

# MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 15

DATE: 12 September 2019



Striving for Independence

We value being: **RESPECTFUL** **SAFE** & **RESPONSIBLE**

**Child Safe:** Mildura Specialist School is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people and has a zero tolerance for child abuse.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

12 September—Swan Hill Sports Day  
19 & 20 September—School Concert  
20 September—Last Day of Term 3 : Early departure  
2.30pm finish.

## Principal's Report



**Awards:** Well done to our Award winners for this fortnight. It's great to see students being awarded for trying hard with their reading and for making good choices.

**Art:** Thank you to Bob for this wonderful display in the office. Great work from the Personal and Applied Learning (PAL) students.



**Rural Placement Program:** Late last year we were approached by Monash University to participate in a pilot program to support student teachers to experience a rural setting. We were recently notified that the project will be going ahead.

We will host 3-5 high performing selected students in November. The students will be supported with housing and a mentor. This is a wonderful opportunity to attract students to special education and rural settings.



**10 000 Steps:** Congratulations to all the students and staff who participated in the Sunraysia Community Health Services (SCHS) 10 000 Steps Challenge. Carolyn Woods' team, KJ received this trophy. What a fantastic effort!

**Maintenance Boost Funding:** You may have heard about the maintenance boost for schools across the state which was announced recently. Mildura Specialist School will receive \$129,000. This is certainly appreciated. We will let you know as the funds are received and expended.



I hope everyone has a lovely holiday since this is the last newsletter for the term. We are looking forward to the Concert next week. Thank you to the families who have assisted with the costumes. We appreciate your support.

Penny Hale Acting Principal

**School Uniforms:** It is great to see so many students wearing their uniform. It is an expectation that students wear their uniform at school.

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# Principal's Award

Congratulations to all Award winners this fortnight.



## SWPBS—School Wide Positive Behaviour Support



Room 5 were Super Safety Hero's for their presentation at Assembly in Week 7. The idea followed on from the Super Hero themed Book Week. Students retold the message of Follow Instructions, Keep Personal Space, Use Equipment Safely and Walk in a Calm and Quiet Manner.



Room 1 has been discussing how we safely transition around the school. A couple of sentences the students presented at the assembly were: I carry my mat to assembly and sit on it. By Indy-Lou. I walk to swimming with the group. By Antony. I carry my wobbly chairs to assembly and sit on them. By Nate.



## Art & Music Awards

### STUDENTS SHOW RANGE OF PROJECTS BEING UNDERTAKEN IN ART ROOM

Logan from Room 9 has made a very elegant and simple pattern using pieces of paper and found items to produce an effective collage. With a single line as the guiding link, Logan has glued these pieces up against the line emphasising its presence. The drawn line has disappeared, and in its place we now see a glued line. Logan has captured this aspect of Design very effectively.



Meanwhile, Kira from ILS, has been acknowledged for her most consistent work incorporating Spiderman as her main subject and theme. Almost all the projects Kira has undertaken have been resolved around Spiderman being the model. This is a work Kira entered into the FReeZA Youth Art Prize exhibition, held recently at the Mildura Visitor Information Centre. Stan Lee would have been very impressed with Kira's efforts!



## **NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL**

Last week, some of the Early Years' classes attended the Mildura Arts Centre Theatre to watch a performance of 'Giants in the Sky'. It was a very entertaining production by the students from Ranfurly Primary School. Student's watched the show intently and showed their appreciation by clapping loudly throughout the show.

Continuing on with the theme 'How things move', Room One students Indy-Lou and Nate are designing and experimenting with pulleys. Paige and Antony are creating art works for the Mildura Show in fourth term.



The Lower Middles students have been learning about community helpers. St John's Ambulance visited the school, as well as the local fire fighters. The group discussed the reasons for contacting these services and the correct way to do it.

# NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL



This week students from Room 23 and Darling Room attended Revolting Rhymes and Dirty Beasts at the Mildura Arts Center. It was so much fun!



**10000 Steps Challenge for the month of August:** Eight teams from MSS entered the challenge involving a mixture of students and staff. This year our school was successful in being first in the education section. We offer our hearty congratulations to 'KJ Kruizers', made up of staff and students in Room 20, captained by Ms. Carolyn. Congratulations to all our teams that participated, teams were given certificates of appreciation. Room 20 achieved their daily goals by bike riding and walking to the shops.



**The Beat.** In week seven Senior students from Music and Rhythm and Movement participated in the annual Beat performance. The students practiced their performance to check for lighting and sound two days earlier.

**Road Smart visit:** On Thursday, VicRoads staff visited Year 10 students to speak on Road Smart. Road Smart is a free education program that helps prepare beginner drivers for a lifetime of safe driving. Funded by the Victorian Government, Road Smart is an initiative that supports and enhances Victoria's Graduated Licensing System. Students enjoy the interactive presentation and discussion with Scott and Di.



# HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

## Get active

To help them grow and develop, it's important that kids are physically active every day.

- Children and young people aged 5 to 18 years need at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity every day to keep healthy.
- Sedentary or 'still' activity time should be limited to a maximum of two hours per day. This includes activities such as surfing the net, watching TV and DVDs and playing electronic games.
- Physical activity should be done at a moderate to vigorous intensity. Moderate activities include brisk walking, bike riding, skateboarding and dancing.
- Vigorous activities are ones that make you 'huff and puff'. They can include football, netball, soccer, running, swimming laps or training for sport. From: Healthykids.nsw.gov.au



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## Create a Sense of Belonging

All children need to feel that school is a safe place where people will care about them, where their needs for support, respect and friendship will be met, and where they will be able to get help to work out problems. When these needs are met children develop a sense of belonging at school. Belonging is very important for children's mental health and wellbeing.

