



Moonee Ponds Primary School

respect • optimism • care • collaboration

NEWSLETTER

August 2
2023

Read the MPPS newsletter to stay up to date with the latest information, upcoming events and celebrations of learning.

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Moonee Ponds 3039

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www.mpp.vic.edu.au

<https://mpp-vic.compass.education/>

Out of Hours School Care:

TeamKids: 1300 035 000

Email: info@teamkids.com.au

www.teamkids.com.au



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE OF THE KULIN NATION AS THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND WHICH IS MOONEE PONDS PRIMARY SCHOOL. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO ELDERS PAST AND PRESENT AND TO THE ONGOING LIVING CULTURES OF FIRST PEOPLES.



PRINCIPAL REPORT

Congratulations to our Foundation students who will be celebrating 100 days at school tomorrow. We look forward to sharing some photos to mark this occasion in the next edition of the newsletter.

Today, our Year 3/4 students are participating in an online safety session. It is run by eSmart, an initiative of the Alannah & Madeline Foundation, which helps schools maintain a supportive and connected community to reduce online and offline bullying, and increase wellbeing. The students will be involved in The Three Cs of Cyber Safety program. It is designed specifically for Years 3 and 4, and explores the three Cs of Cyber Safety (Contact, Conduct and Content). MPPS is an eSmart accredited school.

Well done to Year 1/2 D for their amazing assembly presentation last week about the Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships program. It was also great to hear our woodwind students perform as classes arrived. The next assembly where classes present will be next Thursday 10 August at 3pm in the Gym with Year 1/2 C presenting. We will also have the MVIMP Cello students perform as we arrive.

MVIMP Concert Winter Soiree

Our Moonee Vale Instrumental Music Program (MVIMP) Winter Soiree was held last Wednesday. It was amazing to see students performing (many for the first time) in front of their parents. Well done to our MVIMP Captains Oliver and Alessia who hosted the evening. Thank you to our tutors and Libby Haigh for their organisation of the program, and to the teachers who volunteered and came along to support the night. We have over 50% of our Year 3-6 students in the program which is amazing. We would also like to thank Hamper World (Moreland Rd, West Brunswick) who kindly donated the hamper. They have donated a hamper every year for 14 years now and we thank them for their support.

Parent/ Teacher/ Student Interviews- Three Way Conferences

Congratulations to all students who completed their Three-Way Student Led Conference discussion with their teacher and parent/carer. It was pleasing to hear that students reflected with purpose and confidentially shared their learning along with highlighting some challenges they have faced and new learning goals for the future.

A reminder to parents, if there is concern about specific areas of your child's learning, or social and emotional development, please let the classroom teacher know and together you can arrange a time to discuss this either in person or over the phone.

2023 Term Dates:

Term 3 - 10 Jul to 15 Sep

Term 4 - 2 Oct to 20 Dec

Dates to Note:

August

13-21 - Science Week

20-27 - Book Week

22 - District Athletics

23 - Book Week Parade 9am

23 - School Council Meeting

September

1 - Father's Day Stall

5 - Divisional Athletics

8 - PA End of Term Lunch

13-15 - Year 3/4 Camp

15 - End of Term 2: Dismissal at 2:20pm

October

2 - Start of Term 4

25 - School Council Meeting

November

6 - Student Free Curriculum Day

7 - Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

22 - School Council Meeting

28-1 Dec - Year 5/6 Camp

Parent's Association Meetings

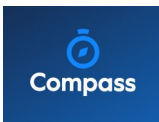
2023 - 10 Aug, 7 Sept, 12 Oct, 16 Nov

Access the latest school newsletter through the Compass Newsfeed or through the School Website at:

<http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/>

COMPASS

For attendance, excursions, camps, bookings, school payments, emails and school communication via the newsfeed.



SEESAW

Stay connected to your child's learning at school. See photos and videos of school learning experiences and talk to your child about this!



