

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 20

DATE: 14 December, 2023

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

Wednesday 20 December—End of Term 4. Early Departure.

Early Years & Upper Primary 1.40pm. All Secondary students 1.50pm.

Wednesday 31 January—1st day of Term 1 2024.



TERM 4



Principal's Report



Congratulations to our Award winners this past fortnight. It is great to see that students are achieving right up to the end of school.



On Wednesday we formally recognised the end of primary school for year 6 students. Thank you to parents and carers for joining us for this celebration and to all the staff who contributed to the achievements of our students during their Primary schooling. Thank you to our school captains, Stephen and Rebecca, and vice captains, Riley and Jorja for your leadership this year and active roles you played in reading out awards.



As the year draws to a close I would like to acknowledge the work of all staff from our administration team, teachers, education support staff, including allied health, technical support – Jeremy, Mental Health Practitioner- Sophie, as well as Gareth, Stan and Greg who maintain our buildings and grounds. Thank you to David, Kate, Matt, Heidi, Lyndal and Darren for your leadership and support during the year.



Staffing

At the end of the year we are farewelling the following staff:

Teachers – Vicki and Renee

Education Support: Paula, Tecia, Sue AP, Sam, Andrea and Naomi.

I would like to wish them all the best for their future endeavours and thank them for their years of service with us.

School Council: Thank you to our school councillors for your work this year on school governance. Connie Aldamiz - President, Tracy Craig, Bianca Bugeja, Amy Hensgen, Terry Dyke, Paul Trevaskis and David Wright.

School Reports and Class Groups: Reports are being finalised and will be released via Xuno on Monday. Details about 2024 class groups will also be sent home on Monday. There will be a short transition session on Friday afternoon.

Please note that students return on **Wednesday, 31 January 2024**, Preps on Thursday 1 Feb.
Pupil free days for 2024: 29 January, 30 January, 20 May and 4 November.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday.

Penny Hale

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.

ART

Wow everybody, where has 2023 gone? During the last fortnight students across the school have participated in Christmas Art & Craft activities.

Students from Room 1 constructed an Elf each. Students from Rooms 21, 22 and 23 created a Christmas scene using Christmas gift wrapping paper, such as Snowmen and Christmas Trees with presents under the tree.

The Art Specialists hope our students have enjoyed our Art themes throughout the year which included Nature, Australiana, Women Artists and Materials.

We would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Karyn, Shana, Gay, Judi and Bob.





Christmas Door Competition 2023



Primary SRC

Thank you for all your work this year. When asked what was the best thing this year they said.....

			
<p>Nate – Making people happy.</p>	<p>Emily – Planning all the activities.</p>	<p>Kayne – I liked talking at Assembly on Footy Day.</p>	<p>Rhyan – Being with other kids at meetings.</p>
			
<p>Jax – I liked Footy Day. I got to paint a letter in Collingwood colours.</p>	<p>Riley – I liked Kindness day. I liked having the lights off on Activity Day</p>	<p>Paige – Being in charge of Room 16 and 17.</p>	<p>Ashton – Being good and going to the meetings.</p>
 <p>Val -</p>	<p>Things we have organised this year –</p> <p>World Compliment Day – Wednesday 1st March</p> <p>Bad Hair Day – Friday 24th March</p> <p>April Fools Joke Day – Friday 31st March</p> <p>Biggest Morning Tea – Wednesday 24th May</p> <p>Book Week Activities – Tuesday 15th August</p> <p>Footy Day – Friday 15th September</p> <p>World Kindness Day – Tuesday 14th November</p>		

Principal Awards

Room 1 - James: for actively participating and enjoying our special performance on Monday.

Room 6 - Daniel: for returning the iPad with a positive attitude.

Room 6 - Kayne: for asking for consent to put other children's belongings away prior to tidying the room.

Room 8 - Eli: for participating and interacting positively with his peers in a physical education session.

Room 8 - Moses: for reading a book in Tongan and translating it to English.

Room 9 - Kyson - For using his manners in the classroom without verbal prompts.

Room 9 - Tarrell: for enthusiastically joining in with whole class learning.

Room 9 - Shanelle: for consistently trying your best during every learning task.

