



MERRYLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Wednesday 21 February 2024 Week 4, Term 1



Principal's Message

Cyber-safety

Our school is privileged to have a great partnership with Merrylands Police. Officer Dean, who comes regularly to our school to run workshops with students will be delivering some cyber-safety workshops this term with our Stage 2 and 3 students and teachers. We are also planning a You Think You Know cyber-safety presentation for parents and carers later this term.

I cannot stress how important it is that children are supported at home by parents and carers overseeing what they see online. Sadly, not everyone on line is really a 'friend' or someone that children can trust.

PULSE

Rehearsals are now in full swing for this upcoming performing arts event. Our dancers went to the combined school's rehearsal this week and our choir go next week and our First Nations dancers the week after that! Please remember that our Tuesday after school rehearsals are very important to ensure that our performances are the best we can do. Also, a reminder to families that you can purchase tickets now if you are coming along to enjoy this night. All MPS PULSE Students are performing on Thursday 14 March only. Tickets are available from Ticketmaster and the event name is PULSE Alive 2024.

P & C

Last year there were a number of parents who expressed interest in re-forming our MPS P&C. I will be holding a meeting next Monday (26 February) at 3.15pm to gather interest. If you intend to come, please let the office know so we can cater for afternoon tea. Your children are welcome to be with you, but will remain in your supervision.

Mulch

I would just like to reassure our community that our school is not impacted by the recent landscaping events in the media. The arborist who has done work at our school does offer us gum tree mulch from time to time which is directly from work he has done and not another supplier.

Morning Routine 8.30-9.00am

It's great to see so many of our Kindergarten students giving family a kiss & hug goodbye at the gate and going in to find their friends and their Star Line independently. Our morning time is for students to meet up with their friends and have some play, with teacher supervision, before the learning day starts. At 8.50am music plays which signals to students to go to their class place on the Silver Seats or Star Lines. At 8.55am the bell rings and teachers join the classes for quick morning messages before we go to classes promptly at 9.00am. Please help your child to not miss any part of this morning routine so they are happy and settled when we go inside to start class time. A reminder to parents/carers that any messages for the teacher are to go via the office so that both the teacher and team leader are informed.

Please check the Library and Got Game Fitness timetables in this newsletter so your child knows what day/s these activities are on.

Principal's Message Continued

School Bytes/SeeSaw rollout

Thank you to families for the quick responses we are getting with our School Bytes notes. This is really helping with our organisation at school and much appreciated. If you are still having issues connecting, come into the office and the team will be happy to help you. Over the last few years we have used SeeSaw as a two-way communication tool with families. Now that School Bytes is operating, it will be our main channel for parents/carers to notify the school about permission and attendance. In the coming weeks we will begin using SeeSaw again as our channel for celebrating learning but it will only be open for school staff to send out to families.

Reading Eggs/Mathletics

Mathletics and Reading Eggs passwords and logins will be distributed this week by classroom teachers to all students K-6. Please encourage your children to complete their homework to consolidate their learning from school.

School Swimming Carnival - Mini-bus (+pics)

Well done to all the students who competed last week in our Swimming Carnival. Given the inclement weather I made the decision to use our mini-buses to transport students and staff to and from Guildford Pool. This ensured that students were not walking in the rain and could return to school promptly once their races were finished. Our two mini-buses, which can take 10 students and 2 staff in each have already proved to be a great asset to our school!



Traffic Concerns

A number of parents have emailed the school or contacted us in person about unsafe and illegal driving actions they are seeing at morning pick up and afternoon drop off times. The rules are clearly displayed on posters on the fence line from the council. We have requested Cumberland Council rangers to come and support the safety of everyone at these busy times in the school day. Student safety comes first. If you have concerns please call the council on 87579000. They also have an app which sends your message straight to the rangers. Snap Send Solve App from the App Store.

**Snap
Send
Solve**



Thank you.
Bronwyn York
Principal,
Merrylands Public School

OFFICE NEWS

ATTENDANCE

Student learning times are 9:00am – 3:00pm. Any early leavers must be approved by the Principal before students can leave. Parents must also come to the front counter to collect students; office staff cannot send your child out without a signature. We appreciate your cooperation.

