



# Moonee Ponds Primary School

respect • optimism • care • collaboration

NEWSLETTER  
December 18  
2023

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

87 Wilson Street  
Moonee Ponds 3039  
moonee.ponds.ps@education.vic.gov.au  
[www.mpp.vic.edu.au](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au)  
<https://mpp-vic.compass.education/>

Out of Hours School Care:  
TeamKids: 1300 035 000  
Email: [info@teamkids.com.au](mailto:info@teamkids.com.au)  
[www.teamkids.com.au](http://www.teamkids.com.au)

## 2023 Term Dates:

Term 4 - 2 Oct to 20 Dec

## 2024 Term Dates:

Term 1 - 31 Jan-28 Mar

Term 2 - 16 Apr-28 June

Term 3 - 15 Jul-20 Sept

Term 4 - 7 Oct-20 Dec

## Dates to Note:

### December

19 - Year 6 Picnic Lunch

20 - Last Day of Term 4

## Parent's Association Meetings

Next meeting in Feb 2024

Access the latest school newsletter through the Compass Newsfeed or through the School Website at:  
<http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/>



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

The end of the school year is here. I would like to thank all our student, families and staff for your support and efforts throughout the year. There are always moments of challenge that require resilience, perseverance and optimism and we appreciate you all as we continue to learn and grow as a school community.

We wish everyone a safe and restful festive season and hope you have a relaxing holiday.

### End of Year - Early Finish

A reminder that school finishes for the year on Wednesday 20 December at 1.20pm. There will be a final assembly in the SPC Gym at 9am. Parents and carers are welcome to attend. The assembly will open with a special presentation from our graduating Year 6 students!

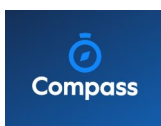
Our refurbishment of Block A and D is nearing completion, and the aim is to have our Year 3-6 students begin in the new spaces at the start of the school year.

The builders will move into the admin area over the school break and begin the second part of our school upgrade. From the start of the school year the school office will be located in room 5 (where Lee and Rebekah/Bec's classes are at the moment). The entrance to the school for semester one will be moved to Fanny St during this time (as the Wilson St entrance will be under construction).

Our Art Show and End of Celebration was a great showcase of our student's artistic talents and a great way to celebrate the festive season afterwards on the school oval. A huge thank you to Christine Caminiti for all the work in preparing the student artwork and for coordinating the event. Congratulations to our parents/ carers who bought the class art pieces. All these funds will go directly to the art program.

Italian Day was a great success! The student feedback about the day was extremely positive. It was amazing to see all the students and teachers dress up in the Italian theme and participate in the day's activities. A big thank you to Nancy Berardone for organising the event.

Congratulations to Rueben W who recently represented Victoria at the School Sport Australia Under 12 National Championship in Softball. The team competed against the other states in West Beach, South Australia. Reuben and his teammates did well representing our state with passion and cooperative spirit.



### 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.

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## PRINCIPAL REPORT - CONT.

### Congratulations Reuben

Reuben began playing softball as part of our school's Year 5/6 Gala Sports Program. Through hard work and determination, he helped our school get to the final against Strathmore North Primary School earlier this year. We wish Reuben continued success in his softball career and eagerly wait to see what he achieves. Congratulations and well done, Reuben.

### Year Six Graduation – details about photos and stream online (include link)

On Monday night the school held the graduation for our outgoing Year Six students. The graduation was a fantastic night hosted superbly by our school captains – Chloe and Toby. They have continued to do an amazing job with their public speaking roles this year. Details of all the award winners are included later in this newsletter.

The following link is provided for families to access the photos from the evening.

[www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/community/](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/community/) (password is: mpps )

Thank you to the Year 6 teachers: Candice, Erin, Paul and Steph for their organisation. Thank-you also to our Education Support Staff Gabby, Amanda, and Maria, who assisted with the setting up of the Sports and Performance Centre. On behalf of all the MPPS community we wish our Year Six students the very best as they move on to secondary school next year. We know they are ready, and we wish them the very best as they begin this new stage in their learning journey.

### First day of 2024

The first day back for all year 1 to year 6 students in 2024 is Wednesday 31 January at 9am. The prep/foundation students will begin on Wednesday 7 February after they have completed their Foundation assessments. All the teachers will be back at school on Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 January, which are both student free curriculum days.

### 2024 House Champions

Congratulations to all students who competed at this year's swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals. Each year all the points that students have achieved in these event across the year get added up and we award the House Champions trophy to the winning house. With only 136 points between first and fourth place it is very close. Congratulations to Chisholm who won with 1576 points. They were closely followed by Banks (1475), Lawson (1454) and Macarthur (1440).

### 2024 CLASS TEACHERS AND ROOMS:

#### Foundation

Nicola Scott - Rm 2

Mae Risson - Rm 4

#### Year 1/ 2

Christine Mizis - Rm 12

Libby Haigh - Rm 13

Jenny Clark - Rm 14

Antony Brock- Rm 15

#### Year 3/ 4 (upstairs of newly refurbished Block A)

Erin Mullin – Rm 17

Rebekah Stone (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri) & Nancy Berardone (Wed)– Rm 19

Lee Pregnell – Rm 20

#### Year 5/6 (downstairs of newly refurbished Block A)

Paul Luu – Rm 6

Stephanie Thompson – Rm 8

Candice Ryan – Rm 9

#### Specialists

PE - Matthew Feeley

Arts - Christine Caminiti

Italian - Nancy Berardone

STEM – Zak Stewart

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## PRINCIPAL REPORT - CONT.

### Classroom support

Tutoring – Rachel Barrell (Mon, Wed)

Learning Specialist – Nicole Macrae will continue to lead/support PLC's and tutoring. There will be a focus on aspects of our AIP including continuing the work of Scaffolding Literacy and teaching writing, Disability Inclusion and Mental Health & Wellbeing. Nicole will also work in classrooms supporting coverage and teachers with tier 2 adjustment across the school.

