

Metella Road Public School

AIM HIGH



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Term 2 - Week 8

Wednesday, 14 June 2017

Calendar

What's On

Term 2, Week 8

Wednesday, 14 June	ICAS Spelling & Writing Sydney West Cross Country
Friday, 16 June	Parent Workshop – Discipline Strategies for Parents @ 9:30am

Term 2, Week 9

Wednesday, 21 June	Parents Auxiliary Meeting @ 2:00pm
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Term 2, Week 10

Wednesday, 28 June	Semester 1 Reports Home
Thursday, 29 June	Club 250 Reward Day
Friday, 30 June	End of Term 2

Term 3, Week 1

Monday, 17 July	Staff Development Day
Tuesday, 18 July	Students Return

Term 3, Week 2

Tuesday, 25 July	3-6 Athletics Carnival K-2 Athletics Carnival
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Term 2, Week 3

Monday, 31 July	ICAS English
Wednesday, 2 August	Education Week – Open Day Year 6 Peddlers Parade

Principal's Message

"To the world, you may be just one person; but to one person, you may be the world." Josephine Billings

What does **community** really mean at Metella Road Public School?

As Principal of Metella Road Public School, I have always been so proud of the way in which we work together as partners in the education of our children. Over a number of years I have observed the increase of community participation in events such as Mother's Day breakfasts, Open Days, Book Week, carnivals and the many other activities that are held at our school.

This year we are undertaking a number of major community activities including our Spring Fete and the development of our Community Garden. I would like to thank a number of people who have been fundamental to their planning and on-going development. The P&C and Parent's Auxiliary are working tirelessly to prepare for our Spring Fete to ensure that it is a phenomenal success. Come along to our Spring Fete meetings to see how you can get involved and contribute to a great community day! Additionally, we have now commenced work on our Community Garden and owe a massive thank you to Mr David Martin and Mr Timothy Martin who generously donated their time (and energy) to clear the area that will be used. With the bobcat at school, we were also able to increase the levy bank on the back field to stop run-off issues when there is heavy rain. Finally, a huge thank you to Mr Peter Gauci who donated his time to supply and install professional shelving into a number of our classrooms. It has been absolutely fantastic and solved a number of storage issues!

Metella Road Public School is truly fortunate to have such an outstanding community!



The sample Devonshire tea, provided by Shona Wilson and Metella Road OOSH, will be available at our Spring Fete.



Education

Look at our garden now!

Our teachers love their new shelving!



STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics)
STEM continues to be incorporated into the learning experiences of our Stage 2 and 3 classes. From the photos it is easy to see just how much fun our students are having.



Smiles all round making the wheel jump through the hoop!





The view from the drone! How cool is this!



We are designers!

NAPLAN Online

Please take a look at the information attached to the end of this newsletter regarding the NAPLAN Online Trial that will take place later this year. There is information on why the trial is happening and a list of frequently asked questions.

Principal's Distinction Award Winners

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved their Principal's Distinction Awards this term:

Emily 4G	Haylee 5/6S
Christian 5A	Tanish 6C
Adreana 5A	Jessica 6D

Striving, Thriving and Flourishing

In the busyness of our everyday lives, we often approach things we have to do in the "same old" one dimensional way. We don't realise that there are more optimistic ways to think about and do things; we don't know what we don't know.

Following are some simple approaches, which are not rocket science, which will be catalysts to you striving, thriving and flourishing.

* Use the 80/20 Principle – this is about realising that 80% of the value we get for our efforts comes from only 20% of our actions. So stop doing a whole lot of things that we may think are important, but really aren't. This will give us more time to spend on things which make us and our families happy.

* Live by giving – as Winston Churchill once said, "we make a living by what we get, but live by what we give." We will feel far more satisfied with our lives when we are continually on the lookout for opportunities to do acts of kindness for others.

* Listen first, then speak – being able and willing to listen to others to understand their thoughts and ideas first before offering our views will help us to build healthy relationships. Remember those special three little words to ask others: tell me more.

* Be someone else – often the most popular people who are left to do things are someone else. When we see something that really needs doing, take the initiative and do it. This will build in ourselves fantastic feelings of fulfilment and wellbeing.

* Don't belt ourselves up – we all make errors in judgement and generally stuff up at times, it's life. When this happens, don't belt ourselves up. Rather turn the experience into something we can learn from. We need to think about better ways to say and do things next time, because there will be a next time.

