

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 13

DATE: 12 August, 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

TERM 3

17 September—Last Day of Term 3—Early Departure. 1.40pm EY-UP, 1.50pm Sec-VCAL

1 November—Pupil Free Day—No school for students

17 December—Pupil Free Day—Last Day of Term.

Principal's Report



Sports Day

Sports Day was enjoyed by all on Wednesday. The students rotated around ten activities and then assembled for their running race. Thank you to Jodie Gibson and Ben Stevenson for their organisation of the event and for being at school so early to set up. The scores are being tallied and announcements will be made on Thursday. I am sure there were many tired students and staff on Wednesday night. Once again it was very rewarding to see out older students helping with the organisation and supporting younger students. It was great to see students dressed in their team colours and staff too. I would like to congratulate the students for their enthusiasm and sportsmanship during the day.

We were fortunate the rain held off, although it was a bit windy. Lots of photos were taken during the events so there will be many to share. We do wish parents and carers could have joined us. We don't know at this stage if the Interschool Swan Hill Sports will go ahead.

Parent Survey

We want you to tell us what you think.



Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents/caregivers/guardians think of our school. The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents/caregivers/guardians (previously known as the Parent Opinion Survey). It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school

climate, student behaviour, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies. Approximately 30 per cent of parents have been invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year, the Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday 19th July** to **Friday 3rd September**. 85 Letters with details were sent home last week with students. To date three parents have completed the survey. Thank you.

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (Hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.



School Council Meeting: Monday 16 August, 2021.

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.*

School Review

School Review

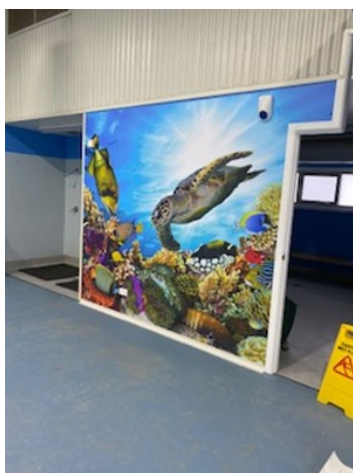
Currently we are preparing for our School Review which will be held in Term 4. One of the key stages is the pre-review self-evaluation which is completed the term before. This is a collaborative process which aims to engage the whole school community in a reflective analysis of the school's performances and practices, including:

The celebration of highlights leading to improved student outcomes

A collective view of the school's performance against the School's Strategic Plan including enablers and barriers

An assessment of the school's practices against the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes Continua.

We will be in contact in the coming weeks about opportunities to participate in this process.



Facilities: Over the school holidays the pool walls were repainted and the carpet was replaced with non-slip cement. The finishing touch was the application of this mural. This work was funded through a Minor Works Grant which we applied for in 2020. We have just submitted a new grant application for a covered area for our Basketball Court. The pool filter has just been upgraded and repairs are in process for the Air Change Filter. Thank you to Cathie Toma for coordinating the works at the pool.

COVID Update: Please see the letter from the Department within this newsletter about eligibility for vaccinations. Please see the advice below which was received on Wednesday 11 August:

Regional Victoria

There is no change to settings for regional Victoria, and schools in regional Victoria will continue with face-to-face learning.

Cross-border community changes

Residents of the cross-border community local government areas will now be required to obtain a permit to cross between Victoria and NSW from 6pm, Friday 13 August and must have an approved reason to travel.

If they have a permit, staff and students from the Cross Border Community Area can still cross the Victorian-NSW border for the purposes of work or education (which includes childcare or early childhood services as well as universities and TAFEs etc).

The full list of reasons Cross Border Community Area residents can cross the Victorian-NSW border includes:

- Necessary goods and services, including medical care
- Care or other compassionate reasons
- Work (whether paid or voluntary, including for charitable or religious purposes)
- Education (including childcare or early childhood services as well as higher education and TAFE etc)
- Receiving a COVID-19 vaccination

Organised/community sport and exercise connected to or organised by a club or facility.

Residents will be able to apply for a permit from Thursday afternoon at the [Service Victoria website](#) and via the Service Victoria app.

Kind Regards
Penny Hale

[\(penny.hale@education.vic.gov.au\)](mailto:penny.hale@education.vic.gov.au)

Principal

Dear parents and carers,

As part of the phased COVID-19 vaccination rollout, more Victorian school students are now eligible to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

From Monday 9 August, children aged between 12 to 15 years old are eligible to receive a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine if they:

identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

have a specified medical condition.

People aged 16 years and older continue to also be eligible under these categories, to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation will provide further advice on the broader 12-to-15-year age group in coming months. As more COVID-19 vaccine doses become available more people will be able to get vaccinated.

The free and safe vaccines being used in Australia are very effective at preventing serious illness and loss of life from COVID-19.

Eligible young people and their parents or guardians should speak to their doctor if they have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and their health.

