

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 19

DATE: 22 November 2018

We value being: **RESPECTFUL** **SAFE** & **RESPONSIBLE**

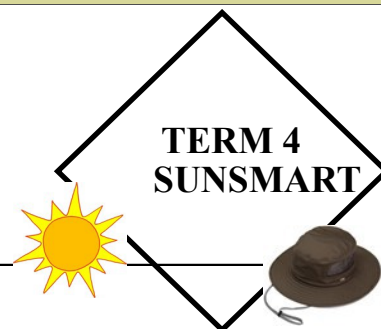
Child Safe: Mildura Specialist School is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people and has a zero tolerance for child abuse.



Striving for Independence

DATES TO REMEMBER

29 November— Graduation
4 December—Graduation Assembly
21 December—Last day of Term



Principal's Report

Planning for 2019 is well underway at school with new students joining classes here in preparation for next year. Current students are also trying out new spaces. Please continue to reassure your child about the benefits of making new friends and trying out new things. Our new Prep students are enjoying their transition visits to classroom and play areas.

Teaching and Learning: Reports are being finalised and it is wonderful to read about the progress students have made in their learning this year.

NDIS Reminder: The Mildura area moves onto the NDIS roll out in January 2019. Please ensure you register to ensure your child is on the list for a pre-planning meeting. An Intereach office will open in Mildura soon and will be an NDIS partner to assist families with planning arrangements. The school is not involved in the planning process. Remember you can use the assessments provided to you by the school for information but we are unable to complete new assessments. If required these assessments are included in the NDIS plan.



Uniforms: Thank you everyone for ensuring your child is in uniform for school. Students transitioning into Later Years will have the green and grey uniform BUT can continue to wear the blue one for a change over period until they grow out of it. Casual clothes are not permitted.

Students 18 and over who graduate this year are not expected to purchase new uniforms and may therefore be in casual if they have outgrown uniforms this term.

Marg Curran
Principal

Principal's Award

Congratulations to all Award winners this fortnight.



SWPBS—School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

This week we are beginning to look more closely at being Responsible. This week in our assembly we had Room 21 teaching us about being Responsible. Room 21 students worked Responsibly as a team to practice the 'Responsibility Song' for Assembly. We had to listen to instructions when practising, do our best to learn the words and actions, we were honest when we didn't know the words and we had lots of fun! What a great presentation we had with other students across the school joining in the song.



Art & Music Awards

TRIPLE AND DOUBLE ART AWARD ACHIEVEMENTS!

Later Years' students from Room 20 have been doing extra painting this fortnight and their work has been of such a high standard of output that it was difficult to select one student as a standout. So, instead of one, three students were selected for their exceptional work! Lucy, Peter and Cassie each received an Art Award, not just for this work but also in recognition for their efforts all year. These students have consistently worked thoughtfully, independently and resolved what, how and where to paint their respective artworks.

Students in Lower Middle Years consistently try their best. Often it is not how accurately they depict a scene in a picture or how well they assemble a collage but rather it is the engagement and focus on their effort that shines as an outstanding achievement. Tyson from Room 6 and Jyedan from Room 11 show how their efforts have produced that special work demonstrating the concentration and application they have put into the project. Congratulations to all these students!



NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Early Years' students enjoyed a visit from Delta Dogs staff with Rio the Labrador who showed us how to behave around dogs and some special tricks. Students also had a turn to listen to Rio's heartbeat.



As part of our topic of Celebrations this term all classes joined in some fun activity days for Halloween and Cup day.

This term the Lower Middle Years' students, have been studying the life cycles and habitats of various animals. In room 8, we have just finished looking at a wide range of Australian animals and are about to embark on a discovery about endangered species.

The students have been enthralled with the Humanities topic and are very eager to see which animal we will be studying next.

Here the students are proudly showing off their work in the classroom mural.



NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Some of our Upper Middle Years' students joined Mr Peter Crisp for a quick practise, before he observed some of the All Abilities Cricket Carnival. This was held on Thursday, 25 October and Friday, 26 October on the back oval. Congratulations to our students for showing perseverance and pride in their skills and teamwork.

