

# MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 18

DATE: 3 November, 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

20 December—Last Day of Term 4.

Early Years and Upper Primary 1.40pm. Secondary and VCAL 1.50pm.



TERM 4



## Principal's Report

Congratulations to our Award winners this week. Thank you to room 18 students for running the assembly on October 18. Well done to Isaac for introducing Jordan to read the Acknowledgement to Country and to Stephen for confidently reading the birthdays out. Seth, Austin and Indi spoke clearly when reading the Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Awards. The focus of the assembly from room 18 was showing respect in the workplace and at school. Well done to everyone and to Skye for signing off with a have a great day message. Great team work!

### **Halloween and World Teachers' Day**

It was a fun week last week with the Halloween disco and World Teachers' Day. Thank you to everyone for their efforts to dress up for Halloween and World Teachers' Day with a crazy hat.

Congratulations to the VCAL students and staff for your organisation of the disco. All staff enjoyed a morning tea which was delivered by Team Leaders. Room 1 and 2 students and staff took their hats off and threw them in the air as a show of appreciation for World Teachers' Day – a lovely gesture!



Hannah made a Haunted House.

### **Smoking and Vaping**

Please read the information provided within the newsletter from room 20 students about vaping. There is also a flyer within the newsletter.

### **Pupil Free Day**

On Monday teachers worked on writing reports. Education Support Staff completed OHS modules and prepared resources as required by teachers.

### **Student Support Group meetings**

Teachers will shortly be booking Student Support Group meetings for Term 4.

Penny Hale  
Principal

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

## Principal Awards

Room 6 - Wyhatt: for encouraging his classmates with positive comments on their contributions to discussions in class.

Room 9 - Noah: for a spontaneous gesture of kindness when he handed his art drums to another student.

Room 10 - Deshawn: for confidently taking his hood off when entering the classroom, without prompting.

Room 10 - Jayda: for independently walking to the next room and asking a staff member for something.

Room 11 - Patrick: for trying something new and showing confidence to play along to songs using the ukulele.

Room 18 - Stephen: for displaying great resilience by taking the initiative to engage in mature conversation with staff, to assist with ending his schooling day on a positive note.

Room 19 - Austin: for independently preparing and presenting at two community-based interviews for the VETDSS Excellence Awards. Well done Austin.

Room 20 - Riley: for striving for success in telling the time using 24 hour time.

Room 20 - Ella: for ensuring paragraphs were used during narrative and recount writing.

Room 20 - Denzel: for displaying a sense of safety and compassion when choosing to assist a fellow student to make positive choices when they were upset.

Room 20 - Sonya: for requesting homework when unable to attend school.

Room 20 - Corey: for showing maturity and walking away from a conflict.

Room 22 - Mia: for making great choices in the yard and in the classroom.

Room 22 - Logan: for showing resilience and attending school. Well done.

ILS - Tyrell: for impressive batting technique when playing cricket.

## SWPBS Awards - being Respectful

Room 6 - Jaxen: for sharing the Lego with others and helping them to complete a tricky build by collecting parts for them.

Room 18 - Eric: for handing in his mobile phone each morning to staff, without prompting.

Room 19 - Kathryn: for being respectful by handing in her mobile phone to staff each morning, without any verbal prompts.

Room 20 - Sione: for assisting staff during a critical incident in the rain.

Room 20 - Hugh: for ensuring staff were feeling safe during a conflicting event.

Room 22 - Johbi: for respectfully dealing with challenges in the classroom.



## ART

During Art Rooms One, Two, 23 and ILS have focussed on two Eras of Art. Impressionism and Fauvism. Picture 1 painted and drawn by Jack and Isayah from Room 23 inspired by Claude Monet of a bridge over a pond.

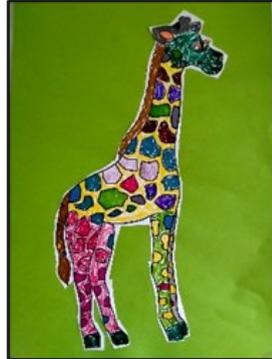
Picture 2 painted and drawn by Kaleb from ILS inspired by Claude Monet of a bridge over a pond.

Picture 3 painted and drawn by Aiden from ILS inspired by Claude Monet of water lilies in a pond.

Picture 4 is a zebra coloured in by Tecia and Naomi assistants from Room 1 and ILS inspired by Fauvism Artists painting, drawing and colouring in art work in bright, bold and vibrant colours.

Picture 5 is a giraffe coloured in by Xavier from Room 1.

Picture 6 is a tiger coloured in by Aiden from ILS.



