



Macquarie Fields Public School Newsletter

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Wakakirri Performance 9th August 2019

Wakakirri is Australia's largest performing arts event for schools. It is a fun and exciting competition where schools can tell a story through dance. Wakakirri is a wonderful experience that allows kids to perform in front of a large audience. Our Wakakirri group of 92 students performed their dance story at The WIN Entertainment Centre and were awarded the state award for 'Best Cultural Celebration Story'. Well done to all the students and teachers!



2019 Term 3- Week 6

Upcoming Activities

Week 6

Tuesday, 27th August

After School Disco
Kindergarten 3:30pm - 4:30pm
Stage 3 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Wednesday, 28th August

Father's Day Stall

Fire in the Fields
7:00pm

Thursday, 29th August

Hands on High School - Stage 3

After School Disco
Stage 1 3:30pm - 4:30pm
Stage 2 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Week 7

Monday, 2nd September
Zone Athletics

Tuesday, 3rd September
Zone Athletics

Stage 2 Maritime Museum
Excursion

ICAS Digital Technologies
3:15pm - 4:15pm

Wednesday, 4th September
Stage 2 Maritime Museum
Excursion

Thursday, 5th September
Stage 2 Maritime Museum
Excursion

ICAS Science
3:15pm - 4:15pm

Friday, 6th September
PSSA Gala Day

What's On In Term Three?

Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
6	26.08.19	27.08.19 Stage 2 Assembly 2pm Item - 3 Lutana After School Disco - Kindergarten 3:30 - 4:30pm Stage 3 5:00 - 6:30pm	28.08.19 Parent Cafe 9:15am Playgroup 10am (Hall) Father's Day Stall Fire in the Fields 7:00pm	29.08.18 Debating Training Kindergarten Assembly 2pm Hands on High School - Stage 3 Father's Day Stall before school After School Disco - Stage 1 3:30 - 4:30pm Stage 2 5:00 - 6:00pm	30.08.19 Father's Day Stall before school
7	2.09.19 Zone Athletics	3.09.19 Zone Athletics Stage 2 Maritime Museum Excursion ICAS Digital Technologies 3:15-4:15pm	4.09.19 Parent Cafe 9:15am Playgroup 10am (Hall) Stage 2 Maritime Museum Excursion Stage 1 Assembly 2pm	5.09.19 Debating Training Stage 2 Maritime Museum Excursion ICAS Science 3:15-4:15pm	6.09.19 PSSA GALA DAY
8	9.09.19	10.09.19 ICAS Writing Test 3:15-4:15pm Stage 3 Assembly 2pm	11.09.19 Parent Cafe 9:15am Playgroup 10am (Hall) Stage 3 to Camp Kindergarten Assembly 2pm	12.09.19 Debating Training Stage 3 at Camp ICAS Spelling Test 3:15-4:15pm	13.09.19 Stage 3 at Camp SSW Athletics (Regional)
9	16.09.19	17.09.19 School Group Photos ICAS English Test 3:15-4:15pm Stage 2 Assembly 2pm	18.09.19 Parent Cafe 9:15am Playgroup 10am (Hall) Stage 1 Assembly 2pm	19.09.19 Debating Training ICAS Maths Test 3:15-4:15pm	20.09.19 Stage 3 Assembly
10	23.09.19	24.09.19 Kindergarten Teddy Bear's Picnic	25.09.19 Mini Fete	26.09.19 Debating Training Kindergarten Teddy Bear's Picnic Year 6 to MFHS Celebration Day	27.09.19 Last Day of Term 3



More Wakakirri Photos

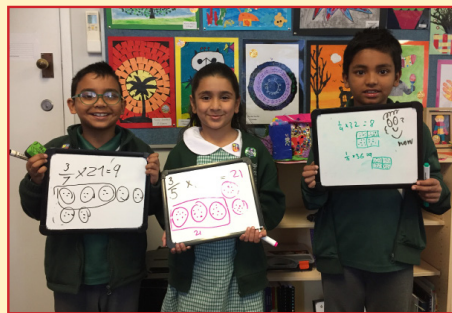
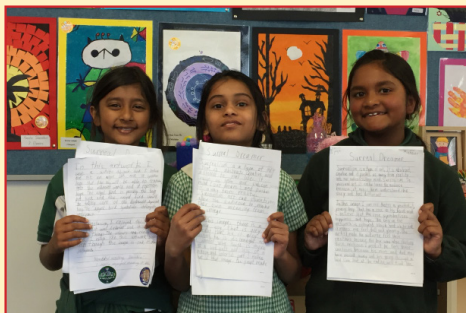


