



Thursday, 31 January 2019

TERM 1 WEEK 1

KEY DATES

JANUARY

Tues 29 Staff only, return to School
Wed 30 Students First day of School

FEBRUARY

Approx Week 5-10 Hot Shots Tennis
Tue 12 Getting to know you meetings
Tue 19 G3-6 Melbourne Museum & iMax

MARCH

Thur 14 School Tour 9.15 - 10.00am

April

Fri 5 Last day of Term
Mon 22 Easter Monday
Tue 23 First Day of Term 2

MAY

Sun 12 Mother's Day
Mon 20-24 Education Week

JUNE

Thur 13 School Tour 9.15 - 10.00am
Tue 25 Student-Parent-Teacher Conference 12pm - 8pm.

CURRICULUM DAYS

Term 2: Mon 20th May
Term 2: Fri 7th June
Term 4: Mon 4th November

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

March 11 - Mon Labour Day
April 19 - Fri Good Friday
April 21 - Sun Easter Sunday
April 22 - Mon Easter Monday

TERM DATES 2019

Term 1: 30 January - 5 April, 2019
Term 2: 23 April - 28 June 2019
Term 3: 15 July - 20 September 2019
Term 4: 7 October - 20 December 2019

TIMETABLE

Commences 9.00am
Recess 11.00 - 11.30pm
Lunch 1.40 - 2.30pm
School Finishes 3.30pm

From The Principal

Welcome Back

As a new school year is upon us I would like to start by welcoming everyone back to school for 2019 and in particular, I'd like to welcome our Preps and new students to the school. Mulgrave is a wonderful school community and I am constantly reminded of this through the choices our students make in and around the school and the enthusiasm with which the community turns out for events such as our Art Show and Mini-Fete/Carols night last year. The community spirit is something that I highly value and I look forward to providing opportunities to get together again in 2019. Looking back over the holiday break we have seen teachers busily working to set up their rooms and prepare the curriculum for 2019, as well as the external painting of the school and a variety of upkeep tasks around the grounds. In amongst these things the staff and I have enjoyed time with our own families and the summer weather! After my mid-year trip in 2018, I enjoyed a very quiet stay at home break, where I was able to catch up on all the odd jobs that you seem to miss throughout the year. For the record, the deck has come up a treat! It's that satisfaction of completing a task that we want our students to experience on a regular basis. That's why in 2019, we will be focussed on their needs and goals as we seek to improve "Student Voice and Agency". This is the focus for our 2019 Annual Implementation Plan and will form the basis of our curriculum days. The work that teachers will focus on will be about how we can best engage every child at their point of need. In 2018 we streamlined our assessments so that we could test less and teach more, but use the information we do have more effectively. Our assessment schedule is now based on diagnostic assessments to further assist in this regard. It is our aim to improve each child academically by 18 months in a normal school year. Now, we are realists and recognise that every child will have plateaus along the way, but if we can achieve this aim at least twice in the seven years your child is in primary school, then your child will enter secondary school a full year ahead and will be set up for future success. I look forward to another great year at MPS and wish every student, parent and staff member a successful 2019.

Day 1

The first day of the school year was a great success, with students from F-6 settling in exceptionally well. I would like to thank the staff for making the students feel so at ease, but also acknowledge the work that was put in last year during the new transition program. Our students have hit the ground running, which is exactly what we were hoping for!

