



# MPE NEWS

Newsletter  
Play the game!



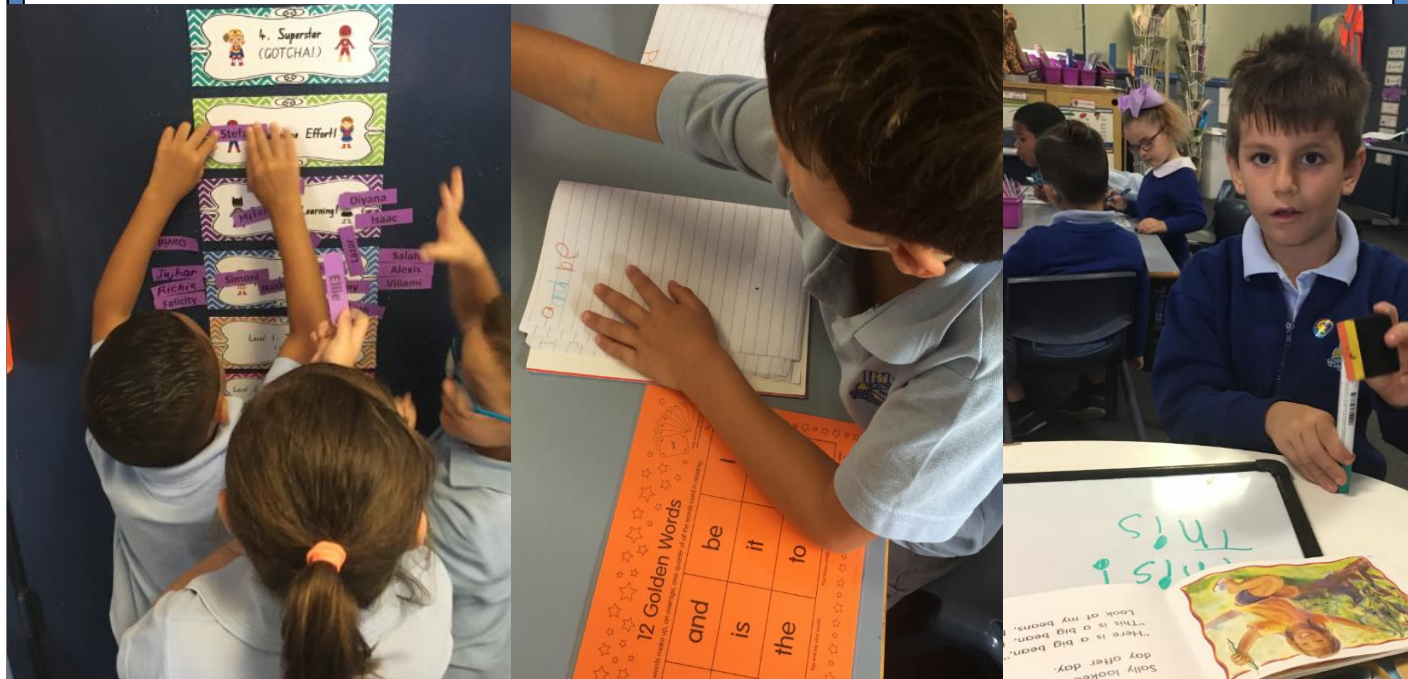
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Term 1 – Volume 1, Issue 5

*A picture says a thousand words..... Active and engaged learners*



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**Term: 1 Week: 10**

**Thursday 5 April**

### What's On

**Thursday 5 April**

Swim Scheme

**Friday 6 April**

Swim Scheme

**Monday 9 April**

Swim Scheme

**Tuesday 10 April**

Swim Scheme

**Wednesday 11 April**

3-Way Conference

Swim Scheme

Stage 2 students to Ashcroft High

**Thursday 12 April**

Swim Scheme

**Friday 13 April**

Swim Scheme

Last day of term

**Tuesday 1 May**

Students return

Townview Road,  
Mount Pritchard 2170

Phone 96026453

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**Principal: Teresa Gosche**

