

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 3

DATE: 25 February, 2021

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

8 March—Public Holiday—No school.

12 March—School Photos.



TERM 1
SUNSMART



Principal's Report

Thank You

I would like to thank and congratulate the whole school community for managing the last quickly called lockdown. Thank you to parents and carers, students and staff for your timely responsiveness and understanding.



Lake Cullulleraine Activity Day: A highlight of our school calendar is the day trip to the Lake for Upper Primary and Secondary students. Students attend for one day between 15-19 March. If you would like your child to attend please return the note as soon as possible. The last day we can accept notes is Tuesday 2 March in order to organise the events. The activities

for the day are matched with the abilities of the groups attending. Please note that students will need to be picked up at ~ 4pm from school. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

School Council: The next School Council Meeting is on 15 March 2021 at 5.30pm. This will be the first meeting for the new School Council. There are two vacancies for parents. If you are interested in being on School Council please contact Sharyn Morris or myself. Please see the information within this newsletter and nomination form which is due by 4th March.



Student Support Groups: Thank you to parents and carers for your attendance and input into the meetings to set goals for this year.

Photo Day: Please remember to wear school uniform for the school photos on Friday – March 12.

Awards: Congratulations to our Award winners this fortnight.

Art at school – We have some wonderful pieces of Art on display in our school.



Mrs Weaving's class created a beautiful display of hearts for Valentine's Day.



Annabel mixed paint in Art with Miss Judi. On display in the Office.



Rainbows in the Office.



Art used to make a graph about favourite colours.

Kind Regards

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
(P) 50213311 (F) 50213314

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.*



RESPECT FOR SCHOOL STAFF POLICY

PURPOSE

To ensure that members of our community understand Mildura Specialist School's expectations for appropriate interactions with school staff.

POLICY

Staff at Mildura Specialist School, including teachers, education support staff, office staff, the assistant principal/s and principal are committed to providing a supportive learning environment for all our students. Our staff take their work very seriously and feel privileged to be able to play an important role in each child's education.

All staff at Mildura Specialist School have a right to a safe and supportive work environment.

Mildura Specialist School expects that all parents/carers and visitors to our school behave in an appropriate and respectful manner to school staff at all times.

There will be a zero tolerance approach to any aggression, intimidation, threats or harassment of school staff, by any means (e.g. in person, by phone, by email, on social media etc). These behaviours may lead to exclusion from school grounds and school activities.

The principal may report aggressive, intimidating, threatening or otherwise inappropriate conduct to Victoria Police. The Department of Education and Training may also take legal or other appropriate action against community members or parents/carers who pose a threat to the safety and wellbeing of school staff.

Mildura Specialist School expects all members of our community to act consistently with our *Statement of Values*. We are committed to ensuring that staff, parents/carers and students are able to work together in an appropriate and respectful way.

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on 19 November 2019 and is scheduled for review in November 2022.

NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Principal Awards

Room 8 - Colbie: by completing all work tasks and having an 'All Green Day'.

Room 10 - Mirage: for independently using his talker to say what he would like to do when asked a question.

Room 10 - Jake: for graciously accepting the class vote for another student to be the Room 10 SRC Representative.

Room 11 - Patrick: for using his talker to show he had remembered the Rainbow colours we did in Art the week before.

Room 15 - Axel: for eager participation when making rice rainbows in Art.

Room 15 - Jonah: by following instructions from administration staff.

Room 17 - Carter: by participating in his cause and effect activities.

Room 20 - Eboni: for reminding her fellow classmates to listen to instructions.

Room 21 - Ethan: for trying his best in maths time activity.

Room 22 - Ethan: for inviting younger PAL students to join his game of cricket, encouraging them and showing them what to do.

Room 23 - Niesha: for doing her best and helping in the classroom.

Room 24 - Koebi: for taking his shoes and socks to his chair and sitting to wait for staff assistance.

Room 25 - Brandon: for writing his first name without visual support.

Room 25 - Sam: for sorting grocery items into categories of where we locate them in a supermarket.

SWPBS Awards

Room 10 - Deshawn: by waiting his turn to keep personal space with both students and staff.

Room 10 - Lacey: by looking after equipment by checking the bike's tyres before riding it.

Room 20 - Kyle: by listening to staff instructions and making positive choices when his peers were encouraging him to do otherwise.

