

Metella Road Public School

AIM HIGH



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Term 2 - Week 8

Monday, 1 September 2014

Calendar

What's On

Term 3, Week 1

Tuesday, 2 September	Cyber Bullying Parent Information Session 7.00pm in the Hall
Thursday, 4 September	Father's Day Stall Western Sydney Wanderers Program
Friday, 5 September	Rugby League Gala Day Zone Athletics Field Events Carnival
Tuesday, 9 September	Blacktown Music Festival Rehearsal & Performance K-6 Assembly
Wednesday, 10 September	Stage 3 Snowy/Canberra Excursion departure Sydney West Athletics Carnival
Thursday, 11 September	Western Sydney Wanderers Program
Friday, 12 September	Stage 3 Snowy/Canberra Excursion return Kindergarten Featherdale Excursion
Tuesday, 16 September	Specialty Group Photos P&C Meeting (AGM) @ 7.30pm
Wednesday, 17 September	Year 6 Mini Fete Parents Auxiliary Meeting (AGM) @ 2.00pm
Thursday, 18 September	Western Sydney Wanderers Program
Friday, 19 September	Last day Term 3

Term 4

Tuesday, 7 October

Students and staff return to school

Principal's Message

The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low, and achieving our mark.

Michelangelo

Before and after school

The safety and wellbeing of every student in our school is our priority.

All students are expected to attend school from 8.55am until 3.00pm.

The school has a legal responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of every unaccompanied student from the time they leave home in the morning and arrive at school and from the time they leave school in the afternoon and arrive at home again.

Students who are not accompanied by their parent or caregiver must come straight to school in the morning where there is a teacher on duty from 8.25am and must leave the school grounds and go straight home in the afternoon at 3.00pm when the bell goes. Students are not permitted to stay behind and play handball, or play on the equipment unless they are with their own parent. Students who arrive at 8.25am are to sit on the silver seats under the 3-6 COLA and wait. The school offers an OOSH Care Service if your child needs to be dropped off before 8.25am and picked up after 3.00pm. They can be contacted directly on 9636 1740.

Parents who wish to stay behind with their child/ren do so at their own risk. If an accident is to happen after 3.00pm children are technically in the care of their parents.

Students who are accompanied by an adult other than their own parent/carer must provide the school with written permission stating that the adult will assume the responsibility.

Parents and families are always welcome in our school and we hope to continue to build on these already fantastic relationships however, we must ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students.



Education & Communities



Strategic Planning

For the remainder of the year there will be a focus on collaboratively planning the next three year cycle. The plan includes opportunities for staff meetings, parent meetings and community consultation as part of the decision making process ensuring that the educational priorities of the school reflect the goals and learning needs of the students, staff and parents. Here is a flexible outline of what is planned this semester.

Date	Time	Activity
Wednesday 16.7.14	9.00am – 3.00pm	Executive Planning Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information supplied by DEC, sample plan. What we do well, Where to improve, Where to next?
Monday 4.8.14	3.00pm – 4.00pm	Stage, Support & Admin Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What we do well, Where to improve, Where to next?
Tuesday 12.8.14	3.00pm – 4.00pm 7.30pm – 9.30pm	Parent Meeting and P&C Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What we do well, Where to improve, Where to next?
Monday 25.8.14	3.15pm – 3.45pm	Staff Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from all stakeholders Look at new plan and format.
Wednesday 27.8.14	2.00pm – 3.00pm	Student Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What we do well, Where to improve, Where to next? Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 5th, 10th, 15th and 20th student from each class.
Monday 15.9.14	3.15pm – 3.45pm	Staff Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create vision statement which outlines the ethos and collective purpose of the school community. Create school context statement.
Tuesday 16.9.14	3.00pm – 4.00pm 7.30pm – 9.30pm	Parent Meeting and P&C Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from all stakeholders Look at new plan and format.
Term 4		
Date	Time	Activity
Tuesday 14.10.14	3.00pm – 4.00pm 7.30pm – 9.30pm	Parent Meeting and P&C Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review created vision statement which outlines the ethos and collective purpose of the school community. Review created school context statement.
Monday 20.10.14	3.15pm – 3.45pm	Staff Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create vision statement which outlines the ethos and collective purpose of the school community. Create school context statement.
Monday 3.11.14	3.15pm – 3.45pm	Staff Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at directions to be pursued by school.

Tuesday 11.11.14	3.00pm – 4.00pm 7.30pm – 9.30pm	Parent Meeting and P&C Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review created draft directions.
Monday 17.11.14	3.15pm – 3.45pm	Staff Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present plan so far. Plan and identify maximum 4 initiatives/programs to monitor and track milestones to ensure strategic direction is achieved.
Monday 1.12.14	3.15pm – 3.45pm	Staff Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan/write milestones in for selected initiatives/programs.
Tuesday 9.12.14	3.15pm – 4.15pm 7.30pm – 8.30pm	Parent Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present plan
Thursday 18.12.14	9.00am – 10.00am	Staff Development Days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present plan

I look forward to seeing as many parents at the meetings as possible to help shape our school for the future.