SCHOOL WEBSITE

Access School policies, procedures and resources for families. This includes the newsletter and parent downloads.



Respect Optimism Care Collaboration

PRINCIPAL REPORT - CONT.

Respectful Relationships & RRRRs Curriculum at MPPS

The Respectful Relationships program supports schools and early childhood settings to promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours. It teaches our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.

Family violence has a devastating impact on communities and affects people from all walks of life. The Royal Commission into family violence recommended Respectful Relationships be introduced in all schools to change attitudes and prevent the prevalence of family violence in future generations. This initiative supported by the state government, enables schools to implement a whole school approach to promote gender equality and respectful relationships among staff, students and families.

The Respectful Relationships approach recognises that schools are a workplace, a community hub and a place of learning. Everyone involved in our school community deserves to be respected, valued and treated equally. We know that changes in attitudes and behaviours can be achieved when positive attitudes, behaviours and equality are lived across the school community, and when classroom learning is reinforced by what is modelled in our school community.

Included in this newsletter is our School's Commitment Statement to Respectful Relationships as well as information about our classroom learning curriculum "Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRRs)". Further information can also be found on our school website at: <http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/curriculum/respectful-relationships/> and on the Department website at: <https://www.vic.gov.au/respectful-relationships>

Parent Opinion Survey

The Parent Opinion Survey is completed annually by the Department of Education and is conducted amongst parents at every school in Victoria. All responses to the survey are anonymous. The survey helps our school gain an understanding of how you view our school climate, student engagement, and relationships. All parents/carers will be invited to respond. Our school will use the results to inform school planning and improvement strategies. The survey will be conducted online by ORIMA Research Pty Ltd and only takes 15 minutes to complete. It can be accessed from Monday 7 August to Friday 8 September. Next week parents will receive a Compass Notification notifying them the survey is open. There will also be a subsequent email with access information to participate in the survey.

Capital Works Update

The building of our new spaces are coming along. The lift well is nearly finished and the electrical, plumbing and mechanical trades continue to 'rough' in the kms of cable, pipes and our air conditioner units. In the coming weeks the steel structure for the north side of the building (new outdoor area including new stairs) will go up. Plaster walls in Block D (above the breezeway) will also begin shortly.

Fence

The fence construction is now complete. We are now waiting on locks to be fitted. They should arrive and be installed any day now. Once completed, details regarding access will be shared via the Compass Newsfeed.

Safety around the school

Please be reminded that the safety of all MPPS students relies on us all following local and state laws. This includes parking correctly, adhering to street signage and proper use of the drop off zone.

Many parents have been observed parking in the drop-off zone for longer than 2 minutes, parking illegally (in disabled or 'No Parking' areas) or across our neighbours driveways. This behaviour is unsafe and portrays MPPS in a negative way to the wider community.

Please ensure you take the time to deliver and pick up your child safely while around the school. This is everyone's responsibility. Thank-you for helping keep our students safe.

Matthew Bott, Principal

Noone Imagewear - School Uniform

Located at 543 Keilor Road, Niddrie VIC 3042

Online orders at <https://www.noone.com.au/school/moonee-ponds-primary-school/shop>

Delivery to school available.



Second-Hand Uniform

Only accessible before and after school. All items \$5.

Please contact Gill (parent organiser) on 0419 321 962 or Amy in the school office on 9375 2511 for access.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE



Respectful Relationships

Moonee Ponds Primary School is committed to reducing the prevalence of Family Violence in society through implementing a whole school approach to Respectful Relationships Education.

We recognise that our school is more than a space for young people to learn. Our school is a place where all community members deserve to feel respected, safe and valued. Schools, like ours, have the opportunity to lead, influence and contribute to healthy community culture.