Room 21 - Antwone: by giving people personal space when they need it.

Room 22 - Emily: by listening to instructions during daily fitness walk time and competing her laps.

Room 23 - Mahalia: by always following staff instructions.

Room 24 - Ali-Sue: by following instructions while helping students in Room 17 pack up.

Room 25 - Theo-Ioannis: by stopping and checking at intersections when walking to the Plaza.

Room 25 - Chloe: by looking out for peers and making space for them to join the group.

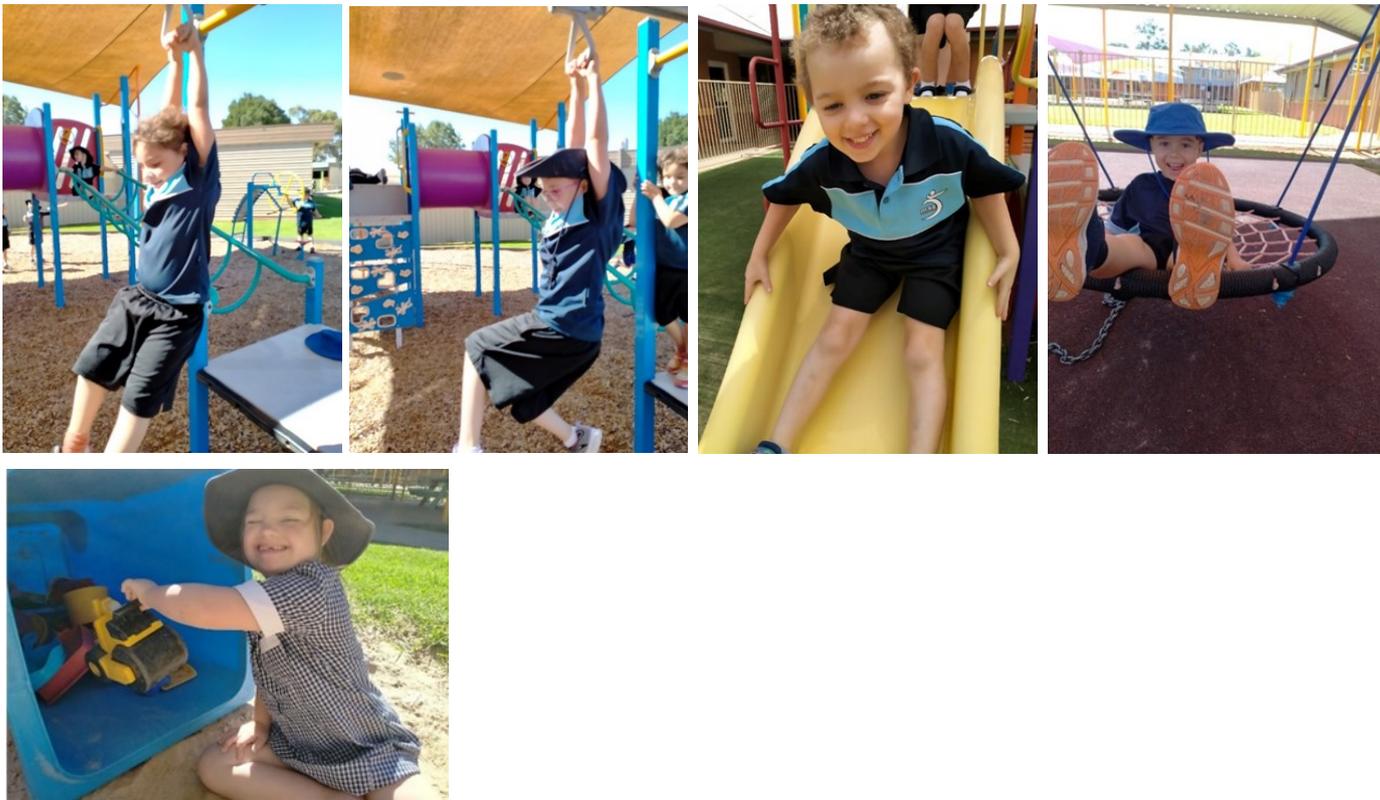
SWPBS News

The School Wide Positive Behaviour value this fortnight is Be Respectful. In the Music Room there are some new respectful expectations asked of students when they are participating in music and dance with Sarah and Gabby. These displays are up to assist students to remember and ask for help if they need.



