

MEADOW HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



2 February 2024

Week 1



Principal, Margaret Leach

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Victoria and pay respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.



Dear Parents and Carers

WELCOME BACK

It was lovely to see our students returning after the holiday break. Our new preps are a joy. Later this term you will be invited to meet your child's teacher. Invitations will be sent in the next few weeks.



COMPASS

Communication will occur through COMPASS. Please check notifications and emails for upcoming events. You can also find the school newsletter on the webpage.

2024 STAFF & Acting Principals

Meadow Heights Primary School community welcome back Zeina Shipperlee for the 2024 school year. I will be on leave for term 1 2024. Mrs Sharon Peluso and Mrs Amy Backas will be Acting Principals during my absence this term and Mrs Stacey White will take on the role of Acting Assistant Principal. Feel free to contact them.

COVID INFECTION

There is at present an increase in community transmission of COVID-19 in Victoria. You can help us keep our school as safe as possible by taking 2 important steps:

1. Ensure your COVID-19 vaccinations are up to date. Information on how and where to get vaccinated is available on the Get vaccinated webpage.
2. If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19, please ensure they stay home and get tested. The easiest way to test is to use a rapid antigen test (RAT).

Free RATs are available from your local council where you can collect 2 packs of 5 RATs and an extra 2 packs for each person in your household. People with disability and their carers can get 4 packs of 5 RATs. You are not required to have a Medicare card and you can collect RATs as many times as you need. You can also buy RATs at supermarkets, pharmacies and other retailers. If your child has symptoms but tests negative, please ensure they stay home until they no longer have symptoms. If the RAT test result is positive, please ensure they stay home for at least 5 days and until there are no more symptoms.



IN THIS ISSUE:

Principal's Letter

Important Dates

Wellbeing News

Library News

SunSmart Notice

Attendance Notice

School Nomination Forms for School Council

School Canteen Price List

School App – Compass Login Details

Thank you for your support – these steps will help us all stay well.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. MHPS school council has parent, community and staff representatives. Elections will be held this term and if you would like to nominate please ask our office staff for a nomination form. Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. School council members can directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

If you would be interested in becoming a School Councillor please collect a nomination form at the office. School Council meets eight times in a year on the second Tuesday of the month.

We have an exciting year ahead.

Regards

Mrs LEACH
School Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
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WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL TO ALL STUDENTS

FEBRUARY 2024

Friday	2 nd	Assembly – Senior School Grades 3 to 6
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Monday to Friday 5 th to 9 th	PREPS 8.50am to 1pm School times
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Friday	9 th	Assembly – Junior School Grades 1 to 2
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Monday to Friday 12 th to 16 th	PREPS 8.50am to 2.30pm School times
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Monday	19 th	PREPS 8.50am to 3.20pm full time
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MARCH 2024

Monday	11 th	LABOUR DAY – NO SCHOOL
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Thursday	28 th	2.30pm pick up - Last Day of Term I
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APRIL 2024

Monday	15 th	8.50am School restarts Term II
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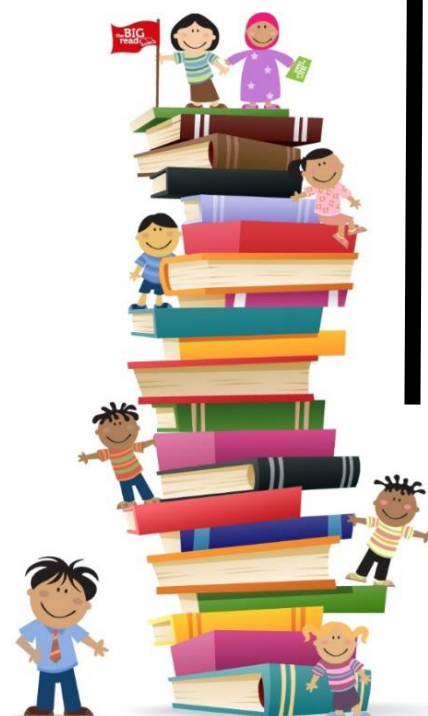
HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR DETAILS?

Please immediately notify the School Office of any changes to your address or contact details. Please update your email address for COMPASS information.

Office Hours

Monday—Friday
8:30am to 4:00pm

The office is CLOSED during all school holiday periods





[Some Tips from the MHPS Wellbeing Team](#)

Meadow Heights Primary School is a School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) school. We ask students to follow the school's values by being PROUD, RESPECTFUL, EXCELLENT and RESPONSIBLE.



