Mullum provides a quality learning experience in an environment of care and respect to produce responsible and informed citizens for the future.

Principal’s Report
by Carolyn Macaulay

Welcome to our first official newsletter for the 2017 year.

Our Foundation children have settled in beautifully and we look forward to getting to know all our new families and students throughout the year. In yesterday’s Maroondah Leader we made front page with the number of twin enrolled in our Foundation classes. Miss Walsh, Miss White and Miss Williamson are doing a terrific job in supporting the kids adjusting to school life- they sure are sleeping well at the moment too.

We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure all children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference to your child’s education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children’s success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child’s learning by ensuring that he/she:

1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day’s learning experience
2) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve Literacy skills
4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his / her school life

There are many opportunities for parent involvement within the school: classroom assistance, PMP; volunteering to help with athletics; assisting at Working Bees; attending camps and excursions and of course, being a member of the Parents Association who do such an amazing job of raising funds for the school and contributing to our caring culture by organising a range of events through-out the year.

A dynamic School Council is a vital component of any school and we are looking for parents to join the 2017 Council. Today the School Council Nomination forms will be available for the election of two vacant parent positions. Please feel free to chat with me regarding what this role entails. We meet on a Monday night in week 3 and 8 of each term. Meetings commence at 7.30pm and rarely go past 9.00pm.

Parental support of both teachers and the school’s programs are vital. This includes displaying a positive attitude towards your child’s learning. So, in both words and actions I encourage you all to be fully involved in all aspects of your child’s education.

I remind all members of the community that my door is always open to hear any cares, concerns or compliments. All classroom teachers are available for meetings. You can make an appointment for a mutually convenient time either before school or after school. All teachers can be contacted through COMPASS.

I would also like to remind everyone that school drop off and pick up times are generally extremely busy so for the safety of all of our students please observe the parking and crossing arrangements. We have been requested by DEECD to alert parents/carers about speed limits in designated school speed zones during specified times i.e. 8.00—9.30am and 2.30—4.00pm

Our newsletter is published every fortnight and is one of our major avenues of communication with parents. As well as containing important information about what is happening at school, there is a calendar in which you will find brief details regarding future events.
SCHOOL PARKING- REMINDER
We remind parents that, when dropping off and picking up students, drivers must obey the signed parking restrictions. There are areas on Panfield Avenue where cars cannot be parked and other areas where there are time restrictions. Please note it is illegal to park across the driveways of private residences. We ask all parents to ensure they drive and park safely and obey all signs – most importantly, do not exceed the 40km speed limit during school hours. It is important to note that occasionally Council By-Laws Officers visit the roads around the school.

Parents please note that there must be no dropping off of students in the school grounds. No family cars are allowed in our grounds at the start or end of the school day to ensure our student pedestrians are safe inside the grounds. We trust our community will observe this important safety rule. This includes the lane off Mullum Mullum Road as well as the main entry on Panfield Avenue.

The start of the new school year is a good time to remind our school community of the expectations regarding school parking. Please refer to the RACV link for safety hints in traffic around schools. This is in the interests of safety for our students, so we really appreciate your support — http://insight.racv.com.au/roads/how-do-i-navigate-school-pick-updrop-off-parking/

FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS
Over time some families alter their contact details such as address, mobile numbers, work numbers or emergency contact details. Naturally when this occurs it is extremely important that the school is made aware of the changes. If your family contact details have changed please send a brief note to the school office or email Adielle Murray through COMPASS.

COMMUNICATIONS
I cannot stress the importance of clear information between families and school. We use COMPASS for this. We have a COMPASS instruction booklet available at the office if you require further support. The Office Staff are also able to help with accessing info through this software.

In this Newsletter staff has shared information regarding what is happening in their area this term. We hope that you value finding out what it going on in each section of the school.

A reminder of the Meet and Greet chats next Tuesday. This is great opportunity for you to tell your child’s teacher everything they need to know about your child and to ask any clarifying questions.

Thank you to families for their prompt payment of essential item fees and to those who are honouring their payment plan. I remind you that we like all students to participate in school events however are also aware that at times family’s budgets can be tight. If this is the case please come and chat with me so that we can negotiate a payment plan. Some of our families are making periodic payments to build up funds that the school, with their consent, can draw to cover costs. This is particularly helpful for you with the amounts required for camps. Please see Office staff if you would like to set up a system to support you in budgeting for school extra curricula items.

