**MISSION STATEMENT**

A motivated learning community that takes pride in its resilience and achievement of personal excellence.

**From the Principal's Desk**

**Dear Maida Vale families,**

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our families for the 2016 school year. A special welcome to our new students and their families on joining us at Maida Vale Primary School.

Congratulations and welcome to the following staff who are new to the school this year.

Welcome to:

- Mrs Irma McCullen – The Arts: Drama
- Ms Sophie Kaden – The Arts: Visual Arts
- Mrs Victoria Bethune – Pre-primary 1 (Wednesdays)
- Mrs Katrina Merrells – Kindergarten Group 2 (Wednesday – Friday)

**Changes and Improvements**

Late 2015 a number of staff and School Board members participated in a School Self Review. The full outcome of this process has been posted on our webpage for community review however in a nutshell it outlines a number of areas that the school could improve upon. We have started 2016 implementing several of these already with more to come as the year progresses. What you should have noticed and will see over the coming months include:

- Changes to the Introductory Kindergarten and Pre-primary meeting structure (held mid-Term 4) to include visits to the actual classroom where children will be attending.
- Year 1 parent meeting held in Term 4 to support parents on entry into the Year 1 structure and expectations.
- Same day parent-teacher meetings with multiple opportunities for parents to attend up to three sessions.
- Letters to parents of children identified as 'Target' children in relation to academic performance.
- Newsletter home in week one. In 2017 this will go home on Day 1 outlining various school/Phase of Development practices.
- Provision for parents to measure their child’s performance against National, State and School benchmarks in English and Mathematics.
- Employment of the School Psychologist for an additional day a week to support students, as determined through Student Services processes.
- Communication letter home each term outlining key activities and focus areas within each Phase of Learning (K – 2) (3 – 6).
- Structure process for staff to ‘share best practice’ across the school.
- Improvement in what is provided through the school’s Annual Report to the community.
- Development of a ‘locally relevant curriculum’ through consultation with the School Board.
- Introduction of year level homogenous groups for learning in key curriculum/program areas.

**Dates for your Term Planner**

12th February, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>15.02.16</td>
<td>16.02.16</td>
<td>17.02.15</td>
<td>18.02.16</td>
<td>19.02.16</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6.30-8.00pm – all welcome</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Meetings 3.10-4.20pm</td>
<td>Uniform shop 2.30-3.15pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>School banking</td>
<td>New accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>22.02.16</td>
<td>23.02.16</td>
<td>24.02.16</td>
<td>25.02.16</td>
<td>26.02.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uniform shop 2.30-3.15pm</td>
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<td>Assembly Rm 15</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Movie Night</td>
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Quite a list, however, we are underway with several of these points already. We require feedback from the school community to ensure we are meeting your needs. Naturally not all suggested ideas get legs, however, they can often generate a new line of thinking which can result in improvement. Please speak directly to me or via email/letter with any feedback you may like to share.

Student Leaders
The people have spoken and it is with great pleasure I announce the following Year 6 students as Student leaders for Semester 1. All students will have another opportunity to ‘run for office’ again in Semester 2.

Student Councillors
Kayla Hawkins
Jaycee Powell
Estelle Hudson

Sports Captains
Mead Emus – Drew Tolliday and Reagan Small
O’Connor Dingoes – George Tuitavake and Jordan Brokas
Stirk Snakes – Ryan Bezemter and Talesha Lockyer

Year 6 Camp 2017
In 2015 the school broached the idea of Year 6 students to attend a school camp to Canberra, in partnership with two other schools within our network; Falls Road and Lesmurdie Primary Schools. Following the information session and feedback provided by parents the School Board agreed to the idea as long as there was 12-15 month lead-in time. At this stage such a camp would be scheduled for October 2017. Over the coming weeks the school will engage with the organising company to develop a clear information package to present to parents of our current Year 5 students. In addition we will try to engage with the Principal of Falls Road Primary to speak with parents about their experiences over the last 3-4 years.

