

Metella Road Public School

AIM HIGH



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Term 2 - Week 8

Monday, 23 November 2015

Calendar

What's On

Wednesday, 25 November	Stage 3 Camp
Thursday, 26 November	Stage 3 Camp
Friday, 27 November	Stage 3 Camp
Tuesday, 1 December	K-6 Assembly @ 2:10pm
Wednesday, 2 December	Christmas Scripture Assembly
Tuesday, 8 December	P&C/Parents Auxiliary Christmas Dinner
Wednesday, 9 December	Volunteer Thank You Morning Tea
Thursday, 10 December	Sport Presentation Day
Friday, 11 December	Academic Presentation Day
Monday, 14 December	School Party Day Reports home
Tuesday, 15 December	Club 250 Lunch Principal's Distinction Day MRPS Talent Quest
Wednesday, 16 December	Year 6 Graduation Year 6 Farewell Arch Year 6 Farewell Dinner Last day of school year

Principal's Message

Time Goes So Fast!

A year may seem like a long time but as an educator it seems like a very short time to be able to work with our students and aim to make the gains educationally and socially we want.

Then it is comes to this time of the year and you hear from parents about what our students are achieving outside of school and I am amazed. Students come to my office to show me their work and once again I am so impressed.

Recently, this was the case with Bronte C, Anna N, Dante S, Sanjana A, Dhigash B, Varshaa E, Owen B and Vedant P.

Bronte and Anna are both Year 5 students who have excelled outside school on the sporting field. Bronte has been selected in the final team to represent Futsal NSW U12 Girls Lightning at the FFA National Youth Championships.

Bronte will now compete in a tournament between 4 – 8 January. What an achievement! We wish her all the very best.

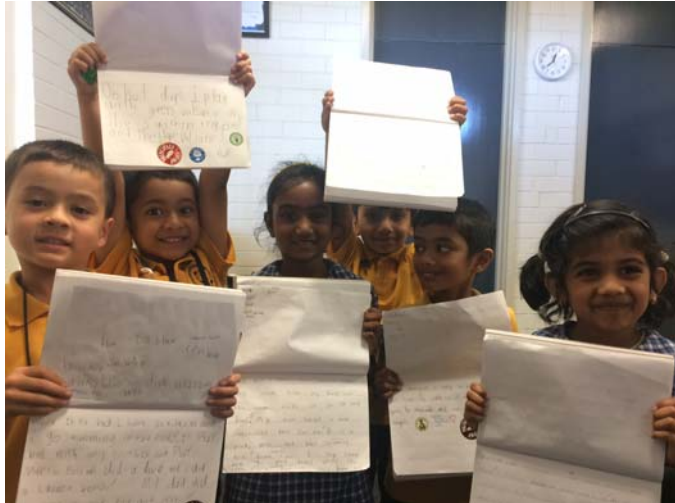


Anna has been selected to represent NSW by Little Athletics NSW in a Trans Tasman challenge in Auckland. She is going to New Zealand for 12 days in January as part of the NSW team. She has been chosen to do shot put and discus. Once again – what an achievement! We wish Anna all the very best too.



At the beginning of the year when Kindergarten students are getting to know the school, our teachers take them on a journey around the school and show them the office. This includes coming to see me. Back in Term 1 students are shy,

quiet and try not to make eye contact!!! Now it's a different story, our Kindergarten students are confident and their academic growth is incredible. When Dante, Sanjana, Dhigash, Varshaa, Owen and Vedant came for a visit to show me their writing – I was truly astounded. Describing what they do on a hot day, each student was able to fluently read their story, which included complex sentences. From the single sentences at the beginning of the year, students are now writing two and three pages. I am sure they came to show me their brilliant work because they were so proud – not because of the lolly jar!!



As we race toward the end of the year there are a number of special events that will take place. Stage 3 are off to camp this week and it is always a special time for our senior students. We will get the opportunity to thank all our helpers at our Thank You Morning Tea and finish the week off by acknowledging our hardworking students at both our Sport and Academic Presentation Day Assemblies.

