

Metella Road Public School

Growing and developing to our full potential



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Term 4 - Week 8

Monday, 25 November 2013

Calendar

What's On

Week 8

Wednesday, 27 November	Christmas Scripture Assembly
Thursday 28 November	Big Breakfast

Week 9

Wednesday, 4 December	High School Orientation Day
Thursday, 5 December	Academic Presentation Day
Friday, 6 December	Sports Presentation Day

Week 10

Monday, 9 December	Kindergarten Party Day
Tuesday, 10 December	Stage 1 Party Day
Wednesday, 11 December	Parents Auxiliary Christmas Lunch
Friday, 13 December	Stage 2 Party Day

Week 11

Monday, 16 December	Stage 3 Party Day
Tuesday, 17 December	Year 6 Graduation Ceremony and Farewell
Wednesday, 18 December	Last day Term 4

2014 School Starting Days

Tuesday 28 January – Staff Development Day

Wednesday 29 January – First day for Years 1 to 6

Principal's Message

Car Park Safety

For some time now I have asked parents and carers to use the front gates and not the staff car park entry. It is unsafe to enter the school grounds through the staff car park gates.

To ensure the safety of our students the car park gates will be closed prior to the 3.00pm bell.

During times of wet weather the staff car park is not to be used by parents and carers to drop off or pick up students. Parents of students with a disability have arranged, with my permission, to use the disabled car park.

Congratulations

A very special congratulations to Miss Ada Cheung on her promotion to Assistant Principal of Chatswood Public School beginning next year. Miss Cheung has been an exceptional classroom teacher and an instrumental member of the executive team here at Metella Road Public School. On behalf of the school and the community we wish Miss Cheung all the very best for the future.



MRPS School Bags 2014

We are introducing a Metella Road school bag that will be available for purchase on Monday, 9 December. We have sourced an excellent school bag that is designed to be supportive of children's backs and spine, extremely durable with a hard wearing base. The bag is 23 litres which is a great size for students from Kindergarten to Year 6. The bag comes with a 15 year warranty. The bag will cost \$40. Considering as parents we are normally buying a bag each year for around \$20 - \$40, our new school bag is a great addition to our school uniform. The bags will be for sale through the front office.



Big Breakfast – Thursday 28 November

Metella Road Public School is a proud community school. One that has a close relationship with its parents, carers and friends. Throughout the year many parents and friends lend a hand in so many ways to help us provide the best possible opportunities for our students. Some parents help in the classroom (some on a weekly basis), others during special occasions like our Spring Fete, Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls and others help out in their own special way like helping to cut down bulging tree roots to help prevent a trip hazard!

This Thursday is our way of saying thank you to everyone. Thank you for being part of our school. We would like to say thank you by providing breakfast! Come along and have bacon and egg rolls, sausage and egg rolls, fruit, and juice. Just a small way from our staff to you to say – thanks!

Academic Presentation Day & Sports Presentation Day

This year's academic presentation day will be held on Thursday 5 December and our sports presentation day will be held on Friday 6 December. Both days give us an opportunity to celebrate the exceptional talents, successes and achievements of not only those students who will receive awards and trophies but of all students who have made 2013 a truly fantastic year at Metella Road Public School.

Fete Survey

On behalf of the Spring Fete Committee we are asking anyone who attended our fete to complete a very brief survey to look at ways we can improve this event. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XLVWX2B>

Lost Property

There is a large number of student drink bottles, lunch containers and clothing in our lost property baskets without names or classes. If your child has misplaced any item please take a look. The lost property baskets are located in the front office. Please come to the front counter and one of the lovely office ladies will show you where the baskets are kept.

Second Hand Uniform

Beginning in 2014 we will be running a second hand clothing pool. The second hand clothing pool will be run separately from the Uniform Shop. More details will be given at the beginning of next year but we are now gathering clothing parents may have that is still in good condition that they would be willing to donate. If so please hand it in to the front office.



Uniform Sales

The last date for Uniform Sales this year is Friday, 13 December. The Uniform Shop will be open in the school holidays on the following dates:

Tuesday 21 January, 2014	9:00am-12:00pm
Friday 24 January, 2014	9:00am-12:00pm

Trivia Night 2014

Keep Saturday 15 March free in 2014!! Metella Road Public School is holding its annual Trivia Night and next year we will be going Tropicana!! As always we are in for a fantastic night of fun and trivia and in 2014 the prizes are going to be bigger and better!!

