Principal's Message

Parent/Teacher Interviews – Wednesday 26th March
Teacher/parent interviews are scheduled for Wednesday this week. We try to schedule interviews for siblings consecutively for parents. Where ever possible this has been done. Teacher/Parent interviews can take place at any time throughout the school year if parents have a concern or questions. Please don’t hesitate to make an appointment through the school office. It’s better to do this rather than approach teachers ‘on the run’ at lines or during teaching time.

Playground Trees
As you are all aware, a large branch fell from a tree in our playground recently. This is not the first time this has happened. As a result, this area of the playground has been closed until it is safe to use. A qualified Arborist has conducted safety assessments on all the trees in our playgrounds. The Department will be working with Blacktown council to take the best course of action to ensure students, staff and all members of our school community are safe at school. Some trees will have to be removed and others will have to be pruned. This will take some time to organise and the area of concern will remain closed until the risk is removed.

Complaints, Concerns and Issues
Occasionally parents or members of our school community may be concerned about an incident or issue or may have a complaint they would like addressed. A complaint can simply be an expression of dissatisfaction or it can be a problem that you want fixed. Sometimes things do not go the way you expect. Sometimes the decisions made or the actions taken need to be explained better. At other times, we need to look more closely at what we did or how we are doing our work.

The DET has a policy to assist in the dealing of complaints. The policy aims to:
• encourage the resolution of problems by informal means wherever possible
• ensure that concerns are dealt with quickly, fully and fairly
• maintain good working relationships between all people involved with the school
• provide effective responses and appropriate redress
• be confidential
• be unbiased

How to make a complaint
• Discuss your concerns with a member of our staff or make an appointment to discuss the matter with the Principal
• You may bring a friend or relative to support you.
• If a complaint cannot be resolved in an informal way, you may be asked to put your complaint in writing.
• It is important that your written complaint includes specific details of the situation/issue and an indication of what you would like to happen as a result of your complaint.
• We can assist you to put your complaint in writing, if you require it.
What can you expect?

- Most complaints can be resolved quickly and informally to everybody’s satisfaction simply by talking to the person concerned or the Principal.
- Some complaints are covered under another policy or by special legislation e.g. OH&S or anti-discrimination policies. You will be advised if this is the case with your complaint. You will also be told how and by whom your concerns will be addressed.
- Occasionally more serious or complex complaints require investigation. These can take a longer time to resolve. If this happens, you should be informed of the progress and outcome of your complaint by phone or in writing at regular intervals until the matter is resolved.
- If you have not heard from the person handling the complaint within a reasonable time, call to ask them what is happening.

What are the possible outcomes?

1. Your complaint is upheld (in part or in full) and, where appropriate, one or more of the following actions may be offered to you:
   - action to remedy or amend the situation
   - an apology
   - an explanation
   - an admission that the situation could have been handled differently or better
   - an assurance that the event complained of will not recur
   - an explanation of the steps that have been taken to ensure that it will not happen again
   - an undertaking to review our policies in light of the complaint.
2. Your complaint is not upheld. The reasons for this should be clearly given.

   If you are not happy with the outcome, you may request a review of your complaint.

I encourage all parents or member of our school community who have a concern or an issue to approach a member of staff or myself so that matters can be resolved as quickly and effectively as possible.

Safety on the Roads Surrounding our School

Please be extremely mindful of safety when driving and parking near the school. It is important to obey all road and parking laws when collecting and bringing your children to school. This will keep everyone safe.

We have had a number of complaints from local residents about people parking illegally and driving in an unsafe manner when bringing and/ or collecting children from the school. Thank you for your support with this important issue.

Birthday Cakes

It is absolutely lovely when parents or carers bring cakes to school to celebrate their child’s birthday. We are more than happy for these to be shared with the children in your child’s class. We respectfully ask that parents supply individual cupcakes rather than a whole cake that needs to be cut into 25-30 or more equal pieces. It’s very difficult for teachers to cut and distribute the cake in the classroom during learning time. We also ask that serviettes be sent along with the cakes.