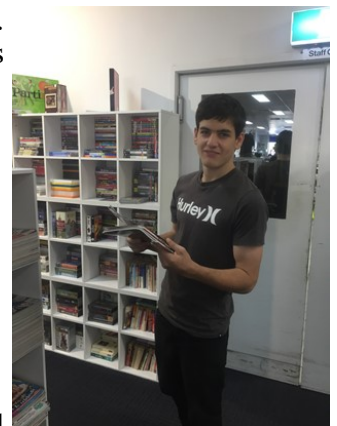


Please be aware of our school uniform policy. Students not in uniform will be asked by staff to change into school spares. As it is Term Four, our school uniform includes a hat. Please ensure students have a hat or cap to wear outside the classroom. Wide-brimmed hats are preferred.

Students in Later Years are currently working to attain their First Aid Certificate. This involves students reviewing an online resource and answering questions followed by practical sessions with staff from Parasol Mildura.



"Skills for life by the First Aid Specialists"



We would like to congratulate Jake who recently completed 2 weeks Structured Workplace Learning at St Vinnies, Mildura. During his placement Jake gained valuable insight into the retail industry. Jake greeted and served customers, used registers, sorted and hung clothing for sale.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Vegetables

Vegetables, just like fruit, contain vitamins and minerals that keep our bodies healthy. Veggies of different colours have different vitamins and minerals, so it's important to eat a variety of colours. Veggies also contain fibre, which keeps us full and helps move food through our bodies after we eat it.

There are also different types of vegetables. A carrot is the root of the plant, lettuce is the leaves of its plant and celery is the stalk! Try to include different types of veggies every day.

What's your favourite vegetable? When did you last eat it?

Fun ways to include veggies every day:

- Make a rainbow sandwich for lunch
- Make veggie kebabs



Sources:

National Health and Medical Research Council
2013, *Australian Dietary Guidelines Summary*,
accessed 4th August 2015, www.eatforhealth.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/the_guidelines_n55a_australian_dietary_guidelines_summary_131014.pdf



The Australian Government has been supporting International Day of People with Disability since 1996. This event is held on 3 December each year.

International Day of People with Disability is a United Nations sanctioned day that is celebrated internationally. It aims to increase public awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with disability and celebrate the achievements and contributions of people with disability.

For more information on the International day of People with a Disability go to: <https://www.idpwd.com.au>

SPEECH



Beyond Requesting

Information from: <https://www.assistiveware.com/learn-aac/consider-communication-functions>

When someone has communication difficulties, we need to support them to learn and develop language skills. We teach them to use language to communicate for a wide variety of reasons. We call these reasons communication functions.

When we consider the reason we want to communicate, that can help us to decide what words may need to be taught and modeled. The first step is to think about which communication functions to start teaching. The chart below gives examples of different communication functions.

For an AAC user to learn the language needed to communicate for different reasons, they need to see others do it. When modeling, we point to words on the user's AAC system as we talk to them during day-to-day interactions. And just like we model to teach vocabulary and different ways to combine words, we also model examples of different communication functions. We can show how we can communicate different messages for different reasons using the AAC. We do this modeling regularly and reliably.

Communication Function	Core words to model	Core words with fringe to model
Requesting	want, want that, want different, want more, I want	want food, want to play, I want red, I want to watch TV
Protesting	not, not that, stop	not red, not that game, stop that music
Commenting/ directing	get, get it, get that, I get that put in, put it in, take out, take it out make more, make big see, see them give me, give me that	get the blue one, put on your hat, make a cake, do more swinging, I see the car, give me my cup please
Asking for information	what? what that? where? where go? who? who go?	When are we going to shopping? Where is David? Who is going to the party?
Giving opinions	like, I like that not like, I don't like it good, bad, that good, that bad	I like chocolate, I don't like spiders, pizza is good, Mondays are bad
Tell news	I go, I see, I eat I went, I saw, I ate	I went to the park, I see Dad, I ate rice for dinner on Saturday
Starting a conversation	what? what do? I like that, what you like? I go there, where you go?	What are you doing on the weekend? I went to the beach I like movies, what do you like?

If you would like further information on how to help your child develop their communication skills, contact the speech pathology team at MSS.

