

# Metella Road Public School

AIM HIGH



117 – 131 Metella Road Toongabbie NSW 2146 T 9636 1922 F 9896 3201 E metellard-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 2 - Week 8

Monday, 3 August 2015

## Calendar

## What's On

Thursday, 6 August	K-2 Athletics Carnival
Monday, 10 August	Superhero Mufti Day
Tuesday, 11 August	ICAS Maths Arts Alive Rehearsal Arts Alive Concert K-6 Assembly Spring Fete Meeting 6:30pm
Thursday, 13 August	PULSE Rehearsal PULSE Concert Debating Semi-Final
Monday, 17 August	Book Fair begins Kindergarten Enrolment Interviews
Tuesday, 18 August	Book Week Character Parade
Wednesday, 19 August	Gardening Club Excursion Parents Auxiliary Meeting 2:00pm
Friday, 21 August	"Shine A Light" Book Week Incursion
Monday, 24 August	Blacktown Music Festival Rehearsal Blacktown Music Festival Evening Concert
Tuesday, 25 August	Visit Australian Girls Choir
Thursday, 27 August	Zone Athletics Carnival
Tuesday, 1 September	Sports Photo Day
Friday, 4 September	Father's Day Stall

## Principal's Message

Last week was a very special time for Metella Road Public School. **Education Week** provides us with a great opportunity to highlight to our families and the community the amazing work we do here. Some would say that every week is Education Week at their school, but it is not every week that we get the chance to come together to celebrate the wonderful work our students and teachers are doing.

The week started with a **P&C Mufti Day** raising money for our Spring Fete to be held on Saturday, 24 October. It was a day when our community gave a little to be able to help create a special day later in the year – and I thank you.

We then came together for our **Years 3-6 Athletics Carnival**. A fantastic day with fantastic weather, fantastic community helping, fantastic teachers and most of all a bunch of fantastic students making it such an enjoyable day. Mr Staveley explains more in his report later in this newsletter.



Education Week continued with our **Education Week Open Day**. As I walked around the school visiting classrooms and chatting to family and friends it was great to see so many parents interacting in the classrooms. Parents using **QR Code Readers** on their smartphones scanning codes and reading about student's work. Parents logging onto the online program **Night Zookeeper** with their child to help with their writing. As recess arrived, Year 6 tempted us with an array of sweets

during their **Peddlers Parade**. Our day concluded with a performance concert from our drumming group, choirs, dance groups and drama group. They were incredible.

To end off a truly amazing week our choirs and dance groups performed at **Westpoint Blacktown** as part of the **Blacktown Learning Community's Education Week Performances**. I am so very proud!!



Parents are reminded that students are not permitted to play on the **fixed equipment** after school without a teacher present. Students waiting for their lessons with **The Music Bus** should wait next to The Music Bus.

This term we have decided to run only one P&C meeting. The **P&C Meeting – AGM Tuesday 8 September**. We understand that it is not always easy for parents to come to meetings after work and at night. Our next meeting is also our Annual General

Meeting. I have invited the company Arinum, who design and run our school App to attend and give a brief explanation of the new changes to the App and how to use it.

Staff from MRPS will also be presenting on Positive Behaviour for Learning and looking for parent feedback.

If you have an idea/request for a staff presentation on the night please call or email me.

**Genius Hour** is a movement that allows students to explore their own passions and encourages creativity in the classroom. It provides students a choice in what they learn during a set period of time during school. Genius Hour has begun at MRPS! I am looking forward to seeing what the students in 6S and 4H will study and how they will present their learning – such an exciting time to be at school!

Is it Reg Mombassa? No, it is **Max D!** I have the great pleasure as the Principal to see students' work in the classroom, in books and on the walls. Many times during the day I also have students come to my office to show me their work. When Max arrived at my office and showed me his assignment after researching Chris O'Doherty aka Reg Mombassa I was so impressed that I would not let him leave with it! I had to hang in on my wall in my office – I promise to give it back Max!



**Night Zookeeper** is an online educational tool designed to encourage students to become better creative writers. Through this program students create animals in their Night Zoo which will help protect it from the evil trying to get inside. As students create characters they are required to write narratives, information reports, news reports and poems to help tell the story of the Night Zoo. This program has been trialled across different stages of the school and has led to high student engagement and better quality writing. **Shaun B's** story has been showcased on the Night Zookeeper website! Here is Shaun's story:

#### **The Hungarian Short-Snout Dragon**

*A small, jet-black Hungarian Short-Snout dragon is very small but should NEVER be underestimated! The name might suggest that it is dwarf, diminutive and, well, small! This surprising reptile can grow to 98 feet long, bigger than the largest dinosaur that ever lived (Sauroposeidon). It is an omnivore, so it eats lizards, plants and many types of fruit.*

*As it lives in the scorching hot deserts of the Dunes of Despair, it obviously needs some way of cooling off when it is too hot. The way it does this can surprise some people, because it zooms through the air with amazing speed. Now you may think*



*this would make it even hotter, but actually, it is generating air inside its veins, cooling it down.*

