Partners in Learning Newsletter

September 19th, 2019

State School Spectacular

Over 3,000 students across Victoria participated on Saturday at the Hisense/Melbourne Arena performing a mass dance last Saturday. This year's theme for State School Spectacular was *Follow the Stars*.

A group of our students proudly took part in this event supported by our beautiful teachers Ms. Deena Henaway and Ms.Sarah Ralph. Since Term 1, our students have been rehearsing together with Ms.Henaway and Ms.Ralph. Along the way our students attended rehearsals outside of school, twice a term, culminating in a two full day dress rehearsals. Then of course, the final performance on Saturday had our students and teachers all day and most of the night at the Melbourne Arena, for two performances.

Our children were part of a mass dance involving 160 students. Our children performed 7 dances twice!!! That is a massive effort!!! I am sure many skills were put to the test including coordination, team work, resilience, rhythm and perseverance.

Congratulations to all our children who performed last Saturday and a BIG thank-you to their parents/carers who supported them with this achievement. A HUGE thank-you to Ms.Henaway and Ms.Ralph for their effort and time in supporting our children.



Students involved in State School Spectacular 2019 were:

Akur Magot Isabelle Street Isabella Hi Isabella Holman Angelina Bayles Victoria Mauga Taylah Males Shiloh Pritchard Nyiel Wal Meriem Tung Icheille Rosette Mikayla Crawford Joline Gray Sienna Robinson Krystal Tracey-Strahan **'Surround yourself only**

Reminder: SCHOOL FINISHES **2:10pm TOMORROW** Students return Tuesday 8th October.

'Surround yourself only with people who are going to take you higher'. – Oprah Winfrey

Warmest Regards,

Kathy Cvitkovic Assistant Principal

Hello Melton West Community,

This week is the last week of Term 3 which has approached so fast and means only one more term of primary school for our Grade 6 students.

Last week our new toilet block opened and it looks amazing. We hope everyone respects this new area. 4M did a performance at assembly which taught us 'what we can do and what we can't do when we use the bathroom'. It was a really catchy song. Miss Moore reports that she has been hearing students singing the song all throughout the week.

Last Saturday 15 of our students represented our school at the State School Spectacular at Melbourne Arena. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had a great time with Miss Henaway and Miss Ralph. It will be replayed on Channel 7 later in the year. We will let

you know when it is forecast to air when we are informed.

Have a great holiday. Stay safe and see you next term.

Akur and Daniel









Wishing our Melton West Community a safe and happy holiday.

PROTECT

Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from abuse. No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at school or anywhere else in the community. Tell a teacher or any adult at your school if you feel unsafe.



Melton West Primary School is a Child Safe School

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our school and base all our decisions on what's best for the students. Please talk to a staff member if you have any concerns about a child's safety at any time.

Getting it right in English!

Helping your child at home with vocabulary building

Parents are the first language models for children. The language children use is modelled, or based on, what they hear from their parents. It is important to create an environment that enriches what a child hears. The words your child hears are the words they will use with encouragement.

As much as possible, encourage family discussions. Set a time each evening to turn off the TV and have a chat. One of the best places is the dinner table as it is one of the few times everyone is together. Set up some ground rules such as 'No eat and run', and 'Everyone will have something to talk about' during and after dinner. This is an opportunity for 'hear and tell' time. Model appropriate turn taking and asking clarifying questions during discussions. Things to talk about include what is going on in the neighbourhood, current news events, what happened at school, events that are coming up, family plans, and family decisions.





If you have the technology available, make a recording of words. Say the word, define the word and then use it in a sentence. Select words that your children will find interesting. Encourage regular use of the recorded words.

'Word of the Week' could be a fun, family game-like activity you could play. Each person selects a word taking turns each week. For example, the first week it might be mum who writes a word on a card and puts it on the refrigerator door. Everyone must use that word as much as possible that week. The next week its dad's turn, then the children's turn and so on. As the words are used, post them on a cabinet door to stimulate continued usage.

