



Macquarie Fields Public School

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Newsletter

Term 1 Week 8



Every Wednesday
9 to 10am Parent Café
10am to 12pm Playgroup

Wednesday, 21st March
Harmony Day - Celebrations
begin at 11:40am

Thursday, 22nd March
School Photos Years 3 to 6
and sibling photos

Monday, 26th March
School Photos Years K to 2

Thursday, 29th March
Easter Hat Parade K to 2

Friday, 30th March
Good Friday

Friday, 6th April
Colour Run/Walkathon

Friday, 13th April
ANZAC Day Assembly 9am
Last Day of Term

MFPS Breaking News.... First Kindergarten Assembly Item Performed By K Sapphire!



On Thursday 15th of March K Sapphire performed the first assembly item by a Kindergarten class for 2018. They sang 'Little Peter Rabbit' and did a great job !

Easter Hat Parade - Thursday 29th of March, 2018

Kindergarten - Parents to the classroom at **10am** to help children make their hats. The Easter Hat Parade will be held after the lunch break in Area D at **11:30am**.

Year One - All parents are welcome to attend the Easter Hat Parade which will be held in Area D at **9:15am**.

Year Two - All parents are welcome to attend the Easter Hat Parade at **10:15am** in Area D.

Younger siblings can also be part of the celebration and participate in a 'Toddler Parade' on the day.

The children are allowed to wear mufti clothes on the day if they bring a gold coin donation. Parents may take their children home after the parade is over by signing them out with the class teacher.



This year's PRC started on the **5th of March** and ends on Friday the **31st of August, 2018**. The challenge is open to students in Kindergarten to Year 6. The rules are:

	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books	PRC booklists you can read from
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9

.For further information please see our Librarians or your child's Teacher. Happy Reading!

What's On in Term 1?

Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8	19.03.18	20.03.18 <i>Last day for Bookclub orders.</i>	21.03.18 <i>Harmony Day Playgroup 10am (Hall)</i>	22.03.18 <i>School Photos Years 3-6 School Banking Stage 1 Assembly (Item by 2 (Sodalite))</i>	23.03.18 <i>Toddler Time 8:30 - 8:50 am in library.</i>
9	26.03.18 <i>School Photos Years K- 2</i>	27.03.18 <i>Stage 2 Assembly (Item by 3/4 Jasper) Stage 3 - Anti Bullying 10am</i>	28.03.18 <i>Parent Café: 9:15am (Staffroom) Playgroup 10am (Hall)</i>	29.03.18 <i>Easter Hat Parade K-2 School Banking</i>	30.03.18 Good Friday
10	2.04.18 Easter Monday	3.04.18	4.04.18 <i>Parent Café: 9:15am (Staffroom) Playgroup 10am (Hall)</i>	5.04.18 <i>School Banking Stage 1 Assembly (Item by 1 Kryptonite)</i>	6.04.18 <i>Walkathon/Colour Run Toddler Time 8:30 - 8:50 am in library.</i>
11	9.04.18	10.04.18 <i>Stage 3 Assembly</i>	11.04.18 <i>Parent Café: 9:15am (Staffroom) Playgroup 10am (Hall)</i>	12.04.18 <i>School Banking Kindergarten Assembly (Item by K Water Opal)</i>	13.04.18 <i>Last Day of Term ANZAC Day Assembly 9am</i>

School Photos



Thursday 22nd March and Monday 26th March 2018



Dear Parents/Carers,

The School Photographer has been booked for **Thursday 22nd March and Monday 26th March**. Classes from **years 3 to 6** will have their photos taken on **Thursday** and classes from **Kinder to Year 2** will have their photos taken on **Monday**. All students will need to come dressed in full **summer uniform**.

Each student must hand in **their own** completed envelope to the front office (via the silver box) on or **before** the **22nd March** for 3-6 students and by the **26th March** for K-2 students.

Sibling photos will be held on **Thursday 22nd March**.

Young Leaders Day

On Monday the Year 6 School Leaders attended National Young Leaders Day at Darling Harbour Convention Centre. There were 5 speakers altogether. The underlying themes were to do your best in all situations and don't let set-backs dampen your enthusiasm, have vision and follow your dreams. Among the speakers were John Coutis, Harrison Craig and Matt Cosgrove. Our school leaders enjoyed the day in the city and the train travel experience and recommend it to Leaders in the future.