* Other people matter – the more we focus on making other people's lives better, the more our own and their wellbeing will strive, thrive and flourish. When we act positively in the communities we live in, it rubs off on others to make life better for everyone; it's contagious!

* Looking for what is right – our natural evolutionary tendency is to be on guard about what are threats and what is wrong with something. Life comes alive for us when we drop this type of thinking and launch into seeing what is right and good about what we see; things blossom in front of our eyes.

* Don't take ourselves seriously – for sure it is important to focus seriously about our occupations to develop them, but it is quite sad when we take ourselves seriously. Lighten up and search for the bright side of life.

* Take notes – our memories get cluttered up with millions of thoughts and often we forget to do or remember important things. Write them down in a little notebook or as notes on our phones. We will feel more in charge of now.

* Connect with ourselves – many of us zoom along through life not being mindful enough to watch our thoughts and feelings coming and going. Our breathing controls our mental, physical and emotional perspectives. Connect to the moment through slow breathing to experience the fullness of this precious gift we have been given, life.

* Exercise with purpose – if we can't find time for exercise, then we will have to find time for illness; it's as simple as that. Every day blackout an hour to exercise to develop a healthy mind and healthy body; don't let anything interrupt our personal timeout.

* Laugh and have fun – the very best medicine in the world is laughing, having fun and experiencing positive emotions. We need to make opportunities every day to find fun in what we see and have a good belly laugh about it. Doing this will really benefit not only our own wellbeing and others' around us.

* Spend less time on things – when we have something to do we need to do, give ourselves less time to time to accomplish them. Doing this will sharpen up our minds and not let drag out and out. The job may not be done perfectly, but it will get done and provide time to do things that bring us happiness.

"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain." Vivian Greene

Mr P. D'Ermilio
Principal

Deputy Principal's Report

We know it is cold...We know it is rainy...We know it is winter...but it is time to jump out of bed early... and be on time, in line, at five to nine!

This week we are launching a class competition to encourage all students to arrive at school on time. Each Friday afternoon we will be checking our attendance register to determine which classes have perfect on-time arrival at school. All classes with 100% on-time arrival will receive a reward. Classes will be announced at Monday morning assemblies under the K-2 and 3-6 COLAs.

It is very important for students to arrive on time at school every day. The following information is taken directly from the Department of Education's document *Compulsory School Attendance Information for parents*:

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Gives students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

While we appreciate that sometimes there are unavoidable reasons why students may be absent or arrive late, please remember that ***if a student misses as little as 8 days every school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of school.***

We are looking forward to working with our students and families to be on time, in line, at five to nine!

Deputy Principal's Award Winners

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved their Deputy Principal's Award:

Anissa 4J
Ryan 5A
Aaryan 4H
Aarushi 1T
Jaaniya 3F
Kirujjan 1R
Christian 5A
Maheer 4J
Ashnavi 1R
Jessica 6D
Shreeshail 2N
Rogue 1T
Lacey 3F
Arsha 6C
Tyronne 1R
Aryan 5A
Violet 1E
Adreana 5A
Aanya 1T
Dakota 2N
Aarav 1B
Jaiveer 6D
Oliver 1T
Grace 4H
Varshaa 3A
Rachel 2E
Logo 5W
Gabriel 3A

Keep in Touch

Finally, remember to check Facebook, the school App and our website to keep up-to-date with current information.

Mrs N. Parker
Deputy Principal

From the Office

Students sick at night, on the weekend or in the morning?

During the term a number of students arrive to school or at Before School Care and are shortly sick including vomiting or they are sent to SICK BAY in the morning session by their concerned teachers. **This means that they were not well enough to come to school that day.** We understand the struggle of the working parent. *However*, if your child suffers vomiting or diarrhoea on the weekend, in the evening or upon waking, **they need a minimum of 24 hours of being symptom-free before returning to school.** This is the recommendation of the Australian Government National Health and Research Council from their publication "**Staying Healthy**" which states:

Exclusion period

Children, educators and other staff with infectious diarrhoea should be excluded until the diarrhoea has stopped for at least 24 hours.

Responsibilities of educators and other staff

Advise the parent to keep the child home until they are feeling well and they have not had any symptom for at least 24 hours. If your child was sick on the weekend, in the evening or getting up in the morning, they are too sick to be at school and need to stay home! Thank you for respecting all our families and helping ensure that all our students are safe, happy and healthy at school.

Absence Notes - If your child has missed school, you can write a note with the following information:

- Include your child's given name and surname and class.
- Include the date/s and number of days your child was away.
- Explain why your child was away.
- Include other information as needed.

