



Middle Park State School
27 Macfarlane Street
MIDDLE PARK QLD 4074

Telephone: 07 3712 9888
Email: admin@middleparkss.eq.edu.au
Office hours: 8.00am - 3.45pm

END OF TERM 1 NEWSLETTER – 28/03/2024

Dear MPSS Families

Congratulations to our Student Council Leaders for 2024. We held our badging ceremony on 4 March. Our students are looking forward to working with Ms Jolliffe and Mrs Scheffe to support initiatives within the school, such as Nude Food and Containers for Change, and strengthening our partnership with RSPCA.

2024 Student Council			
3R	Henry L	Juliana R	
3P	Shyan H	Kate S	
3SP	Emilia J-W	Keshavi R	Natalia C-R
3/4M	Noah R	Jio K	
4R	Henry H	Sophia B	
4C	Valexandria R	Isla W	
4K	Penny R	Charlotte H	
5C	Scarlett D	Tamara A	
5P	Aria C	Eva S	
5CP	Mika P	Georgia B	
5/6C	Rebecca R	Sophie L	
6AG	Angel B	Eliza C	Aqeel Z
6B	Louis M	Chloe S	
6S	Olivia H-M	Arlen S	



Semester 1 - Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher Interviews were held during Week 4 of this term. As communicated, the move to conduct these earlier in the term was prompted by feedback in the School Opinion Survey 2023 and the objective to build strong connections between families and the school from the very beginning of the year in order to set students up for success. Feedback to the survey received 128 responses.

Overall, feedback was positive for the purpose the interviews were intended. Majority of responses were in favour of continuing with early interviews in Term 1 in 2025, with some suggestions moving forward to increase time to 15 minutes, factor in gaps between interview times to allow movement around the school, and ensure communication regarding opportunities for mid-term academic progress check-ins.

In line with this, should you wish to make another time to discuss academic and/or social emotional aspects of your child's schooling experience, this can be requested at any time throughout the year by reaching out to your child's classroom teacher to establish a mutually convenient time.

The next official round of interviews will be held early in Term 3, following the release of Semester 1 report cards. These will be conducted in the Hall.

Feedback from the survey questions is shown below.





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When considering our 2025 plan for scheduling of interviews, please indicate your preference for Semester One interviews, based on the purpose described below.

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

- Option 1 - Interviews held in T... 71
- Option 2 - Interviews held at ... 39
- Option 3 - No preference 18



ANZAC Day

DATE CLAIMER
MIDDLE PARK STATE SCHOOL ANZAC DAY CEREMONY
WHEN: MONDAY 22ND APRIL
TIME: 9AM
VENUE: LOWER COVERED PLAY AREA
STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING A SMALL COLLECTION OF FLOWERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR CLASS BOUQUET WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED DURING THE CEREMONY AND THEN DONATED TO A LOCAL AGED CARE FACILITY

ANZAC DAY MARCH AND SERVICE 25th April 2024



The Centenary Suburbs RSL Sub Branch will be conducting an Anzac Day service at the War Memorial Gardens, Mt Ommaney on **Thursday 25 April, 2024**.

School Captains, Student Councillors, Rotary Community Junior Awards students, staff, students and parents are invited to take part in the march from the Mount Ommaney Shopping Centre Loading Bay (as per the map below) to the War Memorial.

The march will commence at 8:00am. Should you wish to be involved, please be lined up with our school and ready to march by 7.45am. Middle Park students should wear their school uniform, hat and bring a bottle of water.

The service will conclude at 9am.

Kind regards,
Mrs Graham
Deputy Principal.



Happy Retirement to Mrs Lea Jonsson

At Monday afternoon's whole school assembly, we bid farewell to Mrs Lea Jonsson, who has now officially retired from Middle Park State School as of 22 March. With 33 years of service in total with Education Queensland, Mrs Jonsson started at MPSS in 1991.



Mrs Jonsson has been the friendly face greeting students as they enter the library for over three decades. Her genuine passion for the library inspired generations of kids to develop a love of reading and her lasting legacy is her ability to always find the right book for every child.

Over the years, Mrs Jonsson devoted many hours to ensure that school priorities such as book fairs and book club were a resounding success.

She worked with a number of principals, countless staff and raised and supported her own three children through Middle Park SS. She recently had the joy of seeing her first grandchild graduate from MPSS (and looks forward to witnessing another three grandchildren graduate in the next few years).