Mr N. Tasker



John Coutis: Born with a spine deformity and had his legs amputated at 12 years old. Suffered bullying and overcame enormous adversity just to live a 'normal' life.

Principal's Report

Year 2 students had a wonderful day at the Camden Show and they need to be congratulated on their outstanding behaviour. There will be photos in the next newsletter.

We really need your assistance in keeping our children safe. Children must not be dropped at school until at least 8.30. We have many children being dropped off before that time - **there is no supervision until 8.30**. We also need you to call the office if you are running late to pick up your child. There is a teacher on duty until 3.15 so all children need to be picked up by then. Every day we spend a lot of time calling to find out why children have not been picked up. All children must be picked up by 3.15 as teachers have many meetings to attend. It is the parent's responsibility to organise care. You cannot rely on high school students to pick up siblings as they get here too late!

We are looking forward to Harmony Day tomorrow. Parents are welcome to come to school from 11 am. Performances will begin at 11.45 in Area D. If you are taking your child home following the performances please sign out with the class teacher.

Please return photo envelopes to the silver box by tomorrow as photos for Years 3-6 are being taken on Thursday. K-2 photos will be taken on Monday of next week. Please make sure children are dressed in full summer uniform including black school shoes with white socks for girls and grey socks for boys. If your daughter wears tights with the uniform they must be green. If you would like a sibling photo taken please collect an envelope from the office.

Do not forget to support your child to get some sponsorship for the school walkathon, colour run. This will be a great day and all money raised will go towards the purchase of more Ipads for class use. The child in each grade who raises the largest amount of money will win an iPad of their own!!

On Tuesday 27th March Constable Williams our youth liaison officer from Macquarie Fields will be coming to talk to Stage 3 students about bullying.

On Thursday 29th March there is a mufti day for all students K-6 for a gold coin donation and a hat parade for K-2.

Our students in Years 4-6 will participate in the *Tell them from Me* surveys. This gives them a way of telling us about what we can do to support them at school. If you do not want your child to do the surveys please let your child's teacher know by Friday.

Kerrie Hayman

Principal

Thank You! A very big Thank You to Fahima Akter, who donated a number of plants to our tyre garden. Our school community appreciates your donation.



OC Class For Year 5 2019

Applications for students to sit the OC Test open on May 1st, 2018 and close on May 18th, 2018. Applications are made online. For more information visit:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>

Stewart House 2018 Donation Drive - All families will receive a Stewart House Donation Envelope for a \$2 donation.

When you donate \$2 you enter the draw to win a \$4000 family holiday! Please fill in the front of the Donation Envelope, put in the \$2 and return it to the silver box by Friday the 11th May, 2018. Thank you for your support.

NAPLAN 2018

Macquarie Fields students in Year 3 and Year 5 will this year sit pen and paper tests for NAPLAN in May 15th, 16th and 17th. Schools are moving to the online testing, however, the decision was made that this year for our school will be using the paper tests.

	Tuesday 15 May 2018	Wednesday 16 May 2018	Thursday 17 May 2018
Year 3	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 45 minutes	Numeracy 45 minutes
Year 5	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 50 minutes	Numeracy 50 minutes

PARENT / CARER SUPPORT (Links provided are interactive and will take you to the NAPLAN website) It is important to remember that NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress. At the classroom level it is one of a number of important tools used by teachers to measure student progress.

If your child is sitting the NAPLAN paper tests in 2018, you can read more about the tests and access past papers by clicking the link: <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

To see a demonstration of a NAPLAN test go to:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

For more information please go to the ACARA website for NAPLAN at: <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan>

Macquarie Fields public school teachers continue to engage all learners in core literacy and numeracy skills every day and in every lesson. We encourage students to maintain their focus on learning in the classroom as we believe this is the most effective way students will be developing these core skills.

Learn To Swim Classes



A reminder that permission notes and payment for swimming scheme closes on **Friday 6th of**

April. There are only a limited number of vacancies left as we have filled over half of the quota already.

To allow time to formulate swimming classes, no payments or permission notes will be accepted after **Friday 6th of April, 2018**.

Hi Parents and Carers,

We would like to remind you that the school now has a **Facebook** page.