If your child is going to be away for more than three days please let the school office know. You will still need to write a note when your child returns.

Late Arrivals/Early Leavers - Parents are reminded that children that arrive late for school (i.e. once class lines have reach their classroom) are required to come to the office for a late note. Also those parents needing to collect children early will need to collect an early leaver note from the office before collecting their child from the classroom.

Payments - 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. Students are responsible for bringing all payments to the office. Please do not give money or permission notes to class teachers. **A signed permission note must accompany any money**, payment only without a note does not allow the child to participate in the activity. All notes and money should be into the office by 11.30am. When paying for excursions or events that require money, please only include Australian money. Money from another country included in your payment, will be returned to you and we will ask that you provide a payment with Australian Money.

All cash should come to school in an envelope with your child's name, class and amount clearly written on the front. Please remember to sign all permission notes with your payment, as permission is always needed for your child to participate in any activity. Envelopes should be placed in the 'office mail box' located in the front office. Please also remember **'NO MONEY ON FRIDAYS'**.

If your child has been unable to attend an activity you have paid for or there has been an adjustment on the fee charged, we will credit your school account with the nominated amount. This amount can then be used towards payment for the next activity your child is participating in. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Lost Clothing

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 labels haven't faded with washing.
- Go through your child's bag with them each night.

SCHOOL CAPS –
Available from the school office
\$12.00
*Please have the correct money, as we do
not always have change.*

YEAR 2018 ENROLMENTS

We are now taking Kindergarten enrolments for 2018. If you have a child you wish to enrol at school next year, please contact the Office. If you know of any neighbours or friends in this area who have children ready to start school next year, please ask them to collect an enrolment form. It is important that we have names of children as early as possible to help us with staffing and school organisation.

Mrs C. Ryan
School Administration Manager

Kindergarten News

Wow, I cannot believe it is almost the end of Term 2. We have had a productive term and the students have continued to learn many new and exciting things.

Term is the start of our *Transition to School Programs*. These programs help us to support children and their families in making a positive and successful transition to school.

An initiative we put in place, to support transition to school, is to establish links with local early childhood centres. We provide opportunities for preschool children to visit the school and become familiar with many aspects of school life.

Last week some preschool children from *Little Stars Preschool* had the opportunity to visit our school and attend a range of activities. These activities included a sport lesson with KL and KM, joining KB and KW for some classroom activities and participating in a music and drama lesson with KT and Miss Cheetham. The children had an enjoyable time.

Our *Transition to School* programs will continue in Term 3. We are looking forward to providing families with further information about school readiness and how they can support their child to ensure a smooth transition to school.

Mrs S. Larobina
Instructional Leader

Stage 1 News

Our Stage 1 students are continuing to participate enthusiastically in all lessons.

In English, students are exploring the theme of 'journey' that authors weave throughout their stories. Students have been learning about the different techniques that authors use to show change. Sometimes the main character undergoes a personal journey where they transform and change throughout the story. They've been enjoying reading stories about pigs,

ducks, magpies and children who undergo a journey and change at the end of the book.

In Mathematics, students have been learning how to make equal groups and share items equally. These concepts form the foundation of multiplication and division. Students are doing an amazing job, finding out the total number of items, and solving how many equal groups are made. They are also learning all about the months of the year, how many days in a month and how to tell the time on a digital and analogue clock. Students have been enjoying conducting hands-on investigations about the mass of various items. They have been hefting and using equal arm balances to help them with their enquiries.

In Geography, students are continuing to learn all about Aboriginal connections. They are examining the deep connections that Aboriginal people have with the land and conducting geographical investigations on why we have to make sure we keep our land clean and beautiful. Students are learning all about Dreamtime stories and are finding this unit of work very engaging!

In Science, students are busy conducting various experiments. It is wonderful to see their curiosity stirred as they devise ways to test their hypothesis. Students in Year 1 are learning about how everyday materials can change when heated or cooled. Our Year 2 students are exploring the mini beasts found in and around our playground.

Our Stage 1 teachers have been busy writing our Semester 1 reports and are excited about sharing the progress and achievement of their students.

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!

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

Stage 2 News

Term 2 has continued to move forward at rapid pace. Stage 2 students have worked hard across all Key Learning Areas, including learning to write imaginative texts like narratives and descriptions, learning about living and non-living things in Science and Technology and researching Australia's neighbouring countries in Geography.

All students at Metella Road Public School attended the Power of One Antibullying Show in Week 4. Students learned about strategies to deal with bullying and signed an oath to say no to bullying. This was a great reminder to be respectful and safe at school, in line with our expectations of being Motivated, Respectful, Proud and Safe.

