



18th February 2016

NEWSLETTER NO.2

EVENTS CALENDAR 2016

FEBRUARY	Thursday 18th	Meet the Teacher Interviews
	Friday 19th	Assembly 9am – 3/4B performance A representative from the CBA Bank will be at assembly to help with new accounts 5/6 Interschool Sport
	Wednesday 24th	No Prep Classes MPSSA School Swimming Carnival
	Friday 26th	Assembly 9am – 1/2W performance FAMILY FUN NIGHT 5.00 – 7.00PM
MARCH	Wednesday 2nd	PREP Children commence full week attendance
	Friday 4th	Assembly – 5/6V performance
	Friday 11th	Assembly – 3/4R performance
	Monday 14th	Labour Day Public Holiday – No classes (not 7th as entered in last newsletter)
	Friday 18th	Assembly – 1/2C performance
	Monday 21st	Celebrating Harmony Day – notices will be sent home closer to the date
	Wednesday 23rd	School Photos – payment envelopes will be sent home closer to the date
	Thursday 24th	End of Term 1

Key Messages from this Newsletter:

- **Emergency Management Plan:** Thank-you to the staff and students for responding so calmly yesterday during our lockdown.
- **Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Audit:** An OHS audit was held today to determine how well we enact the Dept of Education’s OHS Policies.
- **Parent Teacher Interviews:** The ‘Getting to Know You’ Parent/Teacher Interviews are being held today. Call the office to make an appointment if required.
- **Apology Day Anniversary:** On 13th February 2008 PM Kevin Rudd gave the Sorry Speech to Parliament. I acknowledged this important anniversary at assembly last Friday.
- **Personal Accident Insurance:** A reminder that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students.
- **Pokemon Cards:** A new craze of collector cards are doing the rounds again and children are bringing them to school to trade.
- **Child Dental Benefits Schedule:** I recently became aware of the Child Dental Benefits Schedule which is financial support for basic dental services for children aged 2–17. Djerriwarrh Health has a dental clinic that can provide dental services and have currently got a short waiting list.
- **Supervision After School:** The school is not able to provide teacher supervision in the park behind the Milk Bar. Please consider our Before and After School care facility provided by Extend.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you would be aware, yesterday we were involved in a situation which required us to enact our Emergency Management Plan (EMP). We received a threat by phone and due to the nature of the threat, the safest place for the students was to remain indoors rather than evacuate. We have many scenarios in our EMP and depending on the nature of the emergency, our response will differ. For instance, if there was a fire in the main admin building, we would evacuate to the far end of the oval. If there was a gas leak we would

evacuate to an off-site location, at either the Melton Wave Pool car park or the small park on Findon Way

Our EMP also takes into account communication with the school community. In yesterday’s scenario a message to parents was placed on our social media sites, such as our Facebook page and the Skoolbag App, as soon as practical after we got the all clear from the police.

We are currently in the process of setting up a SMS system so we can notify our parent community of all

pertinent information in emergency situations. Therefore it is very important that your contact details are kept up to date so that you would be able to get such a message.

I am very proud of the staff and students, and how calm they remained yesterday. If your child could use some extra support following the lockdown, please contact me through the office and we can organise counselling.

OHS Audit: Today I have been involved in an Occupational Health and Safety Audit undertaken by Greencap, an independent assessor who will verify the level of compliance our school has in regards to the Department of Education's OHS Policies. This is a very important process to determine whether everyone's safety, including students, staff and visitors (parents included), is managed across the school.

Parent Teacher Interviews: The 'Getting to Know You' Parent/Teacher Interviews are being held today. It is an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and inform them of anything they need to know in regards to your child, including health concerns, your aspirations for their learning this year, family situations, etc. If you have not made an appointment you can call the office and they will let you know when there is a timeslot you could attend.

Apology Day Anniversary: On Friday the 12th February, we celebrated National Sorry Day at assembly by remembering and remarking on the important anniversary of the Sorry Speech given by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on 13th February 2008. I explained the significance of the anniversary and the way we respect and honour our First People through starting each assembly with Acknowledgment to Country and flying the Aboriginal Flag every day.

Personal Accident Insurance: A reminder that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. If we feel an ambulance needs to be called, we will not hesitate. We cannot make a decision as to whether to call an ambulance based on whether a family has Ambulance Cover or not. We make the decision based on the medical needs and information we have at the time of calling. We have a duty of care for all students, and calling an ambulance may fall into this category. If an ambulance is called, we would also make contact with the parents at the same time, however sometimes it is difficult to make contact with the family or even the emergency contacts.

Pokemon Cards: A new craze of collector cards are doing the rounds again and children are bringing them to school to trade. These can be expensive and some children have many, many cards. The trading of these cards is not supervised at school and therefore we

cannot determine if they are being swapped 'fairly'. We cannot also guarantee they will not get lost or stolen whilst at school. If your child is collecting these cards and wishes to bring them to school, you need to be aware that they do so at their own risk. If they get lost or stolen or trade something that is not worth the trade, we cannot investigate. Please encourage your child, if they wish to continue trading, to keep their best cards at home and only bring in a limited number of cards to school at any time. This way if they get lost they have not lost their entire collection.