Class Meetings
All families should have received a letter this week outlining the new format for ‘parent/teacher meeting’. These will be held from 3:10pm Wednesday 17 February with two other meetings available to maximise parents opportunities to attend meetings if you have more than one child. Contact the school if you have mislaid your letter and need any clarification on this event.

On Entry Testing for PrePrimary
From week 3 to week 6 this term, students in Pre Primary will be involved in the Department of Education On-Entry Test

What is the purpose of the program?
The main purpose of the On-entry assessment program is to provide information to assist teachers in developing informed and intentional teaching programs, in conjunction with information provided by Kindergarten teachers or carers of children before compulsory schooling. Conducting this assessment early in the year will ensure that your child’s teacher has a sound knowledge of the current skills and understandings of each child early to assist in the planning and development of targeted learning programs that address the needs of each individual – those that may require early intervention, consolidation or extension. This approach is supported by national and international research into the early identification of students’ literacy and numeracy skills.

The program assesses… Literacy and numeracy skills critical to early and ongoing educational development are assessed.

When does the program take place?
Literacy and Numeracy Module 1 will be conducted in Weeks 3 – 6 of Term 1.

How are results provided?
The online program provides to the teacher and the principal a selection of individual, class and group reports immediately on completion of assessments to ensure that programs are targeted to current needs. Parents receive a report once the process is completed which are carried out centrally.

Attendance Notification
Attending school every day is an important part of a child’s education and is compulsory for all children, including Kindergarten children once enrolled at school. There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s important that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick. It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided. Should this occur correspondence with the Principal is strongly encouraged but please be mindful that breaks during school terms will not be supported with teachers providing work.

Please provide an explanation for all absences in writing either directly to the teacher or through the link on the school’s webpage.

Out of School Tutoring
For those families who use out of school tutoring please note that the classroom teachers will happily support your child’s additional learning and correspond with the tutor, however, this correspondence needs to be initiated in the first instance by the tutor who you pay and regular communication will occur from that point. Clearly if parents are paying for this out of school service regular follow-up with the class teacher is your responsibility and will not be initiated by the class teacher.

Darren Greaves
Principal

Please report any suspicious activities in school premises — School Watch 9264 4771
CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with Honour Certificates at the school assembly on Friday 12th February 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Primary 1</td>
<td>Daria L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Primary 2</td>
<td>Charlotte F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 1</td>
<td>Chloe S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>Tiana W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 3</td>
<td>Joy C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 4</td>
<td>Dylan P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 5</td>
<td>Ethan W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 6</td>
<td>Indi’ana G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 12</td>
<td>Hunter A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 13</td>
<td>Hayden K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 14</td>
<td>Brigitte K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 15</td>
<td>Talesha L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education Junior</td>
<td>Samantha-Kaye M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education Senior</td>
<td>Liam M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Junior</td>
<td>Dezley S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Senior</td>
<td>Siddartha N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts Junior</td>
<td>Samuel J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts Senior</td>
<td>Lucas Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drama Junior</td>
<td>Deegan W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drama Senior</td>
<td>Chinah S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Christopher J</td>
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</tbody>
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STUDENT UPDATE FORM

Today each student in Pre Primary to Year 6 will come home with a Student Update Form. Please make sure you check the information and make any corrections or additions as necessary. All forms, whether corrections are made or not, should be returned to the front office by Wednesday 17th February. This information is important as it allows us to contact you or the appropriate people in case of an emergency. If this information is not updated we can only rely on the information we have. Should there be any changes to your address, contact, medical or access restriction details throughout the year please advise the school as soon as possible.

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking is every Friday morning before the start of school. This week it will be in the undercover area.


CANTOEN

Open every Wednesday – our canteen menu will come out with the P&C newsletter every fortnight, it can also be found on the website. Keep your eye out for this.

Canteen bags can be collected from the admin office.

UNIFORM SHOP

Open every Wednesday between 2.30-3.15pm

Please report any suspicious activities in school premises — School Watch 9264 4771
Physical Education and Sport Update

West Coast Eagles Visit

As part of their annual Community Camps, the West Coast Eagles this year visited metropolitan schools as well as a regional centre. Maida Vale Primary School was one of 32 metropolitan schools selected to receive a visit. Our students and staff were excited to play host this week to ruckman Scott Lycett, defender Xavier Ellis, midfielder Kane Lucas and midfield coach Brady Rawlings.