Lanyards 2014 – only \$2.00

We have had safety lanyards made with our school name and crest on them. Next year we are asking parents to purchase one of these lanyards to complement the key tag system for borrowing playground equipment. Parents will be asked to purchase the key tag only once for **\$1.00**. The lanyard can be used from year to year. Students will place the key tag on the lanyard and it will be hung up in each classroom. Students will take the lanyard out to play each recess and/or lunchtime and put it back on the hook once they are back in the classroom. There will be no need to take the lanyard home.



Staff Development Days Term 4 2013

Thursday 19 and Friday 20 December are Staff Development days. The last day for students is Wednesday 18 December. The staff of Metella Road Public School will be involved in professional learning activities over the two days.

Mr P. D'Ermilio
Principal

Kindergarten News

Wow, it is so hard to believe it is almost the end of 2013. The students in Kindergarten have worked extremely hard this year. They have learnt many new and exciting things and have developed a range of skills. It has been very pleasing to see the students develop academically as well as socially throughout the year. The Kindergarten teachers are all very proud of the efforts of the students and the pleasing progress they have made. We wish them all the best as they move into Year 1.

We are looking forward to finishing the year with some more exciting events including our Party Day and performing our Christmas songs at the Presentation Day Assembly.

Mrs S. Larobina
Assistant Principal

Stage One Report

Wow! The year has flown by and Stage One students are now looking forward to Party Day to be held in Week 10. Please read the Party Day note carefully as we will be asking parents to help provide party food. It will be a fantastic day as we have mufti, games, movies and a disco planned.

Presentation Day is also drawing near. It is a special day for all involved as we celebrate the achievements of students during 2014. Students are required to be in full school uniform on the day.

Stage One students are also looking forward to a talk from a builder during week 9 as part of our Science unit 'Creative Cubbies'. We are looking forward to this special talk as students will learn about materials used for construction.

We really hope to see many of our parent helpers at our Big Breakfast as it our way of saying thank you for the

contributions you have made to our stage. We appreciate your help!

Stage One teachers would like to wish all the students and families a very safe holiday and a very Happy New Year!

Miss A. Cheung and Mrs A. Saad
Assistant Principals

Stage 2 Report

It's hard to believe that we are so close to the end of the year and I would like to thank all the students and their teachers for their hard work.

Stage 2 students participating in the Western Sydney Wanderer's Football Program have been invited to Girraween Park on Thursday 12 December to play football games based on the skills they have learnt this year. Parents and caregivers are invited to attend from 11.30am. Guest speakers will talk to the students and they will be issued with certificates during the course of the day.

Stage 2 students will enjoy their party day on Friday 13 December and a note will be sent home shortly advising parents of the details. It will be a great way for the students to celebrate the end of the year and the upcoming holidays.

Finally, please join us for *The Big Breakfast* on Thursday 28 November. It is our way of saying 'thank you' for your support during the year.

Mrs N. Parker
Stage 2 Coordinator

Numeracy Portfolio

The Numeracy Portfolio is now busy stocktaking for the year. We hope to purchase more equipment next year to fill our Mathematics resource room.

Metella Road will continue to use enVision Mathematics as part of their program for 2014. Several classes are also currently trialling Mathletics as a digital resource for students. Keep your eyes out for further news on this in 2014!

We would like to thank parent helpers who have helped with Mathematics in the classroom this year. We also hope to hold more workshops in 2014 to help parents gain a better understanding of how Mathematics is taught in the classroom.

Mathematics will be a major focus in 2014 as we prepare for the implementation of the new syllabus in 2015. Teachers will be undergoing professional learning in 2014 to ensure they are prepared for the new changes. It will be an exciting year to come. Have a safe and happy holiday!

Miss A. Cheung
Numeracy Portfolio

Senior Dance B

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful girls who were a part of the Senior Dance Group B this year. Your dedication and motivation towards learning the dance and attending rehearsals is to be commended. It was a pleasure to work with such a great bunch of girls! A very special thank you to the parents who help their child become ready for performance day and for bringing them to the performance.