*The way we got this rare specimen into the night zoo was by rescuing it from the Monster of Nulth. A cave with only 11 Heatslicers was under attack by the Nulth Monster's servants and there was no way to escape from the cave, but 5 mysterious animals came to rescue them. Unfortunately, we lost 1 of them on the way, and it was left desolated in the middle of nowhere.*

*For hours days, that little Heatslicer was left alone, and while the others lived in peace, one juvenile had to endure and survive fierce storms and natural disasters. The way it did this was the same way it cooled down in the heat. Soon, it had grown large enough to face the fanatic creatures that lay in its path. Whenever one tried to battle it, the towering Heatslicer was very superior and could easily did so.*

*Things were about to get worse though. A year had come and gone by and it was the middle of winter, so food was getting scarce now. Even so, the dragon refused to give up and stayed strong. Even though nature was very tough on the dragon it travelled on with by instinct. Later it found its way to a vast floating island: Celestial Island. There, it followed a giant flight of stairs and found a magical fountain which it eventually drank from and gained freedom.*

We have been taking enrolments for kindergarten next year and will be holding our annual **Kindergarten Enrolment Interviews** on **Thursday 21 August**. The interviews are an excellent opportunity for our executive staff to gather information on our new students to be able to help them have the most successful start to their schooling life next year. If you have a child starting next year or know of any family that intends to enrol their child for next year, could you please let them know about our upcoming interviews and if they could enrol as soon as possible.

**Another Great Read.** The reading below reflects on something we at Metella Road hold dear – sport! In our vision statement:

*Metella Road Public School strives to become a centre of excellence, challenging children of all abilities to attain their highest level of achievement in academic, cultural and sporting pursuits*

We believe in the development of the whole child. The sporting field is a great place to develop many skills both athletically and socially for students. As parents we play an integral part in that development. We can also play a detrimental part – the article below discusses some of the things we should consider as parents of children that play sport (I know I have been guilty of many of the things described below – but I'm trying to get better!)

### **Being A Good Sports Parent**

Sports lead parents to emotional excess because sport lets you do what normal parenting doesn't: cheer out loud for your children when they are under pressure and something's on the line. The key to the game, as in life, is to endure failure, adapt, and, through grit, hit more than you miss.

**It is a joy to be able to participate in this concentrated instillation of the lessons of life,** because most of the time you won't be there.

You can't show up at exams to root for your child. After they strike out with a girl or a boy you can't appear and show them in front of everyone that you support them no matter what happens.

**Excessive behaviour is embarrassing to your child, it's embarrassing to yourself, and it teaches your child all the wrong lessons about sportsmanship, character and grace.** But even if you're not risking those outcomes, there is a challenge to finding the line between unconditional love and intensity.

There's a finer line to walk. You don't want to smother the experience for them with too much engagement from you. It's their game—just as it's their life. Know when to butt out.

One coach tells the story of his dad who was a former coach who never once made a comment during his son's games, never spoke to his coaches, and never forced him to practise despite his wealth of knowledge.

Now I don't know if I can *never* make a comment during games, but I *can* dial it back.

And I have picked up some great pieces of advice from other parents.

**Don't quiz kids about the game immediately after it's over.** It puts too much on them when they're still processing the experience or finally taking a break from the pressure of it. Let them bring it up.

**If you do talk about the game, put a limit to it.** One parent never talks about the game once he and his daughter have left the field. I can't handle that, so I try to squeeze it in before we get home. Once we're out of the car, I'm done talking. It's up to the kids to bring up their sports after that.

**My favourite advice is the one comment that kids say makes them feel great and amplifies their joy during and after a game:**

**"I love to watch you play."**

It's true: I do love to watch my child play. Perhaps that's the best brake on overdoing it. I wouldn't want to send any other message that gets in the way of that one.

Article I. Acknowledgement: Adapted from "How baseball encourages bad parenting—and how you can support your kids on the diamond without driving them crazy" by John Dickerson

I hope everyone has a great week!

Mr P. D'Ermilio  
Principal

## Deputy Principal's Report

### Athletics Carnival (8-12 yrs)

A HUGE thank you and congratulations to Mrs Lisa Davies for her expert coordination of this year's Athletics Carnival. Last Tuesday's Carnival was a brilliant exhibition of student participation in physical activity. The venue at CV Kelly Park in Girraween was a non-stop hive of activity with students aiming high in 100, 200 and 800m running races, field events including high jump, long jump, shot-put and discus as well as a wide variety of novelty events. We enjoyed perfect weather for the occasion and it was the Green House, Brigalow who took the honours as this year's Champion House.



Appreciation and thank you is also extended to all of the parents who provided support to our teaching staff at the various track and field events and also to those parents who worked tirelessly in the canteen selling hot dogs and drinks as a P & C fundraiser. Special thanks must go to Mr George Achram from Toongabbie IGA for his very generous donation of bread rolls and frankfurts for the hot dogs.

Placegetter ribbons will be presented at the next K-6 Assembly on Tuesday 11 August at 2:10pm. A strong team of athletes will now represent Metella Road Public School at the Seven Hills / Wentworthville Zone Athletics Championships on Thursday 27 August.