Room 9 - Benjamin: for listening and following instructions in the Kitchen Garden during Fun Friday activities.

Room 18 - Mathew: for sowing initiative whilst at IGA by independently working.

Room 24 - Graham: For reading his graduation speech with confidence and verbal prompts and listening to all other graduation speeches .

Room 24 - Tyana: for reading her speech during graduation and listening to others during their speeches.

Room 24 - Tahlia: for reading her speech during graduation, with minimal prompts.

Room 24 - Brandon: for reading his speech at graduation and listening to others during their speeches.

SWPBS Awards - being Respectful

Room 18 - Antwone: by speaking to staff at IGA Red Cliffs in a mature and friendly manner.

Room 24 - Jayda: by recalling the reason why we should wear a hat and stay in the shade on hot days. Room 24 - Angus: for recalling why it is important to stay safe by wearing our hats, applying sunscreen and seeking shade from the sun.

Room 24 - Graham: for recalling the importance of Slip, Slop, Slap, Slide and Seek during summer months.

Some of our past award winners



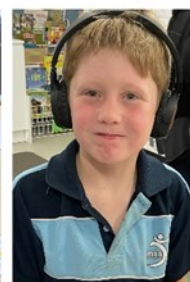
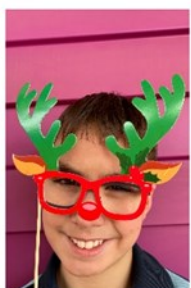
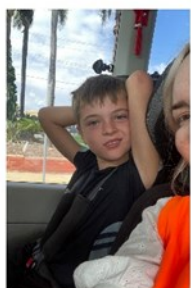
EARLY YEARS' NEWS

Room Two students participated in another week of swimming at the Mildura Waves. To conclude the sessions, the students were lucky enough to play in the waves – very exciting! During our Celebration topic this term, the students learnt about different cultural customs. In Week Eight, Early Years' students learnt about Asian/Pacific Celebrations. Room Two students made Hawaiian Pizza during a class cooking session. We all entered the Christmas Door Competition. Room 1 made a Christmas tree, Room 2 made a Christmas Grinch and room 16/17 made a green Christmas tree and Santa. The Early Years' Team would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. We would like to wish all students who are moving into the Upper Primary section all the best. We look forward to seeing your success in 2024.



UPPER PRIMARY YEARS' NEWS

Upper Primary students have been getting into the holiday spirit by doing Christmas activities such as crafting and the Christmas door competition. Students have been delving deeper into the world of mini beasts for their science studies, focusing on fascinating creatures such as scorpions and centipedes. Room 3 students have been beating the heat with some water play. They also enjoyed a bus ride with Bob to look at some local landmarks.



Room 5 Centipedes

Personal and Applied Learning NEWS

PAL students attended the Didgeribone incursion at school by artist Tjupurru. Students showed great engagement and enthusiasm by laughing, clapping and asking for more at the end of the performance. Photos below of Tjupurru and with students from the PAL team.



All PAL classrooms have been completing Christmas crafts, cooking and activities. Above photos show Alex's Christmas craft and Kai's Christmas card to staff that work with him.

SECONDARY/VPC NEWS

Students from VPC enjoyed attending industry visits. Recently, the students attended McDonald's for observations.



Students from Room 20 used the Smoothie Bike to make tasty smoothies as a snack. They chose between banana and honey, or mixed berry flavours.



Zara from Room 21 created lovely iced gingerbread cookies for teaching staff to enjoy.



December

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Lunch orders due in.	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Lunch orders due in.	13 Grade 6 Graduation	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Last Day of Term 4	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
.....SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.....						

January

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
.....SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.....						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
.....SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.....						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
.....SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.....						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
.....SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.....						
Staff re- turn. Pupil Free Day.	29 Pupil Free Day. Staff Planning Day.	30 First Day of Term 1 for stu- dents.	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.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL FEES OF \$160 PER STUDENT ARE NOW DUE.

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 Hip Pocket Workwear and are available from 13-15 Tenth Street, Mildura. Contact person is Anthony Mercieca. Phone number is (03) 50214506. 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 VPC. 2.50—3.00PM

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