Booking an appointment

To book an appointment, visit the coronavirus.vic.gov.au website.

Eligible young people are encouraged to get their COVID-19 vaccine at their doctor's clinic or health care provider. They can also be vaccinated at Victoria's vaccination centres.

What to bring:

Bring a Medicare card (if you have one) that lists your child's name, and information about your child's medical history if they have an underlying medical condition. Please refer to Department Health information on [what to bring to your vaccine appointment](#).

More information

Translated advice about the vaccines is available on the coronavirus.vic.gov.au website.

For more information about eligibility, visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au or use the Australian Government's [COVID-19 vaccine eligibility checker](#).

For further assistance, contact:

the Department of Health Coronavirus hotline: 1800 675 398

the National coronavirus and COVID-19 vaccine helpline: 1800 020 080.

NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Principal Awards

Room 5 - Tyrell: for independently sharing musical instruments with classmates.

Room 7 - Tai: for showing deep thinking skills when asking questions about non fiction texts.

Room 7 - Bailey: For passing a reading level with 100 percent accuracy on comprehension.

Room 10 - Jake: for sending in photos of remote learning at home and returning the completed work.

Room 10 - Ashlyn: for returning work completed during remote learning.

Room 23 - Tobias: for coping well with changes during lockdown

SWPBS Awards

Room 5 - Kaan: for sitting independently and joining in group work.

Room 7 - Charlie: for showing great safety skills in the classroom by problem solving things he finds challenging.

Room 10 - Deshawn: by explaining to the class how we can keep a safe distance from others.

Room 23 - Mia: by returning from remote learning settled and following staff instructions.

PIE DRIVE UPDATE

Due to current lockdowns the order date for pies has been extended to Monday 16 August. Delivery date will stay the same as Thursday 26 August.



Early Years' News

It was great to be back on the big oval for our school sports again this year. Everyone dressed in their team colours to make the most of the day. Students participated in soccer kicking and goal shooting, golf, bowls, croquet and hurdles using their throwing, kicking and running skills. We cheered on our friends and ran in our own races. Below Shanelle bowls towards a target. Indy-Lou throws the javelin and Azealia hurdles.

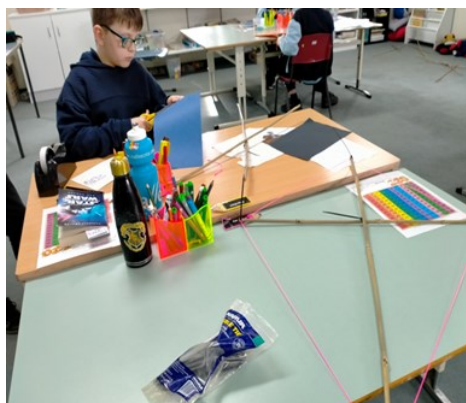
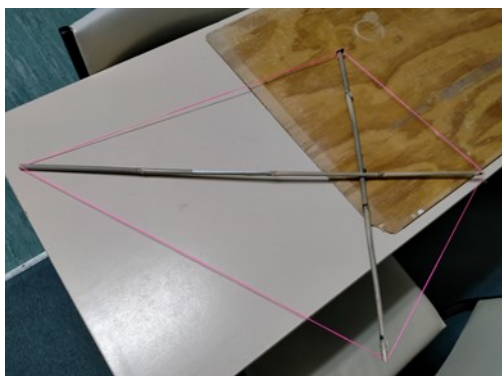


UPPER PRIMARY YEARS' NEWS

This term students from room 7 have been taking advantage of the upcoming warmer weather and have been planting a range of seeds for the Kitchen Garden. We have been learning about Procedure writing this term, so students have got the chance to put their writing into action.

Room 7 students have also been learning about Kites in literacy. We learnt that Kites were originally used for fishing. Students have constructed their diamond kites using bamboo sticks and string and will be finishing the final steps.

Students across the section have been working hard to complete their remote learning activities or have been busy working from school. We appreciate all the hard work that has taken place both at home and at school.



SECONDARY PreCAL News

This fortnight the PreCAL students have been busy learning about the human body. Students in room 21 created a life sized body and placed the correct internal anatomy within. The students have also made a working 'lung' that captured everybody's attention.



It has also been fantastic to see the three classrooms working as a team in the playground to organise games of Tiggy, with the students' own rules.



The Olympics have been a strong focus over the past two weeks and everyone has been fascinated in particular with the new sports and the Australian athletes' performances in events such as Skateboarding, BMX riding and Surfing. Room 20 tested and timed their 100 metre sprinting ability, which was almost as good as Peter Bol's!

Lockdown 6.0 has not stopped our students from making the most of the situation either. Some of our peers have been studiously working from home with their work packs, whilst some students have attended onsite, in accordance with The Department of Education's guidelines.

SECONDARY—PAL News

PAL students have adjusted to the two lockdowns and changes to their routine/s and families must be commended for helping their children adjust to these changes. Our students have been working through learning packs at home and at school.

