

Newsletter

Maryland Public School

John T Bell Drive Maryland NSW 2287

T 4955 9430 F 4955 8945 E maryland-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au Web: www.maryland-p.schools.nsw.edu.au



Our P & C Association meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm
All parents and community members are welcome to attend
Our School Council meets the 3rd Tuesday at 6.00pm

Skills for Life

Respect

Responsibility

Excellence

Safety

Tuesday, 15 August 2017

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to Week 5

Congratulations to our student zone athletics team who represented our school last Wednesday. There were some outstanding results and most importantly, outstanding sportsmanship and behaviour from all competitors. Well done to everyone for representing MPS so proudly and respectfully and congratulations to all who will move on to the regional carnival. Thanks again to Mrs Wingrove for her organisation and planning and to Ms Daly for supervising the team.

Congratulations to our Senior Dance group and soloists who performed on Saturday at the Wallsend Winter Fair. It was lovely to hear that our students were warmly received and represented our school with pride. A huge thank you must be awarded to Mrs Groth and Mrs King for their work in preparing our students, and for giving up their time to support on the weekend. Very much appreciated.

Our school executive team (Mrs Williams, Mrs Mackay, Mr Blythe, Mrs Khay and Ms Blanch) has been working incredibly hard to prepare for our External Validation next Thursday (24/8). I would like to acknowledge their combined professionalism, incredible work ethic and expertise about our school. I thank them for the hours of research and report writing they have completed as samples of evidence were collected, discussed, annotated and analysed. We look forward to meeting with the External Validation panel to discuss our school's journey toward excellence.

In the week beginning September 11, students in Year 3 and Year 5 will be participating in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test. This is a practice run for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online as NAPLAN moves from a pen and paper test to an online format. The purpose of this is to check our school's technical capacity and NOT to report on student achievement. Attached to the newsletter today is a fact sheet for parents with further information. Alternatively, you can access additional information about NAPLAN at <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/understanding-the-curriculum/naplan/naplan-parents>

The world of social media & technology is fast becoming the centre of our children's universe. It can be a challenging task for parents to stay on top of the dangers of social media and technology, while monitoring their child's online behaviour and finding balance.

We are offering a workshop for parents to learn more about managing children's technology use, including an introduction into the most popular social media platforms and practical tips for keeping kids safe online. We will also cover information on setting boundaries around technology, online behaviour management, and tools for managing technology both in and outside of the home.

If you've ever struggled with getting your kids off their games and into bed, worried about knowing what your child is accessing online, or felt concerned that your child was spending too much time in the digital world, this workshop is for you!

Please register for this event by following the link provided. This is an important school event for all parents to attend. <http://bit.do/marylandps>

This workshop is being held in our school hall on Wednesday 20 September, 2017 from 8.50am – 9.50am. Our Stage 2 and 3 classes and staff will also be participating in workshops on this date as well.

Our P&C Meeting is on tonight (following our School Council meeting) at 7.30pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

Have a wonderful week everyone,

Mrs Van Egmond ☺

OFFICE NEWS

Thank you to the parent walkers who have distributed the 2018 Enrolment Information Postcards around the Maryland area.

SMS ABSENCES

Thank you to the parents who have been replying to the SMS Absence Notifications. **It is imperative that if you have more than one child away that you reply to each child's SMS Notification as this is an automated service.** Your explanation automatically attaches to student's absence. For further information please contact the office.

2018 Kindergarten Orientation Program

Planning is underway for the 2018 Kindergarten Orientation Program. If you have a child or know of any families who have a child turning 5 on or before 31 July 2018 please contact the school office.



