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Newsletter Entry- Issue No 4. – 20 March 2015

Message from the Principal

EDU Dance

Yesterday afternoon, families would have received a note about Edu Dance arrangements for 2015 and may have noticed that the cost has increased this year. By way of explanation, over the last few years, the school has covered the costs of



venue hire and bus transport for rehearsal purposes. This was a deliberate decision by the school's Finance Committee in order to keep the costs manageable for our school community so that all students could access the Edu Dance programme. In 2014, this 'hidden cost' for the two Edu Dance nights and the Funky Fitness concert for Kindy and Pre-Primary students amounted to approximately \$6000.00.

However, with a rather tight school budget, the school is unable to subsidise this cost to the same extent and therefore must pass on some of the cost to parents/carers. The Finance Committee has set the cost at \$45.00 per participant to cover the cost of the nine lessons, venue hire for the day rehearsal and evening performance over two nights, and the cost of bus transport to and from the Morley Recreation Centre. Furthermore, this cost also covers entry for family and friends into the venue on each night.

- **Tiny Tots Tennis and Mega Tennis**

COMING EVENTS

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

Purple Haze Day- **Tuesday, 24 March**

Year 4 (S5) Assembly- **Friday, 27 March**

Faction Swimming Carnival (Year 4, 5 and 6) - **Wednesday, 1 April**

End of Term One- **Thursday, 2 April**

Term Two commences (students) - **Tuesday, 21 April**

P&C AGM- **Wednesday, 22 April**

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.

SPONSORS



As always, if parents/carers are unable to meet this cost in the one payment, you are able to pay by the week or in several instalments over the course of the term. Please see Ms Madden or Mrs Millar in the school office if you would like to take up this payment plan option.

Interim Reports



Interim Reports and Pre Primary On-entry assessments will be sent home next Thursday, 26 March. Please feel free to make contact with your child's classroom teacher directly or via the school office if there is any aspect of the On Entry or

Interim Report that you would like to discuss in more detail.

School Board Report

On Monday, 9 March, the School Board met for the first time this year.

Paul Andrijich brought the Board up-to-date with the school's operations including the transition to the Student Centred Funding Model, the loss of a place in the 2015-16 National Chaplaincy Programme, and the development of the iSTAR model of Connected Practice for teaching staff.

Narelle Alver presented the highly detailed MPPS 2014 Annual Report for comment and feedback. As in previous years - the report provides interesting reading about the myriad of activities that form day-to-day life at our school. Please click on the link below if you would like to access the 2014 Annual Report from the school's website.

<http://www.mpps.wa.edu.au/upload/pages/publications2015/annual-report-2014.pdf?1426564934>

Narelle also touched on the 2015 enrolment data. Nearly a third of our students are born overseas and almost half speak a language in addition to English making MPPS a truly universal school.

During the meeting the Board was shown the 2014 NAPLAN results. These are now available to the public on the *My School* web site. (www.myschool.edu.au)

NAPLAN stands for the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy. Students sit the national tests in grades 3, 5, 7 and 9. The tests are designed to check student skills in four broad areas: reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.



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If you make time to look at www.myschool.edu.au you will see that the 2014 MPPS Year 7 students achieved outstanding results across all learning areas.

Whilst the results for Year 3s and 5s are not as strong as the Year 7s, they show steady progress in their skills. Look at the 'Student Gain' item to see how the students in our school who sat the test in both Year 3 and 5 are moving upwards towards a higher band.

The NAPLAN results provide a snapshot in time for government, schools and the community to determine how Australian students are progressing towards meeting important educational outcomes. No test is able to perfectly measure a student's level of achievement but these snapshots taken over regular intervals can provide useful indications.

The *My School* data indicates that the longer a student stays at Maylands Peninsula Primary School, the better the educational outcome will be... and this is very pleasing.

Happy Harmony Day - enjoy the celebrations.

Rosemary Lynch
School Board Chair

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

We had a relatively trouble-free experience for the 500 or so students who participated over the two weeks of In-term Swimming at Bayswater Waves.

Swimming certificates were handed out earlier this week by teachers. Well done to all.



Swimming Carnival- Wednesday, 1 April

Earlier this week, students in Year 4-6 would have received a note from Mrs Trend regarding the Faction Swimming Carnival taking place at Bayswater Waves on Thursday, 1 April. Please forward the permission slip to your child's classroom teacher or the school office by Friday, 27 March. We had a wonderful morning out last year and I am looking forward to another this year.

Harmony Day





Our school motto of ‘Learning Together and Embracing Diversity’ was clearly evident today. It has been an absolute delight moving around the school to see how different classes have celebrated Harmony Day. I saw some fabulous Easter Island heads that Pre-Primary 2 had created out of plasticine and had the great pleasure of sampling a variety of foods at the many multicultural lunches that were held across the school. I would like to thank Mrs White and Mrs Doan for the wonderful multicultural Breakfast Club yesterday morning and all staff members for their support.

In her book, ‘Whoever you are’, Mem Fox highlights the message that every day all over Australia, children are laughing and crying, playing and learning, eating and sleeping. They may not look the same or speak the same language, but inside, they are just like you.

I will leave you with some ‘Words of wisdom’ from some of the students in Pre-Primary 2 who have been reading this story as part of Harmony Day activities.

Riana- ‘We are all the same with our own country. We have smiles that are all the same’.

Artem- ‘Some people have the same skin. We all have the same heart’.

Ashwath- Our skin may be different. Our bones are the same. Our hearts are the same’.

Just about sums up what Harmony Day is all about.





