

Be kind, be brave, be your best

Newsletter no 37
December 5th, 2023

Principal's Chat

Hi everyone,

Our swimming program started yesterday and the weather was perfect for swimming. Students actively participated and even though the water was still a little chilly, they all gave the lessons their best effort! **Swimming will continue every day for the next two weeks with a planned carnival to occur on the last day, Friday 15th December.** The forecast is looking great for the program.

What a fantastic night our Shopping Spree was last Thursday night! It was great to see the large number of people coming along to support both the school and the local traders of Maldon. I would like to thank Debra Watson and Fiona McKnight for co-ordinating the event, as well as Catherine Jones, Phillipa Vaughan, Emma Veenhuizen, Louise Clarke and Lisa Jennings for assisting in various ways. Some more people and organisations to thank: Maldon Newsagency and Beatons Store for selling tickets before the event; the retailers for opening on the night and donating generously to our raffle; the Maldon Hotel for their support of the event; Maldon Inc, Victorian Railways, Porcupine Village and Gregory Brown for their generous donations to the silent auction; the Maldon Brass Band for their festive music; Ash McKnight and Darcy Vaughan for capably operating the drinks wheelbarrow; Jellis Craig for their donation of the wine glasses; the Maldon and District Community Bank for donating goodies to go in the shopping bags and Urban Dust Hat Bar & Boutique for donating the calico shopping bags. Thank you also to the 170 plus shoppers on the night! **Without all of the people and organisations listed above, the night would not have been such a big success, so thank you all for your support. The fundraiser raised around \$4,400 for our school, which will be spent on a new shade sail to go over the playground.**

Last week we also had a surprise visit from Proactivity, who ran a Ninja Warrior course for all classes. This was a special reward for the whole school for the students' exemplary behaviour throughout the year. The students should all be very proud of their efforts, the way they include others and show our values in the things they do. **The students (plus the staff) enjoyed the experience and a real competitive streak was revealed in some people!**

It was great to have the kinder children visit again last week. They are gaining confidence with the school and will soon get to meet their older buddies for next year. The older children will help the new preps get to know the school and our routines. Both the younger and older students love Buddies and it is often something the students talk about when leaving primary school.

As mentioned previously, we will be running four classes in 2024: Grade Prep/1, Grade 1/2, Grade 3/4 and Grade 5/6. Next Tuesday all students will participate in a State Wide Transition Day (Step-Up Day) and will find out who their teacher for 2024 is on this day.

This week's whole school values focus is: I take on new challenges



THIS WEEK AT M.P.S.

Wednesday 6th December

- Fourth transition morning for 2024 Preps-9.15am to 11.30am
- Water awareness program, all students

Thursday 7th December

- Smile Squad dental van here for treatments
- Water awareness program, all students

Friday 8th December

- **NO Friday Fundraiser**
- Smile Squad dental van here for treatments
- Water awareness program, all students
- Zooper Doopers for sale for \$1 at lunchtime
- **NO Assembly**

Monday 11th December

- Water awareness program, all students

Tuesday 12th December

- Statewide transition day, all students
- Water awareness program, all students

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 13th December

Library books due back at school

Wednesday 13th December

School Council dinner

Friday 15th December

Class expos, 9.15am-10am

Friday 15th December

Swimming Carnival (TBC)

Monday 18th December

Grade 6 Graduation

and have a go. This values focus links in perfectly with our swimming program where students may feel that they are stepping out of their comfort zone. The 'I can' statements we will be working towards are:

I accept the rules and play fairly,

If I go out I move on quickly,

I accept the umpires decision,

I encourage others,

I have a go at new things.

I have included a link to an article about helping children to have a positive attitude about sport.

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/play-media-technology/active-play/sport-positive-attitude>

Take care

Alisa

Reminders

- **2024 back to school paperwork is now OVERDUE. Please return the following forms immediately: the 2024 Contribution form (one per child), Acceptable Use Agreement (one per child), Local Excursion consent form and uniform order form (if required).** Families are also encouraged to return other relevant forms e.g. bus travel, conveyance and CSEF forms.
- **Don't forget to order your 2024 Stationery packs directly from Education Plus.** Orders must be placed by Friday 15th December, 2023.
- Zooper Dooper icy poles will be available for \$1 each at lunch time on Friday at the back of the school. All money raised will go towards buying resources for the school. This project is part of the grade 5/6 business topic this term.
- Friday Fundraiser/hot lunch has now FINISHED for 2023. Please remember to pack lunch for your child this Friday and next!