PICK UP

Please make sure afternoon pick-up plans are arranged with you child/children so that office phone lines are available in case of emergency. Staff attend afternoon meetings, training sessions or have their own family to pick up, so prompt collection of students at 3:00pm is appreciated.

REMINDERS

Birthday Reminder

Cupcakes ONLY



NO Lolly Bags



ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies have changed this year. Years 3-6 will be odd weeks and K – 2 will be even weeks. They will be run on Wednesday afternoon at 2:00pm – 3:00pm.

COMMUNICATIONS



We will no longer be using Audiri as our messaging service. We will use School Bytes. We highly recommend that you are signed up with Parent Portal so you can remain up to date with school messaging.



Our new finance system is here. All families must have their current email with the school for you to receive notes and payment information.

A note has been sent home explaining how to create your parent portal. Our office staff are happy to help if you are unable to set up your parent portal.

All excursion notes will be sent home via an email with a "pay here" option. You will now give permission to attend events electronically and pay online. No more cash payments can be made to the office and there are no EFTPOS facilities, online payments only.





OFFICE NEWS Contd:

SCHOOL BYTES PARENT PORTAL: MANAGE STUDENT ABSENCES (PRIMARY ONLY)

Our school uses School Bytes to help manage student absences that can be accessed via a parent portal. The School Bytes parent portal enables you to view all your children in one portal and provide a response for any student absences that have been recorded by the school. The parent portal also allows parents to provide details of a planned absence if the absence details are known in advance for example, a scheduled medical appointment.

Notes awaiting on consent:

Sensory Gym (Sent: 19/02/24 Due Date: 23/02/24)

Stage 3 Overnight Excursion (Sent: 19/02/24 Due Date: 08/03/24)

PULSE – First Nations Homebush (Sent: 19/02/24 Due Date: 23/02/24)

Walking or transport by MPS Minibus (Sent: 19/02/24 Due Date: ASAP)

PULSE – Choir – Homebush (Sent: 26/02/24 Due Date: 01/03/24)

Please ensure your email address and contact details are up to date with the school. You don't want to miss critical information being sent to you. If you need to change, check, or add an email address, please email the school at merryland-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au. Please monitor your inbox for communication we send to you. Please respond to digital correspondence received via email to make payments and/or give permission. Please ensure emails sent to you from noreply@mail.schoolbytes.education are not marked as spam/junk in your email system.

LIBRARY TIMETABLE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5/6T	5/6D	4F	3E	KPS
5/6H	4/5Y	3/4T	4S	KB
1K	1C	1/2T	3/5L	KN
2S	1M	2/3L	2K	2/6C
3L		1G	5/6L	KS
				K/3J

Don't forget your library bag.

GOT GAME TIMETABLE

Monday	Tuesday
5/6H, 5/6D	3L, 3E
5/6L, 5/6T	2S, 1C, 1G
3/4T, 4/5Y	1M, 1K, 1/2T
2/3L, 2K, 2/6Z	KN, KS, 2/6C
4F, 4S, 1/6O	K/3L, KB, KPS

Please ensure that your child has their sports shoes on the day they are doing Got Game.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

	Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
FEBRUARY	1				1	2
	2	5	6	7 K-2 Assembly (2pm-3pm)	8	9
	3	12	13 We Rock the Spectrum begins	14 3-6 Assembly (2pm-3pm)	15 Swimming Carnival	16
	4	19	20 PULSE After school rehearsals	21 Cyber bullying talk Stage 2 K-2 Assembly (2pm-3pm) Care & Share	22	23
	5	26 P&C Meeting 3:15pm	27 Scripture starts PULSE After school rehearsals	28 Cyber bullying talk Stage 3 3-6 Assembly (2pm-3pm)	29	1
MARCH	6	4	5	6 Harmony Day	7	8 International Women's Day
	7	11	12 PULSE Rehearsals Choir PULSE After school rehearsals	13 3-6 Assembly (2pm-3pm) NAPLAN starts	14 PULSE Performance	15
	8	18	19	20 K-2 Assembly (2pm-3pm)	21	22
	9	25	26	27 3-6 Assembly (2pm-3pm)	28 Easter Hat Parade	29 Good Friday NO SCHOOL
APRIL	10	1 Easter Sunday NO SCHOOL	2	3 K-2 Assembly (2pm-3pm)	4	5
	11	8	9	10 3-6 Assembly (2pm-3pm)	11 Anzac Day Service	12 Last Day of Term 1

MERRYLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEW AWARDS

Merrylands Public School New Awards!



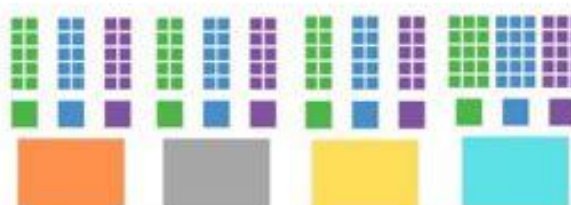
This year we are saying goodbye to rainbow awards and hello to Safe, Respectful and Responsible awards. We also no longer just have silver and gold certificates, there are now Bronze, Silver, Gold and Diamond! Students need to receive a certain amount of each type of award (Safe, Respectful and Responsible) to earn their Bronze, Silver, Gold and Diamond certificates.

30 Awards (10 of each type) = Bronze

30 Awards (10 of each type) = Silver

30 Awards (10 of each type) = Gold

45 Awards (15 of each type) = Diamond



Matilda's Meerkat Messages!

Starting this year, each week we will have a message from Matilda the Meerkat. We will learn about the message in class and share it in the newsletter and online for everyone to see! This week's message is:

Term 1 Week 4

**We invite others to
join in games and
activities.**



Term 1 Week 5

**We eat in the
correct areas.**



SENSORY GYM VISITS



SPORTS

PSSA

Summer PSSA teams will be finalised this week. Games are due to commence Friday March 1 (continue 8, 15 March) This is a modified competition as only 4 schools have entered. Others have withdrawn due to bus issues, cost, time restraints, lack of coaches and overall disruption to organisation. A similar format will be finalised in Term 4 with semi and finals included. A draw will be included in the School Bytes permission note.

School Sports

School Sport will be a combination of skill sessions in

Sports	Years & Times
League Tag	Years 3/4 commence 9:00am – 10:00am
Soccer/Football	Years 5/6 commence 10:00am – 11:00am
Netball	
Newcombe Ball	

Students will rotate through all sports over a period of 4 weeks. This should encourage them to trial for winter PSSA teams in the same sports.

They will also have the option of selecting dance year (3-6) and Lawn Bowls year (5/6) for the full 4 weeks.

Parramatta Blitz NRL Players

Last week, during the Parramatta Blitz NRL Players Toni Mataele and Brendan Hands addressed year 5/6 Students. They spoke about healthy lifestyle, commitment, friendship and being involved in sport (rugby league in particular). Some of the students received prizes for posing and answering relevant questions.



STAGE 3 NEWS

Stage 3 Overnight Excursion

Stage 3 Overnight Excursion (3 days/2 nights) to Canberra has been booked for 24 – 26 July. Details including payment procedures, have been included in the School Bytes note.

MPS SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2024

We were fortunate to complete our annual competitors swimming carnival for Years 3 to 6 on Thursday last week. The drizzly weather did not deter our competitors or staff as we were all so excited to attend and compete in the swimming races. The students who attended were enthusiastic and competed with sportsmanship and determination. The winning sport house for 2024 was Rafter - congratulations!

We are extremely thankful to all the staff who were in the water, on the pool deck or transporting students in the bus to ensure maximum participation of the 70 students.