For those girls who are in Year 6 we wish you all the best in high school and hope your love of dancing continues to develop. Costumes will be handed out to you after Presentation Day. Well done girls!

Mrs A. Land and Miss M. Cheetham
Dance Co ordinators

Boys Dance Group

The Boys' Dance Group thoroughly enjoyed performing to 'Apache' at the 2013 Spring Fete. They now look forward to dancing at the end of year Talent Quest. Stay pumped boys, what an awesome year we've had together!

Mrs L. Boase
Boys Dance Group Co ordinator

Senior Dance Sport Group

The girls have continued to show their flare for dance this term. Their school fete performance was spectacular! If you missed it, never fear, they will be performing the routine again at the 3-6 Presentation Day later this term. Just a reminder for all girls to return their costume from the fete so that it is ready for the next performance. Well done to all of the dancers and thank you for making each Friday even more enjoyable!

Miss M. Jennings
Senior Dance Sport Co ordinator

Infants Drama Group

The Infants Drama Group has been having lots of fun each week, learning and practising our play "The Ugly Duckling" which we will perform at the upcoming 'Talent Quest'. The girls have participated with talent and enthusiasm! They have enjoyed creating headbands to wear for the play. I thank them for all their efforts. Parents and caregivers are invited to watch our performance in the Talent Quest (on the last day of school at approximately 11:40am). Thank you, Drama Group!

Mrs A. Fekkes
Drama Group Co Ordinator

Junior Choir

What a year the Junior Choir has had! We cannot believe the year is almost over. Thank you to all the children who came to Junior Choir this year. Your dedication, enthusiasm and singing ability is to be commended. It has been our pleasure to work with such a talented bunch of children!

The Junior Choir will be joining with the Senior Choir to perform at the Toongabbie Baptist Christmas Carols on Saturday 7 December. Permission notes will be coming home this week. The children have been busy in learning two new songs for performance night and can't wait to share this with our community. Keep it up Junior Choir!

Ms J. Minenko and Miss M. Cheetham
Choir Co ordinators

Senior Choir

It may be getting close to the end of the year but the Senior Choir is still busy rehearsing every week. After a very busy year, it is wonderful to see the enthusiasm that the choir still have in rehearsing their songs.

We are presently rehearsing for two major events on the School Calendar: The Presentation Day Assembly and the Toongabbie Baptist Church Christmas Carols on Saturday 7 December. The Senior Choir will combine with the Junior Choir to perform at the Carols Night, which will be held in the school grounds, commencing at 7:30pm.

They have recently filmed their audition DVD for the 2014 Massed Choir festivals. We will find out if they are successful early next year. Thank you to all the students who participated in our many choir events this year. You have sung well and represented our school confidently.

Mrs J. Cartwright
Senior Choir Coordinator

Technology at Metella Road Public School

BouncED On-line Learning Trial:

By now, all parents should be aware of the launch of the On-Line Learning Trial that the school is involved in. This web based learning experience is entitled 'BouncED' and can be accessed at www.bounced.com.au. Letters were sent home last week with details of the program including student usernames and passwords.

From the number of 'hits' we have witnessed after school hours, there are a considerable number of students accessing the system and enjoying the various programs available. This is a great indicator that the program works on most home platforms. We have however, received some parent feedback regarding accessing the program from systems other than Windows based PCs and we are trying our best to address these issues. Some of the issues include:

Apple iPad - Due to iPads not being able to run Flash media, the programs within the BouncED system (eg: Ziptales, Sunshine On-Line etc) will not run on this platform. The system will work at the beginning of 2014.

Android based tablets (eg: Samsung) - Issues with Samsung tablets have been resolved by parents applying Flash updates from the Samsung website. If you are having difficulty accessing BouncED via one of these devices, please contact me at school for the links to the updates.

Pop-Up Blockers - On certain systems (Windows and non Windows based) web browsers will treat BouncED links as pop-ups and try to block their use. The best way to resolve this is to click on 'always allow' pop-ups from BouncED when this question is asked. You can also adjust your pop-up blocker settings to allow pop-ups via the device management system. These settings are different for all platforms and you should check the manufacturer's website for details on how to do this.