### TeamKids- Summer Holiday Program

Care over the holiday period will begin on Monday 8 January and will continue through to the Tuesday 30 January. Further details regarding dates and the activities provided by TeamKids is included in the coming pages.

### eConnect (1:1 device program) – for Year 2 - 5 students

Students in Year 2 will have received details regarding this program through Compass. Students in Years 3-5 who do not currently participate are welcome to join in 2024.

Information: The eConnect program is a non-compulsory 1:1 mobile device program for all students currently in years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Next year this will be available for your child as they are going into Year 3 or 4.

This program provides the opportunity to enhance student engagement and involvement in their learning by having their own mobile device to take to class and home each day. It also assists with teaching the students about safe online usage and Cyber Safety.

Details can be found at: [www.mpp.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/eConnect-note-and-details-for-2024.pdf](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/eConnect-note-and-details-for-2024.pdf)

### Booklists

These were sent home via Compass a few weeks ago. If you have not received them you can download them from the school website in the parent download section (<http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/community/> password: mpps) or contact the school office. We encourage families to complete the booklist order before the end of the year.

Please click on the link (<http://booklist.paperchase.com.au>) and enter the code (BTSMPPS) to purchase the recommended booklist through the preferred school supplier. Alternatively, parents can source items from a supplier of your choice.

Of course, if you have any queries or questions, please contact me at [matthew.bott@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:matthew.bott@education.vic.gov.au)

Matthew Bott  
Principal



## Valedictorian Speech

By Lucy Scott-Young

Good Evening, Year six graduates, families, Teachers, Matt and Rebecca. My name is Lucy Scott- Young and I am delighted to be delivering the 2023 valedictorian speech. Wow! We did it! Seven years of pure determination. We have learnt, grown, and thrived together. This school has been there for us through the highs and lows of primary school life. It will always have our back and it will always be our home. When we reflect back on our primary school years, it was like a soundtrack. Everyone's song is different, but our memories are a tune that we can all share.

### Prep

I believe that the song 'here comes the sun' fits perfectly for our year in prep. We all arrived with big smiles, baggy uniforms, way to big bags and nerves that were fueled by excitement. All of us standing in four very messy lines chatting away. Faces lit up ready to start our education journey. The teachers were incredibly welcoming and kind. They made us feel that we belonged.

In prep we got buddies, they were the best! I remember wishing I could be as caring and fun as they were. They were our best friends and we are forever grateful of their impact of the leadership they showed towards us. Prep was filled with singing, laughter, friends, ABCs, and new experiences.

### Year 1 / 2

'Disco Brain' was the song of 1 / 2. Our brains were learning so much and it was like a big disco in our heads. We weren't just in our cohort anymore but with friends a year apart from us. A big hit of one two life was the show number jacks. We knew that if we got all our work done we would be rewarded with an episode while we were eating. Another huge highlight was the year two sleepover. A night of excitement. Arriving that night at school was incredible. Scattered across the SPC floor was everyone's yoga mats, sleeping bags, and larger than usual pillowcases stacked with lollies. The performing arts room was set up as a movie theatre where we would all settle down together and watch Elf. We were so pumped for the sleepless night ahead of us!

### Year 3 / 4

'We are all in this together.' That is the first thing that comes to mind when someone mentions the year 3/4 for me. Because no matter what the world throws at us. We still always have each other. When Covid-19 became public the whole Moonee ponds primary school community became closer. All of a sudden school was virtual and we could only see our friends through a screen. Isolation was hard. But nothing can stop the students and teachers at MPPS. We stayed resilient through the times of uncertainty and we never gave up. And that earned us an astonishing year four sleepover at the end of the year.

### Year 5

In 2022 the biggest song sensation was 'As it was' this song was very fitting as everything wasn't the same after Covid. We were stronger and this was the year that we would really push and go out of our comfort zone. The school concert was a big success! Gala and winter sports were so much fun and Canberra camp was the constant talk. As us year fives had never really experienced a school camp before. I think we can all remember the feeling of stepping onto that bus to Canberra pure exhilaration! And let's just say the feeling of stepping of that ten-hour bus ride was a whole lot of relief. Canberra was amazing, and this camp will certainly never be forgotten. We went to parliament house, met Bill Shorten who gave us some very yummy frozen yogurt, visited the AIS, War Memorial, Government House and the Embassy drive where we learnt so much. We also learnt a whole lot about each other, the power of friendship and that it's probably best not to pull an all-nighter on the first night of camp.



## Year 6 GRADUATION—CONT.

### Year 6

That brings us to year 6. We were all ready to 'dance the night away!' Our camp was incredible! Off to Grantville we all went. After getting our activity groups we got straight into all the fun. We went on the high ropes, canoeing, giant ziplining, low roping, orienteering, we played in the games room and colored each other's hair with secret hair chalk. Played volleyball and soccer and just had a wonderful camp experience overall. The day we went to Phillip Island it was raining it felt like Antarctica, but that didn't matter. We went surfing and boogie boarding and dug deep holes in the rocky sand. The dinner at the penguin parade was delicious. And the penguins were so cute! Well never forget the struggle of seeing them! Squinting on saturated seats as bullet rain pelted down on us. We loved our camp!

In year six we were all leaders. We had little prep buddies who we adored. Really cool year six polos. We made strong lasting friendships. Sport was played a lot more. Everyone showed independence. And right now, it feels like we have conquered the world.

### Thank you

On behalf of all the year sixes I would like to express how thankful we are. Teachers none of these lasting memories could have happened without you. Thankyou for all of your time you've spent on us. For the things you've taught us that will stay forever. Thank you for making us better people and inspiring us to follow our dreams.

To our parents and carers, you have always believed in us. Thankyou so much for all the hugs and support throughout our primary school years.

Finally, to Matt and Rebecca for showing exceptional leadership and commitment towards us. We could not have asked for a better Principal and Assistant Principal than you two.

