



POSSUM PRESS

NEWS FROM JEN

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support this term. It has been wonderful to meet many new families and support your children to learn and grow. I look forward to seeing you back at Maribyrnong on Monday 28 April when we launch our new school website! Have a safe and restful break.

Communication and Feedback

Our Annual School Board Report provides feedback to the community about our work and progress towards school improvement priorities. The 2013 Annual School Board Report is now available on our website homepage <http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/> If you would like a hard copy please see Leanne or Ros in the front office.

Board 2014

The two parent representative positions on our School Board have been filled by Lauren Newman and Sharon Ding. Thank you to both Lauren and Sharon for volunteering to take on this important role. Both parents join our existing parent representative, Kylah Limmer and our appointed community member, Craig Jones. Our new teacher representative is Anna Thorpe and Jantiena and I remain as the final Board members. I would like to thank outgoing Board Chair Justine Minchin and Board member Clayton Riddle for their contributions over the past two years; the support afforded to our school governance processes by both members has been incredibly appreciated. I look forward to continuing this great partnership with our School Board over the coming year.

Camp Tathra 5/6 and Camp Warrambui 3/4

Our year 5/6 students and educators are ready to make the trip to Tathra on Monday morning at 8.00 am for their surf and beach safety camp. Sarah Dorrrough, Jane Baillie, Shane Deane and Justine Minchin will be accompanying our students for the three day event. It is always incredibly generous of our staff to give their personal time to support our students at these events. Equally as important I would like to thank Shane Deane for his coordination of the camp. Shane has spent many hours writing notes, completing risk assessments, compiling information from families, communicating with the campsite, to ensure that everything is in order for our students. I look forward to the many stories of fun with great anticipation. Please remember that students return at 5.30 pm on Wednesday and we ask that you collect your child at this time; if the bus is not travelling on time we will update our school Face Book page.

Our year 3/4 camp is not long away! Our students will attend Warrambui Camp (near Murrumbateman) in week 6 of next term on June 4 to 6. More information will be sent home in the coming week.

Belconnen District Swimming Carnival

Twelve Maribyrnong students competed at the Belconnen District Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 18 March. It was fabulous to see each of these students give their absolute best efforts. I am incredibly proud of the way in which they represented Maribyrnong Primary. A huge thank you to Kathy Nash and Anna Thorpe for coordinating this event and to Sarah Dorrrough for supporting our students on the day. Congratulations to Kolya in year 5 who came second in the 10yr boys 50m freestyle and Emily S who came second in the 9yr girls 50m freestyle; we are incredibly proud of your achievements!



Thursday 3 April, Term 1 Week 9



ACT
Government

Education and Training

CONTACTS:

Maribyrnong School

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www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au



FACEBOOK: Maribyrnong Primary School-Kaleen

Board Chair To be advised

P&C President Noel Florian
maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com

Communities@Work

Breakfast Club and After School Care
0400462086.

Westpac School Bank Account

BSB 032 777

Account 001615

EFTPOS is available with a \$10 minimum

DATES TO REMEMBER:

APRIL

5 Working Bee



7-9 5/6 Camp Tathra
11 Assembly 2.15 pm Easter Raffle

Last day of term 1

12-27 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

28 Term 2 starts

Easter Raffle

A huge thank you to our P&C for coordinating our upcoming Easter Raffle on Friday 11 April. Our students are thoroughly looking forward to a visit from the Easter Bunny and the wonderful Easter prizes which are on offer. Thank you to our community for all of the donations and for purchasing tickets. I do hope you enjoy the long weekend to come.

P&C News

Our P&C has once more organised a special end of term disco celebration for all students in kindergarten to year 6. The disco was held last night with dinner from 6.00 pm and dancing from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm. Thank you to the many volunteers who were on hand; the event was certainly well attended.

Thank you to our P&C for donating \$3000 to the school. These funds will be spent on purchasing an iPad trolley to assist with synching and charging our iPads more easily. A huge thank you also to our P&C for providing the funds used to purchase the new trophy cabinet. If you haven't seen the cabinet, pop by the main corridor and stop next to the cow!



Working Bee

We are holding our first working bee for the year on this Saturday April 5 between 8.00 am and 12.00 pm. Priorities include painting the outside of the Science Centre/LSUA and widening the fence for the LSU play space. If you are able to come along and help out we could use the extra help! All materials and resources will be provided, all you need is yourself, a hat and a bottle of water to keep hydrated. If there is inclement weather, any changes to our plans will be notified through the school Face Book page.

