

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 11

DATE: 28 July, 2022

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.



Striving for Independence

DATES TO REMEMBER

24 August—The Beat

31 August—Sports Day

31 October—Pupil Free Day— No students required at school.

1 November—Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday—No school

20 December—Last Day of Term 4.

TERM 3

Principal's Report



Congratulations to our Award recipients this last fortnight. We will be holding virtual assemblies until the end of the term to minimise the mixing of groups of students.



Sports Day: Date 31 August. We hope this date suits families and apologise for changing this twice. We are hoping staff and students are well and able to participate on the day.

Mental Health Practitioner (MHP): Sophie Moloney joined us last week in the Mental Health practitioner role.

*We are excited to be part of the Mental Health Practitioners in Specialist Schools initiative. Secondary students and parents should contact **Penny Hale, principal or Darren Jones, student wellbeing leader** if they want to talk about the MHP service. We believe having an MHP at **Mildura Specialist School** will make a positive contribution to supporting student wellbeing. For more information on the Mental Health Practitioners in Specialist Schools initiative see the Department [website](#). Please see the information from Sophie on the next page.*



VCAL Art Exhibition

Please see the photos within the newsletter of the recent art exhibition by VCAL students. I was thrilled to see the wide range of individual projects. The students should be very proud of their efforts. Thank you to staff for providing this viewing opportunity for students and staff.

Early Help for Families

Early Help: This week I met with a staff member from Mallee Family Care regarding a new initiative to support families. Janet will be at our school on Friday 5 August from 8.30-12.00 to meet with our wellbeing team. Janet is also available to meet with parents and carers. You can either just turn up or contact Darren Jones to make a time. Please see the information in this newsletter.

Penny Hale
Principal

P.O. Box 63CP Mildura 3501
Principal: Penny Hale
Assistant Principal: David Wright
Email: mildura.ss@education.vic.gov.au
Web Address: www.mildss.vic.edu.au

Please note: The Department (which includes our school) does not have accident insurance. Items of personal property that are lost, stolen or damaged at school are not the responsibility of Mildura Specialist School or the Department. Staff and students are reminded not to bring items of value to school.

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to introduce myself, I am Sophie Moloney the new mental health Practitioner at the school.

I will be able to provide counselling and other support to students to help with their mental health. I'm based in the wellbeing department with Darren and work 3 days a week, Tuesday - Thursday.

As Mental Health Practitioner I will provide an opportunity for your child to talk about concerns they have, in a safe and confidential setting.

Students and parents should contact Darren if they would like to be referred to the Mental Health Practitioner.

Please note, referral and consent documentation will be required before your child can see the Mental Health Practitioner.

If you have any further questions about this initiative, please feel free to contact Penny or Darren.

Kind regards,

Sophie Moloney

Mental Health Practitioner



Principal Awards

Room 6 - Charlie: for completing his reading comprehension activity in a timely manner.

Room 11 - Oscar: for consistently completing tasks with coactive assistance.

Room 11 - Lacie: For listening to class text Scary Night and with verbal prompts recalling characters.

Room 20 - Lachlan: for undertaking his Maths work on Time with energy and enthusiasm.

Room 20 - Hugh: for coming back to school with a positive attitude towards his learning.

Room 22 - Johbi: for taking pride in our school and always picking up any rubbish that he sees.

Room 23 - Natasha: for trying new foods during cooking class.

Room 25 - Harrison: for adjusting well into a new class.

Room 25 - Xavier: for co-operatively moving furniture in a safe and responsible manner back into room 17.

SWPBS Awards

Room 6 - Riley: by seeking adult assistance to have his apple cut safely.

Room 11 - Milan: by listening to staff, entering yard consistently and choosing to play on the equipment.

Room 20 - Mahalia: by safely taking the sports equipment out to the yard on a daily basis.

Room 20 - Quinn: by responsibly and independently running a spelling group.

Room 22 - Ethan: for independently preparing his own breakfast and cleaning up his and others' dishes

Room 23 - Tobias: by following staff instructions.

Room 25 - Harley: by playing safely on the back oval with the football during yard play.

Room 25 - Harrison: by helping other students make good choices.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) takes place every year. The NCCD is a collection that counts:

- the number of school students receiving an adjustment or 'help' due to disability
- the level of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other students.

Students are counted in the NCCD if they receive ongoing adjustments at school due to disability. This 'help' allows them to access education on the same basis as a child without disability. The NCCD uses the definition of disability in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

A student is counted in the NCCD if they receive reasonable adjustments at school due to disability.

Each year, schools collect the following information about the student, including:

- their year of schooling
- the level of adjustment received
- the broad type of disability.

Schools provide this information to education authorities.

A full Parent Information booklet is available. Please contact the school if you would like a copy.



Early Help for Families

Supporting you and your children

- Do you have a child aged between 0 and 12 years of age?
- Do you have some worries about your child or your family?
- Do you want to be the best parent that you can be?
- Are you looking for connections in your community?
- Do you want to feel better about yourself and your relationships?
- Are you struggling to meet your family's needs?

We're here to help you find ways to make things better for you and your family.

Contact Early Help for Families:

Mallee Family Care
EHFSContact@malleefamilycare.com.au
5023 5966

Murray Valley Aboriginal Corporation
Calvin.henry@mvac.org.au
5026 3353



Allied Health News

This week we welcome Sophie, Speech Pathology student. She is completing her university placement over the next seven weeks with Zorica and Steph. Developmental Play sessions are focusing on the topic of Me and My Community. Please find attached a few photos from last week's session with Rooms 1 and 2.



