

Metella Road Public School

AIM HIGH



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Term 3 - Week 4

Tuesday, 8 August 2017

Calendar

What's On

Term 3, Week 4

Tuesday, 8 August	K-6 Assembly @ 2:00pm Spring Fete Meeting @ 6:30pm P & C Meeting @ 7:30pm Parent Workshop – Maths Years 3-6 @ 7:30pm
Friday, 11 August	K-2 Athletics Carnival

Term 3, Week 5

Monday, 14 August	ICAS Mathematics Competition
Tuesday, 15 August	Book Week Performance 'Super Duper'
Wednesday, 16 August	Parents Auxiliary Meeting @ 2:00pm

Term 3, Week 6

Monday, 21 August	Book Fair Opens
Tuesday, 22 August	Sports & Group Photos
Wednesday, 23 August	Book Week Character Parade 2018 Kindergarten Enrolment Interviews

Term 3, Week 7

Tuesday, 29 August	Parent Workshop – Reading strategies
Thursday, 31 August	Zone Athletics Carnival Father's Day Stall
Friday, 1 September	Father's Day BBQ Breakfast

Principal's Message

Competence and Mastery

I recently read an article from Dan Haesler about Competence and Mastery which I enjoyed and wanted to pass on my thoughts.

Haesler talks about students having little understanding of what mastery is. He uses the analogy of Roger Federer who at his peak, was and is the one of the finest tennis players ever to play the game.

To date, Federer has won ninety-three ATP singles titles including a record nineteen Grand Slam singles titles, twenty-six ATP Masters 1000 titles and a record six Year-End Championships. He was named Laureus World Sportsman of the Year for a record four consecutive years between 2005 and 2009. In 2011 he was voted by over 50 000 people from 25 countries as the second most trusted and respected person in the world, second only to Nelson Mandela.

Haesler goes on to state that if anyone is entitled to feel they have mastered their art it would be Roger Federer.

But has he *mastered* tennis? Has he ticked off his list of things to do? Does he feel he has nothing else to learn from his coach?

No. He continues to train every day. He attempts to refine his technique, improve his agility and increase his power.

Despite all he has achieved in Tennis, Roger Federer is *still* trying to improve *every day*.

Yet too many students, and parents, equate an A grade with mastery. They have achieved all there is to achieve in this area of their education. There is no need to improve on it. By focusing on grades as the basis of learning, the fear is we insinuate there is an end-point. There is no end-point for Roger Federer and champions like him.

I am by no means saying that we should not focus on grades, they have a place in helping us determine how students are progressing, but what is at the heart of Metella Road Public School and what stands as our school motto – **Aim High** shows that we should never settle for mastery. We should always aim to continue to learn, be better than we were yesterday and continue to strive for excellence.

What could students learn from Roger Federer?

Tell Them From Me Survey Term 3 The *Tell Them From Me* Student Feedback Survey (Term 3, 2017)

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

You may remember that our students also participated in a *Tell Them From Me* student survey in Term 1 this year. Asking students to complete the survey twice in one year allows us to identify trends in student responses as well as track engagement and motivation across the school year.

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 21 August and 13 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Friday 18 August 2017**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>.

The *Tell Them From Me* Parent Feedback Survey (Term 3, 2017)

This Term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, ipads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between 21 August and 13 October. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

Our school will provide further information about how to access the survey. In the meantime, more information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/>

NAPLAN Online

The NAPLAN Online school readiness test will take place between 11 -15 September.

We will be conducting an afternoon information session about the test and have included an information sheet in this newsletter. More information to be sent home soon.

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' which has been designed to allow schools to test their resources and become familiar with the NAPLAN Online platform. The school readiness test will give students and our staff an introduction to the online testing format before the transition to NAPLAN Online.

Principal's Distinction Award Winners

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

Sudharson 5A	Luke 4H
Kanishk 5W	Varshan 5A
Bailey 4H	Ophelia 5W

Education Week Open Day

Last week we celebrated this special day in our school calendar. I would like to think that every day is a special day for our students and we provide many opportunities for our community to be invited to be part of our school, but Education Week Open Day is a simple way to celebrate our wonderful students, staff and community.

I would like to thank my wonderful students for showing their families their hard work they have completed for the first half of the year. I would like to thank my staff for the dedication and tireless effort they give to be life long learners so they develop their skills set as educators so they can assist our students to be the best they can be.

I would like to thank Mrs Parker for putting together the visual display you will find later in this newsletter.

