

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 16

DATE: 19 October, 2023

We value being: **RESPECTFUL** **SAFE** & **RESPONSIBLE**

Child Safe: Mildura Specialist School is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people and has a zero tolerance for child abuse.



Striving for Independence

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 6 November—Pupil Free Day.
Tuesday 7 November—Melbourne Cup Public Holiday.
Wednesday 8 November—Pupil Free Day.



TERM 4



Principal's Report



Awards

Congratulations to our Award winners during the last two weeks. Bob, our Art teacher ran the assembly last week and showcased a video about RESPECT featuring Upper Primary students previously from room 8 and now the Darling Room. I think lots of students will now be able to spell respect. Thank you Bob, Jeremy and the students for putting together such an uplifting video.

We clapped and cheered for Stephen, our school captain who featured in the last episode of the Royal Flying Doctor Service television show. We are immensely proud of him.

Bob also ran the assembly yesterday with room 18 students. Some students commented beforehand that they were nervous about having to speak in front of the school. Congratulations to all. It's great to see you following through and being proud of your achievements.

Mildura Specialist School aims to provide a safe, respectful and inclusive learning environment, with a focus on developing individual responsibility and student social and academic growth.

Staffing – In readiness for 2024 positions have been advertised on Recruitment Online for teachers, education support staff and for a Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHiPS) staff member. The MHiPS is a new position funded by the Department of Education for a teacher to work with staff on strengthening our tier one supports.

Student Numbers for 2024 – Please confirm time fractions if your child has a dual enrolment with a local school. If you have any questions please contact your child's team leader, myself or the office. Please also let us know if you are planning on relocating in 2024.

Class groups are being drafted currently. A short transition program will occur later in the year. We try to keep this time as calm as possible for students. Please reassure your child that they will be supported with their transition. If you have any specific concerns, please email or phone me. During transition sessions we look at the combinations of students and reorganise class groups as needed. A note will be sent home once class groups and staffing have been finalised.



No school for students on Monday 6 November and Wednesday 8 November.
Teachers will be engaging in report writing and a Professional Practice Day.

P.O. Box 63CP Mildura 3501
Principal: Penny Hale
Assistant Principal: David Wright
Email: mildura.ss@education.vic.gov.au
Web Address: www.mildss.vic.edu.au

Please note: The Department (which includes our school) does not have accident insurance. Items of personal property that are lost, stolen or damaged at school are not the responsibility of Mildura Specialist School or the Department. Staff and students are reminded not to bring items of value to school.

Cricket - On Thursday and Friday some students will be participating in the All Abilities Cricket carnival. Thank you to Susan for leading the organisation for this event, supported by classroom staff.



World Teachers' Day

This year, World Teachers' Day is on Friday 27 October. It is an opportunity to say thank you for the incredible contributions teachers make to our community.

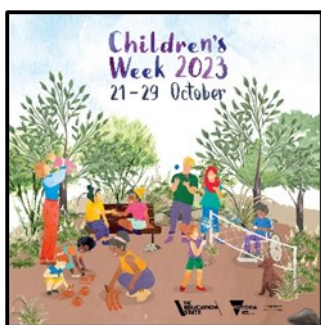
We will recognise the passion teachers have, and how teaching has extended beyond the classroom to maintain connections through flexible learning.

We will be celebrating World Teachers' Day by providing an afternoon tea for staff.

You can get involved by sending a message of thanks to a teacher who is making, or has made, an impact on your life using #thanksvicteachers on social media. Don't forget to tag the Department of Education and Training (the department) so we can see all your messages.

Head to the department's [World Teachers Day webpage](#) for resources to help you celebrate World Teachers' Day 2023, including 'Thank You' card templates.

Children's Week



Children's Week is a national celebration that recognises the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children.

This year, Children's Week will run from Saturday 21 October to Sunday 29 October, with thousands of Victorian children and families expected to take part.

The theme for the week is 'Children have the right to relax, play and to take part in activities they enjoy', based on Article 31 of the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#).

Please share the calendar of [free activities](#) with your school community, and share promotional materials listed below, to help spread the word.

Celebrate Together

During Children's Week, local councils, not-for-profit organisations, schools and early childhood services host a range of in-person and online events and activities that celebrate childhood and showcase children's achievements.

Children's Week events and activities are free to Victorian families with children aged up to 12 years. This gives families the opportunity to enjoy fun, engaging and educational experiences.

For more information, refer to the [Children's Week webpage](#).

<https://www.vic.gov.au/childrens-week-events-2023>

Click on the link above and refer to Rural City of Mildura for free events: Music Session, Family Fun Day and Benetook Farm Adventure Day.

