Week 4 and 5 are always two of the busiest and most amazing weeks of the year. Week 4 saw the wonderful efforts of our librarian Miss Pownall, come to life through the annual book parade and fair. This week will see the efforts of our science specialist Mrs Carr, come to fruition through the science fair, robotics exhibitions and science rotations.

**Book Week**

It was lovely to share the enjoyment of reading with you all last week; both at the book fair and the book parade. From the sales at the book fair, you have helped us to raise nearly $2000 for us to purchase more books for our library. We also had an additional 10 books donated from families and we do thank you for your incredible generosity. Many of our students and staff dressed up as their favourite book characters on Friday; with traditional fairy tales such as Snow White and the Seven Dwarves and Where’s Wally characters proving to be very popular amongst staff. Harry Potter and Alice in Wonderland were amongst the favourites of our students. I hope you all enjoyed the staff rendition of ‘The Cow Tripped Over the Moon’. We have placed some of the photos on the school Facebook page for your enjoyment.

**Science Week**

This week has seen another outstanding week of celebrations of the scientific kind. Monday and Thursday break times saw amazing robotics exhibitions held, students were able to learn from other robotics experts how to program a robot to complete simple actions. Some videos of these experiences were shared on the school Facebook page this week. Tuesday also saw the public viewing of our school science fair and the voting of the people’s choice award. Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the school science fair, the quality and quantity of entries continues to grow every year.

Wednesday saw our senior students teaching our junior students a variety of scientific concepts through a number of experiments they set up throughout the day. A number of students will now enter their science experiments into the SEA*ACT science fair with entries due on August 27. The fair is a whole of ACT competition and is generally hosted in a school hall or gymnasium. We look forward to keeping you updated on our students’ progress.

**Planning for 2017**

It is that time of the year again when we are beginning to make plans for 2017. We would really appreciate it if you could inform the front office if you are planning to relocate in the ACT or perhaps further afield if you anticipate changing schools for next year. Families can now indicate this information either through the school App eForms or via email.

**National Canteen Week**

This week has also seen the celebration of National Canteen Week. A big thank you to Rouvaye and Kerry for the wonderful celebrations organised, including the chance for our students to try something new such as frozen custard and yoghurt pops as well as lettuce tacos and corn and cheese quesadillas. Students also had the opportunity to purchase delicious fruit salad on Wednesday and fruit smoothies on Thursday. The winners of the colouring in competition will be announced shortly. We hope your child enjoyed celebrating the week with some new and food options.
ACT Public Education Excellence Awards
This year Maribyrnong Primary School has six outstanding educators nominated in the ACT Public Education Excellence Awards. These awards recognise their contribution to public education as highly regarded and effective educators.

Our nominees are:
- Jacque Mengel – Education Support Role
- Leeanne Walls – Education Support Role
- Taryn Cameron-Smith – Early Childhood Teacher of the Year
- Sarah Baird – Early Childhood Teacher of the Year
- Kylie Apps – Primary Teacher of the Year
- Chris Moon – Primary Teacher of the Year

Congratulations!

The awards ceremony will be held in November. We look forward to sharing the outcome of our nominations but know, win or not, we have exceptional educators at Maribyrnong Primary School. The calibre of all nominees is amazing and we could have nominated all of our educators for these awards. We wish all our nominees, and those from across the system, well and look forward to updating you with the results.

Father’s Day Stall
Our annual P&C Father’s Day Stalls are coming up. Our P&C are seeking volunteers who can assist on Tuesday 30 August and Thursday 1 September between 9.00 am and 11.00 am. If you are able to help out please get in touch or complete the volunteers slip on the Skoolbag App.

Behaviour and Logical Consequences
Some causes of inappropriate behaviour that we encounter are; anger and frustration, desire for attention, tiredness, excitement, high activity levels and too much choice or lack of choice. The variety of triggers and the individual nature of our students and situations require a range of responses and it is often very difficult to provide a one stop solution. The techniques we use for behaviour modification will depend upon various factors such as, the individual’s developmental level and the probable cause of the behaviour. The staff response may be a simple corrective instruction or a more complex arrangement, again depending on history and developmental stage of the student. At the foundation of our practice is the belief that children learn that actions have consequences, and that behaviour is a choice. Both appropriate and inappropriate behaviour has consequences, and students must accept the consequences of choosing particular behaviours. We promote the use of logical consequences which we find focuses on solutions to problems rather than quick-fix decisions. We conclude all consequences with restorative practices which are again focused on the building and repair of relationships. This may take the form of an apology, or be as formal as a three way conference. The focus for students is always on learning from the choices they make.