LET US EXCEL

Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Caregivers

It has been another busy two weeks of learning at Macquarie Fields. The students continue to thrive in and outside the classroom. One of the special parts of my week is having students visit my office to share their learning. Over the fortnight I have enjoyed some outstanding writing from Sunehra, Natasha and Mahnoor from 2 Tharawal. I was particularly impressed with their vocabulary choices, making their writing very descriptive and really 'painting a picture' for the reader. I also really enjoyed the mathematics learning from 2 Coo-ee with Kimaya, Nevaan and Tej sharing their fraction work. Very impressive!



School Administrative and Support Staff Recognition Week 26 – 30 August 2019

The school community is made up of many different people, all of whom play an important part in the running of schools and the provision of quality education to students.

School Administrative and Support Staff, whether they work in the office, the library, on the school grounds or in a classroom setting, are important contributors to the success of the school and children's education.

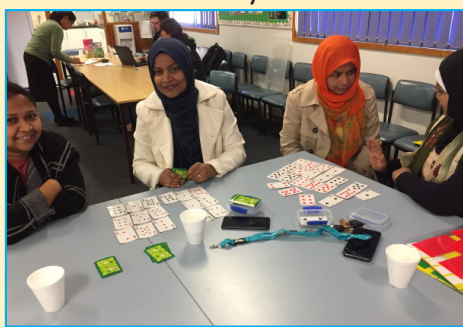
We would like to take this opportunity to thank our School Administrative and Support Staff for their hard work and dedication to our school. Our school really appreciates and values the part you play in our wonderful school!

Parent Café shines!

Macquarie Fields hosts a weekly Parent Café every Wednesday morning in the staffroom, directly after morning assembly (9:15am). Since I have been at Macquarie Fields, I have been very impressed with the contribution, support and friendship that the café offers our families. There have been a variety of activities undertaken, including making resources that support teachers and children in classrooms, learning more about the curriculum with special workshops delivered by our expert teachers as well as classroom visits to see learning in action. There is also the opportunity to relax and have a cuppa and connect with each other and the school. I also particularly enjoy that families who attend take the opportunity to ask questions about the school. This is a great way to learn more about the fabulous things our school is doing.

At last week's Parent Café, we were thrilled to have 15 participants attend to learn more about mathematics – both what's happening in classrooms and how parents can help their child at home. Mrs Mitchell led a very practical session and the feedback from parents was very positive. It was great to see, for example, how a simple deck of cards can be used to play fun and challenging addition games or dice can be used to practise addition, subtraction or multiplication.

I warmly invite all our families to join Parent Café. Everyone is most welcome!



Continued on the next page

Principal's Report Continued

Education Week Art Gallery

The magnificent art collection displayed in the hall during Education Week Open Day, with an artwork from every student, has been returned to classes. Prior to that happening, three pieces were selected from every class, to become part of the Principal's office and administration office art display. These works have been mounted and are a visual reminder of the talent and creativity we have in both our teachers and students. If you are in the office, please enjoy the colour and beauty of the display! If your child's work was one of those chosen, you are welcome to pop in and admire it again. I have had lots of proud students' share that their artwork was selected and where it now displayed. Congratulations!

Department of Education Revised Enrolment Policy

Our school has increased enrolments to the point where we have reached and are exceeding a capacity to accommodate our students in permanent classrooms. The revised Department of Education Enrolment Policy will have an impact on the manner in which we process non-local enrolments over coming years.

All students who reside within our local intake area will continue to be offered places at our school, however non-local enrolment applications can only be considered by schools that can accommodate new enrolments below their designated enrolment buffer level. A buffer is calculated by our school to allow the enrolment of local students who arrive throughout the year.

The impact of this requirement is that our school may not be able to enrol non-local students from 2020. To assist with the transition to this new requirement it has been agreed that non-local siblings of current students will be permitted to enrol in 2020.

The school will continue to have a non-local application process in place to prioritise any applications that may be considered exceptional circumstances or for any places that may become available if the school enrolment falls below the designated cap.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss these changes further.