From then it will be about spending the last few days and celebrating a wonderful year. Party days, Club 250 lunch and the famous Talent Quest. We will then complete our year by saying farewell to our Year 6 students, holding all our celebrations on the same day. A fitting way to say goodbye to a wonderful group.

Great school, great students and great year!

Mr P. D'Ermilio
Principal

Deputy Principal's Report

School Satisfaction Surveys

It's that time of the year again when we are busy collecting data for our Annual School Report. The School Satisfaction Survey is a vital ingredient in school evaluation and each year our parents, students from Years 3-6 and teachers are surveyed in regards to their level of satisfaction with various elements of school life.

This year's surveys were launched on the Metella Road Public School Facebook page last Friday. To access the survey, locate the relevant post on our Facebook page or simply click on the links below. The first survey contains 10 multiple choice questions while the second contains just eight. The surveys should take no longer than a few minutes to complete. Your

opinion is highly valued and your contribution to our evaluation process is greatly appreciated!

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

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/K6FQ68S>

Club 250 – Deputy Principal's Award Badges

Good News! There has been an avalanche of Assistant Principal Awards being delivered by proud students to my office! We have so many high achievers at Metella Road PS! All of these students are due now for a Deputy Principal's Award and they will have their certificates presented at the final K-6 Assembly for the year on Tuesday 1 December at 2.10pm.

For many of these students, particularly those in Kindergarten, this Deputy Principal's award is their first, entitling each student to a 'DP' Badge and their first sticker – the green one. This is where the 'Bad News' comes in..... Unfortunately, we have exhausted our supply of badges and the next batch of badges is not expected to arrive at school until the beginning of the 2016 school year. A record is being kept of all students who are on the waiting list!

On the subject of 'DP' badges, if your child has lost theirs, replacement badges will be issued in 2016 at a cost of \$5.00 each. Please hold off sending in any payments until next year if your child requires a replacement badge. Thank you

As this is the final newsletter of the school year, I'd like to wish all families the very best over the holiday and New Year period. Thank you to all of our families for your contribution to the Metella Road Public School community throughout 2015 and we look forward to an even bigger and better year in 2016. Stay safe and healthy!

Mr S. Staveley
Deputy Principal

From the Office

Uniform Sales

The last date for Uniform Sales this year is Friday, 11 December. The Uniform Shop will also be open in the school holidays on the following dates:

Tuesday, 19 January 2016	9:00am-12:00pm
Friday, 22 January 2016	9:00am-12:00pm

Money

Due to the end of term office procedures, **NO** money will be accepted after Monday, 14 December.

All payments for Kindergarten Starter Packs need to be paid by Friday, 11 December, 2015.

Spare Clothing for Children who have accidents at school!

When children have accidents at school we lend them items from our limited supply of uniforms. Unfortunately, many times these items of clothing are not returned to the office. If we do happen to lend your child clothing in the event of an accident, could you please wash and return to the Office as soon as possible.

We are also requesting that if you have any clothing (especially socks, underpants and smaller clothing) that your

children have outgrown, could you please leave these at the Office so that we can replenish our supply.

Lost Property

A number of student drink bottles, lunch containers and clothing are in our lost property baskets without names or classes. If your child has misplaced any item please take a look before the end of term. The lost property baskets are located under the COLAS. Any lost clothing that is not claimed by the last day of term (Wednesday, 16 December) will be donated to the second hand clothing pool.

Here are some things to do in the holidays to make sure your child's clothing is returned to them.

Write your child's name on everything!!

- Use a permanent laundry marker to label clothes, hats and shoes, or sew or iron on personalised labels.
- Check that the labels have not faded with washing.
- Go through your child's bag with them every night.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Mrs C. Ryan
School Administration Manager

Kindergarten News

Wow, it is so hard to believe it is almost the end of 2015.

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 the Presentation Day Assembly and our Party Day.