Please note that the P&C Annual Trivia Night scheduled for Friday 19 August has been cancelled due to low numbers.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Jenny.

MARIBYRNONG PRIMARY SCHOOL P&C

Father’s Day Stall 2016

This year, our Father’s Day Stall will be held on the mornings of

Tuesday 30 August and Thursday 1 September (Father’s Day is on Sunday 4 September).

We will have items available ranging from 20c up to $5 and $6.

Children are welcome to bring some money into school with them on these days, in a purse or wallet to keep it safe. We also ask children to bring along a recycled bag so that they can keep their father’s day goodies together.

If you are able to volunteer on either the Tuesday or Thursday (or both) please either:
- go to the Maribyrnong Primary Skoolbag app and fill in the eform
- or email Sharon Houston at sharon.houston@education.gov.au

Many thanks for your ongoing support! Maribyrnong Primary P&C Fundraising Committee.
NEWS FROM JACKIE (DSTA)

We are now half way through the term! Where does all that time go? Every now and then I like to remind families of the services available to them for support.

Defence Community Organisation (DCO) provides a help line to assist defence families to access support services. It is the first point of contact for defence members, their partners, children and relatives to seek assistance with

- managing deployment, posting and relocation
- support services in the local community
- help during a crisis
- assistance with children’s education, childcare and support for children with special needs

They can be contacted on 1800 624 608.

Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) provides free and confidential nationwide counselling support for war and service related mental health conditions as well as relationship and family matters.

They can be contacted on 1800 011 046.

Soldier On supports veterans through direct support services, adventurous and inspirational activities, building a community of veterans and their families, education and employment opportunities as well as reintegration and recovery networks.

They can be contacted on 0478589132.

Then there is your local Defence School Transition Aide (DSTA) – Me!

I assist defence families to:

- integrate into their school community
- monitor the social, emotional and academic wellbeing of defence students
- help students develop self-confidence, self-reliance and resilience
- direct families to programs and services or opportunities that suit their needs
- enhance awareness and appreciation of the unique defence lifestyle in schools and communities
- provide support to families during times of parental absence

I am available at school on Tuesday and until 12.00 pm on Friday. I can also be contacted via the front office or by email jacqueline.sampson@ed.act.edu.au

We have a great defence community right here in our school. Make sure you come in and say hello.

Have a great week.
Jackie
Defence School Transition Aide (DSTA).

P&C MUSIC SCHEME

Music Scheme Coordinator for 2017

The music scheme needs a new coordinator for 2017. This will involve organising all of the enrolments and lesson times, sending out invoices and ensuring (with the P&C Treasurer) that the Piano teacher is paid on time.

If you are interested in taking on this role in 2017 the outgoing Music Scheme Coordinator is offering a hand over this year. Please email our P&C President, Sharon Houston at maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com for further information.
Last newsletter we looked at the benefits of having a whole school social and emotional learning program. A few parents were curious as to how this is taught and what overarching areas would be addressed.

**How social and emotional learning is taught?**
A number of programs for school-based teaching of social and emotional skills have been developed in Australia and internationally. For the implementation of KidsMatter Primary, schools select the program that best suit their particular needs. Social and emotional learning programs that have been shown through research to improve children’s social and emotional competence are more likely to achieve goals related to improving students’ mental health.

School-wide classroom teaching of social and emotional learning allows staff and students to share a common understanding of what it is all about. Importantly, the emphasis of its teaching needs to be not just on learning about emotions and relationships, but on practical skills that children can apply across a range of situations at school, at home and in the broader community.

**Can parents be involved?**
Absolutely! Children learn social and emotional skills most effectively when they are also reinforced at home. Many social and emotional learning programs include components for involving the family and community in promoting the teaching. This gives parents and carers the chance to learn about the particular approach schools take and what they can do to support children’s social and emotional learning. In this way, school-based social and emotional learning offers gains all round – for students, for schools and for families.