Representing Macquarie Fields with pride

The school received a lovely email earlier this month from the staff at the Heritage Centre sharing that they had a wonderful 6 weeks when Macquarie Fields Public School Stage 1 classes were visiting. The program's coordinator praised our students for being respectful, attentive and keen to learn. She shared that the students' demonstrated their knowledge capably and that this really showed the great teaching and learning that had happened in the classroom before the children attended. The coordinator also praised the wonderful interactions she observed between the teachers and students. Congratulations Stage 1 teachers and students – fabulous ambassadors of our school!

Have a wonderful fortnight.

Ms Vicki Craze
R/Principal

Kindergarten enrolments for 2020

Macquarie Fields PS is currently accepting student enrolments for Kindergarten 2020. This is in preparation for the orientation program to be held early in November. If you have a child who is turning five by 31 July 2020, they are eligible to enrol for Kindergarten next year. Enrolment packages are available from the office. If you are aware of a family friend or neighbour who is new to the area or who does not currently have children at our school, and has a child eligible for enrolment in Kindergarten next year, please ask them to telephone the school or come up to the office to give their details.

Changes to student information

If there are any changes to your child's circumstances e.g. phone numbers, emergency contacts, access, custody etc. that you think the school should be made aware of, please fill out an official form collected from the school office so details can be updated on our computer system and filed in your child's pupil record card. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

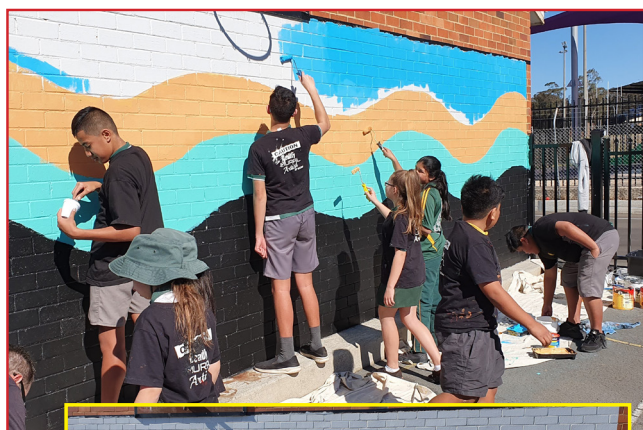
Community of Schools NAIDOC Celebration

Sarah Redfern HS hosted the Community of Schools NAIDOC Celebration for this year on Friday, 9th August. The day began with a formal assembly, followed by workshops and activities, that gave students an opportunity to explore their Aboriginal culture and its importance in Australian history. The Macquarie Fields PS students who attended had a great day exploring and celebrating Indigenous culture.



Aboriginal Mural

Last week we had an Aboriginal Mural artist, Michael Faddon, come and do some work in our school. He came last term and worked with the ATSI students on a design which incorporates the totem, ideas and/or symbols of our ATSI students at Macquarie Fields PS. The artist will be working with our students and staff to finish the mural next week and will be back in Term 4 to work on a second, related mural outside the library. All of the ASTI students worked with a friend from their class to paint the mural.





MOBILE PHONE ACCEPTABLE USE PROCEDURES

(INCLUDING MOBILE PHONES AND SMART WATCHES)

Rationale

The increased ownership and widespread use of electronic devices, including mobile phones and smart watches, requires schools to have a policy and procedure that governs the appropriate use of these technologies. These emerging technologies are a part of everyday life and it is acknowledged that these devices can have a number of benefits when used effectively, including in the educational setting. The problems that arise from the misuse of mobile and electronic devices however, has necessitated a procedure to ensure appropriate use of technology in the school setting to keep students and staff safe.

Inappropriate use of mobile phones can cause major issues for schools, including but not limited to:

- Disruption to teaching, learning and class activities
- Bullying, harassment and abuse via text message and social media websites
- Privacy concerns related to the sharing of personal information, images and data
- Access to inappropriate material, otherwise not available on school networks
- Loss and/or theft of devices
- Potential for breach of copyright
- Duty of care issues for educators

Principals, executive and teachers have a responsibility in the duty of care of their students. The following policy has been designed to give students, parents and teachers guidelines and instructions for the appropriate use of mobile phones during school hours.