### Punctuality to School

Unfortunately, we have had a spike recently in the number of students arriving late to school each day. In the first half of 2013 there was an average of 25 late students per day. In the 18 months that followed we worked hard to decrease that figure to just 12 late students per day. However, last term and into the first three weeks of this term we are back at 20 late students per day – that's an astonishing 100 late students per week!

Arriving late to school means missing out on vital communications delivered at both morning assembly and also upon arrival in the classroom. If your child is more than a few minutes late they are also missing out on the introductory phase of each morning's lesson. This is always the most critical part of any lesson and, if late, your child is already disadvantaged in his/her learning. So let's work that little harder and set that alarm 10 minutes earlier each day to avoid these unwanted partial absences for your child.

### School Photos 2015 – Performance Groups, Sports Teams and Special Group Photos

This year's photographs for performance groups, sports teams and other special groups will be taken here at school by MSP

Photography on Tuesday 1 September. A note with more specific information will be sent home in a couple of weeks.

Mr S. Staveley  
Deputy Principal

### From the Office

**A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child's health** - We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

**It is extremely important to remember to send all signed permission slips back to school.** Whether paying by cash, POP or credit card, a payment does not automatically constitute permission to participate in an event.

Mrs C. Ryan  
School Administration Manager

### Kindergarten News

Congratulations to the Kindergarten students for a great start to Term 3. It is wonderful to see the students working hard and being motivated learners.

The Kindergarten students are learning lots of new and exciting things this term. We are enjoying learning about Australian animals. We have been discussing and writing about many things including what they look like, what they eat, where they live and what type of animal they are. We are also studying the author Mem Fox and reading lots of her books. We are learning about the characters in the stories and comparing them to ourselves and other characters. The students are also investigating different types of weather during our Science lessons, and talking about how the weather can affect what we do and what we wear. In Mathematics, we have been learning to count forwards and backwards from a given number and add and subtract groups. We have also identified and sorted two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects.

Last week we had our Education Week Open Day where the parents visited the Kindergarten classrooms and had the opportunity to look at the wonderful work we have completed throughout the year. The students were very proud of what they have achieved and enjoyed sharing their learning with their family and friends.

We are looking forward to more fun and exciting events happening this term, including our K-2 Athletics Carnival, the

Book Character Parade and our excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park.

Mrs S. Larobina  
Early Stage 1 Supervisor

### Stage 1 News

Our Stage 1 students enjoyed having their parents and grandparents visit their classroom last week for Education Week. Open Day was such a highlight of term 3 and students were so eager to show their parents the amazing work that they have done throughout the year. We also enjoyed watching the performances at our Open Day Assembly – they were most entertaining!

In English, students have been exploring the theme of heroes. They have been investigating the characteristics of a hero and the different ways people can be heroes. We are reading a wide selection of texts that feature heroes of different shapes and sizes, learning how to compare and contrast the multiple characteristics of heroes. Students have been learning about onomatopoeias (BOOM! CRASH! POW!) and have been having a wonderful time creating their own comic strips featuring their heroes and villains. We have been focusing on the verbs that are used to explain the action of the superheroes. In Writing, students have been learning how to write like acclaimed authors. They are learning how to “show”, rather than just tell to make their writing interesting and easy to visualise. We are so proud of their efforts this term!

In Mathematics, students have been learning how to make groups of 10 to help them count quickly. They are developing more sophisticated strategies to help them add and subtract numbers more quickly and effectively. We have also been investigating the properties of two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects. Students have been integrating technology with Mathematics to produce two-dimensional shaped houses.

In H.S.I.E students have been learning about the best place to live ... Australia!! We have been looking at the different states of Australia, special landmarks and the flora and fauna of Australia. It is such an engaging, relevant topic for our students. In Science, 1H students have been looking at dinosaurs. They are trialling a new unit of work and are so excited about their investigations! Their class is abuzz with dinosaur pictures, sounds, diagrams and models. Year 2 has been learning about how light and sound are produced. They are engaging with hands-on materials to help them with their investigations. Year 1 has been looking at the changes that occur in our environment. They are exploring scientific views about the changes that occur in the sky and landscape over long periods of time.

Our Oracy Competition draws near – students will be presenting their speech to their class in week 6 and class winners will be selected. These winners will then present their speech to the rest of the Stage during our Stage Assembly in week 8. Parents are more than welcome to come to this assembly to watch their students present their speech. A Stage winner will be selected and they will present their speech at our K-6 Assembly in week 9.

We are so proud of our Stage 1 students and commend them for their amazing efforts. Our students continually Aim High! Well done Year 1 and Year 2!

Ms J. Minenko  
Stage 1 Supervisor

### Stage 2 News

The students in Stage 2 have made a great start to the term. This fortnight's focus is Respect. The students are learning through role plays and other strategies of what this looks like in the classroom and playground.