Mr P. D'Ermilio
Principal

Deputy Principal's Report

Welcome to Term 3! Once again, we've got off to a flying start to with the athletics carnival, debating, Education Week activities and the Greystanes High Achiever's program. This coming week will see our school participate in an interschool chess competition, a parent workshop focusing on addition and subtraction strategies for 3-6 students, the Spring Fete meeting, P&C and the K-2 Athletics carnival. Also coming up is Book Week, our book fair and parade, and Super Duper performance - Mrs Aylett is working hard to get ready for these special activities! It's going to be another massive term and we are very excited by these opportunities for our students. As always, thank you to our amazing staff who work hard to ensure that our school vision to become a "centre of excellence" is continually realised!

Students Arriving Early



Parents, we would greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that your child arrives at school at the appropriate time. We have a growing number of students who are being dropped off at school when it is very cold and very early. Supervision of students commences at 8:30am. To ensure the safety and well-being of our students, please do not

drop your child at school before this time. Before and after school care is available if required.

Students Injuries

From time-to-time, students arrive at school who may have broken a limb on the weekend, or, for varied reasons, may require crutches. It is vital that if your child needs to use crutches at school, that the administration office is notified BEFORE bringing your child to school. This way we can work with students and families to ensure the appropriate strategies and risk management plans are put into place to support the safety of your child. This is particularly important for our senior students who are mostly located on the top floor of Block E. The steps to access this level are narrow and because of this, we may need to temporarily relocate students to an alternative setting until they can confidently access their upstairs classroom.

Action Plans for Anaphylaxis

If your child has an action plan for anaphylaxis, **it must be provided to the school in colour**. A black and white photocopy of the plan does not meet the Department of Education's guidelines. Please ensure that plans are updated and provided to the administration office.

Parking

Just a reminder to parents regarding safe driver behaviour around our school. Please ensure that you adhere to parking regulations. Remember that it is illegal to park across a driveway or within 1 metre of another vehicle. Also, a vehicle must **not** stop in a Bus Zone unless it is a registered public passenger bus. Finally, many of our parents are parking at the IGA, particularly of an afternoon, and this is having an impact on the business as customers are unable to park. Please consider the needs of our local community and residents when picking up your child from school.

Keep in Touch

Finally, remember to check Facebook, our website and the school App (log in – community, password – metellardps) to keep up-to-date with current information.



Deputy Principal's Award Winners

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

Ankur	2M
Jacqueline	3A
Vijith	1T
Amina	6C
Ophelia	5W
Kanishk	5W
Tara	6D
Joella	6D
Japorshanan	4J

Emahria	2M
Vraj	1/2J
Yuti	1B
Sudharsan	5A
Dakshita	3F
Hezekiah	1T
Liam	4J
Neophytos	1L
Ahkan	5/6S
Hitansh	1E
Keshini	6D
Aarav	1/2J
Moksha	1/2J
Azalia	2H
Kate	5/6S
Rishare	1/2J
Cody	4J
Henry	5A
Tiara	3D
Makenzie	4H
Rohaan	3H
Sierra	4J
Mya	2E
Nabethan	4J
Kaavya	2E
Riley	5/6S
Aron	1B
Javi	3F
Byren	2N
Daniel	1T
Addney	3F
Heath	1T
Elina	1R
Layla	2N
Mia	5A
Bailey	4H
Leila	2N
Ally	4G
Aston	1L
Ajanthan	1L
Adrian	1B
Tanish	2N
Varshan	5A
Tiffany	4J
Luke	4H

Mrs N. Parker
Deputy Principal

From the Office

Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush Camp

The first instalment of \$70.00 for the Great Aussie Bush Camp is due this week, Wednesday, 9 August. Please make your payment by POP (Parent Online Payment) or send the payment to the front office. Please remember we do not accept money on Fridays.

The following is a reminder of the payment plan for camp –

- 1st Instalment - \$70.00 Due by Wednesday, 9 August
- 2nd Instalment - \$70.00 Due by Wednesday, 13 September
- Final Payment - \$60.00 Due by Wednesday, 1 November
or if paying in full
- Full Payment - \$200.00 Due by Wednesday, 13 September

*SCHOOL CAPS –
Available from the school office
\$12.00*

Please have the correct money, as we do not always have change.

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.

This term the students in Kindergarten will be learning about the importance of farms and farm animals. We have been discussing and writing about farm animals including what they look like, what they eat, where they live and what they give us. This week we have the privilege of having the Living Eggs Hatching Program in our classrooms. This program enables the students to develop a deeper understanding of the life cycle of a chicken. The students will be able to witness chicks actually hatching from their eggs and observe them growing and changing. We are looking forward to seeing other farm animals and learning more about farm life, when we visit Calmsley Hill City Farm later this term.