When out on family outings, or during family activities such as cooking, use the vocabulary related to those activities as much as possible. Explain and/or show what they mean. For example, when following a recipe use, explain and model words such as dice, shred.



There are some fantastic children's magazines that you can subscribe to. A good example of this is National Geographic Kids or National Geographic Young Explorer. There are children's magazines that cover practically every interest area of children: cars, sports, computers, the out-of-doors, animals. The information from the articles makes an ideal subject for family discussions.



Sarah Mills- Leading Teacher Literacy

Keeping Maths Real!



Make everyday activities an opportunity for learning about Maths. It is easier for children to understand maths when they relate it to something real and see it as part of "everyday life". This set of three animations is designed to support families to bring mathematics and numeracy into conversations in the home, the supermarket and the outdoors.

Below are 3 videos found from the FUSE department website that are available for everyone to access. These three animations support families to engage in conversations about mathematics and numeracy in everyday activities.

Every day maths- Outdoors

https://vimeo.com/303379849/fa9a8d9a28

Explore maths everyday with your children as you walk, talk and play. See the beauty of maths everywhere! When walking, talking, looking and listening, families can explore and use mathematics every day. Introduce children to maths in the outdoors by counting steps, finding numbers and shapes and mapping your path. The possibilities are endless!

Every day maths – Around the house

https://vimeo.com/303379817/d9be2daf40

See the beauty of maths everywhere around the house! When playing, talking, looking and listening, families can explore and use mathematics every day. You can use a range of household objects to explore and discover numbers, measurement, patterns and shapes. The possibilities are endless!

Every day maths – Supermarket Master

https://vimeo.com/303379869/8531f3a435

See the beauty of maths everywhere as you explore the supermarket! When talking, looking, playing and listening, families can explore and use mathematics every day. Shopping is a wonderful activity to help children explore mathematical ideas. They can help to find items on the shopping list, look for interesting shapes or numbers, or talk about the size or weight of things. The possibilities are endless!

parenting *****ideas

insights

Leaving your fathering mark

by Michael Grose



POSITIVE PARENTING

Currently, there's a strong tendency to view successful fathering through the lens of skills and knowledge acquisition. That is, to raise kids today effective fathers, like mothers, need to keep building their skill sets (What's the most appropriate way to manage kids today?) and their knowledge (What's the latest research about the impact of digital technology on children?). Staying one step ahead can be exhausting and make a man feel inadequate if he can't keep up.

Another way to look at fathering is through the generative parenting lens. That is, fathering is an activity that's rooted in a man's biology in much the same way that mothering is an instinctive activity. If the mothering instinct is to nurture and protect children, a father's instinct is to teach and develop his children's skills and knowledge so they can thrive long after the time he's left this world.

The generative fathering notion developed by researchers Dollahite, Hawkens and Brotherson explains why many men will turn a simple game they have with their children into a lesson into how to hold a ball; defeat that opponent or stand firm in the face of fear. Father-son relationships can be scuppered by this well-intentioned, but oft mistimed 'you can always get better' attitude.

Generative fathers tend to look long term when they raise their kids. Quintessentially, generative fathers work hard to be good men and good citizens. Love, availability and character become their fathering stock in trade.

Generative fathers keep pace with their children's development adjusting their role at different stages. For instance, during a child's latency (primary school years) they focus on recreational work and so they help develop children's interests and competencies through sport, hobbies and leisure activities. The task for generative fathers of early adolescents is to help their children develop strong values and inner beliefs. This spiritual work (not necessarily in a religious sense) helps young people develop the moral compasses they need to act safely and be good citizens when fathers aren't around.

For generative parents, fathering becomes a lifelong task, and doesn't stop when children become adults, leave home and start families of their own. It is in this stage that men take on mentoring work, passing on the wisdom gained from their experiences to the next generation so that they don't repeat the same mistakes that they have made. Fathering never stops. It changes with the development of your children.

This Father's Day, while enjoying the accolades and attention that will come your way consider the generational impact you are having on your kids.

