



Southie Scoop

POSITIVE EDUCATION SCHOOL

Friday 8th March, 2024

“Mildura South Primary School acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land as we choose to bring our best selves to school and love the work that we do”

Dates for your diary

Term 1

30th January – 28th March, 2024

March

11th

Labour Day Public Holiday

27th

Festa Della Italiana e
Specialiste

28th

Last Day of Term 1
2.30pm FINISH



Mildura South PS



(03) 5023 2148



msps.vic.edu.au



593 Deakin Ave, Mildura



Principal's News

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Festa della Italiana e Specialiste

Buongiorno a tutti!

The Festa della Italiana e Specialiste is back again!!! This year we invite our Southie famiglie on **Wednesday 27th March (Mercoledì 27 Marzo) at 5:30pm - 7pm** to join our Specialiste teachers and staff. They will run fun, creative activities for you and your famiglia to join in and enjoy!

There will be free sausages and gelati for all of us to enjoy together.

Please mark this off in your family calendar as we really want to celebrate with you on this occasion.

A note will be sent home next week about the food that will be provided on the evening. Please return your note before the due date if you don't want to miss out.

Mangia! Mangia! Mangia!

See you there!

Ci vediamo :)

Parent Club Fundraiser

Thank you to the families who are ordering Hot Cross Buns. All students have taken order forms home. Please return your order form and money by 9am on Wednesday March 22nd



Principal's News

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Easter Raffle

Thank you to families and carers who are returning the Easter Raffle books. All books are due back by Wednesday, March 27.

NAPLAN

Information regarding 2024 NAPLAN has been shared on Compass for families with students in Grades 3 and 5.

Please check your news feed.

Students have also brought home a hard copy letter outlining the NAPLAN information.

Zooper Doopers

Zooper Doopers were sold today at recess. Our Student Leadership Team will be selling Zooper Doopers every Friday afternoon at recess time - 50c each.

School Review Parent and Carer Forum

On **Wednesday April 17 at 9am in the Staff room**, Parents are invited to meet with our School Reviewer Mr David Allibon. This is an important part of the School Review process, where David will have the opportunity to ask our Families and Carers questions and seek to understand your perspective as a member of the Mildura South Primary School Community.



Principal's News

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I will be very grateful to anyone who makes the time to present at this Forum. Your voice, thoughts and insights are an important part of our capacity to continue in providing the best learning environment and education for our students.

Wellbeing for Breakfast

A successful Community Event took place last Tuesday morning at The Gateway Verde. Professor Lea Waters spoke to approximately 90 members of the Mildura Community on the benefits of prioritising Wellbeing in the workplace. Sunraysia Community Health and Mildura South Primary School partnered for this event.

I would like to thank the following people who worked tirelessly to bring this event to the community: Simon Jackson, Tate Belej, Lydia Sinclair, Jacinta Yetman and David Hall.

I would also like to thank the businesses who sponsored this event: The Gateway Verde, Sunraysia Community Health, Barry Plant Real Estate, Mildura Finance Limited, Aligned Leisure and Woolworths Centre Plaza.

Professor Lea Waters

Last Tuesday Professor Lea Waters worked with the Wellbeing Team to continue building our work in teaching Wellbeing at the point of need of each student.



Principal's News

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Lea worked with the Wellbeing Team to continue building our work in teaching Wellbeing at the point of need of each student.

Lea worked with Teams in their planning and collaborated with the Wellbeing Team on forward planning.

I would like to thank Professor Lea Waters for her commitment to Mildura South Primary School and to the Mildura Community.

School Hours

Classroom doors open at **8.45am** for all year levels.

Dismissal times:

Foundation - Grade 2 (along with siblings in Grades 3-6) **3.15pm**

Grades 3-6 **3.30pm**

Please continue to use the House Colour gates for entry and exit of school grounds:

Front Gate: **Mungo (Red) and Kulkyne (Yellow)**

Gate near the School Crossing: **Darling (Green)**

Albert Street Gate: **Murray (Blue)**



Principal's News

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School Uniform

Thank you so much for the fantastic effort you have made ensuring that your children are in the appropriate school uniform. The uniforms assist in developing a sense of identity and pride in our school.

There are a number of students wearing very short skorts and sport shorts that are not an appropriate length for school. Please ensure that the school shorts and skorts that your child is wearing is appropriate for school. I am happy to support families with this by allowing green or black school shorts to be worn.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Grade 6 Shirts

We are offering a second opportunity to purchase Grade 6 Shirts. The cut-off date is Friday March 8. This date will guarantee they will be ready for collection before the beginning of Term 2.

Black School Shoes

Big W has kindly donated a range of black school shoes to our MSPS students. These shoes will be available to all families who come in, try them on and then take them home for free.

The shoes can be found in the lost property area outside of the PERMA room. Sizes range from little children's size 10 up to older students' size 2.