**The social and emotional learning framework**
The KidsMatter approach to social and emotional learning is based on the model developed by the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL), an internationally recognised lead organisation for this area of research. The diagram outlines the five core competencies that CASEL has identified as central to social and emotional learning.

![Diagram of five core competencies for social and emotional learning](image)

In the next newsletter we will continue to look more into social and emotional learning. What would you like to know about KidsMatter? Send your questions to jantiena.batt@ed.act.edu.au and it will be answered in the next KidsMatter Update.

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**Myth #8 Computer programs or apps teach children how to read.**

There are many computer programs or apps available to support children with their reading and literacy skills. These programs focus on a drill and practice approach with many programs using a timer or reward system as children progress through the levels. These programs or apps are best utilised to strengthen reading concepts and skills. They cannot replace the explicit teaching that happens at school or the reinforcement that happens at home when children read, are read to or read with a loved one.

Many software manufacturers promote the success of their programs and apps, presenting amazing results. However no reading program has ever been shown to be truly successful with all children and across all cultures. Similarly no reading program has been shown to accelerate all children to advanced levels of performance.

Teachers are experts at guiding readers at all levels of development. They are able to identify a child’s point of need and teach them the appropriate reading strategy to enhance their skills. The teaching of these strategies is also carefully monitored through discussions, targeted questioning and learning experiences that allow children to move from novice to master over time. Computer programs and apps do not have the capacity to do this. To achieve success for all children, teachers need to be extremely sophisticated and diagnostic in their approach to reading instruction. Every child is different and each child must be treated differently. A computer program or app cannot be sensitive to the varied and rapidly evolving learning needs of individual children, but a diagnostic, knowledgeable teacher certainly can.

Combining programs, reading mileage (reading familiar and new texts to yourself and with family and friends) and instruction at school ensures that reading develops. The combination of explicit teaching, applying knowledge to new situations and revisiting reading strategies allows all readers to build their confidence and capacity in this area. It is never just one element that makes a difference. It is the combination of all that turns the hard work into success!

![MYTH BUSTED](image)

So.....this myth is BUSTED! Computer programs and apps can support a child’s reading ability but they do not replace the role of explicit teaching.

Looking for more information to support your child’s literacy or numeracy development? Please contact Jantiena Batt through the front office or by email jantiena.batt@ed.act.edu.au
Lights on Learning!

Focusing on the Flames unit - Year 1/2

The Flames have been very busy this term and are enjoying our new storyline unit based on the HOT TV weather channel. We have also enjoyed other events such as the athletics carnival, book week and science week! The teachers are very proud of the learning within the unit and how the students have progressed both academically and emotionally.

This term we will continue working in differentiated groups for reading, spelling and maths. Students have made fantastic improvements in all areas and are congratulated on their hard work during group activities.

Students have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes including identifying, describing and drawing a variety of shapes.

We have had a focus on science, in preparation for the science fair, and each class has been involved in conducting a class experiment. We then created a poster to illustrate our learning.

We loved dressing up for book week, even the teachers! We shared our stories with the class, wrote descriptions of our characters and discussed our reasons for dressing up.

This term we have begun a new storyline unit!

We each created a character and applied for jobs at the local weather channel, HOT TV. We were then given assignments to report the weather in a different country. We packed our bags and took a flight to our first assignment and have now begun preparations to record our weather report!

Ask your child who their character is, their job title or their country to report on.

We have had an exciting visit from Matt, a Camera Operator, who taught us about his job. This week we are writing a letter to Francesca, a stylist, to ask her what it is like to be a stylist!

We have also started a HOT TV class book. Each student will have the opportunity to take home the news book and design their own weather page. The student will then present their page to the class the following day.

Tegan, Jane, Anna, Stacey, Camille, Amanda and Karina.
Salut! Welcome to a new semester of French learning at Maribyrnong. It is hard to believe we are already mid-way through term three. This term my ‘AIM’ is to have students speaking French with confidence in the classroom.

This term has seen the re-introduction across all French classes in the school, of elements of the Accelerated Integrated Methodology (AIM) approach developed by Wendy Maxwell in Canada. The French program has used some elements and resources of this program over the last seven years, so all students had some familiarity with it and have quickly adapted. The primary aim of re-introducing this program was to increase student confidence in using their French to communicate in the classroom, and positive results are already evident. The elements being adopted are the use of a ‘pared down’ language and the use of gestures, which correlate to words and phrases, and mean the students can do the talking in response to teacher gestures rather than the teacher doing all the talking. Integrating actions with speaking and listening accelerates both comprehension and production in language learning. Ask your student to give you a demonstration!