If you do have any further issues with accessing the programs, please do not hesitate to contact the school either through direct email at metellard-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au OR via our website www.metellard-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. We will be more than happy to help problem-solve any issues you may have. We are looking forward to all students being able to take advantage of some wonderful, educational programs.

IPADS, Wireless Access and Technology in the Classroom:

At Metella Road Public School, we are proud of the way in which we use technology in our classroom to enhance learning and boost student outcomes. The use of technology in a meaningful and authentic manner helps our students to receive

more personalised learning experiences. As such, students have active control in their learning; able to make choices about how to generate, obtain, manipulate or display information.

Over the last term, we have been very fortunate to have wireless internet installed. This means that every student has access to the internet in any part of the school. This is a vital component of technology as students can access the internet on their Ipads and laptops, conducting investigations and producing authentic work samples. We have 32 Ipads in the school which students have daily access to. Students enjoy using these Ipads and are most certainly engaged in their learning. We are also excited to advise that we have purchased 10 Ipad minis for our Kindergarten students. This technology is easy for them to manipulate and engage with.

Ms J. Minenko and Mrs M. Gafa
ICT Co-ordinators

Western Sydney Wanderers Football Program

We have nearly completed 4 terms of the Western Sydney Wanderers Football Program and the growth and development of our students has been incredible. The feedback from the coaches has been all positive as students continue to develop their football skills. On Thursday 12 December students will head down for our game day a Girraween Park. After our game play session students will have the opportunity to get autographs signed and a presentation will follow.

An information pack has gone out and payment is due for our 2014 program by Wednesday 11 December.

I would like to thank all the students for being involved in the program in 2013 and we would love to see them re-sign for 2014.

Mr L. Byrne
Wanderers Program Co ordinator

SRC

A massive thank you to our SRC members for the dedication and commitment they have shown this year. It has been wonderful to see these members consistently looking for innovative ways in which to improve the school for all students who attend Metella Road Public School. It has been an honour to watch these students interact with each other, always aiming to do their best for the school.

Ms J. Minenko, Mrs S. Beacom, Mrs M. Pilason
SRC Co ordinators

Can Count

Please note that the last collection date for this year is Friday, 6 December. I wish you well over the festive season. For those students who are returning in 2014 why not collect cans over the school holidays.

Thank you to those families who collected cans over the year. Your children are the ones who benefit by the extra classroom resources that the money raised by the recycling of cans provides. In early 2014 a gift will be awarded to the student who has collected the most number of cans in 2013.

Mr G. Nash
General Assistant



TEA GARDENS • KINCUMBER

STAGE 3 CAMP

110 students from years 5 and 6 spent 3 days during week 7 at the Great Aussie Bush Camp. Such a wonderful time was had by all and the teachers and camp directors were very proud of the behaviour, participation and attitude of camp participants. Their days were spent in non-stop adventure in a range of activities that included - Giant Swing, Flying Fox, Rock Climbing, Canoeing, Gully Crossing, Mud Run (Lost Island), Low Ropes and Team Building activities.

Team Building



Rock Climbing



Giant Swing



Low Ropes



KA

Our first year of primary school is almost over! We have learnt lots of new things throughout the year and are excited about heading into Year One next year. We have captured the highlights of our year below.

Pranav - I like going to the library because sometimes I get to buy books and Mrs Aylett reads us stories.

Makenzie - My favourite thing about this year is writing because I get to learn lots of different words. I also like writing because sometimes I get to show Mr Staveley or Mr D'Ermilio.

Grace - My favourite part about this year is writing because sometimes I get to go to Mr D'Ermilio's office. I also like going to the nature garden because you need to walk and I like walking.

Raven - My favourite part about kindergarten is learning because I want to be smart.

Jay - The best part about kindergarten is the library because you can borrow books and also the spring fete because it was fun.

Jessica L - The best thing about kindergarten was the spring fete.

Levi - My favourite part of kindergarten is going to the computer room because you get to learn new things on the computer.

Jessica Z - My favourite part about kindergarten is going to the computer room.

Ally - I like familiar read because you can learn new words. I like doing art because we make different kinds of things.

Gabriella - My favourite part about kindergarten was making hens, pigs, turtles and spiders in art.

Bailey - My favourite part of kindergarten was the spring fete and art and craft.

