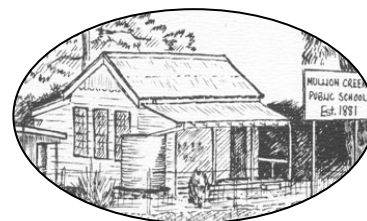


Mullion Creek Public School Newsletter

"Striving for Success"



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Term 3: Issue 15

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Coming events for Term 3

- 3rd & 4th September: Life Education Van
- 5th September: Transition 2020 Kinder class
- 6th–7th September: RoboCup Canberra (Yrs 4-6)
- 12th September: Book Week Parade (ALL STUDENTS)
- 13th September: Musica Viva
- 13th September: Western SSA Athletics Carnival
- 27th September: Jump rope Skip Off
- 27th September: LAST DAY OF TERM 3

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Happy Father's Day to all of our dads and grandfathers, we hope you had a wonderful relaxing day yesterday and that you were all suitably spoiled.

Our school has just completed the Department's Externally Validated interview process on the 22nd August. The two interviewers were impressed with our student leader's poise and ability to speak confidently about the different aspects of the school. The final report states that Mullion Creek Public School is Sustaining and Growing in all three areas.

A huge thank you to the staff who were part of the interview and who helped put the submission together. If anyone is interested in looking at the evidence, we presented or has any questions around validation please don't hesitate in asking.

Personal Toys at School: It has been noticed that more children are bringing their personal toys to school. We understand attachment to certain things but worry about loss. If students bring in their toys please understand the school cannot be responsible for any damage or loss.

STAFFING UPDATES

Mrs Mitchell's Leave: I have been speaking with Mrs Mitchell and she has decided that she will be extending her leave with the view to look towards retirement. We are certainly fortunate to have Mrs Griffith who will remain in the position until Mrs Mitchell decides to terminate her DoE position towards the end of next year.

Mrs Beer on Leave: I will be taking leave for the last two weeks of this term. As many of you are aware our son and his family live in Hong Kong, and although I try not to take time out of the school year this is where our family will

need to be our priority. Mrs Cloete has agreed to cover my class for these two weeks.

Kindergarten Transition: Welcome Ms Briellen Kinney who will be teaching the transition students this year. Ms Kinney is extremely excited about working with the children at Mullion Creek PS and is very much looking forward to teaching the transition class which will start this Thursday 5th September. We are all looking forward to having our 2020 students join us at school.

If you know of any other children who are interested in joining our transition class could you please get them to contact the school.

THE TRAFFIC JAM IN MY BRAIN

Our staff will be undertaking this online workshop to understand ADHD and how to deal with it in the classroom. It will be presented by International Speaker and Songwriter Genevieve Jereb, OT between 1st October – 15th November and as this is a very practical course, interested parents are invited to join staff. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

ROBO CUP

The children are all very excited to be heading off to Canberra this weekend to compete in Robocup. Mrs Cloete and the dance teams have given up a great deal of their time to prepare their performances. The teams will present creative and challenging dances. Every year they seem to create more complex scenarios to present continually taking their skills to a new level.

Thank you to the parents for picking students up after rehearsals we greatly appreciate your support in this very valuable educational activity and look forward to sharing the weekends competition with you and your children.

BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES

This year we will be holding our book week parade on **Thursday 12th September**. Term 3 is always a wonderful time to celebrate Australian children's literature. The theme for this year's Book Week is '*Reading is my Secret Power*'. Reading does indeed give us secret powers: through stories the power to walk in others shoes; the power to escape into other worlds; the power to understand our world and universe; the power to improve vocabulary and imagination; reading has the

power to change our futures as it opens up the world to us.

We encourage the children to dress as one of their favourite book characters. The day will start with a parade (students to come dressed in costume) followed by a range of different literacy-based activities. This day is always a wonderful way to celebrate reading. Parents are invited to stay for the Book Parade.

AROUND OUR ROOMS

K-1: This week students have started a unit on procedures and will look at how a procedure involves a set list of materials and steps to complete a task.

Yrs 2-3: students continue to work on Magpie Island writing tasks. This week we are completing animal reports.

Yrs 4-6: students are currently completing the science unit Earth's Place in Space. Each student has researched a celestial body and is presenting their findings to the rest of the class. The children have used a scaffold to complete their research and create their PowerPoints which they are then presenting to the class.

Nagoya Art: Congratulations to Madison, Felicity and Ebony on having their art works chosen for the Nagoya Art exchange. These beautifully detailed art works will now go to Japan to be shared as part of the cultural exchange.

Jump Rope for Heart: The children are currently practising their skipping techniques and tricks for our biannual jump rope for heart jump off. The jump off will be held on the last day of term. Skipping is a wonderful skill as it supports student's health and wellbeing.

ONLINE GAMING – TIPS FOR PARENTS

Online gaming has come to our attention through classroom and playground chatter. Following is an extract from "Fortnite and Gaming Tips for Parents" for your information.

After 40 years, the gaming industry has become very accomplished at creating powerfully addictive entertainment.

Set healthy boundaries: Kids respond well to healthy boundaries and form life-long healthy habits from them. Set time limits, keep gaming consoles out of the bedroom where you can hear and see what a lot of what is happening as you go about your own business.

Respect classifications: Classifications are in place for a reason, and in some cases, you can be fined for ignoring them. Safe on Social is seeing far too many young people (from Yr1) playing R and MA15+ games. Please check the classification before you allow your child to play a game. They are exposed to things that, in some cases, they are not able to handle emotionally at such a young age. And

with shooting, rape and other violence in games there is a global concern around desensitisation of young people.

Choose a user name that does not reveal any personal information.

Don't reveal any personal information to other players: Stranger danger is 24x7, make sure they never meet up with someone they have met online.

Find out how to block and report: Learn how they can communicate with strangers in the game and at a minimum, learn how to block and report so you can help your child if they are being bullied or harassed. Remember that the average age of a gamer is 34-36 yrs.

Think about your own screen use: Children take their cues from adults. Bluntly telling your kids to wrap up their fortnite sessions while you are yourself glued to your phone sends mixed signals.

Play the game with your child: Acknowledge their gaming as a legitimate interest rather than an activity to be demonised. Let them know you are willing to meet them halfway and that you understand gaming isn't just a time-waster; there is a greater chance they will reciprocate when you suggest a non-screen based activity.

Allow access only after homework and other household chores are done: Consider whether your child should be allowed to play before they have, for instance, done their homework. The consensus is that it is best that online games are reserved for after everything else has been done.

Don't let gaming consoles become the babysitter: If you find yourself relying on video games to keep your children quiet, reflect on whether it is you, or your child who has developed the addiction. Not all video games are created equal. Even if you have decided to allow games, you might wish to steer your child towards non-violent and creative entertainment, such as Minecraft, rather than the mass shoot-out that is Fortnite.

Jeans for Genes / Daffodil Day

Thank you parents, students and teachers for your generosity. Our school raised

- \$154.99 for Genes for Jeans and
- \$320.00 for the Cancer Colour Run (combined with Cumnock School)

**Reminder P&C Meeting – Wednesday 4th
September 7pm in the Library.**

STUDENT AWARDS

Week 5 & Week 6: Caleb H, Miles, Riley, Chase, Jack, Chloe, Madison, Lachlan, Aletha, Josie, Arthur, Tyler, Hayden, William.

Principal's Awards: Aletha, Jacob, Cooper



Here is a little sneak peek of what the students have been working extremely hard on for the upcoming RoboCup competition this weekend.

We cant wait to see these robots in action! Goodluck to all participating.