Wellbeing News

Expected behaviours relate to each value and are outlined in our matrix. **Weekly awards** will be presented to students who show these values at school. You will be notified via COMPASS if your child receives an award.

Be Respectful by....

- Treating others the way you want to be treated

Be Active!



Regular physical activity is good for mental health and wellness! So why not...

- Join online exercise classes
- Dance
- Play sports
- Take the stairs
- Work standing up

Wellbeing News

Our Wellbeing team is here to help if you need us. Just call the school and ask to speak to Sharon Peluso, Jan Jones, Andrea Watson, Ivan Bromilow or Salwa Salem at the HUB.



LIBRARY NEWS

Library starts this week, please make sure you have your Library bags so that you can borrow!

LIBRARY

Parents/Caregivers, here is the Library timetable for your children to assist you in ensuring that they return their Library books on time each week!

2024 LIBRARY TIMETABLE for Term 1

PREPs A and B	Monday
PREP C	Wednesday
1A Ms Marks	Wednesday
1B Ms O'Connell	Monday
1C Ms PENNINI	Wednesday
2A Ms Pirro	Tuesday
2B Ms Isdar	Tuesday
2C Mr LaMattina	Wednesday
34A Mr Torchia	Thursday
34B Mrs Bell	Thursday
34C Mrs Durna	TBC
34D Ms Delaney	Tuesday
56A Ms Caruso	Monday
56B Mr Pace	Tuesday
56C Mr Knox	Tuesday
56D Ms Lang	Monday



With higher UV levels from September onwards it is important to use a combination of sun-protection measures to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

From **TERM IV** when outdoors at MHPS, it is **COMPULSORY** that staff and students wear appropriate clothing that covers as much skin as possible and a legionnaire cap to protect the head, face, neck and ears. Staff and students should also apply SPF 30+ broad spectrum sunscreen, use shade whenever possible and if practical, sunglasses should also be worn.

Students without appropriate hats must sit in the shade in the main courtyard during their breaks.
NO HAT! NO PLAY! NO SUN!

MHPS appreciates your support in our efforts to encourage your child about the importance of being SunSmart. MHPS legionnaire **caps can be purchased at the school office for \$8 via eftpos (no cash).**





EVERY DAY COUNTS

ATTENDANCE AND SAME-DAY NOTIFICATION OF UNEXPLAINED STUDENT ABSENCES

Overview

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, they learn new things every day – missing school puts them behind.

The [School Attendance Guidelines](#) specify that from the end of Term 2 2018, government schools must contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the day of an unexplained student absence.

Protecting the safety and well-being of children through the reporting and monitoring of absenteeism is the responsibility of both parents/carers and schools. Parents/carers have an obligation to notify the school of their child's absence and schools are required to notify parents/carers on the day of an unexplained student absence.

1. Contact details

*There are times when we will need to contact you, including on the day if your child is absent and you haven't informed the school as to why. Do we have your most up to date contact details? If not, please contact the school on **9305 2033** so we can update our records. Please include parent/carers' name, address, phone numbers, email address and emergency contact details. Please remember to contact the school if any of these details or your circumstances change.*

2. Notify the school of your child's absence

Protecting the safety and well-being of children through the reporting and monitoring of absenteeism is the responsibility of both parents/carers and schools.

*Please remember to call the school on **9305 2033** or or log your child's absence using **Compass** early in the morning if your child is going to be away or late for school so your child's absence can be recorded correctly.*

3. Same-day notification of unexplained student absences

*Our school will SMS you as soon as practicable on the day if a student is not at school and you haven't notified the school as to why. If you are notified by the school that your child is away without a reason, please contact us as soon as possible by calling on **9305 2033** to let us know where your child is. If we cannot reach you because we don't have your correct contact details (i.e. message notification fail, disconnected number), then we may make contact with any emergency contact/s nominated on your child's file held by the school, where possible, on the same day of the unexplained absence.*

Please remember it is your responsibility to contact us to provide an explanation for your child's absence from school, and where possible, please inform us in advance of upcoming absences.

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the school council.

Name		
Residential Address:		
Contact phone (mobile or landline):		
Email:		
I am the parent/guardian of		
who is/are currently enrolled at this school.		
Statement	Yes (Mark with an x)	No (Mark with an x)
I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training		
I am an employee of the school council		
I am engaged in work at and for the school.		

I am prepared to serve as a parent member of the above-named school council.

I hereby declare that:

- I am not, and have never been, insolvent under administration
- I am of sound mind
- I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.
- I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council.