Last term, Stage 2 went on our excursion to Madame Tussaud's and Sea Life in Darling Harbour. We all had such a wonderful day! We had the experience of learning all about famous Australians and how the wax statues are made. At Sea Life the students were amazed and enthralled by all the variety of sea life. Thanks to all those parents who came and helped with our classes. Miss Diamond did a fantastic job organising, which was appreciated by all.

This term in our Modelled Reading, we are learning all about quality texts with highly complex messages. 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. Through these investigations they are composing their own imaginative texts such as descriptions and narratives that have language focuses. These consist of complex sentences, quoted speech, noun groups, adjectives, idioms and apostrophes. It has been sensational to observe them discuss and construct their own complex narratives and descriptions.

In Mathematics the students have been learning various whole number and addition and subtraction strategies. In the strand of Space, we are learning all about the different concepts of two dimensional shapes, including symmetry, regular and irregular and rigidity of shapes.

Mrs L. Bartlett  
Stage 2 Supervisor

### Stage 3 News

Welcome back to Term 3!

Thank you to all of the parents who joined us for Open Day last Wednesday! It was great to see so many parents in our Stage 3 classrooms, exploring what our students and classes have been up to over the course of the year.

During Open Day, Year 6 students ran their annual 'Peddlers Parade', peddling their delicious sweet treats for the parents and students to purchase at recess time. We'd like to thank the parents of the Year 6 students for all of their support and assistance in organising the cakes and sweets for the Year 6 students to sell. Thank you also to the students and parents who purchased something from our Year 6 students – this money goes directly towards Year 6 fundraising efforts for the end of year. We really appreciate the support we receive from our school community.

Stage 3 Camp information was sent out early last term and payment of deposits and expressions of interest for attendance has now been completed as of last Wednesday. We are excited to see so many students attending the camp this year which will be in Term 4 at The Great Aussie Bush Camp in Hawks Nest. Final costings and payments will be calculated based upon final numbers and further information will be sent home to those students attending soon.

Year 6 students are busily preparing for their big fundraising event – the annual 'Year 6 Mini Fete!' This will be held in Week 10 of this term. Lots of preparation and proposals are well underway for stalls and activities. Please stay tuned for further information regarding donations and stall information.

Stage 3 students will participate in the annual MRPS Oracy Competition and Spelling Bee Competition this term. Students from each class will prepare and present speeches and have already sat a spelling placement test. Representatives from all



classes will have the chance to compete for Stage Winners in both of these competitions. We wish all of the students the best of luck!

Term 3 is already set to be a busy one for Stage 3 but we are looking forward to all the events! Please speak to a Stage 3 teacher if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child.

Mrs A. Saad  
Stage 3 Supervisor

### Library News

All stages are currently looking at the shortlisted books and associated activities for the Children's Book Council Awards to be announced soon.

A reminder to please complete the incursion note for the 'Shine a Light' performance as soon as possible to allow your child to attend.

Book fair - If you are paying by phone or online for your book fair order please note the instructions on the back of the wish list that will come home with students at the end of Week 5. It is important to put your receipt number on the slip before sending any order for book fair back to school.

Mrs B. Aylett  
Librarian

### Arts Alive Choir

On Tuesday 11 August, the Arts Alive choir will be travelling to the last organised group rehearsal, which will be held at the Sydney Town Hall, prior to our evening performance on the same day. Students are to arrive at school by 8:00am in their black trousers (or full length leggings or long black skirt), black socks, black shoes, Arts Alive T-Shirt and school jacket when not performing.

The evening concert doors open at **6:30pm**. Please note that your tickets are not allocated seating. If you haven't yet purchased tickets, you can do so through the City Recital Hall Box Office on 8256 2222, or online at [www.cityrecitalhall.com](http://www.cityrecitalhall.com).

Our students are extremely excited and they look forward to this wonderful experience together.

Mrs L. Boase  
Coordinator

### Junior Choir

The girls in the Junior Choir have been practising hard for our Education Week performances and it has definitely paid off. They performed wonderfully with enthusiasm and confidence at our Open Day assembly and at Westpoint Blacktown. They proudly represented our school's talents and we are very proud of them.

Ms McCoy and Mr Calnan  
Coordinators

### Junior Dance Group RED

Wow, it is the performance time of the year for the Junior RED Dance group. During Education Week the Junior RED Dance Group performed at our Open Day Assembly and at Westpoint Blacktown. We would like to congratulate the students on their exceptional behaviour and their enthusiasm when performing on stage. We are very proud of you!

We are super excited for our upcoming performances at the Sydney Opera House on Sunday 23 August and the Blacktown

Music Festival on Monday 24 August. Please keep the information about these performances in a safe place especially in regards to the performance times and costume requirements.

As always if you have any questions about our performances please speak to Ms Agius, Mrs Bekiaris or Miss Cheetham.

Thank you for your continued support of the Junior RED Dance Group and we cannot wait to showcase the awesome talents of our wonderful students!

Ms Agius, Mrs Bekiaris and Miss Cheetham  
Junior RED Dance Coordinators

### Debating News

On Thursday 16 July our Blacktown District teams debated the topic "Australians are the best inventors". Both teams came up with strong arguments, supporting evidence and brilliant team lines. Unfortunately, both teams lost.

