



Murwillumbah Public School

Promoting Excellence in Education

Newsletter

29th October 2014 Term 4 Week 4



NOW ENROLLING KINDY 2015

Principals Message

Thank you to the many parents who returned the recent school survey.

This was the first step in the preparations and consultative processes to formulate our next three year school plan for the years 2015-2017.

The school plan is different in format to the previous ones and will include developing school vision, context and three strategic directions. Each direction will have 5Ps (purpose, people, processes, products and practices) to guide the operation of the school, drive school improvement and improve student learning outcomes. Throughout this term you will be invited to have further input into the plan. I look forward to further discussion with you in regards to the 2015-2017 school plan.

Grandparents are amongst the most wonderful relations in the life of every person.

They give unconditional love and care for their grandchildren.

We can feel the warmth and affection of our

grandparents. They are the ones who are responsible for passing on wisdom, values, and principles, from generation to generation, to help the youngsters lead a better and more fulfilling life.

A huge turnout of grandparents at today's assembly enabled us the opportunity to honour and celebrate our grandparents during our school assembly and then with a delicious morning tea and visit to classrooms.

During the classroom visit, each class had prepared an individual page that was read to grandparents from their children about why they are so important. It was a great morning that was enjoyed by everyone.

Last week, I sat in an auditorium in Sydney alongside 1000 educational leaders from all across Australia, including government, Catholic and independent schools, listening to an inspirational keynote address by one of Australia's

Principals Message Cont

former leaders, Anna Bligh, I began to reflect on leadership...

Within our schools, we easily identify the obvious leaders ~ the Principal, Assistant Principals, class-room teachers who lead their class daily and our student class leaders.

What is not so obvious is the array of leaders in various situations, such as the leader within a group, the students that show initiative, as well as our future leaders.

Leaders definitely come in all forms. What is important that our leaders, whether formally recognised or not, continue to lead the way, uphold positive values and morals and consistently aim at being an exemplary role model at all times.

At Murwillumbah PS, we encourage these values and morals on a daily basis.

Parents often ask what can be done at home to help their child learn.

Throughout my years of teaching, my answer has been consistent: turn off the television, switch off the games on the computer or device and have your child read narratives such as picture books and novels. Reading narratives is fundamental in facilitating academic growth. Narratives give a child a greater command of the English language; they expand vocabulary, knowledge of sentence structure, are the closest written form to how we talk and the way we think and of how words work.

Also, a child engaged in periods of sustained reading develops concentration.

Reading narratives is also a powerful way for a child to develop knowledge and experience about the world. By identifying with characters and storylines, a child develops understanding about a range of situations. For example, in the novel *Onion Tears*, the reader empathises with the main character, a Vietnamese refugee trying to come to terms with her new life in Australia.

Reading narratives is an essential element of 21st Century learning as it teaches children to

be imaginative thinkers.

This description from the novel 'Anne of Green Gables': *Mrs. Rachel Lynde lived just where the Avonlea main road dipped down into a little hollow, fringed with alders and ladies' eardrops and traversed by a brook that had its source away back in the woods of the old Cuthbert place*; requires the reader to translate into pictures in the mind what is read on the page. It requires visualising a description of a setting with plenty of room for creative interpretation, inference and imagination. Students in 4/5F are currently reading the novel "Hating Alison Ashley" and are experiencing a lot of the above.

Murwillumbah Public School has an excellent reading program supported by a well-stocked library of novels, picture books and readers (last week we spent over \$6000 on new readers).

The school uses the PM Benchmark Reading Assessment Resource to track students until they reach a reading age of 12.

Parents are encouraged to create and/or maintain a culture of reading in their homes.

A bookshelf in a bedroom, a quiet time to read before sleeping, regular visits to the school library, reading aloud to children, or adults picking up a novel and showing their child how it's done; these are all ways to encourage our children to read.

I have had the pleasure to see the following children in my office this week with their excellent work. Congratulations!

1W: Sophie, Skyla, Tahnis, Lincoln, Dean

4/5F: Taylah, Tu-Wai

KL: Hudson

Selective High School Applications

Applications for selective High School positions for 2016 (Students in this Year 5) are currently open. Access can be gained online at the address below.

Principals Message Cont

All applications must be completed on-line. Parents wishing to apply for selective high school will need to have application completed on-line by November 17, 2014. If you do not have computer access contact the school office. Additionally if you have a query about the process please contact the school. Selective High Schools unit:

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

School Expectations

This week our focus is on BE RESPONSIBLE. We can demonstrate this in many ways around our school including:

- Be accountable for our actions

- Look after your own belongings
- Take care of our environment
- Take pride in yourself and your school

SCHOOLS A TO Z

At the moment the Schools A to Z website has some excellent resources in it that you might like to access.

There are monthly planners which show school dates, there is also information on how to motivate "laid back" children and even some great lunch box ideas for healthy lunches.

Well worth a look.

Les Daley

Principals Awards

Reminder: Class merit awards, Anzac Day March Awards, Book Week Parade Certificates and Easter Hat Parade Certificates all count towards receiving a Principal's Award.

Bring in your 4 certificates to the office to be presented your Principal's Award at Wednesday morning assembly. Congratulations to those who have already received a Principal's Award this year.