The Didgeribone Spectacular Show allowed students to explore Aboriginal culture and history through music. Students listened to performances of a didgeribone, a cross between a didgeridoo and a trombone. Thank you to Mrs Fekkes for organising this great opportunity to engage in Indigenous culture.

The Stage 2 and 3 M-League Grand Finals will be held this Thursday 15 June from 2:15pm, weather permitting. The teams to play in the finals will be decided early this week. If

you are able to attend, parents are more than welcome to cheer on their children should they make the Grand Final.

Semester 1 reports will go home to parents on Wednesday 28 June in Week 10. These written reports provide information on a student's learning in each of the Key Learning Areas and information about the student's social development and commitment to learning.

On behalf of the Stage 2 team, I would like to wish all our Stage 2 students and their families a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Miss Y. Moulakas
Stage 2 Supervisor

Stage 3 News

What a busy term it has been so far for Stage 3!!

The Year 6 shirts have finally arrived and don't they look great!

Thank you for your patience with the arrival of these, the company were having issues with their factory and pass on their apologies for the delayed arrival.

Year 6 have commenced their Interrelate – Moving into the Teen Years program and are participating well in the sessions each Monday. This program offers great information to them as they begin to grow and change.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Year 6 cake stall this term. The Year 6 students did a great job running it on the day and we made some great profits towards the end of year functions. Thank you to Mrs Davies for all of her hard work preparing and organising this fundraising event and to the other teachers who helped out on the day.

Year 6 students have begun to prepare for their major fundraiser – the Year 6 Mini Fete - which is held in Term 3. More information will come out regarding this as the date approaches.

The Hills Sports High School Year 7 Advisor for 2018 visited Metella Road last Thursday to talk to the Year 6 students about high school and answer any questions that they had. Thank you to Mrs McClenahan for coordinating this visit for us.

Stage 3 teachers are now in the final stages of editing student reports. These reports will be sent home in Week 10. As always, if you have any concerns or questions regarding Stage 3 or your child please speak to the class teacher or Mrs Saad and Ms Curran as Stage 3 supervisors.

Mrs A. Saad & Ms S. Curran
Stage 3 Supervisors




Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

At Metella Road Public School, our four expectations for student behaviour are Motivated, Respectful, Proud and Safe. Each fortnight, our school focuses on one of these expectations to reinforce a positive behaviour that our students need to work towards



consistently demonstrating. During each fortnight, students receive Mini Metellas for consistently demonstrating the focus expectation and behaviour.

This term, our focuses have included being:

-  **Respectful and Safe: Keep your hands and feet to yourself**
-  **Motivated: Be in line on time**
-  **Respectful: Play fairly**

At the end of every fortnight, all Mini Metellas are collected and five winners are drawn. These students receive a voucher to Ultimate Northmead. Thank you to Mrs Williams and Mr Hands who coordinate these draws across K-2 and Years 3-6. Congratulations to all those students who have earned a prize this term!

Our major PBL draw will be held at the K-6 Assembly in Week 8. All students who have earned Mini Metellas throughout the term go into this draw. Good luck to all our students!

We appreciate your support in reinforcing our school expectations to be Motivated, Respectful, Proud and Safe.

Miss Y. Moulakas
Coordinator

Pulse Choir

The Pulse Choir is preparing for their performance at the Sydney Opera House on Thursday, 16 November 2017. Sixteen students from Stage 3 have been chosen to be a part of this combined schools choir. They have been steadily rehearsing their songs at recess time every Monday over the past term. They have just recently participated in their combined Primary Schools rehearsal at Jamisontown Public School. We wish them well as they rehearse and prepare for their concert in November.

Mrs J. Cartwright
Coordinator

Stage 3 Dance Group

The twenty-four girls in the Stage 3 Dance Group have worked very hard this term to learn the choreography to the song 'Down the Road'. It has been wonderful to see them so engaged and committed, with all members attending rehearsals regularly and practising in their own time.

We are preparing to perform for an audience for the first time this year in Term 3. We will keep students and parents up to date on when any performances will take place.

Miss T. Agius & Miss Y. Moulakas
Stage 3 Dance Coordinators

Senior Choir Report

The Senior Choir continues to rehearse on Tuesday at lunch time. Our repertoire consists of songs for the Blacktown Festival of Performing Arts which will be held Week 6 of Term 3, as well as some other chosen favourites. We will be performing at the Education Week assembly in Term 3 and future school assemblies. We are always welcoming of new members, even if they have never sang in front of people before. Keep on singing!

