

MEREWETHER PUBLIC SCHOOL



Principal's Report

We 'Take Cover', and proud of it!

It was reported in the Sydney Morning Herald on the weekend that sun-safe hats are not being worn by nearly half primary school students in Sydney's public and private schools. Not so at Merewether Public School! We made positive changes to our school's **'No Hat – No Play'** policy at the start of 2016. Students are required to wear a *school hat* before school, during outdoor lessons, during school breaks and on the way home after school. If a student has forgotten their school hat, no substitution hat is allowed. They are permitted to play under the shade cloth areas only.



The NSW Department of Education only considers full brimmed hats to be compliant at school. The only way we can assure the safety of the hats worn at school is to enforce the wearing of the school's sun-safe 'bucket' hat. Please ensure that your child has the school hat to wear at school. The hats are available for \$15 at the school's uniform shop.

A hat of a different kind



Speaking of hats, yesterday I had to put several skateboards under 'lock and key' because the students who had brought them to school had no helmets. I promptly announced to all students that I will also lock away bikes and scooters if safe and appropriate helmets are not worn with them.

It was a pleasure to hand the skateboards back to the students when they produced safe and appropriate helmets at home time today. Please ensure that you support the wearing of safe helmets for students riding bikes, skateboards and scooters to school.

Other important safety information;

- Only students from year 3 onwards, who have been given permission and guidance by their parent/ carers are permitted to ride to school without parent supervision.
- Students are required to walk their bikes, scooters and skateboards when on school grounds.
- Students must only cross Henry Street, June Street and Glebe Road at the crossing in the correct manner.

Greg Culhane

Principal

From Mrs Connely's room

Mrs Connely's Sound Kids are on Fire!

A great year has been had by all with lots of learning being done and so much fun to top it off.



Infant's Coding

There will be **NO** Infants' coding this week.

Dollarmites Banking

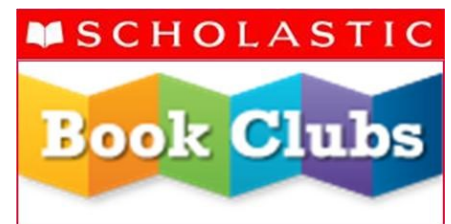


Last day for Dollarmites banking this year will be next Tuesday 5 December.

Book Club

Last chance to order from the Book Club brochures. If you would like to place an order please return your order with the correct money to the school office by this **Friday 1 December**.

All orders will be placed with Scholastic on Monday 4 December and should arrive within approximately a week.

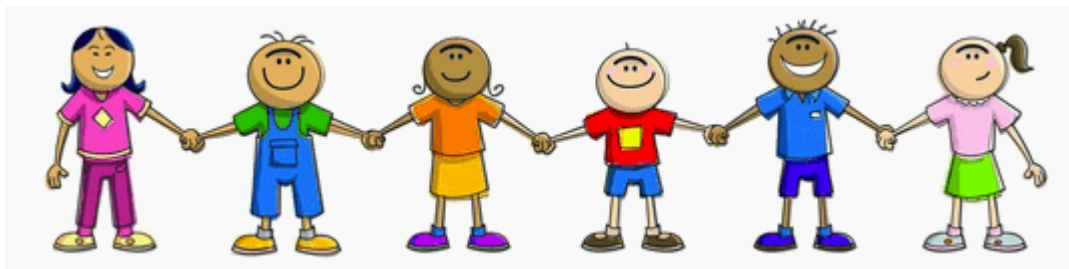


Big Day Out

A note has been sent home for the Big Day Out.

On Wednesday 13 December, the whole school will be travelling by bus to Centennial Park for a fun day of activities and a BBQ.

Please return the permission note and \$5.00 to the school office as soon as possible.




Library News



This week is the last week for borrowing. All books will need to be brought back next week and there will be no borrowing next week. Over due notices will also go home this week. Have a look under the beds, in the car and in your book shelf for any Merewether Public School library books.

Congratulations to all award recipients

KJ Odin B Bailey W Harry W Henry C Jesse H Zara S Leo T Ruby-Lee M	K/1I Olivia M Molly H Nate J Emily B Sol V Matildas B	1/2N Talia J Edie C Kira S Azaria D Desean C Nash P Zoe S	2/3S Ashley J Tully W Amber M Owen T
3/4M Joshua L Lachlan W Max H Jessie T Jessica W Isac J Bianca J	4/5R Tui T Jacob S Shiloh C Kynan J Jessica T Hayley D Siuti V	5/6P Talamasina V Annika S Eloise M Miles C Amelia G	

Dates for your Diary	Date
Last day for Student Banking	Tuesday 5 December
Orientation Day Newcastle High School (Year 6)	Tuesday 5 December
Kinder Orientation (Parents and Children)	Thursday 7 December
Presentation Day Assembly	Tuesday 12 December
Reports go home	Wednesday 13 December
Big Day Out	Wednesday 13 December
Year 6 Farewell	Thursday 14 December
Last day of school for 2017	Friday 15 December

Brad Grayston-Guitar Tuition

Enquire for Term 1 2018

Home Visit Mobile Teaching

- Save Time and Fuel
- Reasonable Fees
- Studio Lessons also available
- New Lambton
- Est 2001
- Working with Children Clearance WWC-1233165E



More details at local search Grayston guitar teacher

Studio 49524213

Mobile 0432 485 487

Merewether Public School - P&C News

Term 4, Week 8

Survey Monkey Results (*a letter from the Vice-President*)....

