

# Melrose Park Public School

*'Learning and Growing Together'*

110 Wharf Road, WEST RYDE 2114

Phone: 9874 4669

Email: [melrosepk-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:melrosepk-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Web: [www.melrosepk-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.melrosepk-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)



Term 4 Week 10

17 December, 2019

## Coming Events

Term 4 Week 10	
Wednesday 18/12	• Last day for Students
Wednesday 18/12	• Year 6 Farewell
Term 1 Week 1 - 2020	
Tuesday 28/1	• Staff returns
Wednesday 29/1	• Year 1 to 6 return
Wednesday 29/1	• Best start interviews
Thursday 30/1	• Best start interviews
Thursday 30/1	• Uniform Shop open 8.45am-9.30am
Friday 31/1	• First day for Kindergarten
Term 1 Week 2 - 2020	
Thursday 6/2	• Swimming Carnival

fun and reconnecting with your inner child as well.

Remember to find time to rest, relax, read, read, read and reenergise.

Thank you to our student leaders of 2019; Ruby, Tiffanie, Hugo and Riley. These young leaders have been wonderful role models to our young students and have been a great support to teachers and the office throughout the year. I would like to thank all our Year 6 students who have been a wonderful cohort of learners, always willing to 'have a go' but most importantly kind and caring young people.

We say farewell to our wonderful Year 6 students this Wednesday, 18 December. We wish our students well as they head off to high school. Students will form a traditional guard of honour from 2.50 pm for our departing Year 6 to walk through. This year we have a change to our procedure. Our guard of honour will start at the coloured seats and students from Kindergarten to Year 5 form an honour guard down through the oval path, with Year 6 students exiting via the Waratah St entrance. As Level 2 water restrictions are in place, we request that no water is used at farewell time.

Farewell to our families who leave Melrose Park PS after a long connection with the school, including the Calcagno Chalco, Perlstone, Ruggerio, Cho, Taylor Smith, Valenta, Curtis, Dixon, Gange, Gray, Lynch and Smart families. Thank you for your wonderful contributions to Melrose Park over the many, many years that you have had children go through this mighty school. We look forward to hearing how your children grow and prosper in high school. We look forward to you visiting us and enjoying our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations as community members.

Miss Fury will take maternity leave in 2020 as she prepares for the birth of her first daughter. We thank Miss Kurtz and Miss Gobbe for their service and wish them both Good Luck as they take off for further life adventures. We look forward to seeing you again, Day 1, Term 1, on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

## Class Requirements 2020

A requirement list was included in Students' reports last week. They can also be found under "notes" on the School website. These items will be needed at the beginning of the new school year. Remember to name all items. While not essential, does your child have access to a suitable dictionary for home use?

When buying new school shoes please make the effort to buy black leather shoes and black or white sports shoes. While it is fashion for bright multi coloured sports shoes they are not requested as part of the school uniform. White above ankle socks for girls and grey socks for boys form part of the uniform.

### Kindergarten 2020

Kindergarten students participate in Best Start Interviews during the first week of the school year. Our families have previously been given interviews times.

All new students commence their first full day of Big School, Friday 31 January 2020. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school. Our new parents are invited to a 'Tea and Tissues' morning tea in the hall after 9.00am.

### Transition

Our transition program aims to settle all students quickly as we understand some students may be nervous returning back to school, meeting new teachers, finding a new classroom and new routines. On the first day of the new school year, students line up, as usual, under the shelter in the 2019 class lines to commence the day. After New Year greetings and catching up, all students participate in transition activities for the first two days. This is where students and teachers work through rotating activities, becoming familiar with new staff, new routines, new learning spaces and remembering school expectations.

Classes for 2020 will be dependent on the number and make up of students who have moved to our area or left the school over the holidays. We expect classes for 2020 should be formed on the first Friday of Week 1.

### Student Leadership Team

Congratulations to.....