Protecting against mosquito-borne diseases



Victoria's mosquito season started this month and will extend to late April 2024. Warm and wet weather can result in greater numbers of mosquitoes and increased risk of illnesses from mosquito bites. While the overall risk is low, some mosquitoes carry diseases that make people sick. The best protection against mosquito-borne illness is to avoid mosquito bites.

Families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- covering up as much as possible with long, loose-fitting, light-coloured clothing
- applying insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on exposed skin when leaving home
- limiting outdoor activity if lots of mosquitoes are active.

To reduce the risk of illness linked to mosquitoes, such as [Buruli ulcer](#), promptly wash any new scratches or cuts with soap and clean water and apply a topical antiseptic and dressing.

Families with any health concerns should see their doctor or phone [NURSE-ON-CALL](#): 1300 606 024 (available 24 hours).

[Free Japanese encephalitis vaccines](#)

Japanese encephalitis virus is spread to humans through bites from infected mosquitoes and can cause a rare but potentially serious infection of the brain.

Free Japanese encephalitis vaccines are available to protect Victorians at higher risk of the virus.

The Victorian Department of Health encourages eligible people who live or work in high-risk local government areas to get vaccinated ahead of summer, which brings an increased mosquito presence.

For more information, including what is considered a high risk area and eligibility for a free vaccine, refer to the Department of Health's [Japanese encephalitis webpage](#).

[Find out more](#)

For more information on protecting against mosquito-borne diseases, families can refer to the following Better Health Channel pages:

[Mosquitoes can carry diseases](#)

[Protect yourself from mosquito-borne disease](#), including a handy checklist to help reduce mosquito breeding sites at home and resources translated into other languages

[Japanese encephalitis](#)

[Buruli ulcer](#).

Principal Awards

- Room 1 - Mason: for helping to pack up the classroom at the end of the day.
- Room 4 - Hannah: for clapping out the syllables of the letter y words
- Room 6 - Jaxen: for always choosing to do his work quietly.
- Room 8 - Eli: for lining up with his peers after outside play to safely head back to the classroom.
- Room 8 - Moses: for working so hard to increase his reading power and levelling up significantly.
- Room 18 - Byron: for always being polite and doing his best when asked to help with jobs.
- Room 18 - Jordan: for stepping up and offering to speak at Assembly and have a go.
- Room 19 - Ethan: for showing resilience by supporting peers in group activities and using kind words.
- Room 19 - Rebecca: for independently taking the initiative to complete work tasks ahead of time in her own spare time,
- Room 20 - Tash: for independently asking for more learning to extend her knowledge of poetry.
- Room 21 - Charlie: for outstanding efforts displayed in literacy, by giving great supporting arguments to support our debating topics.
- Room 22 - Kane: for his thoughtful contributions during circle time.
- Room 23 - Antony: for always trying his best to complete learning activities independently.
- Room 24 - Enzo: for listening to staff and sequencing classroom schedule for the following day.
- Room 24 - Angus: for listening and following instructions to independently complete personal hygiene tasks.
- Room 24 - Tahlia: for listening and completing all work, with minimal verbal prompts.

SWPBS Awards - being Respectful

- Room 1 - Levai: by playing with a peer at totem Tennis during outside play.
- Room 2 - Levi: by playing with a peer at totem Tennis during outside play.
- Room 18 - Jordan: by using kind word and actions when speaking with others.
- Room 19 - Eric: by completing his set tasks in the canteen when working with peers.
- Room 20 - Mahalia: by independently keeping the classroom and kitchenette area tidy.
- Room 20 - Quinn: by maintaining a strong work ethic to complete all set tasks in literacy and numeracy this week.
- Room 23 - Lacie: by following swimming instructors prompts to enter and exit lap pool safely for the first time.
- Room 23 - Kera-Lee: by following swimming instructors prompts to enter and exit lap pool safely for the first time.
- Room 24 - Jayda: by following swimming instructors prompts to enter and exit lap pool safely for the first time.
- Room 24 - Angus: by following swimming instructors prompts to enter and exit lap pool safely for the first time.
- Room 24 - Brandon: by having empathy for a peer.
- ILS - Deshawn: by following swimming instructors prompts to enter and exit lap pool and swim with confidence independently
- ILS - Kye: by following swimming instructors prompts to enter and exit lap pool safely for the first time.
- ILS - Tyrell: by following swimming instructors prompts to enter and exit lap pool safely for the first time.

Some of our past award winners



Sharing your child's education journey.