<https://www.facebook.com/MarylandPublic/>

Calendar

Term 3 – Week 5

Tuesday, 15 August 2017	6.00pm School Council Meeting 7.00pm P & C Meeting
Friday, 18 August 2017	Stage 1 Swimming Program 2.00pm Whole School Assembly

Term 3 - Week 6

Monday, 21 August 2017	Teen Talk
Tuesday, 22 August 2017	Teen Talk
Friday, 25 August 2017	Stage 1 Swimming Program 2.00pm Early Stage 1 & Stage 1 Assembly

Important Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday, 29 August 2017	K - 2 Responsible Pet Education Talk
Wednesday, 30 August 2017	Book Fair in the Library Year 6 Taster Lessons @ CCWC
Thursday, 31 August 2017	Fathers' Day Stall Book Fair in the Library 5.00pm – 6.00pm Kinder 2018 Parent Information Session
Friday, 1 September 2017	Stage 3 Canberra Final Payment Due Stage 1 Swimming Program 2.00pm Stage 2 & Stage 3 Assembly
Wednesday, 6 September 2017	Maryland Meander (Art Show)
Thursday, 7 September 2017	Performing Arts Matinee & Evening Performance
Friday, 8 September 2017	Stage 1 Swimming Program 25 th Birthday Assembly Colour Run & Obstacle Course Fun Day
Friday, 15 September 2017	Sport & Group Photos Stage 1 Swimming Program 2.00pm Stage 2 & Stage 3 Assembly
Tuesday, 19 September 2017	9.30am – 10.30am Kinder 2018 Orientation Session
Friday, 22 September 2017	2.00pm Whole School Assembly Last day of Term 3

Term 4

Monday, 9 October 2017	Staff & Students resume for Term 4
Tuesday, 17 October 2017	9.30am – 10.15am Kinder 2018 Orientation Session
Wednesday, 15 November 2017	9.30am – 10.15am Kinder 2018 Orientation Session
Wednesday, 29 November 2017	9.30am – 10.15am Kinder 2018 Orientation Session

EARLY STAGE 1 NEWS

Students enjoyed the Water Safety talks provided yesterday by Newcastle City Council. This free service provides great resources and delivers valuable information to students about being safe around water, by qualified lifeguards. Students engaged in watching short film clips and role play, and had the opportunity to ask questions at the end of the session. ES1 students will be participating in follow up work in their classroom as part of our work on 'Safe Living'.

It is wonderful to see so many of our students participating so enthusiastically in the home reading program. Keep revising sight words and letters, writing also at every opportunity. Building up a bank of known words that students can read and write assists students to become more independent in reading and writing tasks.

Mrs Williams (ES1 Leader)

RESPONSIBLE PET EDUCATION

Students in K-2 will participate in a Responsible Pet Education session, to be held at school on Tuesday 29th August. There is no charge for this session. The program aims to help teach students how to be safe around dogs and includes listening, role play and singing activities. A pet educator will bring along a suitability tested dog which students may even meet during the visit.

If your child is particularly nervous around dogs or has an allergy to pet hair etc, please let your child's teacher know.

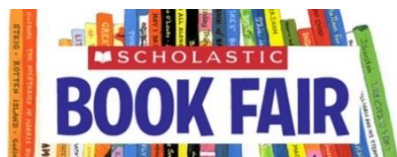
Mrs Williams (ES1 Leader)

SPORT NEWS

Zone Athletics Carnival - Well done to those students who competed at the Zone Athletics Carnival last Wednesday. Thank you to the students who competed and Ms Daly for supervising the team. The ribbons for the school Athletics Carnival will be awarded at the whole school assembly this Friday. Congratulations to the following students who will compete at the Hunter carnival on Friday, 1 September.

Kahlee D - Discus, Shot Put
Lastesha W - 100m, Discus
Taj L - High Jump
Prian S - Discus
Tyler F - Shot Put
Kane C - 100m
Jyson D - 100m
Zac D - 100m
Kye J - 100m, Long Jump.

Mrs Wingrove (Sports Coordinator)



To celebrate Book Week 2017, a Book Fair will be held on **Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st of August in the Library.**

The Library will be open to purchase books from 8.30am in the morning, during recess and 2nd half of lunch on these days.

Students will be given a 'wish list' to fill out during Library time and parents/caregivers may wish to send money in an envelope with the student's wish list.



WOW! So many MPS students have already finished the Premier's Reading Challenge! Check out the long list of names this week...