Signature of Candidate

Date:	
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You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender (optional), term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on:

*If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.
If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.*

FORM 5: SELF-NOMINATION FORM FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEE MEMBER CATEGORY

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a school employee member on the
(school name below)

school council

Candidate's details

Name

Residential Address:

Contact phone (mobile or landline):

Email:

Statement	Yes (Mark with an x)	No (Mark with an x)
I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training		
I am an employee of the school council		
I am engaged in work at and for the school.		

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a school employee member of the above-named school council.

I hereby declare that:

- I am not, and have never been, insolvent under administration
- I am of sound mind
- I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.
- I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council.

Signature of Candidate

Date

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender (optional), term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on:

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.
If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.

Form 2: notice of election and call for nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of (school name below)
MEADOW HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on (insert day, month and year).
Wednesday the 21 st of February
The ballot will close at 4.00pm on (insert day, month and year).
Tuesday the 5 th of March

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.


The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

Membership category	
Parent member	
Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	24
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	26
Number of positions:	3

Membership category	
School employee member	
Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	24
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	26
Number of positions:	1

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Principal signature


MEADOW HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL CANTEEN MENU

Term 1 - 2024

Please make sure all lunch bags are clearly marked with **CHILD'S NAME**
and **ROOM NUMBER** and placed in the **CLASSROOM BASKET**.

	<u>S/Wich*</u>	<u>Roll*</u>	<u>Hot Foods</u>	
Vegemite or Nutella	\$2.00	\$3.00	Big beef pie (H)	\$5.00
Cheese	\$2.00	\$3.00	Party beef pie	\$1.20
Cheese & tomato	\$2.50	\$3.50	Sausage roll	\$4.50
Ham, cheese & tomato	\$3.00	\$4.00	Potato cakes (H)	\$1.00
Tuna	\$3.00	\$4.00	Hot dog (H)	\$3.50
Salad	\$3.50	\$4.50	Fish	\$3.00
Salad & cheese	\$4.00	\$5.00	Fish in a roll (lett,mayo)	\$4.00
Chicken	\$4.00	\$4.50	Chicken nuggets (H)	\$1.00
Egg & lettuce	\$3.00	\$4.00	Dim Sims Steamed (H)	\$1.00
			Pizza (margarita) (H)	\$4.50
			Noodles Chicken (H)	\$2.50
			Chicken burger (chs,let,mayo) (H)	\$5.50
			Lasagna (H)	\$5.00
			Macaroni Cheese (H)	\$5.00
			Sweet Chilli Tenders (H)	\$2.00
			Sweet Chilli Tender Roll	
			(lett,tomato,mayo) (H)	\$5.50

Extras = 50c

Salad = Carrot,cucumber,beetroot,tomato,lettuce

TREATS

Popcorn	\$2.00
Red rock chips	\$2.00
Mamee noodles	\$1.00
Delites crackers	\$1.00
Corntos	\$1.00
Le snack	\$1.00
Assorted Bars	\$1.00

Jelly	\$1.00
Season fruit	\$1.00*

SAUCE SACHETS 0.20 c

LUNCH BAGS 0.10 c

DRINKS

Water	\$3.00
Flavoured Milk (choc,strawberry)	\$3.00
Juice (apple, orange)	\$2.50
Mineral Water flavoured	\$3.00
Up n Go	\$3.00

FROZEN TREATS

Over the counter, not in lunch orders

Paddle pops	\$2.50
Zooper dopers	\$1.00
Frozen yoghurt	\$2.50
Dixie cup	\$2.00
Icy twists	\$2.00
Calippos	\$1.50

MEADOW HEIGHTS PRIMARY USES COMPASS AS OUR PARENT PORTAL



COMPASS HELPS YOU STAY UP
TO DATE WITH IMPORTANT
NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM
THE SCHOOL

**CHECK
COMPASS
REGULARLY AND
ENSURE YOU
HAVE YOUR
NOTIFICATIONS
TURNED ON!**



- ✓ Easily track your child's progress through school
- ✓ Respond to unauthorised absence notifications
- ✓ Access up-to-date news about your child's school community
- ✓ Ensure your child is completing the tasks assigned to them
- ✓ Avoid trips to the school office; process payments, consent, canteen orders and more from your phone

NEED HELP LOGGING ON?



DOWNLOAD THE APP FOR
FREE FROM THE APPLE
STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY
STORE, OR ACCESS IT VIA
A DESKTOP BROWSER