The Speech Pathology Team would like to remind our families of students who are AAC users (AAC= communication device) to remember to charge students' devices the night before. Some students have been coming to school with flat devices which impacts on their learning and interaction with others. If you're having difficulties please get in touch with Zorica or your Classroom Teacher.

MSS Allied Health Team

THE ARTS

After spending a term working on developing, researching, exploring and resolving ideas based on a personal interest, self portrait or poster theme, students doing the VCAL Personal Development Skills (PDS) course have finally achieved the goal of putting their completed creative ventures up for display. And what a diverse, varied and rich field of images presented themselves! Perhaps the greatest and most pleasant surprise for both students and audiences alike was the evidence revealing what they were capable of creating. From feedback received there were many positive and delighted expressions of congratulations for the students. This reinforces that under supportive nurturing conditions, our students can show they have the means to express their thoughts and concerns as meaningfully as anyone else in the broader community.



EARLY YEARS' NEWS

Room 16 and 17 students have been exploring the season of Winter, especially on these windy and wet days. Students enjoyed dressing up in different items of winter clothes, including beanies, scarves and blankets. Jackson is wearing his wet pants to keep him dry and Carter has a blanket on in the yard. This term Early Years' students are working on 'Myself and My Family'. They have been labelling different parts of their body. During Respectful Relationships lessons, students have been talking about what makes them feel happy. Keegan and Koray are happy on the swing and Lachy is happy on the tractor.



UPPER PRIMARY YEARS' NEWS

Upper Primary students have been learning to classify Living and Non-Living things in Science. We have been identifying what living things need to keep them alive. Room 9 students have been learning about their Skeletal System and Room 8 have learnt about the Life Cycle of a Frog. Students in Room 6 are enjoying participating in Mindfulness and learning about identifying their feelings. Room 4 students have been reading the book, We Are Going on A Bear Hunt. They are making the props to go with story and will act it out.

Last week students in room 15 went on a walk around their neighborhood and identified the Living and Non-Living things that they saw along the way.



SECONDARY PreCAL NEWS

Room 22 students have really enjoyed having books read to them, especially books written by Paul Jennings. These books are aimed toward teenagers and are humorous and very engaging. All students have been enthusiastic participants around discussion of the characters, setting, plot and themes of these books. It was great to see Kane offer and read to the class, during our most recent visit to the library.



SECONDARY—PAL NEWS

PAL students are looking forward to participating in the rescheduled Sports Day and BBQ lunch on August 31. In Room 13, a major classroom focus is on students self-regulating their emotions. Students use their AAC devices and/or visual prompts to recognise various sensory activities that help them remain calm. Below, Alex and Kai are both using the swing that was installed at the start of the year. Mert is practising independent living skills by spreading butter onto some toast.



SECONDARY—VCAL AND VAL NEWS

Starting Term Three on a positive note, our VCAL students who earned 90% and more on their School Wide Positive Behaviour Support tick sheet, went on their rewards excursion last week. Students ordered a special Subway lunch and finished the afternoon at Syd Mills Reserve on Walnut Ave.



ADVENTURE CLUB

For primary aged students
(Kinder to Grade 5).

Contact 50231201

Tuesday 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm

ADVENTURE CLUB

The fun continues on a Tuesday with our Adventure Kids Program - Adventure Club. Adventure Club is an action packed after school program that runs from 5:00 to 7:00 every Tuesday night during the school term.

Come along to enjoy fun games, crafts, songs, memory verses, interactive bible teachings and dinner.

Cost is \$5 per kid or \$10 per family

A SKY FULL OF STARS

\$5
TICKETS

THE BEAT STATE SCHOOL SHOWCASE

7pm 23rd AUG
11am & 7pm
24th AUG

MILDURA ARTS CENTRE

**FOR BOOKINGS AND
MORE INFORMATION**

Phone 03 5018 8330
milduraartscentre.com.au
Mildura Arts Centre,
199 Cureton Avenue Mildura

freesza
www.freesza.vic.gov.au

 Mildura Rural City Council

YOUTH
ENGAGEMENT SERVICES

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
.....School Holidays.....						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
.....School Holidays.....						
10	First Day of Term 3 For staff. Pupil free day.	11	12	13	14	15
		Lunch orders due in.				16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Lunch orders due in.				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31		Lunch orders due in.				

papertraildesign.com

AUGUST 2022

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Lunch orders due in.				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	School Council	Lunch orders due in.				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Lunch orders due in.				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Lunch orders due in.	THE BEAT			
28	29	30	31			
		Lunch orders due in.	Sports Day			



BREAD TAGS FOR WHEELCHAIRS



Please save your bread tags – they will be recycled to fund wheelchairs, mainly in South Africa.



We collect bread tags Australia-wide, and recycle these in Robe, SA. All funds raised through recycling are used to supply wheelchairs.



Re-made in Robe!



What can I do?

It's easy save your bread tags for a while and then drop them off at one of our collection points. Ask your family, friends, school and local café to help.



Visit our website for signage, to find your nearest collection point, or to host a collection point.

 aussiebreadtags@gmail.com



ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au



[@aussiebreadtags](https://www.facebook.com/aussiebreadtags)

Local Contact: PAL Section

SCHOOL REMINDERS

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.

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

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.

MEDICAL

At Mildura Specialist School we have children who are at risk of an anaphylactic reaction to **nuts, eggs, lactose and seafood** 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 from the school office or can be downloaded and printed 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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

Early Years and Upper Primary Years: 2:40—2.50 PM

Secondary Years and VCAL. 2.50—3.00PM

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