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to share with you the results from our online fundraising survey. Thank you to those who undertook the survey.

85% of people like to be informed about fundraising events.

We are thrilled to hear that people like to be informed about fundraising. This includes when events are on, what events are coming up, and what we are raising money for.

80% of people like to be informed with the App and Newsletter. 20% said Facebook.

We are happy the App and Newsletter are preferred, as the P&C have direct access to both of these forms of communication to place alerts and reminders.

Since the School and P&C Newsletters were split into separate newsletters, 65% of people read both, and 30% said they only read the school newsletter.

This has prompted us to consult with the school about re-combining the newsletters.

Events people would support in the future:

Father's Day breakfast, school disco, athletics carnival canteen, mangoes – All still popular favourites.

In 2018 we would like to try a Mother's Day breakfast, an alternative Easter fundraiser, Bunnings BBQ if our application gets approved, and separate movie nights: one movie night for Kindy – Year 2 and another movie night for Years 3-6. This will allow movies to be screened which are better suited to the age groups.

We are currently exploring a "Colour Run" as a fundraiser next year. We have heard great feedback from other schools who have run them and will keep you posted.

Other events suggested by people that we could run:

Skateboarding & Surfing events

Events that require minimal effort but add value e.g. regular cake stalls, Krispy Kreme donut drive, sell chocolate boxes, lamington drive, Entertainment Book, mangoes, art exhibition.

Carols night

Multicultural foods event

Movie night - for parents at the movie cinema

Carnival day with different competitions, including handball competition for parents and kids.

Family picnic day at the park as a community/ social family event

Some suggestions for items or projects the school needs, that we can fund-raise money for?

Educational tools and/or services for the majority of students

Fixed play equipment area (fitness style/ obstacle course), rock climbing wall

Primary entertainment e.g. lunch sports equipment, skipping ropes, frisbees/ vortex

School sports team shirts i.e. worn by students representing school at events

Electronic sign at bottom gate to promote school events

Hedges. Gardening. Dry riverbed. Gardening projects- working edible gardens. Consider the Stephanie Alexander kitchen garden project

Project or programme on nutrition and the importance of eating well in line with nude food.

Survey Money Results cont....

Shade for the seats near the stairs to the canteen/outside the staff room. More trees.

Soccer field printed on the lower playground.

Flexible seating for classrooms, laptops.

New and different sporting equipment. Tennis court net.

Arts projects within play areas- sculpture, ceramic work that the children can contribute to.

We endeavour to include the Primary play area in 2018's goals, after installing a boat for the junior playground, to keep it fair. We hear the requests for sporting equipment, sporting areas, and educational equipment and will seriously consider these suggestions.

Discussion for shade over the seating area outside the staff room has occurred this year. This discussion will continue with Mr Culhane.

The P&C have been working closely with the Teachers this year to provide funding support opportunities. We implemented a Funding Application Form which allows teachers to apply for funding from the P&C – this resulted in Star Struck support and the robotics equipment being purchased. The P&C assisted Teachers with two grant applications: Community Building Partnership Grant - to re-paint the netball court in the Primary area to be a full-size court, which would include a basketball 3-point circle and new goalposts. We also assisted Mrs Jennings to apply for the Eco Schools Grant to fund the start-up of a Garden Club and native & bush tucker gardens. We will inform you of the outcomes of these grant applications.

In summary:

Thank you so much for your suggestions. They will be considered and incorporated into planning over the next few years. We also received a lot of positive comments to continue the good work, and many thanks for the work we do e.g. "Thank you to all the hard-working p and c committee members and volunteers".

We appreciate your feedback and support, and are motivated to continue doing a good job for the school community. As Fundraising Coordinator, I facilitated planning for the year and oversaw the bigger picture, but I did not run every single event. A massive THANKS to the P&C members who stepped up to coordinate the events, and to the people who put themselves forward on the "Volunteer Register", who came along to help out on the day. We had Mums, Dads, Carers and Grandparents help out, including return helpers, and also new parents who had never helped before e.g. three new Dads came to run the Mother's Day stalls - we see this as a huge success.

We look forward to a fun and successful 2018.

Nancy Jones,
P&C Vice President and Fundraising Coordinator.

Funnies...

**Doctor, Doctor I feel
like a pack of cards!**
I'll deal with you later

**Doctor, Doctor, I feel like
a spoon!**
Sit still and don't stir

**Q: How do you catch a unique
bird?**

A: Unique up on it.

**Q: How do you catch a tame
bird?**

**A: The tame way, unique up
on it!**



Merewether Public School - P&C News

Fundraising



Thank you for your orders!!!

The tea towels are being printed...



We appreciate the support of our school community once again this year. We sold a total of **127 trays** and **raised \$743** to help fund the P&C's purchase of a **set of programmable robots for STEM learning!** The robotics kits arrived at school in the last couple of weeks and the teachers are looking forward to using them across all years in 2018 and beyond.

Congrats again to K/1! for winning the free tray – your mangoes were taken straight to Mrs Verkuylen when they arrived. We hear they were eaten straight away in fruit break!

We hope you all enjoy the mangoes and look forward to your support again next year. Thanks again and happy mango eating - Merewether Public School P&C.

P&C General Info

Next P&C Meeting:

February 2018, MPS Staffroom. Date TBC.

Website:

<http://www.merewether-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/p-c>

Email:

merewetherpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Fundraising/Volunteering Email:

merewetherpublicschool-fundraising@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Also find us on the MPS Skoolbag App, where you can set up notifications and volunteer.