## EASTER HAT PARADE

Thank you to our fantastic community for coming together last Wednesday afternoon to celebrate our Easter Hat Parade. All students were well behaved and their hats looked amazing!! I even heard that the Easter bunny visited all the classrooms during the parade. A huge thank you to Mrs William for coordinating this event. A big thank you to everyone who supported our Year 6 Easter Raffle. There were 7 lucky winners!! 1st prize Nathaniel (K/1M), 2<sup>nd</sup> prize Farah (2C), 3<sup>rd</sup> prize Mateo (1D), 4<sup>th</sup> prize Diyanna (1D), 5<sup>th</sup> prize Ruby (c/o 4/5V), 6<sup>th</sup> prize Kash (2C) and 7<sup>th</sup> prize Jonathan (3/4T)

## ANZAC ASSEMBLY

On Thursday 12th April we will be holding our school ANZAC assembly. It will be at 2.00pm in the school hall.

## NAPLAN

Year 3 and 5 students will be sitting their **NAPLAN** tests early next term. We know our students will try to do their very best. It is important to remember that this is one snapshot of your child's

learning at one point in time. It does not measure all of the other wonderful things about your child and the skills and talents that they have in a wide range of areas. We are very proud of all students at Mount Pritchard East Public School.

## COLES VOUCHERS

Please return your Coles vouchers to school this week. I had the pleasure of counting our vouchers over the weekend. So far we have about 7,000 vouchers. That is a wonderful effort and I hope we can get a lot of great new equipment for our school.

## SWIMMING SCHEME

All week we have been involved in swimming lessons. Each morning, we have around 100 children travelling to and from these lessons at the Whitlam Centre. I really value this opportunity that students have to access these lessons. We are very lucky to have a school bus and Mr Michael Clarke, so we were able to keep the costs down to make it more affordable for our families. The students behaviour at the pool has been exemplary!!

## 3 WAY CONFERENCES

Next Wednesday afternoon (11<sup>th</sup> April 2-6pm), we will be holding our 3 Way Conferences. This is an opportunity for parents, staff and children to meet and discuss their goals in Literacy and Numeracy. Please make sure you have sent in your preferred time-slot note. The office staff have been sending out blue confirmation time slips. Maybe check the bottom of your child's bag if you have not received a confirmation note. Conferences will take place in classrooms and students are expected to accompany their parents at this conference.

## REHEATING FOOD IN THE CANTEEN

Parents and students please be advised there is no reheating of food from home in the school canteen. Students need to bring food to school that can be eaten cold. Please remember that the canteen is CLOSED Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

## P&C SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Have you placed your order for a sausage sizzle on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April? If you haven't please obtain a form from the office and make sure your order is in!!!

## CHANGES IN SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS IN 2018

The teaching staff at our school has decided to vary both of the School Development Days that will occur at the end of the year. The days that will be moved are Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Students finish the school year on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018. The new varied dates will be held in a combination of different formats prior to the end of year. This variation should not impact on families at our school but the school community needs to be aware of this.

**Quote of the Week-** " The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today"

H.Jackson -Brown Jnr

Teresa Gosche  
Principal

## Sports

### Sports Assembly

To acknowledge and celebrate the sporting achievements of students during our Cross Country we will host an Assembly in Term 2 Week 1 on Wednesday afternoon. House Captains and Vice Captains will also be given their badges at this assembly.

### PSSA

**Round: 5** (Friday 23rd, March)

Due to wet weather leading up to and on Friday, PSSA was cancelled.

Parents and friends are most welcome to come along and support teams. If you are attending and watching our students compete and would like to know details, scores or any further information, please approach our PSSA Coaches. Good luck to both teams. I look forward to hearing about the sportsmanship and camaraderie between our teams.

**S.Shankar**

## Swimming Scheme

### Swim Scheme

This week Swim Scheme has started with 98 students taking part in Learn to Swim and Water Safety activities. This intensive program focuses on developing swimming and water safety skills over a nine day period until the end of Term One.

Students began the week on Tuesday with a range of assessment tasks and have now been placed in ability groups to develop skills in safe pool entry, balanced walking, gliding, freestyle without breathing and freestyle with breathing.

Students will also learn safety and survival techniques in the pool, developing skills in survival breaststroke, back stroke and sidestroke.

Mount Pritchard East Public School is very lucky to have a school bus and student costs have been kept to a minimum with Mrs Gosche funding all travel costs to and from The Whitlam Centre.

If your child is taking part in Learn to Swim this term please make sure they come to school with their swimmers, two towels, a drink and snacks to eat after their lessons.