Hello families, we wanted to introduce ourselves to allow you to become familiar with our roles. We are the Literacy and Numeracy Learning Specialists. Our roles support teachers and students to build upon knowledge and skills in these curriculum areas. Each newsletter we would like to celebrate student learning and encourage further exploration at home in and the community.



This weeks idea is to include your child in meal preparation. For example, for Literacy you could read a recipe together, and for Numeracy measure the ingredients and use a timer to cook the meal.

Leonie Tamala and Judi L'Huillier.

Ham, cheese and veggie bake

This veggie bake is a great dinner recipe that also doubles as a delicious lunch!

Ingredients

- 20 g Western Star Original Salted Butter
- 1 onion (chopped)
- 1 cup zucchini (grated)
- 1 cup carrot (grated)
- 1/4 cup corn kernels
- 4 slices ham (deli) (chopped)
- 1 cup tasty cheese (grated)
- 6 eggs (beaten)
- 125 g self-raising flour



Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C, and then melt the butter in a medium fry pan over a medium heat. Add the onion and cook for 4-5 minutes or until the onion softens and starts to smell yummy! Transfer into a large bowl to cool.
2. Once cooled, add all the other ingredients to the bowl. Use a big wooden spoon to mix everything together. Pour the mixture into a greased and lined 28x20cm tin.
3. Transfer the tin into the oven for 30 minutes or until the bake has puffed up and is golden. Remove from the oven and cool for five minutes before cutting into eight big squares.

ART

During the last fortnight, students around the school have been focussing on using cardboard, card, crepe paper, tissue paper, brown paper bags and a variety of different materials to create their artwork.

Picture 1 was created by Eboni. She used brown paper bags to make the tree and white crepe paper for the blossom. Eboni used paint sticks to create a sunset background.

Picture 2 was created by Cheyenne. She used yellow paper bags to make the tree and coloured tissue paper. Cheyenne used paint sticks to create a night time scene.

Picture 3 was created by Kyson. He used brown paper bags to make the tree and coloured tissue paper to create the blossoms.

Pictures 4, 5 and 6 were created by Matthew, Kera-Lee and Milan from Room 23. Each student followed instructions to create a butterfly, using a variety of materials to decorate their butterfly. They used cardboard rolls for the butterfly's body and pipe cleaners for the antennae.

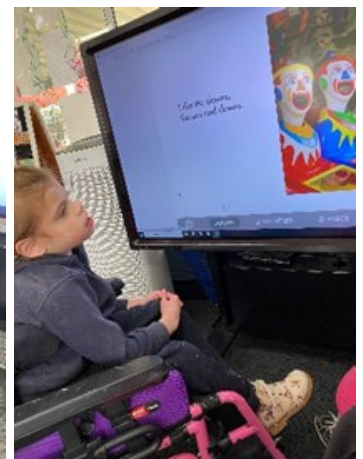
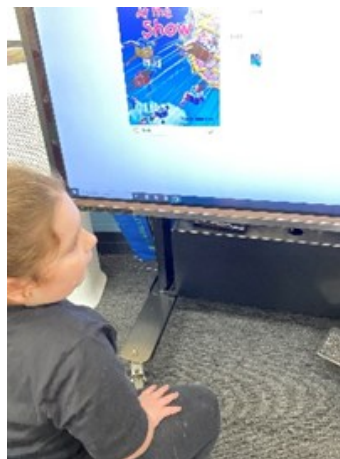
Just a reminder to our parents and staff that the Mildura Show is on this week. The Art Specialists have entered at least two pieces of artwork from every student in our school. If you attend the show, please check out the Artwork it's fantastic



EARLY YEARS' NEWS

This term our topic is 'Celebrations'. The Early Years classes have been learning about The Mildura Show. One of the Early Years classes will attend the show on Friday, and they will hopefully see all of the Art work we have entered. During this week we look forward to showing the other Early Years classes some of the work we have been doing when they come to visit.

Alivia is decorating Rings for a ring toss game, Dhelila is painting a hot air balloon and Gabby and Riah are reading a story titled At The Show.



UPPER PRIMARY YEARS' NEWS

Classes have been diving into our exciting Science unit this term on Minibeasts. Students have explored the gardens to find different creatures. We have discovered the eight different categories that Minibeasts fall into and will explore these further throughout the Term.

Students in Room 4 have been working hard to get their Mildura Show entries complete. We have entries in photography, colouring, art, craft and cooking. Be sure to check out the amazing work at the show this Thursday to Saturday.