Mrs S. Larobina
Early Stage 1 Supervisor

Stage 1 News

Stage 1 has been having a wonderful Term 4! The coming weeks will be action-packed, with our annual Presentation Day approaching, school reports going home and our long-awaited class party. This party ties in with our Human Society and Its Environment (H.S.I.E) unit, Celebrations. Students are beginning to plan their class party to celebrate the end of the school year on Monday, 16 December. They are having a wonderful time creating invitations and decorations, as well as organising food, games and entertainment for their class party. We are all very excited. Amidst these preparations, our Stage 1 students are still busy learning. In Mathematics, they are busy collecting and presenting data in graphs and tables, learning how to read and analyse this data. They have been learning how to develop sophisticated strategies to add and subtract numbers to help them solve maths problems effectively. Students have been creating number patterns, as well as investigating how to form equal parts of a collection and record this using fraction notation. Students have also been incredibly busy reading and writing. In Writing, students have been composing and creating compound and complex sentences using persuasive language to convince their readers. They have been developing a word bank of strong,

emotive words and using this vocabulary readily in their sentences. We are so proud of our Stage 1 students! Another area of focus for our Stage 1 students is the need to show respect to one another. We have been looking at how important it is for everyone to feel safe and happy when they come to school. Students are also reminded that with the hot weather, to make sure that they bring their school hat and a large bottle of water every day so that they are safe. We look forward to a great end to 2015 and wish our students the best over the school holidays.

Ms J. Minenko
Stage 1 Supervisor

Stage 2 News

The students in Stage 2 are continuing to attain their learning intentions and demonstrate through the success criteria how they know they have achieved their goals. So far this term in our school expectations we have looked at; Respect at large. They are being reminded on a daily basis what respect looks like and how they can demonstrate this core expectation.

We have had such a busy and final term in the last couple of weeks with Life Education, Swim School, The Spring Fete, Remembrance Day Ceremonies and the School Leaders speeches. It has been brilliant to observe their motivation and respectful behaviour from the students during all these events. During Modelled Reading, we are continuing to learn all about quality texts that convey messages about Cultural Diversity. Through a variety of shared experiences including: reading, writing, speaking and listening activities, our students are investigating and analysing effective techniques used by authors to engage readers. We are still continuing to focus on our strategies of "turn and talk" and "discussion circles" to assist the students in widening their vocabularies for highly descriptive language for their written texts.

In Mathematics for the strand of Number, the students have been learning various multiplication and division strategies as well as addition and subtraction strategies. In the strand of Measurement, we are learning all about the different concepts of mass and volume and capacity.

This term Stage 2 students have been set an exciting assignment on designing a future house through the assigned mediums for H.S.I.E. We are looking forward to the presentations of these starting in Week 9.

Please return Party Day notes by the due date.

Mrs L. Bartlett
Stage 2 Supervisor

Stage 3 News

Welcome to the end of a great year and a very busy term!

The end of Term 4 is an extra busy time for our Stage 3 students, in particular our Year 6 students as they finalise their primary school years and prepare for the new adventures ahead of them.

Stage 3 Camp is finally here! Stage 3 students along with Ms McKenzie, Ms Curran, Mr Byrne, Mrs Davies, Ms Chant and Mr Staveley are off to The Great Aussie Bush Camp on Wednesday of this week. There are lots of exciting activities planned and we are sure everyone will have a fantastic time! The students remaining at school who are not attending the camp will be supervised by Mrs Saad, Mrs Stormon and Ms Marki.

Congratulations to all of the Student Leadership candidates who presented their speeches on Monday and Friday of last week. We were impressed with the quality of all of the speeches. Voting has now occurred and all leaders will be announced at the Year 3-6 Presentation Day in Week 10.

Year 6 Graduation and Farewell invitations have been sent home to parents regarding the formal ceremony at school as well as the Farewell dinner. Please ensure that notes and money for the dinner are returned to the school by the due date. Both of these events, along with the Farewell Arch will be held on the last day of the term, Wednesday 16 December.