As Ralph Emerson once said 'What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us.' So, our MPPS playlist may have finished, but year sixes the sky is your limit! Go and Fly high.

Thankyou.

Lucy Scott-Young



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**Recipients of Awards on  
Graduation Night  
Congratulations to all our  
students:**

Dux	Charlotte Rawther
Excellence 5/6A	Angelina Enaty
Excellence 5/6B	James Grozos-Wishart
Excellence 5/6C	Reuben Williams
Excellence 5/6D	Ewan Gardiner
Italian	Jemima McClelland
PE	Sasha Arbuzov
Performing Arts	Alana Burlak
Visual Arts	Nina Cartwright
Achievement 5/6A	Oliver McRae
Achievement 5/6B	Quinn Tudor
Achievement 5/6C	Maya Shemansky
Achievement 5/6D	Zoe Pham
Buddies	Ben Threlfall
Valedictorian	Lucy Scott-Young
Principal's Award	Anhad Bandula

## **Year 6 GRADUATION—CONT.**

We would like to acknowledge the families that will end their time at MPPS in 2023.

These include our year 6 graduates and other families.  
We wish all these families who are leaving well for the future

Arbuzov Family	McRae Family
Belilovsky Family	Megalla Family
Bhandula Family	Nguyen Family
Blischke Family	Nightingale Family
Bloom Family	Rigby Family
Chapman Family	Scott-Young Family
Crook Family	Shemansky Family
Darabi Family	Smith Family
Dodds Family	Stamatova Family
Dona-Doni Family	Stivala Family
Gifford Family	Talko Family
Gray Family	Threlfall Family
Haydon Family	Yeow Family
Holderhead Family	Yu Family
Hossain Family	Xenoyiannakis Family
MacLachlan Family	

## 2023 SRC & ARTS PROJECT NATIVE FLOWERS

The SRC in conjunction with the Arts department have spent many months on this colourful and vibrant art installation which will be installed on our fence.

First, the SRC discussed ways to include our school community on a joint arts project that would add a bit of colour and joy to our school fence.

Next, student representatives brought ideas back to their classes about what images could go on the fence. A theme that emerged was the connection to the local community, to country and to the land that Moonee Ponds P.S sits on.

The Wurundjeri people and elders have great knowledge about the plants and animals on this land and have had for thousands of years. There are many colourful and interesting native flowers that belong in the Moonee Valley area.

To our students, it seemed obvious that a colourful artwork of native flowers would be the perfect way to celebrate our connection to the land that MPPS is situated on.

The student representatives then took native flower images back to their classes to vote on the ones the students wanted.

These flowers have been illustrated and painted by the 2023 SRC students during their fortnightly SRC meetings.

Check them out on the Bent Street fence, between the intercom gate and the new substation. We hope you enjoy them!

The SRC & The Arts department



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## The Art Show 2023

### The Arts– Art show

Thank you to everyone who came to our Art Show on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December it was such a wonderful celebration of student learning and creativity. We had quite the turn out of families who also came to enjoy the choir and MVIMP performances.

Congratulations to those who won our silent auction items and went home with a unique art piece carefully created by our students.

Thank you to our wonderful staff for all of their help and assistance in the set up and pack up of the show- you are amazing!

We also had some fantastic parent helpers who helped with the set up and pack up- we couldn't have done it without you!

To our creative, skilled and talented artists- the students. Thank you for hard work and the skills that you have grown and developed this year. It is a joy and privilege to guide you in your creativity journey.

Have a creative Christmas and crafty new year- I look forward to starting 2024 in our brand-new Arts space!

Christine Caminiti

Visual & Performing Arts Teacher



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# The Arts– Art show

## The Art Show by Tendo

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of December the school hosted our annual art show.

The art show was a fun colourful event showcasing student artwork created over the course of the year.

I liked seeing the amazing artwork that each class created this term for the class art auction.

I really enjoyed doing the NAIDOC week themed artwork. This artwork was created by leaves and branches from outside. This art piece showed the beauty in the natural objects around the school.



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## The Arts– Art show



Well done to all involved



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# Congratulations to Reuben W

Reuben recently represented Victoria at the School Sport Australia Under 12 National Championship in Softball. The team competed against the other states in West Beach, South Australia. Reuben and his teammates did well representing our state with passion and cooperative spirit.

Reuben began playing softball as part of our school's Year 5/6 Gala Sports Program. Through hard work and determination, he helped our school get to the final against Strathmore North Primary School earlier this year.

We wish Reuben continued success in his softball career and eagerly wait to see what he achieves. Congratulations and well done, Reuben.



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# Premiers' Reading Challenge!

Congratulations to all our students who have completed the challenge in 2023.

Adeline P  
Alexander D  
Sascha A  
Alexis P  
Alison H  
Allegra M  
Anastasia L  
April P  
Archer C  
Augustus P  
Bailey C  
Callie M  
Charlie K  
Charlie R  
Charlotte R  
Chiara X  
Clara P  
Dilara I  
Dylan I  
Edan J  
Eddie S  
Elijah S

Eloise B  
Eva G  
Evelyn M  
Frederic M  
Gabriel F  
Georgia X  
Hayley C  
Hugo B  
Isabel M  
Isla B  
Ivy P  
Jack  
James T  
Jarvis L  
Jordan L  
Lawrence P  
Leo C  
Liam H  
Louis B  
Lucas M  
Lucy S.Y.  
Madeline S

Miriam K  
Nate M  
Nicholas D  
Nicholas H  
Nyla H  
Oliver M  
Oscar M  
Rafael F  
Scarlett P  
Sienna W  
Sullivan M  
Talia P  
Teagan P  
Ted H  
Theodore W  
Thomas H  
Thomas S.Y.  
Wilkins Y  
Will D  
William H  
Xavier F  
Zoe P



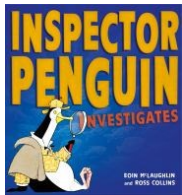
We would also like to acknowledge the Premier's Reading Challenge Champions who read the most books in each year level.

