

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 6

DATE: 7th May, 2020



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

26 June 2020—Last Day of Term 2

13 July 2020—Term 3 begins

Principal's Report



Congratulations to our Award winners from the last fortnight. I have been hearing some great news about students and parents/carers being very proud of what they are achieving working remotely. Keep sending in the photos, videos and stories.



Thank you very much for the support you are providing during this time of remote learning. Please remember we are only a phone call away. If you receive a call from a blocked number it could be from your child's teacher calling from home. If you are unsure, call the school and we will make contact so you can be phoned again. Each class has their own email address which can be found on our website.

Thank you for picking up and returning packs. Mrs Weaving, in particular was so excited to look at what her students had achieved. Staff are finding new ways to deliver the curriculum and I'm sure some new systems will continue. Thank you to all our wonderful staff for their work and enthusiasm. We are all getting used to seeing ourselves on video and value being able to stay connected.



A special Happy Mother's Day to all our mums and carers. We hope you have a wonderful day on Sunday. With Mother's Day coming up you may like to make a cake to celebrate. Cooking is a wonderful way to develop reading and numeracy skills.



The link below is from the Department website about ways to incorporate maths into daily activities. There are videos and ideas for all age groups. Best of all - it won't feel like work.

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/maths/Pages/maths-and-numeracy-at-home.aspx>

Penny Hale

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

(P) 50213311 (F) 50213314

Privacy Policy: Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) For more information about privacy, see: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#). This information also available in nine community languages. Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website <https://www.mildss.vic.edu.au/>

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AWARDS RECENTLY GIVEN TO STUDENTS

Principal's Award

Mathew—Rm 22

Brooke—Rm 21

Riley—Rm 4

Elizabeth—Rm 23

Skye—Daring Room

Benjamin—Rm 10

Tyrell—Rm 3

Hannah Rm-17

Jake Rm—Rm 5

Annabel— Rm 5

Ethan—Rm 19

Abbie—Rm 7

Responsible Award

Chloe— Rm 21

Aiden—Rm 10

Congratulations to all students on receiving an award over the past 2 weeks.

We're all in this together



Inspired by [mrs.larisey](#).

Supporting Routine

During this time of COVID-19, I thought I'd share some advice from professionals on various topics. Each newsletter I will cover a topic to post in the hope it may help. Sometimes the articles will provide advice, others are just words of support. This week is on routine from the organisation Reach Out.

If all sense of routine has gone out the door at the moment at home, you're not alone. There's no question: coronavirus (COVID-19) has resulted in huge changes to our daily life. These changes might mean that usual routines such as school and work look dramatically different.

It can be tricky to know how to adapt and keep things running in the household.

Why routines are good:

- They can make children feel safe and secure, and help them to deal with stressful events.
- They indicate what's important to your family.
- They can help family life run a little smoother.

They teach children about basic work and time management skills.

It's difficult to stick to a routine at the best of times, let alone during a global pandemic. Routines are good to provide structure for the family so that things can get done. If things don't always go perfectly to plan (and they won't!), consider what could help next time (e.g. waking up a bit earlier, or trying to fit less in). Go easy on yourself – this is a challenging time and you're trying your best.

If the routine only includes study and chores, it can look pretty unappealing. Build in some downtime for your child to chill out and do something they enjoy.

There's no doubt that sticking to a routine right now is tricky, especially for families with lots of competing demands. Following a plan will make everyone's expectations clearer and will hopefully help things run more smoothly.