Miss K. Thomas
Coordinator

M-League

The Stage 2 and Stage 3 M-League Grand Finals are nearly here! They will take place on Thursday 15 June at 2:15pm on the back field, weather permitting. Teams to play in the Grand Finals will be decided early this week. Please keep an eye out on the MRPS Calendar and our school Facebook page for the teams.

Congratulations to all students who have participated this term. It has been great to see your sportsmanship and your skill, and to see students who may not have played soccer before get involved.

Thank you to the fantastic Year 5 and Year 6 students who have done a wonderful job refereeing matches. It has been a pleasure to see you developing your leadership skills and getting involved in our school community to enable your peers to participate.

Students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will participate in M-League in Term 3. Students will be asked to express their interest soon. Thank you to Mr Calnan who will be coordinating M-League next term.

Miss Y. Moulakas
Coordinator

ICAS

ICAS is an independent, skills-based assessment program which recognises and rewards student achievement across a number of academic areas.

Many students across Years 2-6 have participated in the ICAS tests this term, completing the Digital Technologies, Science, Spelling and Writing tests. Next term, students will complete the English and Mathematics tests.

Thank you to all staff for their assistance in administering these tests. Students will receive their results and their question papers later in the year.

We look forward to seeing the achievements of our students.

Ms S. Curran & Miss Y. Moulakas
Coordinators

Debating News

This has been a very busy term for our debaters! In the third round of the Blacktown District Debating Competition, our school competed against Quakers Hill Team 1. The topic for this debate was 'That Family and Friends Are Equally Important.' We were the negative team. We argued that there were situations when family were more important than friends, and vice versa. Our reasons were: not everyone has friends, friends can create a lot of pressure, there are some things you are more comfortable discussing with your family, and friends are often more compatible with you than family members are. Unfortunately, we didn't win this debate but we presented a strong case and rebutted the affirmative team's arguments.

In Week 5, members of our debating team visited Vardy's Road Public School to compete against both Vardy's Road and Darcy Road in the Premier's Debating Competition. This competition is especially challenging because the students do not know what the topic is or which side they will debating until they arrive at the debate. They are then given one hour to prepare their speeches independently. In the first debate,

'Violence Should be Banned from All Games and Shows Aimed at Children', we were the affirmative team. In the second debate of the day, 'That Parents Should be Banned from Smacking Their Children', we successfully argued for the affirmative.

We will complete the final two rounds of the Premier's Debating Challenge this term. Our next debate for the Blacktown District Competition is against Quakers Hill Team 2. The topic is 'That School Camps Teach Responsibility', and we will be arguing for the negative side.

Ms S. Curran
Coordinator

P&C and the Parents Auxiliary

Mother's Day Stall

Congratulations to everyone involved in the Mother's Day stall it was a very successful event and \$1,373.00 was raised. A huge thanks to Roxy Black for organising the event, your efforts were truly appreciated.

Mufti Day – Pyjama Day

It was great to see so many students at school in their Pyjamas last Wednesday. Thanks to everyone for participating, \$590.00 was raised and the money will go towards the Spring Fete in October.

Spring Fete

We had a productive Spring Fete meeting last week, preparations are underway and some sponsorship is starting to come in.

Do you want free ride passes? If you have your own business or work for an awesome company who would be willing to sponsor the Spring Fete, then you will be entitled to one free ride pass for the day. Please contact **Stefanie Kendall** at sskendall@optusnet.com.au for a sponsorship letter and information package.

A huge thanks to Aarti Garg for attaining sponsorship from Optus and LJ Hooker for the Spring fete.

The next Spring Fete meeting will be held this Tuesday, 13 June at 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Staffroom. We encourage all to come with your brilliant ideas!

Next P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held this Tuesday, 13 June starting at 7:30pm in the staffroom.

Next Parents Auxiliary Meeting

The next Auxiliary meeting will take place on Wednesday, 21 June at 2:00pm in the staffroom. The P&C encourages everyone, to come along and get involved.

Finally, the P&C and the Metella Road Public School community would like to say a massive thankyou to Roxy Black and Belinda Bryan who have both recently resigned from the Parents Auxiliary. Roxy has worked tirelessly around the school organising, Mother's and Father's Day stalls, raffles, cooking countless BBQ's and organising the photography fundraisers to name a few things. Thank you for everything you

have both done for Metella Road Public School your efforts are really appreciated.