During our Science lessons, the students are investigating different types of weather, 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 Book Week Performance, the Book Character Parade and our excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm.

Mrs S. Larobina
Instructional Leader

Stage 1 News

Our Stage 1 students enjoyed having their parents and families visit their classroom last week for Education Week. Open Day was such an exciting event 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 so 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 onomatopoeia (BOOM! CRASH! POW!) and are 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 'hook' their reader in with an engaging beginning, and 'show' using the verbs and adverbs to make their writing interesting and easy to visualise. We are so proud of their efforts this term!

In Mathematics, students have been learning all about place value, focusing on how if we make groups of 10, 100 and 1000, we can count large numbers quickly and efficiently. They are developing more sophisticated strategies to help them add and subtract numbers in multiple ways in different contexts. 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 and robots.

In History, students have been learning about what history actually means to us. They brainstormed what history is and why it is important to investigate the history of people, places and events. We have been looking at the history of Metella Road Public School. Did you know that where our school is situated used to be a farm? And where our K-6 field is used to be a dam where the livestock used to come and drink from? We noticed that there are so many houses here now when compared with the area in 1942! It is such an engaging, relevant topic for our students. In Science, 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 4 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 6. A Stage winner will be selected and they will present their speech at our K-6 Assembly in week 8.

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 & Mrs L. Bartlett
Stage 1 Supervisors

Stage 2 News

Term 3 started at full pace for Stage 2 with students participating in the discus and shot put trials in readiness for the 3-6 Athletics Carnival. Then came, the carnival itself and it was wonderful to see many Stage 2 students participating on the day to have fun and to earn points for their house.

Education Week was very eventful! A number of our Stage 2 students attended Westpoint Blacktown to perform as part of the Senior Choir. We then had Open Day, where parents and carers visited our classrooms to see the great work that Stage 2 students have completed so far this year. Thank you to Mrs Gafa and Mrs Holburn for opening up their classrooms to enable visitors the opportunity to see Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) activities in action. Again, many Stage 2 students were involved in the Open Day Performance Assembly, with the Senior Choir, Drama Club and Mixed Dance Groups performing. Stage 2 has so many talented students!

Stage 2 has determined class and stage representatives for the Premier's Spelling Bee Competition. Sean 3A will represent Stage 2 and Metella Road Public School at the regional finals later this term. We wish him the best of luck!

The Metella Road Public School Oracy Competition is in full swing. Students have completed their impromptu talks and will begin presenting their prepared speech for the topic '*A day in the life of...*' this week. Once class winners have been determined, a Stage 2 winner will be decided on Monday 21 August 2017 at 12:30pm in the hall. Parents of competing students are welcome to attend this special Stage Assembly. The Stage 2 winner will present their speech at the K-6 Assembly in Week 8 and represent our school at the Blacktown Learning Community Oracy Competition in Term 4.

There are a number of whole-school events for Stage 2 students to look forward to this term. Book Week begins in Week 6, with the Book Fair arriving for students to make purchases, and the Book Character Parade on Wednesday 23 August 2017. I'm looking forward to seeing what characters students come as and how creative they can be with their costumes!

Students will also participate in the Sports and Groups Photo Day on Tuesday 22 August 2017. Please look out for further communication about what students may require on the day regarding uniforms, equipment and costumes.

In class, Stage 2 students have been working hard across all Key Learning Areas. This semester we have begun History units relating to Local Communities and Remembrance, and students have been learning about ways to give feedback, to their teachers, their peers and themselves, and develop a growth mindset.

I know students will continue to work hard and engage in the multitude of opportunities provided for them!

Miss Y. Moulakas
Stage 2 Supervisor

Stage 3 News

Welcome back to an exciting term for Stage 3! We hope everyone enjoyed a safe and happy break over the holidays. Stage 3 Camp is quickly approaching! Students who have paid deposits for this have now received notes regarding payment plans and costing for this excursion. Please ensure that scheduled payments are paid on time. Notes regarding what to take and further details, along with medical forms will be sent out closer to the date.

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers attending our Open Classrooms on Open Day last week. The students enjoyed having their families in classrooms to showcase their learning. We appreciate you taking the time to come in to see what is happening in Stage 3.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Year 6 Peddler's Parade at the Education Week Open Day Picnic Lunch. The Year 6 students and teachers appreciate your support with our fundraising efforts. We hope you enjoyed the delicious treats that Year 6 made to sell. Well done to Year 6 students on a great effort organising and providing delicious treats!

Our Maths Olympiad team continues to participate in the Olympiad competitions this term under the guidance and instruction of Miss Thomas. There are three tests this term – one has already occurred in Week 2 and the other two are scheduled for Weeks 5 and 8. Thank you to Miss Thomas for her efforts with this and good luck to the team with the remainder of the tests this term.