Term 2 Weeks 1-3

I am taking leave during the first three weeks of Term 2, from Monday 28th April. During this time, Ms Levis will be relieving as Principal. I know that she will do a superb job. I look forward to seeing everyone when I return on Monday 19th May.

Warmest regards,

Mandy Hollis, Principal
PLEASE NOTE
THE DRIVEWAY IS CLOSED
FROM 8AM – 4PM TO
TRAFFIC
FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR
CHILDREN
STAFF & DELIVERIES ONLY

ENROL NOW FOR
KINDERGARTEN 2015
If you know of any
friends or
neighbours that
have a child
turning 5 before
the 31 July 2015
please ask at the administration office for
an enrolment form.

CANTEEN
The Canteen is CLOSED ON
MONDAYS. The Canteen will
be closed on the last day of
this term, Friday 11 April.

Congratulations to the following
students who have been elected
to the Student Representative
Council (SRC):
SRC 1/2D
Mayoori Ramesh
Chloe Chippindale
SRC 1/2N
Max Barbin  Charlize De La Torre
SRC 1/2P
Skyla Tynan  Emily Stonham
Ella Begnell  Chloe Prothero
SRC 3/4C
Shanuken Ramesh
Teagan Garland
SRC 3/4M
Kaylem Martin  Alyssa Arcilla
SRC 3/4S
Wasim Rahman  Maia Stewart
SRC 5/6H
Talon Pepper  Rylea Conlon
SRC 5/6N
Siddhika Garg  Alexander Sutrina
SRC 5/6P
Anav Prasad  Taylor Piliae

Congratulations to the following
students are library monitors:
Hashiti Raikar  Tyler Smith-Ridley
Lilly Pasnin  Lisa Siby
Suha Rahman  Roma Lal
Fiona Jose  Rania Deeb
Abyas Mahmud  Clarice Pulmano

KIDSMATTER
A survey was distributed to
families last week. We would like
you to take the time to read and
complete. Kids Matter is a newly
implemented framework at
M.S.P.S. Its aim is to improve
children’s mental health and well-
being by increasing awareness
and developing positive
relationships between school staff,
parents and carers as well as the
broader community.

Once you have completed the
survey return it to the class
teacher. You will receive a red
token to go into the draw for a $50
COLES voucher. The lucky
winner will be drawn Monday 7
April as the Morning Assembly.

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Please note one red token per
family.
Thank you for your time,
Mrs Parsons - Facilitator

What’s Coming
Up…

March
• Mon 24 Newsletter home
  Canteen closed Mondays
• Wed 26 K-2 Assembly
  11.30am host 1/2H. Yrs3-6
  Assembly at 12.15pm host
  3/4M
• Thurs 27 School Cross
  Country
• Fri 28 PSSA
• Term 1 School Activity Levy
due today
What’s On home Week 10/11
• Mon 31 Canteen closed
  Mondays

April
• Tues 1 Longneck Lagoon
• Wed 2 K-2 Assembly
  11.30am host 1/2P. Yrs3-6
  Assembly at 12.15pm host
  3/4C
• Thurs 3 Harmony Day 2pm
• Fri 4 PSSA last day for this
  term recommences Term 4
• Mon 7 Canteen closed
  Mondays
• Wed 9 K-2 Assembly
  11.30am host 1/2D. Yrs3-6
  Assembly at 12.15pm host
  3/4S
• Thurs 10 Debate here
• Fri 11 CANTENE CLOSED
  No PSSA
  K-2 Hat Parade 2.15pm
  Last day for Term 1.

Term 2
• Mon 28 Staff Development
  Day
• Tues 29 Students return
  What’s On home
• Wed 30 NO assemblies

May
• Mon 5 Canteen closed
  Mondays
• Wed 7 K-6 Assembly
  11.30am Anzac Ceremony
• Mon 12 Canteen closed
  Mondays
  Newsletter home