PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

It’s almost time to farewell another school year...a great school year with so many highlights and great people working together to make a great school!

We bid farewell to our School Chaplain, Tania Niziorski, as she heads northwards to a new life, a new family and a new home. Tania has been integral in our Wellbeing agenda supporting families and students through challenging times and generally contributing to the various school activities that could do with an extra pair of hands and a happy smile.

We also say goodbye to Eileen Mowat, our school crossing supervisor, who is retiring after many years. Eileen has worked as a lollypop lady for 50 years, the last 40 years employed by the Shire. We have staff and parents recall her earlier days at Dumbalk when they were young students. Eileen moved to the Meeniyan crossing in 2006 when the Dumbalk site was officially unstaffed. Eileen has looked after our students’ safety over the years ensuring they get across the road safely and developing the young preps’ independence by understanding she is there to keep them safe. She encourages our students to say hi as they cross and kept an eye on students’ whereabouts. She has watched her own grandchildren grow up over the years and developed special friendships with some of our students.

It’s obvious she has valued her role and instilled good habits in our students because the relief crossing supervisors always remark how beautiful our students are and how they are respectful and welcoming when they fill in for Eileen. The students will be having a special farewell next week and families are welcome to send cards or wishes along to school for us to pass on to Eileen.

And...farewell to our Year 6 students

It’s always with great sadness that we say goodbye to our Year 6 students. We witness them grow up over the years, form friendships, face challenges and develop their strengths. This year’s group are special in their own way. The boys are all good mates who each bring their sense of humour and individuality to the group and gel beautifully. They like a laugh, have fun and have been most responsible. They’re actually a great bunch of kids to talk to and show how constructing strong teacher-student relationships are so important. The girls also demonstrate this by trusting staff to support them when friendships sometimes fray. The girls are a creative group who look for opportunities to perform collaboratively and creatively. I hope the opportunities and leadership skills we have offered keeps our students focussed on achieving their best whilst making new friendships and navigating their way through secondary college.
Australia Day
Thanks to all the students who showed an interest in next year’s Australia Day Celebrations. I will contact families by email with details. Everybody is most welcome!

School Reports
Please find your child’s school report accompanying the newsletter. Attendance data has been imported from Compass into the reports. The State average for attendance is 94%.

Hopefully classes can be announced next week. There is still some fine tuning to be done.

Finally I would like to thank all the teachers, education support staff, parents/carers and students for contributing to make our school such a great school.

Brett Smith

CLASS PARTIES
Students will be bringing home class notes about their class parties. If there are any issues, please contact your child’s classroom teacher. Hot food will need to be brought along to the parties at 12nn. Christmassy clothes most welcome (no gold coin donation - just for fun!)

MACS
Thanks to our lovely workers whose time this year has raised $6120.58 for our school. The Meeniyan Area Community Shop is a valuable resource for the town both as a retail outlet and a community meeting place. Each year parents staff the store for a short time each week, fortnight or month and in turn, MACS provides financial support to the school. This is one of our major fundraisers for the year. We would really like this to continue and seek volunteers to help out. Volunteers are rostered on for a 3 hr shift, either 10am-1pm or 1pm-4pm on the days you nominate. Parents, friends, grandparents and relatives are all welcome. If you are interested in volunteering next year, please return the slip below.

MACS VOLUNTEERS 2017
(A community contribution that really pays off)

Name:__________________________ Phone:________________________

I am available: (circle preferred time) weekly fortnightly monthly on call

My preferred day/s are: Monday am / pm Tuesday am / pm Wednesday am / pm Thursday am / pm Friday am / pm Saturday am / pm

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

😊 Ella S for the compassion and concern she shows to each friend every day.
😊 Amelia P for the extra effort she put into learning in all areas of the curriculum in her Grade 1 year.
😊 Thalia B for her helpful, cheerful volunteering in working hard to assist the gardening club.
😊 Charlie P for showing determination and persistence when learning new games and never giving up.
😊 Kyra P for keeping an eye on the ‘Friendship Tree’ and inviting a friend to play.
😊 Tara S for the courage she showed when doing her oral presentation.
😊 Sienna B for the lovely support she quickly gave to Tara when she needed it.
😊 Erik W for showing effort to collaborate effectively with a peer on a task.
😊 Conor S for the true learner he is even after two years, he continues to listen and act on feedback when writing.
😊 Jessica D for the focussed and organised manner in which she has conducted herself throughout the Christmas cake sessions.
😊 Charlie P for his perseverant and determined attitude when solving problems in maths.

PRINCIPAL’S AWARD

😊 Amelia W for outstanding handwriting.

HOUSE POINTS

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