MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 10 DATE: 20 June 2019

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

26 & 27 June—Debutante Ball
28 June –Footy Day
28 June—Last Day of Term 2—early departure :2.30pm
15 July –Student Free Day – Staff Professional Learning
16 July—Students return Term 3.
22 July—Student Led Conferences Early Years and Lower Middle Years.
26 July—Student Led Conferences Upper Middle Years and Later Years.

Principal's Report

Awards: Congratulations to our Award winners this fortnight. Keep up the great work! It is great to see so many students receiving awards for Reading and Being Respectful.

Eisteddfod: Congratulations to all the students who participated in the drumming, dance and band performances at the Eisteddfod last Tuesday. Thank you to all the staff who supported the students, especially Paul Trevaskis, Emily Bradford and Catherine Threlfall.

Comments from the Adjudicator:

-What a wonderful way to explore rhythms in a group! Love it! Cool backing track too! Everyone contributed. Awesome teamwork.
-What a great song choice! Loved it! You all looked like you had lots of fun. Good actions. Good connection to the audience. Loved the inclusivity.
-Awesome music mix. Fantastic choreography. Such a joy and fun to watch. Lots of variety and so many moves. Amazing.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all the staff for their hard work this term. We have made a lot of progress implementing Project Core as part of our Annual Implementation Plan.
We are assessing our progress to date. Please read Zorica's explanation below:
Project Core has been introduced as an approach to help students with complex communication needs learn language structure and vocabulary through literacy. Selected teaching and education support staff have completed almost all modules with one left to be completed in Term 3. Universal Core Vocabulary has been introduced into Professional Learning Communities' (PLC) meetings. PLC's main focus has been on establishing a consistent assessment tool for data collection related to Universal Core Vocabulary. The Project Core PLC has selected multiple exposures and explicit teaching approaches to teaching Universal Core Vocabulary. Speech Pathologists have been working across Project Core classrooms to support teaching and education support staff with implementing Universal Core Vocabulary in their daily practice and routines.

Reminders:
Pupil Free Day: The first day of Term 3 will be a Pupil Free Day and students are not required at school. Staff will be involved in Professional Learning activities. School resumes on Tuesday 16 July.
Student Led Conferences: These will be held during Week 2, Term 3**.** Teachers will be in contact to make appointment times.
Reports: Reports will be sent home next week.

Enjoy the school holidays
Penny Hale Acting Principal

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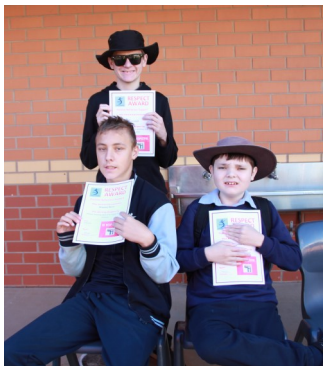
Assistant Principal: Penny Hale
Email: mildura.ss@edumail.vic.gov.au Web Address: www.mildss.vic.edu.au

Principal's Award

Congratulations to all Award winners this fortnight.

SWPBS—School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

We enjoyed seeing Room 22 at assembly last week. One key focus for SWPBS is to improve well-being of our students. Room 22 decided to link our school wide focus of vocabulary development with positive and negative emotions. Each student came up with either a positive or negative emotion to explore further. When our emotional cup is full of positive rather than negative emotions it allows us to perform at our best! Hopefully everyone is able to keep filling their cup with positive emotions.



Art & Music Awards

LOWER MIDDLE YEARS STEP UP TO THE PLATE, ER… PALETTE

Tarnesha, from Room 8, has been consistently and enthusiastically embracing every Art project this year. Often she will listen and contribute ideas to the topic being introduced or discussed, then go off and develop her own ideas further. Her imagination is very active and her output is impressive.

Izzy, from Room 9, is always keen to participate in his Art sessions. After being asked to raise his hand to ask questions, Izzy took this on and remembered when he wanted to share something. This was an excellent moment of Izzy demonstrating respectful behaviour and realising how easy it is to be heard and receive assistance by raising his hand!

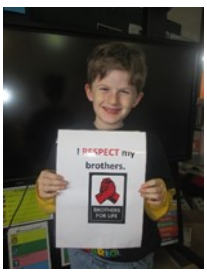
NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Students in Room 17 enjoyed getting their faces painted and dressing up for Rainbow Day this week.

We have some new stars on the rise after practising our footy skills at the Footy Clinic each Monday this term.

Students in Room 8 have been learning about natural disasters as part of our Earth Science studies. In particular, we have examined what it would be like to live in Japan as the country lies in an area prone to volcanoes and earthquakes. We have compared living in Japan to Australia, where we are exposed to drought, bushfires and floods. Everyone decided that they much prefer to live in Australia!

This week has also seen Room 8 thinking about what respect feels like. We have been creating posters of people we feel respect towards for our assembly presentation. The students have discovered a wide range of people they feel respect for, from foster parents, to the ANZAC soldiers, to the doctors at the Royal Children's Hospital.



NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Students in the Upper Middles' celebrated Rainbow Day by getting their face painted and dyeing their hair different colours. Students in Room 25 created a list of words related to individuality, acceptance and kindness and created a rainbow using these words. Room 23 made rainbow noodles to share with their friends.

On Friday 14 July Upper Middle and Later Years students attended a Game Education program called Stacked Gaming at Mildura District Aboriginal Services (MDAS). Students explored different digital operating systems. They had the opportunity to ask questions to professionals about how digital media works and the different career options that are available in the digital media industry.

McDonald's Industry Visit:

On Friday 31 May 2019, some Later Years' students visited McDonald's Restaurant in Deakin Avenue. The group listened to the Manager, who spoke about all the different areas you can work at McDonald's. The areas in the business are - McCafé, the drive through, the office, and the outside garden.

By Nathan Herrington

Mildura Waves

On Friday 24 May, some Later Years' students went to Mildura Waves. We had a tour of the Centre. We saw the gym and how it works and the day care for parents to drop their kids off when they are going to the gym or to a class. We asked the staff questions about their jobs. I found the tour a lot of fun and I would like to get a job there when I get older.

By Ben Wilkinson

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Building activity into daily life

- Walk or ride a bike with your child to the local shops or to and from school
- Encourage children to help with household chores such as walking the dog, washing the car or mowing the lawn
- Go for a family walk after dinner

Keep a football, frisbee, jump rope, scooters or bat and ball in your car at all times.

From: Healthykids.nsw.gov.au

EARN & LEARN

From May 1 to June 25, earn and learn stickers are available from Woolworth's supermarkets. Please remember to collect your stickers and drop them into the front office or in the boxes at Woolworth's Langtree Avenue or Mildura Central.
Thank you!

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, figs, watermelon pineaple 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

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.

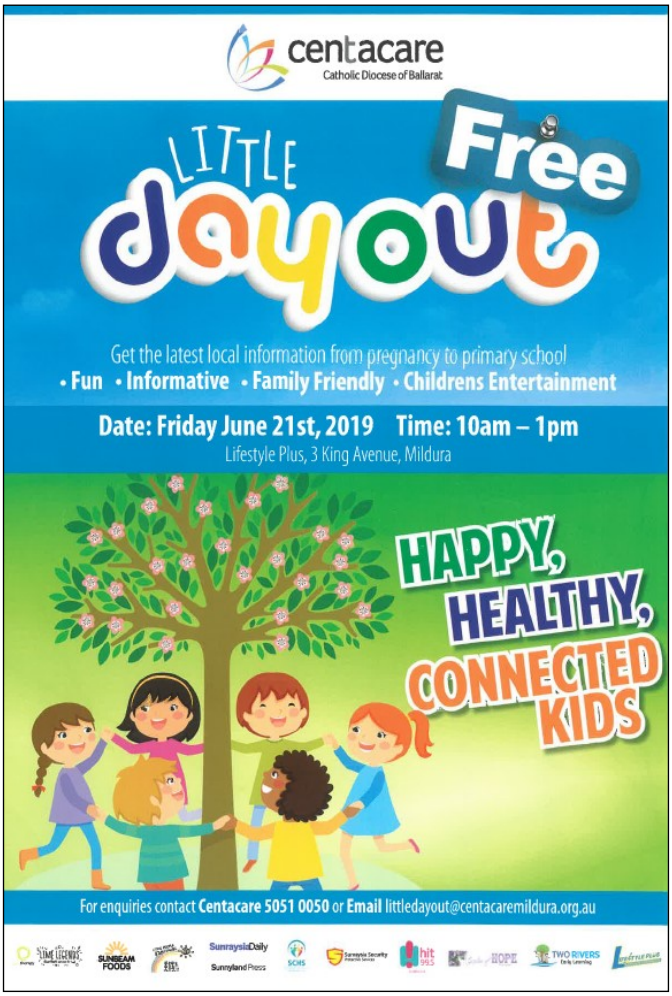
What is the school's responsibility?
The school must notify you of an unexplained absence in relation to your child as soon as practicable on the same day.

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sony Star Camp is a three day 'live in'camp for children with physical and/or intellectual disabilities. Hosted by Genazzano FCJ College, Loreto Mandeville Hall, St Kevin's College and Xavier College, with generous sponsorship from the SONY Foundation, campers and companions will be accommodated in the boarding house at Xavier College. Each day's activities will be held in the surrounding grounds. There is no cost for families of campers. All meals are provided.

For expressions of interest or to obtain a camp information handbook and application form please contact:

Camp Registrar: Mr Daniel Barrett, phone: 0401 521 849, email: barrettd@stkevins.vic.edu.au

Camp Coordinator: Mrs Rasika Crowley, phone:9815 4846, email: Rasika.Crowley@xavier.vic.edu.au