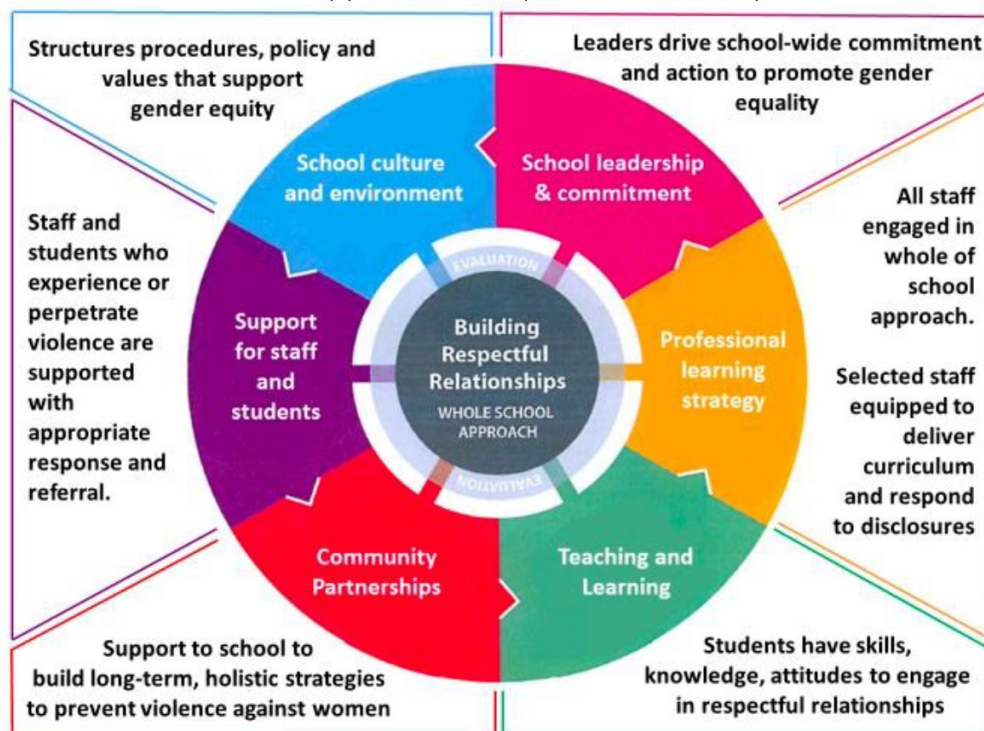
Respectful Relationships is a mandated program that supports schools to promote and model respect, and positive attitudes and behaviours. It teaches our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence. It reinforces the fundamental right that everyone has to feel physically and emotionally safe.

As a community we invite everyone to actively engage and promote respectful relationships as we live out our school values of learning with respect, care, optimism and collaboration.

Please see [here](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/curriculum/respectful-relationships/) to read our full commitment statement:

<http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/curriculum/respectful-relationships/>

At MPPS we have a whole School Approach to Respectful Relationships. This involves:



What can we do to help build this culture:

- Promote equity and human rights across the school for people of all genders through policy, teaching, practice and modelling.
- Encourage young people to reject and challenge rigid gender roles and develop rich personal identities that are not constrained by stereotypes.
- Embed respectful relationships in our school community to create positive changes to violence conducive attitudes.

The Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships program is part of our social and emotional learning curriculum that helps build this work.

Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRRs) is a curriculum program that students engage with each week from Foundation to Year 6.



The RRRR program is broken into eight different topics:

Topic 1 – Emotional Literacy

Emotional literacy can be defined as the ability to understand ourselves and other people. It includes the ability to understand, express and manage our own emotions, build empathy, and to respond appropriately to the emotions of others. Building a large vocabulary for emotions helps to increase emotional literacy and build self-awareness and empathy for others.

Topic 2 – Personal Strengths

Children and young people need a vocabulary to help them recognise and understand strengths and positive qualities in themselves and others. This topic provides learning activities to build this vocabulary and to use it when discussing personal, social and ethical challenges. Research in the field of positive psychology emphasises the importance of identifying and using individual strengths.