Congratulations for logging in and recording all the books that you read as part of the challenge.

Foundation – Lucas M  
Year 1 – Theodore W  
Year 2 – Chiara X  
Year 3 – Talia P  
Year 4 – Ivy P  
Year 5 – Nicholas H  
Year 6 – Zoe P

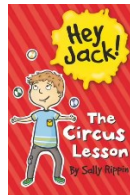
Keep up the great reading over the summer holidays!  
We look forward to everyone joining in the Challenge in 2024!

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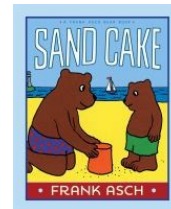


★★★★★ Good because we got to look for clues and it told us what clues were and lots of traps.

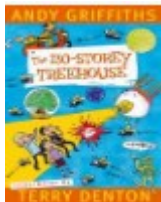
Lucas M 00B



★★★★★ I like the book because it has pizza in it. Louis B 12C



★★★★★ Funny Book! Sienna W 12C



★★★★☆ I like that the three main characters go on a wild journey into space. I also like that there are so many plot twists like when blob got into the treehouse. One of the last reasons I like this book is that it is hilarious and makes a good kind of mood.

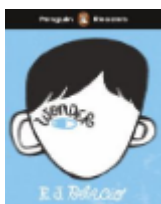
Sullivan M 34B



★★★★★ Best book! Very Funny. I recommend it. Theodore W 12B



★★★★★ I loved reading Exile. The world Shannon Messenger creates is extraordinary! The characters are amazing and I just wish I was an elf like Sophie too. If I had to have an ability I would be a polyglot and understand all the languages of the world. Lucy S.Y. 56B



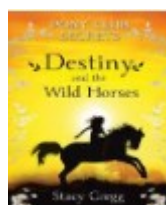
★★★★★ I loved this book. It was so funny. Dylan I 00A



★★★★★ My mum reads the silver shoes books to me in the evening every night. We have just finished this one about Ellie. She isn't my favourite character from the girls but She loves to dance. Anastasia L 00B

★★★★☆ I loved this book! I really enjoyed reading about all the different characters and their perspective of August. My favourite character is Summer, she's loud, kind and not afraid to stick up for what's right. She reminds me a lot of my sister, Isla!

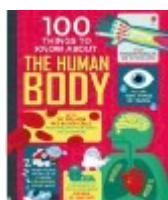
Pippa B 56C



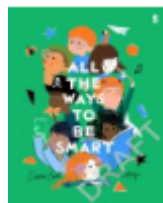
★★★★★ I loved this book so much. I could read it every day!

Ivy Pape 34D

★★★★★ Lucky Diablo. Teagan P 56B



★★★★★ Interesting and fun. Jackson M 34C



★★★★★ It was nice and calming. Dilara I 12C



★★★★★ Smarty Pup 2 is so good. I can't wait to read smarty pup 3! Thomas S.Y. 34B

# FIRST AID TRAINING FOR MPPS STUDENTS

Since 2018 our students, from Foundation to Year 6, have been fortunate to participate in annual first aid workshops presented by St John Ambulance trainers (with a brief hiatus during 2020 and 2021).

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> of December, students again participated in year level workshops. Depending on their year level students have learnt:

- how to recognise an emergency situation and how to call “000”
- how to give emergency services their address
- the DRSABCD action plan
- the recovery position
- CPR

## FIRST AID ACTION HERO THE GAME

All students will bring home a Certificate of Attendance. This certificate contains a link to a digital resource St John Ambulance have created for children ages 5+. The resource, First Aid Action Hero, allows children to learn the fundamentals of First Aid in a gamified experience.

The game can be downloaded for FREE on the Apple App store or the Google Play store.

## WHAT DOES THE GAME TEACH CHILDREN?

Children will learn to help save an unconscious patient with the St John DRSABCD action plan until the Ambulance arrives.

They will learn how to:

- Stay safe and protect themselves from Danger
- Check if a patient is unconscious
- Calmly call Triple Zero (000), speak correctly to the Operator and Emergency Service
- Inspect a casualty’s Airway for foreign material
- Look, listen and feel for signs of Breathing on a person
- Carefully and correctly place a patient in the life-saving Recovery Position

Please take the opportunity to ask your child about the workshops. This will let you better understand the program and your child’s level of first aid preparedness. It will also help them to remember and practice what they have learnt.







## Don't get mad, get generous

Christmas in Australia is a full on time of the year. It's busy, intense, hectic, but also fun. It's very different to a northern hemisphere Christmas, which is a lot slower and laid back. The colder climate over there promotes a slower pace as families tend to spend more time indoors. It also helps that the school year doesn't end at Christmas like it does in Australia, where the festive season becomes a multi-purpose finish line as end of school concerts, work festivities, home improvement projects and other end of year activities all vie for your attention.

It's little wonder most of us feel worn out, even on edge at this time of year. It doesn't help that we live in an age of high consumption, which adds a financial pressure that you can do without.

Here are some ideas to help you focus on what really matters – you and your family. Your kids will benefit too from a slightly different approach.

### Develop a sufficiency mindset

Whenever you think that you haven't bought enough presents for someone, remember that most people (kids and adults) have too much stuff already. "That's enough!" is a handy mantra at any time, but particularly appropriate for the festive season. There's a tendency for appreciation to diminish in direct proportion to the amount of gifts received. Sometimes the less they receive the more kids appreciate what they get so set aside any feelings of guilt if you think your (Santa's) present list is a little down this year.

### Spend time with people who matter most

There is a big expectation to mingle, gather and party at this time of year, which can make the lead up to Christmas exhausting. Consider politely declining some invitations to Christmas catch-ups (such as drinks with your second cousin whose name you can't even remember) so you can save your best self for the important people in your life, the family and friends with whom share the closest connections.

