



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **Issue No.2 - 20 February 2015**
- **Message from the Principal**
- **School Re-structure**
- **School Canteen- Frozen Berry products**
- **S1 Assembly**
- **Camp Quality incursion- Monday, 16 February**
- **Meet the Teacher nights- Wednesday, 25 February and Thursday, 26 February**
- **In-term swimming- Tuesday, 3 March- Friday, 13 March**
- **Spelling, Grammar and Mental Maths student workbooks**
- **Car Parks and footpaths**
- **NAPLAN Assessment Programme 12-14 May**

Issue No.2 - 20 February 2015

Message from the Principal

School Re-structure

After a very busy start to the term, I can finally report, that barring any unforeseen surge in enrolments, that all students and staff are finally in the right place. It is comforting to know that we have a very resilient, flexible and understanding school community. Once again, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all concerned.

School Canteen- Frozen Berry products

As a result of the recent Hepatitis A scare, there have been a number of enquires from parents/carers regarding the school canteen's use of products that may contain frozen berries. I have confirmed



with canteen staff that we do not stock/have used any products that contain frozen berries in the school canteen this year. As such, our students have not been exposed to any products that may potentially put them 'at risk'. Thanks to all for your concern.

S1 Assembly

- **Student Attendance- Every day matters!**
- **KidSport- Enabling WA children to participate in community sport and recreation**
- **Trading Cards and electronic games/toys**
- **Support a Reader volunteers**
- **P&C Meeting- Wednesday, 4 March**
- **It's Movie Night!! Friday, 20 March**
- **Calling all local business**
- **Bayswater Morley Junior Football Club**
- **Modcrosse Program Starts Thursday 26 February 2015**
- **AUSKICK Program**

COMING EVENTS

Meet the Teacher night
(Kindy and Year 4-6)
Wednesday, 26 February

Meet the Teacher night
(Pre Primary and Year 1-3 and Year 3/4) -
Thursday, 26 February

Year 6 (S2) Assembly-
Friday, 27 February

Labour Day holiday-
Monday, 2 March

In-term Swimming commences- (PP- Year 6)
Tuesday, 3 March- Friday, 13 March inclusive.

P&C Meeting-
Wednesday, 4 March

Harmony Day- **Friday, 20 March**



Thanks to Ms Turvey's Year 6 class for hosting the first assembly of the year. On a day that also saw the largest performing arts act to visit Perth in 'The Giants' we were reminded of the wonderful cultural diversity present in our school. The assembly was most entertaining and informative, especially in respects to the origins of Chinese New Year. It is always hard being the 'first cab off the rank', but the students did an outstanding job. Well done to all. I was also impressed by the first up performance of our Student Councillors- Jasmine, Kiani, Ashton and Ben. I look forward to Mr Sollis/Mrs Alver's S2 assembly next Friday morning when we hand out the first 'Aussie of the Month' and Excellence Awards for 2015. Come one, come all.

Camp Quality incursion- Monday, 16 February

On Monday of this week, the Camp Quality puppets came to visit our school to perform for the students in Pre Primary to Year 3. The primary objective of the puppet show is to assist children and teachers learn ways in which to create a supportive school community for children affected by cancer, whether they are living with cancer themselves or have a family member living with cancer.



For the last 30 years, Camp Quality have been supporting children with cancer, their siblings and parents, throughout their journey. Each year the puppets see an audience of over 200,000. Since its inception, this fun, educational programme has helped over 4 million primary school children and teachers learn about the challenges of living with cancer and the importance of friendship.

Meet the Teacher nights- Wednesday, 25 February and Thursday, 26 February

Yesterday afternoon, all families should have received a Parent Information Book from each of your child(ren's) teacher in preparation for the 'Meet the Teacher meetings' next week. We will start on Wednesday, 25 February, with our Kindy and Year 4-6 groups and conclude the next evening, Thursday, 26 February, with our Pre Primary and Year 1-3 groups. Each evening will commence at 6.30pm and conclude at 7.00pm. Mrs Costello's Year 3/4 class will meet on the Wednesday night.



P&C Movie night- **Friday, 20 March**

P&C CONTACTS:

Main email:

pac@mpps.wa.edu.au

Canteen email:

canteen@mpps.wa.edu.au

Canteen orders:

Our Online Canteen

Messages for the Canteen or the P&C can be placed in class canteen baskets.

SCHOOL ETHOS

We at Maylands Peninsula Primary School are committed to:

Encouraging students to be successful learners.

The principles of developmental learning.

Life-long learning and reflective practices.

Developing attitudes and values of care and concern for self, others and the environment.

Maintaining a safe environment for all.

Building partnerships with students, parents and the community.

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If any parents/carers are unable to make the meetings, please feel free to make an alternative time to meet with your child's classroom teacher.

