



Thursday 30th January 2020

TERM 1 WEEK 1

Our first issue of the MPS Newsletter is the only paper issue we will be handing out as a paper copy to every family this year. The newsletter will be posted via Flexibuzz and the school website, fortnightly.

We do print a few copies of the newsletter for those families who would like a paper copy, these are available in the reception area where all parent brochures are on display.

KEY DATES

FEBRUARY 2020

Tue 11 Getting to Know You Interviews
Thu 20 School Tour 9.15-10am
Mon 24 Year 3 Incursion
Mini Boss Lab
Mon 25 Year 4 Incursion
Mini Boss Lab

Wed in Feb - No Preps classes

MARCH 2020

Tue 3 Division Swimming
Thu 5 5/6 Mini Boss Lab
Fri 6 Curriculum Day
Mon 9 Labour Day
Tue 10 District Tennis
Wed 11 School Tour 9.15 - 10.00am
Wed 12 Summer Sport
Wed 20 Summer Sport
Tues 24 School Photos
Fri 27 *End of Term 1 - 2.30 Dismissal*

APRIL 2020

Mon 13 Easter Monday - Public Holiday
Tue 14 Curriculum Day - No students
Wed 15 *First Day of Term 2*
Thu 16 School Tour 9.15 - 10am

TERM DATES 2020

Term 1: 28 January - 27 March 2020
Term 2: 14 April - 26 June 2020
Term 3: 13 July - 18 September 2020
Term 4: 5 October - 18 December 2020

CURRICULUM DATES 2020

Friday - 6th March 2020
Tuesday - 14th April 2020
Monday - 2nd November 2020

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2020

Mon 9th March - Labour Day
Mon 13th April - Easter Monday
Sat 25th April - ANZAC Day
Mon 8th June - Queen's Birthday
Tues 3rd November - Melbourne Cup Day

Page 1

From The Principal

Welcome Back

I wish to welcome all families back to the 2020 school year and trust your families are healthy, happy and well rested, ready for the 2020 school year. I would particularly like to welcome our new preps as they begin their formal education. This is an exciting time, where their world gets bigger very quickly and we will be seeking to provide as much support as possible to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible. I would also like to welcome Beth Pope, our newest addition to the MPS team and congratulate Hayley Cutting (nee Brown) and Erica Newnham (nee Shaw) on their recent nuptials. In other good news, Stuart McLwraith popped the question to his now fiancée Steph.

Day 1 was a fantastic day for our students as they collectively settled in. All classes were getting down to business by 10am and by lunchtime it was as if they had never been away! My thanks to our wonderful student cohort for putting their best feet forward from the outset.

Health and Safety – Novel Coronavirus

Last night, Victorian schools were advised by The Commonwealth's Chief Medical Officer and Victoria's Chief Health Officer, via the Department of Education, to recommend a stronger precautionary approach to managing coronavirus for travellers returned from Hubei province.

This recommendation is that parents/guardians/carers of students should ensure that any returning student is isolated at home and should not attend school for 14 days:

- following exposure to any confirmed novel coronavirus case; or after leaving Hubei Province.

This same advice applies to any staff who have returned or are returning from Hubei province.

The Chief Health Officer's current advice is that staff and students do not need to be isolated at home if they have recently travelled in other parts of China or other countries and are not showing any symptoms of the virus.

If a student or staff member is showing relevant symptoms, I would ask the student's parents/guardians/carers or the staff member to call the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to discuss further actions on 1300 651 160.

Of course, the school is receiving updates from the Department of Education and Training and will keep the community informed of any changes. In the meantime, we would request that any families who have recently returned from Wuhan advise the school and we will remind all students about appropriate measures such as washing hands and covering faces if sneezing or coughing.

Allergies and Intolerances

MPS is not a nut or fragrance free school, as research tells us that this can actually provide a false sense of security for those with anaphylaxis. With this in mind, I'd also like to remind the community that many of our students are anaphylactic and others suffer from an intolerance to fragrances which manifests itself in the form of nausea and headaches. We would ask that all families are mindful of these conditions and are cautious when preparing food for student lunches and consider making reasonable adjustments in regards to fragrances when entering school buildings prior to school. Of particular concern is the chemical reactions that occur whilst people are wearing fragrances that create these intolerances. Whilst the school is not seeking to put in place a school wide ban in either case, your assistance and cooperation will help us to ensure the learning spaces are as safe for our students as possible.

