

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 18

DATE: 7 November 2019



Striving for Independence

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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

28 November— Graduation Night
11 November—Prep Transition Day
18 November—Prep Transition Day
25 November—Prep Transition Day
20 December—End of Term 4

Principal's Report



Awards: Well done to our Award winners last week. I'm expecting to present lots of awards next week due to the public holiday being on Tuesday this week.

Kindness Awards: There is a display in the office showing the names of students showing kindness to others. Congratulations to Sam B from room 25 who won the Kindness Award last week. Sam received a drink from the Canteen.



Congratulations to our Cricket Players for your participation in the All Abilities Cricket Carnival. It looked as if everyone was enjoying themselves and showing fine sportsmanship.



Thank you to the Personal Development Skills / Student Representative Council students and Later Years' staff for organising the Halloween Disco. It's great to have fun at school. Well done to the administration team for getting into the spirit of things by dressing up and decorating the office area.



In the 'News Around the School' section within this newsletter, Paul Trevaskis has written about the students who have been on Structured Workplace Learning placements. Congratulations to Tyson, Nathan, Jake and Tulisha. The photo on the left shows Tulisha's mural which she unveiled on Friday. Tulisha also gave a speech. This was all completed in one week – an amazing effort!

Thank you to Paul for organising these visits.

Penny Hale
Acting Principal

School Uniforms: It is great to see so many students wearing their uniform. It is an expectation that students wear their uniform at school.

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Acting Principal: Penny Hale
Acting Assistant Principal: David Wright
Email: mildura.ss@edumail.vic.gov.au

(P) 50213311 (F) 50213314
Web Address: www.mildss.vic.edu.au

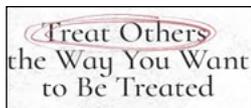
Principal's Award

Congratulations to all Award winners this fortnight.



SWPBS—School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

In Room 6 we have been looking at the school value of 'Be Respectful'. We discussed the 'Golden Rule', treat others the way you want to be treated. After discussing different ways that we like to be treated and how we should treat our friends, we wrote these suggestions down and presented them to the school during assembly. Room 18 have been working on ways we use social media and suggested ways we all need to be respectful, responsible and safe.



Art & Music Awards

Over the past three weeks, Upper Middle and Later Years students have been designing and painting masks. Although not made for Halloween the appearance of these masks in the Front Office just before the school celebrated Halloween last Thursday was good timing - an extra feature added to the day! These represent only a segment of the masks being made and as these are finished, it is hoped they will replace some of the masks already on display.

Ethan from Room 22 received an Art Award this week for his mask which is in this photo (second row, third from left). Deshawn (Room 2) was the Art Award recipient last week for his independently assembled collage of a different kind of mask, made up of different people's facial features.

Last week also saw the distribution of certificates that various students across the school received for their work in the recent Mildura Show. As Jamie the teacher said: Everyone is a winner for entering something into the Show, not just those people who got a ribbon or certificate. You all deserve to give yourselves a clap for the commendable work you did by entering the Show.



NEWS FROM MILDURA ARTS CENTRE

Aaron Rose, a former student of MSS who has been working from ArtRageUs (an arm of the Christie Centre) since leaving school, has just had a solo exhibition opening at the Mildura Arts Centre! His work, which consists of delightful dolls manufactured out of found materials and paper wrapped and bound with sticky tape is accompanied alongside paintings of the similar characters. The exhibition is located in the first gallery space and presents a colourful and lively mix of dolls and works on paper. Closing date will be Sunday, 1 December.

Alongside Aaron's work in the next gallery space is another exhibition representing a mixture of primary schools from the region and work by students from those schools. It is a very colourful and energetic display showing what children in our area are capable of producing!

Also, upstairs at the MAC and on at the same time is an exhibition featuring creative explorations made by the Art Teachers working in schools across Mildura and the Sunraysia region. Visit the exhibition for an exciting viewing of what teachers are thinking about when not working in their classrooms!

NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Room 4 has had a busy start to the term. Room 4 and Room 20 are working together to learn all about plants. The students started the inquiry by working in pairs to plant seeds. Over the course of the inquiry, students have measured their plants and documented changes through illustrations and writing in their Plant Journal. Room 4 and Room 20 will be using their research skills in the approaching weeks to find out more information on their plants so they can create a digital book to showcase their learning. We cannot wait to see the finished product!!!!

Lakota and Cassie (Left) and Lucy and Vivien (Right) working together to arrange the stages of a plant from seed to flower.

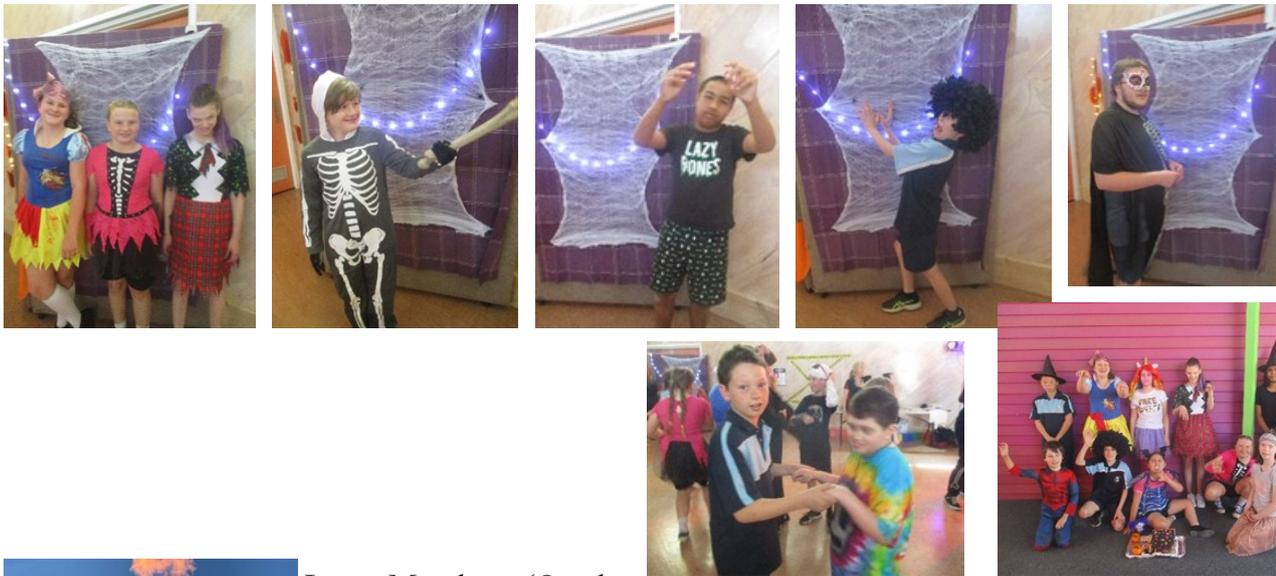


NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

This term, the students in room 8 are learning about Dinosaurs. This is a student led topic and we are working the theme around the students' goals in Digital Technology of 'Identify and explore digital systems for a purpose'. The students have been very excited to learn that there was a discovery of a T-Rex dinosaur named "Sue" – just like the Sue in our room!



Many of the School's Lower Middle classrooms also eagerly attended Mildura Specialist first ever Halloween Disco. Everyone had such a fantastic time dressing up and dancing to the music with activities provided by the senior staff and students. Thank you very much to everyone who was involved in the day. Room 8 would like to say a special thank you to Narni's parents for supplying a spookily themed Halloween Gingerbread house for us all to share as well. It was very yummy!



Last Monday (October 28), some of the Upper Middle Years' students were able to go to the back oval to join in with the Senior College VCAL session on Mental Health. As part of this activity, Claire O'Brien brought in her hot air balloon, Dot. Unfortunately, the wind was too strong for it to go up, but Claire let students into the basket for photos.