Pre Primary 2 Explore Chile



Pre Primary 2 explored Chile for Harmony Day and made plasticine models of Easter Island Moai statues.

Starlight Foundation- Purple Haze Day- Tuesday, 24 March

Living with illness or injury can cause enormous strain in the lives of children and their families. The pain, loneliness



and isolation that sick children feel dominates their lives, and they often miss out on normal experiences that healthy children take for granted. The Starlight Foundation provides programmes integral to the total care of seriously ill children – while health professionals focus on treating the illness, Starlight is there to lift the spirits of the child, giving them the opportunity to laugh, play and be a child again. In order to support the great work the Starlight Foundation does in the community, the Student Council has organised 'Purple Haze Day' for next Tuesday, 24 March. Last year we raised \$521.00. So wear purple to school on the day and bring in your gold coin donation.

Movie Night



It is all systems go for the Movie night tonight. Tickets are \$5 which are available for purchase at the door. Doors

open 6pm, movie starts at 7pm. A reminder that all students must be accompanied by a parent/carer, as unaccompanied students will not be permitted to enter the venue. There will be drinks, popcorn, fairy floss and snow cones available to purchase. The proceeds of this fundraising event will go towards the school's Athletics subscription.

Garden area reinvigoration

In the early years of the school, we had a very successful school garden project in operation. The garden was used to grow vegetables, produce worm juice and we even had some chickens. However, over the course of time this area was being utilised less and less by the school and has fallen into a state of disrepair with the only remnants of the once vibrant project being the potted plants that are in the caged enclosure alongside JB3.

Earlier this year I was approached by some school community members about the prospect of re-invigorating these garden areas to return them to viable garden spaces. As a consequence, a Garden Committee has been established comprising school and community members to determine an action plan.

The first step in the Action Plan was to clean out the caged area alongside JB3 of general rubbish and debris in order to use this space to grow seedlings and plants. I would like to thank Mrs Kristie Metcalf for her work in completing this task on a very hectic day earlier this term. The next stage is to sell the plants that were in this cage to the school community together with Worm Juice from our worm farms. The Worm Juice will be available for sale at the bargain basement price of \$1.00 per litre and the plants will be well priced also. The first opportunity to get your hands on these products will be at the assembly on Friday, 20 March. Please come on down with your loose change and take home some plants and Worm Juice to spruce up the home garden as we move into Spring.

P&C Meeting postponed-Wednesday, 1 April

The P&C meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 1 April that appears on the Term One Planner has been postponed until Wednesday, 22 April to coincide with the Annual General meeting.

Canteen News



Winter Menu & Online Canteen

Just a reminder that the canteen menu will change at the beginning of Term 2 to the Winter Menu. The Winter Menu will be sent home with students towards the end of next week.

Don't forget that you have the option of ordering via Our Online Canteen www.onlinecanteen.com.au. Once you have set up an account you can order your child's lunch up to two weeks in advance or until 9.15 am on the day that the order is required. Payment is accepted via credit card or Paypal. Our Online Canteen can be accessed via the website, and they have recently released an app for both Android and iPhone. It's a convenient and easy way to organise your child's canteen orders.

Canteen Voluteers Needed

Our canteen is staffed mainly by volunteers, and we need your help. We are lucky to have a canteen that operates 5 days a week, but we need assistance from the school community for this to happen. The Canteen is run by the P&C, operates with no school or government funding and relies solely upon sales and the generosity of volunteers to continue to operate.

We are in need of volunteers for all days of the week. Even if you can only help for a couple of hours, your assistance would be appreciated. Volunteers are provided with morning tea and lunch.

Call in and see Helen or Melinda or call our canteen on 9473 4111 to express your interest.

Uniform Shop News

As the cooler weather approaches the Uniform shop is preparing to send off the pre paid special orders for the winter weather proof jackets. Cost of the jacket is \$50 and the order will be placed close of business 2 April 2015.



If you would like to order a jacket, please see Trish in the Uniform shop. Sample sizes are available during opening hours on Tuesday and Thursday.

The jacket is *not compulsory* and is offered in addition to our zipper jacket which is available all year round for \$25.

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) services at Hillcrest Primary School

The provision of the Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) services at Hillcrest Primary School has recently been tendered. Helping Hands Network have won the tender and will be working in partnership with Hillcrest Primary School to manage and operate the Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) Programme. We are currently working with the Early Childhood Regulatory Unit (ECRU) to endeavor to have the service operating onsite from the 20 April 2015.

We are aware that several families from the Maylands Peninsula Primary School currently attend the OSHC programme at Hillcrest Primary School. We are intending to provide transport, for a small fee, for families who wish to access the programme at Helping Hands Hillcrest. Enrolment packs are available from accounts@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au or from the Maylands Peninsula school office.

Information sessions have been organised for parents who wish to hear more about the Helping Hands Network and how the service is operated. Helping Hands staff will be at Hillcrest Primary School to meet with parents and for questions on Thursday, 26 March from 3.00-6.00pm, and after the morning assembly on Friday, 27 March. Furthermore, an after-hours presentation will held on Thursday, 26 March commencing at 6.00pm.

For any queries, or if you do not receive your enrolment information please contact Helping Hands Network on 1300 612 462.

Tiny Tots Tennis and Mega Tennis

Holiday programmes and weekly classes for children aged 3-12 years. For more information contact 9471 8491 or visit the website tinytotstenniswa.com.au

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

To include items in the school newsletter contact Selina Millar by email Selina.Millar@education.wa.edu.au

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