The Year Ahead

Throughout 2020, we will be seeking to improve how we report to families. As the year unfolds, we will start to send home assessment information that will keep all parties up to date with each child's progress and point of need. Later this term, we will be exploring some new reporting protocols that we are hoping to adopt for the second half of the year. In addition, we will be refining our literacy and numeracy practices that we have recently introduced. We will again be focusing on student agency, seeking to develop student involvement and increase engagement through a range of student led initiatives and our new student sub committees. As always, my door is open should families need to address any pressing issues, as are the doors of our Assistant Principals Stuart Hattwell and Tom Boyle. Of course, your classroom teachers are your first port of call and can be contacted in a variety of ways and should you require a meeting with them, please feel free to arrange a suitable time before or after school.

Getting to Know You Interviews

Information on the interviews will be coming home next week. The interviews will be held on Tuesday 11th February.

Assemblies in 2020

In order to avoid the rush we sometimes experience at the end of assemblies, we will commence our Friday assemblies at 2:45pm in 2020. Students will return to their classrooms at the end of the assembly, before dismissal at 3:30pm.

The Resilience Project

One of our biggest projects for 2020 will be to develop our wellbeing programs across the school community. A big part of this is The Resilience Project. Staff and students will undertake training later this term, ahead of a parent information evening in Term 2. More information will be coming home soon regarding the program, however I wanted to flag this project as early as possible, as we are seeking a high parent turn out on May 4th, so please lock this date into your diaries

Bushfire Appeal — Free dress day Tuesday February 4th

As families would be aware, fundraising is an important part of delivering school improvements. During the school holidays, the community of Clifton Creek Primary School was devastated by fire, losing the school and all that goes with it. Whilst governments and charitable organisations will help rebuild the basics and support families, the school itself cannot replace all the little things that make day to day education happen without ongoing support. The school's ability to fundraise in 2020 has been decimated, as families rightfully look to recover from the ashes. As a small token of our support, the students at MPS will be able to attend in free dress for a gold coin donation, which will go directly to Clifton Creek PS. I know that many of our families have probably donated to the bushfire appeal already and I thank you for that, but I hope that we can find some change to help this school get back on its feet. MPS, in collaboration with several schools across Melbourne, will unite to hopefully provide Clifton Creek with funds to replace the resources lost that aren't covered by government intervention. As such, we will be holding our free dress day on **Tuesday February 4th**. Thanks for your support.



Building Update

The stadium is well on its way to completion with the roof sheeting, window frames, internal studwork, brickwork and stage slab virtually finished. The main panels above the brickwork, glazing, internal fit outs and the court floor will still take quite some time to complete, but the progress is very encouraging. Over the holidays, the fire services were also upgraded around the school, which meant tearing up quite a bit of our grounds. I would ask families to respect the areas that are being reseeded and be careful to avoid trampling them.

Playground Update

It took us a little longer than we had hoped due to the fire services, but the new adventure playground is almost up and running and looks amazing. My thanks to Mr. Hattwell for his work in delivering this new feature. I'm sure our students will absolutely love it. This now brings our playgrounds up to three, with opportunities for students to explore all manner of play, from the curious in our sensory garden through to the gross motor skills of the new adventure playground. As a whole, our grounds provide students with ample opportunity to be active and we are very fortunate to have them.

Annual Privacy Reminder

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 the school's collection statement, found on our website:

<https://mulgraveps.vic.edu.au/about-us/#plans>.

For more information about privacy, see:

[Schools'](#)

[Privacy Policy – information for parents](#). This information also available in nine community languages.

Charles Spicer

Principal

Parent information

Icy-pole Sales

A reminder that students can buy an icy-pole starting next week, day/s will be advised soon 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.

Hats

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

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.**

Take Home Readers/ Spelling words term 1, 2020

Grade Prep

All take home readers and magic spelling words will commence only after all the early years testing is completed (Most likely week 6).

1-6

For all other year levels take home readers will start in week 3 of this term. All take home spelling words will also start in week 4 (The process and the amount of words will differ in each year level, please wait until you are advised by your child's teacher).



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 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 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 2020 or you did not apply in 2019.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



If you would like a CSEF form or have any questions about it, please come and ask us at the office.