### Balance 'me' time and 'you' time with 'them' time

The holiday season is a great opportunity for families to spend some time together away from the egg timer conditions of work, school and other activities. The opportunity to reconnect is invaluable however that doesn't mean you must spend all the time with the gang. Take time out for yourself and also carve out some space to reconnect with your partner, if applicable.



This may require you to avoid feelings of guilt when kids tell you they are bored. Resist the temptation to fill the activity void with endless adult-organised outings, trips and treats and instead, give them the chance to self-occupy, which is a supreme life skill.

## Develop a holiday routine for you and your kids

I've heard many people say that the best thing about holidays is that there's no routine. I'm a little sceptical as most kids just can't cope without a routine at all. Adapt your usual routine to suit your family circumstances during the holidays. For instance, if your children are below school aged (and even those at school), they will benefit from a bedtime routine, albeit a little later than usual, rather than an anything goes approach.

## Practise a spirit of generosity

Study after study demonstrates the importance of the development of generosity to personal happiness. Jonathon Rauch author of [The Happiness Curve](#) says most eloquently, "Those people who give freely of their time and of themselves have unlocked one of the central keys to lasting human happiness." There are many ways to be generous at this time of the year – open up your home to that lonely neighbour you haven't seen for a while; encourage children to donate a regular portion of their pocket money to a worthy cause such as [The Smith Family](#); [RSPCA Guardian Angel](#), or – my personal favourite – substitute a real gift in your kids' Christmas stocking with a gift of a chicken, goat or water donated to a village in a developing country through an organisation such as [Oxfam](#). This is a good reminder that we live in a land of plenty and we have plenty to be grateful for.

Christmas and the festive seasons are to be treasured, yet it's easy to become so overwhelmed that we don't experience the joy and sense of renewal that should come our way. Fortunately, it only takes a few tweaks to bring our focus back to what really matters. Enjoy and savour this special time of the year.



**Michael Grose**

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.

# A Mindful Guide to looking after yourself this holiday season



Seasons  
for Growth



## How to help yourself or someone you know this holiday season

The holiday period is upon us once more. It is a time to connect with family and friends and while this may be an enjoyable time for some it may also leave us with feelings of sadness or loneliness. We may have feelings of excitement and joy, but these may be mixed with conflicting feelings of pressure and stress.

Self-care, mindfulness and creating your own rituals are important at this time of year. We encourage you to make space for yourself this holiday season. Here are steps to looking after yourself that may help:

### Keep it simple



- Do something you enjoy
- Do less and enjoy more
- It's okay to say "no" when you need to
- Make the most of the holidays by saying "yes" to activities and people you truly want to spend time with.

### Self-care



- Self-care will look different for everyone and can include taking time to go for a walk, swim, play with a pet, listen to your favourite music, read a book, create a regular sleep routine and set aside time for yourself.
- Be kind and compassionate to yourself too.

### Share memories



- Sharing memories of the past with stories, photos, videos, songs and special recipes.
- Coming together and sharing our memories with others strengthens our connections.
- Share your memories and continue to create new memories for the future.

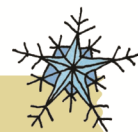
### Revise your plan



- Plan ahead by talking to those affected and remember, there is no rule book.
- Be flexible to schedules.
- Create new traditions that feel right for you and your family and friends
- Have an exit strategy
- Christmas catch-ups can be a mixed bag of joy and stress. Protect yourself against the stress by having a strategy. Plan how you will respond to sensitive issues.



### Be present



- Tune into your five senses, be aware of what you see, hear, taste, smell and touch.
- Choose activities you find relaxing, unplug from electronic devices, go outdoors, take a walk or share delicious food with your family or friends.
- Make Christmas about being present instead of the presents this year!

### Reach out



- Remember to support others who may be experiencing a tough time.
- Checking in, can be as simple as asking how they're going and letting them know that you are there for them.
- Stay in touch and if you are concerned, share emotional and mental health supports
- Mental health support is available. For information and organisations that can support please visit [mackillopseasons.org.au](http://mackillopseasons.org.au).



MacKillop Seasons  
1300 379 569  
[mackillopseasons.org.au](http://mackillopseasons.org.au)



# Extra-Curricular Activities

## at Moonee Ponds Primary

**ENROL  
ONLINE  
NOW!**

### CODING

- ✓ Mon, 1:30 - 2:20 pm
- ✓ Starts on 5 Feb
- ✓ \$170.63 for 7 sessions
- ✓ For Years 3-6
- ✓ Room: Library
- ✓ Devices: BYOD

While many jobs of the future are yet to be even imagined the future of work undoubtedly points in the direction of the technology space. This coding course using the Scratch application will introduce students to the world of coding in a fun and engaging way. Experienced coaches will guide students through a series of hands-on lessons with real world applications.

### SOCCER

- ✓ Mon, 1:30 - 2:20 pm
- ✓ Starts on 5 Feb
- ✓ \$153.13 for 7 sessions
- ✓ For Years 1-2
- ✓ Room: Gym
- ✓ To Bring: hat and water bottle

Why try out one of the fast growing sports in Australia? Football or soccer is truly a world sport loved by fans all over the globe. Coaches will take the time to introduce students to the sport or provide drills and skills to improve established players, all in a supportive environment.

**TRIALS  
AVAILABLE!**  
PLEASE CALL TO  
BOOK ONE IN



Scan or click the QR code  
to enrol online!