Time to access the shoes: 8.45-9.00am and 3.15-3.30pm. Please help yourself as no staff will be present.



Principal's News

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Appointments to see the Teachers

Teachers welcome open communication with all of our families. Positive Contacts will continue this year where you can expect to be contacted by your children's classroom teachers, celebrating successes.

We know that there are times when families need to speak to Teachers so that questions can be clarified, and concerns resolved. Before school is a busy time when Teachers are connecting with students and ensuring that everything is in place to begin the day calmly and successfully. In order for Teachers to give Parents the necessary time we ask that families make appointments with their Classroom Teacher.

Singing for fun, health and development!!

Fiona Beyer is, again, offering singing lessons at the school this year, during school hours. Lessons are weekly, half hour sessions in the music room on a Tuesday morning.

Singing is a super fun and feel-good activity – it develops confidence - improves mood – builds friendships - soothes the nervous system - strengthens and clears airways - assists learning and brain function – and improves speech and memory - along with many other benefits.

Any interested family is encouraged to contact Fiona for more information -

Ph: 0407 876 874

Email: fionatassone@hotmail.com



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Tennis Mad

If your child is interested in tennis, Bill from Tennis Mad runs sessions at school each Thursday morning at 8.00am. If you would like your child to participate, registration can be done online.

Parent Contributions

Mildura South Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Mildura South's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students.

Within our school previous support has allowed us to update our texts and readers to reflect current interests and passions, supply materials and resources to develop our mathematical knowledge and problem-solving skills, purchase materials to support the creativity and exploration in our Arts and Science programs and ensure that all our students have access to equipment to develop into active healthy children.

We invite you to support our school by making a Curriculum Contribution so that we can continue to provide opportunities for all our students.

Please contact the office if you would like to make a contribution or need further information.



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School Lunches

The school is supported by Cowards Cakes to supply lunches for students on Fridays. Orders are required to be submitted on the Flexischools App by 2pm the Thursday before the lunch order on Friday.

Brain Food

We would like to encourage the students to bring brain food to school to graze on throughout the day. We ask that this be healthy options as junk food does not assist with nutrition or concentration. Please clarify with your children's classroom teachers if you are not sure what to provide.

School Assembly

Our School Assembly takes place each **Monday at 2.40pm** in the School Gym. The Grade 6 students will continue to lead the School Assembly each week. A link for our School Assembly will be posted on Compass each week for you to access if you are unable to attend.

Digital Newsletter

The School Newsletter will continue to be distributed digitally on the school Compass, the School Website and Facebook sites. If you wish to receive a hard copy of the School Newsletter, please let your classroom teacher know.



Principal's News

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Uniform Stall

FREE

On the Italian night on Wednesday 27th March from 5:30-6:45pm, there will be a uniform stall outside of the PERMA Room. There will be school uniforms and black shoes to give away for FREE! Some are pre loved, some are new.. but everything is clean and freshly washed. Uniforms will be organised in to sizes on tables for ease and range from size 4 up to size 16. We encourage all of families to come along and take whatever they need.





Parent

CLUB

Mildura South Primary School Parents Club meets each Friday 2-3pm (as able) at the onsite Parent Hub. We are currently looking for new or existing parents to join the team this year.

The Parent Club is a group of interested parents that make up a communication link between the school, the school council and the school community – to establish strong partnerships between the groups, and create an encouraging, educational and fun school environment for young learners.

If any new/existing parents would be interested in joining the parents club this year, could you contact the school front office.



Visible Wellbeing at Mildura South Primary School



Welcome to the 2024 school year

As a Visible Wellbeing Learning Specialist I will be supporting our school community in continuing to deepen and embed Visible Wellbeing at MSPS. I will be a grade 2 teacher, 3 days per week and carrying out Visible Wellbeing duties, coaching and Professional Development specific to my role for 2 days per week.

Some of my duties will include

- Fostering Visible Wellbeing across the school.
- Fostering Visible Wellbeing in the community through community events, with a Visible Wellbeing focus.
- Sourcing and providing resources for Visible Wellbeing lessons.
- Continuing to develop a scope and sequence for teaching Visible Wellbeing lessons
- Planning and coaching with teams from F-6 to create Visible Wellbeing lessons for whole class and guided sessions
- And more

Please come and see me if you have any questions about Visible Wellbeing

Tate Belej





Strength

Professor Lea Waters

Teamwork

How might students connect with this strength:

Working well as a member of a group or team

Being loyal

Doing one's share

Family Activity

Laughter Library

Professor Lea Waters

Purpose

To boost your mood by changing your brain chemistry.

How does this help your wellbeing?

When times are tough you may not feel you have much to laugh about, but if you hunt out things that make you laugh you can re-charge your brain with happy chemicals, making problem solving more effective. Helping you to see the bigger picture and building up your ability to cope with challenges. Laughter really is the best medicine.



