

MEREWETHER PUBLIC SCHOOL



Welcome

Welcome to our new Kindergarten students and Parents. All of the children seem to be settling in well and hopefully the parents are settling into their new routines as well!

Over the next few newsletters there will be a lot of information to take in. Please take the time to sit down and read through this thoroughly so as to have a proper and clear understanding of how our school functions on a daily basis.

Staffing for 2018

Principal	Mr Greg Culhane
Teaching Staff	
KJ	Mrs Jennings
1V	Mrs Verkuylen
1/2N	Mrs Nagle
2/3S	Mrs Selwood
3/4P	Mr Prigg
4/5R	Ms Razmovski
5/6M	Mr McKay
RFF	Mrs Penn
Librarian	Mrs Penn
SLSO	Mrs Connely
LAST	Mrs Kiely
Administration	
Manager	Mrs McCann
SAO	Mrs Kennewell
SAO	Mrs Hatton (Casual)
Gen. Assist.	Mr Lobb
Cleaner	Marija

Uniforms

The purpose of school uniforms is to ensure ALL the students have the opportunity to feel that they are special, that all are equal here at school and to showcase our proud and wonderful school.

I am so impressed with the students in their beautiful school uniforms.

All students are expected to wear **BLACK** school shoes each day to school and joggers that are predominantly white on sports day. I must say that the students look great in their black school shoes.

Just a reminder that the **ONLY** hat to be worn is the 'bucket' style school hat which are available from the office for \$15. If a child wears another hat, they will be asked to put the hat in their bag and to limit their play to the shaded areas.

Uniforms are available for purchase from the school office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays.

Weekly Sports Day

This term our sports day is on Friday. Students should wear their sports uniform. REMINDER - students are requested to wear white joggers for school sports days and other sports events.

Canteen

For the moment "Response" will be supplying lunch orders only until a decision about the future of the canteen has been made. Please place your orders through the flexischools website, same online service as last year. At the end of this Newsletter there are instructions on how to register for online ordering.

Electronic copy of Newsletter

Could I take this opportunity to ask all parents to supply their current and up to date email address, so that we can forward the newsletter to you each week. We will add you to our distribution list.

Please email: merewether-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

General School Voluntary Contribution and Resource Fee

The school has in place a general voluntary school contribution and resources fee which can be paid to the school from this week. The fee is:

\$50 and is made up of a \$30 General Fee and \$20 that goes towards the cost of teaching & learning resources and library books. Maximum of \$100 per family.

Payments to be made to the office. Thank you.



School Hours

The school is open from 8.30am each day when a teacher is on duty. The bell rings for class at 8.55am. During morning drop off the students are to play quietly, no balls or running as there are small siblings that may be injured in rough games.

It is most important that if you are late for school that you go straight to the office and receive a note for the teacher.

If for any reason you need to collect your child early from school, please go to the office to pick up an early leaving slip and take it to the classroom teacher when collecting your child.

Keeping the school looking great!

If you feel like helping out with the garden or with other areas around the school, come and see Mr Culhane ...opportunities are endless and every little bit counts. Our goal is to keep building a beautiful, happy and safe community school.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club has been a huge success! If your child is unable to have breakfast before coming to school they are welcome to come to the staff room between 8.30am and 9am for a nutritional brekkie.

Thanks Mrs Connely!

Nut Allergies Alert

We currently have a **NO NUT** policy in place in our school as we have several students with quite severe nut allergies. When you are packing lunches and snacks for your children please avoid foods that contain nuts (eg Nutella, peanut butter, etc) and loose nuts of any kind.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook. The School is now on Facebook! Share it

Awards

At each weekly assembly, four students from each class are awarded a merit card for their great class work, their fabulous behaviour or their efforts toward making the school a great place to be. I would suggest that all school awards achieved by students be kept in a special folder.

Once a student has attained the required merits to be traded for the next higher award, they hand them back to their teacher to be stamped and returned and they will be presented with the *higher* award at the next school assembly.

Note, for the Blue and Gold Principals award, the student needs to also have a Citizenship Award to be able to claim the Principal's Award. The school staff and I keep a keen eye out for students who have shown to be true citizens of our wonderful school and will be presenting the Citizenship Award at assembly! Only those who show true Citizenship will get these awards.