Topic 3 – Positive Coping

Learning activities in this topic provide opportunities for students to identify and discuss different types of coping strategies. When children and young people develop a language around coping, they are more likely to be able to understand and deliberately utilise a range of productive coping strategies and diminish their use of unproductive coping strategies.

Topic 4 – Problem Solving

Problem-solving skills are an important part of the coping repertoire. The classroom program provides a number of learning activities to develop students' problem-solving skills. The activities in the program assist students to develop their critical and creative thinking skills, and to apply them to scenarios exploring personal, social and ethical dilemmas.

Topic 5 – Stress Management

Children and young people experience a range of personal, social and work-related stressors in their everyday lives. Activities within this topic have an explicit focus on teaching positive approaches to stress management. Assisting students to recognise their personal signs and symptoms of stress, and to develop strategies that will help them to deal with stress effectively, will help students cope with future challenges. The activities focus on the ways in which self-calming strategies can be used to manage stressful situations.

Topic 6 – Help Seeking

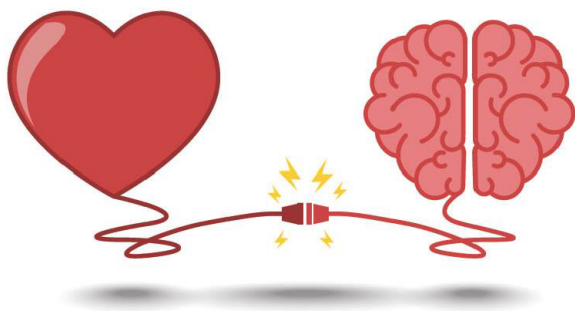
Learning activities in this topic area are designed to help students discuss the importance of seeking help and providing peer support when dealing with problems that are too big to solve alone. This helps to normalise and destigmatise help-seeking behaviour.

Topic 7 – Gender and Identity

Learning activities within this topic assist students to challenge stereotypes and critique the influence of gender norms on attitudes and behaviour. They learn about key issues relating to human rights and gender identity, and focus on the importance of respect within relationships. The activities promote respect for diversity and difference.

Topic 8 – Positive Gender Relationships

Learning activities within this topic focus on building an understanding of the effects of gender-based violence and focus on the standards associated with respectful relationships. Students develop the skills needed to solve problems, set boundaries within relationships, and play an active role within the prevention of gender-based violence. They develop peer support and help-seeking skills that can be applied in response to situations involving gender-based violence in family, peer, community or on-line relationships.



To find out more about the skills and strategies your child is learning in RRRRs, talk to your child and your class teacher.



NATIONAL TREE PLANTING DAY

Last week on Saturday 29 July, it was National Tree Planting Day.

This name explains itself, it's where people all around Australia plant trees.

Although this was last week, you don't need to worry about missing it, us at the Green Team encourage you to plant one if you can, and if you can't, maybe grow some flowers in your garden.

Because the true message behind this day is celebrating and protecting nature.

Also in celebration of tree planting day, and earning their Nude Food award, 3/4B planted a bottlebrush tree in our school yard. The bottlebrush or Callistemon is a very well known, beautiful Australian native.

It attracts birds and insects.

If you still want to plant a tree as a late homage to Tree Planting Day, we recommend natives! Even if you can't plant a tree, spread the word if you can, and maybe even try to plant a tree on a normal day.

It doesn't have to be Tree Planting Day to make a wonderful green difference, because you have the power to make change.



Thanks from your Green Team



Respect Optimism Care Collaboration

MPPS Parents Association Newsletter



Welcome Back!

Hi there, Families!

With Term 3 well under way, we are looking forward to a series of exciting events and fundraisers.

Cadbury Chocolate Frog Fundraiser - we are launching a Cadbury chocolate fundraiser this term with details to follow soon. Money raised will go towards future STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths resources) at the school.

End of Term Lunch - We are excited to be offering Roy's Pizza this term on **Friday 8 September**. We will be asking **Year 1/2 parents/carers** to volunteer their time at this event. Further details will be shared on Compass closer to the date, but we will be looking for helpers for the following:

- 9am - 10:30am to help organize Pop Tops and doughnuts
- 11am - 12:30pm (approx.) to distribute pizza to the students
- two drivers to collect the pizza.

