



Mernda Park PS Newsletter

ISSUE #7

Principal's Message

National Reconciliation Week 2017

The theme for #NRW2017 is 'Let's Take the Next Steps'. National Reconciliation Week (NRW) runs annually from 27 May – 3 June. These dates mark two milestones in Australia's reconciliation journey: The 1967 referendum and the historic Mabo decision, respectively. In 2017, we reflect on two significant anniversaries in Australia's reconciliation journey – 50 years since the 1967 referendum, and 25 years since the historic Mabo decision. As we commemorate these significant milestones, it is a time for all Australians to be a part of the next big steps in our nation's reconciliation journey. At this week's assembly Hannah, one of our students, explained to the students and the parent audience the significance of the Aboriginal flag and what each colour on the flag represents.



School Council

Our next school council meeting will take place on Friday 2nd June at 2:15pm. Our school council includes myself as the principal (as Executive Officer) and members from the school's parent and Department (school staff) categories. Many schools also have community members co-opted onto their school council. Our school council is made up of Victoria Judd (PLC and SLC), Kaushalya Arnott (PLC and YYLC) and President Kathy Duffield (PLC) as parent members, Geny Zambello General Manager of Children's Services YMCA as our community member and Caroline Van Oorschot and I as Department members. Finoula prepares agendas, collates reports and takes minutes. Each council member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role and our councillors have an interest in our school and the desire to work in partnership with us to help shape the school's future. At our next meeting we will be looking at our draft school council standing orders which will then be outlined in our next newsletter.

Education Week

Thank you to our wonderful parents and grandparents who came along to our open morning and enjoyed our Education Week activities. The Wednesday soccer clinics for all learning Communities are continuing. It was great to see some mums and dads joining in with their children having fun at school and kicking a ball.

Uniform

The winning design of our new winter tunic as voted for by our community is on show in the office area and is now available at PSW. Our new tunic can be worn with navy tights and the long sleeved school polo top. The addition of the tunic will provide another option for students but the current popular choice of pants and the long sleeve polo top is still an option. Our students look very smart and warm in our tunic.

Important Dates

Term 2

Friday 2nd June

School Council Meeting
2:15pm

Monday 5th June

Whole School
excursion to CERES

Monday 12th June

Queens Birthday Public Holiday No School

Friday 16th June

PFA Meeting 8:45am

Tuesday 20th June

School Tour 5pm

Wednesday 28th June

Crazy Hair &
Special Lunch Day

Friday 30th June

Last day of Term 2

Term 3

Monday 17th July

Term 3 commences

Friday 22nd Sept

Last day of Term 3

Term 4

Monday 9th October

Term 4 commences



Mernda Park PS Newsletter



Student of the Week Focus — Collaboration Term 2 week 5 & 6



Yan Yean LC

Hannah T

Simon LC / 1-2

Jasper Z

Plenty LC / Preps

Lewis J

Chimamanda M

Visual Arts

Alyse C

Physical Education

Hunter T

Performing Arts

Dinara J

Environmental Award

Kobe J

Isaac D

Manjir K

Olivia S

Jade Z

Assistant Principal's Award

Ashleigh V

Principal's Award

Bethany Y

Zoneeta H

Summer B

Holly B

Rocco C

Sean R

Nicolas C

Cooper C

Stephanie R

Madison V

Alveer S

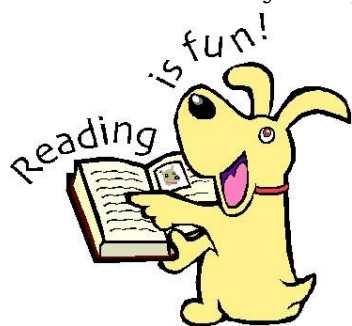
Chantal K



Mernda Park PS Newsletter

Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Mernda Park Primary School is excited to be participating. The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 8 September 2017. Children from Prep to Year



2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers.

Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books. All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and can choose to have their name included on the online Honour Roll.

To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc Please see Rachel in the office for assistance if required.