Zorica and Steph

SCHOOL REMINDER

EXCURSIONS

All excursions can be paid by instalments, either at the school office or online through the school account. See above for details for the school bank account. Please ensure all relevant forms are signed and returned with payment before the due date.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUNDS (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) commenced in 2015. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card (Centrelink Card/Health Care Card) or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for CSEF. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students, and \$225 per year is paid for eligible secondary school students. A special consideration eligibility category also exists. Payments are made directly to the school. CSEF applications forms are available at the front office.

PAYMENTS

School fees, camps, excursion and cooking costs etc. can be paid to our Bank Account details are

Commonwealth Bank
BSB: 063 557
Account No: 10080861

Please enter the name of student and activity you are paying for.
Thankyou

MEDICAL

At Mildura Specialist School we have children who are at risk of an anaphylactic reaction to **nuts, eggs, seafood and kiwi fruit** in the school. Please be mindful of this when preparing your child's lunch or snacks.



HEADLICE



As a school community, we share the responsibility to control and manage head lice infections. Head lice have been around for many thousands of years and cannot be eradicated. Supporting each other to minimize their spread is vital.

It is important to check your child's head regularly with conditioner and comb even when you don't think your child has head lice.

MEDICATION

In the interests of safe practice, medication must be brought to the office in its original packaging by an adult and paper work completed to authorise school personnel to administer it.

Please note: Students are not to transport medication to school.

CANTEEN NEWS

The canteen will operate each Friday; orders must be completed and returned to school no later than Tuesday morning of that week.

Order forms are available to download and print from the MSS website.

All lunch orders must be in on Tuesday mornings.



UNIFORMS

Our school uniforms are supplied by LASER SIGN & PRINT and are available from 3 Andriske Crt Mildura. Contact person is Darran Seaman, phone: 03 5021 1129 mob: 0429 437 858

For all other enquiries for uniforms please contact the school.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARER CONCERNS

If you have a concern with any aspect of your child's education, please contact the Office (5021 3311). They will:

1. Put you in touch with the appropriate person
2. Help organise a meeting with the appropriate person.

It is important that your concerns are addressed as quickly as possible.

SCHOOL REMINDERS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Parents/Carers please take note of Parent Pick Up times.

Early Years and Lower Middle Years: 2:40—2.50 PM

Upper Middle Years and Later Years. 2.50—3.00PM

This is to help ease congestion on Deakin Ave and for safety of cars and students.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify the school as soon as possible **on the day of absence**. Notifying the school of your child's absence either prior to, or on the day that they will be away, helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and will fulfil your legal responsibility.

If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

Please notify the school by one of the following means:

- Phone: 03 5021 3311
 - Medical Certificate
 - Appointment notification
 - A signed and dated note with student's full name
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SAME DAY NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES

New Education Department Attendance Guidelines

Schools need to know when and why a child is absent and you need to know if your child isn't at school.

From the end of Term 2 2018, all Victorian government schools are required to contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the same day of an unexplained student absence. If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

This system also promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, they learn new things every day – missing school puts them behind.

What is your responsibility?

You are legally required to ensure your child attends school every day or you must provide an explanation for their absence. You should let the school know in advance of any upcoming absences or let them know in the morning if your child won't be at school. In order for schools to implement the same day notification requirement, it's essential that you provide the school with your most up-to-date contact details.

Generally one notification will be sent per family. Should there be circumstances that require both parents and carers to be notified, please contact the school to make the necessary arrangements.

What is the school's responsibility?

The school must notify you of an unexplained absence in relation to your child as soon as practicable on the same day.

We will let you know by phone. If you can't be reached because the school does not have your correct contact details (i.e. changed phone number, SMS/email failure notification received etc.), the school will attempt to make contact with any emergency contact/s nominated on your child's file held by the school. Where possible, this contact will be made on the same day of the unexplained absence.



LET'S CELEBRATE!

International Day of People With Disability 2018

Monday 3rd December 2018

4.00pm till 7.00pm

**Activities will be held in Nowingi Place
Park area behind**

**Bobby + Me Espresso & Eatery,
Hugh King Drive, MILDURA.**