It is extremely important for all students to attend swimming lessons after school to ensure we are all safe around water. All enquiries need to go to Cumberland Council. The Department of Education has a swimming scheme which we will be part of in Term 4 for all abilities in Years 3-6. MPS staff have also been part of the Water Rescue Performance Course that ensures we are aware of the most up to date water safety information. Merrylands/Parramatta Zone Swimming Carnival is on Wednesday 6 March. Please stay tuned for the announcement of our swim team.



Merrylands Public School Canteen Price List 2024

Lunch Options

Chicken Burger (H) (flamed grilled) lettuce & mayo	\$5.00
Chicken Chippies (H) (4)	\$4.00
Chicken Nuggets (5) (H) (\$1.00 each)	\$4.80
Garlic Bread (H) (V) Sml \$1.50	Lge \$2.50
Gozleme (H) (V) (Spinach/Feta) Sml \$5.50	Lge \$8.00
Hash Brown (H) (V)	\$2.50
Hot Dog (H) (Tomato or BBQ Sauce)	\$4.50
Hot BBQ Chicken Wrap (H) Sml \$4.50	Lge \$7.00
Margarita Pizza (H)(V)	\$4.00
Pizza BBQ Chicken (H)	\$4.50
Pizza with Tomato (H)(V)	\$4.50
Pizza Cheese & Olive (V)(H)	\$4.50
Sausage Roll (H)	\$4.50
Noodles Beef or Chicken (H)	\$4.00
Sweet Chilli Wrap (H) chicken, lettuce & tom	\$7.00
Party Pie (H)(V)	\$2.00
Lasagne (H)	\$5.00
Macaroni & Cheese (H)(V)	\$5.00
Spaghetti Bolognese (H)	\$5.00
Meat Pie (H)	\$4.50
Southern Style Chicken Burger lettuce, coleslaw & tomato	\$5.50

Sauce – Tomato or BBQ \$0.80

NEW NEW NEW

Turkish Rice & Chicken (H) Sml \$5.50	Lge \$7.00
Turkish Rice only(H)(V) Sml \$4.50	Lge \$6.00
Turkish Rice & Salad (H)(V)	\$6.00

Recess Options

Pineapple Pizza (H) (V)	\$3.00
Cheese Toasted Sandwich	\$4.00
Fruit Salad Cup \$2.50 Med \$4.50	Lge \$6.00
Garlic Bread (H) (V) Sml \$1.50	Lge \$2.50
Margarita Pizza (H) (V)	\$4.00
Pizza BBQ Chicken (H)	\$4.50
Pizza Cheese & Olive (V)(H)	\$4.30
Party Pies (H)	\$2.00
Cheese Melts 1/2	\$2.00
Piece of Fruit	\$1.50

Sandwiches/Rolls/Wraps

Chicken, Salad & Mayo Wrap Sml \$4.50	Lge \$7.00
Egg	\$3.00
Chicken (Charcoal) & Salad	\$5.50
Honey	\$2.50
Jam	\$2.50
Salad	\$5.00
Tuna	\$4.00
Vegemite	\$2.50
Cheese	\$3.50
Extra fillings 80c each eg, tomato, lettuce, mayo etc	

Fresh Salad Boxes -

Garden Salad lettuce/tomato/carrot/cucumber/red cabbage	
Greek Salad Sml \$5.00	Lge \$7.00
Salad Box Sml \$5.00	Lge \$7.00
Add Charcoal Chicken, Tuna or Ham	\$2.50
Add Egg or Cheese	\$2.00
Add Dressing	\$0.80
Fruit Salad Sml \$4.50	Lge \$6.50
Focaccia any 3 fillings	\$6.00

Snacks

Grainwaves	\$1.50
Mamee Rice Sticks	\$2.00
Popcorn	\$2.00
Pretzels	\$1.50

Beverages

Flavoured Milk 300ml (Chocolate or Strawberry)	\$2.80
Groove 350ml	\$3.00
Juice Bomb 250ml	\$2.80
Chill J 250ml	\$2.80
Water Bottle 600ml	\$2.50
Fruit Juice (Orange or Apple)	\$2.80
Up & Go 250ml	\$2.80