SAS Staff Recognition Week – September 1-5

This week is SASS recognition week, a time for us to acknowledge the amazing job our SAS staff do for the students, teachers and community of MRPS. SAS staff include Administrative Managers (Mrs Carol Ryan), Administrative Officers (Mrs Debbie Martin, Mrs Joanne Weathered and Mrs Michelle Luccitti), School Learning Support Officers (Mrs Edwina Davies, Mrs Diana Pescod, Mrs Michelle Gafa, Mrs Alison Steele and Mr David Martin), Aboriginal Educational Officers and General Assistants (Mr Michael Nash). We are blessed to have a dedicated group of people who go above and beyond.

This year the theme for SASS Staff Recognition Week is: "School Administrative & Support Staff: Stepping up to the Challenge". Boy do our guys do this and more.

I hope you will join me and take the time next week to acknowledge these wonderful people.

Western Sydney Regional Football Champions

Our girl's football team are the 2014 Regional Champs!!! Last week our girls played against Illawong PS in the round of 16 of the NSW PSSA Knockout Competition. Unfortunately we lost 2-1. The girls played every game with passion and determination, great sportsmanship and skill. Congratulations to Mr Calnan for a superb job as coach!!

Cyber Bullying Parent Information Session

As part of the Blacktown Learning Community, Metella Road will be hosting a Cyber Bullying Parent Information Session tomorrow, 2 September beginning at 7.00pm in our school hall. Senior Constable John Bollard will be conducting the session discussing Cyber Bullying issues, giving strategies to support students who have been Cyber Bullied and will provide information to parents about the safe use of technology in your home. The information session is free and is a parent only information session.

Mr P. D'Ermilio
Principal

Deputy Principal's Report

Parking around the school

Please be very considerate and mindful of the parking regulations in the streets surrounding our school. Unfortunately it has been brought to my attention and I have also witnessed myself some examples of irresponsible parking by some members of our parent community, both in the mornings and in the afternoons, and in particular, near the Metella Road entrances of the school. These drivers are not considering the safety of other drivers and pedestrians and the local Police and Blacktown Council have been informed about the situation. Please pay attention to all signage regarding parking and always consider the safety of all members of our school community.

Sharing

31 of our students from Years 1-6 enjoyed participating in Sharing Courses across the Blacktown Learning Community last week. These courses are implemented in order to provide an enrichment and extension opportunity for students who have a high interest or a high degree of talent in a particular area. MRPS students participated in courses at a variety of different schools involving writing, visual arts, dance, drama, science, cooking, design and technology. A big thank you to Mr Wilkinson and Mrs Nawaz who implemented Sharing courses themselves for groups of visiting students in the area of visual arts.

Sports and Performance Group Photos

Notes will be sent home next Monday regarding school photos for all of our sports teams, choirs, dance groups, library monitors, SRC and other special extra-curricular groups within the school. These photos will be taken at school on Tuesday 16 September. These notes will provide details about what your children will need to wear for these photos. These photos are not pre-ordered. Once proofs are available to us, they will be displayed in our foyer and the ordering process will begin from that point on.

Mr S. Staveley
Deputy Principal

Kindergarten News

Wow, I can't believe it's almost the end of Term 3. We have had a productive term and the students have continued to learn many new and exciting things. We have learnt lots about a range of Australian animals and we are very excited about our excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park next week.

Another exciting thing we have had this term is the start of our *Transition to School Programs*. These programs enable us to prepare and support children and their families in making a positive and successful transition to school.

We conducted our Kindergarten Enrolment Interviews in Week 6. These interviews gave us the opportunity to meet families who have enrolled their child at Metella Road Public School. It was a great opportunity to learn more about the children and their families. It also gave families an opportunity to meet the executive members of staff and learn a little more about what our school can offer. It was a worthwhile experience for all involved.

At Metella Road Public School our aim is to ensure children are supported in their transition to school so that they have the

opportunity to engage successfully in formal school settings. One of the initiatives we put in place is to establish links with local early childhood settings and provide opportunities for children to visit the school and become familiar with many aspects of school life.

Last week the preschool children had the opportunity to attend a range of activities to support their transition to school. The children had an enjoyable time when they participated in a PE lesson with KA and Mrs Wilkinson. They also had the opportunity to visit our School Library and joined KL for a library lesson with Mrs Berville.

This week they will be visiting our Computer Room and will participate in a computer lesson. They will also attend our Kindergarten Assembly on Friday and will get to see the children receiving awards as well as join in some singing.

Throughout the year we will continue to provide families with information about school readiness and how they can support their child to ensure a smooth transition to school.

Mrs S. Larobina
Early Stage 1 Supervisor

Stage 1 News

Wow! What a busy term Stage 1 has had. The students have loved learning about the lifecycles of different animals and the parts of the water cycle! You may have heard your child singing the water cycle song. It seems appropriate that the students are learning all about precipitation especially considering the last week of wet, rainy weather!!

The children have enjoyed listening to a variety of picture books about superheroes and creating their own exciting narratives. In Mathematics, we have explored making and sharing equal groups and looking at place value. In class, students have already presented their speeches for the oracy competition. The class winners gave their fantastic speeches at our stage assembly. Well done to all students involved!