Mrs S Kendall
P&C Representative

Didjeribone Show

Did you know that a didjeribone is an Australian-made and designed combination of a didgeridoo and a trombone? Wow!

As part of our recognition of NAIDOC week, our students were entertained by Aboriginal performer, Tjupurru and his marvellous didjeribone show on Tuesday, 13 June.

Tjupurru presented an engaging and educational exploration of ancient tradition fused with modern technology. Students enjoyed learning about Tjupurru's personal musical journey and the expressions of Aboriginal art and music. Students were captivated by his music, stories, games and humour.

Some comments from students included:

- ❖ *The didjeribone was brilliant!*
- ❖ *He was magnificent and funny!*
- ❖ *A spectacular performance!*
- ❖ *I really enjoyed it!*

What an extraordinary show. Thank you, for your support of this event.





Kindergarten has had a wonderful start to the term. We have been learning about mini-beasts in our science unit "Staying Alive". We enjoyed a special visit from Travel Bugs where we got to see some insects up close and personal!



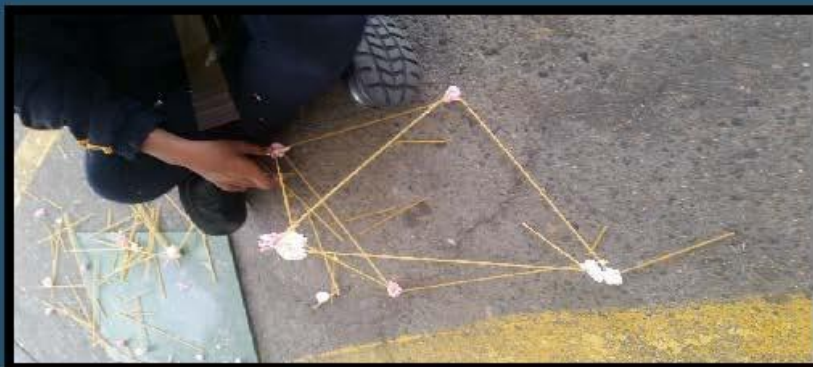


Sensational Stage 1

2H

2H have been spaghetti scientists and have been investigating the properties of uncooked spaghetti. Our learning has been driven by the student's curiosity and they have excelled in their creativity. The student's learning intention was to construct spaghetti towers to test the properties of spaghetti.

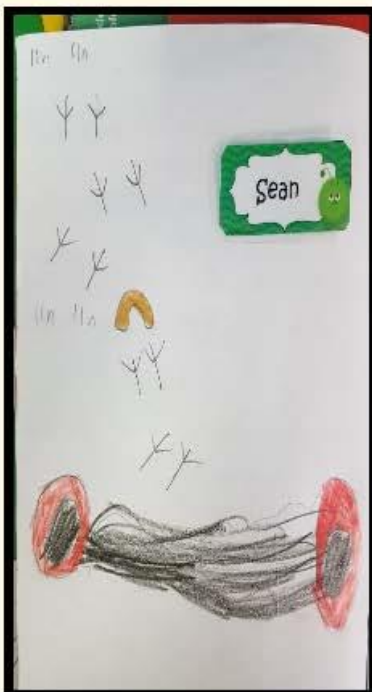
Curiosity



2M

In HSIE this term 2M have been studying the unit Aboriginal Connections. As part of this unit, we have been discussing and enjoying stories from the Dreamtime. Students have also learned about some Aboriginal symbols that were used to tell these stories. 2M created their own stories using these symbols and shared them with the class.

Passionate



Sensational Stage 1

2E and 2N

The students in 2E and 2N have been practising the fundamental movement skills on a weekly basis. In Athletics, we are having an amazing time learning about the correct discus and shot putt techniques.



Centre of Excellence

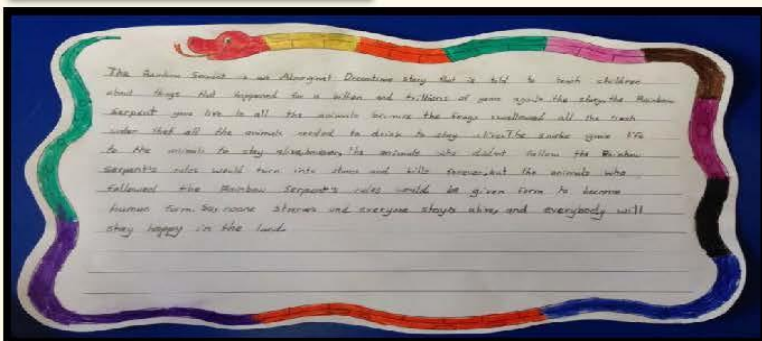


Future Driven



1/2J

1/2J is enjoying learning all about Aboriginal perspectives in the Geography Unit, Aboriginal Connections. They have created their own Aboriginal stories through the art of symbol. 1/2J has also been enjoying learning all about positive interpersonal relationships, focusing on how to play games fairly with others.