Father's Day Stall - This will be held on **Friday 1 September**, and we will be looking for volunteers on the day to help our kids choose something special.

If you would like to help and volunteer for either of the fundraiser events, please contact the PA on mppsparentsassociation@gmail.com

Our next PA meeting is **Thursday 10 August at 7:30pm** - we hope you may be able to join us.

Thank you for your support - our events cannot run without your help.

The PA Team



TERM 3



TERM 4



Friday 1 Sep	Friday 8 Sep	All Term Wed + Fri	Monday 11 Dec	Friday 15 Sep
Father's Day Stall	End of Term 3 Lunch	Icy Poles	Year 6 Graduation	End of Term Lunch

Term 3 - Newsletter 2

2023 PA MEETING DATES

Meetings are held on the **second Thursday @ 7.30pm** each month onsite and online. We hope to see you there!

Term 3

10 August

7 September

Term 4

12 October

16 November

SIGN UP

CAN YOU VOLUNTEER SOME TIME?

The Parents Association **only** runs with the help of Volunteers. More Info

www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/parent-association/

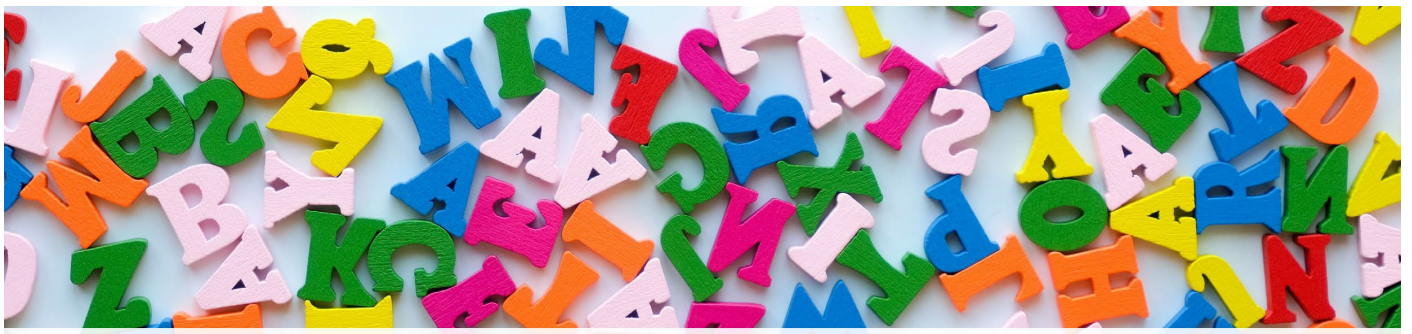
SCAN THE QR CODE



CLICK THE LINK

**[Parents Association
Registration Form 2023](#)**

Respect Optimism Care Collaboration



INSIGHTS

happy families. SCHOOLS

DR JUSTIN COULSON

ISSUE 3 | TERM 3 | 2023

Our words matter

For close to 200 years, children have sung in the schoolyard:

*“Sticks and stones may break my bones
But words shall never hurt me.”*

We all know that’s not true.

However, it’s not just cruel words that have the capacity to hurt. Sometimes as parents, we surprisingly hurt our children in the way we offer praise or correction. Here’s what I mean:

A few months ago, I read *The Absorbent Mind* by Maria Montessori. While I didn’t agree with all of it, and there were some ideas that wouldn’t fly today, there were plenty of enlightening moments. One thing that stood out was the idea of *not* correcting children. Yes, you read that right: *not* correcting children.

Montessori recognises that this makes no sense.

“How can we improve the children’s work if we do not correct the errors?” she imagines us asking.