Stage 3 had our annual Spelling Bee Competition this week. We were impressed with the spelling abilities of so many of our students. Congratulations to the class representatives who participated in the stage competition.

Stage 3 students have now begun presenting their impromptu and prepared speeches for the MRPS Oracy Competition. The Stage 3 competition will occur in Week 6 to determine a Stage winner who will then present their speech at the K-6 Assembly in Week 8. Congratulations to all of our students for putting so much effort into their presentations.

As always, if there are any questions or concerns regarding Stage 3 please speak to a Stage 3 teacher or Mrs Saad and Ms Curran.

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

Library News

In the Library Term 3 all stage groups have been working on activities that have helped decorate our library for the theme – "ESCAPE TO EVERYWHERE" and we have viewed many of the shortlisted and notable books for the Children's Book Council Awards which is announced at the end of Book Week. Super Duper our visiting performance group from Perform Educational Musicals will be tying these stories into a drama and dance for students in Week 5.

Our Book Fair will follow with the annual Book Parade on Wednesday Week 6. Please check for all notes concerning these events. The Premier's Reading Challenge will close on 25 August and there are still 43 students who have not completed their list. Congratulations to those who have finished this year, 117 students in total.

This semester Year 1, 4 and 6 are having formal library lessons and Year 2 and 3 coming with their teachers on Tuesdays. Both Stage 2 and 3 will be further developing their research skills regarding historical events. Kindergarten is looking at the foundations of history – families. Please send in a photo of themselves and their family as part of this unit to share with their class.

Just a reminder you can access World Book through student portals using their passwords.

Mrs B. Aylett
Librarian

ICAS News

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

So far this term, students have completed the English test and will complete the final Mathematics test next week.

We are delighted to share some amazing results achieved by our students in the Digital Technologies, Science and Spelling tests.

The following students received a High Distinction or Distinction in these tests – what a fantastic achievement!

Digital Technologies:

Distinction: Top 10% of participants in Australia

Year 5 - Isaac 5T

Year 4 - Santosh 4J, Raven 4H, Branesh 4H, Arooran 4G

Year 3 - Dakshita 3F, Addney 3F, Tanay 3D

Science:

High Distinction: Top 1% of participants in Australia

Year 4 – Santhosh 4J, Urmil 4H

Year 2 – Varshaa 1/2J, Dhigash 2N

Distinction: Top 10% of participants in Australia

Year 6 – Tanisha 6C

Year 5 – Kanishk 5W, Luna 5W, Brianna 5W, Arucckshan 5A, Isaac 5T

Year 4 – Jialin 4G, Arooran 4G

Year 3 – Harish 3H, Tanay 3D, Lani 3D, Varshaa 3A, Sean 3A

Year 2 – Archer 2H, Rishare 1/2J, Kaviesh 1/2J, Angus 1/2J

Spelling:

High Distinction: Top 1% of participants in Australia

Sean 3A

Distinction: Top 10% of participants in Australia

Year 6 - Sayeesh 5/6S, Aanya 6C, Harini 6C, Keith 6D, Keshini 6D

Year 5 - Kathy 5T, Ritikka 5W, Sagar 5A, Isaac 5T

Year 4 - Raven 4H, Arooran 4G

Year 3 - Viraj 3D, Lani 3D, Varshaa 3A

Year 2 - Vedant 1/2J, Rishare1/2J, Kaviesh 1/2J, Varshaa 1/2J, Tanish 2N, Shreeshail 2N,

Dhigash 2N, Sanjana 1/2J

These students will receive their awards at tomorrow's K-6 Assembly.

All other participants of these two tests have received their Credit, Merit or Participation awards from their class teachers. All students have also received their test booklets.

We look forward to seeing our students' results in the remaining tests.

Miss Y. Moulakas & Ms S. Curran
Coordinators

Athletics Carnival

On Tuesday, 25 July we held the annual school Athletics Carnival at CV Kelly Park. Over 300 students attended the day to take part in track and field events including discus, long jump, shot put, high jump as well as a number of novelty events like tug of war and egg and spoon races.

The day was a huge success with over 40 students progressing to the Zone Carnival to be held at Blacktown Olympic Park later in the month. We look forward to seeing them compete there and wish them luck.

It was wonderful to see so many family and friends come along on the day to support and cheer the students on. A special thankyou to those parents who volunteered their time to assist us and we wouldn't be able to run these events without you.