Dhiya A, Ellis A, Mujahed A, Tyson A, Chase B, Lila B, Tyson B, Will B, Ivy C, Ella C, Cleo C, Dustin C, Lyla C, Brody C, Tahlayah D, Shae D, Rose F, Makenzie G, Jasper G, Tai G-W, Charlie H, Coby H, Jasper H, Grace J, Daisy J, Axel J, Nicholas J, Khloe K, Emelyn K, Nithin K, Isaiah L, Fiona L, Tyson L, Flynn Mc, Mikayla Mc, Evie Mc, Jonathan Mc, Chloe M, Callum M, Shijin N, Anh N, Skylah N, Penelope O, Memphis O, Eli P, Jordan Q, Reagan R, Archie S, Keeley S, Harivansh S, Darcy S, Kisira S, Savana T, Briella W and Gloria X.



Moustafa A, Brodie B, Lauren B, Keira B, Bailey B, Matthew C, Brodie C, Roy C, Sophira F-M, Matilda I, Joseph M, Angela Mc, Samuel Mc, Holly W, Harrison B, Makayla D, Shianne F, Marley G, Bella J, Bianca M, Aiden Mc, Keely Mc, Taj Mc, Hera N, Jennifer N, Cooper P, Archie S and Andrea T.



Yarah A, Lucia C, Noah D, Ethan K, Sean K, Ele M, Jade M, Luke M, Kye M, Bodhi R and Noah P.

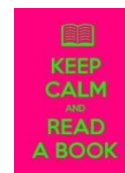
Congratulations to those students!

The Premier's Reading Challenge will close on 25 August, So keep on borrowing from the Library!

Also, don't forget to come in and check out the on display NOW.



Mrs Gleeson (Teacher/Librarian)



CHOIR NEWS

On Sunday, 13 August, the choir performed at the Wallsend Winter Fair. They sang beautifully as usual and were excellent representatives for our school. Thank you to all the family members and friends who came along to support our choir on the day.

Just a reminder, that all choir shirts need to be returned directly to Mrs King or Mrs Brooks and must be put in plastic bag with your child's name on it.

Our next performance will be at this week's Whole School Assembly. It was previously mentioned that choir uniforms would be worn on this occasion, but **students will be performing in their full school uniform instead.**

The choir will be performing at our Performance Matinee and Evening on Thursday, 7 September, where members will be required to perform in our **choir uniform**. Shirts will be distributed at the morning choir rehearsal on the day.

Another upcoming performance will be at our school's 25th Birthday Assembly on Friday, 8 September. Students will be performing in **full school uniform**.

Such a busy schedule for our choir, but it will be lots of fun!

Mrs Rasha King and Mrs Karlie Brooks
(Choir Coordinators)

PEER SUPPORT NEWS

This week's Peer Support session focuses on positive self talk. Children need to practise talking positively to themselves. Your child will also learn to persevere, which will encourage them to keep trying in challenging situations. During the week encourage your child to use positive self talk.



Kiara and Bede leading a Peer Support Session.



Riley leading a group of students.



Cadence and Tyler leading a Peer Support Session.



Kye leading a Peer Support activity.

NEWS FROM THE P&C

FATHERS DAY STALL

The annual Father's Day stall will be held on Thursday 31st August this year. We are in need of gifts to sell. Donations of items such as coffee mugs, chocolates, beverage holders, key rings, bottle openers, body wash or socks are appreciated. We would be most thankful if



you could drop them at the office for the committee to collect, wrap, and have ready for sale on the day! A wrapping night will be held on Thursday 24th of August. **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS** to assist with the preparation of gifts. Please contact us via PM on the Committee Facebook page or leave your name with the office if you're available to help out.