**Kids  
Unlimited**

✉ [info@kidsunlimited.com.au](mailto:info@kidsunlimited.com.au)  
🌐 [www.kidsunlimited.com.au](http://www.kidsunlimited.com.au)  
☎ 1300 424 377

Respect Optimism Care Collaboration



# Kids Unlimited

ENROLMENTS  
**NOW  
OPEN**



## Moonee Ponds Primary School: Term 1, 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1:30-2:20pm <a href="#">+ Add</a> Coding Mon, 1:30pm Soccer Mon, 1:30pm				

Direct Enrolment Link to Soccer and Coding Club

[https://ku.zone/management/programs/program\\_timetable/2522?collapse=1&frame=weekday](https://ku.zone/management/programs/program_timetable/2522?collapse=1&frame=weekday)

**FOR ENROLMENTS AND TRIALS CONTACT US:**

1300 424 377 | [info@kidsunlimited.com.au](mailto:info@kidsunlimited.com.au) | [kidsunlimited.com.au](https://kidsunlimited.com.au)

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MPPS Parents Association

presents the 2024

# TRIVIA NIGHT

SAVE THE DATE

2024

March 15th

7:00pm

MPPS  
Sports &  
Performance Centre

All money raised will go to  
the MPPS PA to purchase  
STEM equipment for our new  
STEM centre

**PRIZES AWAIT OUR WINNERS!**

**Please look out for Trivia Night  
Tickets and Raffle Tickets**

# MOONEE PONDS TEAMKIDS NEWSLETTER



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

We have been enjoying creating things at TeamKids the past few weeks, with the children enjoying painting, making loom bands and using our building blocks daily to make towers, artwork and all sorts of jewellery. The children have been helping with keeping the garden watered and organised, constantly asking to be outside in the sun and helping with the environment.

As the year comes to a close, we are gearing up to celebrate Christmas at TeamKids with crafts that we can use to decorate our room with and maybe a visit from the Elf on the Shelf!

Bookings are now open for Vacation Care! You can see the planner on our TeamKids website and on our lovely display board in house, decorated by the children themselves. We will be visiting the zoo, making potions, having a smoothie party and much much more! Be sure to secure your spot!

We hope you enjoy the rest of your year and hope to see you at TeamKids ☺

## IMPORTANT DATES

 **WED 13TH DECEMBER**

Lunchtime Legends Program

 **WED 20TH DECEMBER**

Last Day of School – TeamKids open from 2:20pm

 **23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER – 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY**

TeamKids Closed



**Service Mobile:** 0431 888 685

**Office Phone:** 1300 035 000

**Service Email:** [mooneepondsp@teamkids.com.au](mailto:mooneepondsp@teamkids.com.au)

**Office Email:** [info@teamkids.com.au](mailto:info@teamkids.com.au)

Respect Optimism Care Collaboration



**7:00 AM START**  
**6:15 PM END**

PLEASE  
ARRIVE BY 9AM  
ON EXCURSION DAYS



IN-HOUSE



INCURSION



EXCURSION

**THU - 21st DEC**

## Microscope Madness



Attention, young explorers! Get ready to peer through microscopes and witness tiny wonders magnified into giant marvels. If you've ever been curious about the world of small things, today is your chance to satisfy your curiosity.

**Base Fee** \$73.14  
**Exp Fee\*\*** \$21.00  
**Daily Total** \$94.14

**After Max CCS\*** \$9.41

**FRI - 22nd DEC**

## A White Christmas



We're dreaming of a white Christmas... Today TeamKids is super excited for Christmas craft! We're going to make awesome fake snow, snow globes and snowball shooters! Get ready for a jingly good time!

**Base Fee** \$73.14  
**Exp Fee\*\*** \$8.00  
**Daily Total** \$81.14

**After Max CCS\*** \$8.11



\*Child Care Subsidies may apply. \$5 Late Fees apply within 7 days per child. Payment plans available.

\*\*Experience/Activity Fee. Programs may be subject to change. Third Party Payment Fees apply. See Terms and Conditions for cancellation policy



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TEAMKIDS.COM.AU/VENUES



**CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE**  
BOOK TODAY!



TEAMKIDS.COM.AU

VERSION v20231128.9

1300 035 000





**7:00 AM START**  
**6:15 PM END**

PLEASE  
ARRIVE BY 9AM  
ON EXCURSION DAYS



IN-HOUSE



INCURSION



EXCURSION

MON · 8th JAN	TUE · 9th JAN	WED · 10th JAN	THU · 11th JAN	FRI · 12th JAN
<b>Minute To Win It</b>	<b>Bowling</b>	<b>Ultimate Tag</b>	<b>Run A Muck Indoor Fun</b>	<b>Go Yoga-migos</b>
Can you win it in a minute? Today will be full of fast paced fun as we compete in teams to race against the clock to complete a series of fun, silly and seemingly impossible tasks in just 60 seconds! Giggles guaranteed!	There's no time to spare! TeamKids is hosting our very own bowling tournament & we need your help to knock down as many pins as possible! Are you & your friends up for the challenge? *Socks reqd.	Ready for the ultimate adrenaline rush? Tag masters unite because Ultimate Tag is here! A heart-pounding game that will see us dodging and dashing! Embrace the challenge of this action-packed game, we'll become tag superstars!	The excitement has only just begun because TeamKids is off to Run a Muck Indoor Fun! We'll crawl through the endless tunnels, glide down the slides & clown around in the ball fountain. *Socks required.	Time to get twisted! Twist, bend, and stretch your way to becoming a true yogi master! Learn cool breathing tricks and smooth body moves that will make you feel like a superhero while getting fit and flexible!
<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$19.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$92.14	<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$34.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$107.14	<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$16.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$89.14	<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$30.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$103.14	<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$18.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$91.14
After Max CCS* \$9.21	After Max CCS* \$10.71	After Max CCS* \$8.91	After Max CCS* \$10.31	After Max CCS* \$9.11