LOTE Review

As families may recall, our Languages Other Than English (LOTE) teacher Sarah Chin accepted a position elsewhere at the end of the last school year. As such, we begin the year without a language program and will be reviewing the school's requirements in Term 1, with a view to conducting a recruitment process in Term 2. Our current Mandarin program has served us well, however I would like to seek the feedback of the parent community regarding the direction of the school from 2019 onwards. Mandarin has a huge role to play in the 21st century and will open up many employment opportunities for students. That said, it is not the only option available to us and whilst we as a school have a significant population of 1st language Mandarin speakers, there are certainly pathways for both 1st and 2nd speakers of the language in the VCE, as there are for other languages. Another option could be to explore another international language, such as Spanish, which is used extensively throughout the Americas and of course Spain itself. Spanish has a similar language base to English, which may appeal to some learners. A third option could be for an inclusive language such as AUSLAN. Not only does AUSLAN support the hearing impaired, it is also a highly physical language, providing students who need movement with a positive outlet. Below you will find a preference form that I would ask families to fill in and return to me via the office by Friday Feb 15th. During this window, we will also be canvassing our student population to gain their views and of course our teaching staff. Throughout the review, we will be guided by the Regional leaders in this area. Whilst community opinion is highly valued, it should be noted that we are also constrained by the availability of LOTE teachers which is a factor. MPS has already been in touch with our nearest secondary school and only one offers Mandarin, so dovetailing into high school is not a major factor in our process. The review will be conducted by myself, Stuart Hattwell, Tom Boyle, Nicola Weerakoon and Tracy Turner and the recommendations will be presented to school council for a decision.

Option 1: Mandarin

Option 2: Spanish

Option 3: AUSLAN

MPS Stadium Update

During the holidays I attended a meeting to sign off on the schematic design phase of the new stadium. This was a fairly straight forward meeting and the SD was approved subject to a few minor modifications around guttering, heating and cooling. The scope of works remains on budget to deliver a competition sized netball, basketball stadium with a stage/classroom at one end. Toilets have been shifted to the southern end, close to the current hard courts for student access. It is intended that these toilets will take the place of the current hall toilets as soon as the building is operational. The Victorian School Building Authority will not approve any heating and cooling of the main gymnasium area, although we were able to include split systems for the classroom/stage and the office. Gas is the most economical heating source, but the VSBA is moving away from this (not to mention the school doesn't run gas for heating) and any cooling would come from the school's own resources and at great expense. This is an issue the School Council will discuss when we next meet.

Unfortunately, due to increased building costs, the refurbishment of the Block D toilets (Courtyard) will have to be done through other means. We will lobby the North East Victoria Region for additional support in the coming weeks.

The next phase is Design Development and this will carry through until March. At this stage, detailed drawings will be available for submission to tender, hopefully in April. The tender process will take approximately 6 weeks, then final approvals and a few more twists and turns before we are likely to break ground in Term 3.

School News

Principals Message Continued:

Staffing

A very warm welcome is extended to our new teachers – Miss Toullos and Mr. Giles. Please say hello to our new staff members if you see them around the school. We also welcome back Mrs. Allday from Leave.

Curriculum Days & Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences

A reminder that the 2019 Curriculum Days are as follows:

Tuesday January 29th Spelling/Admin (State wide Curriculum Day)

Monday May 20th Data Literacy (Meeting each students' point of need)

Friday June 7th Cultural Inclusion and Safety Training/Reporting

Monday November 4th Student Voice & Agency/Reporting

Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Tuesday June 25th 12pm – 8pm (Student are required to attend and lead their conference and will be guided and supported as appropriate).

Getting to Know You Meetings – Tuesday 12th February

Tomorrow you will receive some notices about our Getting to Know You meetings which will be held on Tuesday 12th February after school. Parents of all students are invited to book a time convenient to them. We use 'School Interviews' online system to book appointments. More information next week.

2020 Enrolments

With the school continuing to grow, it would be extremely helpful if parents with siblings enrolling in 2020 could contact the office to obtain an enrolment form or download one from the web site. Families can either call, email or drop in to advise us of their intentions and we will place your child on our database ahead of the Step Into Prep program in Term 3. We are requesting enrolments by **June 1st 2019**, as this will give us time to ensure we prioritise sibling claims and new enrolments from inside our Designated Neighbourhood Area. Once we have done this, we will look to provide clarity for those enrolling from outside of our area, as per the Department's new guidelines, prior to the end of Term 2.

Car Parking

Parents are asked to be mindful of the parking restrictions around the school. Parking officers regularly patrol the school zone. **The staff car park is strictly for staff cars only and parents must not enter this car park between 8am and 4:30pm.** We have visiting staff entering and leaving on a regular basis, as such, **pedestrians should not use the car park when entering and leaving the school. Please use the pathways at the front of the school and on Maygrove Way. We thank you for your support in this matter as student safety is very important to us.**



Labour Day Public Holiday

Parents are reminded that there is a Labour Day holiday on Monday 11th March. There will be no school on this day.