We are looking forward to our upcoming Environment Education Incursion, which fosters students' understandings of how to protect our fragile waterways. They will learn how and why we must prevent stormwater pollutants entering our waterways. This assists in developing skills and attitudes that promote environmentally sustainable management. Year 1 will be attending on Tuesday 2 September and Year 2 will be attending on Friday 12 September. Keep up the fabulous work Stage 1!

Ms J. Minenko and Mrs L. Bartlett
Stage 1 Supervisors

Stage 2 News

Term 3 has absolutely flown by! It has been extraordinarily busy with Education Week, Book Week, the entertaining visit by author Andrew Daddo, the Music Bus demonstration, the Blacktown Music Festival, the Spelling Bee, ICAS competitions, the Western Sydney Wanderers' Football Program and the Athletics Carnival...and I'm sure that's not everything!

Congratulations to all students for your excellent preparation for the Oracy Competition. The standard was extremely high



and I know that even your teachers found it difficult when selecting their class representative.

Miss Diamond is currently planning the next Stage 2 excursion and information will be available at the beginning of Term 4. It is shaping up to be another wonderful event. Thanks Miss Diamond for all of your hard work!

It's a good time to remind Year 4 students that pen licences will be awarded next term. To earn a pen licence, Year 4 students must consistently demonstrate neat handwriting and show pride in the presentation of their bookwork. Your classroom teachers will be on the lookout from the beginning of Term 4!

Thank you for another wonderful term. Please have a safe and restful holiday ☺

Mrs N. Parker
Stage 2 Supervisor

Stage 3 News

Next week is an exciting week for Stage 3 students as they head off to Canberra on Wednesday for their excursion. Students attending the excursion will be accompanied by Mrs Parker, Miss Moulakas, Ms Curran, Mr Wilkinson, Mr Staveley and Mrs Boase. The students who are remaining at school will be supervised by Mrs Saad and Ms McKenzie. Students are required to be at school no later than 6.15am on Wednesday morning and will return approximately at 7.00pm on Friday night – please check Facebook and the MRPS App and website for up to date information on Friday evening about arrival times.

The end of another busy term also brings with it the upcoming Year 6 Mini-Fete. This will be held on Wednesday in Week 10. Students are encouraged to continue bringing in donations for the White Elephant Stall which need to be taken to Mrs Boase's room.

5/6S students have once again been fortunate enough to participate in a Boys Education program with The Hills Sports High School this term in Weeks 5 and 7. The focus for this term has been around PE and fitness. These sessions have been highly engaging and we have appreciated the support of the parents who have assisted with transport as well as the high school staff who have taken on the program.

A number of Year 6 students also participated in a transition program this term over consecutive weeks at The Hills Sports High School which was facilitated by Mrs McClenahan, our transition support teacher.

Stage 3 have enjoyed participating in a range of activities this term such as the Book Character Parade, the visit by author Andrew Daddo, the Music Bus demonstration as well as performances for Education Week.

We hope everyone enjoys a happy and safe holiday and we are looking forward to wrapping up a great year next term.

Mrs A. Saad and Ms E. McKenzie
Stage 3 Supervisors

Library News

The theme this year for Book Week was 'Connect to Reading' and students certainly enjoyed dressing up for the parade and our book author visit. Andrew Daddo had every stage group laughing with the antics he shared about his family inspirations for writing! I know the class I had after the performance wrote

some wonderful pieces of work based on one of his characters.

We had a target to sell over \$10,000 worth of books and we have exceeded that figure, which has been wonderful and a credit to parents in our community whom value reading books. The commission we receive from that has already begun with the ordering of many of our series books to be updated to include the most recent copies. All back orders have been sent to Scholastic and we now await delivery of those items.

For those who have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge a huge congratulations for your efforts. Certificates will be distributed at the end of the year. If your child has reached silver, gold or platinum your certificates will be given to you at the presentation ceremony. Any questions please contact Mrs Aylett.

Mrs B. Aylett
Librarian

ICAS Results – Writing and Spelling Competitions

Congratulations to the students who participated in the ICAS Writing and Spelling competitions.

A total of 94 students from Years 3 - 6 participated in this year's Writing competition. 4 students received a Merit, 23 students received a Credit, and 9 students received a Distinction certificate.

100 students from Years 3 - 6 participated in the Spelling competition. 8 students received a Merit, 22 students received a Credit, 14 students received a Distinction and 2 students received a High Distinction certificate.

Ms S. Curran
ICAS Coordinator

Pulse Choir



The Pulse Choir travelled to the Sydney Opera House on Thursday 14 August. Our students had the pleasure of performing on the stage with a large group of primary and senior schools from the Western Sydney Region. It was an absolute pleasure to perform in such a magnificent location and the experience was wonderful for each and every one of our group. Thank you Mrs Cartwright for coming to help supervise our respectful group of twelve students over dinner. Thank you also to Mr D'Ernilio for coming to watch our performance. The night was a great success!