The behaviour of the students was outstanding as they upheld our school's expectations. On the day we had three school records broken:

- Wairia - 10 Year Old Girls 100m - 15.16sec
- Tasha - Jnr Girls Discus - 24.53m

- Ben - Jnr Boys Discus - 29.59m

Congratulations to Kurrajong who took out the carnival with 579 points followed by Myall (321 points), Brigalow (295 points) and Wandoo (281 points).

Mrs L. Davies & Miss S. Whitfield
Coordinators

Senior Dance Group

The Senior Dance Group thoroughly enjoyed performing at the Open Day Assembly in front of their peers and parents last week. It was a great dress rehearsal for our upcoming performances.

The girls will be participating in The Hills Dance Spectacular on Sunday 10 September at Pacific Hills Christian School, Dural. We will continue to rehearse regularly to ensure the group are ready to perform at this event. Parents wishing to attend will be required to purchase tickets. Please refer to the note sent home for admission prices. Tickets can be purchased on the day.

The Senior Dance Group will also be performing at the Spring Fete on Saturday, 28 October.

Thank you for your continued support of the Senior Dance Group!

Miss T. Agius & Miss Y. Moulakas
Coordinators

Premier's Spelling Bee

What a competitive week it has been at Metella Road Public School in our selection for the Premier's Spelling Bee! First each class in Stage 2 and Stage 3 selected their two best spellers to represent them in each of the stage competitions.

The Stage 2 competition was a hard fought battle among 14 top quality spellers but with a correct spelling of "akimbo", Sean from 3A won the competition to be our Stage 2 representative at the next level of competition. A second battle was fought between two great spellers to determine our 1st runner-up and 2nd runner-up. Congratulations to Kiah 3A as 1st runner-up and Jayden 4H as 2nd runner-up.

The Stage 3 competition was equally challenging for the competitors, with 12 excellent spellers representing their classes. However, with a correct spelling of "breathalyser" Sagar 5A won the competition to be our Stage 3 representative at the next level of competition and Aiden 6D as our runner-up.

Stay tuned for information about the next level of competition.

Mr A. Hands
Coordinator

HRC Update

Woolworths earn and learn has started again. If you shop at Woolworths please collect the stickers and pop them in the box, which is located near the canteen. If you wish to stick them on sheets, these are located in the office. This initiative has been highly successful in the past. Thank you in advance for helping our school.

Mrs M. Holburn & Mrs Gafa
Coordinators

House Cup News

Wow, after our recent athletics carnival and education performances, our point score has changed dramatically. In the lead for the house cup, at this stage, is Kurrajong. Students can earn points by participating in extra curricular activities, following our school expectations and by just being amazing!!

Mrs M. Holburn & Mrs M. Gafa
Coordinators

PSSA News

It has been great to have a good run of sunny weather. All our teams have been demonstrating good sportsmanship and many comments have been made from our opposition about this. Thank you for Aiming High!

Mrs M. Holburn
Coordinator

Can Count

At Metella Road Public School we have an aluminium can recycling program whereby students can deliver crushed aluminium cans bagged & labelled with student's name, class & number of cans on Fridays ONLY to outside Mr Nash's workshop in D block (by arrangement large amounts can be picked up).

Our thanks go to Cooper KW, Elisha 1B, Lachlan 1/2J, Stephanie 2H, Edward 4J, Kiera 5T, Liesel 6D for collecting aluminium cans. Also, a huge thanks goes to Mr Gary Fry, a grandfather of ex-students who regularly donates cans to the school.

Mr M. Nash
General Assistant

P&C and the Parents Auxiliary

With only 12 weeks to go to the Spring, preparations are underway with sponsorship and prizes coming 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.

We would like to give a huge thanks to Tenai Stowers for attaining prizes from the Albion Hotel at Parramatta and Wanderers memorabilia, also Debbie Glyptis for getting \$250 sponsorship for the Spring Fete.

Guessing Competition

A note and book of 10 tickets will be sent home in the coming weeks for the guessing competition, the tickets are \$2.00 each and each family will get 1 book of tickets to sell. There are some great prizes this year, including;

- 1st Prize: Hisense 55"(139cm) UHD LED LCD Smart TV 55N6 & Installation (Value \$450) (Total Value \$1749)
- 2nd Prize: Nintendo Switch Console (Value \$500)
- 3rd Prize: Dulux Paint (to the retail Value \$500 incl GST)
- 4th Prize: Hunter Valley Winery Experience for 2 adults (Value \$389)
- 5th Prize: Dyson Desk Fan AM06 Blue/Iron 301203-01 (Value \$388)
- 6th Prize: Bing Lee Gift Card (Value \$100)

If you would like to sell more tickets, you can get them from the Front Office at school.