Personal and Applied Learning NEWS

This last fortnight saw PAL students learning about World Post day and Space Week in Humanities. The phonic focus in various rooms has been on Q and F, while ILS have reviewed S and A. In cooking we have made hotdogs and Nachos. This week students will be fine tuning their spreading skills making Fairy Bread.

Students who chose to participate in All Abilities Cricket carnival, will be doing this on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning this week. Everyone is excited.



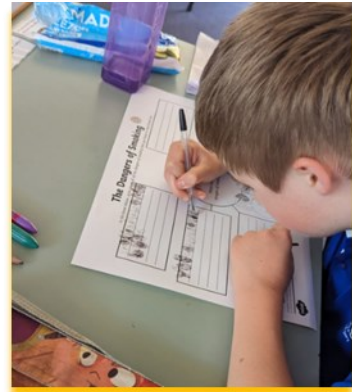
SECONDARY/VPC NEWS

The PreVPC students have had a lot of fun writing limericks during our poetry sessions. The students in Room 20 have focused on rhyming words to make the poetry sound funny.

Bee in the Tree
There once was a bumble bee
called Bubbles
Who lived in a tree that gives
cuddles.
They had a big flower
That had special power
That made everyone huddle.

Fat Rat
There once was a girl called Bri-
elle,
Who thought she was a Belle.
They all called her fat
And she looked like a rat.
So she went and lived in a shell.

In Room 21, students have been learning about the long-term effects smoking can have on the body, as part of our Health Unit this term. Students have also been learning about directional language and learning the various ways we give and receive directions.



Students in VPC took part in an industry visit to Coles this week.



SECONDARY/VPC NEWS

We have been practising for the interschool Cricket Carnival this week. The students focused on gross motor skills such as throwing and catching, batting and bowling, as well as brushing up on the rules of cricket.



October

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1
2 First Day of Term 4	3 Lunch orders due in.	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Lunch orders due in.	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Lunch orders due in.	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Lunch orders due in.	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 PUPIL FREE DAY	7 Melbourne Cup Holiday	8 PUPIL FREE DAY	9	10 Finance Meeting	11	12
13 School Council	14 Lunch orders due in.	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Lunch orders due in.	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Lunch orders due in.	29	30			

SCHOOL REMINDERS

EXCURSIONS

All excursions can be paid by instalments, either at the school office or online through the school account. See above for details for the school bank account.

Please ensure all relevant forms are signed and returned with payment before the due date.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL FEES OF \$160 PER STUDENT ARE NOW DUE.

PAYMENTS

School fees, camps, excursion and cooking costs etc. can be paid to our Bank Account details are

Commonwealth Bank

BSB: 063 557

Account No: 10080861

Please enter the name of student and activity you are paying for.

Thankyou

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUNDS (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) commenced in 2015.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card (Centrelink Card/Health Care Card) or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for CSEF. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students, and \$225 per year is paid for eligible secondary school students. A special consideration eligibility category also exists. Payments are made directly to the school.

MEDICAL

At Mildura Specialist School we have children who are at risk of an anaphylactic reaction to **nuts, eggs, lactose and seafood** in the school. Please be mindful of this when preparing your child's lunch or snacks.



HEADLICE

As a school community, we share the responsibility to control and manage head lice infections. Head lice have been around for many thousands of years and cannot be eradicated. Supporting each other to minimize their spread is vital.

It is important to check your child's head regularly with conditioner and comb even when you don't think your child has head lice.

MEDICATION

In the interests of safe practice, medication must be brought to the office in its original packaging by an adult and paper work completed to authorise school personnel to administer it.

Please note: Students are not to transport medication to school.

CANTEEN NEWS The canteen will operate each Friday; orders must be completed and returned to school no later than Tuesday morning of that week.

Order forms are available from the school office or can be downloaded and printed from the MSS website.

All lunch orders must be in on Tuesday mornings.



UNIFORMS

Our school uniforms are supplied by LASER SIGN & PRINT and are available from 3 Andriske Crt Mildura. Contact person is Darran Seaman, phone: 03 5021 1129 mob: 0429 437 858. For all other enquiries for uniforms please contact the school.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARER CONCERNS

If you have a concern with any aspect of your child's education, please contact the Office (5021 3311). They will:

1. Put you in touch with the appropriate person
2. Help organise a meeting with the appropriate person.

It is important that your concerns are addressed as quickly as possible.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Parents/Carers please take note of Parent Pick Up times.

Early Years and Upper Primary Years: 2:40—2.50 PM

Secondary Years and VPC. 2.50—3.00PM

This is to help ease congestion on Deakin Ave and for safety of cars and students.