Outcomes:

- Students, staff and parents will have an increased understanding of the appropriate use of mobile phones that will allow them to benefit from the use of these technologies
- Students and teachers will feel supported and safe in their school environment knowing that mobile phones are being used appropriately
- Students will respect and understand the reasons for increased guidelines and policy around the safe use of mobile phone technology
- Teachers will be proactive in their approach to addressing issues with mobile phones in the playground and their classrooms and will act on negative behaviours quickly and effectively to prevent problems from arising
- Teachers will work as a team and take a collaborative approach in addressing and reporting issues with mobile phone and technology use
- The mobile phone procedures will be in line with and support the school values of Be Kind, Be Safe, Co-operate and Show Respect

Implementation

Students

Students are responsible for ensuring they comply with the school's code of conduct and procedures governing the use of mobile phones in the school environment. All students will be made aware of the following rules, the procedures for dealing with mobile phone use and the consequences for such behaviour. Students will consistently respect the school environment and the staff and act in a safe manner to ensure that issues do not arise from the use of mobile phones.

Staff

It is the responsibility of staff at Macquarie Fields Public School to be aware of and comply with the Department's Mobile Phone policy and the school's procedures and ensure that appropriate consequences are implemented to deal with problems arising from inappropriate mobile phone use. Staff must understand the issues that arise and take a proactive approach to the implementation of this policy and work as a team to ensure a positive and united approach to mobile phone use at Macquarie Fields Public School. There is also a responsibility as teachers to educate students about the possible uses and misuses of technology.

Parents

Parents are responsible for supporting the school's mobile phone procedures and ensuring their children are mature enough to follow it before giving them a phone to bring to and from school. Parents understand that their child is not to use a mobile phone at school between 8.30am and 3pm for any reason and support the school's consequences if their child breaks the rules.

Procedure and consequences

- **All phone calls to and from parents must be made at the front office of Macquarie Fields Public School (9605 1024). Administration staff will make contact with the student**
- Mobile phone are to be switched off and stored in bags between 8:30am and 2:55pm.
- Mobile phones are not to be used during class or at break times. They are to stay switched off and in bags.
- Mobile phones are not to be used for any purpose, including texting, calling, photographing, filming, accessing the internet or listening to music between 8:30am and 2:55pm.
- Bringing a mobile phone to school is done so at the student's own risk. No responsibility will be taken by Macquarie Fields Public School for stolen, damaged or misplaced devices.
- Any student found using a mobile phone will have it confiscated by the teacher and have it stored securely until the end of the school day.
- If a device is confiscated or has been used inappropriately, the incident will be recorded on the school's Sentral system and an appropriate consequence enforced, following the school's Welfare and Discipline policy. Parents will be informed.
- **NOTE:** there may be appropriate times and places within the school setting where, at a teachers' discretion, personal electronic devices and mobile phones may be used in teaching and learning activities. This is to be negotiated with the classroom teacher and the Principal and will follow the 'MFPS Bring Your own Device' Procedure.

Evaluation

December 2019 - Survey of staff, parents and students to review procedures and policy.

Yarn Up Showcase

Four Macquarie Fields PS students represented our school at the Yarn Up Showcase on Monday, 12th August. These students each presented a speech at the Parliament of NSW, using the skills they practiced at the Yarn Up public speaking workshops that they attended throughout the year. Well done Mia (Year 6), Dominic (Year 5), Teagan (Year 6) and Destiny (Year 6).



teach.MathsNOW Scholarships are now open

An exciting new scholarship has just been launched by the NSW Department of Education. Applications are now open for the teach.MathsNOW Scholarship, supporting the department's commitment to ensuring that all NSW public school students have access to high-quality mathematics teachers.



Do you know an industry professional or university student in a career area requiring tertiary studies in mathematics, such as engineering, accounting, finance or IT, who would make a great secondary mathematics teacher? The teach.MathsNOW Scholarship offers an opportunity to change career path and retrain as a mathematics teacher in a NSW public school.

teach.MathsNOW scholars will receive up to \$50,000 in equivalent upfront course contribution fees, paid part-time employment during studies and a guaranteed permanent teaching position in a NSW public school on successful completion.

For more information and to apply, visit:

<https://www.teach.nsw.edu.au/getpaidtostudy/teachmathsnow>



Education