There will be a prize for the person who sells the most tickets, a \$100 Voucher to the Bistro at The Albion Hotel in Parramatta and 4 Vouchers to Flip Out at Blacktown.

The next Spring Fete meeting will be held this **Tuesday, 8 August at 6:30pm-7:30pm** in the Staffroom.

Next P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held this **Tuesday 8 August starting at 7:30pm** following the Parent Workshop on Maths 3-6 Addition and Subtraction in the staffroom.

Mrs S. Kendall
P & C Representative

MindQuest 2017

Saturday 9 & 10 September 9:30am-3:30pm

Glenwood HS
Cnr Forman Ave and Glenwood Park Ave
Glenwood 2786

The 85th MindQuest program will be held for gifted and talented primary students from Years 1-6 at Glenwood HS. These include gifted and talented students, gifted underachievers and students well above average ability with a special interest.

Students will have an opportunity to participate in over 36 exciting, fast paced courses in the two day program. They include courses in chemistry, earth sciences, drama, Lego robotics and much more. Most of these highly successful courses have been run in the past and students' evaluations suggest that they have been challenged and enriched by the experience.

The cost of the weekend is \$195.00 (including GST). Send your applications in early to avoid disappointment.

Glenwood HS is in the Baulkham Hills area close to the M7 and is easy to get to from most parts of Sydney. It is 20 minutes from Beecroft, 35 minutes from North Sydney, 25 minutes from Strathfield and 30 minutes from Richmond, Penrith and Hornsby.

Contact the school office for a brochure or call Shelagh (02) 4232 2494

Closing Date: Monday 14 August 2017

THE Stage 2 Review

Metella Road Public School Aims High!



Monday, 7 August 2017 – Term 3 Week 4

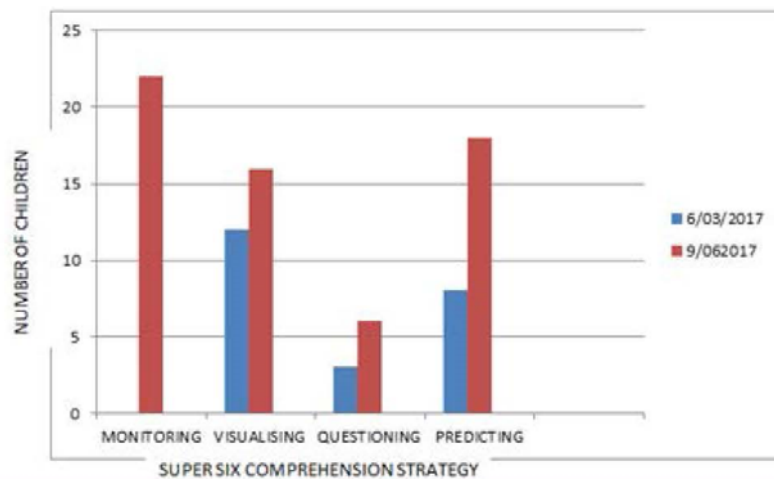
3D's 'Super Six' Success

3D 'Focus on Reading'

3D have been strengthening their comprehension across all Key Learning Areas through 'Focus on Reading' which integrates the Super Six strategies: Making Connections, Predicting, Visualising, Summarising, Monitoring and Questioning. Recently they engaged in a research project to find out specific learning goals they could address to improve their text reading, comprehension and vocabulary knowledge. They discovered that whilst reading most students needed to be more mindful of their behaviour during reading. Exposing students to a range of types of texts at home and school, including an intensive two week in-class program for half an hour each day was effective in:

- ✓ Increasing student reading volume;
- ✓ Investigating multi-modal texts;
- ✓ Reading across a range of text levels;
- ✓ Reading Fiction and Non-Fiction;
- ✓ Embedding deep knowledge of a topic;
- ✓ Developing student reading fluency;
- ✓ Students becoming more mindful of their behaviour during reading.

Figure 1: MINDFULNESS DURING READING



Above: Graph of 3D's amazing improvements! Graph courtesy of Miss Diamond.

3H's Flying Start!

3H has had a flying start to Term 3! In computers we have started to learn how to use PowerPoint transitions and timings to create moving animations. Soon we will have 26 animated cartoons to share with each other. We have also had our class spelling bee. Some of the words were really hard to spell but by the end of it, we had Harish and Ishan as our winners to represent 3H at the Stage 2 Spelling Bee. Open Day was great fun! So many parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles and other family members came in to see us. We were able to sing one of our Mathematics songs for them (Counting by Nines) and then they helped us create some very interesting landscape pictures.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

Metella Road Public School students are **MOTIVATED, RESPECTFUL, PROUD** and **SAFE**.



