



Mernda Park PS Newsletter

ISSUE #16

Principal's Message

Student Free Day Monday 6th November

Staff will be working off site on reporting so students
DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL on this day.

Punctuality

We have an increasing number of students who are arriving at school late. At MPPS each morning at 8.42am music plays over the loudspeakers. This is everyone's cue to make their way to their Learning Community. When the music is finished at 8.45am students should be inside and ready for learning time not walking through the school gate. Class time at school is precious, so I urge you all to support our efforts to maintain punctuality at our school and to make learning the focus of all that we do at MPPS.

As stated learning time begins at MPPS at 8.45am so each student should be in his/her Learning Community by the time the music is finished. **Any student who arrives after the music has stopped should come via the school office to get a late pass and have his/her lateness recorded.**

How does being late for school impact on your child's learning?

5 minutes per day is

25 minutes per week

17 hours per year

221 hours per school life!

Doesn't sound much but then there are the other impacts. Good punctuality is essential for all children if they are to achieve their full potential academically and develop employment and life skills. Lateness has a negative impact on the child, his or her classmates and teachers. Children arriving late to class often miss important learning opportunities as well as messages and information. Students who arrive late to lessons are likely to miss the teacher's introduction when the aims of the lesson and learning objectives are explained and task instructions given. This hinders the child's understanding of the lesson and affects progress. In all cases, a child arriving late interrupts the lesson, disrupting teaching and learning for all.

Kindness at MPPS

At MPPS we highly value the importance of kindness and the impact an act of kindness can have on someone. It may be a simple smile to brighten someone's day or asking someone if he/she is ok if the person looks a little down! Ashlee Ierino is coordinating a kindness challenge at MPPS as outlined below. Please discuss this with your child and help us all to scatter kindness throughout MPPS and our wider community!

Mernda Park Primary School #ChooseKind Challenge

Over the next three weeks the staff and students of Mernda Park Primary School will be participating in the **'Choose Kind'** challenge. The 'Choose Kind' movement is inspired by the story 'Wonder' written by R.J.

Palacio. The challenge aims to build a positive and inspirational social change across Australia and inspire people to practice random acts of kindness every day.

The challenge includes three activities that students will complete at school:

Activity 1) - Fill a jar with kindness - every time an act of kindness is displayed, a token is placed in a jar.

Activity 2) - Precepts (mottos) to live by - students work together to create or choose their own classroom kindness precept.

Activity 3) - Entries are submitted. Each Learning Community will receive a 'Certified Kind' certificate of achievement. Schools that participate will have a chance to win an advanced screening of the movie adaptation WONDER for eligible classrooms.

Families may also register online and participate in the challenge at home. To find out more about the challenge, visit <http://www.choosekind.org.au/>

Stay tuned over the coming weeks for #choosekind challenge updates.

Important Dates

18th Oct to 6th Dec
Kingswim Swimming Lessons

Monday 6th Nov

Student Free Day

Tuesday 7th Nov

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

2018 Prep Transition Sessions

Friday 3rd November

Friday 10th November

Wed 20th December

Christmas Carols

Thursday 21st Dec

Last day of Term 4

1.15pm dismissal



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Student of the Week Focus — Responsibility

Yan Yean LC

John J

Simon LC / 1-2

Mahad M

Plenty LC / Preps

Brianna M

Christos P

Jade Z

Jessica C

Ruby C

Jackson P



Visual Arts

Lucas G

Performing Arts

Hannah T

PE Award

Jaidyn D

Environmental Award

Luka S

Assistant Principal's Award

Luka M

Principal's Award

Kyle M

John J

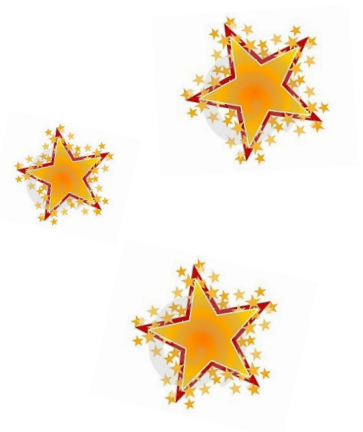
Richy Z

Lewis J

Ashton M

Christos P

Ashton M



School Captain Report

This year students from Yan Yean Learning Community have been working on an art project with Baseline Youth Services for the Mernda Community Gardens at Carome Homestead. We are trying to make it look good by making Scarecrows with recycled materials. Coffee shops at Westfield Plenty Valley have been saving their bottle tops for us to use for our artwork. Our project has received a Graffiti Prevention Grant from the Department of Justice to help remove the graffiti from the walls.

We are having a launch on Tuesday 28th November where our art project will be presented to our school community. Mernda Park PS families are welcome to come along.

Clare T



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MPPS Commemorative Tea Towels

Creating Lasting Memories!

Our limited edition tea towel design is made up of self-portraits drawn by all our children and staff earlier in the year when we had 99 students.

The pictures and names have been arranged all together as a commemorative design for the whole school then screen printed in Royal Blue and Red onto premium 100% white cotton tea towels.

Don't forget to order a few extras for family members and your keepsake box. Tea towels can be ordered by completing the form sent home last week and returning with payment to your child's learning community or the office or via compass. There is a sample tea towel *hanging in the office* to view.

Only \$13.00 each

Order online via Compass or by returning the form with full payment by **November**

23rd. Thank you for your continued support!

Contact: Finoula or Rachel on 8776 9700

2018 Material Charges

Material Charges consist of Essential and Voluntary components:

Essential Educational Learning Items – These are items that the school considers essential for all students. At MPPS we purchase student book packs and bulk supplies for student use, enabling considerable savings to parents due to our buying power as a school and GST saving.

At MPPS we work in line with Department of Educational and Training guidelines, so please see us if you have any questions. MPPS purchases a number of bulk classroom materials, supplies and learning programs including educational software such as Reading Eggs/Mathletics/Popplet, student diaries and food technology programs.

Voluntary Financial Contribution – Parents are invited to make a donation to the school for a general or specific purpose, e.g. Resource Room Fund. This fund enables us to purchase resources for our resource room for our students to utilise. One of the items we are interested in purchasing is a giant chess set.

2018 Material charges will be emailed out next week and are payable via compass or the office.

Payment of any 2017 charges are now overdue and prompt payment would be appreciated.

Prep Enrolments For 2018

First round enrolments have now **closed**. Please contact the office if you would like to enrol your child for 2018.

Prep Transition Sessions for 2018 enrolled students

- Friday 3rd November 9.30am-11am
- Friday 10th November Teddy Bears' Picnic 4pm-5pm

Students to come to school with their brain food (fruit/cheese/healthy snack) and their water bottle, a sun smart hat, applied sunscreen, comfortable clothes and closed shoes.

Our handbook for families and enrolment forms are available from the office or can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.merndaparkps.vic.edu.au/>

Christmas Carols

Our Christmas Carols evening will be held for the whole school community on Wednesday 20th December from 5.30pm. More information will be available soon.