Mrs L. Boase
Coordinator

Junior Choir

The Junior Choir has been busy learning the words to “the world food wrap” to help launch Fruit and Vegie Month. I am extremely proud of the effort and time the students put in to learn the words and we will be performing at an upcoming K-6 Assembly. The Junior Choir meets on Wednesdays at lunch time and we always welcome new members. Keep up the great work!

Miss M. Cheetham
Coordinator

Junior Dance Group RED

At the end of Week Four, the dancers and drummers in the Red Dance Group auditioned for the Blacktown Music Festival. We were successful in the audition process and these students will perform their routine at Bowman Hall, Blacktown Civic Centre, on the evening of Tuesday 9 September.

Information regarding ticket purchases and the rehearsal has been distributed to students in the last couple of weeks. We would like say thank you to the parents who have offered to assist with transport on rehearsal day. We have had a fantastic response this year and further information regarding this will be sent home this week.

We are looking forward to our first evening performance.

Mrs A. Land, Mrs A. Bekiaris and Miss M. Cheetham
Coordinators

Senior Dance Group

The Senior Dance Group have been rehearsing their new routine, 'Singing in the Rain/Good Morning,' to be performed at the Blacktown Music Festival in Week 9. They will be accompanied by the Senior Choir in the combined schools choir. We are almost ready, just putting the finishing touches and learning how to dance with umbrellas (it's more difficult than it seems!). Hopefully you are able to make it to see the girls perform!

Miss M. Jennings
Coordinator

SRC Update

Life has been very quiet for the SRC lately. We have had so many other school activities occurring, we chose to lay low. Things will start to pick up soon. We are planning a mufti day early next term where we will be asking for food donations. These donations will go to help feed the homeless. We also are looking at providing some playground activities. Stay tuned for more information coming home soon.

Mrs M. Holburn
Coordinator

PSSA News

Well the winter season has finished. Not exactly how we had hoped. The last two rounds were wash outs. At this stage, we are waiting to hear how our teams fared. Fingers crossed we have some positive results. Thank you to the coaches and the players. Your dedication and enthusiasm is much appreciated. The coaches have commented how our students demonstrated fair play and excellent sportsmanship. The school even received phone calls from other schools and community members praising our excellent sportsmanship. Thank you for aiming high.

Mrs M. Holburn
Coordinator

PSSA Boys Soccer

We would like to thank all the boys who were in the PSSA Boys Soccer teams this season. It has been a pleasure to work with you all and we are so delighted to see so much growth in the way you play the game. Continue to practice over the off-season and we look forward to some great results in 2015.

Mrs M. Holburn and Mr L. Byrne
Coaches

NSW PSSA Girls Knockout Football

On Wednesday 13 August our girl's knockout football team played in the regional final of the NSW PSSA Knockout Competition against Penrith PS. We were to play the game on the Hills Sports High synthetic field, however, there was a last minute change of address and we played at Lily Homes Stadium. We arrived to find the stadium locked. After some delay the gates were opened and, with the crowd finding their seats, the game eventually began. A hat-trick of goals to Haylee H, 2 goals to Bronte C and the icing on the cake from Emily S saw us dominate the game finishing with a 6 – 0 win. We are now Regional Champions! Great effort girls!

Our next game was in the round of 16 which was played on Monday 25 August against Illawong PS. We travelled to The Ridge Sports Complex in Barden Ridge. We began our warm up, passing, shooting etc. Unfortunately our keeper, Mia F, was injured while saving a shot from a team mate during the warm up. Anna N stepped up to take the role of keeper during the game. This change rattled the girls and we started the game with only one substitute. We played hard but the ball didn't bounce our way. We were down 1 – 0 at half time. Mia seemed to recover and played on the field in the second half until she fell in a tackle and was replaced. We equalised in the second half thanks to a well-timed and placed kick from Bethany K. With more injuries disrupting play Illawong scored a second goal and eventually won a tough game 2 – 1.

Thus ends our run in the competition but the girls have achieved a great result in being regional champions. Throughout the games we have played, the girls have demonstrated great pride in our school, shown wonderful sportsmanship, played as a team and conducted themselves



with class. Congratulations girls on your success. You have been wonderful to coach this year.

Sydney West Regional Champions: Metella Road Public School

Captain – Jasmyn B

Mia F, Bronte C, Anna N, Sophie M, Annaliese B, Anne T, Emily S, Aneka G, Eloise D, Haylee H, Zoe R, Alicia E, Bethany K.

Mr T. Calnan
Coach

Zone Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all of our Zone Athletics competitors who represented our school on Tuesday 26 August at Blacktown International Sportspark! Your performances and behaviour were outstanding, especially considering the field events were postponed due to the inclement weather.

Special congratulations to the following students who were finalists in the following events:

100m: Andrei 3L, Siasoi 4B, James W 5/6S, Rynan 5/6S, Aina 3L, Lauryn 4H, Sangeetha 4B, Ashlee 5M, Haylee 6W.

200m: James W 5/6S, Rynan 5/6S, Lauryn 4H, Jasmyn 6W, Haylee 6W.

Metella Road PS had six students qualify for the Sydney West Athletics Carnival on Wednesday 10 September 2014 by coming in the first three places in the 100m and in the top two places in the 200m. Huge congratulations to Andrei 3L, Siasoi 4B, James W 5/6S, Lauryn 4H, Ashlee 5M and Haylee 6W! We are all very proud of you!