To communicate important information, you now need to visit our School Website and the Macquarie Fields Public School Facebook page. Please find below the links to both the school website and Facebook page.

<http://www.macfields-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/macquariefieldspublicschool/>

Infectious Diseases

It is important that parents seek medical advice if an infectious disease is suspected. Many of these diseases require that the patient (and sometimes contacts at home) be excluded from school for varying lengths of time. In all cases, parents or caregivers must contact the school to advise of the disease. **A medical certificate is required before the child can be allowed to return to school.** Infectious Diseases include; Measles, German Measles (Rubella), Diphtheria, Chicken Pox, Mumps, Conjunctivitis, Impetigo, Whooping Cough (Pertussis), Poliomyelitis and Slap-Cheek.

Student Payments

Student payments ALL go into the silver box please.

We would like to remind and encourage parents to use our secure online payment system. It is very quick and easy. Please go to the school's website, click on 'Make A Payment' and fill in the relevant details to make a payment.

Also remember to deposit your permission notes after making an online payment into the silver box located on the outside wall of the Office building in Area D (Assembly Area).

To ensure your child's participation please make sure online payments are made well before the closing date shown on the note.

Parents if you still wish to make cash payments please remember that you can put more than one payment in the envelope, but make sure all the money and notes for the payments are in the envelope.

Harmony Day

Wednesday 21st March

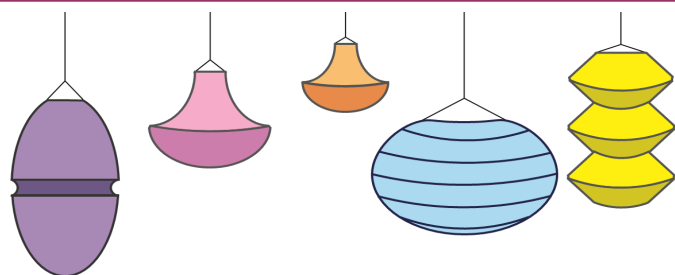


Harmony Day is a celebration of our cultural diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. We will be celebrating the day with a number of events.

The morning routine of learning will be related to Harmony Day where students we be participating in activities relating to this year's theme **RacismNoWay**.

At 11:00am parents and care-givers are welcome to come and join their children for lunch. Starting at 11:40am will be our whole school celebration showcasing some of our school's diverse cultural talents come and let us entertain you.

Please note if the weather is inclement an announcement will be made in the morning concerning any changes to times. Parent cafe will be postponed until the following Wednesday due to preparation for our parade.



Freshly Made Sushi Now Available At The Canteen!



6 Daily Meal Deals For \$6

DEAL 1: Vegetarian Lasagna + Water + Jumpies + Fruit

DEAL 2: Beef Lasagna + Water + Jumpies + Fruit

DEAL 3: Garlic Bread + Water + Fruit + Jumpies

DEAL 4: Crumbed Chicken Tender Wrap & Lettuce & Mayo + Water + Rice Crackers + Fruit

DEAL 5: Crumbed Tender Nuggets (6pc) + Water + Popcorn + Fruit

DEAL 6: Sushi + Water + Popcorn + Fruit

Sign Up and Order Online :

www.quickcliq.com.au



More Specials Coming Soon .

'Meet Our Mob' BBQ Afternoon



MFPS Students learning to be great savers with SMART Banking.



Our Zone Carnival Swimmers!



Changing Attitudes towards Mental Health

Returning to School after Physical and Mental Health Concerns

References:

<http://www.copmi.net.au>

<https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/mental-health-matters/additional-needs>

Communicating with the school when a child or young person has attended the Emergency Department, Hospital Inpatient Unit or GP for a significant illness / concern can ensure their return to school is supported by everyone.

How does this help the student?



Supported to adjust back into school life

Improve opportunities to maintain their educational outcomes

Assisted to maintain safety and wellbeing **Allows** the student to discuss any concerns or worries they may have with a teacher they trust or the school counsellor

Reduces the likelihood of negative consequences including detention, suspension when common situations arise e.g. late to school, uncompleted work or utilising phone.

How does it help the school?



Able to collaborate on a support plan with child and parent which results in increased likelihood of an effective plan.