	5 Merit Awards	= 1 Gold Award			
	5 Gold Awards and 1 Citizenship Award	= BLUE Principal's Award			
	2 Principal's and 1 Citizenship Award	= Gold Principal's Award			

Congratulations to all award recipients

KJ Connor O Mele N Cooper L Kiara R	1V Bodhi M Sasha B Felix C Summer C	1/2N Esther C Emily E Shanala S David L	2/3S Kira S Amber Mc Alex L Duncan C
3/4P Riley B Heath W Preston W Shaylee S	4/5R Georgie A Lachlan L Lachlan W Rickie-Lee D	5/6M Shani S Rhys Mc Joshua L Elwyn W	

Mobile Phone Policy

All students should be able to come to school feeling safe and secure. Mobile phones have become an important and invaluable part of our modern lifestyle. The school understands there are times when possession of a mobile phone can provide a sense of safety and security while travelling to and from school, enabling urgent calls or contact for parents.

In the Primary school setting if it was required that emergency calls be made, the school teaching staff or office staff would make those phone calls.

In general, students should not bring valuable items to school. These items can be easily lost or stolen. If a mobile phone is required for reasons of specific safety or urgency before or after school **it cannot be kept on the child, in a child's bag or classrooms. The child is required to deliver the mobile phone to the office for safe keeping (under lock and key) as soon as he/she arrives at school and picks it up again in the afternoon.** It also needs to be noted that students bring mobile phones to school at their own risk. The school will secure the mobile phones for the duration of the school day, but will not accept responsibility for damage or theft.

Students who require mobile phones, as a safety measure to and from school, will be expected to turn the phone off, leave it at the office each day.

No mobile phones are to be taken on excursions unless the Principal has approved it.

Any student found using a mobile phone in an inappropriate manner (bullying, harassing, intimidating) will have the phone confiscated and returned to the parent. The student would also be disciplined following DET procedures.

Dates for your Diary	Date
School Banking	Every Tuesday
Internet Safety Talk Year 1/2 and 3/4	Wednesday 7th February
Internet Safety Talk Year 4/5 and 5/6	Thursday 8th February
P & C and Annual General Meeting	Monday 12th February 7.00pm
Assembly Item 1V	Friday 23rd February
Assembly Item 1/2N	Friday 2nd March

Grant Funding Success

Last year the P & C worked with Mrs Selwood and Mrs Jennings to apply for two community grants. We were successful in receiving funding through both grants.

Community Building Partnerships grant: We will receive funding to upgrade to a full sized netball court.

Eco Schools Grant: We will receive funding to evolve our gardens, including planting natives and developing a garden club.

The required paperwork and planning has started and we hope to be working on these projects very soon.

Healthy Lunch Box Idea

Following on from our article last week on the "The Simplest way to pack a lunch box" we thought you might like this tasty lunchbox idea.

More lunchbox ideas can be found on the Eat it to beat it website.



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to make zucchini and corn fritters

Ingredients

2 zucchinis, grated & liquid squeezed out
 1 cup frozen or canned corn kernels
 1 cup red capsicum, finely diced
 4 eggs
 ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
 ½ cup chopped, fresh dill
 6 tbsp wholemeal flour
 Olive oil spray



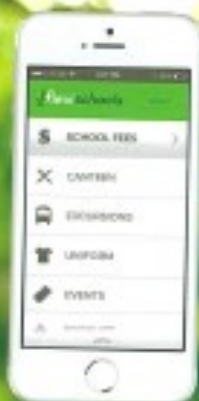
Method

1. Place the zucchini, corn, capsicum, eggs, Parmesan, dill and flour in a bowl. Mix well.
2. Spray a large fry pan with olive oil and heat over a medium heat. Working in batches, fill an ice-cream scoop (or large spoon) with the mixture and drop onto the pan. Flatten the fritters out slightly with a fork. Cook for approximately 4 minutes or until brown, flip and continue to cook until that side is brown and cooked through.

Visit healthylunchbox.com.au for recipes & information you can trust.

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
 or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit





Simplify your day.

Our school now has Flexischools for online ordering and cashless payment.

From your mobile or desktop:



Flexischools is the fast and secure way to order and pay for canteen, uniforms, events, excursions & fees.



CASH FREE,
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PAY ANYWHERE,
ANYTIME




SAFE &
SECURE

Take advantage of this convenient new service. Go to flexischools.com.au and click register.

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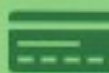


The simple way to order and pay.



STEP 1: Register for Flexischools

*Add your student and their year level to get started.



STEP 2: Top-Up your Account

*Choose from Visa, Mastercard, PayPal or direct deposit.




STEP 3: Order and Pay

*Select from a range of customisable options on your school menu.



STEP 4: Review Orders

*Set a recurring order, view transaction history or cancel an order via your Flexischools login.

 **flexischools.com.au**