Team 1 argued the case for the affirmative against Kings Langley. Sahiba, Max, Naidin and Sohum tried to persuade their audience that Australians are the best inventors. Team 1 structured their case by identifying important inventions in the areas of technology, health, transport and everyday products and showing that they were invented by Australians. Their team line was 'Life without Aussie inventions would be like AFL with the ball'. Some of their points were:

- Technology: wifi, black box flight recorder, double flush toilet and google maps.
- Health: bionic ear, stainless steel braces, spray on skin, pacemaker and the flu vaccine.
- Transport: ute and baby baby capsule.
- Everyday living – latex gloves, garage roller doors, aeroguard and shoe polish.
- Sport – Australian crawl, AFL, race cam and winged keel

Team 2 debated the negative case against Seven Hills West. Natanya, Madisen, Harini and Shivank defended their view that Australians are not the best inventors. They took the view that to be the best you have to be better than the rest, and that there were many inventors that were just as good as Australians. Team 2 structured their arguments by identifying important inventions in the areas of technology, health, transport and everyday products and showing that they were not invented by Australians. They also introduced us to some of the world's best inventors, none of whom were Australian. Some of these examples were:

- Technology: internet, computers and mobile phones.
- Health: anaesthetics, orthotics and the toothbrush.
- Transport: cars, steam trains, aeroplanes and electric trains.
- Everyday living – TV, indoor plumbing.
- World's best inventors: Leonardo Da Vinci, Benjamin Franklin and Nikola Tesla.

Miss S. Curran  
Coordinator

### SRC Update

Earn & Learn is back!

Until Tuesday 8 September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet.

There'll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent. Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at our school or at your local Woolworths. If you only have the stickers please bring these into school and the SRC will be more than happy to place them on a Sticker Sheet for you. The collection box is located in our library foyer or stickers can be given to Mrs. Gafa or Mrs. Holburn. Thank you for your support!!

Mrs M. Holburn & Mrs M. Gafa  
Coordinators

### Can Count

Thank you to the following students for their support in collecting aluminium cans for our school – Harrison G. 1/2C, Callum G. KL, Bailey W. 2A, Luke B. 2A, Kiera S. 3F, Liesel S. 4L, Regan S. 5/6D and Sophie F. 6M. All crushed cans that are bagged and labelled with your child's name and class should be left outside my workshop in 'D' block on **Fridays only**. Large amounts of cans can be picked up by arrangement. A prize will be awarded to the student who collects the most cans in 2015. Money raised from recycling aluminium cans goes towards providing classroom resources.

Mr M. Nash  
School General Assistant

### P&C and the Parents Auxiliary

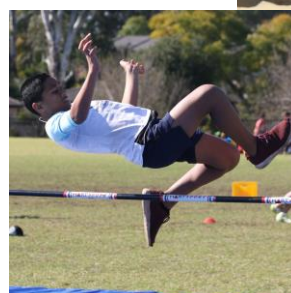
2015 Athletics Carnival - Thank you to those fantastic Parents Auxiliary parents who ran the canteen, selling Hot Dogs & drinks. \$900 was raised! We greatly appreciate your time and effort. A special mention to George from IGA Toongabbie for donating all the food, a wonderful supporter of our school community.

Father's Day Stall - We will be holding our Father's Day Stall on Thursday 3 September. The gifts will range in price from \$2.00 - \$6.00. A separate note will be sent home closer to this date. If anyone is available to help with the selling on the day, 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 THE GOOD GUYS, Prospect, mention at the PAY POINT that you want your SKOOL IS COOL dollars to be allocated to Metella Road Public School P&C Association. This is a great way for the P&C to purchase prizes and giveaways for upcoming events e.g. 2015 Spring Fete.

Next Meeting - Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 August, 2:00pm in the staffroom. The annual AGM will be held the following month, Wednesday 16 September. Come along and be part of our fantastic school community, join us in organising events and fundraising. "Many hands build a house, many hearts make a school!"

Mrs A Steele  
Convenor



## 2015 BOOK WEEK FAIR TIMES

### Theme - Shine a Light

#### Friday 14 August -

##### *Viewing Day*

8:30am to 3:00pm

During class times students will view books and write wish lists.

#### Monday 17 August -

##### *Book Sales*

8:30am to 10:55 am then 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Students and parents will be able to purchase books.

#### Tuesday 18 August -

##### *Book Week Parade and Book Sales*

8:30am to 11:00am

##### *Book Parade*

12:15pm - 1:20pm

Lunch with students 1:20-1:30pm

*Book sales from 1:30pm*

Following the parade the library will reopen until

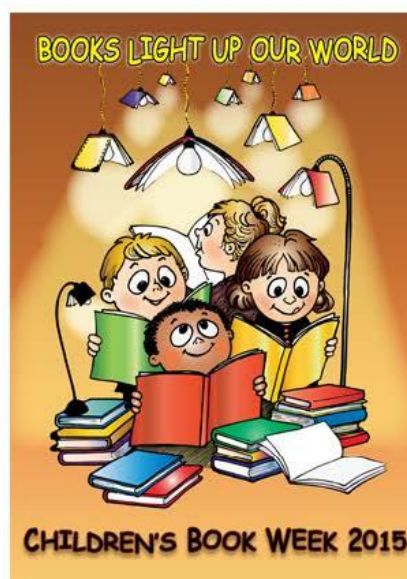
5:00pm for book sales.