Sensational Stage 1

1L

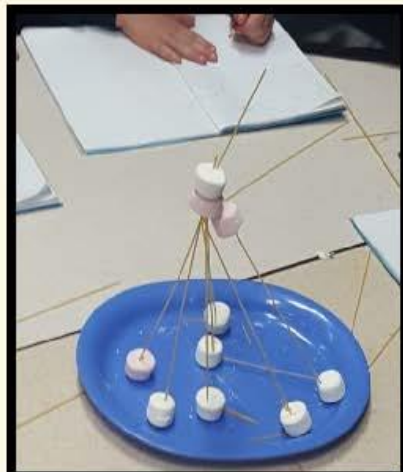
1L has been busy "Aiming High" and achieving all their learning goals. We have been experimenting with different learning spaces and what best suits each student to complete their work. In our writing we have been visualising, writing descriptive language and using a compare and contrast graphic organiser. These writing pieces have been based on our modelled reading books that we are enjoying and investigating on a deeper level. The students have all received individual learning goals for reading, writing and Mathematics, we have had conversations with them about what this means and how they can achieve them.



Aim High

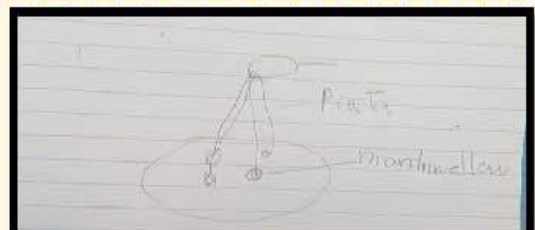


Investigators



1R and 1B

1R and 1B have been investigating the properties of different foods and how they can be changed by heating and cooling. We were investigating uncooked pasta and due to it being brittle and hard the students were working in collaborative groups to attempt to make towers using only pasta and marshmallows.

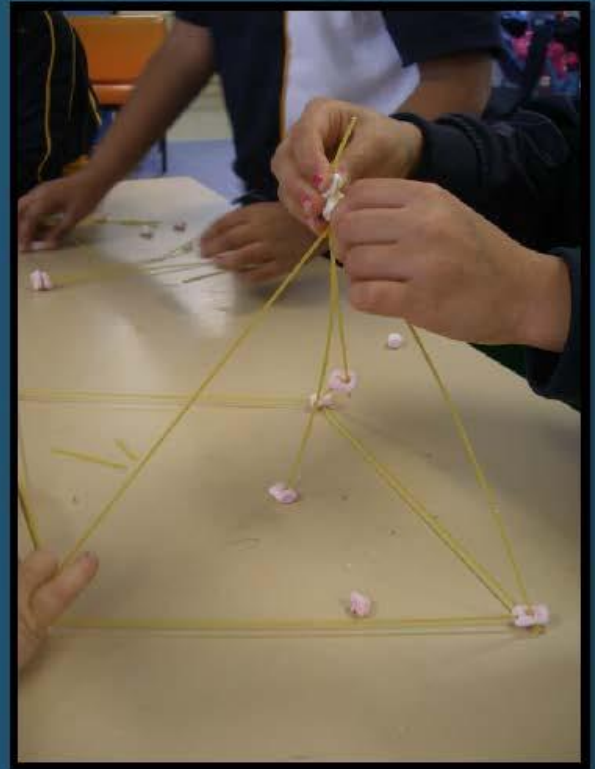


Sensational Stage 1

1T

In Science this term, 1T have been discovering how things change. We looked at cooked and uncooked spaghetti. Using uncooked spaghetti and marshmallows, we tried to build a tower. We all agreed it would not be possible if the spaghetti was cooked. We also looked at what happens to bread, popcorn kernels and chocolate when we add heat. Sometimes we can change it back, but sometimes we can't. We have had some great discussions joining with 1E. I think we were all a little disappointed we couldn't eat the food used in our experiments.

Creative



1E

1E have been working hard this term! In science we have been learning about how food changes when it is heated or cooled. We used cooked spaghetti to create unique artworks, and we also used uncooked spaghetti and marshmallows to build towers! Then we compared the properties of cooked and raw spaghetti.