Thank you to Mrs Gosche, Mr Michael and the teachers attending the lessons who support our MPE students in their Learning to Swim journey.

**D.Vette-Welsh**

## K-2 News



Wow! This term has gone by so fast!! The K-2 students had so much fun learning and improving this term. We have been learning about different sea animals, the layout and language of an informative text and how to write one.



Last week during the Easter Hat Parade the students had such a great time, showing off their beautiful hats. It was such an amazing surprise to see the Easter bunny had made a visit to our rooms and gave each child Easter eggs.



Learning to swim is such an important skill to have. This week year 2 have had an exciting time learning how to swim and they can't wait to continue this skill next week.

The K-2 students can't wait for 3-Way conferences next week to show their parents/carers how much they have improved so far this term and share their learning goals.

**T. D'Cruz**  
**K-2 Assistant Principal**

### 3-6 News



#### SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium

On Thursday Stage 2 and 3 students were lucky enough to take an excursion to the SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium in Darling Harbour. What a fantastic experience it was.

Students started the day with a bus ride into the city, they were excited to see some very expensive cars, the ANZAC and Sydney Harbour Bridges and some very tall cranes doing construction on the new Sydney tunnel.

Students then got the opportunity to wander on a journey of amazing discovery through SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium's unique freshwater and marine aquatic environments.

They hopped aboard the rubber boats and drifted through the penguin experience, they were gently showered with snow and met a colony of King and Gentoo penguins!

Students then explored themed habitats, including the tropical Bay of Rays, a discovery rock pool, Sydney Harbour display and the world's largest Great Barrier Reef display.

The teachers were a little scared to enter the Shark Walk, walking over our majestic sharks, and journeying into the depths of Shark Valley, home to a variety of sharks and rays. Along the way we encountered some of the world's most incredible animals unique to each habitat, including two beautiful dugongs, huge sharks, massive stingrays, turtles, penguins, thousands of tropical fish, and much more!



Students would like to thank their parents, teachers and Mrs Gosche for a fantastic aquatic experience and they are looking forward to Stage 2/3 excursions in the future.

Students in 3S and 3/4T were mesmerised from the moment they entered, to see their learning about coral reefs, particularly the Great Barrier Reef come alive. From the different types of polyps and how they built upon each other to create a reef to how different marine creatures interacted with each other, our students were making connections with their learning using the vocabulary amongst peers to consolidate their learning.



5/6M students said their favourite part of the day was seeing the penguins and going around the penguin enclosure in the little boats. They also enjoyed looking at the dugongs.

Senior Snorkels had a swell day at the aquarium where they were drowned with exciting information about the marine animals they have been exploring in class. Their learning came to life as a Dugong swam by and a stingray smiled at them. They got a feel for what it is like living in a coral reef and admired the fluorescent coral glowing in their dark tanks. We are eager to dive into our next adventure.



## The Great Aussie Bush Camp

Just a reminder that the Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush Camp in Kincumber part payments are due to the office.

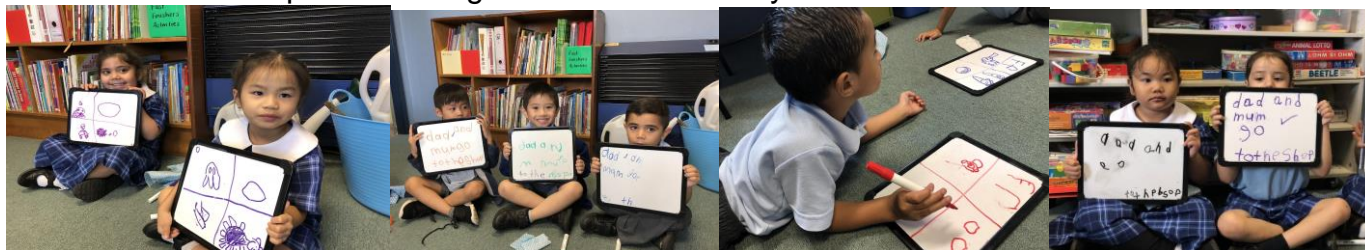
If you would like your child to attend the camp please fill in the camp form and return it to the office. If you are having trouble with the payment schedule we are happy to support your child in taking part in this exciting learning experience. Please let us know if you need our support.