Some of the Upper Middle Years' students participated in the All Abilities Cricket Carnival. A great time was had by all with great teamwork and sportsmanship skills being displayed.

We are so proud of the students who entered into The Mildura Show. Great work on completing items to enter. This also encourages community involvement.



NEWS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Selected students from Later Years VCAL have been participating in Structured Workplace Learning. Tyson Chadwick completed a week's placement with Sunraysia Freight Company assisting with receiving and delivering freight. Nathan Beggs completed a placement in sound production at Hot FM. Jake Bawden-Di Lullio is currently attending Hot FM, also in sound production. Tulisha Williams is currently with Lime Therapy where she is planning and painting a mural on a wall in their offices. We congratulate these students on their successful placements and thank the employers for supporting our students to gain a better understanding of how to be successful in the workforce.



Try a Trade Hair and Beauty group attended the centre each Wednesday for three weeks to experience skills used in a salon.



Jessiedean had a successful transition with the TAFE Horticulture program recently and Katie went to Life Skills on Pine for a cooking transition program. Selected PAL students will attend SRS Benetook Farm for two transition visits in the coming weeks.

Ian, Lucy and Jasper's Water Poster pictures were successfully chosen to appear in the 2020 Lower Murray Water calendar. Congratulations!

The All Abilities Cricket Carnival was a success with our students being supportive and encouraging towards each other, whilst showing good sportsmanship.

Students attended a Wellbeing and Anxiety Awareness session on the back oval with Mildura Senior College last Monday.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Tips for a good sleep

Everyone knows how important it is to sleep well. Here are a few tips that could help your child get a good night's sleep.

Set up a bedtime routine

A regular [bedtime routine](#) starting around the same time each night encourages good sleep patterns.

Check noise and light in your child's bedroom

A quiet, dimly lit space is important for good sleep. Check whether your child's bedroom is too light or noisy for sleep. Blue light from televisions, computer screens, phones and tablets might suppress [melatonin](#) levels and delay sleepiness.

Eat the right amount at the right time

Make sure your child has a satisfying evening meal at a reasonable time. Feeling hungry or too full before bed can make your child more alert or uncomfortable. This can make it harder for her to get to sleep

Get plenty of natural light in the day

Encourage your child to get as much natural light as possible during the day, especially in the morning. Bright light suppresses melatonin. This helps your child feel awake and alert during the day and sleepy towards bedtime.

(raisingchildren.net.au)



Magic Mealtimes

THURSDAY 21 November | 4.30 - 6.00pm



This FREE workshop offers a new way to tackle meal time battles. Learn about the things that make eating easy and take home some simple strategies to support your child to eat a wide variety of food.

Magic Mealtimes is suitable for parents, caregivers and professionals. You are welcome to bring your partner or support person, however you will need to arrange childcare for children.

RSVP is essential due to the type of activities we will run during this workshop.

E: rlinklater@schs.com.au P: 03) 5022 5444

Sunraysia Community Health Services
137 Thirteenth Street, Mildura
www.schs.com.au



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 pineapple 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



EBZ Dance Concert 2019
Mildura Arts Centre
Saturday 16th November
Matinee 12:30pm
Evening 6:30pm
Sunday 17th November
Matinee 12:30pm
TICKETS ON SALE 11th October, 10am
available at the Information Centre or Online through Mildura Arts Centre
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS
OF EBZ DANCE!
2019 brings you more
energetic and
entertaining routines
in the styles - Tap,
Jazz, Hip Hop &
Contemporary.
A great variety and
a show to please all!

Adult - \$30
Child (U16) - \$20

EBZ DANCE



**We made the NDIS real.
Now let's make it work.**

**Come to the Mildura
NDIS Make it Work community forum**

Tuesday, 12 November, 10:30am-12:30pm

Benetook Room, Alfred Deakin Centre
190 Deakin Avenue, Mildura VIC 3500



Register at www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au