In-term swimming- Tuesday, 3 March- Friday, 13 March



Earlier this week all families would have received some information regarding the arrangements for In-term swimming for our Pre Primary to Year 6 students which is taking place in Weeks 5 and 6

of this term. I would encourage all parents/carers to read the information carefully in order to have a thorough understanding of the schedule and arrangements being put in place. The cost for this year's In-term swimming will be \$40.00 per participant. A reminder to all parents/carers that this charge covers bus hire and pool entry only as the Department of Education covers the cost of the swimming lessons themselves. Please forward payment and swimming forms to your child's classroom teacher or directly to the office at your earliest possible convenience. If up-front payment is of concern to some families, a payment plan can be entered into with Ms Madden in the school office to ensure that all students have the opportunity to participate.

A reminder also that, due to increased classes, we are not able to have all students back at school for the 2.30pm early close during these weeks. As a result, there will be no early close for entire school (including Kindy students) on Tuesday, 3 March and Tuesday, 10 March. School will finish at 3.00pm on these days.

Like reading and writing, being able to swim is an essential life skill. There is an expectation that all students will participate in In-term swimming lessons regardless of age or ability. Please see Mrs Alver if you have any questions or concerns regarding the swimming lessons themselves.

Spelling, Grammar and Mental Maths student workbooks

Our NAPLAN data continues to show an improvement in our Spelling and Grammar results. As a result of this, we will continue to use two student workbooks to support our whole school approach to Literacy. Our 2014 NAPLAN data proves that they are an important part of that focus.



All students had their relevant Grammar book listed on their 2015 Personal Items List. Some year levels also had spelling books and/or

Richard and Sandy Catlin
boshtimber.com.au
Ph: 9309 2991

mental maths books listed as well while others did not. This is due to the fact that some teachers place students on ability level if they can cross set amongst a few classes rather than place all students on the same book regardless of ability. Where cross setting is not appropriate, students work at their year level. Please see below as to what your child will need to purchase so teachers can assign them their relevant workbooks.

We are not allowed to photocopy the books so each child needs their own. Students new to the school will be tested to enable teachers to give them a book at their appropriate ability level. If a child's spelling ability is beyond the books, the money will go towards subscriptions to online extension spelling programmes.

All students will be using their age appropriate Grammar book. We are continuing with the Grammar workbook from 2014 as it is aligned to the Australian Curriculum.

We look forward to receiving payment so we can distribute the workbooks to your children as soon as possible. See below for each book's cost.

Year 3 and Year 4 – New Wave Spelling only (\$10.00).

Years 5 and Year 6 – New Wave Spelling (\$10.00) AND New Wave Mental Maths OR Extension Maths Mental Maths Book 1 Lower Secondary (\$12.00) = \$22.00

Please see Mrs Johnson if you require any further clarification regarding the student workbooks.

Car Parks and footpaths



Car parking around school areas is always a major source of concern, particularly around the peak times before and after school. We have large numbers of students who walk or ride bikes to and from school each day and the safety of our students is paramount. Please be extremely careful when entering car park areas. Small children often cannot be seen when walking behind cars through car park areas. Furthermore, please observe the 40km/h limit in place around the school from 7.30-9.00am and again from 2.30-4.00pm.

I would like to also remind parents/carers that the car park at the front of the school office is for staff parking only and that drivers must remain in the vehicle at the 2min set down/pick up zone along the entrance to Kelvin Street rather than use this area as a quick car parking space. As there have been a number of complaints from local

residents, the area around the school will be patrolled on an on-going basis by Rangers from the City of Bayswater, as too, the 'No Parking' areas along the Kelvin Street verge. Please observe the speed limits and drop off/pick up zone rules, not only for the sake of your wallets, but more importantly for the sake of our students and their families.

Furthermore, I would ask all members of the school community to exercise patience when moving off school site. Often, the footpath becomes quite congested with parents/carers with toddlers/strollers, students with school bags, children on scooters and bikes etc all trying to make their way home at the same time. Please be courteous and respect each other's rights to be on the dual use path and everyone will get home in due course with a smile on his/her face.

NAPLAN Assessment Programme 12-14 May

Yesterday afternoon, parents/carers of students in Year 3 and Year 5 will have received a brochure containing information about the 2015 National Assessment Programme – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) which takes place in Week 4 of next term commencing Tuesday, 12 May. NAPLAN assesses skills



in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children. An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents/carers can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern.

Student Attendance- Every day matters!

Year Level	% of Cohort Attending School Regularly in 2013	% of Cohort Attending School Regularly in 2014
Kindergarten	69%	67%
Pre-Primary	77%	73%
Year 1	78%	84%
Year 2	68%	83%
Year 3	55%	80%
Year 4	53%	87%
Year 5	31%	81%
Year 6	42%	78%
Year 7	29%	81%

On the second of our School Development days earlier this term, Mrs Alver was able to present to staff some quite pleasing statistics regarding student attendance in 2014.