Stage 3 Party Day will be held on Monday 14 December. Notes went home last week regarding Party Day lunch orders from the canteen – please ensure these are returned by the due date. Party Day will involve some time with buddy classes, watching a choice of different movies as well as some games and in class activities. We are looking forward to a great, fun day with all of our students!

On behalf of the Stage 3 teachers, I would like to thank all of school community for the support we have received across 2015. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday!

Mrs A. Saad
Stage 3 Supervisor

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

This term the PBL Team has been focused on building positive relationships between our school and the parents and community at MRPS. In Week 2 we presented at the 2016 Kindergarten Parent Information Night to introduce parents to PBL, emphasise the effectiveness of PBL at our school and deliver the team's future directions for 2016.

In 2016, the team will be working to develop stronger links between school and home by delivering information on how PBL can be used outside the school gate. Please stay tuned for further updates!

This term we have been repeating two of our universal expectations as our Focus of the Fortnight: Be Respectful and Be Safe. The students have been revisiting these expectations and our student leaders, play support and friendship ambassadors have done a wonderful job of leading PBL on a student level. Parents are encouraged to speak about the focus of each fortnight with their child and check the Facebook page to see if their child has been 'snapped' following the Focus of the Fortnight.

The PBL Team

Library News

The library has been undergoing a number of changes this year and we will have a few more to come! It is slowly starting to look more colourful. Be proud of your child as the borrowing in the library has been great! Metella Road students just seem to love their books. Stocktake is due to start soon; therefore we need to start returning all borrowed books. Years 3-6 are due back by Week 8 and Years K-2 back by Week 9. There will be no borrowing from the end of Week 8, 27 November.

During Term 4 Years 5 and 6 students have been researching light, Years 3 and 4 have been researching the Blacktown City Council timeline to see when things were built in the local area,

Year 2 have been researching bears and Year 1 have been learning how to collect key words about celebrations.

Mrs B. Aylett
Librarian

Junior Choir

The Junior Choir are busily practising for our end of year performances. We have a fun item to perform at the Talent Quest which we hope everyone will enjoy. We are also working on songs to perform at the K-2 Presentation Assembly. We hope that parents and friends have an opportunity to attend these final performances for the year. We have both enjoyed working with the enthusiastic members of the Junior Choir this year and hope they keep singing next year.

Ms C. McCoy and Mr T. Calnan
Coordinators

Junior Dance Group RED

What a fantastic year! The Junior Red Dance Group performers have shown dedication, enthusiasm and a creative flair. Over the year we have performed two items to our school community. The first item was called "Rockin' the 50s" where students were able to explore the dance moves, songs and overall energy of the 1950s. Students had the opportunity to learn a variety of individual and partner dance moves that were popular during this era. This group was selected to perform "Rockin' the 50s" at The Sydney Opera House as part of the Sydney Eisteddfod, Westpoint, Blacktown during Education Week, at Wyndham College as part of Blacktown Music Festival as well as at a variety of school events and assemblies throughout the year. During the second part of the year students assisted in choreographing an item called "Good Feeling". This dance celebrates the happiness that is surrounded by summer and were able to perfect an upbeat jazz routine. The students dedicated many of their lunchtimes to rehearse the dance to ensure they were ready for these performances. All members of the Junior Red Dance Group displayed exemplary behaviour whilst representing our school. We are extremely proud of their achievements this year. A huge thank you to Mrs Pescod for assisting us in ensuring that our students were costume ready! It has been an honour and pleasure to work with these students and their supportive families during 2015!

Miss M. Cheetham, Mrs A. Bekiaris and Ms T. Agius
Coordinators

PSSA Cricket

Thank you to the boys who participated in the PSSA Cricket Team this year. It has been a pleasure to watch them grow over the last 12 months. A special thank you must go to Will, Gabe, Matthew, Meet, Navin, Rynan and Max who are leaving us and moving onto high school. They have been outstanding members of the team over the last few years. We look forward to another successful year in 2016.

