

NEWSLETTER NO.1

**EVENTS CALENDAR 2017**

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<b>FEBRUARY</b>	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Assembly 9:00am – All Welcome
	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Permission note due: Years 3-6 Swimming Trials <b>NO LATE NOTES ACCEPTED</b>
	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Year 3-6 SWIMMING TRIALS Melton Waves</b>
	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	No Prep Classes
	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Afternoon 2:15-3:05pm in the Staffroom – All Welcome
	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 9:00am – Performance by 56N
	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Meet the Teacher Interviews
	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	No Prep Classes
	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly – Performance by 34J
	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	No Prep Classes
	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Coffee Afternoon 2:15-3:05pm in the Staffroom – All Welcome
	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Family Fun Night – More information to come
	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly – Performance by 12Z
	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	No Prep Classes
<b>MARCH</b>	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Assembly – Performance by 56N</b>
	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Afternoon 2:15-3:05pm in the Staffroom – All Welcome
	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly – Performance by 34S
	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Labour Day Public Holiday – No School
	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Curriculum Day – No School
	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly – Performance by 12A
	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	School Photos
	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Coffee Afternoon 2:15-3:05pm in the Staffroom – All Welcome
	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Assembly – Performance by PC</b>
	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Showcase: Inquiry 2pm – Years 3-6</b>
	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Exhibition: Inquiry 2pm – Prep-Year 2</b>
	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Assembly – Performance by 56M
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>End of Term 1</b>	

**Key Messages from this Newsletter:**

- Key Messages in this Newsletter:
- Welcome
- School Review
- Master Plan
- School Values
- Camps, Sports and Excursion Funds (CSEF)
- Parent Helpers Expression of Interest
- Coffee Club
- Meet the Teacher Interviews
- Extend OSHC
- ICT Acceptable Use Agreement:
- Police Message “Operation School’s Back”
- Supervision After School



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to start this first newsletter for the year with a welcome to all students and their families, with a special mention to our 2017 Preps, whose first day was today, and all the new families who have moved to our school this year. The year has started smoothly thanks to the efforts of our amazing staff, who came in during the holidays to set up their classrooms and prepare for the students arrival.

I would also like to welcome the following staff members who have joined the Melton West Primary School community this year: Ms Sherri Brezina as our fulltime First Aid Officer, Mallory Bland and Paul Cathro in the Prep Department, Charlene Waldron to the 1/2 team, Emma Keyes, Joanne Agius, and Katie Hawke to the 3/4 team and Kate Bytheway and Kerri Fraser to the 5/6 team. I would also like to welcome back Jacinta Thunell after a year teaching at another school.

This year, as always, looks like it's going to be an action-packed year. Some of the major things that we will be working on include our **School Review**. This occurs every 4 years and involves a thorough evaluation about what we have been doing over the past 4 years, scrutinising our data and then developing plans for the next 4 years. It will be important to seek feedback from all members of our school community, including parents and children and we look forward to inviting you to be an active part of this process.

Another major project that we are hoping will come to fruition is the development and implementation of our **Master Plan**. Last year we were one of the schools that were mentioned in the May Budget to create a Master Plan to upgrade our school and included the construction of a gymnasium. We were very excited to hear this news and worked closely with the architecture firm we appointed to create this. They spoke with parents, teachers and students about what they saw as a need and incorporated that into our initial plan. We were then informed that we were selected to be part of a pilot project 80/20 which means 80% of our buildings will be permanent, with 20% relocatable. I will be attending a meeting next Tuesday to discuss the Schematic Design, which I think is the next stage in the process. The actual commencement of starting our Master Plan is yet to be confirmed. We need to wait until the next May Budget to see if we have been allocated funds to start Stage 1. I will keep you informed of where we are up to.

I thought it would be important to remind our community of our School Values and how they are reflected in the behavioural expectations of all. The Melton West PS values are **Communication, Respect, Teamwork** and **Trust**. The following table outlines what we have agreed each value means and how we all, staff, parents and students, should demonstrate it.