Your lasting fathering legacy will be determined by the character you display; the way you live your life and how you relate to your family. Those are attributes that you can continue to work on over the coming twelve months.

You will find more information about generative fathering in my book *A Man's guide to raising kids at* www.parentingideas.com.au



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.

Current School Wide Positive Behaviour Focus

Our current School Wide Positive Behaviour focus is around the use of the toilets. Particularly about being safe and respectful when using them.

Our new toilets will be in use be from this Friday.



Floors stay

_eave it clean



Teachers have taught their students the acronym FLUSH for them to easily remember how to

Use it quietly

Show respect



Hands washed

Communication

Respect

Teamwork

Trust

Melton West PS Behaviour Matrix



Melton West Primary School

Positive Behaviour Expectations

| | | | | 1 | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Using Learning | In the school | When using ICT | Moving around | All Locations |
| | Spaces | grounds | | the school | |
| Be Respectful | Listen to others | Put rubbish in the bin | Use appropriate language | Appreciate displays | Wear correct school uniform |
| | Let others learn | Use equipment safely | Respect other's | Be mindful of others | Demonstrate MWPS |
| | Work cooperatively | Finish food in eating area | feelings | Enter classroom when teacher is present | values |
| | Use inside voice | Look after gardens | | | |
| Be Safe | Use equipment correctly | Be sun smart Play on correct | Protect personal information | Walk on the left side of corridors | Use correct doors to enter and exit |
| | Ask before leaving class | playground Use toilets correctly | Keep passwords private | Keep hands and feet to myself | Follow instructions from staff |
| | Move around with care | Use correct canteen | | Line up safely | Ask for help |
| Be a Learner | Strive for excellence | Share and take turns | Use internet as a learning resource | Use correct out of class passes | Use manners |
| | Be organised | Play with fair rules | Follow the MWPS | Move in a timely | Use appropriate Ianguage |
| | Be ready to learn | Include others | acceptable use agreement | manner | Encourage and |
| | Follow teacher instructions | Ask a teacher for help | Be on task | Refocus quickly from transitions | support others |

This is our behavior matrix we use this to teach students the appropriate behaviours. Please read the following page to see how use our Matrix in our day to day learning

| Give us | | iPhone U | sers Sai | msung Users | | |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| feedback | | Hover ove QR code | | wnload the QR o from the Play | | |
| about our matrix. | Critery idee | your phor camera o | | ore. Open the o and scan the | San and San an | |
| Here is a link | | the link w | | de. | | |
| to the survey. | SCAI | N ME | | | 7. | |
| Commu | nication | Respect | Team | work | Trust | |

What is the matrix and how do we use it?

We have developed a set of School Wide Positive Behaviours (SWPB) that are pro-social and focused on prevention and early intervention. SWPBs is a whole school approach to creating an environment which encourages effective learning through the development of a positive, calm and welcoming atmosphere. We endeavour to teach our students how to behave appropriately and uphold the values of our school community.

Parents, carers, students and staff all share responsibility for ensuring that Melton West Primary School is a positive, respectful and safe school environment.

Why Do We Explicitly Teach Our Expected Behaviours?

Introducing, modelling and reinforcing positive social behaviour is an important step of a student's educational experience. Explicitly teaching our behavioural expectations and acknowledging students for

demonstrating them is key to our success.

When Do We Teach Our

- **Expected Behaviours?**
- At the beginning of the school year.
- · Often enough to achieve and maintain fluency.
- Before times when
- problem behaviours tend to increase.
- · Ongoing throughout the year. (refresher lessons)
- · At teachable moments.



Behaviours?

Tell – Introduce the expected behaviours and discuss why it is important

- Show Demonstrate and model
- **Practice** Role play expected behaviours in the relevant contexts
- Monitor Pre correct, supervise and provide positive feedback

Reteach – Practice throughout the day

Where Do We Teach Our Expected Behaviours?

- In every classroom throughout the school.
- · Everywhere in the school.
- It is embedded in other school activities.

Communication

Respect

Teamwork