Merit Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 3 TERM 4:

KL:	Finlay, Charlie	3/4H:	Lachlann, Blake, Tlarra, Griffin
KR:	Nikita, Ariana	4/5F:	Cooper, Abigail
1SA:	Rory, Adriana	5/6K:	Emma, Zane
1W:	Ryleigh, Sophie	5/6P:	Thomas, Lucas, Ella
2/3G:	Lilly, Lachlan	Computers:	Zali, Lilly
2/3K:	Madison, Vincent	Library:	Sid, Abigail
		Mrs Anderson:	Acer, Apryl

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 4 TERM 4:

KL:	Riley, Sienna	4/5F:	Phoebe, Dom, Zali
KR:	Connor, Jack	5/6K:	Tahlia-Rose, Ryan
1SA:	Ava, Kaitlin	5/6P:	Avalon, Garrett, Jayme, Mackenzie
1W:	Tahnis, Lincoln B	Library:	Amy, Tahlia-Rose, Emma
2/3G:	Xanaia, Ayla	Mr Stowe:	Riley, Caleb
2/3K:	Logan, Stella	Mr Johnston:	Jade, Bronte, Jacob, Ben, Zane, Lucas, Lilly, Clare, Josh, Maddi

School News

LES PETERKIN PORTRAIT PRIZE

Congratulations to all of our entrants in the Les Peterkin Portrait Prize Competition. A special congratulations to our folder winners and to Archie who was placed 3rd overall. Well done everyone.



FRIENDLY FUNDRAISER - LUNCH BAGS THAT REDUCE LITTER!

MPS is committed to doing our bit for the environment by reducing litter and waste around the school. This term we will be running a fundraiser, selling environmentally friendly and reusable lunch bags. We will be raising money for environmentally friendly projects, such as recycling bins, garden tools and science equipment.

There are two types of lunch bags – a lunch wallet that folds into wallet size then opens to a lunch bag, perfect for the canteen; and an insulated lunch bag, perfect for keeping lunch cool. Both types come in a number of different colours and a choice of fun labels. The school has a sample of each available for viewing in the office.



These make a great Christmas, or back to school gift for children. They are environmentally friendly, reusable, easy to use and clean, and they look great! We would like to gather as many orders as possible so please ask your friends and family if they would like to order some lunch bags also. You can add them to your own order form, or additional forms are available in the office. As a bonus incentive, the family who orders the most lunch bags will receive one item for FREE!!

Order forms and pricing will be sent home tomorrow. They will be due Wednesday 19th November.

NAPLAN SUPPORT

If you have a child in years 3 or 5, you would have recently received their NAPLAN results. Each student has received an individual report sent home demonstrating their results from these national standardised tests. If you are unsure how to interpret your child's results, or would simply like more information, or suggestions as to how you can help your child at home, we are happy to help! Simply fill in the form below to request a short meeting with your child's teacher.

I, _____, would like to request a meeting with my child's class teacher to discuss his/her NAPLAN results.

My child is _____ in class _____.

I am available at the following times: _____ and _____.
(Please give two suggested times, outside of normal class hours. If these times are not possible we will contact you to arrange a suitable alternative).

Signed _____ Contact Number _____

P & C

Do you have any fundraising ideas for 2015? Would you like to make any suggestions about fundraising and can't make it to one of our P&C meetings? 9am this Friday, October 31, we will be meeting at the brown picnic tables in front of the Administration Building to discuss ideas. If you can't make it this Friday but still have an idea you'd like to present, please feel free to email it to courtneysplayhouse@gmail.com

Canteen News

Just a reminder that this Friday 31st October is Halloween and the canteen will once again be having a ghostly menu.

This is the one day of the term that all sorts of goodies are allowed.

So bring your money to purchase some ghoulish treats, including- witches britches cupcakes, ghostly fruit cups, spider biscuits, black cats in slime and batwing jelly pots! No treats over \$1



Canteen Roster

	MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
Oct		29th Melissa D	31st Penny M, Kylie S
November	3rd Ian V	5th Emma C	7th Kylie S
	10th Wendy B	12th Heidi L, Nicole F	14th Kylie S
	17th Ian V	19th Emma C	21st Kylie S
	24th Wendy B	26th Melissa D	28th Kylie S
December	1st Ian V	3rd Emma C	5th Kylie S, Penny M
	8th Wendy B	10th Heidi L	12th Kylie S
	15th Ian V	17th Kylie S, Emma C	

CALENDAR

Term 4	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4			29th October	30th October	31st October Halloween in the Canteen M'Bah Show Relay
5	3rd November	4th November ART SMART	5th November ART SMART Regent Cinema Performance	6th November ART SMART Yr5 Lantern Making W/Shop	7th November School Disco
6	10th November	11th November Remembrance Day Service	12th November	13th November	14th November
7	17th November	18th November Last Day of Scripture	19th November Lunch Box Orders Due	20th November	21st November Transition Disco and Last Day of Kindy Transition
8	24th November	25th November	26th November	27th November	28th November
9	1st December Captain's Speeches	2nd December WHS Orientation Day	3rd December	4th December	5th December
10	8th December K/1 Oxley Performance	9th December Yr 6 Farewell	10th December	11th December Reports Home	12th December School Presentation Evening and Musical
11	15th December Yr6 Bell Ringing	16th December K-2 Water Fun 3-6 Pottsville Band Wet n Wild	17th December Sports Award Assembly Last Day 2014	18th December Staff Development Day	19th December Staff Development Day