Early Years' News

Students in Early Years are making the most of getting out in the playground especially those who are a little taller and a little braver and can now reach the flying fox like Azealia and Indy-Lou. Rhyan takes turns sliding down the slide with his classmates. Nate swings on the net swing while Hannah helps her-self to the sandpit equipment.



UPPER PRIMARY YEARS' NEWS

Welcome back after a little break with our lockdown! The students coped well with the quick change in routine and have returned to work well.

The Upper Primary section has been looking at Our School for our Geography focus this term. In room 6 we have been touring the school, taking photos of key rooms and areas, then associating them with a map of our school. Students have been enjoying taking photos using our iPads and having their photos printed for the activity. This activity has been great for students to get to know the Secondary side of the school or unknown areas that they do not use often.

Well done to all the students who have remembered all the sun safe rules and brought in hats for our really sunny days. Students without hats are encouraged to play in the shade to protect their skin. We have sunscreen provided in all classrooms for full sun protection for all our students.

Just a reminder to get the Lake Cullulleraine day camp notes back as soon as possible so all students can be included and get to enjoy the fun!

Photos of Kane, Corey and Ezekiel playing maths games.



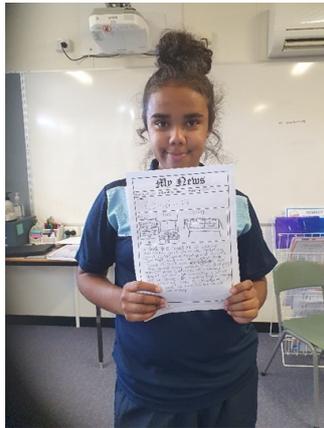
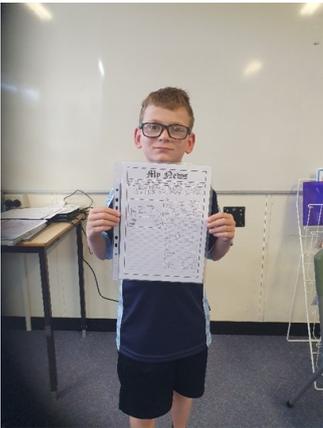
Secondary Personal Applied Learning NEWS

Welcome back to school after the short lockdown. Students in PAL have been working hard since returning. Room 12/13 students have been enjoying learning with their new Smart TV. Daniel is learning about colours, while Alex is exploring through drawing. ILS students have been working on the alphabet in Literacy and making collections in Maths. Ali and Aiden are pictured group counting. Aiden is also using his Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) device to say the name of the number he is making.



SECONDARY PreCAL News

This week Room 23 wrote Newspaper Articles about how they were affected by the latest Covid-19 shut-down. They did a fantastic job. Gabriel and Niesha are holding their articles.



SECONDARY—VCAL AND VAL News

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) students run our canteen each Friday, preparing a range of hot and cold meals for students and staff.



VCAL students are also trialing recipes for our enterprise program, where they produce goods for sale to raise funds for projects like the Graffiti Wall and to meet VCAL outcomes. Here, the students are preparing Beef Jerky to trial the recipe.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES NEWS
I play footy for Bambill women's footy club.



Where is it?

The Bambill footy club practices on the Senior College oval.

Being part of the Bambill women's footy team helps me to be physically fit and healthy because I get to use different types of muscles that I wouldn't usually use. I become fitter for longer, because if you keep trying and never giving up you will get better.

It also helps me to be mentally healthy because it helps to get negative thoughts out of my mind.

Footy also helps me, to play any type of sport for longer periods of time and not get tired easily. I have met so many special people at footy. They have inspired me, to do my best and to never give up. If it wasn't for them I wouldn't be who I am today.

Thank you for reading my report, may your day be awesome.

Just remember you are amazing, believe it or not, you are!

Rebecca – Room 18

2021 Mildura All Abilities Regional Bowls Carnival

Bowls Victoria, Bowls Sunraysia and Mallee Sports Assembly are proud to announce that we will be hosting the Regional Lawn Bowls Carnival in Mildura on the 25th March 2021.