MPS-PFA

Mulgrave Primary School Parents and Families Association



Welcome back!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break with lots of fun family time; but boy aren't we glad to have the kids back at school!!!

The Mulgrave Parents and Friends Association would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new Prep families into our school community, we hope that you will enjoy your time at Mulgrave.

In addition to welcoming you to our community we would like to extend an invitation to you and all our existing families to get involved in our PFA activities that are aimed at supporting and enriching your child's schooling experience. We will publish meeting times and upcoming events in this section of the newsletter and also on flexi buzz so if you can get involved, we would LOVE your support.

Watch this space!

Thanks *Mel & Lucy*

Sick Bay Linen

Term 1 - 2020



Term 1 - 2020 - We are once again looking for parent helpers to volunteer changing the sick bay bed linen. Depending upon the number of volunteers, you would only be required once possibly twice a term, if possible. Parents usually change the bed linen on a Friday, remake the bed with fresh linen we have here, take home to wash and return it to school during the next week. You will receive an email notification from signup as a reminder to change the linen. If you are able to help out by changing the linen, please sign up via the link. All assistance is greatly appreciated!

<https://signup.com/go/LsYVfPN>

Soft Plastic's Pick up and Drop off

Term 1 - 2020



Dear families,

Term 1 - 2020 MPS are continuing to be apart of the clean up 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.

Pick up from Mr. Boyles room 4W.

Warm regards,

Lucy Truesdale and Tom Boyle

<https://signup.com/go/KDfTApu>



Developing leadership skills at home

It's difficult preparing children for the world of work as the future is so uncertain. However, the ability to lead others is one attribute that will always be in demand regardless of whether your child works for a large employer, in small business, community work, is self-employed or engages in project work.

The need for leadership skill development has never been greater. Initiative, innovation and resilience is the currency of the workforce of the future. These leadership skills are best fostered from an early age at home, which will give them a head start at school.

After working in the [student leadership](#) area for many years I've identified five skills and traits that form the building blocks for future leadership, which can be promoted easily by parents at home. I've included them below with tips how to put each into practice.

Responsibility

Being a leader means that your child is willing to take responsibility and be accountable for their actions. Personal responsibility is shown when your child is accountable for their behaviour, for their belongings and for the welfare of others. Practical ways to develop responsibility include:

- Giving them responsibility for a certain part of their day such as getting themselves out of bed each morning
- Encouraging them to restore relationships with others including siblings when they mess up

Taking responsibility for household chores including resolving problems if they forget to do them

Communication

The ability to clearly get a message across to others is common among effective leaders. While most leadership positions require your child to speak publicly, their communication skills can be developed through regular one-on-one or small group experiences at home and at school. Practical ways to develop your child's communication skills include:

- One-on-one conversations with adults about a wide variety of issues and topics
- Regular discussions at the meal table where kids learn to share their thoughts, listen to others and report on events of the day

Encourage your child to participate fully in speaking activities at school such as daily news time, class and school plays and debate



Developing leadership skills at home

Organisation

The ability to organise yourself and others is central to effective leadership. Thinking what needs to be done, planning ahead and making time are basic organisational skills at the heart of personal effectiveness and leadership. Practical ways to develop organisational skills include encouraging your child to:

- Keep their personal space including their bedroom tidy and organised
- Use a diary to help manage their time

Organise a weekly chores roster including all members of the family

Teamwork

Cooperating, encouraging and acceptance of others are essential qualities of an effective leader. A family is a great place to develop a sense of teamwork in kids as it naturally requires kids to compromise for the sake of keeping the peace. Practical ways to develop a sense of teamwork include:

- Encouraging kids to share their time, possessions and spaces with other family members
- Practise teamwork at home by encouraging siblings to cook and do other chores together

Emphasise the role of being part of a team by focusing on your child's contribution to a team or group rather than individual achievement

Emotional intelligence

An underestimated quality shared by most admired leaders is their ability to remain calm when things don't go well. This emotional intelligence skill requires self-awareness, an ability to identify their own emotions and respond appropriately to the emotions of others. You can nurture these skills in the following way:

- Help your child recognise their emotions. "Could it be that this makes you angry?"
- Help your child recognise emotions in others. "How do you think your brother feels right now?"

Discuss emotions of characters in books, television programs and movies. "How you think that character felt when he was rejected by his friends?"