MON · 15th JAN	TUE · 16th JAN	WED · 17th JAN	THU · 18th JAN	FRI · 19th JAN
<b>Movie - Trolls Band Together</b>	<b>Li'l Legends League</b>	<b>Creative Music</b>	<b>3street Hoop Time</b>	<b>Wild World Exploration</b>
TeamKids is off to see Trolls Band Together! In the third instalment of the Trolls series, Poppy and Branch embark on an emotional journey to rescue Branch's brother Floyd and reunite the brother's boy band. *Rated PG	Score big with TeamKids Little Legends League! With a variety of games like football, basketball, cricket, soccer, netball, and t-ball, today's experience will be a slam dunk for budding sports stars! *Closed toe shoes required	Ditch the strawberries, because today we are all about a different sort of JAM! We're getting our creative beats flowing with this interactive percussion workshop! Learn the basics of musical play before having a go yourself!	Get ready for a slam dunkin' time! Join us for an action-packed day, filled with thrilling basketball games, drills and epic tournaments. Led by professional coaches, kids will	Join us for an exhilarating wildlife expedition on our "All About Animals Day"! Each child will take home an Australian geographic kit, allowing them to create clay-themed animals and beautifully painted sculptures.
<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$35.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$108.14	<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$17.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$90.14	<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$13.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$86.14	<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$38.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$111.14	<b>Base Fee</b> \$73.14 <b>Exp Fee**</b> \$8.00 <b>Daily Total</b> \$81.14
After Max CCS* \$10.81	After Max CCS* \$9.01	After Max CCS* \$8.61	After Max CCS* \$11.11	After Max CCS* \$8.11

\*Child Care Subsidies may apply. \$5 Late Fees apply within 7 days per child. Payment plans available.

\*\*Experience/Activity Fee. Programs may be subject to change. Third Party Payment Fees apply. See Terms and Conditions for cancellation policy



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**CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE**  
BOOK TODAY!







**7:00 AM START**  
**6:15 PM END**

PLEASE  
ARRIVE BY 9AM  
ON EXCURSION DAYS



IN-HOUSE



INCURSION



EXCURSION

MON · 22nd JAN

TUE · 23rd JAN

WED · 24th JAN

THU · 25th JAN

FRI · 26th JAN



## Comedy Magic and Variety show

Get ready for the ultimate entertainment extravaganza! Join us for a side-splitting comedy magic and variety show that will leave you amazed and laughing out loud. Let's make some memories that will be nothing short of magical!



## Melbourne Zoo

Why don't leopards play hide & seek? They're always spotted! Today, TeamKids is racing off to Melbourne Zoo. We'll roar with the big cats & howl with the wild dogs on the magnificent Lion Gorge trail.



## School of Wizardry: Potions

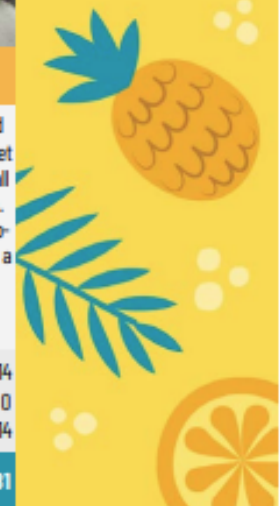
Calling all Witches and Wizards! It's time to unravel the mysteries of magic and learn the tricks of the trade during this Potion Making Workshop! We'll conjure up slime and create Dragon's Milk fireworks!



## Tidepool Treasures

Dive into the fascinating world of tidepools with TeamKids! Meet the incredible creatures that call our beaches and oceans home. With hands-on activities and up-close encounters, get ready for a splash-tastic adventure!

**CLOSED**



**Base Fee** \$73.14  
**Exp Fee\*\*** \$19.00  
**Daily Total** \$92.14

**Base Fee** \$73.14  
**Exp Fee\*\*** \$23.00  
**Daily Total** \$96.14

**Base Fee** \$73.14  
**Exp Fee\*\*** \$19.00  
**Daily Total** \$92.14

**Base Fee** \$73.14  
**Exp Fee\*\*** \$15.00  
**Daily Total** \$88.14

After Max CCS\*

\$9.21

After Max CCS\*

\$9.61

After Max CCS\*

\$9.21

After Max CCS\*

\$8.81

MON · 29th JAN

## The Fun Fair



Step right up and immerse yourself in the TK Fair! Test your luck with a variety of carnival-inspired games, master the art of juggling, and let your kazoo skills shine. The excitement has only just begun!

**Base Fee** \$73.14  
**Exp Fee\*\*** \$8.00  
**Daily Total** \$81.14

After Max CCS\* \$8.11

TUE · 30th JAN

## Super Moves



Warm up and bust out the dance moves! We're crumping combat style with our super hero favourites! With songs from Marvel, DC and Pixar, this high ENERGY program combines fitness and superheroes, saving the world one step at a time!

**Base Fee** \$73.14  
**Exp Fee\*\*** \$16.00  
**Daily Total** \$89.14

After Max CCS\* \$8.91

\*Child Care Subsidies may apply. \$5 Late Fees apply within 7 days per child. Payment plans available.

\*\*Experience/Activity Fee. Programs may be subject to change. Third Party Payment Fees apply. See Terms and Conditions for cancellation policy



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**CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE**  
BOOK TODAY!





Two young boys are smiling and giving thumbs up. The boy in the foreground is wearing an orange Team Kids shirt. The background shows a blue sky with clouds and a building.

# SUMMER Holidays

**BOOK TODAY**  
[teamkids.com.au](http://teamkids.com.au)  
**1300 035 000**

**Team Kids**

**BEST HOLIDAY PROGRAMS IN AUSTRALIA**

Decorative elements include a lemon slice and a pineapple.

# SUMMER Holidays

A young girl with a red bindi is smiling, wearing a yellow costume with white star patterns and a red headband with green and red beads. A green leafy branch is on the left.