MWPS Values	What does it mean?	We demonstrate this through:
<b>Communication</b>	At MWPS we communicate openly and honestly in different ways ensuring our message is understood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listening, being interested and having an open mind.</li> <li>Our positive body language and giving eye contact to others.</li> </ul>
<b>Respect</b>	At MWPS we care for each other and our school by accepting and valuing each other's differences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listening to others when they are speaking</li> <li>Taking care of our property as well as others'</li> <li>Our positive body language</li> <li>Including people in all that we do.</li> </ul>
<b>Trust</b>	At MWPS we believe in, and rely on, each other for support and honesty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doing what we say we will do</li> <li>Helping each other</li> <li>Doing our best</li> <li>Sharing our thoughts we each other.</li> </ul>
<b>Teamwork</b>	At MWPS we work together and help each other achieve our goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valuing each other's opinions</li> <li>Actively listening to each other's ideas</li> <li>Being adaptable and creative when solving problems.</li> </ul>

**Other important information for this newsletter:**

**Camps, Sports and Excursion Funds (CSEF):** Students of families, who have an eligible Health Care Card, can apply for a grant from the Government of \$125. Please bring your current Health Care Card to the office and complete the form.

**Parent Helpers Expression of Interest:** We value the role parents have played in their child's life, as their first teacher. We would like to encourage parents to continue to be an active member of their child's educational journey. There are many ways you can be involved in the school and we have created a form for parents to indicate how they may like to assist. We have tried to provide an indication of the time commitment involved to help you gauge whether it is something you can commit to. We look forward to meeting many new parents and encourage all parents to be involved, if they can spare an hour or so.

**Coffee Club:** This year we are inviting all parents to come to our Coffee Club, which will be held every second week. See dates on the front calendar and more information on the next page in the newsletter. This is an opportunity to meet other parents and staff, for informal chats and connections.

**Meet the Teacher Interviews:** On Wednesday 15th February we invite all parents and carers to a “Meet the Teacher” Interview. This is an opportunity for you to talk to the teachers about your child so that they can best meet the needs of your child. Please take the opportunity to attend, even if it’s just to introduce yourself.

**Extend OSHC:** We have a Before and After School Care Program that families are encouraged to use if they need to get their child to school very early – before 8.30 or need care afterschool. Yard duty finishes at 3.15 each day, so children should be cleared from the playground by then, unless they are with an adult.

**ICT Acceptable Use Agreement:** Next week each child will bring home the Acceptable Use Agreement for ICT. Students need to bring back a signed permission form before they will be able to access computers and iPads in the school. The document outlines the expectations of behaviour when using the internet. Please go through this with your child as you sign it. Please return as soon as possible so that we can start using ICT in classrooms, as they are intended.

**Police Message “Operation School’s Back”:** Local Police, together with members of the Highway Patrol, are running an operation to mark the start of the school year. “Operation School’s Back” will target the safety of students arriving and departing school with the major focus being the enforcement of the 40kmph school zones. Motorists are asked to be vigilant before and after school as there will be increased pedestrian, road and pushbike traffic. Please allow an extra 5 minutes to find a safe and legal park to ensure your children’s safety. For those motorists driving through school zones please adhere to the speed limit and be aware of staffed school crossings. Failing to stop/remain stationary at school crossing is a \$379 fine and 3 demerit points. Stopped-Double parked is a \$91 fine and Exceed speed limit by 10kmph but less than 15kmph is a \$303 fine and 3 demerit points. This is just an example of some of the fines.

**Supervision After School:** As you may be aware, there is a park on the corner of Coburns Road and West Melton Drive, where a number of students wait for their parents afterschool. Please be aware that the school is not able to provide teacher supervision in this area. I therefore suggest that you consider an alternative location at which your child waits to be picked up. Can I also remind you that we have a Before and After School care facility run by Extend that is safe and well supervised and children can attend at a minimal cost. Please contact the school if you would like further information about Extend. Enrolment Packs are available at the office.

## Moving forward With the Passion to Succeed

Michelle Costa  
Principal



### Coffee Afternoons at MWPS

All parents are invited to join us for tea/coffee and a chat each second Thursday between 2.15pm-3pm in our ‘café staffroom’.

As formal schooling begins, a strong partnership is formed between families and the school to ensure the learning that takes place is of the highest quality.