3F Working Hard!

3F have been working hard and progressing well, and are having fun doing it! This term, we are studying two non-fiction texts: 'Food for Health' and 'Birds'. The children have already completed a great visualisation exercise on eagles where they drew the bird, where they live and included labels. In Mathematics, the students are working hard learning about more difficult concepts in two-dimensional space, such as rigidity and symmetry. They are also learning about data and how to interpret different types of graphs.

We celebrated NAIDOC Week, 2 - 9 July. This week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. At Metella Road Public School, we watched an entertaining performance by an Aboriginal man named Tjupurru.

Below: Photos of 3F's fantastic artworks, celebrating winter and NAIDOC Week. Photos courtesy of Mrs Fekkes and Mrs Tyler.



3A's Literacy Monsters!

In English this term, 3A have been developing their descriptive writing skills by creating literacy monsters. They have developed descriptions of their monsters by imagining their monster using their five senses. Class members answered questions like: "What does your monster look like?"; "How does your monster's breath smell?" and "How does your monster feel?" From this imaginative information, class members drew their monster and wrote a descriptive paragraph about their creation. Students then folded their page to hide their picture and other class members drew the monster from the descriptive paragraph. Some monsters were almost an exact match!

3A worked very hard on this task and have done an amazing job!



Above: Photo of 3A's literacy monsters and descriptions. Photo courtesy of Mrs Williams.

In Detail

Check out 5/6S's pop art, 6D's Open Day photos, & 6C's upcoming Aussie Classroom Connection

Metella Road Public School students are **MOTIVATED, RESPECTFUL, PROUD and SAFE.**



Metella Road Public School Aims High! 

EXCLUSIVE NEWS TODAY

Important Dates

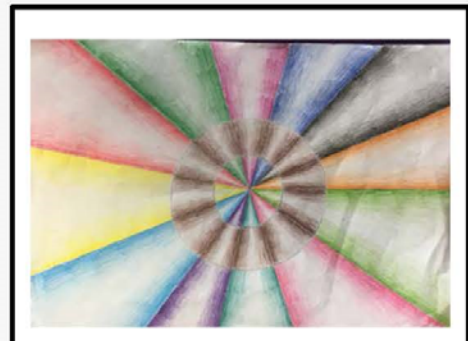
Week 4
<p>Tuesday 8 August K-6 Assembly Parent Workshop – Maths 3 – 6, Addition and Subtraction Strategies</p>
Week 5
<p>Monday 14 August ICAS – Maths</p> <p>Tuesday 15 August Superdupers Book Week Incursion</p> <p>Wednesday 16 August Maths Olympiad Hills Sports High School Transition Day</p> <p>Thursday 17 August Write a Book in a Day</p> <p>Friday 18 August Book Fair viewing day</p>
Week 6
<p>BOOK FAIR WEEK</p> <p>Tuesday 22 August Sport and Group Photo Day</p> <p>Wednesday 23 August Book Week Parade</p>
Week 7
<p>Tuesday 29 August Parent Workshop – Reading Strategies</p> <p>Thursday 31 August Fathers Day Stall</p> <p>Friday 3 September Fathers Day BBQ Breakfast</p>

What's Been Happening in 6C?

6C registered for BTN's Aussie Classroom Connection last term, which is a new campaign trying to bring city and country classrooms together to encourage kids to learn more about the similarities and differences of growing up in rural and urban areas.

We are very excited to have received our match, a Year 6 class at Bega Valley Public School, and we're looking forward to getting to know them!

We have also been creating artworks that focus on value, which is the lightness or darkness of a colour, to create the illusion of 3D pencils.



6C's 3D artwork –

Photographs courtesy of Ms Curran

Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
<p>Tuesday 29 August Parent Workshop – Reading Strategies</p> <p>Thursday 31 August Fathers Day Stall</p> <p>Friday 3 September Fathers Day BBQ Breakfast</p>	<p>Tuesday 4 September K-6 Assembly Maths Olympiad</p>	<p>Wednesday 13 September Hills Sports High School Transition Day</p>	<p>Tuesday 19 September Year 6 Mini-Fete</p>

5/6S – Pop Art

5/6S have been creating artworks in the style of Pop Art this term. These are cartoon versions of themselves and are inspired by the works of Roy Lichtenstein.



5/6S's Pop Art
Photographs courtesy of Mrs Saad

6D – Open Day

5A and 6D recently embarked on a STEM project to give student the opportunity to gain an in depth understanding on our Geography Unit, Bushfires.