#### Wednesday 19 August -

##### *Book Sales*

8:30am to 11:00am then 3:00pm to 4:00pm

Thank you for your continued support in our wonderful Book Week Celebrations!





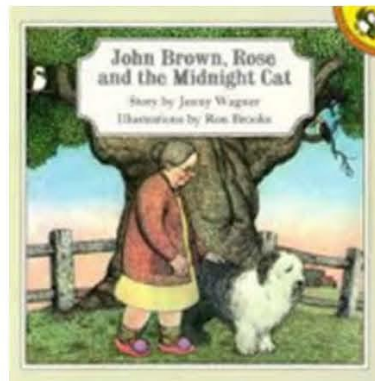
# Stage 2 Update

## 2/3B

2/3B has been working hard. They have all come back from the holiday break motivated and Aiming High. They have been demonstrating showing respect through their role plays and discussion.

It has been enjoyable listening to and reading about their holiday experiences and many have had amazing Power Point Presentations to present to the class.

We are continuing to focus on quality texts focusing on Narrative Texts. Students have been exploring highly complex concepts through "Knee to knee" strategy and our discussion circles. We are still continuing to analyse visual literacy terms like: vector, gaze, stance, angles, light, shade and colour. We are reading in class "Rose, John Brown and the Midnight Cat". It has been amazing to watch them delve into these complex concepts, particularly when scrutinizing this book.



At the end of last term we did some great lessons with Data. Here are some examples:



Year 2 were also learning some addition and subtraction strategies.



Also at the end of last term our class enjoyed their excursion. Year 2 got to experience all the fantastic careers that they may choose in the future at Wannabees. Year 3 had the amazing experience of visiting Madame Tussauds and Sea Life.



## 3D

3D thoroughly enjoyed discovering and exploring many aspects of visual literacy. We have learnt about four new features which are used to convey information in images: Camera Angle, Gaze, Saliency and the Vector. "The Great Paper Caper" by Oliver Jeffers brilliantly exemplifies each of these visual features.





# 3F



We have enjoyed studying units on space and dinosaurs. Some great reports, expositions and descriptions on the topic were produced with some amazing art and craft to accompany published pieces of writing.



This term we are focusing on quality literature and we begin with "Brian Banana Duck Sunshine Yellow" by Chris McKimmie. We are all set to 'go bananas' and become banana experts as we write reports and make procedures like banana splits. (Did you know bananas are a type of herb?!)



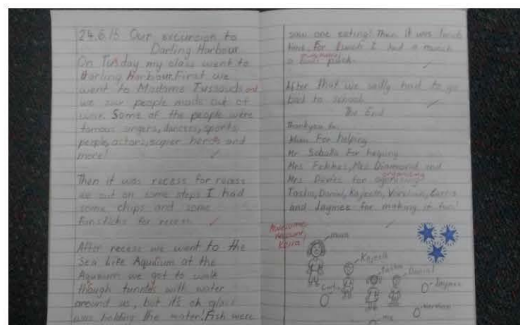
The highlight in Mathematics has been learning to solve vertical addition and subtraction algorithms using trading and learning our times-tables. The boys and girls are becoming very clever and are growing in confidence by the day!

We enjoyed Pyjama day in June and designed our own PJs! Aren't they great?!





Some great recounts were written about our excursion to Madame Tussauds and Sea Life Aquarium. It was a fantastic excursion and there were wide smiles on faces all day.



We adore our new interactive television. It replaced our smartboard this term and has some amazing features!



# 3N

Welcome back everyone! 3N have been once again extremely busy presenting enthusiastic talks about their holidays and sharing their experiences with the class. They have already come prepared with great talks about their favourite Australia city or town, accompanied with amazing power point presentations. We are all looking forward to the Oracy competition later this term.



Stage 2 had an enjoyable time last term on our excursion to Madame Tussauds and Sea Life Aquarium. 3N wrote awesome recounts and kept talking about what a fantastic time they all had.



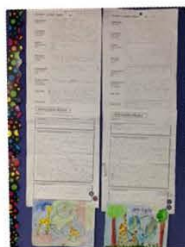
We have been busy in Mathematics learning about addition and subtraction with 4-digit numbers which involve trading. 3N have enjoyed learning their



multiplication tables through a math game, which they really look forward playing.

We have been very busy designing ads for our favourite books or magazines in computers. We have also published lots of work.

During literacy groups we have been focussing on gathering important information from non-fiction texts and constructing very detailed information reports on giraffes, pirates, penguins and Australian states.





Mrs Bekiaris is extremely proud of your enthusiasm and dedication you put into your schoolwork every day. Keep it up!!