Ashrit - My favourite part about kindergarten is going to the library at lunch time because kindergarten can play with toys.

Maheswari - The best thing at my school is after school care because you get to do lots of art.

Maahi - The best part about being at this school is playing with my friends.

James - The best thing about my school is art because we make lots of different things.

Arooran - My favourite part about this year is the spring fete because I went on the big slide and I got a prize from the laughing clowns.

Amelia - My favourite things about kindergarten are the computers, sport and going to the library.

Kyle - My favourite part about this year is the spring fete because there were lots of rides and lollies. I got to buy my artwork and I even had a snow cone.

Liam - The best part about kindergarten is doing activities every morning.



KB

KB have had lots of fun this year and we have become really clever. There are so many exciting things that we have done and we have formed special friendships that will last for many years to come. 😊

Anoop: I really liked playing in the Barcelona team for M-League soccer at school.

Leo: At school I learned to count by 2's and 10's and I made lots of friends. I learned to read and now I'm on Level 20!

Christine: I learned how to read and write and do art. I made lots of friends and I have been the Star Student.

Cooper: At school I learned to read and write. I learned to paint and draw too.

Cody: I won a race at the backfield and I like to play Avengers at lunch time.

Larni: When I started school I learned how to read and write, and I like art.

Liam: Before I started school I did not know how to read or even spell the words 'a' or 'I'. Now I can spell lots of words. I really like art.

Corey: I learned how to make a special Rainstorm picture in art. I really like doing the computers.

Rahul: I learned how to read and how to draw a picture for my mum, dad, and for my Grandpa.

Edward: I learned how to write and I like getting awards at Assembly.

Sahasra: On my first day of school I didn't know how to do the art work, but now I'm good at art.

Julia: My favourite things this year were the Easter Hat Parade and the Year 6 Mini Fete. I liked learning how to read.

Max: I learned how to read and write. I learned art. I was the Star Student. I like playing on the Ipad.

Charlotte: I learned how to paint and I made lots of new friends this year.

Jennifer: I am new at Metella Road, but I have made lots of friends in class.

Claudia: I have made lots of friends at school. I play Hide and Seek with them.

Makayla: At school I have learned how to read and write. I made lots of friends and I was the Star Student.

Aileene: When I started school I couldn't write, but then I learned how to write.

Luke: I like how we learned about lots of new things. I learned how to read lots of books and do writing.

Jayden: Before I started school I couldn't write and now I can. I can do awesome paintings, not messy paintings like I did at pre-school.



KG's Favourite Thing This Year Was...

... art because we used paint to make pictures. - Kanuja

... when we went to Calmsley Hill City Farm and saw a calf fight a sheep. -Lucius

... going to Featherdale Wildlife Park and patting a koala. -Adem

... painting our feet for our reindeer prints, it tickled! -Ayesha

... celebrating success with Dojo points because I won! -Emily

... painting and Mrs Boase! -Elizabeth

... holding the Living Eggs chicks because they were fluffy. -Tayla

... the Spring Fete because I spent money. -Patrick

... the Year 6 Mini Fete because I won a running competition. -Bailey

... the year 6 Mini Fete and painting our feet for the reindeer art because it was fun. -Sienna

... everything! I loved KG. -Lorenzo

... I got to play with my friends at the back field. -Nathan

... art and Mrs Boase. -Roman

... using computers in computer time and reading groups. -Arunan

... the Mini Fete because my brother shared his lollies with me. -Branesh

... running in the athletics carnival because it was fun. -Ewan

... playing with toys at lunch with my friends. -Hari

... playing in the play corner with my friends on rainy days. - Tiffany

... the athletics carnival because I came first and reading groups because we get to do our favourite thing. -Santhosh

... going to the Spring Fete and Mrs Boase. -Mikayla

... celebrating Dojo points and Mrs Boase. -Wyatt

My favourite thing this year was teaching so many kind children. KG, you are the best! -Mrs Boase ☺





The students in KL have enjoyed their first year at school. They have worked very hard throughout the year and have learnt many new and exciting things.

KL would like to share some of this year's highlights with you.

Aaliyah: At Featherdale Wildlife Park I saw a baby koala.

Abbey: I like reading books in the engine room because I get to go up a lot of levels.