HELP HELP HELP!!!!!!!!
We need volunteers to support the running of the following events. There is a roster displayed at the office or please contact the office and they will add your name. We really need your help for the success of these events- give a little bit of your time or a lot- WE NEED YOU!!!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Co-ordinator</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Icy-pole</td>
<td>Every Friday lunch term 1 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Denise Welling</td>
<td>Sell Icy poles from 1.30-2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milo</td>
<td>Every Friday lunch term 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sell Milo from 1.30-2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twilight</td>
<td>23rd March After school event</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cooking the BBQ Selling Drinks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ladies Night</td>
<td>10th May Evening event</td>
<td>Felicity Payne</td>
<td>Helping setup and clean up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian Day</td>
<td>24th May Lunch event</td>
<td>Sarah Jenkins</td>
<td>Arranging for stalls and other events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Dog Day</td>
<td>23rd June Lunch event</td>
<td>Catherine Gordon</td>
<td>Helping with hot dogs, drinks and gelati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRIVIA NIGHT</td>
<td>24th June</td>
<td>Catherine Gordon, Felicity Payne, Kelly Dobson</td>
<td>Lots of different roles here. Gather donations for prizes/auction items. Set up / clean up Being on the organising Committee Marketing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please mark these dates into your calendar!

We have had a lovely start to the year and I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work in preparing the learning spaces and developing the programs ready for innovative teaching. I am looking forward to another successful year with our Mullum community.
Welcome to 5/6
Welcome to Grade 5/6 2017. The start of the year has been abuzz with activity in the 5/6 area, walls and blackboards have disappeared, TV’s, tables and other resources have been added, giving us a great springboard into the year.

Term 1 is a busy one. Throughout the term, students will be studying the concept of ‘Identity’ which explores Ethics and Emotions whilst helping students discover different approaches to learning through the Multiple Intelligences framework. Students will discover their own personal strengths and work as a team to build positive learning environments that can be maintained throughout the year.

WOO HOO.. It’s nearly time for camp….

During the week Tuesday 14th March to Friday 17th March 2017, the Grade 5 & 6 students will be attending a 4 day camp at the Phillip Island Coastal Discovery Camp. We are looking forward to having heaps of beach fun together.

Grade 3/4 News
Our focus this term is ‘Identity’. We are learning about cultural identity, and what makes us all different. We will look at ethics, customs, hobbies and people who are important to us. We will also be learning how to decide what messages in media are safe to trust, how to say no when we are pressured and how to overcome challenges.

Homework Expectations
Introducing Words Their Way, a new spelling resource which means each student is working at their own level. We will be encouraging students to practice these words at home on a regular basis.

As well as Words Their Way, every student is expected to read for at least 20 minutes, at least four times per week.

Grade 1/2 News
The whole school is looking at ‘Identity’ this term. In Grade 1/2 we are learning about how people change and grow over time and how to make healthy choices.

The take home reading program will commence soon. Please make sure that your child is reading at home and that you are reading to them. An article posted online by the Huffington post in 2015, called ‘Science Proves Reading To Kids Really Does Change Their Brains’, is worth a read. The article explains how researchers have used MRIs to measure the stimulation in a child’s brain when listening to reading.

5/6 Interschool Sports—Term 1
During Term 1 the grade 5/6 students participate in the Summer Interschool Sports Program, beginning on March 10th. Each Friday morning students will depart at 9am will compete against one school within the Ringwood District.

The summer sports include cricket, basketball, t-ball, volleystars, hotshots and rounders. Students have already chosen their team sport and are in the midst of learning and practicing the skills required. Each sport will have a teacher or Educational Support Staff member accompanying them. However, if you are available to join your son or daughters team and supervise (manage our students and equipment) please contact Emily Murcott as soon as possible.

The fixture is below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Rd</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 10</td>
<td>Rd 1</td>
<td>Sacred Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 17</td>
<td>Rd 2</td>
<td>Bayswater North PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 24</td>
<td>Rd 3</td>
<td>BYE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 3</td>
<td>Rd 4</td>
<td>Wonga Park PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 10</td>
<td>Rd 5</td>
<td>Eastwood PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 17</td>
<td>Rd 6</td>
<td>CAMP—Yarra Road PS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(rescheduled to final week of term. Date TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 24</td>
<td>Rd 7</td>
<td>Holy Spirit</td>
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</table>

*The weekly draw will remain on the Compass Newsfeed of the parents of students in grades 5 & 6.