World Environment Day Westfield

Saturday 3 June, 10:30am—1 pm

Location: Westfield Plenty Valley, 415 McDonalds Rd, Mill Park

Celebrate World Environment Day and joining in on some fun family activities on offer at Westfield Shopping Centre. While you shop, learn about the environmental gems of Whittlesea. During this event there will be:

- An interactive native animal show
- Information and resources about how our beautiful native flora can bring birds to your garden and protect it from pests
- Face painting—after you pat them, become a tawny frogmouth or blue tongue lizard
- Information on where to see local highlights of our region and contacts for special interest groups
- Giveaways

And much more!

Inter-School Sports Report

On a cold Friday morning Mernda Park Central played a home game of football against Harvest Home PS. It was a fairly rough game by both teams who played hard. I played in the full back position, the ball reached the 50 metre mark and I ran in for the bump so that our team could get the ball. During the last quarter Harvest home were still zero and Mernda Park Central had scored 75 points. Amazingly MPC then kicked another goal.

During the game I grabbed the ball twice and was tackled to the ground twice. But I did not give up and kept going in for the ball. This is our second win for the season and so far our team is undefeated. The final score was 81 to 0. We are really proud of how well we played and we can't wait until the next game. We ran off the field screaming our theme song. Kyle M and Nickola J



Mernda Park PS Newsletter

From the Office

Whole School CERES Excursion

Students will be required to be at school by **8:30am on Monday 5th June** for our whole school excursion to CERES.

What to Bring: **Waste-Free** snack and lunch
 Refillable water bottle
 MPPS Rain Jacket / Coat

CERES works on the **Rethink-Reduce-Reuse-Recycle** policy. **You are asked to bring food in a lunch box with as little packaging as possible.** CERES teachers will provide bins for composting food scraps and recycling drink containers only. Any wrappers will need to come home for disposal. Students will arrive back to school by 3:15pm.

Material Charges

Material charges are now overdue, payment can be made on Compass, at the office or by phone. We accept Eftpos, Visa, and MasterCard. If you are having difficulty with payment please contact Finoula in the office to arrange a payment plan.

School Banking

Bendigo Bank School banking will be collected every Thursday from your child's Learning Community. Account opening forms are available on our website.

YMCA Children's Programs

Out of School Hours Care is available to Mernda Park PS families through YMCA Children's Programs. Information on how to register is available on our website at <http://www.merndaparkps.vic.edu.au/out-of-school-hours-care.html>



2018 Enrolments

Enrolments are now open for 2018. Please contact our office staff for enrolment forms.

COMPASS

Compass is our main tool for communicating with parents on a day to day basis about everything happening at Mernda Park Primary School. Using Compass allows you up-to-date and meaningful information about our school and your child's progress. Some of the features Compass includes are:

- Monitoring of your child's attendance, entering an explanation for absence or lateness
- Viewing your child's timetable and the school calendar
- Downloading and view your child's semester reports
- Book 3 way conferences for your child
- Pay and provide consent for events and Material Charges

See some helpful tips on how to use the Attendance feature here ➔

This can be used for students who are away for reasons such as; illness, medical appointments, family holidays etc.

Where possible, parent approvals should be entered prior to the absence occurring.

Please contact our office staff if you require assistance with compass.

Attendance: Entering a Parent Approval

1

From the Compass home screen (or from your student's profile), click the 'Add Parent Approval' item.

2

- From the pop-up window,
- Select the reason,
 - Enter a brief description of the absence,
 - Select the start and finish time,
 - Click the 'Save' button.

Note:
 Where possible, parent approvals should be entered prior to the absence occurring.



Activity	Start	End
ENR01K: English Unit	17/05/2016 08:00 AM	17/05/2016 09:47 AM
ENR01K: English Unit	17/05/2016 09:51 AM	17/05/2016 10:46 AM
PHU03A: Physics Unit	17/05/2016 11:13 AM	17/05/2016 12:08 PM
PHU03A: Physics Unit	17/05/2016 12:19 PM	17/05/2016 01:14 PM
PHU03B: Physics Unit	17/05/2016 01:18 PM	17/05/2016 02:13 PM