## Mildura Specialist School Maths Competition

Please write your answer, with your name and class number and place the answer in the Maths Competition Box, located in room 8. Winners will be announced at assembly week 6.

**Questions**— Draw a picture that has symmetry. Below is an example.



Answer:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

## EARLY YEARS' NEWS

During Term 4 we have been learning about outdoor play. Rooms 16 and 17 have been using a number of different sensory items while working on goals, matching colours, counting items, using fine motor skills and finding items that are enjoyable to use and play with. Students also had a great time dancing at the Halloween party and doing some Halloween activities.



Xavier is matching the water bead colours with the cups.

Tarell is enjoying playing with the aqua sand.



Keegan is using the tweezers and counting how many items are in the pasta.



Riah is watching the colours spinning.

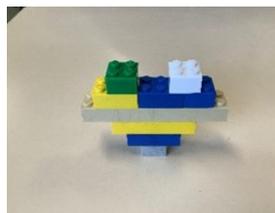
Jackson is enjoying swimming.

Lachlan is turning on the noisy Halloween toys.

## UPPER PRIMARY YEARS' NEWS

The students in the Primary Section have been busy learning a variety of exciting things. The following are a few snippets from our rooms:

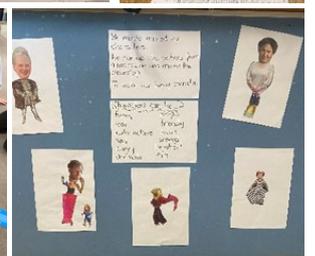
Room 6 students enjoyed learning about algorithms, by creating a Lego heart, deconstructing it, and taking photos of the step by step process required to rebuild them again.



Room 9 students have just finished our unit on Adaptations and Environment. We have been looking at how plants grow. Room 9 students planted corn to observe the root and shoot growth. We are recording the growth through drawings on different days.



Room 8 students have been learning about sharing in Maths. Students had to equally divide a bucket of tennis balls so they each had the same amount. Once complete, one person (usually the leader) was removed from the group, and the bucket had to be divided equally again, until there was only 1 student left. Great fun and some great communication skills were on display.



Room 15 students have been learning about characters and what a character is. We constructed our own characters from people in magazines, some of them are very funny.

## PAL NEWS

Room 25 went on a street walk, looking for and locating road signs. Room 23 students have been looking at The Great Barrier Reef and animals and how to manage resources.



The ILS classroom decorated the ILS building for Halloween, with skulls, skeletons and witches. It was a very spooky display.



ILS students have been focusing on practising their ball skills in PE and have made Fudgy Biscuits in cooking.



Alex from 12/13 presented a special hat made with his carers to present to his teachers for World Teacher's Day.

Room 11 read The Gingerbread Man and joined in with the repeated chant 'Run, run as fast as you can, you can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread man'. Patrick and Mrs Toma measured ingredients to make gingerbread dough. Students rolled and used gingerbread cutters to make their own gingerbread people. In Humanities students have been looking at Our Earth and Enviroweek: 22/10/22- 28/10/22. Students discussed how we can look after our Earth and environment.



Rooms 10 and 11 enjoyed an excursion to Park for Play.



Room 10 learnt about Dawali an Indian festival. Deshawn worked tirelessly to complete his Dawali art piece.

All staff and students in PAL dressed up for Halloween and enjoyed the disco in the Multipurpose room.

Students and staff wore decorated hats for Hats off for World Teachers' Day. Students in Room 10 and 11 decorated or made their own hats. A reminder that all students must bring and wear a hat, students are encouraged to apply sunscreen as part of our schools SunSmart policy. With the increase of mosquitoes, due to recent weather conditions, all classes have insect repellent. If you don't want your child to put on repellent, please advise your child's teacher.



## SECONDARY Pre-CAL NEWS

We all had fun dressing up and having fun playing dance games and watching all the students with their dancing moves. Many students made a great effort with their costumes.



Room 22 have had fun learning some Badminton skills, and over the weeks everyone has progressed in leaps and bounds.

Maths Competition – We had to measure the time for blocks to all fall and measure the distance between blocks, comparing the times. Students really enjoyed this activity and learned patience (as did the staff) when accidentally knocking the blocks over, or missing the start with the timer or forgetting to stop the timer.



### Vaping.

The students in Room 20 have extensively explored the effects of smoking and vaping over the course of the past four weeks. To support students' understanding, the students have independently researched various effects of vaping on the body and have created anti-vaping posters. The students have come to understand that vaping is much more harmful to their bodies than smoking is. Room 20 students conducted a survey across the Secondary section of the school and have found some alarming results. The survey was conducted in an anonymous manner so that students were able to answer honestly. Below are the results of our survey:

Q1. Have you tried a vape? Yes = 15, No = 50  
Q2. Do you vape often? Never = 50, more than once a week = 4, on weekends = 11  
Q3. Do you think you will try a vape? No = 42, Yes = 23.