Dogs at School

While we all love our four legged family members, dogs are not able to come to school. By leaving our treasured friends at home we ensure they are safe and that other people are safe including those children who are scared of dogs, particularly an unknown dog. The Territory and Municipal Services website states that dogs are not to be taken into the grounds of a childcare centre, preschool, primary or high school during school hours or any after school sports training events. Bringing your dog onto school premises can result in an infringement notice. In public places a dog must not be taken within 10 metres of a designated playspace (if children are playing on it). This includes the equipment near the shops near our school. For further information please visit http://www.tams.act.gov.au/city-services/pets/keeping_dogs_in_the_act/where_can_i_take_my_dog
We appreciate your support in this matter.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Jen

READING MYTHBUSTER

Myth # 4 You should always use your finger to point at the words when learning to read

When children begin to read they will often point to the words on the page as they read. Teachers encourage this in the early stages of reading to make sure that they are aware of each word and the role that word plays in the sentence. It helps children make sense of what they are reading. However as their reading develops finger-pointing is discouraged as effective reading requires us to use eye movements as we carefully scan lines of print. Finger pointing can delay this development.

As children gain confidence in their own abilities finger-pointing slows down their reading, hinders fluency and may cause them to lose focus on the meaning. Supporting your child to read with their eyes rather than finger-pointing is a skill that can also be practised when reading together. This provides a model for your child and they begin to see the text as chunks of information rather than many individual words that demand one on one attention.

Tips for supporting your child's reading

- Talk to your child...a lot. Children learn words more easily and build their vocabulary when they hear them often.
- Tell stories. Children love it when you make up stories that involve them. "Once upon a time, there was a little boy named.... One day he went to ..." As your child gets older they can help you build stories. Start a story and then ask your child what comes next. This kind of dialogue fosters exploration with language and encourages creative thinking. Example: "There was a cat walking along the road..." Ask your child "What happens next?" Allow your child to explore options.
- Try holding D-E-A-R times at your house. "DEAR" stands for "Drop Everything and Read." During DEAR time, everyone in the family sits down for some uninterrupted reading time.
- With young children, try reading to them during bath time.



So.....this myth is BUSTED! While finger-pointing is an appropriate strategy for very early readers it becomes redundant as children gain confidence and their abilities grow.

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

RUBIES AND SAPPHIRES - PRESCHOOL

What a wonderful term the Rubies and Sapphires have had. And how quickly it has gone!

Both classes thoroughly enjoyed having Constable Kenny come to visit us. The Constable Kenny Koala program is all about ensuring children in our community stay OK by increasing their awareness of the importance of safety, and the dangers of not staying safe. Themes covered:

- using safety equipment including seatbelts and helmets
- safe behaviours walking or riding on or near roads
- road rules for the car and road.

Dates for your diaries:



Tuesday 8 April (Rubies) – Dress like a pirate day

Thursday 10 April (Sapphires) – Dress like a pirate day

Thanks for a fantastic term. We are already planning lots of exciting adventures for next term! We wish you all a lovely and relaxing break.

Elsa, Sally, Ni and Gaby ☺

EMERALD CITY (1/2)

What a busy fortnight we have had – one week until school holidays! Thank you to all of those who came to support Emerald City at the assembly performance last Friday. We were very proud of your little moovers and groovers.

This week we have started looking at the future in our inquiry unit. Students will be making a triorama over the next week that depicts their interpretation of the future, specifically a school scene, home life or a game of the future. We are encouraging students to bring in some small recycling items that can be used within their triorama – please send these to school in a clearly labelled bag.



April is Autism Awareness Month. To show our support and to raise awareness, we participated in some bubble related activities for Bubble Day. Talk more with your children about what they did and help pop the bubble that surrounds autism.

Thank you to those that have returned the orange family tree notes. If you haven't already, please send it in as soon as possible.

Naomi, Amanda, Lucy and Leeanne.

OPALS (K)

The kindergarten classes continue to participate in our Daily 5 literacy activities with enthusiasm. We have been using the school iPads to listen to stories and play spelling and reading games. We are becoming experts at sorting pictures and words by identifying beginning sounds. We are also completing daily activities with our sight words.

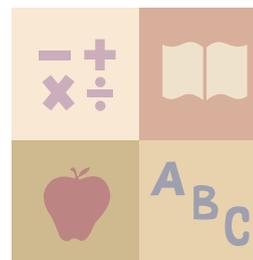
In maths this week, we are investigating patterns. We have been able to identify and continue a range of patterns. We have made patterns using colours, shapes, pictures and numbers.