Come along and meet other parents and staff and enjoy a coffee in a relaxed, friendly environment.

Tolley Cacavas – Community Engagement Officer

## Welcome back Melton West Community!!

This year, we will be making some changes in how our students see and feel about food.

At snack time, students will be able to only purchase healthy options (a few options would be frozen yogurt, frozen fruits, or pizza rolls) from the canteen. The reason behind the change is that we are trying to limit the amount of sugars your child is eating throughout the day. The more sugar your child eats during the morning or early in the day, will affect how they are able to focus and learn. We ask you to support this change by putting fruit, yogurt, a fruit bar or something healthy in your child’s lunch box. At lunch, students will be able to buy items like icy poles, chips, etc. Have your child be involved with the choices! If your child is buying their snacks and lunches, ask your child what healthy choice they made that day.

If you have any questions, please feel free to come and ask!

Fruit is the best sugar out there!

Miss. Henaway  
Year 1-6 Physical Education Teacher



**OUT AND ABOUT ON OUR FIRST DAY OF 2017**





## Extend OSHC at MELTON WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful break over the summer. Please see important information below to ensure you are ready and organised to use Extend's service this year.

### NEW FAMILIES – ENROL TODAY

Enrolling is simple and can be done online via our Parent Portal. The annual enrolment fee will not be charged until you use the service, so it's a great way to ensure you can have emergency access if the need arises. See information on operating hours, fees, and how to enrol & book at [extend.com.au](http://extend.com.au).

### HAVE YOU SECURED YOUR 2017 BOOKINGS?

If you have used our services before, we look forward to seeing you again throughout Term 1. Please ensure you have made your 2017 bookings on the Parent Portal in advance.

PARENT PORTAL: [extend.com.au](http://extend.com.au)

### QUESTIONS?

Check out the FAQs on our website which contains useful information for new parents.

### New Team Leader

Hi my name is Jenny Monaghan and I am the new team leader for 2017. I am excited and looking forward to meeting all the families of the Melton West Extend OSHC. I have been working with children after school care for many years and have recently moved from Sydney to Melbourne.

Kiera will still be working with us two afternoons a week and we appreciate her continued input to the program.

### Upcoming Activities

- Playdough Critters
- Pom Pom Creatures
- Octopus Tiggy
- Pacman
- Paper plate Animals
- Jumping origami frogs

### REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS

Term 1 which requires all children to have a hat when playing outside. We have a hat tub in the OSHC room for all children to leave a spare hat in to keep at the program, we highly recommend the children doing this so they do not miss out on outside time.





### Small Group & Private Lessons

- Please **ENROL TODAY** – via PMI's website OR enrolment forms available at your school front office
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – typically during the school day
- Only \$15.95 per child per small group lesson (2-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons also available (\$32.95 per child for 30 minutes)
- Learning plan for all students via "PMI Stars" program – structured objectives with progress visibility
- PMI teachers supply keyboards and textbooks for keyboard lessons (students bring their own guitars)
- Ten minutes per day of practice at home is all that is required to see improvement!
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination
- Limited spaces available – so please enrol ASAP

P: 1300 362 824 E: admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au



The Tuning in to Teens™ Parenting Program helps Mums and Dads to build stronger relationships with their teenagers and enable them to communicate, even in difficult times.

This program assists parents to:

- Understand the adolescent brain, emotions and personality
- Support children to manage anger and deal with conflict
- Understand sadness and anxiety
- Explore parenting styles
- Develop skills to assist children in problem solving
- Guide children's behaviour with appropriate limits

**When:**

Thursday  
10:00am – 12:00pm  
Starting 9th Feb

February 9th, 16th & 23rd      March 2nd, 9th & 16th

**Where:**

Melton

**Cost:**

Free

Places are limited  
Registration essential

Watch this space for messages from our School Captains:

Tarkyn Hamilton  
Jessica Hodge



**To register:**

Head to our website: [www.capss.org.au](http://www.capss.org.au)  
Email us via: [capss@aus.salvationarmy.org](mailto:capss@aus.salvationarmy.org)  
Call us on: 9311 9542