Field events will be completed this Friday, 5 September at C.V. Kelly Park, Girraween. Thank you to Mr Staveley and Mr Calnan for assisting as officials on the day.

Miss Y. Moulakas
Athletics Co-ordinator

Swim School



A reminder for students who wish to be involved in the 2014 Swim School Program to please return their money and note as soon as possible to the front office. This program is designed to cater for students who have limited or no swimming ability. With the summer months fast approaching this is the perfect way to ensure that our children are safe and can have fun around water. Please be quick places are filling up fast and we don't want your child to miss out.

Wanderers Cup News

The Wanderers program is going full steam ahead this term and we are seeing some amazing improvement in student's ability with the ball. We will not be running the game play afternoon this term however we are planning a big finale to the program in Term 4. Notes for Term 4 have gone out today and money and notes are due on 9 October 2014.

Mr L. Byrne
Coordinator



Father's Day Stall

The Father's Day Stall will be held on the morning of Thursday 4 September.

Students will have the opportunity to purchase a present from a range of wonderful gifts.

Please remember to send a small amount of money to school with your child that day (up to \$10).

Thank you for your support.

Mrs A. Fekkes
Coordinator

Multicultural Day

Our Multicultural Day will be held on Tuesday October 14 from 11.30am. A note will be sent home closer to the day to invite parents to attend this exciting event, however there are a few important things to note prior to the day.

1. A performance rehearsal will be taking place on Wednesday 17 September at 2.00pm in the school hall. If you are responsible for a performance group can you please attend this rehearsal, remembering to bring all equipment/instruments, music and costumes if required.
2. Students are invited to wear multicultural dress on the day. More information to come.
3. If you are responsible for preparing food on the day, the name of the food and all ingredients need to be given to Mrs Bridges ASAP.
4. If you were unable to attend the Multicultural Day meeting held on Thursday 28 August but you are responsible for preparing food, running an activity or providing a performance, can you please contact Mrs Bridges to confirm you are still able to contribute on the day.

Mrs N. Bridges
Coordinator

P&C

Our next meeting will be our Annual General Meeting. This will be held on Tuesday, 16 September at 7.30pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

P&C Committee

Parents Auxiliary

Father's Day Stall

We will be holding our Father's Day Stall on Thursday 4 September. The gifts will range in price from \$2.00 - \$6.00. A separate note has been sent out.

If anyone is available to help with the selling on the day of the stall, we would love to see you. The stall will be held under the Hall COLA from approximately 9.00am to recess.

The Good Guys

If you shop at Karl Holdsworth – THE GOOD GUYS, Prospect, mention at the PAY POINT that you want your SKOOL IS KOOL dollars to be allocated to the Metella Road Public School P&C Association. This is a great way for the P&C to get prizes and giveaways. We supported the chocolate wheel and raffle at the Spring Fete last year from this great sponsorship system. The Good Guys, Shop 17 HOMEBASE Shopping Centre, 19 Stoddart Road, Prospect.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17 September, at 2.00pm in the staffroom. This meeting will be our annual AGM. All parents welcome.

Mrs A. Steele
Convenor





Open Day - KA

We thoroughly enjoyed having our families visit the classroom on Open Day. We were very excited to show them our wonderful work, how clever we are at reading short stories and writing sentences.

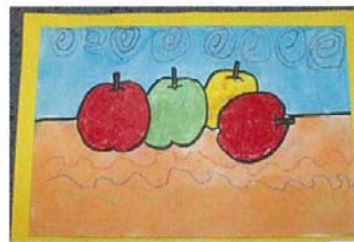
After the classroom visit we had recess and supported the Year 6 Peddlers Parade.

Some of our parents stayed to watch the outstanding performance assembly showcasing the different performance groups our school offers.

It was a fantastic day!



Kindergarten have been learning all about the importance of eating healthy fruit and vegetables. We love to have Fruit Break in class every day.

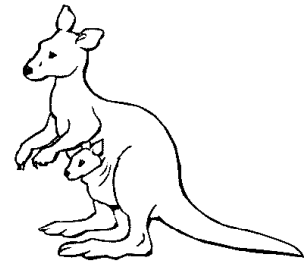
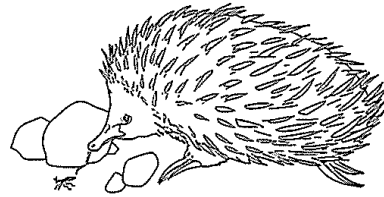
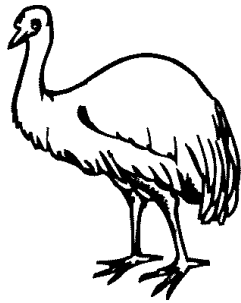




We grew some seeds and made Hairy Heads in Science. It was so much fun making them & watching them grow each day. 😊