Iceblock Options

Icy Mony/TNT	\$2.00
Ice Blocks/Snapstix	\$1.00
Juices	\$2.50
Paddle pop	\$2.50
Frozen Yoghurt	\$3.00

Breakfast Options

Toasted Sandwiches from	\$4.00
Toast	\$1.00
Hot Chocolate	\$2.80

Please Note – 10c for lunch order bags
20c for forks or spoons

Come and ask us about our SMS Ordering System and Excursion Packs
Please do not ask for credit as refusal may offend BUT we do have an account system
Do you have a Birthday coming up and don't have time to bake, we can organise cupcakes or ice blocks to your child's class

Term 1, 2024

Every Day Matters



When it comes to attending school, every day matters

If your child misses as little as **1 day per fortnight**, they will miss **4 weeks of school per year**, which adds up to over **1 year missed over their school life.**



Scan the
QR code to
learn more

Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:



Learning



Strengthening
friendships



Build skills
through fun



Parking Penalties

ROAD SAFETY FACT SHEET

Current to 30 June 2024

For more information contact Council's Road Safety Officer on 8757 9000

No Parking Zones Australian Road Rule - 168

Where No Parking signs are present, you are authorised to stop your vehicle for the purpose of dropping off or picking up passengers or goods. Your vehicle must not be stopped for longer than **2 minutes** and the driver must not be more than **3 metres** away from the vehicle at any time.

Parking in this zone is not permitted.

Some no parking zones may have varying hours of operation. This means restrictions only apply to parking within the allocated times shown.

Includes stopping, when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Fine: From \$129

School Zone Fine: \$215 + 2 Demerit Points



No Stopping Zones Australian Road Rule - 167

Where No Stopping signs are present, you must not stop or park your vehicle within the marked zone.

Includes stopping, when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Fine: From \$302

School Zone Fine: \$387 + 2 Demerit Points



Pedestrian Crossings Australian Road Rule - 171-173

You must not park or stop on or near a pedestrian crossing at any time.

Includes stopping, when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Fine: From \$387 + 1 Demerit Point

School Zone Fine: \$514 + 2 Demerit Points



Intersections Australian Road Rule - 171-173

When at an intersection, unless a road sign allows you to park, you must not stop or park your vehicle within 20 metres of an intersecting road where traffic lights are present, or within 10 metres of an intersection with a roundabout or without traffic lights.

Includes stopping, when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Fine: From \$302

Bus Zones Australian Road Rule - 195

You must not stop or park your vehicle within a bus zone. Some bus zones may have varying hours of operation. This means restrictions only apply to parking within the allocated times shown.

Includes stopping, when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Fine: From \$302

School Zone Fine: \$387 + 2 Demerit Points





Parking Penalties

ROAD SAFETY FACT SHEET

Current to 30 June 2024

For more information contact Council's Road Safety Officer on 8757 9000

Double Parking Australian Road Rule - 189

You must not park your vehicle alongside one that is already parked at the side of the road.

Includes stopping, when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Fine: From \$302

School Zone Fine: \$387 + 2 Demerit Points



Footpaths and Nature Strips Australian Road Rule - 197

You must not park your vehicle with two wheels mounted on the nature strip or park across or over a footpath as this creates an obstruction to pedestrians and/or bicycles.

Includes stopping, when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

Fine: From \$129

School Zone Fine: \$215 + 2 Demerit Points



Driveways Australian Road Rule - 198

You must not park your vehicle across or over a driveway as this creates an obstruction to vehicles entering or exiting the premises.

You are authorised to stop your vehicle here for the purpose of dropping off or picking up passengers or goods.

Fine: From \$129

School Zone Fine: \$215 + 2 Demerit Points



Disabled Parking Area

You must not stop or park your vehicle in any area with a *Disabled Parking* sign present unless you have a current *Mobility Parking Scheme (MPS)* card displayed and you are carrying a person with a disability.

Fine: From \$644



Continuous Yellow Line

You must not stop or park your vehicle on any road where a continuous yellow line has been painted along the kerb.

Fine: From \$302