Child Dental Benefits Schedule: I recently became aware of the Child Dental Benefits Schedule which is financial support for basic dental services for children aged 2–17. To be eligible children need to be aged between 2–17 years old, receive, or their family, guardian or carer receives, certain government benefits such as Family Tax Benefit Part A and be eligible for Medicare. Djerriwarrh Health has a dental clinic that can provide dental services and has currently got a short waiting list. Their phone number is 9747 7609 if you would like to make an appointment. They would be able to explain the Child Dental Benefits Scheme in greater detail and let you know if you were eligible. Apparently they are open till 9pm on some evenings and on Saturday mornings as well.

Supervision After School: As you may be aware, there is a park on the corner of Coburns Road and West Melton Drive, where a number of students wait for their parents afterschool. Please be aware that the school is not able to provide teacher supervision in this area. I therefore suggest that you consider an alternative location at which your child waits to be picked up. Can I also remind you that we have a Before and After School care facility run by Extend that is safe and well supervised and children can attend at a minimal cost. Please contact the school if you would like further information about Extend. Enrolment Packs are available at the office.

Moving forward **W**ith the **P**assion to **S**ucceed

Michelle Costa
Principal

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

The school provides a platter of fresh fruit to all classes each Friday. If you are able to spare some time to help cut the fruit in the Staffroom, at 9am, please complete the form at the end of this newsletter.

STUDENT STAR AWARDS

12th February: Talia Bielby, Brody Lawrence, Jessica Herbert, Benjun Lam, Venkat Vijay, Clarissa Attard, Olivia Falzon, Suisamoa Eli, Aidan Da Costa Lay, Lila Ait-Kaci, Layla Whiffin, Stephanie Leiva Mamone, Jacob Jeyakumar, Harlee Lam, Chelsea Connell, Declan Dunne,

Rogue Garth, Diesel Reynolds, Chloe Aqulina, Juliana Rundell, Zoe Caiafa, Flynn Prosser, Natayah Nazifovski, Lynette Ata, Lauren Lambley, Philip Telea, Phoenix Niwha, Elijah Lavina, Alexia Fiorentino, Shaianne Kaio, Nimarsh Sohi, Jacob Kuany and Kuol Duk

STUDENT BANKING

A representative from the CBA Bank will be at tomorrow’s Assembly to talk about the Student Banking Program, show the children rewards that can be gained by banking and to help parents who would like to open a School Banking Account for their child.

2016 Outback Savers Rewards:



HOOK INTO HOCKEY

Wednesday 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd March, 6 – 7pm
4 specialised hockey clinics with accredited coaches, plus an awesome hockey pack! Only \$40

If your child then joins a team for the 2016 season, the \$40 will be credited to playing fees! The 2016 pack includes a stick, stick bag, ball, shin guards, mouthguard, reversible singlet and umpire cards and whistle.

Rear of Heathdale Christian College (formerly Mowbray College), Centenary Ave. Entry is via rear of Kurunjang Recreation Reserve.

For more information please contact Kellie on 0450 643 826

the party package Party Supplies!
Local family run business!
Low prices!
www.thepartypackage.com.au
For 10% off enter MELTON at checkout
Plus **FREE** same day delivery if ordered before 1pm otherwise free next day delivery!

PARENTS & CARERS TALK:
Protecting young people online

BRENT HEDLEY
Tuesday 8 March, 6.30pm (60min)
Melton West Primary School, Melton West

Brent Hedley is a trusted online safety specialist who works with school communities to offer practical, positive and evidenced-based strategies to parent and carers.

Themes covered on this evening will include:

- Youth online behaviours - the WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY and HOW of apps, websites and games
- Understanding the issues - risks, dangers and moral / legal considerations
- Up to date tips and best-practice resources to support young people online
- Simple, evidenced-based strategies for parents, carers and the whole-school community.

Please join us for an evening of insight and relevant, practical information, with Q&A opportunities to conclude.
This event is free and open to anyone who would like to attend. Contact the school to confirm attendance.
To learn more about Brent, including his professional experiences, visit wellbeingplustechology.com.au

**MELTON WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY HELP**

If you are able to help from 9am on any Friday, please circle a date or dates that would suit you, and return this to school. We will then be in touch with further details.

TERM 1

Friday 19, 26 February

Friday 4, 11, 18 March



Parent’s Name: ----- Phone No: -----

Student’s Name: ----- Grade: -----

Sth Sudanese Family Wellbeing Support Program



FREE information sessions for parents.

Understand the law and successfully raising children in Australia

When:

Wednesdays weekly

20 April—11 May, 2016

Where:

St Dominic Primary School

Unitt Street, Melton

Time: 1.00pm– 3.00pm

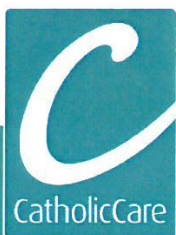
Come along if you want know more about;

- Child discipline and the law
- Alternative Discipline methods
- Dealing with aggressive behaviors
- Routines for school success
- Preparing healthy lunch box's
- Building your confidence in raising children in Australia
- Guest speakers eg. Child First and other professionals

Info & registration call

Surmeli / Munira (FMHSS) 8746 0500 / 0430 342323

Sue Sherry (St Dominic PS) 9743 6225



**MacKillop
Family Services**

Strengthening families and communities

www.ccam.org.au