

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH	Friday 15th	Whole School Incursion—Circus of Life
	Friday 15th	Lightning Premiership– Selected students year 5/6
	Friday 15th	Assembly 9am Performance by 1S All Welcome
	Mon 18th– Fri 22nd	Year 5 & 6 swimming
	Monday 18th	Last day for payment Prep swimming (numbers capped @60 students)
	Tuesday 19th	Playgroup 8:50am— 11:00am
	Wednesday 20th	Playgroup 8:50am— 11:00am
	Thursday 21st	School Photos
	Friday 22nd	Assembly 9am Performance by 6S All Welcome
	Mon 25th-Fri29th	Prep Swimming—Melton Waves
	Tuesday 26th	Playgroup 8:50am— 11:00am
	Wednesday 27th	Playgroup 8:50am— 11:00am
	Wednesday 27th	Teeth on Wheels forms due back
	Friday 29th	Assembly 9am Performance by 3A All Welcome
	April	Monday 1st
	Tuesday 2nd	Playgroup 8:50am— 11:00am
	Wednesday 3rd	Playgroup 8:50am— 11:00am
	Friday 5th	Assembly 9am Performance by Prep R All Welcome
	Friday 5th	END OF TERM 1 SCHOOL FINISHES @2:10pm
	Tuesday 23rd	TERM 2 BEGINS

Key Messages from the Principal in this Newsletter:

- Prep Buddies
- Attendance
- School Council 2019
- Annual Report to Community
- Pick Up After School
- Parent Helpers Induction Meeting
- Master Plan

Hello Melton West,

We hope you had a great long weekend.

When we arrived at school on Tuesday, the concrete for our new gymnasium was being poured. Another step in the process towards our brand new gymnasium was being completed.

We have a few reminders for you this week. Firstly, school photos coming up on Thursday 21st March. Next the Annual Easter Raffle tickets are due back on Wednesday 27th March. We know the Parents and Friends put together some fantastic prizes (lots of yummy Easter Eggs), so keep selling those tickets for a chance to win. Finally, the cookie dough orders and payment are due back tomorrow (Friday 15th March), with delivery in approximately 2 weeks.

We want to leave you with this today: “Those who want to learn don’t quit, those who quit don’t want to learn”. Stay positive and never give up!

Your captains,

Kalais and Mason



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Prep Buddies: Our Buddy Program started again this year with the Year 4 and Year Prep students meeting up each week, focussing on Reading. This was a very successful activity last year, however we changed it from Year 6s (who left at the end of the year) to Grade 4s so that the young children will still have the opportunity to see their buddy for a few more years – albeit informally.

Attendance: It is very important that children attend school EVERY day. Attendance continues to be one of our school focuses for 2019 and we are trying very hard to help children understand that being at school, learning, is the most important thing they can do to get the results they need to be successful into their future. Please ensure your child comes to school every day, because “It’s Not OK To Be Away”. This includes late arrivals and early leavers. We have a growing number of families who pick their children up early, without a valid reason. The end of the day and the start of the day are times where key messages are shared with students and important learning is still happening. In Term 2 we will be organising parent meetings with children who have high absenteeism, including early leavers, to work through ideas and strategies as to how we can support them to be at school for the whole day. Did you know, a 90% attendance rate means that your child has had a day off a fortnight and over the years this can equate to more than 3 weeks per year, which is 6 months by the time they are in Year 6. That is a lot of learning they have missed out on. Please refer to handout attached to the newsletter.