This event will be open to schools and disability organisations from across the region. Over three weeks leading into the carnival we will have practice training days on the 4, 11, and 18 March 2021, at Mildura Workers Bowls Club. We will have school groups in the morning from 10am to 12pm and Disability organisations in the afternoon 12.30-2.30pm.

These sessions are a great opportunity for everyone to learn the basic skills needed for the games and for the club to grade the participants. The purpose of grading the potential attendees, is to ensure they play with the right equipment to suit their skill level.

Bowls Victoria and Bowls Sunraysia are very supportive of the event and would like to encourage people of all ages and disabilities to get involved. Mildura Workers Bowls Club will be providing a BBQ lunch for everyone at the carnival. This is free event for people to enter and participate in.

For more information and to register, please contact Tanya Wild, at Mallee Sports Assembly, 5021 3464; tanya@malleesportsassembly.org.au.

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NEWSLETTER EMAILED

If you wish to have the newsletter emailed to you each fortnight please fill out the slip below, tear off and return to school.

Parent/Guardian Name:

Student Name:

Email address:

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected school employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have Nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

A mandated elected student member category, with two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. Councilors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term one each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term one each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election.

You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

REMEMBER

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.

NAME: _____ ROOM: _____ DATE: _____



MSS Canteen Menu
Canteen Day Friday

*All orders and money must be in and paid for by **TUESDAY** 9AM

Item	Qty	\$ ea	\$ Tally
Cold Food Please Tick Your Preference			
Chicken & Salad Wrap: Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Chilli <input type="checkbox"/>		\$5.00	
Chicken & Salad Roll: Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Mayo <input type="checkbox"/>		\$5.00	
Ham & Salad Wrap: Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Mayo <input type="checkbox"/>		\$5.00	
Ham & Salad Roll: Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Mayo <input type="checkbox"/>		\$5.00	
Tuna & Salad Wrap: Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Mayo <input type="checkbox"/>		\$5.00	
Tuna & Salad Roll: Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Mayo <input type="checkbox"/>		\$5.00	
Hot Food Tick			
Dim Sims Steamed		\$1.50	
Hot Dog in Wholemeal Roll		\$3.50	
Pizza Singles: Hawaiian <input type="checkbox"/> Supreme <input type="checkbox"/>		\$3.50	
Pie		\$4.00	
Pasife		\$4.00	
Sausage Roll		\$3.50	
Party pie		\$1.50	
Pasta: Bolognese <input type="checkbox"/> Lasagne <input type="checkbox"/>		\$5.00	
Drinks			
Low Fat Milk, Chocolate <input type="checkbox"/> Strawberry <input type="checkbox"/> Iced Coffee <input type="checkbox"/>		\$2.50	
Orange Juice		\$2.50	
WATER		\$2.00	
Cruncha		\$1.50	
Specials Hokkien Noodles		\$6.00	
Burger: Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Beef <input type="checkbox"/>		\$5.50	
Baked Potato with Coleslaw, Light Sour Cream, Bacon and Sweet chilli		\$6.00	
Salad, Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Tzatziki <input type="checkbox"/> Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> Dressing <input type="checkbox"/>	Lge	\$6.00	
	Sml	\$5.00	
*Special Orders, Dietary Requirements:			
Total			\$.

FORM 3: SELF-NOMINATION FORM FOR PARENT MEMBER CATEGORY

(Formerly Schedule 5A)

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the

..... council.

Name

Residential address

.....

Contact phone (mobile or landline)

Email

I am the parent/guardian of who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

Statement

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training.	Yes / No (please circle)
I am an employee of the school council.	Yes / No (please circle)
I am engaged in work at and for the school.	Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that:

- I am not, and have ever been, insolvent under administration
- I am not of unsound mind
- I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.
- I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council.

Signature of candidate..... Date / /

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender (optional), term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on:

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.

If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.

February 2021



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Lunch orders due in.	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Lunch orders due in.	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Lunch orders due in.	24	25	26 11:00 am - 12:00 Student Enrolmen	27	28

March 2021



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2 Lunch orders due in.	3	4	5	6	7
8 Labour Day No School	9 Lunch orders due in.	10	11	12 School Photos	13	14
15 School Council Meeting 5.30pm	16 Lunch orders due in. ..Lake Cullulleraine Outdoor Activity Days.....	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Lunch orders due in.	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2 Term 1 Holidays Good Friday	3 Day following Good Friday	4 Easter Sunday

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** 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.