Leaders are needed in all walks of life – at work, in school, in families, in sport and in the wider community. The skills of leadership are best developed in the first group that a child belongs to – their family. By encouraging your child to be a contributing, responsible, caring family member you will be going a long way toward developing their innate leadership capabilities.

By: Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World* and *Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.



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Dear Families,

A warm welcome back to all families, I hope you all had a good start of the year 2020! Our Summer Holiday program had a combination of many interesting activities including the trip to the 'Clip and climb' and Village Cinema. Global dancing and Summer of Tennis incursions kept everyone on their toes!

In other activities they creatively designed their own back to school gears such as: water bottles, pens, black boards, bag tag, bags etc. Many neighbouring school children also joined our program and had a wonderful time!

This term many robust educational activities is planned to keep children entertained!

Please look out for our weekly program planner for the activities.

At camp Australia, we provide an engaging and supportive outside of school hour's space for children to play, connect, learn and grow. We work together with our school community to deliver tailored program that is designed to bring out the very best in each individual child. We create a unique place where children can practice real life skills in a fun, exciting environment that challenges them to succeed. During sessions, children will be provided with healthy snacks while given time to relax, socialise with friends and learn some lifelong skills.

Come to the OSHC room to meet the friendly team and discover how we can help your family.

Next week's activities

Monday: 3rd February - Australian Aboriginal rain sticks/Reaction games
Tuesday: 4th February - Colour Mania/Series of science experiences
Wednesday: 5th February - Chinese Latrine/ Mat race
Thursday: 6th February - Rainbow fortune cookies/ Play dough creation
Friday: 7th February - Dragon Puppets/Picnic

Kind Regards

Meena

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Computer Programming Club

In a world where technology touches every aspect of our lives, it is crucial that our children understand how it works. To accomplish this objective, there is an exciting Computer Programming club running at the school.

The aim of the club is to provide students with exposure to the fundamentals of computer science concepts. Run by external consultants from Digimaker, this program will:

- Build games, animations, stories utilizing pupil's creative thinking
- Develop logical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Express ideas & boost confidence working in a collaborative environment
- Enable the grasp of computational thinking which combines math and logic

For details on the course, visit <http://www.digimaker.com.au/courses/>

The club will run for 8 to 10 weeks each term (depending on the length of the term) and is charged on a per-term basis. Students work on school laptop during the session.

Program for Term 1 2020 is as follows:

Room : Library
Year : 3 to 6
Fee : \$120 + GST

Batch 1 – Lunch Time	
Day	Wednesday's 05 th Feb to 25 th Mar (08 weeks)
Time	01:40pm – 02:25pm

Mulgrave Primary School

*If you are interested in your child being considered for the programming club, please *fill the form online @ www.digimaker.com.au/contactus/ latest by Friday 20th Dec 2019. Digimaker will confirm your child's spot via **email.*

*Existing students need not fill the form

**All important emails from Digimaker will be sent from info@digimaker.com.au Please ensure this address is whitelisted in your Junk Email filters or added as a Trusted contact.

2020

PIANO LESSONS

Fleur Watson
 - Bachelor of Education (Primary)
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- Private piano lessons
- Teacher with over 25 years experience in Early Childhood and Primary Education
- Located in Mulgrave
- Enrolments are welcome throughout the term



Lessons expertly designed to suit individual needs and preferences

Contact:
 Fleur Watson 0439 706 800



REGISTRATION & OPEN DAY

Saturday 16th February
Columbia Reserve, Wheelers Hill

COME AND SIGN UP TO JOIN THE WAVERLEY PARK HAWKS!

- Come and meet our committee and coaches and register on the day.
- Purchase or pre-order your team merchandise.
- Catering for girls 7-18 yrs and boys 7-16 yrs.
- Saturday morning Auskick centre for kindergarten and primary school children aged 5 and above.
- Mouthguard fittings by Sportsafe Australia.
- See our facilities and grab a snag at our sausage sizzle.
- Family discounts available.
- Full Auskick fee rebate for new players continuing with their Auskick centre.



- Free shorts & socks for all new WPH's players. (value \$70)
- Free bag and hoodie for all U8's and U9's. (value \$75)
- Free training top for ALL players. (value \$40)



CONTACT US TODAY
 Columbia Drive, Wheelers Hill www.wphawks.org.au info@wphawks.org.au
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Page 12

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