COLOUR RUN

The Colour Run and Obstacle Course Fun Day is less than 4 WEEKS AWAY. Hopefully your fundraising is going well. A reminder there are two options available for the collection of sponsorships funds; your child can collect cash sponsorships or you can go to the Everyday Hero website and create a profile for your child. There are various benefits to setting up an Everyday Hero profile for your child; you can share the link on Social Media for maximum exposure; family and friends who don't live close by can simply jump online to sponsor your child; you don't have the added responsibility of cash sponsorships to collect and, in case that's not enough of an incentive to set-up an online profile, **all online profiles automatically go into the draw to win a \$30,000 Ultimate Webjet Family Experience!!** Simply go to <https://give.everydayhero.com/au/get-started>, you will be asked who your Charity is, this is where you enter the words, Maryland Public School.



WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN

Our collection of Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers is mounting. Stickers can be placed in the drop-point boxes located at Woolworths Jesmond and Warabrook, or we have a drop-box in the School Office foyer. Be sure to tell your friends and family that you're collecting the stickers. The more we collect the bigger the rewards for our school.



ELECTION DAY BBQ & CAKE STALL

Saturday 9th September is Local Council Election Day; we will be hosting a BBQ & Cake stall. Donations of yummy treats and volunteers to run the stall are needed for this day to be a success. If you're able to donate an hour of your time on the day or able to create some tasty treats such as cupcakes or slices, please contact us via PM on the Committee Facebook page or register your interest with the School Office. We'd LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.



Make sure you follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with what's happening. Search 'maryland public school p&c association'.



Alissa Jamieson (MPS P&C President)

CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen Roster Term 3

Week 5

Wednesday	16 August	Miyako, Lesley, Robyn
Thursday	17 August	Susan B, Helen
Friday	18 August	Jamie, Bec S, Amanda S

Week 6

Monday	21 August	Carmen, Cath
Tuesday	22 August	Carmen, Sheree
Wednesday	23 August	Miyako, Lesley, Robyn
Thursday	24 August	Janelle, Lesley, Helen
Friday	25 August	Jamie, Deanna, Nathan, Cassandra

Week 7

Monday	28 August	Carmen, Cath
Tuesday	29 August	Carmen, Sarah J.
Wednesday	30 August	Miyako, Lesley, Robyn
Thursday	31 August	Katie O, Jessica
Friday	1 September	Jamie, Alicia G, Sheree, Cassandra

PRELOVED UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Opening Hours

- Tuesday Mornings 8.30am until 9.00am
- Thursday Afternoons 2.45pm until 3.15pm

Cyndi and Carmen 😊😊

NEW UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Opening Hours

- Tuesday 8.30am - 9.30am
- Thursday 2.30pm - 3.30pm

OOSH NEWS

2018 Enrolments for care at Maryland OOSH will open to **current families** on Monday 28th August 2017. If you are wishing to re-enrol your child/children, please ensure you do so quickly so not to miss out on any spots you will require. 2018 enrolments will then open up to **new families** on Monday 4th September 2017. If you have

any questions, please feel free to contact Sara on 49556273."

Sara Tillman (Co Ordinator)

WATER SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM ES1 & S1



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to help fussy eaters.

Fussy eating is very common and often very stressful for the whole family. While there is no magic solution, perseverance, involvement, presentation and disguise are four effective strategies that can help address this behaviour.



Other tips include:

- Offer new foods at times when children are hungry.
- Encourage kids to try new foods but do not force them to eat. "Parents provide, children decide" is a good rule of thumb to use.
- Let kids help out with food preparation.
- Be a good role model.
- Praise your child for trying new foods: sometimes kids refuse foods to get attention.
- Add "hidden" vegies to recipes such as spaghetti bolognaise, soups, casseroles and home-made burgers.
- Cook vegies lightly and use a variety of types so they have different flavours and colours.
- It will take several attempts (10 – 15 times) so do not give up after the first time.

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

Eat It To Beat It

Good for Kids good for life

ACTIVE TRAVEL

Active travel is a great way to get some extra physical activity in your day. Why not try these ideas on your way to and from school:

- Park a greater distance from school than usual and increase your step count!
- Instead of using the bus stop closest to your house, leave home a bit earlier and walk to the next bus stop
- For older children: if your school has bike racks available, why not ride your bike or scooter to and from school?



You can also include active travel in your weekend plans to ensure you're active every day!