**D. Vette-Welsh**

**3 - 6 Assistant Principal**

## CLASS CHAT with EAL/D teacher - Mrs van der Graaf

Where has this term gone? We have learnt so much across our whole school in such a short time. Every morning the Kindergarten students, who need a little more help with speaking, listening, reading and writing in English, come to my office where they sing, act, name pictures, listen to stories and draw to practise using their new vocabulary and skills.



The rest of the day is generally spent team teaching with classroom teachers and working with small groups of students in the classroom to improve their literacy skills. Our students are all explicitly taught the vocabulary needed to understand what they are reading as well as to express themselves accurately when they are speaking and writing.

Ask your Stage 1 children about *natural*, *maintained* and *constructed* or '*built*' environments. They



will be able to tell you exactly what they are, why they are classified as such and even be able to use noun groups to describe them. In Stage 2 and 3 we have also been learning about environmental issues. We have learnt about the importance of several fragile ecosystems and the damaging impact of humans upon them.

Talk to your Stage 2 students about the threats to *coral reefs*. Discuss the importance of *rainforests*, *mangroves* and *reefs* with your Stage 3 students. You may be surprised at what they know and how well they can express their knowledge.

Vocabulary and language need to be taught explicitly across all key learning areas and so I can be found supporting and teaching Maths classes during the middle portion of the day. Ask the students of 2M to define *quadrilaterals*, *triangles*, *2D shapes* and *3D objects*. They will not only tell you but show you with their actions!



Some Stage 2 and 3 students come out of class to learn with me once a week. This is so they can practise the vocabulary needed for their learning in a small group and be more confident to participate in class.

For the past couple of years we have had a special CAPA group for newly arrived students of non-English speaking background. We have created some beautiful artworks related to what they are learning in class. One week we cooked spanokopita (Greek spinach triangles) using the fresh organic spinach from our vegetable garden.



Our New Arrivals group has kept the vegetable garden going and invited friends to help them. We are in the process of expanding the garden into large planters so that there is enough work to keep all the willing helpers happy. Hopefully we will be able to sell a bit of our produce at some pop-up shops throughout the year and put the proceeds back into our flourishing

veggie patch.

Thank you to all those parents and students who are so supportive of all we do and help to make our multicultural school a safe and welcoming place for our English language learners to learn.

## Harmony Day at MPE -Wednesday 21st March



Harmony Day is a celebration of our cultural diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. Our cultural diversity is one of our greatest strengths and is at the heart of who we are. Australia is a vibrant and multicultural country — from the oldest continuous culture of our first Australians to the cultures of our newest arrivals from around the world.

The message of Harmony day is 'everyone belongs', the Day aims to engage people to participate in their community, respect cultural and religious diversity

and foster sense of belonging for everyone. Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day.



Each class chose a country from the Pacific Rim to study - any country that had a connection to the Pacific Ocean. This was also related to the Year of the Reef. A K-2 class was buddied up with a 3-6 class to share their learning.



Kindergarten Icefish chose Mexico and were buddied with 5/6S who had South Korea. At the workshop the kindergarten students taught 5/6S how to do the Mexican Hat dance and 5/6S taught Kindergarten the Gangnam style dance. During this workshop we decided to ask some of the senior students to join the kindergarten students on stage for the assembly and some of the kindergarten students joined 5/6S on stage for the gangnam style dance too.

The students in K/1 Marlin performed a fan dance from China for 5/6 Molluscs and then taught 5/6M how to do it. 5/6M then ran some rotating activities to teach K/1M what they had been learning about Vietnam. These activities included a traditional Vietnamese board game, counting from 1-10 and learning how to use chopsticks by picking up pompoms



2 Coral have been learning about our beautiful country, 'Australia' and celebrating the 'Year of the Reef' by exploring the largest living thing on earth... found right here in our own country! On Harmony Day, 2 Coral presented a retelling of an informative story about the Great Barrier Reef to our buddy class 4/5Vampire Squids. We loved sharing with them the wonderful ocean life that can be encountered when exploring the reef. 2C even filled them in on some interesting facts, like... The Great Barrier Reef is so huge that it is visible from Space! And it is



approximately the size of about 70 million football fields!!