Icy-pole Sales

A reminder that students can buy an icy-pole on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the beginning of lunchtime, starting Week 2. The cost is \$1.00.

Lunch Orders

Students are able to order from our lunch order menu on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only.

Mulgrave Primary School

Values: Persistent, Motivated, Successful

23/31 Gladeswood Dr, Mulgrave VIC 3170

Phone: (03) 9795 2477

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Principals Message Continued:

Art Smocks

To protect clothing, all students are requested to have an Art Smock or old shirt that can be worn during art classes.

Accident Insurance

The Department of Education and Training (DET) does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. The Department of Education states that reasonable low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector. Similarly, DET (which includes the school) does not offer replacement of personal items which are brought to school and are lost, broken or stolen. Sentimental or expensive belongings and toys, including sports equipment and electronic devices, are normally best left at home.

School Council

Information relating to vacancies on School Council will be distributed at the beginning of next week. Please look out for this if you think you may be interested in nominating or being nominated for 2019. Information will include a timeline and summary of the role of School Council.

Parents and Families

Last year our PFA really began to take off and we would love to build on the successes of 2018. If you would like to be involved we would love to hear from you. Please complete the tear-off slip in this newsletter. A meeting will be arranged for interested parents once we have your responses. We look forward to working with you this year!

Hats

A reminder that hats must be worn in terms one and four. Sunscreen and sunglasses are also highly recommended.

Heat Policy

The school operates a heat policy and we keep the children indoors in air conditioned classrooms on very hot days where the temperature exceeds 35°. We have also been asked to remind our parent community about the dangers of leaving children in cars on very hot days.

THE TEMPERATURE INSIDE A PARKED CAR CAN DOUBLE WITHIN MINUTES
ON HOT DAYS NEVER LEAVE KIDS ALONE IN CARS.
NO EXCEPTIONS. NO EXCUSES. **61°C**

School Assembly

Our whole school assembly is held on Fridays at 3pm in the school hall. All parents and members of our school community are welcome to attend. The first assembly for the school year will be Friday Feb 8th. There will be no assembly tomorrow.

Have a relaxing weekend everyone and we'll see you back on Monday!!

Charles Spicer - Principal

2019 Mulgrave Primary School LOTE Review

Please indicate your preference for a Language Other Than English to be included in the MPS curriculum (circle).

Option 1: Mandarin Option 2: Spanish Option 3: AUSLAN

Please provide a reason for your choice (optional): _____



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit
www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

HOW TO APPLY

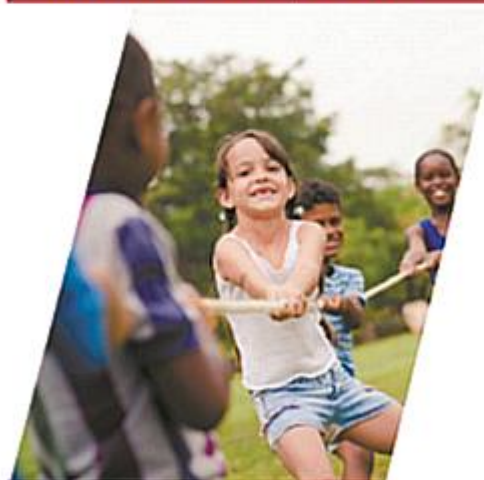
New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2018, you do not need to complete an application form in 2019 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools in 2019 or you did not apply in 2018.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2019.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



Applications must be submitted by June 21st

2019 PARENT PAYMENTS

A reminder that payment for the 2019 Essential Education Items (\$250 per student) was due by 29th January. Thank you to the many families who have made payment, your on time payments are very much appreciated.

If you are still to make payment, we would appreciate you doing this as soon as possible. Our preferred method of payment is via the Qkr! app. This is very quick and easy and saves you a trip into the office, as well as saving office staff time by streamlining our processes.

Payment by BPay is possible using your unique customer reference previously supplied. Payments by BPay usually take 48 hours to appear in our accounting system and we don't get advice on what you are actually paying for, so return of the completed pink fees notice is essential to ensure we can match your payment correctly.