Activity for all family members

1. Give a fun research assignment to each of your children to look for and find 10 things that make them laugh.
2. Create a 'Laughter Library' of things that make your family laugh. Look at one thing from the library each night to have a laugh together as a family. You can also use the library at those times when members of the family are facing challenges.

Parents this is a really fun thing to sit down and do with your children. You'll get to laugh along the way, and you'll get a window into your child's mind and what it is that makes them chuckle. Later, when you or your children are having a stressful moment, you can pull something from the library that will make you all laugh.

NAPLAN Week is almost here

Dr Justin Coulson

What NAPLAN is

NAPLAN stands for the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy; a nationwide standardised test that almost every student in Grades 3, 5, 7, and 9 are about to sit. Its purpose is to provide information about how education programs are working, areas for improvement, and which schools need support in the teaching and learning of literacy and numeracy. Some critics argue that it doesn't do this particularly well... but that's beyond the scope of this discussion.

What NAPLAN does well

When it works well, NAPLAN does three things:

1. NAPLAN results enable the identification of problems in the school system. And they point to places where education needs to improve.

For example, NAPLAN results have shown us education gaps for indigenous students, and for students in disadvantaged schools. We knew those gaps existed. But now we know the scope and range.

1. Literacy and numeracy results are made transparent at a national, state and territory, and school level. We now know that states and territories have different levels of achievement when they are compared on a like-for-like basis which NAPLAN allows.
2. NAPLAN shows us education trends over time.

What NAPLAN doesn't do well

NAPLAN doesn't give you a useful guide on how your child is doing academically. The test is done in March and we receive the results in the late part of the year. If you want to know how your child is doing, talk to their teacher. Great teachers can give you detailed information today about your child's progress.

NAPLAN doesn't give you any information about the quality of your child's character. It doesn't tell you anything about your child's ability to work in a team, to problem-solve, to show compassion, to be creative, engaged or resilient. It's not about your child's talents.

NAPLAN also gives us no information about the school your child attends in terms of approaches to discipline, school culture, school contribution to community, or the way it encourages students in areas not covered by NAPLAN.

In some cases it has been reported that NAPLAN, while providing data, doesn't ultimately lead to governments providing schools (or parents) with the resources needed when issues arise.

What you can do

Based on everything I've outlined above, you'll note that much of NAPLAN's focus is oriented towards education at a school, regional, state, and national level. While there is *some* individual focus, it's not really an individual assessment tool. It's more about how the school, the state, and the country are doing. Therefore, I suggest parents keep the following in mind:

- Don't make NAPLAN a big deal. You barely even need to talk about it with your child
- Don't offer rewards to your child for doing well on NAPLAN. Research evidence shows this adds pressure, builds anxiety, and reduces children's creativity, motivation, and interest in real learning. (One mum I spoke to wondered if bribing her child with a puppy would be helpful. It's not.)
- Don't buy practice tests for NAPLAN. Your child doesn't need to rehearse for NAPLAN
- Don't worry about NAPLAN results. Leave that to the school

Instead, you might want to try the following:

- Do show an interest in your child's education, regardless of whether NAPLAN is on or not
- Do encourage your child to read *every single day*. Read to them. Read with them. Have them read alone. And do this regardless of whether NAPLAN is on or not
- Do have your child participate in sports, music, art, drama, and other enrichment activities to the degree that you have the time and money for them – regardless of whether NAPLAN is on or not
- Do give your child plenty of unstructured (screen-free) time to simply be kids – especially when NAPLAN is on

What your child can do

More than anything, your child will benefit from not being particularly interested in or bothered by NAPLAN. Make life as close to normal as possible for your child.

PLEASE – remember:

Your child's NAPLAN score is not an indicator of your child's value, your child's potential, or your child's worthiness. It's just a number. And it's more meaningful to the school system than it is to you or your child.

When NAPLAN rolls around, treat it like a small, gentle wave at the beach. It rolls up the sand. It leaves a small, temporary mark. And then it disappears back into the ocean.



REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

Late Arrivals/Early Departures

Our school day begins at 9.00am and finishes at 3.15 (Prep-Gr2) and 3.30pm (Gr3-6). We understand that sometimes school time appointments are unavoidable but ask that these be kept to a minimum. It is **COMPULSORY** for all students to sign in or out at the front office.

Each and every occasion requires a parent/guardian to come into the office to collect or drop off their student and to be signed in or out via the Compass kiosk.

It is the school's Duty of Care to know the whereabouts of a student at all times.

Absences

If your child is absent it is a requirement that a parent or guardian informs the school. This can be done by leaving a message on the school phone (follow the prompts), entering an Attendance Note on Compass or by notifying the classroom teacher. If your child is absent for an extended period please inform the classroom teacher or school before they leave.



REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

Medication

If your child requires medication whilst at school, the medication needs to be taken to the office by a parent or guardian. The school can only administer medication if we receive it from an adult and have a written authority to do so. Dosage and times need to be clearly labelled on the medication. **Children should not have medication in their bag.**

Drop Box

A reminder for students and parents that any money or notes that come to the office should be placed in the Drop Box in the foyer. The Drop Box is locked and will be checked daily by the office staff.

Change of Details

It is extremely important to notify us if you have changed your address or phone number. **We MUST be able to contact parents at all times (particularly in the case of an emergency).**



REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

Compass

Our School uses Compass for all communications to parents and staff. Please speak to the office staff if you don't have Compass Log In details.

Annual Privacy Reminder for our School Community (2024)

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website

http://www.msps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Privacy_Collection_Notice2022.pdf. For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools'

Privacy Policy – information for parents. This information is also available in nine community languages: Amharic, Arabic, Dari, Gujarati, Mandarin, Somali, Sudanese, Turkish, Urdu and Vietnamese.

Child Safety Standards



School Crossing

Last year we had the ongoing concern of adults and children not using the School Crossings when crossing Deakin Avenue and the service road (often while holding a toddler or pushing a pram and holding the hand of a student at the same time).

The mandated Child Safety Standards require that all members of our school community use the School Crossings on both roads to ensure that all of our students arrive safely to school and leave safely from school.

You may think that because you are with your child crossing Deakin Avenue and/or the service road outside of the School Crossing that you can ensure their safety - this is not the case. If a Parent chooses to cross Deakin Avenue and the service road without using the School Crossings, they are teaching their children unsafe behaviours and modelling this unsafe behaviour for other students who may follow.

I would like to thank each of you who do use the School Crossings correctly as you help me not only keep your children safe but all the children who attend Mildura South Primary.

If I observe any adult not using the School Crossings, I am obliged to speak to that person and support that person in adhering to our Child Safety Standards and use the School Crossings.

Staff Car Park



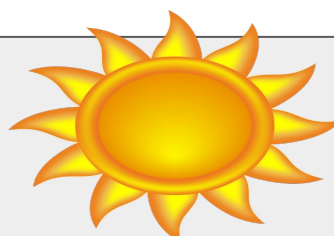
Please do not use the gates and walk through the Staff Carpark. Cars are coming and going all the time and it is not safe.

Child Safety Standards



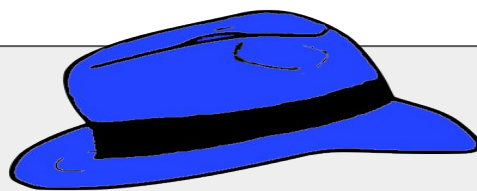
Playing on the Playground after School

No children are to play on any of the Play Equipment after school. I am grateful to the Parents who assist staff after school by asking their children to leave the Play Equipment, particularly the Grade 1/Foundation Play Equipment at the front of the school.



Hot Weather

When the temperature is 36 degrees or higher, we will be having a 'hot day timetable'. Having lunch earlier in the day sometimes allows the students to have an opportunity to get some fresh air before the heat.



Hats

Mildura South Primary is a SunSmart School, and it is important that all students wear a hat when playing outside in Terms 1 and 4.

Thank you to the Parents who have made sure their child has a hat and it is named clearly.

Children without a hat remain in the shade during outside play time.



We would like to take this opportunity to say a big Thank you to Jo Chisari of Barry Plant Real Estate' for his generous donation of: Trophy and \$50.00 Book Voucher to our Aussie of the Month recipients.



TERM 1 2024 Coaching – Community Play

Red Cliffs Lawn Tennis Club

Monday

3.30-4pm 4 & 5 yrs Hot Shots @ \$7

4-4.45pm Hot Shots 6-12yrs

4.45-5.30pm Tennis 4 Teens 12-17yrs

Tuesday

3.30-4.15pm Hot Shots 5-12yrs

4.15-5pm Tweens Hot Shots 10-12yrs

5-5.45pm Tennis 4 Teens 12-17yrs

Saturday

9-9.45am Hot Shots 5-12yrs

Match Play 9.45-10.15 @\$3

Cost: \$10 Per Lesson-Receive free Hot Shots T-Shirt

**To enrol or for more information please contact
Lisa Hill Community Play Coach Mob 0400 726 824**

Email lisa.joy.hill70@gmail.com

**Racquets available - Learn the fundamentals of tennis in a social fun
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LITTLE GLITTER SHACK



BOOK FOR ALL
TYPES OF EVENTS



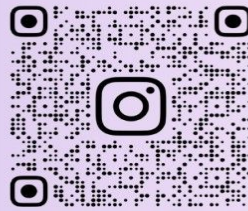
CUSTOMISED PACKAGES
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BORN TO SPARKLE?

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