Term thee is the term of the poetry competition, and Maribyrnong Primary is once again participating. Learning the poem assists the students to focus on pronunciation and expression. All classes engage in activities to assist their comprehension of the poem, and the senior classes will be using the structure of their poem to assist them to write some simple phrases in French. Students who wish to practise the poem at home will be given a take home copy over the next two weeks.

In week 10, two winners will be selected for each grade level based on memorisation, pronunciation, expression and fluency. The winners are videoed and entries from across the ACT and submitted to the Alliance Français for judging during the holiday break.

À bientôt!

Madame Lisacek.
If you are available to help in the canteen, or if you would like to be included on future canteen rosters please see Rouvaye or Kerry in the canteen or call on 62415974. Any help would be greatly appreciated, either for a whole shift or any time you can spare. Volunteers who help out for a shift will be issued with a voucher for 1 Meal Deal.

We look forward to seeing you in the canteen. Rouvaye and Kerry.

**P&C NEWS**

**Give an hour**

Every day at Maribyrnong there are loads of activities that family and community are invited to come along and join in with. Things like listening to reading, assisting with groups, participating in special events, helping at the canteen, providing specialised assistance in an area that they have a particular skill in or just staying for ten extra minutes to offer a helping hand.

We also have wonderful whole school events each year that require many hands to make light work. Things like carnivals, walk-a-thon, special assemblies like book week and the Twilight Fair.

Maribyrnong has a school community of approximately 300 families. If each family was to give one hour of time to the school during the year this would provide 300 hours of extra assistance to our school community as a whole! What a difference that would make.

Each newsletter we are going to highlight some of the ways people can get involved and assist the school by giving one hour of time.

**THIS WEEK OUR HIGHLIGHT AREA IS BOOK COVERING!**

This may not be something that you have ever thought about as a way of helping at school.

New resources come into the library and classrooms all the time. To help preserve these precious resources all books need to be covered with contact before they can be put to use. Last week was Book Week so lots of new books have been purchased for classes and the library collection.

If you think that you could come in and cover books for a short period of time or even talk to our amazing Librarian about taking a small number of books home to cover this could be your one hour of time that you give. Easy!

Keep checking for more ways that you could give one hour and make a real difference.
MARIBYRNONG PRIMARY SCHOOL P&C

Maribyrnong Primary School Twilight Fair

Book Stall Collection is now open.

Donations for the Book Stall at the Twilight Fair are now being collected. You can leave SALEABLE books in the appropriately marked box near Kowdinsky from Monday 22 August until Friday 28 October. If you have a large quantity of books that you would like to donate, please contact Sharon Houston sharon.houston@education.gov.au to arrange to drop off or you can bring your book donations the morning of the Twilight Fair.

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

TWILIGHT FAIR NEWS

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

For Junior Softball and T-Ball, all ages and abilities. For more information, contact RAE MCKINNON on 0403563810 or boomerangs_softballclub@hotmail.com

SCHOOLS CHESS CHALLENGE 2016 AT WESTFIELD BELCONNEN

Date: Sunday 28 August, 2016
(Enter by Friday 26 August)
For information please visit www.canberraacademyofchess.com.au or call Bevan on 0432 230 262.

COMMUNITY NEWS

FRIDAY MORNSINGS FROM 8.45 am to 9.00 am- SCHOOL LIBRARY.

THE ORANGUTAN PROJECT

JOIN US AT THE OPENING NIGHT OF BRIDGET JONES'S BABY

RAFFLES Tickets $35

LUCKY DOOR PRIZES

Thursday 15 September 6-9pm Palace Electric Cinema, New Acton

Catch up with the latest news from The Orangutan Project and hear first-hand experiences from volunteer Lynn Bloomfield, who visited these magnificent primates in the wild rainforest of Sumatra.

Tickets available from 1 August - 1 September www.orangutan.org.au/get-involved/events/

Includes a glass of sparkling wine and canapés.

The Orangutan Project is a registered Australian charity dedicated to saving the Orangutans of Borneo and Sumatra and their rainforest habitat. Tax deductible donations can made directly to The Orangutan Project.