PHONE 4924 6499



Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- laptops & tablets
- lessons & activities
- uniforms & shoes
- books & supplies
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- camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.



Contact
Cynthia Culhane
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator

Phone
02 4032 4703
1300 610 355

Email
cynthia.culhane@
thesmithfamily.com.au

Web
www.saverplus.org.au



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child's individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers to tailor their teaching more specifically to address students' learning needs.

Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for 'tailored testing', where the test adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging*, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.

* Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.

NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 14 August and 22 September 2017.

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/online-assessment.html>



Frequently asked questions

Which students will participate in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate.

How should I prepare my child for the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability.

How long is the school readiness test?

The school readiness test is expected to include two assessments: a writing assessment* and a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. The duration of each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

** Year 3 students will only be expected to complete the combined numeracy/literacy assessment.*

When will my school participate in the readiness test?

One week within the test period in August and September will be identified for each school to conduct readiness testing.

How will students be prevented from using the internet or spellcheckers when completing the test?

The NAPLAN Online assessment platform will have state-of-the-art security protections. The assessment is delivered inside a locked-down browser. This ensures students cannot access the internet or spellcheckers while completing the test.

Will schools and parents be provided with information on the results of the readiness test?

There will be feedback to schools about the technical information gained from the readiness testing. There will be no reporting of student test results from the readiness test.

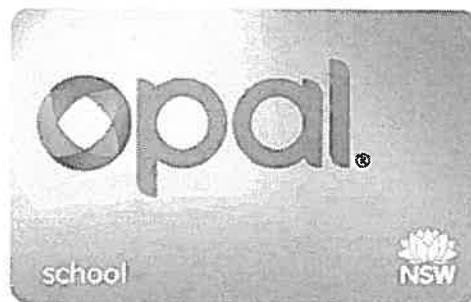


Fact sheet: School Opal card

The School Opal card provides free travel to school aged students between home and school on weekdays under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) across the Opal public transport network.

School Opal card can be used:

- On approved travel on school days between the student's home and school, and
- For travel between 06:30 and 19:00 weekdays (21:30 for TAFE school students).



Who is eligible?

To be eligible a student must be a resident of NSW plus:

- Infant student (K-2) older than 4 years and 6 months who lives any distance between home and school; or
- Primary student (Years 3-6) who lives more than 1.6km (straight line) from school, or 2.3km or more by the most direct practical walking route; or
- **Secondary student (Year 7-12) who lives more than 2km (straight line) from school, or 2.9km or more by the most direct practical walking route; or**
- TAFE student under 18 years of age at 1 January of the year of application and enrolled in a full-time TAFE course for a minimum of 20 hours a week, and is not employed, lives more than 3.2km from the college by the most direct practical walking route, and attends the college closest to their home where enrolment is available.

School Opal Cards enable a student to travel on:

- Mode(s) of transport most applicable for the student's travel requirements; train or bus or both. For bus travel, cards are restricted to individual or a combination of bus operators. For approved ferries; and
- School days only.
- For travel outside school hours or days a Child/Youth Opal card is available and provides concession fares and other Opal benefits

How to apply:

Applications for 2018 open at the start of Term 4 this year.

- Step 1** Complete the online application at transportnsw.info/school-students
- Step 2** The school endorses your application
- Step 3** Once Transport for NSW has approved the application, a School Opal card will be sent to the address provided on the application.



Variety Kids Xmas Party 2017

Newcastle

Join us for the first Newcastle Variety Kids Christmas Party, a special event full of fun and entertainment for kids who have a disability, chronic illness or who are experiencing financial hardship.

There will be on stage entertainment, games, rides and even some special guests all the way from the North Pole! See the details below:

Wednesday 15th November

4pm – 9pm

McDonald Jones Stadium; Turton Road Broadmeadow

Cost: FREE!

Parents, guardians and siblings also welcome

Register your interest now via:

<https://www.variety.org.au/nsw/events/>



For any questions, please contact us on 02 4965 4911
We hope to see you there!