Discovery

Whooping Cough



1 IDENTIFY

Anyone can get whooping cough but it can be deadly for babies

- Babies and young children can stop breathing or develop severe coughing bouts that end with vomiting or gasping for breath.
- People of all ages can get whooping cough and can spread it to babies.
- Adults often just have a mild cough that lingers.



2 PROTECT

Immunise your baby on time to get the best protection

- Pregnant women should get vaccinated in the third trimester (preferably at 28 weeks).
- Get your baby vaccinated on time at 6 weeks, 4 months and 6 months of age.
- Booster vaccines for children and adults stop whooping cough spreading.



3 PREVENT

Whooping cough spreads quickly when people cough in the early stages of the infection

- If you have symptoms, see a doctor fast and get tested.
- Stay home until you are no longer infectious. Ask your doctor when it's safe to return to work, school or childcare.
- Keep anyone with a cough away from your newborn especially until your baby has had 3 whooping cough vaccines.

SHPN (CHP) 150328

For further information visit the NSW Health website
www.health.nsw.gov.au/pertussis



Health



Education





Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

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What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child's individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers to tailor their teaching more specifically to address students' learning needs.

Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for 'tailored testing', where the test adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging*, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.

* Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.

NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 14 August and 22 September 2017.

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/online-assessment.html>



Frequently asked questions

Which students will participate in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate.

How should I prepare my child for the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability.

How long is the school readiness test?

The school readiness test is expected to include two assessments: a writing assessment* and a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. The duration of each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

** Year 3 students will only be expected to complete the combined numeracy/literacy assessment.*

When will my school participate in the readiness test?

One week within the test period in August and September will be identified for each school to conduct readiness testing.

How will students be prevented from using the internet or spellcheckers when completing the test?

The NAPLAN Online assessment platform will have state-of-the-art security protections. The assessment is delivered inside a locked-down browser. This ensures students cannot access the internet or spellcheckers while completing the test.

Will schools and parents be provided with information on the results of the readiness test?

There will be feedback to schools about the technical information gained from the readiness testing. There will be no reporting of student test results from the readiness test.



Your School Canteen News

**Week 6
Term 2**

New Healthy School Canteen Guidelines

In recent times, the NSW Government announced new Healthy Canteen Guidelines. The changes are required to be made by the end of December 2019.

You will be happy to know that your school canteen already meets the new standards.

To further improve the menu, we have added fresh popcorn to the meal deal. Popcorn is part of the Everyday Food group.

We have sourced a new popcorn that is absolutely delicious and will replace the JJ's

NEW Meal Deal Options

Popcorn Replaces JJ's

New, fresh, tasty & Healthy Popcorn will replace the JJ's



Fruit Shoot Pop Top Drinks

Now you can also choose a Pop Top Fruit Shoot in your Meal Deal. Flavours are : **Apple Blackcurrant Summer Fruits**



Helpful Tips

Tuesday is The Best Day to Order Lunch

Tuesdays are the quietest day at the canteen. The lines are shortest on Tuesdays, so your child will get served much quicker!

Ice Cold Treats In Lunch Orders

Make Ice Cold Treats part of your lunch order. Your child just has to take their lunch bag back to the canteen to get the item.

They can go straight to the front of the lines!

Sign Up For Flexischools Online

Special "Online Only Meal Deals" will be available in Terms 3 and 4.

You can not order these over the counter

Crunch & Sip \$2

Bottle Water 600ml Plus Apple or Banana or Mandarin

Only Available Before School Starts



Place lunch orders from your iPhone, iPad or mobile device!

flexischools

• Special Online Only Deals

Register today : Flexischools.com.au

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.



ACTIVE
HOLIDAY
ADVENTURES

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM WINTER 2017

☒ New friendships ☒ Fun
☒ Great value ☒ Safe

Bookings for our Winter school holiday program are now open! There are heaps of active holiday adventures to choose from around NSW. Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands.

Residential programs for Winter 2017

FOR KIDS:

- Adventurer
- Cooking 4 Kids
- Hook, Line & Sinker

FOR TEENS:

- Adrenalin Rush
- Adventurer
- Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Journey
- Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Journey

Don't want the kids to have all the fun? We also offer a Weekend Family Snow Sports Camp at Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Centre!

Also, check our website on 1 June for a range of day programs in your local area.



sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/schoolholidays | 13 13 02
fb.com/nswsportandrecreation

NSW GOVERNMENT | Office of Sport



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