Reach Out website <https://parents.au.reachout.com>

Darren Jones – Student Wellbeing Coordinator

STAFF AND STUDENTS WHO HAVE CELEBRATED THEIR BIRTHDAYS DURING COVID-19 ISOLATION

Brooke	Matilda	Zealia	Daphne	Lachlan
Benjamin	Axel	Ethan W	Ethan C	Benjamin
Karen Parker	Cody	Kelly Osborne	Ella	Ethan B
Susan Alexander	Ethan C	Hollie Lock	Bronwyn Wake	May
Robert	Jackson	Riley	Kai A	Christian
Lisa Norris	Mert	Abbie	Jordan	Indy-Lou
Gabby West	Liam	Belinda Blennerhassett	Tobias	Ezekiel
Vivien	Grace	Kaelah	Thomas	Ben Stevenson

SWPBS News

For the last fortnight teachers have been hearing from families about the work happening in the home. Some students are sending photos of their fabulous work. We are looking at different ways to be responsible—and getting work from packs completed is very responsible, as it is so different working at home. This fortnight I hope we can see some photos of students working on chores at home as well as their work packs. Please find some jobs below students may help you with. I have also included an activity for students to work on. We would like to see what responsible means to your child in different areas.



Draw and neatly color a picture of what it looks like to be a responsible
at school, at home, with your friends and on the bus.

Name _____

Home

School



With Friends

On the Bus

Responsibility



Speech Pathology

We know that it may be tricky for you to find activities to practise communication skills with your children, especially for children who are learning to use a communication device or communication aid. So, while we are at home during Term Two, Zorica and Steph will provide some examples in the school newsletter of everyday activities that occur during a typical day at home. This will include lots of different words that you can model on your child's communication device or aid during these everyday activities. You can access more activities for practising communication skills, as well as tips and tricks when communicating with your child by searching for "The AAC Coach" on Facebook. If you would like to contact either Zorica or Steph directly, please send an email to speech@mildss.vic.edu.au and we will be in touch.

We hope you and your family are staying safe and well.
Zorica and Steph (MSS Speech Pathology Team)



Morning Routine

Rise, shine, and MODEL! There are tons of language opportunities in all our morning routines. But...we all approach mornings differently. Use your child's language system to connect with them around their experience of the morning. Pick what you model based on what they might want to say. Show them how AAC can help them share their true morning self with the world (or just their lucky family members)!

AAC Modeling: Morning Routine

Comment!

- LOOK NICE
- YOU FAST
- GREAT!
- IT YUMMY!
- TIRED TODAY
- BEAUTIFUL OUTSIDE!

Ask for Things!

- WANT EAT
- NEED SOCKS
- GET BRUSH
- HAVE DRINK
- WANT CEREAL
- COFFEE!

Complain!

- I TIRED
- LEAVE ME ALONE
- DON'T WANT
- GO AWAY
- NEED SLEEP!
- WHY????

Ask Questions!

- HOW SLEEP?
- WHAT DO TODAY?
- WHAT EAT?
- WHERE SOCKS?

Tell Each Other

What to Do!

- GET UP!
- TAKE OFF
- PUT ON
- WASH FACE
- TAKE SHOWER
- BRUSH TEETH
- DO HAIR
- STRETCH
- SHOES ON

Rise, shine, and model! Morning routines offer lots of opportunities to use AAC. Keep it real! Grumpy wake up? Complain! Morning person? Celebrate the new day!

@the.aac.coach

AAC Modeling: Getting Dressed

Comment!

- LOOK GOOD!
- NICE LOOK
- NEW!
- GET SMALL
- UH OH DIRTY
- BEAUTIFUL!
- COLD OUTSIDE
- YOU FANCY!
- ITCHY!
- DON'T LIKE
- LIKE RED

Ask for Things

- WANT PINK
- NEED WARM
- GIVE IT
- UNDERWEAR!
- WANT PAJAMAS

Tell Each Other

What to DO

- PUT ON
- TAKE OFF
- NEED WASH!
- GET SHIRT
- HAVE CHANGE
- PANTS ON!
- LOOK FAVORITE
- HELP ME

Ask Questions!

- WHAT WEAR?
- WHERE SOCKS?
- IT CLEAN?
- WHERE FAVORITE?
- WHY NOT PAJAMAS?

Getting dressed is an everyday activity. It actually happens a couple times a day! There's a lot to talk about, so lots of opportunities to model AAC! Make it playful and use language to connect with your AAC learner.

@the.aac.coach



Getting Dressed

AAC modelling can happen any time of the day. It doesn't need to be a special activity. You can use your child's AAC system to talk about getting dressed! Are you even getting dressed these days? If not, how about a silly dress-up activity? Have fun and connect with your child using their AAC system.