Foundation News—Term 1
In Foundation, our Term 1 program will focus on familiar Nursery Rhymes and stories. The students will learn early reading behaviours through these well-known stories. Number concepts will be introduced and studied using numbers 1—10. In our Identity unit we will be celebrating our varied cultural backgrounds as we get to know each other. We will explore emotions that people feel and why. Through exploring our different interests we will think about what job we might like to do in the future and come to school dressed up on “What do you want to be when you grow up?” day. Also, the Responsible Pet Ownership program will visit and teach us how to look after our pets and stay safe around dogs.
Italian News

Welcome to the Italian program for 2017 and a special 'Ciao' to all the Foundation students and our new students that have begun their learning journey here at Mullum. Next term we will be holding an Italian Day celebration. The event will be held on Wednesday 24th May with a cost of $10 per student. Please mark this date on your calendar and stay tuned for further news.

Italian Program Term 1

Foundation

This term Foundation students will be introduced to the Italian language and culture and will begin exploring different sounds, words, and expressions through action related talk and play. Stories, games, songs, chants, rhymes and dance will be use to rehearse vocabulary and to build their familiarity of the sounds and rhythm of the language.

The students will be learning some basic greetings and farewells, (ciao, buongiorno, arriverderci), how to introduce themselves (Mi chiamo ....) and some Italian colours. They will also be introduced to the story of Pinocchio, the much loved Italian puppet, and begin to learn some common Italian expressions and some body parts vocabulary.

Grade 1/2

In Term 1, the students will be using the Italian language to explore the five senses (I Cinque Sensi). They will be investigating how the senses provide us with information to keep us safe and allow us to enjoy the world around us. During the unit they will be learning the Italian vocabulary for the five senses and their associated body parts. They will also be learning phrases such as ‘I can see…..’ and ‘I can hear…..’ and begin to learn some adjectives that are used to describe the senses.

Grade 3/4

This term, the students in Grade 3/4 will be learning the Italian vocabulary for hobbies and pastimes. (I Passatempi) They will be practising how to express likes and dislikes and learn a range of phrases and expressions to talk about leisure time activities. They will conduct a class survey using learnt language to demonstrate their ability to use correct pronunciation and intonation when asking and answering questions. They will also be examining the common elements of Italian verbs (are, ere, ire word endings) and use this knowledge to compose a simple song with actions to perform to their class.

Grade 5/6

The students is Grade 5/6 will be learning vocabulary for parts of the body with a focus on grammar, including the masculine and feminine gender of nouns and their singular and plural forms. They will be given opportunities to investigate words and discuss the patterns they notice and general rules they can apply to the Italian language. They will be demonstrating their ability to use a bilingual dictionary to locate words and to determine their gender. Later in the term the students will be exploring Italian idioms, expressions and proverbs that contain language related to the body. They will be translating and interpreting the language and creating a bilingual poster to demonstrate their understanding of these expressions.

Angela Zerella

Music / Performing Arts—Term 1

FOUNDATION:

Students will be introduced to the Performing Arts by participating in a range of Music, Dance and Drama Activities. Students will learn songs, and build on their repertoire by singing and learning various styles of music. Students will also have the opportunity to play on xylophones and percussion instruments and learn about musical concepts such as beat, rhythm, tempo, dynamics and pitch.

GRADE 1/2’s

Students will rehearse songs and various items to present at an assembly. Students will also have the opportunity to continue to build on their musicianship and technical skills by playing on xylophones and percussion instruments, and to consolidate their knowledge about musical concepts such as beat, rhythm, tempo, dynamics and pitch.

GRADE 3/4’s

Students will continue to build on their Performing Arts and Musical skills by participating in a wide range of activities that include: playing the xylophones and percussion instruments, continue to develop their sight singing and rhythm notation skills, improvise both musically and by dance and drama.

GRADE 5/6’s

This term students will develop their playing technique on the xylophones, marimbas, and percussion instruments. They will also have the opportunity to develop their understanding of rhythmic and melodic notation by composing short pieces. Students will also be introduced to various Drama activities.
**VOCAL ENSEMBLE**
Students in Grade 3 – 6 are welcome to join our Vocal Ensemble. They will learn a variety of styles of music and also incorporate ‘Choralography’ to engage their audiences. The choir rehearse once a week and we are looking forward to presenting some new repertoire to the school and community in 2017.

**PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES**
We are looking forward to starting up a regular ‘Performance Area’ for lunchtime concerts and soirees, which will be led by our amazing Arts Captains. This space will be provided for all our budding musicians, dancers, comedians and entertainers to help develop their performance skills.

Mark Nunis

**Art News—Term 1**
Creating Portraits involves all students at Mullum Primary during Term 1. We explore new mediums including pastel, paint, pencil, texta, textiles and collage. A GIANT installation made from individual Self-Portraits will provide our school foyer with a colourful welcome to our school; a reflection of our community.

**Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund**
Holders of eligible Centerlink concession cards are encouraged to see the office as soon as possible to apply for CSEF for each child enrolled at Mullum PS. Eligible students will have $125 credit to use for school camps, sports and excursion.

Upcoming events eligible to use CSEF for are:
- 5/6 Camp
- 5/6 Interschool Sport
- 3/4 Camp Deposit
- Swimming Program Deposit

Please contact the office if you wish to use CSEF credit for this event. The cost of the event will be amended on Compass once the credit has been applied.

**STEM News**
This year Mullum will be offering STEM for all students from Foundation to Year 6. What is STEM? Well I’m glad you asked! STEM is AWESOME!

STEM combines Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths to solve problems. That ranges from building bridges and towers to testing the strength of different materials all the way to creating the best hang glider or fastest solar car.

For us at Mullum, a huge part of STEM will be the focus on Science. Each term the students will be conducting investigations into different scientific disciplines. As the year progresses we will look at:

- **Term 1: Biological Sciences**
- **Term 2: Earth & Space Sciences**
- **Term 3: Physical Sciences**
- **Term 4: Chemical Sciences**

Each year level will focus on their own scientific understandings as well as unique STEM challenges. Our focus on Biology in Term 1 means that students will be working on the following understandings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation</th>
<th>Living things live in different places.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Animals have common features.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1/2</th>
<th>Animals use body parts for particular purposes.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Animals adapt to suit their habitats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Living things have specific requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3/4</th>
<th>Living things have observable features which allow us to group them.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Living things have lifecycles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 5/6</th>
<th>Living things adapt so they can survive in different environments.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physical conditions and the environment affect the growth and survival of living things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Living things have adapted to the uniqueness of the Australian environment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent helpers are welcome and encouraged. Please contact Mrs Macaulay if you would like to help out! The STEM program will run Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and you’re welcome to come in and have a chat.

See you in the Science Lab,
Sam Younes

“Children are born scientists. They are curious about everything around them.”
Neil deGrasse Tyson
Advertisements

Aged / Disability & Home Care

SIMPLY HELPING offers a range of services that can support you in the care of a family member or friend, irrespective of age or barriers. From babysitting, after school support, physical support for a loved one, to home cleaning.

SIMPLY HELPING can assist you with:

- **Personal Care support** e.g. showering, dressing, grooming and toileting
- **Home help** e.g. vacuuming, cleaning bathrooms, laundry, ironing and changing bed linen
- **Companion/Respite care** - temporary care so family carer can take a break
- **Transportation** e.g. escort to appointments, shopping or social outings
- **After school support**
- **Gardening and Home Maintenance** e.g. mowing, pruning and minor repairs
- **Pet care**

We offer flexible, affordable services with NO waiting period or eligibility criteria. SIMPLY HELPING can support you with Aged/Disability & Home Care.

Contact Sabine on (03) 9735 5348 / 0425 709 408 or email greatereastern@simplyhelping.com.au to discuss how we can assist you.

www.simplyhelping.com.au

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**Please see our Community Noticeboard for more information about—**

- East Ringwood Jnr Football Club—registration day—12 Feb, 9.30am, Dorset Recreational Reserve.
- Croydon City Arrows Soccer Club—registration day—12 Feb, 10-12pm, Ainslie Park.
- Norwood Jnr Football Club—registration day—19 Feb, 11-2pm, Mullum Reserve.
- Spectrum Journeys Inc.—Autism workshop schedule 2017—www.spectrumjourneys.org.au
- WEP Australia—host an exchange student in July 2017—www.wep.org.au

Mullum Primary School accepts no responsibility for the quality or effectiveness of the products & services advertised in this newsletter.