She goes on to explain that when teachers remove themselves from the role of hovering over children to point out their errors, the child is empowered to grow by correcting their own errors. For example, when a child is learning to walk, they don’t need us to point out every time that they fall. They are already inclined to move towards progressive improvement, without us pointing out everything they are doing wrong.

It is easy to step back and ignore errors at an early age. It is much harder to hold back from offering correction as our children grow. However, our corrections, no matter how gentle, can have unintended consequences.

We might think that we need to correct our kids when they write their name all in capital letters, hold up 3 fingers instead of 4 when telling us their age, or when they colour a tree blue.

But what would happen if we didn’t?

Wouldn’t it be possible that they would learn for themselves given time?

Mightn’t they learn to identify errors on their own?

Is it possible that they would also be able to retain their creativity, and find joy in pushing boundaries and experimenting with new things?

I am certain that we can answer yes to all of the above. And decades of psychological research tells us that the answer is *yes*. My new book, *The Parenting Revolution*, explores all of that research and helps us understand *why* this matters.

Nevertheless, it is not only words of correction that can hamper a child's creative process. Words of praise can have a similar effect.

When we praise our children's accomplishments, we may stifle their desires to work towards improvement. After all, if we're already happy with the tree they drew, why would they keep trying? They may become less likely to take risks and extend themselves, for fear of losing our approbation.

Similarly, if the praise we offer is superficial, such as by simply saying "good job", or "well done", or even "what a clever kid you are!", our children don't feel seen. Their efforts go unnoticed, and we lose out on helping them appreciate the growth that happened in the learning and creating process.

We sometimes create praise junkies, unwilling to try anything without our approval. In some cases, they infer that they must not be good at something. If they were, we wouldn't feel a 'need' to praise them!

So what are we to do? No correction, no praise? What on earth are we meant to say next time our children show us their drawings?

Try this:

- Narration. Talk through what you see, without judgement, noticing the little details. "I see that you drew a big happy face on the sun in this picture."
- Ask for their opinion. Intrinsic motivation is far more powerful than extrinsic motivation, and we help them get to their intrinsic motivation by prioritising their opinion over ours. "There's a lot of different colours in this painting, can you tell me why you chose all those colours?"
- Express gratitude. A sincere thank you never fails. "You drew this for me? Thank you!"
- Say what you see. Describe the emotions you see in your child as a result of what they have done. "You look really happy with the drawing you did."

Much like sticks and stones, words can be powerful. Through them, we can help our children develop a love of learning, a willingness to experiment, and foster their creativity.

Our words matter.



AUTHOR

Dr Justin Coulson

Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel Nine's Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia's #1 podcast for parents and family: The Happy Families Podcast. He has written 9 books about families and parenting. For further details visit happyfamilies.com.au.



• BOOK NOW FOR SOME EPIC TERM 3 FUN •



Team
Kids



1300 035 000

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Respect Optimism Care Collaboration



LEARNING STAR awards



LEARNING Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Anders	Freddie M	For completing some amazing writing and drawing by listening to the sounds he can hear.
Foundation B Nicola Scott	Richard N	For working hard on his writing and completing a wonderful story about a cat named Sally. Well done Richard!
1/2 A Archie Singh	Billy M	For your fantastic work solving dot card math problems by applying your addition and subtraction strategies!
1/2 B Antony Brock	Theodore W	For the amazing growth mindset you showed at swimming - learning so much about swimming and about giving scary things a go.
1/2 C Libby Haigh	Theo D	For sharing some great predictions and reflections in your guided reading group.
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Felix M	For trying to be neater in your presentation in your writing book and your maths book. Well done, Felix!
3/4 A Georgia Marks	Ben N	For starting Semester 2 with a BANG, and working so hard in your learning. Just like you did all last semester.
3/4 B Chris Mizis	Lottie S	For her effort in writing her 6 room poetry piece, which included thought feelings and detail.
3/4 C Rebekah S & Rebecca D	Zayn S	For showing consistent effort towards achieving his personal learning goals. Well done Zayn, keep up the hard work!
5/6 A Stephanie Thompson	Harry W	For demonstrating creativity and effort when exploring animal adaptations. Well done Harry!
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Quinn T	For reflecting on how well-known authors make their writing exciting and trialling some of these techniques in her own work.
5/6 C Paul Luu	Joel I	For caring about his learning and having a positive attitude towards challenges. Keep it up, Joel.
5/6 D Erin Mullin	Unal C	For sharing some great predictions and reflections in your book club group.
Arts Christine Caminiti	Matilda U	For the focus and care she put into her drawing of the oak tree in the school yard. Well done, Matilda!
Physical Education Matt Feeley	Isabelle W	For showing growth and improvement in all PE lessons this year.