As we continue our inquiry unit, we have been discussing places that are special to us. We have created framed paper plate pictures depicting our special places. These are displayed in our wet areas.

Next Wednesday 9 April we will be participating in Technology Day. The children will be designing and making a home from recycled materials. We would love any donations of small cardboard boxes, clean yogurt containers, cardboard tubes and lids.

Thankyou,

Symone, Sarah,
Keilly and Leeanne.



DIAMONDS (3/4)

Wow! We cannot believe that term one is almost over!

The students have been learning about landfill and recycling over the past couple of weeks. It has been great to see the students' interest in this topic grow throughout the term.



We have been busy measuring lots of different items within our classrooms. The students have even used a trundle wheel to measure the outside features of our school. It has been super exciting.

The students have started typing up their persuasive writing that they complete about saving The Great Barrier Reef. We have some very creative typers in the class.

Thank you to Miss Wild for making term one so amazing for Miss Apps and for all of the students in the 3/4 unit. We look forward to seeing her smiling face later in the year.

We hope you all have a fantastic and safe holiday. See you in term two.

Emma and Kylie.

GARNETS (LSU)

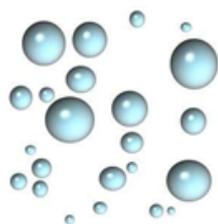
We can't believe it's our last newsletter for this term! We've had such a wonderful term getting to know each other and learn new things; we can't wait to see what's in store for the next few terms.

Yesterday was "World Autism Awareness Day" which we celebrated with our participation in Bubbles Day. Everybody looked fabulous wearing blue and blowing bubbles and now is a fabulous time to chat with your children about celebrating the differences we all have.

One of our wonderful students is participating in the 5/6 camp next week. We wish him all the fun and safety in the world. While this is happening we are lucky enough to have a visit from a buddy LSU class from Weetangera Primary School. The students are going to meet and have a picnic lunch on Monday before they show the Weetangera Primary School kids how to have fun on our playground. We look forward to future communication and community access times with them.

Have a wonderful weekend ☺

Lee and Jacque.



MOONSTONES (LSUA)

Wow this term has gone by so fast! We have had a wonderful nine weeks getting to know each other and are looking forward to lots of new learning and adventures in the coming months.

We have established a new drop off and pick up process for the Moonstones. Of a morning students will enter the LSUA on their own. They will then hang up their bag and begin the morning activities. This allows us to get straight into our learning program with minimal interruptions. Of an afternoon we will be playing a game or building our fundamental motor skills outside the area immediately in front of the LSUA classroom. We will have our bags packed and there with us. This process allows us all to build our independence and learn new skills, such as packing and unpacking bags, managing our personal belongings and following set routines. We really appreciate your support in following this process. For our students who catch the bus to school this is something they already do and do really well!

We had a great time celebrating 'World Autism Awareness Day' yesterday. We were amongst a sea of blue and bubbles and enjoyed talking about how we are all different and how we appreciate differences.

Virginia and Nicola.



THE THUNDER EGGS (4/5 and 5/6)



Camp is upon us with 5/6 students heading to Tathra on Monday morning at 8.00 am. We have had our final camp meeting where students were placed into activity groups and into their cabins. A reminder of what to bring, as well as medical forms were sent home on Tuesday after our camp meeting. **Please note that students will need to bring morning tea and lunch with them on Monday.**

For those students who are not attending camp, there will be a teacher to ensure that learning activities are continued.

Due to camp, students were not given homework this week. However, it is still expected that they read on a nightly basis and practise their maths number facts.

Students in years 5 and 6 are also able to trial for Belconnen zone sporting teams such as AFL, rugby, netball. They are given a trial note which needs to be signed by their parent/carer and then signed by a teacher in the unit. Transport to and from the trial(s) are then the responsibility of the student and their parent/carer. There are often two trial dates and often students only need attend one of these.

Shane, Jane, Keilly, Elissa, Sarah and Justine.

FRONT OFFICE NEWS

WESTPAC'S QUICKWEB PAYMENT SYSTEM

This is a new option for making payments through a link on our website. We have issued a letter with your **individual Family Key & Student Key(s)** needed for proceeding with payments through Westpac's Quickweb Payment System.

Please contact us if you did not receive this information. Each excursion and payment request notes will have the unique **Fee Code** needed to complete payments in this system.