### Special Congratulations

We cheer Zali C for submitting her poem "Fears" which she wrote in class. Her mother entered her poem in the "Write 4 Fun" competition.

Zali's poem was then chosen to be published later on this year in the book "The Write Track". Her poem was of a particularly high standard, placing her in the top five per cent of entries. Well done Zali, this is fantastic!



### Fears

*I had a terrible dream that made me scream.*

*I had an adrenaline rush that made me blush.*

*Later that night I had a spooky fright.*

*I was so mad I played on the family iPad.*

*I saw my least favourite colour pink that made me blink.*

*It made me throw my cuddly toy and say boy oh boy.*

*The next night there was a lightning strike.*

*By Zali Craig*



## 4H

*4H have enjoyed learning about all the different visual literacy elements within English. They have developed their understanding of how stories can be communicated using still and moving images. 4H have loved exploring visual literacy elements within the text *The Lost Thing*. The students constructed descriptions of *The Lost Thing* using partner writing to collaboratively develop their ideas. 4H have completed detailed artworks of *The Lost Thing* to further explore their descriptions.*



## 4M

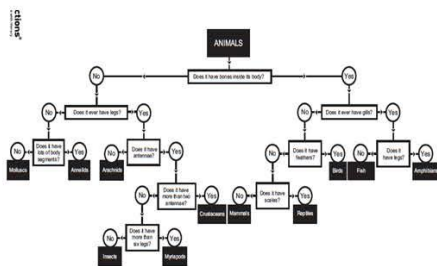
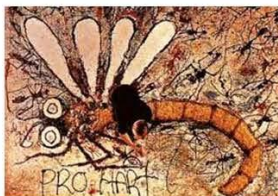
*4M has been working on understanding various techniques used in visual literacy. We created these artworks which represent salience. The students watched 'The Blue Umbrella' by Pixar which is a silent movie and discussed how the coloured umbrellas were salient. They then demonstrated salience through the use of colour in their artworks.*





## 4L

4L have thoroughly enjoyed exploring living and non-living things as part of the Science unit 'Fur, Feather or Leaves.' Students were engaged in scientific discussions about the observable characteristics of various animals. Using an animal branching chart, students had fun working in pairs to classify animals by identifying their features and following the classification flow chart.

4L have also created an artwork based on Pro Hart's famous dragonfly painting. They used oil pastels and a watercolour wash to effectively depict their salient dragonfly.





Term 3

Week 4

# Stage 3 Update

Stage 3 has a very busy semester to look forward to, with much-anticipated events such as the mini fete, camp, and Year 6 Farewell getting closer and closer!

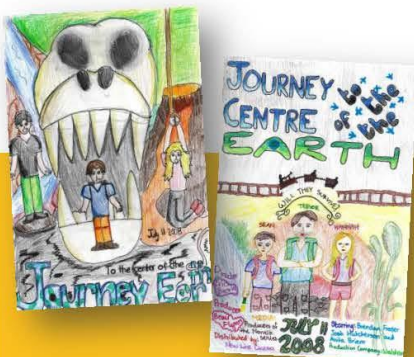
This term Stage 3 are learning all about Earth's place in space in Science and about gold in HSIE. We are also really enjoying our film study on 'Journey to the Centre of the Earth.'



Stage 3 students at the Athletics Carnival

## Upcoming Dates

4 August	Stage 3 Spelling Bee
Week 6	Maths Olympiad Test 4 Oracy Competition speeches
Week 9	Maths Olympiad Test 5
16 September	Year 6 Mini Fete
25-27 November	Great Aussie Bush Camp
16 December	Year 6 Graduation 1:30pm Year 6 Farewell Arch 2:30pm Year 6 Farewell Celebration 6:30pm

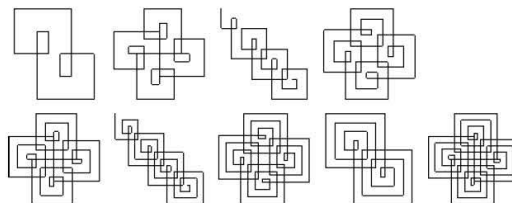


## Greystanes High Achievers

Four students from Stage 3 were selected to take part in the Greystanes High Achievers program "Maths Madness". The program gives students the opportunity to meet new friends and develop a variety of new skills in relation to Mathematics.

"Today we learned about spirallaterals. It was interesting how different numbers used create different patterns. Mr J (our teacher) also taught us about Magic V's. This has been a wonderful experience to learn the next level of maths. Greystanes High is awesome." (Khushi & Kavish)

