby R

Performing Arts

Stella J

Courtney B

Environmental Award

Isaac de V

Sarah W

Assistant Principal's Award

Clare T

Hannah T

Principal's Award

Kobe J

Myla E



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Reminders

- Bikes and scooters must be walked through the school grounds.
- All students riding a bike or scooter must wear an approved safety helmet.
- The bike shed should only be accessed by students dropping off or picking up their bike or scooter.
- The Central Plaza area is a walking only space.
- Safe riding to school must be a priority.
- The yard will be supervised by duty staff in the morning from 8.30am until 8.45am and in the afternoon from 3.15pm until 3.30pm and during all break times. Students need to be in attendance and ready for learning by 8.45am.



School Crossing

It's wonderful to see so many of our MPPS students and families using our school crossing responsibly. When travelling to and from school, please remind your children to always use the school crossing.

Important School Crossing Guidelines

- Stand behind the white line and wait for the School Crossing Supervisor to signal when it is safe to cross.
- Never run, skip, jump, bounce a ball or ride a bike/scooter/skateboard across the school crossing.

Children learn by example so please remember school crossings are not just for children, they are also for adults. Please set a good example and use the school crossing whenever flags are displayed.

Don't forget to say hello our School Crossing Supervisor, Gloria.





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Canteen News

Special Lunch Day

Tuesday 28th March

On Tuesday 28th March MPPS are having a Special Lunch Day where families can place orders from a special lunch menu. All orders on this day will go into a draw for two lucky families to win a \$10 voucher kindly provided by Our Online Canteen. Students will also have the chance to win a prize on the day.

To place an order follow the link to Our Online Canteen www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au and log in or register to select from the Special Lunch Day menu by Friday 24th March. Regular menu not available on this day.

Pack 1

Hot Dog

Fruit Juice

Chocolate egg \$6.00



Pack 3

Veggie Burger (with lettuce & mayo)

Fruit Juice

Chocolate egg \$6.00

Pack 2

Chicken Burger (with lettuce & mayo)

Fruit Juice

Chocolate egg \$6.00



From the Office

The school office will be open from 8.30am—4.00 pm, please don't hesitate to call in if you have any questions. The phone number is 0457 657 785 (this will change shortly with the installation of the school land line phone system.)

School Photos

School photos will be on Monday the 1st of May. Full school uniform as always is required.

Lost Property

Please ensure your child's uniform and any belongings are clearly labelled.

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CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund)

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. Families holding a valid meanstested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students. Applications must be submitted by March the 10th. Application forms are available from the school website www.merndaparkps.vic.edu.au

Material Charges

Material charges are due by the end of term1. Payment can be made either in person at the front office or by phone or alternatively on Compass, we accept Eftpos, Visa, and MasterCard. If you are having difficulty with payment please contact Finoula in the office.

Husk Coffee/Tea Cups

Our sustainable husk coffee/tea cups are now on sale in the front office for \$15. The money raised from these cups will go toward our resource room.