Parents and carers can work with school staff to help create a bridge between home and school. When the adults responsible for children take a positive interest in what happens at school it helps children feel at home.

### **Ways parents and schools can work together to help create a sense of belonging;**

- make the school a welcoming environment.
- teachers get to know all their students and their families.
- parents find out about the school and what your child is learning; participate in information sessions.
- parents let your child's teacher know if he/she is having difficulties and discuss what kinds of things you can do at home and school to help

**Positive school communities create opportunities for families, children and staff to feel included.**

For any further information on this topic refer to the Kids Matter website: <http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au>

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## JOKE FROM BRADEN

What is the difference between an old crumpled and slightly torn ten dollar bill and a new one?

Answer on last page:

# M.S.S SCHOOL CONCERT

Theme: Jungle

Where: Mildura Arts Centre

When: Friday 20 September

Time: 10.30am

Price: Gold Coin Donation



## SCHOOL REMINDER

### EXCURSIONS

All excursions can be paid by instalments, either at the school office or online through the school account. See above for details for the school bank account. Please ensure all relevant forms are signed and returned with payment before the due date.

### CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUNDS (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) commenced in 2015. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card (Centrelink Card/Health Care Card) or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for CSEF. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students, and \$225 per year is paid for eligible secondary school students. A special consideration eligibility category also exists. Payments are made directly to the school. CSEF applications forms are available at the front office.

### PAYMENTS

School fees, camps, excursion and cooking costs etc. can be paid to our Bank Account details are

**Commonwealth Bank**  
**BSB: 063 557**  
**Account No: 10080861**

Please enter the name of student and activity you are paying for.  
Thankyou

### MEDICAL

At Mildura Specialist School we have children who are at risk of an anaphylactic reaction to **nuts, eggs, figs, watermelon pineapple and kiwi fruit** in the school. Please be mindful of this when preparing your child's lunch or snacks.



### HEADLICE



As a school community, we share the responsibility to control and manage head lice infections. Head lice have been around for many thousands of years and cannot be eradicated. Supporting each other to minimize their spread is vital.

It is important to check your child's head regularly with conditioner and comb even when you don't think your child has head lice.

### MEDICATION

In the interests of safe practice, medication must be brought to the office in its original packaging by an adult and paper work completed to authorise school personnel to administer it.

**Please note: Students are not to transport medication to school.**

### CANTEEN NEWS

The canteen will operate each Friday; orders must be completed and returned to school no later than Tuesday morning of that week.

Order forms are available to download and print from the MSS website.

**All lunch orders must be in on Tuesday mornings.**



### UNIFORMS

Our school uniforms are supplied by LASER SIGN & PRINT and are available from 3 Andriske Crt Mildura. Contact person is Darran Seaman, phone: 03 5021 1129 mob: 0429 437 858

For all other enquiries for uniforms please contact the school.

### PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARER CONCERNS

If you have a concern with any aspect of your child's education, please contact the Office (5021 3311). They will:

1. Put you in touch with the appropriate person
2. Help organise a meeting with the appropriate person.

It is important that your concerns are addressed as quickly as possible.

### FUNDRAISING

Reminder to return your Pie Drive order forms to school by 21 August 2019.

Delivery will be on 29 August 2019.

## **SCHOOL REMINDERS**

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Parents/Carers please take note of Parent Pick Up times.

**Early Years and Lower Middle Years: 2:40—2.50 PM**

**Upper Middle Years and Later Years. 2.50—3.00PM**

This is to help ease congestion on Deakin Ave and for safety of cars and students.

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### **STUDENT ABSENCES**

If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify the school as soon as possible **on the day of absence**. Notifying the school of your child's absence either prior to, or on the day that they will be away, helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and will fulfil your legal responsibility.

If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

Please notify the school by one of the following means:

- Phone: 03 5021 3311
  - Medical Certificate
  - Appointment notification
  - A signed and dated note with student's full name
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### **SAME DAY NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES**

#### **New Education Department Attendance Guidelines**

Schools need to know when and why a child is absent and you need to know if your child isn't at school.

From the end of Term 2 2018, all Victorian government schools are required to contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the same day of an unexplained student absence. If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

This system also promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, they learn new things every day – missing school puts them behind.

#### **What is your responsibility?**

You are legally required to ensure your child attends school every day or you must provide an explanation for their absence. You should let the school know in advance of any upcoming absences or let them know in the morning if your child won't be at school. In order for schools to implement the same day notification requirement, it's essential that you provide the school with your most up-to-date contact details.

Generally one notification will be sent per family. Should there be circumstances that require both parents and carers to be notified, please contact the school to make the necessary arrangements.

#### **What is the school's responsibility?**

The school must notify you of an unexplained absence in relation to your child as soon as practicable on the same day.

We will let you know by phone. If you can't be reached because the school does not have your correct contact details (i.e. changed phone number, SMS/email failure notification received etc.), the school will attempt to make contact with any emergency contact/s nominated on your child's file held by the school. Where possible, this contact will be made on the same day of the unexplained absence.

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**JOKE ANSWER : \$9**