It was concerning that there has been extensive education regarding the effects and dangers of vaping, yet 23 students would still be willing to try a vape. Please be vigilant and have open conversations with your child/ren as vaping is becoming a major concern for our young people.

### **Vaping by Kane.**

The majority of vape liquids contain nicotine. In addition to being highly addictive, nicotine alters the neuro-transmitters in the brain. It has been found to slow brain development in teens and affect memory, decision-making, concentration, self-control, and mood.

Both adults and kids who vape were more likely to report difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions than their non-vaping, non-smoking peers.

### **Vaping by Josh**

1 Puff of a vape is like smoking 7 cigarettes.

- The use of e-cigarettes is unsafe for kids, teens, and young adults.
- Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine.
- E-cigarettes can contain other harmful substances besides nicotine.

## SECONDARY PreCAL NEWS continued.....

### Vaping facts by Neesha

- Lots of vapes contain nicotine, making them addictive.
- Vapes can contain the same harmful chemicals found in cleaning products, nail polish remover, weed killer and bug spray.
- Vapes can leave young people at increased risk of depression and anxiety.

## SECONDARY—VCAL NEWS

A big, Well done to the VCAL students for the successful implementation of the Halloween Disco, last week. It was great to see so many students and staff get involved by dressing up and attending. A big thank you to everyone for assisting with the feedback survey. Students this week, will be tallying the results so that they can plan future discos.



**This month celebrates ‘MOVEMBER’.** Movember is a charity to raise awareness around mens mental health, suicide prevention and prostate and testicular cancer. To this day, men around the world shave their beards and moustaches on the beginning of November. For a full month, men regrow their facial hair to raise awareness and raise money for the cause. Seven VCAL students – Riley, Stephen, Ethan, Jordan, Thomas, Seth and Lachlan – are growing the longest moustache for this cause and will be raising donations which will go directly to Movember. For more information, please visit <https://au.movember.com/?home>

Please support us with this amazing cause!

By Stephen and Thomas.

Year 12 VCAL Students attended an information session at SuniTAFE on Tuesday November 25. They were given a tour of facilities, a barbeque lunch and an overview of the Certificate I in Work Education. The session concluded with an information session for students’ families.



Just a reminder also, that the VCAL Store is still up and running with plenty of wonderful handmade products available for purchase. If you would like to place an order, please fill out the attached order form.

# VCAL Store PreOrder Form

Name:

Contact details: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Contact number, room number, student name)

**Cash or EFTPOS payments accepted. Full payment prior to order fulfilment is required. EFTPOS payments to be made at MSS Front Office. If paying with cash, please attach payment to order form and take to Room 18.**

Product	Image	Quantity	Price	Total
Tomato Relish			\$4.50	
Protein Balls (4pk)			\$4.50	
Hessian Pot Covers			\$5.00	
Beeswax Wraps (3pk)			\$15.00	
Reusable Face Wipes (2pk)			\$10	
Beaded Fidget Tags			\$5.00	
Sugar body scrubs citrus/strawberry			\$3.00	
<b>Total</b>				

# Get the facts about smoking and vaping

## What are your kids breathing in?

E-cigarettes and vapes are not safer than cigarettes



There are no quality or safety standards for e-cigarettes or vapes



Vaping liquids contain nicotine, heavy metals and cancer-causing chemicals



## What it does to your body:

Vaping can cause vomiting, nausea, coughing, shortness of breath, mouth irritation and asthma



Long term use can cause lung damage, heart disease and cancers



Nicotine harms the brain development of children and teenagers



Young people who vape are more than three times more likely to move onto smoking cigarettes



## Talk to your kids about the risks of smoking and vaping

- Contact Quit at [www.quit.org.au](http://www.quit.org.au) or phone 13 78 48
- Visit the Royal Children's Hospital website [www.rch.org.au](http://www.rch.org.au) and search 'vaping'

- Scan the QR code for more information



[www.quit.org.au/articles/teenvaping/](http://www.quit.org.au/articles/teenvaping/)

# November

orders

orders

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>Melbourne CUP DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>	1	2	3	4
6	7	Lunch orders due in.	8	9	10	11
13	14	Lunch orders due in.	15	16	17	18
20	21	Lunch orders due in.	22	23	24	25
27	28	Glasses for Kids.	29	Year 12 Graduation	30	

# December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	Lunch orders due in.	6	7	8	9
11	12	Lunch orders due in.	13	14	15	16
18	19	Last Day Term 4. Early Departure	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## 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.