The next newsletter will feature AAC modelling for Night time routine & Bath time!

EARLY YEARS' NEWS

Room 4 students have been working so hard at home. Riley is colouring in his colour by numbers worksheet during his at home Maths session. Jax is sewing some cushions with his mum, using his favourite Collingwood material. Riley coloured in an Earth Day worksheet, learning about the importance of looking after our Earth. Cosimo is using cubes in different widths and heights, mixing and matching colours and patterns.



Early Year's staff have also been working from home, working together every day to ensure each student is continuing with their learning. Building on our technology skills over the past few weeks has, at times been difficult, but also quite exciting for when face to face teaching begins again. Staff have been involved in a range of professional practice sessions on the use of technology in the classroom.

Primary Years' News.

This fortnight has seen staff and students accessing their work from their homes or for some, school. It has been great to hear from families who are assisting in their child's learning. Many families are sharing other learning experiences with us that they are doing with their children, for example including them in cooking tasks, concentrating on hygiene skills, board games with the family, reading for pleasure and developing vocabulary in everyday tasks. We thank them for their dedication and the time they are taking to do this. During this time staff have been learning new skills especially in the area of technology and on line learning.

Below are a selection of photos of staff and students completing their work, we thank the families who have sent in photos of their child working from home and look forward to seeing more in the future. Until our next newsletter stay well.

Here are some students working at school and at home.



Staff attending to a team meeting or working from home.



Secondary—VCAL News

Mum, Bridget is working with Indi using measurement in cooking a chocolate cake to meet her VCAL goals by following instructions using the language of cup/grams while cooking. Indi also likes to challenge herself with completing maths worksheets using the calculator on her iPhone, then changes subjects and works on her Work Safe topic



Secondary News

Secondary/VCAL staff would like to thank all the parents and carers for all their very hard work with their children over the past four weeks. We are very aware how much work you have been putting in and it is greatly appreciated. Please find a number of photos below sent in by families and staff of students working on their remote learning packs at home and at school.



Rebecca creating a sunflower.



Ethan made ANZAC biscuits. He is now tasting them.



Elizabeth completing a research assignment.



Jorja working hard.

PAL NEWS

The PAL Team have had a few students turn **18** over the last two weeks. These students celebrated the big day at home. Christian enjoyed having a special camp out in the back yard. All students had a special and very yummy looking birthday cake. Here are a few happy snaps! We hope our students Ethan, Brooke and Christian had a fantastic day!



This week PAL teachers celebrated May 4th (May the forth be with you) by having a ‘Star Wars’ themed team meeting. Each teacher dressed up as a character. We also had a furry team member join in for our meeting.

happy birthday



ANZAC Celebrations

Graham made an ANZAC Wreath using a paper plate and egg cartons. Graham painted each item and put them all together to create a wonderful ANZAC Wreath.



MSS Staff members busy at work.



Mr T happily working remotely.

Mrs A all set up and working remotely.



MSS Staff doing some deliveries.



Egg-in-the-Hole Sandwich

Ingredients

2 large slices of crusty bread
2 teaspoons of butter
1/2 avocado, sliced
2 slices of cheddar cheese
1 tomato, sliced
1 egg
black pepper

Directions

Use a circular cookie cutter to cut a hole in one of the slices of bread. If you don't have a cookie cutter, just cut around the top of a drinking glass instead.

Butter both sides of the two slices of bread, and place in a frying pan. Cook over a medium heat for a few minutes, until the underside is golden brown. Turn the slices over.

Turn the heat down fairly low. Top the whole slice of bread with sliced avocado, cheese and tomato, and crack the egg into the hole in the other slice of bread.

Cover the pan with a lid, and cook for a few more minutes, until the cheese has melted and the egg is cooked to your liking.

Sandwich together the two pieces of bread, top with a good pinch of black pepper, and serve immediately.

Retrieved and modified from

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/egg-hole-bacon-sandwich>