**BEST HOLIDAY PROGRAMS IN AUSTRALIA**

**BOOKINGS OPEN NOW! >>**

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# LEARNING STAR awards

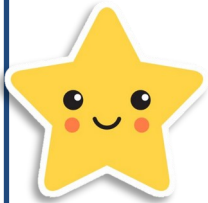


LEARNING Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Anders	Oscar M	For completing some great writing and publishing his story 'The Dancing Food' Well done!
	James T	For completing some great work when identifying the features of nonfiction. Well done!
	Maddie S	For working hard in maths to accurately solve problems involving equal sharing. Well done!
Foundation B Nicola Scott	Chiara S	For completing some amazing writing and making sure she includes all the things good writers do. Well done Chiara!
1/2 A Archie Singh	Izzy M	For your fantastic creative writing this semester! It is wonderful to see you taking on feedback, revising your work, and challenging yourself with your growth mindset.
1/2 B Antony Brock	Ivy N	For showing great effort in reading aloud during Reader's Theatre. Well done Ivy!
1/2 C Libby Haigh	Luca F	For showing your understanding of Australian money, clearly demonstrating your knowledge in practical applications.
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Sidney P	For trying so hard to work on your learning goals in writing, Sid. Well done!
3/4 A Georgia Marks	Zaid K	For showing such a love of learning, and sharing that with everyone around you. It's been so much fun to see you learn and grow over the year! Well done, Zaid.
3/4 B Chris Mizis	Harriet M	For always apply her best effort to all work tasks, and making the most of her learning opportunities.
3/4 C Rebekah S & Bec D	William H	For showing great effort in developing your multiplication strategies. Your hard work has really paid off. Well done William!
3/4 D Lee Pregnell	Evangaline S	For the focus, organisation and passion she brought to her Passion Project.
5/6 A Stephanie Thompson	Sara S	For working enthusiastically to create and present a persuasive debate speech. Well done Sara!
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Teagan P	For writing a strong persuasive debate and leading her team to ensure everyone was organised and prepared. Well done, Teagan!
5/6 C Paul Luu	Zane G	For demonstrating a great attitude towards challenges and an eagerness to learn and improve. Well done, Zane.
5/6 D Erin Mullin	Aryan H	For working hard to prepare and perform a Reader's Theatre script with his group. Well done!!



# LEARNING STAR awards cont...

LEARNING Star...	Name	Reason
Arts Christine Caminiti	Zoe P - 5/6 D	For showing commitment, dedication and persistence in her arts learning throughout her primary school life. Keep up your creative practice, Zoe!
Italian Nancy Berardone	Isabelle P - PB	For always doing her very best work and for her fantastic attitude to learning. Ottimo!
Physical Education Matt Feeley	Toby W - 5/6B	For showing growth and improvement in all PE lessons this year.



## ROCC STAR awards



ROCC Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Anders	Freddie M	For being willing to try lots of new things this term, asking for help when he needs it and always showing care to his teachers and friends
	Lawrence P	For challenging himself and using a growth mindset to continue to improve his reading, writing and maths
Foundation B Nicola Scott	Jack D	For being optimistic with all his learning tasks this term and showing collaboration and care with his class mates. Thanks Jack!
	Richard N	For constantly showing collaboration in the classroom and helping his friends when packing up and learning. Thanks Richard!
1/2A Archie Singh	Hamish E	For your effort, focus and dedication to your learning this term. It is so wonderful to see taking responsibility for your class jobs, being resourceful, helping others, and setting yourself personal goals to be a true ROCC Star!
1/2B Antony Brock	Leo J	For showing great resilience during our Italian Day activities. Well done!
1/2 C Libby Haigh	Theo D	For demonstrating a growth mindset when things are tricky, and challenging himself with his learning. Well done, Theo!
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Mila A	For being more collaborative during your partner and group work. Well done, Mila!

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# ROCC STAR AWARDS cont...

ROCC Star...	Name	Reason
1/2B - Antony Brock	Leo J	For showing great resilience during our Italian Day activities. Well done!
1/2 C Libby Haigh	Theo De P	For demonstrating a growth mindset when things are tricky, and challenging himself with his learning. Well done, Theo!
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Mila A	For being more collaborative during your partner and group work. Well done, Mila!
3/4 A Georgia Marks	Amira B	For being such a thoughtful and responsible part of our classroom every single day. You've been such a wonderful role model to everyone around you - what lucky classmates! Thank you, Amira!
3/4 B Chris Mizis	Leon M	For putting his passion into his passion project. Well Done Leon.
3/4 C Rebekah S & Rebecca D	Zayn S	For showing incredible resilience during the pasta activity on Italian day. Thank you for your effort Zayn!
3/4 D Lee Pregnell	Henry S	For the consistently positive energy he has brought to classroom throughout the year.
5/6A - Stephanie Thompson	Eli M	For demonstrating an optimistic attitude, and being a helpful and caring buddy at the Buddies Picnic. Well done Eli!
5/6B - Candice Ryan	Jemima M	For being a kind and caring buddy, and demonstrating the Better Buddies values at our Buddies Picnic. Well done, Jemima!
5/6C - Paul Luu	Isabelle W	For always demonstrating a positive attitude at school and showing care towards others. It is great having you as part of 5/6 C.
5/6D - Erin Mullin	Eva J	For continuing to show a positive and optimistic attitude towards her learning, and being a kind and caring buddy on Italian Day.
Arts - Christine Caminiti	Matthias Y 5/6 A	For being a kind, creative and deeply thinking arts student this year and throughout his primary school life. Well done, Matthias!
Italian - Nancy Berardone	Sezen K PB	For making some good choices for her learning in Italian. Ottimo!
Physical Education - Matt Feeley	Ben T 5/6B	For showing outstanding sportsmanship qualities during all PE lessons.

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## TERM 4 2023 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
December 18 Student First Aid	December 19 Year 6 Picnic	December 20 End of Term 4 1.20 pm finish		

## TERM 1 2024 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
January 29 Curriculum day	January 30 Curriculum day	January 31 Students	February 1	February 2
February 5	February 6 Staff Meeting	February 7 Foundation 9:15am-1.20pm	February 8 Foundation 9am-1.20pm Parents Association Meeting	February 9 Foundation Full day
February 12	February 13	February 14	February 15	February 16 School Swim Sports
February 19	February 20 Parent Teacher Exchange	February 21	February 22	February 23 Back up School Swim Sports
February 26	February 27	February 28 District Swimming School Council	February 29	March 1



### 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/>