Our visitors shared tips on the commitment it takes to become an elite athlete, including their training and nutrition routines. They were most generous with their time and allowed many autographs to be signed for eager fans. We thank the West Coast Eagles for coming to Maida Vale Primary School.

Injury or illness in Physical Education and Sport

If your child cannot participate in PE or Sport lessons for a particular reason, please write a note for them, explaining the nature of the injury or illness. This note should then be forwarded to the Physical Education Teacher by the student at the commencement of the PE lesson. Rather than provide a total exemption from the lesson for your child, it is often more appropriate that the child “be allowed to participate where able to” in the lesson.

Not all lessons are ‘rough and tumble’ where re-injuring may occur. Often lessons involve co-operative activities at controlled speed of movement or even in stationary positions. It is even possible for students to work away from the class group independently where practice and learning can still occur.

There are obvious cases where a student will not be allowed to be involved even if the child believes it is ok. These instances are judged individually in line with duty of care considerations. Keeping our children active and fit are goals not just for now, but for them as adults too.

Hot Weather Policy

With the very hot weather we have experienced this week, it is timely to mention that no Physical Education lessons are taught out in the sun when the expected maximum temperature is over 35 degrees. Lessons this week have been held in the Undercover Area and vacant classrooms around the school and the program modified to suit. Students are expected to bring water bottles with them to PE lessons at all times, but especially in Term 1 and 4.

Mr Craig Stein
Physical Education Teacher
Dear Students and Parents

Maida Vale Primary School is the first government primary school we know of that offers students Drama, Music and Visual Arts programs as an integral part of the school curriculum. All of us are excited about the growth opportunities that will be offered to our students in what has now become a broad and comprehensive Arts environment. As Specialists we look forward to the collaborative projects that will arise throughout the year and to watching our students’ personal growth and creativity grow through their contact with Arts education. We will be sharing our journey with the students throughout the year by ensuring all parent Newsletters have some news, photos or anecdotes from at least one area from our Arts Department. We look forward to meeting with you throughout the year and will be seeking a variety of platforms to share the results of your children’s creative endeavours.

Miss Sophie Kaden - Visual Arts Specialist
Mrs Irma McCullen - Drama Specialist
Mr Deric Martin - Music Specialist

Visual Arts
As a new specialist Visual Art Teacher to the school, I am really excited about the year ahead! I am passionate about sharing my enthusiasm and knowledge with all the students at Maida Vale Primary School. Throughout the year I aim to expose students to a variety of art mediums and skills, such as painting, printmaking, drawing, mixed media, sculpture and ceramics. I encourage my students to take risks, try new things and be confident in their creative approach. Throughout the year we will all have the opportunity to celebrate students work through school displays, exhibitions and community arts events. I am looking forward to contributing to making ‘The Arts’ an exciting part of the school community and getting to know all student’s and their families throughout the year.

Sophie Kaden - Visual Arts Specialist

Drama
What a great start to drama at MVPS! Kids are coming to class enthusiastic and ready to jump into activities, giving everything a go. My goal this term is to create an environment where students feel comfortable getting up and performing. We’ll do this through mime, improvisation and poetry performance. I can already see loads of talent and creativity! Now, to nurture it....

Mrs Irma McCullen - Drama Specialist

Music
This is my tenth year as Music Specialist at Maida Vale PS and never in that time have I felt such optimism for Music and the Arts in our school. We will continue our focus of singing across all years and embedding the culture of song into our school. The Music Room now has the addition of thirty beautiful bright yellow ukuleles that have been purchased for us by the school P and C. These are being are being integrated into the schools Music Program and have already proved to be a hit with the students who have used them. This year’s Senior Choir will consist of students from Year’s Three to Six and we will also have a Junior Choir which will initially commence with just the Year Twos but will be joined by the Year Ones later in the year. It will be a fun year in Music at Maida Vale PS.

Mr Deric Martin - Music Specialist