Mr L. Byrne
Coach

Wanderers Cup News

I would like to thank all the students who have participated in the Wanderers Program this year as they have done an amazing job. It has been a pleasure to watch their football skills develop throughout the year and their attitude has been amazing. Thursday, 10 December will be the final day of the program this year and the students will be participating in a Game Play session at Girraween Park. We will also announce

the Male and Female Wanderers Player of the Year on the final day of the program. More information will come soon.

Mr L. Byrne
Coach

P&C and the Parents Auxiliary

As this is the last newsletter for 2015, we would like to take the opportunity to thank the current and outgoing members for their dedicated time and contributions throughout the year. We would also like to thank the school community for your support in fundraising towards this great school. A special thanks to retiring members, Warwick and Sam Jarman who have contributed so much to the school, you will be missed.

Metella Road's P&C and Parents Auxiliary are a fantastic group of people who work closely with the school. Together we make decisions about the direction of the school, fundraise for additional resources and occasionally hold a Working Bee to assist with odd jobs around the school. We encourage and hope to see some new members for 2016.

The Spring Fete

Thanks to everyone who came along to the Spring Fete this year, we raised over \$17,000 to go towards the school, so if you are interested in discussing how that money can be spent in the school, come along to the P&C meetings next year.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is our combined P&C/Parents Auxiliary members Christmas dinner, which will be held on Tuesday, 8 December at The Outback Steakhouse at Wentworthville from 7:00pm.

We would like to wish everyone from the MRPS school community a fabulous Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. Enjoy your holiday and quality time with family and friends. We look forward to seeing you all back and welcoming new members for a fantastic 2016.

Mrs R. Black and Mrs S. Kendall
P and C Representatives

Forensic Frenzy

This term, myself and 3 other students attended Greystanes High School for a Forensics Program called Forensic Frenzy. We learned a lot about forensic investigation including how to find evidence and how to use chemicals and microscopes. On the first day we learned how to find peoples fingerprints. We placed our fingers on different objects and then rubbed powder to find our prints. We then used tape to pull the print from the object. During the second session, we looked closely at hairs and fabrics. The microscopes were introduced and we zoomed in and had a close look at our hair structure and colouring. We then looked at fabrics in a similar way. We used a special paper and chemicals to separate the colours, marked the paper and then we waited for the chemicals to soak in. Finally it was time to use what we learned to investigate a fake murder. We used a chemical and synthetic blood to find out the bloody type. If it clumped it was positive. In conclusion I loved this program and would love to learn more on Forensic Science.

Written by Aiden – Year 5





All I really need to know...

I learned in Kindergarten

Share everything. Play **fair**. Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them. **Clean** up your own mess. Don't take things that are not yours. **Say you're sorry** when you hurt somebody. **Wash** your hands before you eat.

Flush. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. **Live** a balanced life- **learn** some and **think** some and **draw** and **paint** and **sing** and **dance** and **play** and **work** every day some. **Take a nap** every afternoon. When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together. Be aware of **wonder**. **Remember** the little seed in the Styrofoam cup" The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows **how** or **why**, but we are all like that. Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even **the little seed** in the Styrofoam cup- they all die. So do we. And then **remember** the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned-the biggest word of all-**LOOK**.



2N

What have Stage 1 been up to?

Look at our amazing Spring Fete Canvas which features Jackson Pollock's splatter painting technique! We gave our artwork the following title - A Panorama of Vivid Colours.