Our buddy class 4/5 Vampire Squids then taught us how to use rakau (Maori dancing sticks). As the sticks beat in time to our heart beat, we learned all sorts of tricks to develop our timing, dexterity and rhythm. By working together with our buddy class partner we were able to share our new learning in a fun and positive way which made our teachers very proud.

2 Manta Ray chose Hawaii and shared some interesting facts about Hawaii with 3S. Then 2M read out some 'Who am I?' questions about a mystery sea animal for the students in 3 Seahorses to guess. 3S chose Cambodia and focused on a famous relic known as Angkor Wat. After teaching their delightful 2M students, 3S made a memory snap game to test their knowledge. Both classes had a wonderful time sharing and learning!

At 10:30am we had an assembly to celebrate Harmony Day and share some cultural activities with our community. We had the pleasure of a special guest Jestyn who played the yikadi and had some of the Aboriginal students join him on stage to demonstrate Aboriginal cultural dances.

Kindergarten Icefish did the Mexican Hat Dance with some of the senior students joining in to support the younger students. Kindergarten did an awesome job for their first performance at school. 5/6S did the Gangnam style dance and encouraged audience participation by selecting students to join them on the stage during the final chorus of the song- this was lots of fun.

Syprus Lakisoe-Mapuna sang This is Me with some students from 4/5V- representing being proud of who you are and being yourself.

Mrs Vette-Welsh shared her cultural background by teaching everyone a Maori song and dance about a whale. The whole audience got up and learnt the words and movements to go with this dance - swishing the whales tail was the funniest part.





Thank you to the parents and school community for the vast food donations for the feast. There was lots to eat and some very full stomachs at the end of lunch. Another thank you to all the students and parents who wore orange to help support this special day as well.

A very special thank you to Mr Michael for organising setting out the chairs and tables for the day, the support teachers for collecting and setting out the food, all the awesome parents and staff who helped set up the food, seats and serve drinks and food plus clean up after the feast- excellent team work.

**Great things are brought about and burdens are lightened through the efforts of many hands anxiously engaged in a good cause.**

*Elder M.Russell Ballard*

**Mrs van der Graaf, Miss McIntosh, Mrs Vette-Welsh and Ms I'Anson - the Harmony Day Organising Team**




## **P&C**

The P&C give free breakfast every Friday morning. Come on down for some breakfast. Also if you would like to join the P&C have a voice or time to offer, then come on in to the office and drop your name in.



## ASSEMBLY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Classes	Academic Awards	Quality Work	Sport Awards	Principal	Bronze
					Silver
<b>K Icefish</b> Ms l'Anson	Kamilia Kaedan	Anna	Ronit Aliza		
<b>K/I Marlin</b> Ms Moseley				Milan	
<b>1 Dolphin</b> Ms D'Cruz	Mostafa Raphael	Brandon	Anastasija Mahmoud		
<b>2 Coral</b> Ms Irons	Lincoln Tamika	Darwin	Jahziah Mohammad	Tamika	
<b>2 Manta-Ray</b> Ms Martin	Bader Shontaya	Rafael	Braxton Shadayna	Jayson	
<b>3 Seahorses</b> Ms Shankar	Hanisi Kristina	Alex-Paolo Shakera	Aston	Kiarnah	
<b>3/4 Turtles</b> Ms Taweil	Maria.S Stella	Lianna	Cassidy Demas	Aya Amelia	
<b>4/5 Vampire Squids</b> Ms Vette-Welsh	Marieta Nunia	Cruz	Blade Tyson		Emily P
<b>5/6 Molluscs</b> Ms McIntosh	Nathan Ella	Qori	Harmony Alicia		
<b>5/6 Snorkels</b> Ms Strbac	Chloe Jason	Kathy	Kylani Felicia	Jovana	
<b>GOTCHA</b>					
<b>Citizen of the Month</b>	<div>  <p>Kaushik was awarded the Citizen of the Month award for 3-6 as a result of his wonderful work at school and the following qualities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kind and respectful to teachers and peers</li> <li>• Has a friendly nature and says hello with a big smile</li> <li>• Follows the rules in the classroom and on the playground</li> <li>• Includes others when they need a partner</li> <li>• Responsible attitude</li> </ul> <p>Displays a positive mindset towards all aspects of his learning</p> </div>				