School Council 2019: Our new School Council has all the allocated positions thanks to the following people who nominated or re-nominated themselves. Mrs Kathy Cvitkovic, Ms Janet Young, Fiona McKenzie, Ms Anupama Dev and Mrs Megan Andrews who will join Mrs Jenny O’Connor, Mr Jayden Spudvilas Powel, Ms Erin Dober, Mrs Maria Robinson and Ms Lisa Pilkington. We do have a casual vacancy for a member in the community member category. We will attempt to fill this at the first meeting of the new council on Monday 18th March. If you are interested, please let me know. I would like to thank the staff and parents who have volunteered for these roles, as they are an important part of governance for the school

Annual Report to Community: Each year we are required to hold a Public Meeting where the Annual Report to Community is presented. This will be held prior to the June School Council meeting, with more details to follow. I encourage all members of our school community to attend this most important meeting.

Pick Up After School: As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, school finishes at 3.05 pm each day. Staff are on yard duty until 3.20 pm, where they ensure all children are collected or exit the school in a safe and orderly manner. If your child is waiting for siblings from the local secondary college, please speak to your older child about getting to school by 3.25 pm AT THE LATEST. If this an arrangement you have with your children, please talk to the older sibling about their responsibility to get to our school as quickly as possible.

Parent Helpers Induction Meeting: Last Thursday Mrs Cvitkovic led a group of very keen parents through our Parent Helper Induction Course, which we require all parent helpers to complete before helping in the classrooms. We welcome and encourage parent help and support within our classrooms. It’s a great way to be involved in the school and research says that parents who are active within a school community have better outcomes for their kids.

Master Plan: The slab for the Gym was poured on Tuesday. We are now waiting for the steel to be manufactured and delivered, which could be 5-6 weeks away. This, however, is not deemed to impact the finish date. We are still on schedule.

Michelle Costa
Principal

MWPS - High Levels of Learning for All

It is the mission of Melton West PS to work collaboratively to ensure high levels of learning for all.

In primary school, some students **miss** on average **3 weeks** of school **per year**. That's **half a year** of school by the end of **year 6**.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary school attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and **Regional Director** who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx

Department of Education and

MELTON WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL 2019

EASTER RAFFLE!!!!

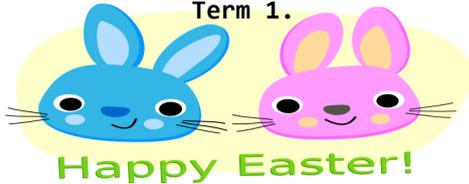
EXTRAS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE!!!

GREAT PRIZES – Hampers of Eggs, Treats, Crafts and More!

Tickets to be returned by **Wednesday the 27 of March.**

Raffle drawn at morning assembly on Friday the 29th of March

Prizes **MUST** be collected before the end of Term 1.



P&F
Fundraiser



Dear families,

This term we are running the Billy G's Cookie & Biscuit Dough fundraiser – back by popular demand!!

Billy G's Gourmet Cookie and Biscuit Dough is a splendid home baking product. Simply SCOOPE the dough from the tubs, BAKE for 14-15 minutes and SERVE and ENJOY freshly baked, moorish cookies and biscuits EVERYTIME. And you can RE-FREEZE the cookie dough to ensure the last crumb is baked.

ONLY \$14 - \$16 PER TUB 9 delicious flavours + 1 doggy biscuit variety

** Claim bonus prizes for every tub you sell **

Order forms and payment are due back **Friday 15th March 2019.**

(Delivery time is approx. two weeks)

Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

P&F Group
☺

PARENTS INVITATION

HARMONY DAY 2019

Everyone Belongs



Melton West PS 'flag-faces'

Where?

Your child's classroom

When?

2.10pm Thursday 21st 2019

Parents join in

Embrace your child's Profile

Inquiries: Tolley Cacavas Melton West Primary School Community Engagement Officer



Great news! Teeth On Wheels are coming to your school

Teeth On Wheels are a highly qualified dental team who will be coming out to our facility. They press their focus on diminishing dental anxiety by practicing pain free dental treatment. Their mobile clinics are designed to be child friendly, making a fun and enjoyable atmosphere.