It's now time for Mrs Jonsson to spend her retirement pursuing other passions. On behalf of everyone here, I would like to wish her all the best in retirement.

P&C News

On Monday, 25 March we said thank you to our outgoing P&C President, Mrs Kelly Ede, for her five years of service in this role from 2019 to 2024.



Prior to taking on the role of P&C President, Mrs Ede's involvement with the P&C began with volunteering at discos when her children were younger, and this expanded to her helping at Mother's and Father's Day stalls, the Rainbow Dash and Spring Picnics, just to name a few of the fundraising initiatives in our yearly calendars.



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During her time as P&C President, Mrs Ede, along with her fellow executive members, took oversight of many projects such as the amphitheatre behind the library, the Drop and Go Zone, installation of the junior and senior playgrounds and shade covers, the Bush Tucker Garden and Yarning circle and upgrade to the Tuckshop, as well as many garden installations, music stand banners and rugby league jerseys.

Her countless hours and efforts do not go unnoticed. On behalf of the staff and students at MPSS, I would like to sincerely thank Mrs Ede for her passion, enthusiasm, dedication and ongoing commitment to the P&C and the school, which I'm sure will continue to be forthcoming as an honorary life member of the P&C.

Introducing our new P&C President, Sean Finnerty



Sean is a local dad of five, with three of his children currently at Middle Park State School. You will frequently find him about the school grounds of an afternoon picking up his children or turning a sausage on a BBQ at a P&C event with some of the other parents.

Sean brings with him a wealth of skills and experience from his many years in the P&C, and most recently in his role as Vice-President overseeing the work of our amazing team in the tuckshop, uniform shop and OSHC. He has a background in printing, engineering, hospitality and was a member of the SES for 15 years. Sean has a passion for supporting facilities initiatives for the school and has been involved with the many P&C projects delivered in past few years.

Supported by his executive team Vice-Presidents, Kimberly Percival and Daniel Ferri, Treasurer Sam Brandt, and Secretary Jess Tierney, Sean looks forward to an amazing year at MPSS working with the school community.

For further information on the P&C and how you can get involved in upcoming activities, head to the website at mpsspnc.com or reach out via email executive@mpsspnc.com.

Photo Day

School photos will be held on Thursday, 9 May and Friday, 10 May in the Hall. Sibling photos are scheduled for 8:00am each morning. The photo schedule will be released closer to the date.

Queensland Engagement and Wellbeing Survey 2024

In Term 2, students in Years 4 to 6 will be asked to take part in the Queensland Engagement and Wellbeing (QEW) Survey. We know that wellbeing is an important part of your child's life at school. The QEW survey is designed to measure how students view their wellbeing and engagement across different topics. The information we get from the survey will help us better understand and support our students.

Further information can be found on the Education Website <https://alt-qed.qed.qld.gov.au/publications/reports/statistics/schooling/students/queensland-engagement-wellbeing-survey>

HPE News - Mrs O'Brien and Mr Julian Sanchez

MPSS Years 3-6 Cross Country

On Tuesday, 12 March, students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 participated in our annual cross country. It was wonderful to see so many students trying their hardest! Students persevered in challenging conditions with soggy ground on an extremely hot morning, not to mention the plovers who comandeered part of our oval. I was incredibly proud of everyone who crossed the finish line and I hope they are proud of themselves too. Congratulations to the students below who achieved a top 3 placing:

12yrs - 3km				
1 st	Sofia G.	5/6C	Ronan H.	6B
2 nd	Ella H-M.	6B	Zander H.	6B
3 rd	Mikayla E.	6S	Charlie P.	6S
11yrs - 3km				
1 st	Rebecca R.	5/6C	Philip H.	6S
2 nd	Harper S.	5P	Cayden P.	6S
3 rd	Rachel R.	6AG	Baxter P.	6B
10yrs - 2km				
1 st	Ildiko G.	4C	Archer V.	4C
2 nd	Edith P.	3/4M	Brodie T.	5C
3 rd	Laura R.	4K	Lennix F.	5/6C
9yrs - 1km				
1 st	Sophia B.	4R	Shyan H.	3P
2 nd	Sienna A.	4C	Matthew L.	3P
3 rd	Zoe G.	4K	Harry T.	4C
8yrs - 1km				
1 st	Isabella B.	3/4M	Coby M.	3R
2 nd	Zahari	3P	Braxton A.	3SP
3 rd	Lily T.	3P	Liam K.	3P



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Every student who participated earned points for their House. The results are...