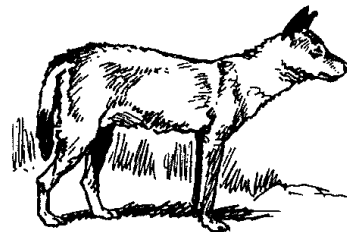
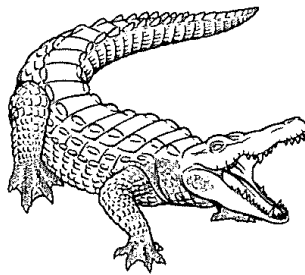
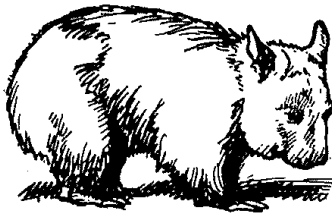
We completed lots of different artworks of fruit and vegetables. We even used oranges, apples, pears, capsicum, onions and celery to print with! Fruit and Vegetables are awesome!



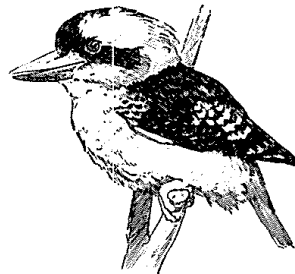


Australian Animals

This term Kindergarten have enjoyed learning all about Australian animals. Students have presented topic talks, read books, written descriptions and information reports all about the animals looked at in class.



We are extremely excited to be visiting Featherdale Wildlife Park in week 9 where we can get up close to the animals we have been learning about.





Book Character Parade!



Kindergarten really enjoyed dressing up for Book Week in week 6. Classrooms were filled with superheroes, fairies, Avengers, princesses and other favourite story book characters.

Everyone braved the weather for the book character parade. It was great seeing so many students get creative with their costumes and having so much fun!

Thank you to all of the special people that helped dress the students and that came to the parade. We hope that you were able to capture memories for years to come!



ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

KL had an enjoyable time at the K-2 Athletics Carnival.



Check out what Stage 1 have been learning about!

Mrs Bekiaris, Mrs Bridges and 1N students have had a great time learning in mathematics this term. We have been learning about groups and counting by 2's, 5's and 10's!

We had fun tracing each other's hands when learning how to count groups of 10!

We also loved learning about area! In pairs, we had to make robots with only 24 cubes, then drew our robots onto grid paper. Look how awesome they turned out!



1M has had a lot of fun learning about the lifecycle of different animals, labelling parts of plants and growing our own beans in our terrariums. The students have enjoyed watching our plants grow in our terrarium and have ensured that they have enough sunlight and water to make them grow! The students have also been able to see the parts of the water cycle and have been excited to see the condensation on the top of their bottles! Keep up the awesome work 1M!

Another busy Term for 1B!! We are so proud of your continued efforts this term. You all have been so engaged in your learning and so motivated, especially, when you contribute to our class discussions in all Key Learning Areas.

Huge congratulations on your efforts in the Oracy Competition on a life cycle of an animal of your choice. It was a very difficult decision to choose a class representative for 1B and we can't wait to hear who will be the Stage 1 winner. You all tried so hard!!! We are so proud of your consistent effort you put into your work. Our class terrariums and greenhouses have demonstrated how the water cycle works and we all enjoyed making a mess creating them. Have a look at 1B's photos showing off their work. We are looking forward to more fun learning over the next few months.

Mrs Bartlett and Mrs Bekiaris

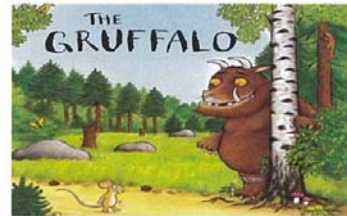


2A have been learning all about the Water Cycle. The students have learnt how water changes states, from a liquid, to a gas, to a solid. We created a model of the water cycle in art. We also wrote an explanation on how the water cycle works. 2A are water cycle experts!



This term, 2T have been learning about the water cycle. We have made some greenhouses and terrariums to watch how the water cycle is used to help plants grow. We have learnt some big words and what they mean including: evaporation (water vapour rising), condensation (making clouds), precipitation (rain, hail, sleet or snow) and collection (where it lands). Here is a picture of some of our experiments.

2F has been working hard! Much of our class program has been based around the themes of water, life cycles and fantasy. The students have been doing a lot of writing and are working hard to keep improving their creation of informative, persuasive and imaginative texts. 2F boys and girls especially enjoyed reading 'The Gruffalo' and writing detailed descriptions of the main character. Many students have moved onto the top spelling level, we are so impressed! In Maths this term we have been learning about money and numbers to 1000. 2F students enjoyed making their own greenhouses and terrariums in science. Our classroom is full of displays of beautiful artworks as well. Pop in and have a look if you can!
Mrs A. Fekkes and Mrs C. Berville



Look at 2N's amazing Greenhouses. They created these in science. 2N made some amazing observations as their seedlings started to sprout and grow. They are very proud and check on them daily to see if there are any changes occurring.



Amazing Imaginative Writing from I/2C

Captain Metella, The Helper
by Makenzie Williams (1C)

One day there was a superhero named Captain Metella. He helped kids with their problems. Captain Metella was very nice and kind. His favourite place to be was at Metella Road Primary School. Most people were nice there.