Office information

Unexplained absences: In preparation for the end of year we would like parents to provide explanations for any unexplained student absences. This can be done either in uEducateUs or by completing and returning the absence form sent home today. At present we have over 20 students with unexplained absences and we need to reduce this to zero by Monday 11th December.

EFTPOS is now available: We now have EFTPOS facilities available for your convenience. Please be aware that there will be a 2% surcharge on all EFTPOS transactions. This equates to \$1 for every \$50 spent. Cash, BPAY and direct deposit are still available for payments as well.

Principal Awards

L to R: Evi, Seth, Owen, Martha, Karen, Darien , Alfie

Absent: Wilbur



Classroom values, Art and Performing Art awards

L to R: Evi, Lillie, Henry, Elke, Gabe and Alfie



What's happening in the classroom?

Weekly awards: The following students will be receiving awards at assembly next Friday:

P/1: Evie for being aware of someone else's behaviour and reflecting on how she can help to change it (be kind)

2/3: Layla for reflecting on her year and the improvements she has made with her learning (be your best)

4/5: Scarlett for reflecting on her reading using appropriate strategies (be your best)

5/6: Isla for an amazing and insightful reflection on her grade 6 year at Maldon Primary School (be your best)

Art: Moirah for the intricate detail she put into her wire sculpture.

Performing Arts: Hayden and Darcy O for the amazing way they acted out their mimes.

Principal awards: Nicholas, Addi, Frances, Darcy R and Emily for helping Fiona with the Shopping Spree fundraiser.

Water awareness program:



Ninja Warrior obstacle course:



Library news

Borrowing for this year has now finished. It would be great if you could check to see if your child has any overdue books at home. All library books should be returned to school by Wednesday, December 13th.

Community Connections

Maldon Twilight Festival Night Market and Lantern Parade, Friday 19th January, 2024

Don't forget to keep this date free if you are able. Festivities start from 6.30pm and the lantern parade commences at 9.10pm from Maldon's Bank Corner.

What's happening in the community?



For unto us
a child is born!

Maldon Kids Club
Christmas Show
5pm, Wednesday
13th December
Holy Trinity Church
50 High St

The kids are putting on a show! Get in the Christmas spirit and bring all the family along for cute costumes, Christmas carols and a joyous time!

Maldon Neighbourhood Centre and the
Maldon Anglican Parish present...

MALDON PANTRY

Are you feeling the pinch of the rising cost of living?
Then the Maldon Pantry is for you!

The Maldon Pantry is a safe and welcoming space for anyone and everyone to access some of the essentials that are becoming increasingly hard to afford.

From milk and bread, canned and dried foods to hygiene essentials and items for pets, the Maldon pantry is here to make sure you have the things you need.

Every Wednesday from
22nd Nov - 20th Dec. 9-11am.
Holy Trinity Hall, 50 High St.
For more details contact
the Neighbourhood Centre on 5475 2093.



Join us for a free
Community Christmas Lunch
Monday 25 December 2023

Hosted by Castlemaine Community House and friends
12.30pm to 2.00pm
Castlemaine Town Hall, 25 Lyttleton Street
(entry via Frederick Street)
Share a delicious meal with good company on Christmas Day

Come alone or bring your family and friends
Enjoy music, activities and festivities
RSVP, book transport and find out more
Call 5472 4842
Email reception@cch.org.au

You can also volunteer your time or make a donation.

For more information scan the QR code.

CASTLEMAINE COMMUNITY HOUSE
MOUNT ALEXANDER SOBER COUNSELLING
Rotary Castlemaine
OMT Alexander Community Enterprise
Dhelkaya Health



Thursday, 25 January Castlemaine Botanical Gardens

Botanical gardens changed the world and gardening has been changing Australia since pre-colonial times. What is the history and significance of the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens and how can we adapt our gardens to a drying climate? This will be a comfortable, family friendly walk. All ages and abilities are welcome. Bring a hat and water bottle.

Meet: Castlemaine Botanical Gardens, starts at the main gate, corner of Walker St and Downes Rd.
Guide: Ray Stevenson
Time: 9:30am to 10.30am
RSVP: No bookings or RSVP required

For more information call 5479 1000.

The tour will be cancelled in the event of heavy rain or on a Code Red Day.