ROCC STAR awards



ROCC Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Anders	Maddie S	For demonstrating optimism by having a go at tasks on her own and being proud of her mistakes.
Foundation B Nicola Scott	Isabelle P	For being kind and respectful to all her classmates and demonstrating optimism throughout swimming. Well done!
1/2 A Archie Singh	Jayden D	For such a fantastic start to term 3, approaching all tasks with focus and determination! You're a true ROCC Star Jayden!
1/2 C Libby Haigh	Leon T	For some great collaboration, working with others to come up with and share ideas with the class.
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Sidney P	For being so brave and optimistic about performing in assembly today and doing a great job!
3/4 A Georgia Marks	Aimee D	For being a Super Star Swimmer! You worked so hard on practicing your strokes, and always had a smile on your face!
3/4 B Chris Mizis	Gianni R	For his collaboration and care when carrying out his tasks to support our Green Team. You have been a valuable member of this year's Green Team.
3/4 C Rebekah S & Rebecca D	Annabel M	For being an excellent buddy during swimming. Your kindness, care and thoughtfulness exceeded expectations. Well done!
5/6 A Stephanie Thompson	Ella K	For being a thoughtful, optimistic and collaborative learner. Well done Ella!
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Lulamae D-P	For being a kind, caring and inclusive student who is always looking out for others.
5/6 C Paul Luu	Alessia D	For being a respectful member of the class and for being a caring friend. It is great having you as part of 5/6C.
5/6 D Erin Mullin	Anabel M	For contributing her ideas thoughtfully and in a respectful way during her book club group. Great job, Anabel!
Arts Christine Caminiti	Samuel S	For showing an optimistic attitude towards his learning of the ukulele in performing arts class. You showed enthusiasm and passion for the topic. Well done Sam!
Physical Education Matt Feeley	Sadie G	For showing outstanding sportsmanship qualities during all PE lessons.

TERM 3 2023 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
July 31	August 1	August 2 Newsletter	August 3	August 4
August 7	August 8	August 9	August 10 Assembly 3pm Parents Association Meeting	August 11
August 14 Science Week	August 15	August 16 Newsletter	August 17	August 18
August 21 Book Week	August 22 District Athletics	August 23 Book Week Parade at 9am School Council Meeting	August 24 Assembly 3pm	August 25
August 28	August 29	August 30 Newsletter	August 31	September 1 Father's Day Stall
September 4	September 5 Divisional Athletics	September 6	September 7 Assembly 3pm Parents Association Meeting	September 8 End of Term Lunch (Year 1/2 Parent/Carers)
September 11	September 12	September 13 Newsletter	September 14 Year 3/4 Camp	September 15 End of Term 3 - 2:20pm Dismissal

TERM 4 2023 CALENDAR

October 2 Start of Term 4	October 3	October 4	October 5 Assembly 3pm	October 6
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Newsletter

The newsletter will be published fortnightly all year. The newsletter is the main source of communication from the school and I urge everyone to read it! The newsletter will be sent out to all families via Compass. Families will be able to access the newsletter via Compass and on the school website.

How to access the school newsletter:

1. View it on the COMPASS Newsfeed: <https://mpp-vic.compass.education/>
2. Visit the school website: <http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/>

Respect Optimism Care Collaboration