<http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/payment>

Maribyrnong Primary School Management Account.
BSB 032 777 Account 001615

Voluntary Contributions for 2014 as set by our Board:

Number of Children at the school	Voluntary Contribution for 2014		
	Consumables	Library Fund (Tax Deductible)	Total
1	\$67.00	\$83.00	\$150.00
2	\$83.00	\$117.00	\$200.00
3	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$250.00
4	\$117.00	\$183.00	\$300.00

Book Packs for 2014 are \$40 per child from preschool to year 6.

FRENCH NEWS

Salut! Congratulations to those students who participated in the Semaine de la Francophonie competition organised by the French speaking embassies in Canberra and the Alliance Francaise. This year our school won 3rd prize, a fantastic effort by the students who gave up their lunch breaks to make a poster and hat representing Vietnam. The prize was awarded at the Alliance Francaise open day on Saturday 29 March, by the Lebanese ambassador. Thanks to those families who were able to attend so that the students could accept their well-deserved prize.

Kindergarten students have been enjoying their introduction to French this term, singing songs and participating with enthusiasm. In kindergarten we have been focusing on greetings, numbers, and colours. In the 1/2 unit and the senior school we are continuing with our learning structured around the concept of *universality*. Through gesture, song, games, role plays and written activities, students are learning the language of introductions, common verbs, telling time, and classroom objects. Students are also learning common classroom sentences in French, for example, “Est-ce que je peux aller aux toilettes?” and “Est-ce que je peux avoir un crayon?” À bientôt!

Lyn.



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LIBRARY NEWS

Notices for overdue library books went home this week. Please have a look for any library books and return them before the end of term. Thank you, Keilly.

SRC NEWS

The three principles that guide all that we do in the SRC are:

- participation
- relevancy
- social action

As such the SRC has been thinking globally and acting locally. The involvement of students in decisions that affect them is of fundamental importance to our school. So far this year the SRC have decided on the charities we will support this year and have also thought about the leadership opportunities for all students. We have had discussions about student behaviour, the best way to support all students and how to be active citizens.

One of the events the SRC would like to do is a Doing Things Together Day in term three. This day would allow all students to work in mixed groups for part of the day. The students would have a go at a range of activities. The SRC suggested learning how to tie knots, problem solving tasks, learning how to do French knitting, making chatterboxesthe list is long and sounds like loads of fun! We hope to have parents come along and share their expertise or passion with us too. Please email me if there is something you could share with our keen students. We are open to your ideas and are happy for you to volunteer your time for an hour or two, or even the whole day!

Jantiena and the SRC.

NOTES SENT HOME

- ✓ Easter Raffle tickets-due Wednesday 9 April
- ✓ Chess Lessons term 2
- ✓ Triple P Parenting Program
- ✓ 5/6 What to pack for camp note



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

We do not publish students of the week photographs online. Please request a hard copy of this newsletter from the front office.

P&C NEWS



Save the Date!

The 2014 P&C Walkathon will be held on **Friday 16 May, week 3 term 2.**

This is a great annual fundraiser and in 2013 we raised just over \$4000!! All the details, request for helpers and sponsorship cards will come out in week 1 next term.

Robyn & Ros
Walkathon Coordinators.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Available as a traditional Entertainment™ Book OR the new Entertainment™ Digital Membership for your Apple or Android device, your Membership gives you over \$20,000 worth of valuable offers valid through to 1 June 2015! Please remember to reference **Maribyrnong Primary School** when registering your 2014 | 2015 Entertainment™ Membership. [CLICK HERE TO ORDER NOW](#)

For more information **contact:** Leanne Rankine
Phone: 0262055933 | **Email:** leanne.rankine@ed.act.edu.au



COMMUNITY NEWS

Get Active Sports run weekend programs for 3 to 8 year olds. Basketball will commence in term 2 at the Kaleen Primary School Gym.

Visit: <http://www.getactivesports.com.au/> for more information about sports and locations.



COMMUNITY NEWS

POSSUM PANTRY-CANTEEN ROSTER

Week 10 Term 1	Wednesday 9 April	Thursday 10 April	Friday 11 April
9.15am-12.00noon			Terri
			Micheal
12.00noon-3.00pm			Terri
Week 1 Term 2	Wednesday 30 April	Thursday 1 May	Friday 2 May
9.15am-12.00noon			
12.00noon-3.00pm			

If you are available to volunteer in the canteen on any of the shifts not yet covered, or if you would like to be included on future canteen rosters please see Bec in the canteen or call her on 6241 5974 (W-F). 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. Thank you.



Thank you to Rotary Belconnen for the donation of \$300 towards our student equity fund. We appreciate your generosity and support of our school.

Thank you to Energy Networks Association (ENA) for the donation of coloured paper and a printer. It will be put to very good use!