*These are some examples of spirallaterals.*



## Movie Posters

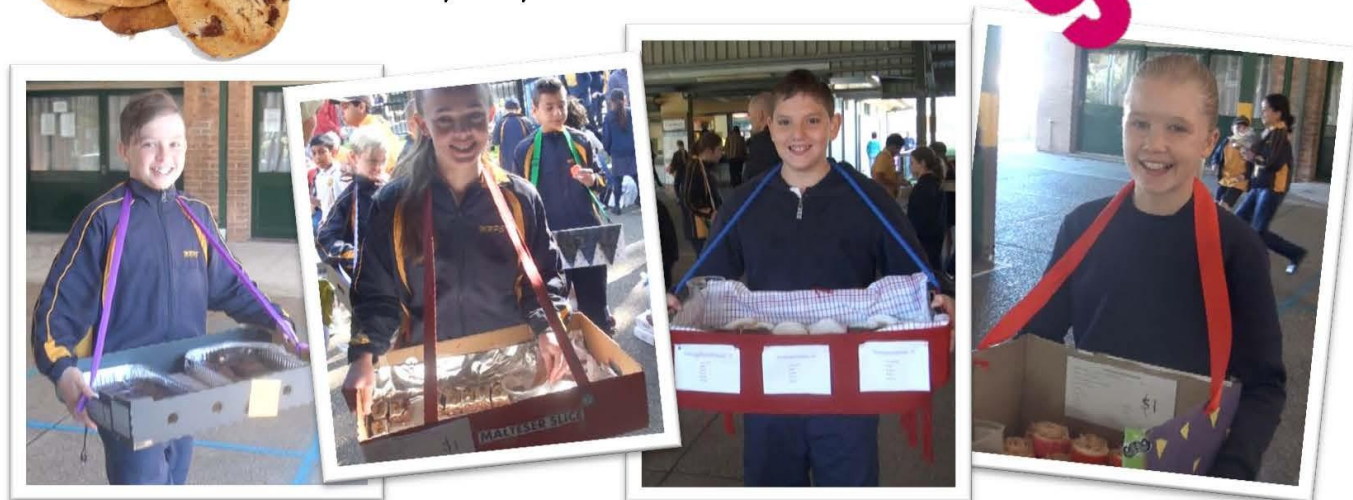
Students studied the design of popular movie posters, their common characteristics, and how they are used in advertising. We created our own version of a movie poster, complete with our own tagline, for 'Journey to the Centre of the Earth.'



## Year 6 Peddler's Parade



Our taste buds are extremely grateful to all the students and parents who bought or made the mouth-watering items on sale at the Year 6 Peddler's Parade! The day was immensely successful, padding both our tummies and the Year 6 fundraising bucket very nicely!





## Paper Pilots

In week 10 last term, Stage 3 were visited by a very special guest! Dylan Parker, the inspiration behind the Australian film 'Paper Planes' came to share his knowledge and very unique expertise with the students of Metella Road, offering a very engaging visual and media based experience.

Dylan has some extremely impressive credentials in the art of paper plane making. He has achieved a 3rd Place at the World Paper Plane Championships in Austria in 2009 and has a personal distance record of 58.9m!

Through the session, Dylan demonstrated the principles of flight and the science behind why these magical folded toys fly the way they do. Our students had an absolute blast and now know how to make some very cool paper plane designs!



*Some of our students were lucky enough to score an autograph from Dylan!*





## StartSmart: Money Matters

It's never too early to teach children the value of money! In week 2, the Year 5 and 5/6 classes participated in a workshop designed to give students a practical framework for realistic, financial goal setting. The workshop is an initiative run by the Commonwealth Bank that uses engaging activities to encourage students to 'See It, Earn It, Save It'.

Changing the way  
young people learn  
about finance.

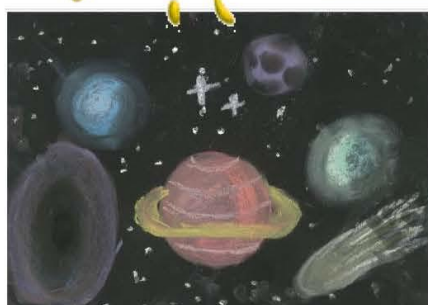


Concepts that were covered included:

- goal setting
- earning money
- saving strategies
- interest
- banks

Students learnt about opportunities to earn money now, and are excited about making their savings goals a reality.

### 5/6D Artworks



5/6D have been learning how to blend and shade various media to create different textures and 3D effects.

We created our own chalk galaxies by shading dark and light edges of our planets to give them their spherical look.

We experimented with dabbing and blending watercolors to create the beautiful foliage on our charcoal trees.



## 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.

# TOONGABBIE



**JOIN US AT HOLROYD GIANTS JUNIOR  
T-BALL AND BASEBALL CLUB!**

Want to help develop your childs hitting, catching and throwing skills, in a team environment – run by accredited coaches?? Why not join Holroyd Giants Junior Baseball Club! Boys and girls from 4 years of age are welcome. Training is held on Thursday afternoons, with games on Saturday mornings, starting September.

**Come along to our Try Baseball and Registration days**

At West Guildford Sports Ground, Foray Street, Guildford West

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2015: 11am to 2pm**

**OR contact: Kevin on 0407 248 152**

[www.GiantsJuniors.com.au](http://www.GiantsJuniors.com.au)

Fees from \$100 for the season, includes baseball mitt!





**Thanking You!**

**Spring Fete  
Silver Sponsor**



**Workers Blacktown - Workers Sports - Hubertus Country Club  
Members of the Blacktown Workers Club Group**