4 th	Fraser	110
3 rd	Bradman	122
2 nd	Laver	123
1 st	Cuthbert	137



Cuthbert House Captains

Students who placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th in the 10, 11 and 12 years age groups have been invited to attend the Northern Eagles District Cross Country trial on Tuesday, 23 April at Limestone Park, Ipswich.

MetWest Swimming

Imogen G. 4C, Sofia G. 5/6C and Reuben W. 6AG represented Northern Eagles District at the Met West Regional Swimming trial. This was held at the Brisbane Aquatic Centre, Chandler on Wednesday, 21 February. This is a highly competitive trial and all our swimmers were amazing to watch. Well done!! You should all be super proud of your efforts.



Imogen



Sofia and Reuben

Imogen has made it to the next level of competition. She competed this week with the Met West Region swimming team at the Queensland Representative School Sport 10 to 12 years Swimming State Championships at the Sleeman Aquatic Centre. What an incredible achievement!

District Representation

Congratulations to the following students who have been invited to represent Northern Eagles District at the Met West Regional trial for their sport. There are 27 schools in our District (including high schools and private schools), so selection is highly competitive. This is a fantastic accomplishment!



Rebecca R & Emilie V 5/6C
12 years Girls AFL



Troy P 5P
12 Years Boys Touch Football



Salome V 5CP
11 years Netball



Joseph M 6S
12 Years Boys Rugby League

Years 1 and 2 Swimming – Mr Julian Sanchez

As we approach the end of our first term, I wanted to take a moment to share some reflections on our journey so far. Being a part of the HPE department has been an absolute joy, and I'm immensely grateful for the opportunity to work with such dedicated students and supportive parents and carers.

One of the highlights of this term was our swimming showcase event. It was truly a joy to watch our students shine as they demonstrated their skills and talents in the pool. Their hard work and dedication were evident, and I couldn't be prouder of their achievements.

Personally, I've learned a great deal during this term. Each day spent with the students has been a lesson in patience, creativity, and the importance of fostering a love for physical activity. Their enthusiasm and energy have been infectious, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to grow alongside them.



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As we eagerly anticipate the next term, I'm excited about the adventures that await us. From exploring new activities to honing existing skills, I'm confident that we'll continue to have a blast together!

Music News - Mrs Julie West

Harmony Day Performances

Congratulations to Senior Choir and Ukulele Club students for their wonderful performances on Monday's Senior School Assembly starting off Harmony Week last week. A big thank you to Mr Buchanan for leading the Senior Choir and Ukulele Club so well! Their song "Lean on Me" highlighted the Harmony Day theme that was celebrated by the whole school on Harmony Day last Thursday.

Junior Choir started festivities that day by singing "Cover Me in Sunshine" and "Everyone Belongs" in a pop-up performance in the Lower Undercover Area before school and a big thank you to everyone in our audience who sang along.

It is so great to see how music and singing can have such a positive role in our school!



ANZAC Assembly

Our next performance will be from our Combined Choir and Concert Band students at our whole school ANZAC Assembly at 9am, Monday, 22 April in the Lower Undercover Area.

Mr Humphry and Ms West are proud of these students who have been rehearsing well to contribute beautifully to this important community occasion.

Instrumental Fanfare 2024 - Save the Date!

Senior Strings and Senior Concert Band will be competing in Instrumental Fanfare on Wednesday, 5 June at Centenary State High School, first session in the morning.

More detailed information will follow next term about this exciting performance opportunity!

HASS News - Mrs Jasmine Ellis

To finish the term in HASS, we have been inquiring into Harmony Week. Our lines of inquiry are:

- Why do we celebrate Harmony Day?
- How can we celebrate Harmony Day?

In Prep, we read the story "Kindness Grows" and worked as *Collaborators* to create our Prep Kindness Tree. Our Prep learners have been showing their understanding about how to be kind. Year 1 learners have been using the Learning Asset *Communicators*. They shared their knowledge about Harmony Day by using the thinking strategy "See, Think, Wonder", while observing a variety of photos. Our learners had some wonderful ideas about Harmony Day, which included Harmony Day is a special day to celebrate everyone's culture and showing love and respect.



Our Year 2 learners have been *Researchers* by watching a short video clip about Harmony Week and taking notes to help them answer our two inquiry questions.

In Year 2 and 3, our learners have been *Thinkers* by designing logos to represent Harmony Day.