Any families who are experiencing financial difficulties are encouraged to contact our Business Manager, Suzy Shaw, to discuss possible payment arrangements.

Students will be provided with their stationery packs upon receipt of payment or once a payment arrangement is in place.

Mr. Boyle Raising money for the Leukemia Foundation

As you may be aware Mr Boyle has a shaved head (and says he will be embracing the new look indefinitely). The reason behind this was that over the holidays Mr Boyle participated in the world's greatest shave to raise money for people affected by blood cancer. This horrible form of cancer affected the family of one of his closest friends, if you would like to donate to Mr Boyle's page please follow the link below.

<http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/tomboyle>



Changing the Linen in Sick Bay 2019

If you are able to help out by changing the linen in the sick bay, please sign up via this link:

<http://signup.com/go/FFZPPsU>

Depending upon the number of volunteers, you would only be required once or twice a term. Parents usually change the bed linen on a Friday, take it home to wash and return it to school during the next week. The roster will be published fortnightly in our newsletter.

All assistance is greatly appreciated!

Parent Volunteer Soft Plastic Pick up and drop off RedCycle

This year, MPS are doing their part for the environment by separating our waste into compost, hard recyclables, paper/cardboard, soft recyclables and rubbish. At a school level, we can drastically reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and teach students good habits and the importance of sustainability!

As part of the process, we are seeking volunteers willing to collect a big bag of the school's soft plastics for that week on a Friday afternoon and take it to their local RedCycle drop off point at either Coles or Woolworths. Hopefully we will have enough interested people so that you would only need to do it once a term or semester. Please sign up using the link below if you are interested in helping out.

<http://signup.com/go/fmtnbEk>

With thanks, Lucy Truesdale and Tom Boyle

Environmental News

NUDE FOOD TUESDAY



Mulgrave Primary School is
joining the *war on waste!*

Every Tuesday will be a
NUDE FOOD DAY

We encourage you to bring a snack
and lunch with **no packaging.**

PACK

- ✓ A reusable lunchbox
- ✓ Snacks in reusable containers
- ✓ Drinks in reusable bottles
- ✓ Reusable utensils when needed



AVOID

- ✗ Lunches packed in plastic bags, cling wrap or foil
- ✗ Disposable drinks boxes, cartons, bottles & cans
- ✗ Pre-packaged lunches or single serve items
- ✗ Disposable utensils



TARGET TUESDAY!



**Every fortnight, at the end of lunch,
we will collect rubbish around the
school to put onto a target.**

**The aim is to reduce the amount of
rubbish each time until
there is none at all!**



The value of routine and predictability in the home

I think it is hard to appreciate how valuable routines are because they sit quietly in their place and simply enable us to get on with life.

As a child, I enjoyed the predictable routine of waking up in the morning and coming into the kitchen, knowing that the table would be set for breakfast. There were the spoons and bowls, cereal and yes, even a jug for the milk, all ready to go. Looking back I now appreciate that in the simplicity and regularity of that set-up, I felt safe knowing that breakfast was a certainty. But more than that – I knew what part I needed to play. It was my responsibility to get dressed, make my bed and sit up at the table. I didn't need to be reminded each day, because this routine was so familiar to me that falling in step with it seemed natural.

Setting it all up

In our busy family lives, routines are some of the big rocks we need to get in place first, so that the little niggly things are taken care of. And this is a job for us parents, as children can't set up these foundational routines for themselves. The big people are responsible for establishing routines to help the family flourish. Yes, it can be tricky if you are not naturally a routine sort of a person, but it's not impossible and even surprisingly easy once you have done the routine 60 times or so! Sometimes it is helpful to remind ourselves that we have actually become habitual about lots of things already, like buckling our children into their car seats or seat belts, for example. It's not up for negotiation. The law probably helped to make it a habit, but we also do this for our children because it gives them the best chance of safety. It shows our children that we are in charge of keeping them safe and that we love, value and want to protect them. In essence, many of the routines we set up do similar things – while some of our routines enhance physical safety, many others support the emotional safety of our children.