One day Captain Metella was just flying around the school when he heard someone calling out names. He flew down to see what was happening. A Year 6 boy was throwing grass at someone in Kindergarten. Captain Metella tried talking to him nicely. But that didn't work.

Captain Metella secretly put a "Be Nice" chip in his hair. But then he got a haircut. That didn't work either. He didn't know what to do! The Year 6 boy kept throwing grass at the girl. Captain Metella tried to think so much, he had trouble helping everyone else. Just then he knew what he had to do!

He found the Year 6 boy and talked to him about what he did to the poor little girl. Then the Year 6 boy realised what he had done. He ran around the whole school to find the little girl. Finally he found her and said sorry. After that they became friends until he went to high school. There was another bully!



The Big Rescue

by Kathy Zhou (2C)

Once there was a girl called Captain Metella, who is a super hero with super hero friends and super powers, such as being able to fly and use her laser eyes. One day Captain Metella was at home at Metella Road Primary School eating Nutella with her friends. She said "Do you guys want to go to the mountains to have an adventure?"

All the others said "Yes"

"Beware of Robbie Rotten the villain, he's very mean." said Captain Metella. "Let's go"

They went off to the mountains and soon they saw Robbie Rotten. Robbie threw Captain Metella a sugar apple. As she caught it she fell down the mountain but managed to hold on to a stick. She tried climbing the mountain but it was so steep for her to climb. Soon she tried to cut the mountain with some really sharp ice but it still did not work!

Then Captain Metella tried to fly up into the big blue sky, but she was too far from the green grass and she couldn't let go of the stick. After that Captain Metella tried to use her rope but it was still too steep for her to climb with the rope. She wanted to get into the mountain so she tried to use her laser eyes but the mountain was too rocky for her to break through. Soon her friends realised that she was down the mountain so they climbed down and rescued her.

Captain Metella found Robbie Rotten nibbling on a big, round cake. She tied mean, old Robbie Rotten up on a tree and he never got out. Captain Metella and her friends had had a great adventure. From that day on she didn't get in trouble again! She never saw Robbie Rotten again. Captain Metella was very happy that her friends rescued her.

Numeracy Committee 2014

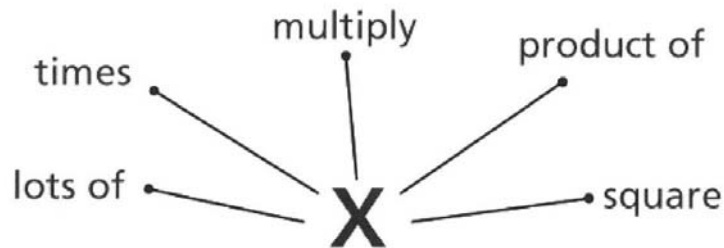
Tips and Strategies for Students and Parents No.5:

Multiplication

An understanding of multiplication and facts relating to multiplication are a fundamental part of Mathematics. This knowledge is used, not only in number problems, but across other strands of Mathematics like area, volume and converting units of measurement.

Multiplication is the process of repeatedly adding the same number a given amount of times (this only relates to whole numbers).

There are many different ways of saying multiplication.



There are a number of strategies that can be used to help students understand multiplication.

Arrays

An array is a rectangle divided into rows and columns. The rows can be made up of separate items or drawn as a block divided into smaller rectangles.

Separate items

This array shows 2 rows of 5:



In an array, rows are always horizontal. This can also be described as 2×5 . There are 10 stars altogether so $2 \times 5 = 10$.

Rectangle

This array also shows 2 rows of 5.



Skip Counting

Children use these images to start skip counting in groups. They will look at the groups or the arrays (rows) and say 4, 8, 12.

				4
				8
				12

Skip counting is also done on a hundred chart to see the patterns they make.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59
60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69
70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79
80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89
90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99

This example shows skip counting in fours on the hundred chart. By skip counting in fours we learn the multiples of four.

Fact Families

Fact families are groups of related facts. They involve two related operations: **addition** and **subtraction**; and **multiplication** and **division**. They help students understand the relationship between these operations – that one is the opposite of the other.

This then develops their number sense as they can use subtraction to check an addition problem and division to check a multiplication problem.



<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/home>

Multiplication Table

A multiplication table shows the products of numbers 0 to 10 (results of numbers multiplied by each other). It looks like this:

x	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7	0	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8	0	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9	0	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Students learn different ways to work out the multiplication table products before memorising them so that they develop their mental strategies, ie

to look for patterns in the table

to turn around facts eg $3 \times 4 = 4 \times 3$ (this halves the amount of facts they need to learn)

to skip count by 10s, 5s and 2s (these are very helpful when working out unknown facts)

what happens when numbers are multiplied by 0 and 1

the square numbers $1 \times 1 = 1$, $2 \times 2 = 4$, $3 \times 3 = 9$...

to double numbers (this helps them learn the 2s, 4s and 8s columns, then the 3s and 6s columns)

the patterns in the 9s column

Turn Around Facts

Turn around facts show you are able to add and multiply numbers in any order (you are able to turn them around) and the answer will not change. This is also known as commutativity.