I am looking forward to further developing our Learning Assets in HASS next term.



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eLearning Coordinator – Mrs Emma Turner **2024 Parliament in Minecraft Education Competition**

Next term we will be offering students in Years 4 to 6 the chance to enter our annual Minecraft challenge. This year we will be aligning with the competition run by the Queensland Parliamentary Education Team which asks students to build the green legislative assembly chamber in Minecraft!

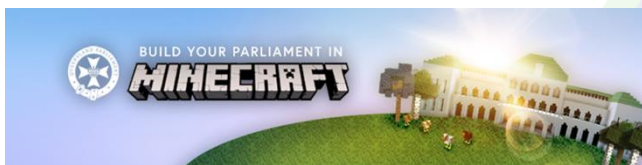
On Tuesday we announced the topic to students and took them through the competition handbook, found here:
<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/Explore/Education/teacherzone/MinecraftCompHandbook2024.pdf>.

The competition officially opens at the beginning of Term 2. However, if your child is keen to have a head start, they could research the layout of QLD Parliament's green chamber or perhaps even visit during the upcoming school holidays, taking a free tour.

Most of the Minecraft building will need to occur in students' own time, but there will be one lunch break per week where we will invite students to build at school and check on their progress: Tuesdays at first break 11:05am. This year, students will be required to work in groups of two to five students.

Students who have completed their build by Monday of Week 5, abiding by all competition rules, will be assisted to enter the Queensland Parliament competition. However, through the local CLASS cluster of schools, we will run our own parallel competition with a later due date in Week 8, allowing students to enter their submission in one or both competitions. Our CLASS competition prize will be a technology enrichment day at Centenary State High School.

If you would like to know more, explore the competition handbook linked above, or contact Emma Turner, eLearning Coordinator on eturn92@eq.edu.au.



QParents Competition

Thank you to all those parents who have signed up for QParents over the past few months. As you know, we recently ran a competition between classes, to see which class could achieve the highest uptake, as well as the class that had the greatest improvement over the past two weeks. The winners were 3SP with the highest uptake of parents, and 5/6C who showed the biggest increase over the competition period.

We look forward to bringing all families onboard over the coming weeks so that we can fully utilise the app from the commencement of Term 3.

What Else is Happening at MPSS...

As part of our Mathematics this term, Year 4 students have been looking at identifying and explaining chance events. We have discussed the language of chance and completed some investigations too.





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Date Claimers

Term 2		
Week 1	Monday, 15 April	School resumes - Term 2
	Tuesday, 16 April	P&C Meeting (Online)
Week 2	Monday, 22 April	ANZAC Day ceremony
	Tuesday, 23 April	District Cross Country
	Thursday, 25 April	ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY
Week 3	Monday, 29 April	Mum and Kids Paint and Sip (P&C Chappy Event)
Week 4	Monday, 6 May	LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
	Tuesday, 7 May	P&C Mother's Day Stall
	Wednesday, 8 May	P&C Mother's Day Stall
	Thursday, 9 May	School photos
	Friday, 10 May	School photos
Week 5	RSPCA Week (Student Council)	
	Friday, 17 May	Walk to School Safely Day
Week 6	Chappy Week	
	Monday, 20 May	Chappy Subway Meal Deal
	Tuesday, 21 May	P&C Meeting (F2F)
	Wednesday, 22 May	Met West Region Cross Country National Simultaneous Story Time
Week 7	Tuesday, 28 May	School Council (F2F)
	Thursday, 30 May	Year 2 Street Science Incursion
Week 8	Monday, 3 June	200m and 800m races
	Tuesday, 4 June	Years 3-6 Track and Field
	Wednesday, 5 June	Fanfare
	Thursday, 6 June	Technology Day @ CSHS
Week 9	Busker Week	
	Monday, 10 June	Instrumental Music Night
	Wednesday, 12 June	P-2 Sports Carnival
	Thursday, 13 June	Choir & Ukulele Night
Week 10	Mon - Fri (17 June - 21 June) - Year 6 Cairns Trip	
	Monday, 17 June	Chappy Subway Meal Deal
	Tuesday, 19 June	Under 8's Day P&C Meeting (Online)
	Friday, 21 June	Final day of Term 2

Wishing you all a lovely Easter Break. See you on Monday, 15 April for the commencement of Term 2.



Kind regards

Penny Couch

Penny Couch
Principal