Riley, Ayden, Jasmine and Rabee on being elected as the 2020 student leadership team. Congratulations on your success and I look forward to supporting you on your leadership journey.

### Swimming Carnival

The Annual swimming Carnival is scheduled for Week 2 of the school year. All students in Year 3-6 are expected to attend. If you are able, please come and join us at Granville Swimming pool on Thursday 6 February. We hope that you can volunteer your time on the day to help with the running of the carnival.

Over the holidays make sure the children have the opportunity to practice their swimming. Students will nominate for 25m, 50m and 100m events next year. For non-swimmers, the kickboard race is always extremely competitive.

### 2020 School Photos

2020 School Photos are as follows:-

Wednesday 18 March 2020 (Term 1 - Week 8) – School Photography Day

Friday 21 August (Term 3 Week 5) – Sports Day Photography

Please note these days in your diary. Children will need to be in full school uniform for School Photography Day and full sports uniform for Sports Day Photography.

We appreciate your assistance to help these days run smoothly.

## Successful Students



### PSSA Finals

Congratulations to the Girls T Ball on their success at winning the Ryde Zone T ball competition.

Congratulations to the Boys T Ball team. Even though it was a disappointing result for the team, the boys played well and are congratulated for making the final and displaying great sportsmanship on the day.

## Wellbeing Program at Melrose Park in 2019

Throughout 2019 students at Melrose Park have participated in fortnightly well-being lessons. These are in addition to the well-being activities they complete with their teachers. In these small group activities they have explored topics like:

Keeping Safe: Anti Bullying Program  
Solving Conflict and Friendship Fires  
Regulating Emotions  
Courage  
Humour and its positive impact in mental health

As we approach holidays, it is often such a busy and stressful season for parents who juggle work, home duties and Christmas preparations. By the time everything is done we just feel like some time out for ourselves!! This is a good thing. Self-care is important, it makes for better parents. Taking some recharge time for yourself is like putting on a breathing mask in an aeroplane, once you have put your own on, you can help your children too!

Surprisingly, even a small concentrated time with mum, dad or someone special can make a big difference to children's well-being. Just setting aside a regular 1/2 hour to play with your children over the break can help them reconnect and feel special. It could be a quick board game, a walk, a bike ride, a bounce on the trampoline together, even colouring in. Just find out what your child enjoys, show interest and join in.

If you find the Christmas and holiday season particularly stressful and need help or someone to talk to, free services are just a phone call away. You can ring:

**Lifeline: 131 114**

**Children can ring Kids Help Line: 1800 55 1800**

Best wishes for a refreshing break.  
Vicki Kwan  
MPPS Chaplain/Well-Being Officer

## Drain Stencil Project

The Drain Stencil Project aims to increase awareness that when litter is blowing around the environment, it ends up washed into our waterways. These waterways include the Parramatta River, Sydney Harbour and the sea. The awareness of this consequence provides motivation for our students to ensure that their rubbish is either recycled or put into the landfill bin, and that any rubbish that has blown out of the bins/pulled out by the ibis, get picked up.

Last Wednesday and Friday, the winners of the Drain Stencil Project got to paint their designs on the drains around schools. Student Voice voted for the winners, and could not choose between a number of designs, so winning components of the designs were amalgamated into four different designs to be painted around the school. Some of these designs were spray painted and others were hand painted. The winning students were: Makayla and Millie, 4L, Aurelia, Malak, Alice and Luson KP, Thomas, Beau, Cayden, Ella H, Emily, Chanel, Fadia, Abi and Alice 2O, Aiden, Alhan KA, Izzy and Ruby 1/2S and Xavier and Adi 1E.





Well done to these students. Many thanks also go to Natasha, Tamara, Marcus, Seb and Ella F. for assisting to waterproof the designs.

Other components of this project include the installation of new ibis and wind proof bins, as well as our 'Waste Free Wednesdays'. We thank Parramatta City Council for the \$1000 grant towards this project.