The onsite dental clinic is able to provide all treatments listed below:

- ✓ Examination
- ✓ Scale and Clean
- ✓ X-rays
- ✓ Fluoride treatment
- ✓ Preventative Fissure Sealants
- ✓ Minor Fillings

We highly recommend signing up with this special program to ensure your child's Oral Health needs are met.



Don't forget to complete and sign a consent form for your child to be seen!



TeethOnWheels™
a positive dental experience

www.teethonwheels.com.au

f TeethOnWheelsAustralia **📷** #teethonwheels

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 DREAMBIGFESTIVAL  LINKINGMELTONSOUTH

MELTON SOUTH DREAM BIG PARTY IN THE PARK

OUTDOOR CINEMA: THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

FREE ENTRY AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

ENQUIRIES: HEALTHPROMOTION@DJHS.ORG.AU | (03) 9361 9377

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE DETAILS!

FRIDAY 29TH MARCH, FROM 6:00PM

MT. CARBERRY RESERVE, 41 EXFORD ROAD, MELTON SOUTH

6:00PM - 8:30PM: MARKET, ART, SPORT, FOOD, LIVE PERFORMANCE, AND FIRE SHOW!

8:30PM: SCREENING OF THE GREATEST SHOWMAN - BYO PICNIC AND RUG!

DREAM BIG FESTIVAL IS A JOINT PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MELTON
FESTIVAL FOR HEALTHY LIVING AND LINKING MELTON SOUTH
SUPPORTED BY THE MELTON COUNCIL AND VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

 The Royal Children's
Hospital Melbourne

 djerriwarh
health services



WE'RE IN TOWN

Roll up your sleeves
and give blood



Melton Mobile Donor Centre

Community Centre, Cnr High and Smith St, Melton 3337

Appointments available:

Monday 18 March	12.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Tuesday 19 March	12.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Wednesday 20 March	12.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Thursday 21 March	1.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Friday 22 March	8.00 am – 3.30 pm

Make an appointment today.

Call **13 14 95** or visit
donateblood.com.au

 **Australian Red Cross
BLOOD SERVICE**

Term 1 update.

School Banking. Helping kids learn the value of saving.

What pocket money can teach your child.

Pocket money can help teach kids about the value of money and how to look after it. However, there's no 'one size fits all' approach and it's important to decide what's right for your family. Research of over 1,000 parents of primary school students revealed that 55% give regular pocket money[^] and here's how they manage it:



Over half give less than \$10 per week (\$5 - \$10 is the most common range). There's no right or wrong – the amount should suit your family situation.



Around 4 in 5 parents link pocket money to the completion of a chore or task. This can help children understand that money needs to be earned.



On average, kids save about half of their pocket money each week. Learning to put money aside for a bigger goal is a valuable life skill.

Join the Dollarmites on a Polar Savers adventure.

The majority of parents think it's important to make learning about money engaging and to reward good saving behaviour[^]. So to help, our Dollarmites characters (Pru, Addy, Spen, Lucas and Pat) are taking School Bankers on a Polar Savers adventure, that's full of exciting rewards.

Students participating in School Banking will receive a silver Dollarmites token each time they make a School Banking deposit at school (maximum one per week). Once they've collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for a Polar Savers reward.



Polar Savers Rewards:

Term 1: Scented Stackable Highlighter, Snowy Origami Set

Term 2: Yeti Fluffy Notebook, Icicle Slapband Ruler

Term 3: Arctic Owl Fluffy Keyring, Scratch Art Cards

Term 4: Water Skimming Bounce Ball, Polar Pencils & Pencil Toppers

School Banking Deposit Tracker.

Colour in a number every time you make a deposit at school. For every 10 School Banking deposits you can redeem a reward.



To find out more about the School Banking program and how to get your child involved, ask your School Banking Co-ordinator for a School Banking Parent Pack or visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

[^]Parents of Australian primary school children (n=1144), School Banking Research, conducted by Fiftyfive5, May-June 2018. Commonwealth Bank of Australia, ABN 48 123 123 124.



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