Know how to manage the impact of the illness or injury **They** can better understand and respond if problems come up

Know how to manage the impact of the illness or injury **Make** informed decisions about how they respond to common situations e.g. late to school, uncompleted work or utilising phone.

Remember to update your child

Talk to your child before you talk to the school. They may have preferences about who you talk to and who has knowledge of the situation. There may be a certain school staff member they trust and would prefer you talk to.

It is often appropriate to have stage three and high school students attend these meetings with you. Reassure them that it's private and you hope it will help them. It's also good to remind your child that they can always come and speak to you if they are having troubles at school.

Taking Action.

Think about the best way to communicate with your child's school, such as arranging an appointment with the teacher so that you're not interrupted and have time to talk. You could also ask to speak to the school counsellor, Principal, or Deputy Principal, Welfare Officer or Year Adviser if you prefer, and have them communicate the situation to your agreed essential support staff.

What should I tell them?

What the student experiences in relation to the significant illness or concern.

Your concerns about your child at school (e.g., homework, getting to and from school, or bullying)

If there is any plan for you to use to support your child from the Doctor, Psychologist or hospital

What you are doing at home that you finds is helpful for your child in relation to the significant illness or concern

What the plan is if they become unwell or are not managing at school

Who you are happy for your information to be shared with

What counselling and support services are available and how to access these if they are needed

The best way to keep them informed about your child's situation.

Ask that the situation be kept confidential, to prevent other children from teasing or treating your child differently



This article is general information only, if you are concerned about your or someone else's mental health, talk to your General Practitioner (GP) or School Counsellor.

Useful Resources / Contacts: Mental Health Line 1800011511 Kids Helpline 1800551800

www.beyondblue.org.au/ <http://au.reachout.com/reachout-nextstep>

School Canteen

Our school has called for tenders for the school canteen. The advertisement was placed in the Macarthur Advertiser on 14th of March, 21st of March and 28th of March, 2018. The tender closing date is 5th of April, 2018.

Spare Notes

Spare notes , for your convenience, are located on the wall outside the front office. Collecting notes from here also helps to relieve some congestion in our small foyer area. Thank you

Rule of the Week: Show Respect

Congratulations to the playground canteen voucher winners over the past two weeks.

SHOW RESPECT In the playground by packing away equipment after you have finished playing with it.

Think about what you can do in the classroom, in the playground and at home to show respect to others.



Support the Troops for ANZAC Day

In recognition of ANZAC day Macquarie Fields Public School would like to support the deployed troops overseas. We will be collecting items to make into care packages that will be sent overseas to male and female soldiers. We are currently collecting donations that include:

Toiletries:

- Deodorant (non aerosol)
- Shaving cream (non aerosol)
- Small bottle of talcum powder
- Shower gel
- Lip balm

Food:

- Instant Noodles
- Biscuits
- Lollies
- Small tinned consumables
- Non-perishable foods
- Tim Tams.

Any of the above donations would be greatly appreciated and can be left at the office. Donations need to be donated by Wednesday 4th April. Thank you.

Student Competition

Students have the opportunity to participate in a competition about ANZAC Day. The writing topic is "What ANZAC Day means to me" and can be presented on an A4 piece of paper. You can write a poem or an essay. The writing entry needs to include the student's full name and class and be given to the office by Wednesday 4 th April.

Bringing Up Great Kids



This four-week program will assist parents and carers of children up to 12 years to:

- consider their own parenting style and how it can be more effective
- understand how children's brain development influences their feelings and behaviour
- recognise the meaning of children's behaviour
- communicate effectively with their children
- recognise the need to take care of themselves and find support when they need it.

When

Tuesdays
March 20 & 27, April 3 & 10
10.30am – 12.30pm

Where

St Andrew's Church Hall
1 Riverside Drive
Airds

For information or to make a booking, contact **4621 6666**

This is a free course.
Childcare is available at no cost.

Anglicare group programs are funded through sources including the Australian Government Department of Social Services and NSW Family and Community Services.



Community Services

LIBRARY BAGS

Every student in our school has the opportunity to borrow library books as a part of their weekly library lesson. To help look after our books it is necessary for each child to have a library bag which they must bring to school each time their class has library.

If you would like to purchase a library bag for your child they are available from the school library for \$3 each. Exact money can be handed to the library or you can make payment through the school's silver box system.

The School Library Team