Mrs Jennie Spenceley



## Seed Harvest Spoon Term 4 Review



Kindergarten to Year 2 had a wonderful term having a close look at what's in their school grounds and how it impacts the environment. The term started with discovering items that were once living and that could decompose back to the earth, and items that were never living that couldn't decompose.

*(living and never living things found in the school grounds)*



We then observed how water flows on hard and soft surfaces all around the school, and thought about how any rubbish can easily flow into our drains and out to the river. We want to make Parramatta River swimmable again by 2025! (see

<http://www.ourlivingriver.com.au/>).

*(watching water flow on hard and soft surfaces)*



After seeing how rubbish flows into our drains, we looked at exactly how much rubbish the school produces in one day. We sorted the waste from the playground bins into compost, recycling and landfill. There was a big pile of packaging so the students thought of different ways to reduce their waste and came up with the ideas of using reusable bottles, lunchboxes, and not being afraid to bring home uneaten food.

*(sorting rubbish into compost, landfill, and recycling, there were over 200 packets for just one day of rubbish!)*

We were lucky enough to have another visit from Glen Thomas. He showed us lots of bush foods and medicines like aniseed and lemon myrtle, sandpaper fig, lomandra, kangaroo grass, stringy bark and paper bark and much more. He taught us a new game called Yidäki statues (the original Yolngu word for didgeridoo) where you had to be a dinawan (emu), baramala wungal (spear thrower), or bunda (kangaroo). We also enjoyed singing "Yama Wirring", the Good Spirit welcome song and dancing the Kangaroo dance.



*(Glen teaching a new game and about the different uses of native Australian plants)*

We had a ball exploring the different properties of clay, sand and dirt and how the soil can impact plant growth and water retention. A lot of students correctly identified that a pile of soil from the school grounds was a mixture of clay and dirt.



*(discovering the properties of different soils)*

For our final lesson, we cooked up some tasty flour and yoghurt flatbreads. We added a non-native plant- rosemary- and a native plant- Commelina cyanea. Commelina cyanea is also known as scurvy weed because the colonists ate it to prevent scurvy, luckily for us there was lots of it in the garden to pick from. The recipe was easy, just 2 cups of flour and 1 cup of natural yoghurt, mix together with the leaves, flatten and cook!



*(cooking flat breads with rosemary and Commelina cyanea)*



I want to thank everyone at Melrose Park Public School for an absolutely wonderful year of Seed Harvest Spoon. I hope everyone has a lovely holiday break and a great start to 2020!

Aleisha Kahn  
Seed Harvest Spoon Facilitator

# P & C Report

## Term 4 Week 10

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy break over the festive season. Thank you to everyone who has supported us this year.

A date for your diaries - Our **AGM will be held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February** at 7.30pm in the library. Please come along and see how you can get involved with the P&C next year.

### FEEDBACK Survey

To close out the year and to provide some feedback on how the P&C went this year, we are keen to get your feedback on what worked and didn't work this year in our fundraising calendar.

We would also like your input so we can build into next year's fundraising program and any ideas you have.

As always knowing if you have any skills we can utilize or willingness to help out will greatly assist in the running of our events. Please don't be shy.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. Please click on the link below to bring you to the survey.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjaBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAAMAAIfT\\_BUOVY5M0owTVMwOFJKUUXQSTBYU1JGOFgxMy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjaBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAAMAAIfT_BUOVY5M0owTVMwOFJKUUXQSTBYU1JGOFgxMy4u)

### Dates to Remember

JANUARY 2020	
Monday 24th February, 2020	P&C AGM, followed by 1st P&C meeting for 2020

Should you wish to get in contact with the P&C on any matter, please message Dolores Bragg at [president@ppspc.com](mailto:president@ppspc.com)





# Presentation Day 2019







# MUSIC SHOWCASE



Music photos by Rachel, Year 6

## MPPS RoboCup 2019



Cozmo robot demonstration



Dancing robots



Best design



SUMO challenge



Rescue



Robot soccer



Dash Challenge