Abigail: I liked doing writing in my writing book.

Anissa: I liked looking at the chicks that we had in our room.

Arjun: In KL we made robots.

Bailey: I went to the Spring Fete and I got to go on a lot of rides.

Harrison: I liked going to the farm and I liked the chickens the best.

Jesse: I saw a sheep at the farm.

Jessica: I liked playing with my buddy in the playground.

Joseph: I played with my friends in the back field and it was fun.

Kye: I like doing all of the reading group activities.

Kylash: I like going to the canteen and I get lots of yummy food.

Luka: I liked making a fruit bowl in art.

Luke: I really enjoyed saying my speech in front of the whole school.

Mansie: I like playing with the hoola-hoops under the K-2 COLA.

Michael: I like listening to stories.

Nabethan: I liked making the turtles because they are my favourite animal.

Ryan: I liked colouring in my birthday cake in Term 1.

Tyce: I liked making the lollipops and smarties artwork.

Waiaia: I liked rotating between activities with my buddy in the back field.



KM's kindergarten highlights

On Open Day I had fun because Mum and dad came to my school. I like KM. By Gabrielle

At school we had our Athletics Carnival. It was my favourite one because it was fun. By Skye

I liked the Open Day because my Mum came to see the inside of KM. By Maheer

I liked the Spring Fete because there were lots of big fun slides. My favourite was the rocket ride. It was really cool.
By Aryan

The Year 6 mini fete was so fun because there was face painting, drinks and pillow fighting. By Rajithan

I liked the Year 6 mini fete because I rode the fast rides. I went there with my Mum and Dad. By Jialin

I liked Open Day because my Mum and my Dad came to our school. By Valentina

I like doing dancing at the disco because I was dressed up as Spiderman. The music was great. By Vaiola

At the Spring fete I got fairy floss. I liked sock fighting at the year 6 mini fete. By Apostolos

I liked the haunted house at the Year 6 mini fete. My brother came with me. By Jazmyn

On the year 6 mini fete I went in the haunted house and the jumping Castle. By Joanna

I chose a sparkly book at the Book Fair. The haunted house at the mini fete was fun. By Rachael

I like the captain Metellas because when I get 10 I will get an AP award. By Arnav

In Kindergarten I went to a disco. I was dressed up as Iron Man. It was fun. By Sebastian

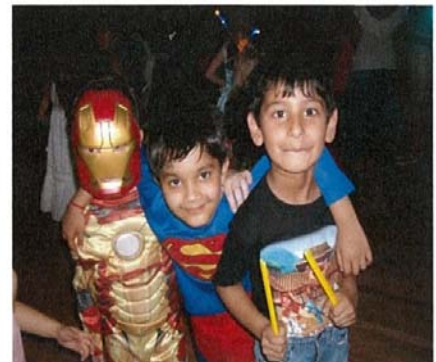
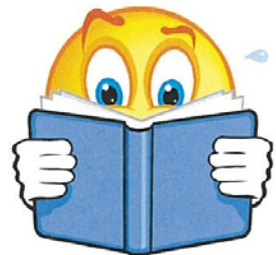
In kindergarten we did Art and Reading Groups. Kindergarten is fun. By Jiya

At the Year 6 mini fete I had fun because I got to throw a wet sponge on the teacher. By Jaidev

I liked Sports in Schools because we did lots of different things. By Ella

My favourite was the Year 6 mini fete. I liked the haunted house so I went there 3 times. By DJ

On the Year 6 mini fete I liked playing the year 6 games and had fun in the haunted house. By Mattius



Community Noticeboard

Metella Road Public School, as a service to parents, will advertise community events that may be of interest.

Metella Road Public School does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the events and accepts no responsibility for the management or organisation of these events.



Metella Road Public School Violin Lessons

Learning Violin with Sound Events Education

Learn from young, energetic, experienced and qualified teachers with a passion for music and igniting inspiration in students.

Students are able to follow the AMEB syllabus or learn in a modern way, choosing their own pieces... and usually both!!

Fun lessons with fun teachers!!!

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Sound Events Education

Teacher: Wallace Chan (B.Mus)

Contact: Timothy Lockwood

Phone: 0422 399 486

Email: Timothy@lockwood.com.au