They help students with their mental strategies and understanding of algebra.

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.

**BEYOND
YELLING!
DEVELOPING
POSITIVE CHILDREN**

Children today live in a world that is more negative and judgmental than ever before, a world where their weaknesses are exaggerated, their strengths over examined and their failures are posted on Facebook.

You, will have great moments of clarity and moments when you believe that the darkness will never rise.
Setbacks are rarely irredeemable and success is seldom eternal, the sun keeps coming up and going down.
What truly matters is that you think about your choices and make the best decisions you can with the information you've got.

Beyond Yelling, Greg Mitchell

When: Wednesday 22 October 2014 – 6.45pm – 8.45pm
Where: Lynwood Park Public School
 87 Turner St Blacktown
Cost: free
Tea & Coffee – Gold donation

Parents today need a regular dose of positivity to prevent their children falling into the thought pattern that goes something like "If you knew me as I really am you wouldn't like me so I'll pretend to be someone else!"

This entertaining, humorous and challenging presentation explores raising children through the concepts of resilience, success and progress.

This seminar looks at...

- Overcoming the problem of negative attraction.
- How to teach your child that resilience is your ability to survive what the world throws at you and to thrive when others fall apart.
- How to move beyond the "It's not fair!" syndrome.
- The great power of teaching delayed gratification.
- How to deal with trust issues.
- Teaching the great skills of modern learning.
- How to impart the major social skills that make family a place to grow in and develop.
- How to create win/win situations.

Greg Mitchell is a father of three, a grandfather of eight, has been a teacher for over thirty years and still suffers from enthusiasm.

These days Greg works with students, schools, organisations and businesses throughout Australia who wish to utilise positive psychology to improve performance, heighten their motivation and overcome their fears.

He believes that it would be a great achievement if we could create a sense of community where we collectively understood a common set of agreed manners or social skills and where we took responsibility for our own child's behaviours and the behaviour of their friends.



The Hills Sports High School Talented Sports Program GOLF

Tuesday 14 October 2014

1.00pm

Fox Hills Golf Club

Trials will be held by AAA Professional,
NSW & Australian PGA member

Jamie Atkinson

Trial is by application only: application forms are available from the schools website: hillssporthigh.com.au or contact Mr Garry Duffy on 9622 7300.

The Hills Sports High School offers a world-class Talented Sports Program (TSP) designed to provide students who excel in particular sports with elite coaching and an academic framework that enables them to reach both their academic and sporting goals.



Go4Fun®

Healthy • Active • Happy • Kids

Want ideas on raising healthy,
active and happy kids?



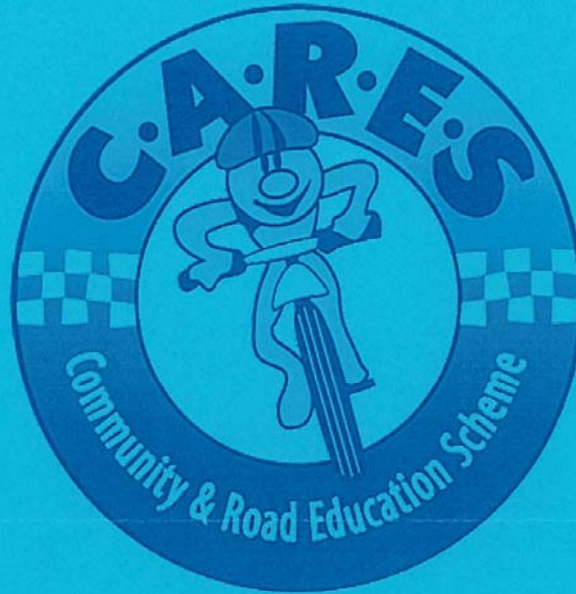
FREE healthy lifestyle program for
7 – 13 year olds

Blacktown & Mt Druit locations

Term 4 enrolments close September 26th

1800 780 900
go4fun.com.au





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Y

Auto Place x Peter Brock Drive, Prospect

24 SEPTEMBER 2014

10AM - 3PM

Bring your own helmet & bike

•
Road Safety Information

•
Safety Checks & Skills Course

•
NSWP Push Bike Squad

•
Cake Stall & Sausage Sizzle

•
Face Painting

•
Participant Show Bag

Enquiries: caresprospect@police.nsw.gov.au



Blacktown City Council



BLACKTOWN LEARNING COMMUNITY

Invites the following schools to a
CYBER BULLYING PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
Conducted by Senior Constable John Bollard from
Quakers Hill Local Area Command

The Meadows P.S.
Bert Oldfield P.S.
Blacktown West P.S.
Blacktown High School
Metella Road P.S.
Marayong South P.S.
Shelley P.S.

**TUESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2014
METELLA ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL
117-131 METELLA ROAD, TOONGABBIE
7.00PM - SCHOOL HALL**

John will discuss real life Cyber Bullying issues, give strategies to support students who have been Cyber Bullied and provide information to parents about the safe use of technology by their children at home. There will also be a Question & Answer session.

NO CHILDREN ARE PERMITTED TO ATTEND THIS SESSION