At the start of our unit, we invited the local fire brigade out to talk to the students and share their experiences with bushfires. From this, a number of issues were identified such as lack of water pressure during fires, negotiating difficult terrain to control fires, overheating and exhaustion to fireman and the current limitations of vehicles. Students were then introduced to a variety of different technologies including pulley systems, robotics, drones, 360* camera technology, sensors, and virtual reality. For several weeks they work collaboratively in teams, learning skills across the four disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to come up with innovative solutions to address the issues. The students were highly engaged throughout the project and it was great to see so many of the teams question, negotiate and evaluate their ideas with each other. Their original concepts were drawn and then brought to life in models and using computer programs. We presented our work at this years Open Day and it was wonderful to see some of our family and friends come along and see all our innovative ideas.

"I learned how drones could help and save lives in a fire and what they're capable of." Georgia 6D

"I loved how I got to work as part of a team and it was a group effort - I think we did amazing!" Ashton 6D

"I really loved how everyone had unique ideas that we had to join together for one big project." Danyelle 6D

Photographs courtesy of Mrs Davies





This is why we do what we do!

A massive thank you to our students, staff and teachers for an outstanding Education Week 2017! A very special thank you to Mrs Larobina who was responsible for organising all our Education Week activities, and also to our Year 6 students and teachers for their organisation of the Peddler's Parade.





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.

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>

10865/17_27754



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.

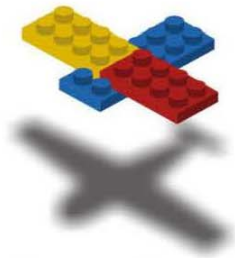
How will students be prevented from using the internet or spellcheckers when completing the test?

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.

After-School LEGO® Workshops at
Metella Road Public School



STEM Challenge

LEGO® Education programs provides children with the opportunities to learn and apply the knowledge in a safe, engaging and fun environment. It encourages non-linear forms of learning where they collaborate with others to imagine, plan, build, learn, and improvise their LEGO® projects. Our programs are designed to assist with the development of the following skills for students of all age groups:

- ✓ Creativity
- ✓ Reasoning
- ✓ Critical Thinking
- ✓ Problem Solving
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Project Management

Program is open to Year 2-6 students

Using LEGO® Education Simple and Powered Machines kit, we will be building a range of real-life models that expose students to the principles of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Activities introduces students to STEM concepts through building and exploring models that make use of basic mechanisms such as gears, pulleys, wheel and axle, and inclined plane, etc.

During term 2, we learned about levers, gears and wheels & axles and built gadgets and several models using those basic mechanisms. In term 3, we will learn about other simple machines and mechanisms including pulleys, screws and inclined plane and create models using them. Example activities includes making a fishing rod and a Trundle Wheel.

Workshop is limited to approx. 20 students. Read more, view pictures and register on www.FunDoKids.com.au

Fun & educational activities using LEGO® Education Resources

Real-life application of STEM principles

Experiential learning through hands-on application of knowledge

Receive regular updates via Seesaw App

Limited places. Register Online Now

\$157.50 for the term

www.FunDoKids.com.au

0468 FUNDO 2 (386 362)

Every Tuesday: 3.15PM to 4.45PM from 8th Aug till 9th Sep in the school.

There will also be an opportunity to do some shopping on the day at one of our many stalls including:

- * Candles
- * Jewellery
- * Children's Clothes
- * Basket stall
- * Intimo
- * Doterra Oils
- * Tupperware
- * Showbags

'Save the Date'



We have lots of yummy food and drinks available on the day including;

- Sausage sizzle and chips
- Outback Steakhouse burgers
- Gozleme
- Devonshire Tea
- Gelato
- Snow Cones
- Café 2 U
- Cake stall

Lots to do and see.....

There will be many exciting things to do on the day including;

- Ride on the Dodgem cars, slide down the huge slide, jump on the jumping castles, twirl in the teacups
- Play a few holes of Mini Golf
- Enjoy the performances from our school students and community groups
- Try your hand at Candle Making and plaster craft
- Build amazing things with Lego
- Come and see the students Art Exhibition, as well as the Painting, Photograph and "Spring Creations on a plate" competition
- Try your luck at the Chocolate Wheel/Bingo
- Get a Henna or airbrush tattoo
- Buy a ticket in the Guessing Competition to win 1 of 6 great prizes

MRPS Spring Fete

Saturday 28 October 2017

Only 12 weeks away!

There will be lots of exciting things to do, see and eat while supporting Metella Road Public School.

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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*Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Floor stock only. Styles and colours may vary from store to store. No rain checks. Please choose carefully, exchanges and refunds only with docket. Includes existing 5% discount. Excludes gift cards. Offer ends midnight (AEST) 10/8/17. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount.

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