Regular attendance is defined by the Department of Education as attending school for 90-100% of the possible days of the school year. When it falls below this level, it indicates a student may be 'at risk' of not reaching their full potential.

As can be seen in the table above, the low percentage rates of children who regularly attended school in 2013 was of some concern, particularly in the senior years. However, the marked increase in regular attendance in 2014 was most pleasing. Having a day 'off school' a fortnight, which is the cut off point for regular attendance, doesn't sound like much. However, this equates to four weeks over the course of the year. This is four weeks of learning that each student will never be able to get back and will ultimately affect his/her academic potential. On taking a closer look at the nature of the student absence, a significant portion was due to family vacations. Whilst I understand the attractiveness of going away for a week to Bali or interstate during the school term to take advantage of cheap air fares and accommodation, this absence from school impacts on your child's learning.

Furthermore, I would like to remind parents/carers that you are obliged to provide an explanation for any student absence throughout the year. After the morning roll has been entered, parents/carers will receive an SMS from the school at approximately 10.00am, and again at 12.00pm when the roll is entered for the afternoon session, to inform you of your child's non-attendance. This prompt will be a reminder to make contact with the school to provide a reason for your child's absence. This can be in written or verbal form directly to your child's classroom teacher or through email/phone contact with the school office. Most reasons are quite valid- sickness or medical appointments. However, some reasons provided by parents/carers- such as having the day off with the family to watch a movie to celebrate a birthday or going into Perth to buy clothes are unreasonable explanations- and will be noted accordingly on each child's attendance record- as these activities can take place outside school hours.

KidSport- Enabling WA children to participate in community sport and recreation

With the football, netball and tee-ball season almost upon us, it is timely to remind parents/carers about the financial support offered through the Department of Sport and Recreation's KidSport programme. KidSport enables Western Australian children to participate in community sport and recreation, no matter their financial circumstances. Parents/carers who have children aged 5-18 years can

apply for financial assistance to contribute towards club fees of up to \$200.00 per eligible child. The fees will go directly to the registered KidSport clubs through their participating local government- in our case the City of Bayswater.

While the primary objective of KidSport is to ensure all Western Australian children can participate in sport and recreation clubs, its secondary objective is to engage these children and their families in the community.

Click on the link below to be taken to the 'Information for Parents' page on the KidSport website

<http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/funding/individuals/kidsport/information-for-parents> to determine whether your circumstances enable you and your family to be eligible for financial support.

Trading Cards and electronic games/toys

In recent days, staff have had to sort out playground disputes over trading cards and electronic games/toys. As such, I would like remind parents/carers that we would prefer these items to be left at home as occasionally children give in to temptation and may take/damage something that is not theirs to begin with. These items are great to have, but are best reserved for the weekend or after school play dates.



Support a Reader volunteers



Mrs Johnson is keen to hear from anyone that would like to be a part of the very successful 'Support-a-Reader' programme that we have in operation in our school. If you have a few hours a week, and you would like to help out, please see Mrs Johnson in the office.

P&C Meeting- Wednesday, 4 March

A reminder to all parents/carers that the first P&C meeting for the year will be taking place on Wednesday, 4 March in the staffroom commencing at 7.00pm.

It's Movie Night!! Friday, 20 March

Bring your blanket and a picnic to our special screening of "Despicable Me 2"

This is a great opportunity to meet other families at the school while raising funds for our kids. Tickets are only \$5.00 per person. Feel free to bring other friends and family too! Screening starts at sunset (approx. 7.00pm) gates open at 6.00pm.



Tickets will be available on the evening but we encourage everyone to purchase beforehand to ensure quicker entry at the gate. An order form will be sent out to all families in the next week. There will be popcorn, fairy floss, sno-cones and glow-necklaces available to purchase on the evening. This event is being organised by the P&C. We look forward to seeing you on the night.

Calling all local business



Looking for an opportunity to expose your business to a captive audience of potential customers? For just \$100 you can purchase a 30 second advert that will be shown multiple times before the screening of our movie. Plus you will also be supporting your local school. Contact Erin on 0419 902 493 to book this prime

advertising space before it's gone...spaces filling fast!!!!

Bayswater Morley Junior Football Club

Baysie Bears Registration Day will be held at Houghton Park

Sunday, 22 February 2015 - 1pm to 3pm.

For any further enquires contact Marc Wiriadisastra on

0437 850 958 or visit the website <http://www.bayswaterjfc.com/>

Modcrosse Program Starts Thursday 26 February 2015

Bayswater Lacrosse Club Registration now open.

Contact April on 0415 967 320

AUSKICK Program

Visit www.playaflwa.com.au to find your local club. Registration Day Sunday, 22 February 2015.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

To include items in the school newsletter contact Selina Millar by email

Selina.Millar@education.wa.edu.au

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