Find what works for your family

Your routines will be unique to your family – not everyone sets the breakfast the night before. But everyone can identify some rotational and predictable routines (things that cannot be shoved off their pedestal) that happen in your family and were initially established and maintained by the parents. These routines are reflected in the stories children tell about their family. You might hear a child say, "We always play a board game on Friday night," or, "In the holidays, we have 'leader of the day' and that person gets to choose stuff, like what's for dinner and who sits next to Dad". Routines can tell your children quite a bit about your own family culture.





The value of routine and predictability in the home

Routines in your family might look like:

Greetings and farewells

Your family habitually starts each day by greeting each other warmly. Every evening you always share something you enjoyed about the day, and praise your child about something they had done before you say goodnight. Children may find saying goodbye to you at daycare, preschool or school really difficult. Establishing a special family 'farewell' – three kisses, two hugs and a squeeze, for example – gives children a pattern to click into and a routine to feel safe in.

Eating together

Eating dinner together as a family is great, but it can't always be achieved. Even sitting down together for morning or afternoon tea is a good enough routine – it says to children that this is what we do in our family.

Thankfulness

Making a habit of saying grace or acknowledging the cook at the beginning of each meal is great scaffolding and helps children learn to appreciate that someone spent time and energy preparing the meal.

Bedtime

This one tells children that despite how the day went, the bedtime routine is certain. There will be the daily habits of using the bathroom, cleaning teeth and then choosing the set number of books. The routine might include two questions or a small debrief of the day. It can often be helpful to have the routine visible on a chart somewhere, so young children can see the steps clearly.

Quiet time

As we head into the rush of the new school year, this could be a good routine to set up in your family. This is 'being still' time – on a bed or in a quiet place, so children get a break from the hustle and bustle of life. They just get to lie there and read or lie there and think. It does not mean they have to sleep – and some of you are hoping that they won't nod off! They simply recharge and reset themselves.

Word of caution though – children may resist this one, or nudge you towards letting them use a device. Try keep this routine just for books and thinking. Secondly, protests may come, but part of establishing the routine is simply keeping at it, and it will become easier with time.

Routines set kids up for responsibility

Maybe it's time to acknowledge and celebrate that you already have routines in place and they are worth the consistency you bring to them. It may also be time to introduce a new routine or two, and get it bedded down. Wherever you are, hang in there. If you are starting afresh, start slowly. It's our responsibility to establish and keep the routines going – but when routines become second nature, you'll notice how much easier it is for our children to step up and take on responsibility themselves. Children, at the end of the day (and the start, for that matter), love routine and predictability.

Article by: JENNY HALE

**Routines for
Morning and
Night**

Extend OSHC at Mulgrave Primary School

Hi Everyone,

Firstly I'd like to wish everyone a warm welcome back to all our families. I believe everyone enjoyed the summer break and are ready for another exciting year ahead!

Our summer holiday program, as usual, was full of fun with many fascinating activities. Our excursions to the National Sports Museum, MCG, Melbourne Sea life Aquarium, Belgrave Lake park and Queen Victoria park were awesome! Ralph Breaks the Internet, movie with popcorn was entertaining and hilarious.

Slime time, African Drumming and Minigolf incursions were also engaging, the children loved them all. Making Slime, Tie Dye T-shirts, Sock animals, Personalised mugs, Wind chimes, Glitter Globes were another fun activities that the children absolutely enjoyed.

If you haven't experienced our Holiday program as yet, please Look out for Autumn Vacation care program, which is around the corner, and will be published soon.

This Term we have planned many interesting and educational activities for our OSHC program, including science experiments, art and craft, cooking and physical activities.

This week in our OSHC care program, we will be celebrating Australia day with many interesting activities such as Koala Newspaper art, Aboriginal Australian flag collage and dot painting.

Next weeks activities are:

Monday 4th February: Team game - Mat ball/ Gardening

Tuesday 5th February: Cooking -Vegemite and Cheese Whirls/ basket ball Challenge

Wednesday 6th February: Science - Paper mache Volcanoes/ Outdoor activities

Thursday 7th February: Specialist - Art and craft fun: Popsicle Home art

Friday 8th February: Dice games/ Charade

Kind regards
Meena



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