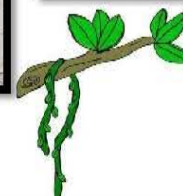
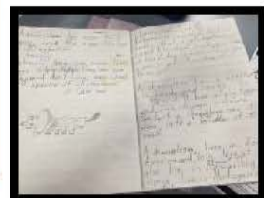
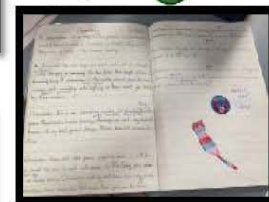
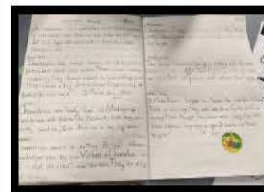
2L

We got to meet a celebrity! 1L was so excited to meet the famous Healthy Harold earlier this term, who taught us about staying healthy and making smart choices. We loved learning about our bodies and the organs that make them work!



2A

2A have been exploring the communities of others. We watched a short animated film called, 'Ride of passage' where a young boy named Toki who lives in the rainforest has to complete a rite of passage so he is seen as a man in his tribe. The students have enjoyed learning about rainforests and discussing what it would be like to grow up in a community like Toki. The class has also created a rainforest landscape on art and written an information report on a chameleon.



1J

This term 1J have been learning about Celebrations. We have used the computers to research how different cultures celebrate special events around the world. The students in 1J have worked together to create a variety of PowerPoint presentations to reflect what they have learnt.



1M has enjoyed learning about Celebrations this term. We thought it was truly special that Remembrance Day fell on a school day and we were able to pay our respects to the soldiers who fought so bravely to defend our country. We learnt about how poppies symbolize our respect to the soldiers both past and present on Remembrance Day. Check out some of our clever writing about Remembrance Day. Keep up the awesome work 1M! Miss Cheetham

1M



1/2C



1/2C have been working with 2B in Science lessons to discover how elements of the playground change or remain the same over time. We have observed the differences in potted plants that are looked after and those that are neglected. We are now investigating if we can save the neglected plants. Some of us think we can, others don't think so. We wonder, who is right?

2T have been observing a variety of different things over time. One of the items we have observed is a small 'garden'. We began by soaking the soil pellet in water. We placed it in the small pot and added seeds. We pushed them down gently and covered them in cling wrap to create a mini green house. They began to sprout in only a few days. We observed our 'little garden' in different locations in the classroom. All got water but not all were given the best location to get quality sunlight. How many are still growing? Ask 2T for more details on what we have observed.

2C



Term 4 has been so busy in 1H, we have been learning about the different events that different cultures celebrate in HSIE. We have also been learning about sound and light, did you know that sound is energy and that energy gets weaker the further it travels?

1H



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.



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Australia Day is more than just a public holiday. Whether you're in the city, on the coast or in a regional area, there are lots of events that celebrate everything that's great about being Australian.


Check out www.australiaday.com.au




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Schofields Public School




Gary Eck
- Edinburgh, Melbourne and Sydney Comedy Festivals.
- Rove, The Footy Show, Spicks & Specks
- Trofest Winner, Aria Nominee, Writer of Happy Feet Two
"Spellbinding charm, sharp-witted lines coupled with an out-of-the-world sense of humour" - Time Out
"Totally original and clever...funny till it hurt" Daily Telegraph



Sam Bowring
- Opening Act - Arj Barker 2015
- Raw Comedy National Finalist
- Nominee: Best Newcomer and the Piece of Wood Award - MICF
- Rove Live; Stand Up Australia
"His jokes are like ninjas quietly sneaking up on you ... undeniably funny." - Adelaide Advertiser



Mat Wakefield
- Sydney Comedy Festival - Sold Out
- Sydney Fringe Festival - Sold Out
"one of the rising stars of Australian Comedy" - The Laugh Garage
"a genuine alternative way of thinking, reminiscent of comedy legend Doug Stanhope..." (Weekend Notes)



Joe Comino
- Comedy Court Grand Champion
- Australian Comedy Festival
- Houso's & Fat Pizza Live National Tours
"Makes you laugh till you cry" - The Jokes On Me

+Special Guests

8pm - November 28, 2015
Riverstone Schofields Memorial Club
23 Market St, Riverstone NSW 2765
Tickets: \$30 at www.trybooking.com/IYXG

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