Students in ILS have been growing vegetables from seed. They watered them every day and made sure they had plenty of sun. When seedling plants were big enough, they were planted into our garden. Below is a cauliflower we grew and ate.



Room 22 students have started to participate in the 2021 '10000 step challenge'. It's fun to see our students joining in with staff during their yard time to participate in the walking group around the yard. Congratulations to Ethan and Nash who have recorded their daily steps. Students are learning about how being healthy and staying fit will benefit them.

Room 22 students have also regularly participated in a mindfulness daily session, learning about the importance of breathing and being mindful of their space in this world. The mindfulness app, 'Smiling Mind' is free and easy to download. Feel free to explore it.



Congratulations to Shenae who recently gave birth to a little girl.



Below, some students are participating in an Art session during remote learning. They followed a step by step verbal procedure to create a sunset painting.



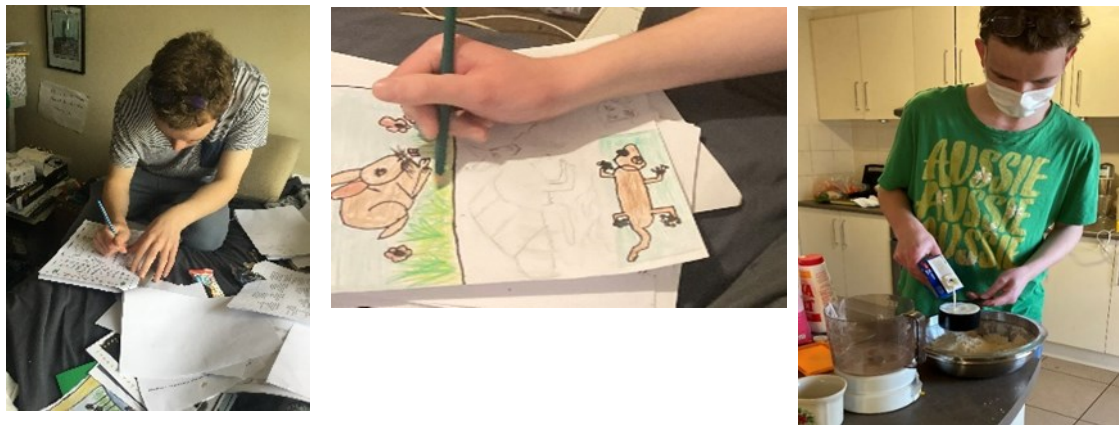
SECONDARY—VCAL AND VAL News

What I did in Lockdown

I stayed home and watched some Numeracy videos on YouTube,
I went outside and rode my skateboard out the front on the drive way. I am happy that I can do the kick flip but not land on it, I have to keep practising with the trick that I'm trying to learn. I did some chores at home and that's about it.

By Stephen

Austin B was very busy during lockdown. Here he is completing Numeracy activities, drawing and baking scones.



At school, Amy M, Austin and Jim have been busy sewing with the class, making items for our upcoming VCAL store. Students have enjoyed learning to use the overlocker and the sewing machine. We will decorate them by tie-dying.

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PARENT/CARER UPDATED INFORMATION

Each Term we will attach this tear off/return slip for all families who have changed their contact details. If you could please fill out any new information and send to school to be updated.

Student Name:

Parent/Carer A Mobile email:

Parent/Carer B Mobile email:

Emergency Contacts: Name and number



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



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



azbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au

Local Contact: Mildura Specialist School

(PAL section)

August 2021


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Lunch orders due in.	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Lunch orders due in.	11 Sports Day	12	13	14
15	16 School Council Meeting	17 Lunch orders due in.	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Lunch orders due in.	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Lunch orders due in.				

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SEPTEMBER 2021

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

Name: _____ Room: _____ Date: _____

<div>  <div> MSS Canteen Menu Canteen Day Friday </div> </div> <p><small>*All orders and money must be in and paid for by TUESDAY* 9AM</small></p>					Item	Qty	\$ ea	\$ Tally
Cold Food - Please tick your preference								
Chicken & Salad Wrap: Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Chilli <input type="checkbox"/>			\$5.00					
Tuna & Salad Wrap: 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 Roll: Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Mayo <input type="checkbox"/>			\$5.00					
Hot Food								
Tick								
Dim Sims Steamed	Soy		\$1.50					
Hot Dog in Wholemeal Roll	Sauce		\$3.50					
Pizza Singles: Hawaiian <input type="checkbox"/> Supreme <input type="checkbox"/>			\$3.50					
Pie	Sauce		\$4.00					
Pastie	Sauce		\$4.00					
Sausage Roll	Sauce		\$3.50					
Party Pie	Sauce		\$1.50					
Pasta: Bolognaise <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:								
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		Sml	\$5.00					
*Special Orders: Dietary Requirements:								
Total			\$.					

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.

