

MILDURA SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Newsletter No : 17

DATE: 2 November, 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.
Tuesday 20 December—End of Term 4. Early Departure.



TERM 4



Principal's Report



Awards

Congratulations to our Award winners during the last two weeks. Mrs Weaving ran the assembly last week with Room 20 students. It was great to see the students take it in turns to speak into the microphone to communicate their School Wide Positive Behaviour Support item and to make the announcements to run the assembly.

Deb West and Room 23 students showcased a video about RESPECT on Wednesday, which was enjoyed by all students. Thank you to our helpers, Star, Mahalia and Emily for their support in announcing items and the Awards. Bob also read out the names of award winners from the Mildura Show. Awards ranged from Highly Commended to First Place. Well done to every student!

I was very impressed by the listening skills of all the students as they waited to see if their name would be called out. Thank you very much to the Arts Committee for all your work to prepare, deliver and pick up the art pieces, and then collate the awards.



No school for students on Monday 6 November and Wednesday 8 November.

Teachers will be engaging in report writing and a Professional Practice Day.

Parent Pick Up

Unfortunately, we have received a complaint from the Vineland Motel due to their customers being blocked, from leaving the premises due to cars lining up on Deakin Avenue.

It would be appreciated if you could please stop before the driveway to allow cars to depart. Thank you for moving up as soon as possible in the line.

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.

Staff and Student Illness

Unfortunately, there has been a recent increase in the number of staff and students suffering from illnesses.

Please know that we are maintaining steps to prevent the spread of illness with the use of air purifiers, ventilation, gloves, tissues and hand sanitiser and outdoor learning.

We follow the Department's Policy recommendations below:

Schools should consider the following when responding to students affected by common infections:

- students with cold or flu-like symptoms or vomiting or diarrhoea should be encouraged to seek medical attention, limit contact with others and stay at home until symptoms have passed
- if a child becomes ill at school with these symptoms, schools should contact the family and arrange for the collection of the child

good general hygiene remains the best defence against infection and schools should encourage children to regularly wash their hands and cover their nose and mouth if sneezing and coughing

Infectious Disease

A person in charge of a primary school must not allow a child to attend the school in accordance with the Regulations if they have been informed the child is infected with, or been in contact with, a person with an infectious disease/condition listed in the Regulations; where that condition requires exclusion. Diseases and exclusion periods are listed in the [DH school exclusion table](#).

These diseases include ringworm, chicken pox, conjunctivitis, hand, foot and mouth disease, impetigo (school sores), diarrhoeal illness, influenza and many others.

- and coughing

Thank you for your assistance with this and notification about illnesses. Please reach out if you have any questions.

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.

Staff and students continue to work together to promote and explicitly teach our values of being safe, respectful and responsible. We celebrate successes with the awarding of SWPBS and Principal awards each fortnight. Each class has a reward system in place. It is very important to us that your child feels safe at school. Please contact the school if you have any concerns so we can follow up and work together. Our work with Real Schools continues daily with restorative conferences and the explicit teaching of vocabulary related to emotions. Watch out for videos on Xuno from Real Schools to learn more.

GIRLS ONLY!

This week we talked about what makes us happy, what we're grateful for and our strengths.

It's lovely to get together with these girls to have a chat, laugh and even clown around a little!



MILDURA SHOW 2023 ART AWARDS

Mildura Show 2023 – Student First Prize Awards



Mildura Show 2023 – Student Second Prize Awards



Mildura Show 2023 – Student Third Prize Awards



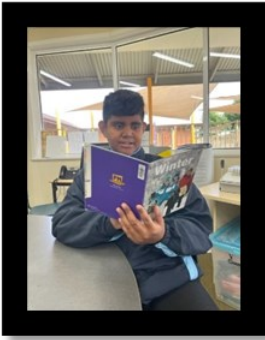
Mildura Show 2023 – Student Encouragement Awards



Mildura Show 2023 – Student Merit Awards



Literacy Specialist Newsletter – Leonie Tamala



To support student learning, I have undertaken running records with students from the Darling room. Moses was particularly proud of increasing his reading level.

Students in Room 20 have trialled incorporating artificial intelligence (AI) in the classroom to support their literacy learning. Students logged onto www.crayon.com and were challenged to create a digital image that represented themselves. The students applied their knowledge of adjectives to describe themselves and it was wonderful to see how these were applied.

I chose this picture because I, myself sit in a room lost in thought sometimes, bad or good, rainy or sunny. The colours in this picture represent loneliness, sadness and trapped in your own thoughts with no way out. This picture and the colours draw me in because my brain is always on the negative thoughts, always on the bad, always trapped in thought with no way out. Anon.



I have chosen this picture because the Golden Retriever is my second favourite animal in my list. It is like me because a Golden Retriever is resilient. Anthony.

Numeracy Specialist Newsletter – Judi L’Huillier

As part of my role, I do classroom observations. I have been fortunate to visit Room 1 on a couple of occasions to see their Numeracy sessions. I have visited room 5 to watch a money math class and the Darling Room for a lesson on measurement. Here are some photos of Renee doing dinosaur counting with her class in Room 1.



2/11/2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Mildura Specialist School is seeking your support for donations towards our Christmas Hamper Raffle.

Items can include, non-perishable foods, Christmas decorations, table items etc.

Items may be sent to school with your child or dropped at the front office by 15 December.

Thank you,
Cathie Toma
Fundraising Coordinator



Principal Awards

Room 6 - Phoenix: for going up a level in his reading to Level 3.

Room 9 - Paige: for showing bravery when receiving First Aid.

Room 21 - Wyhatt: for displaying empathy towards a classroom friend, and taking the initiative to resolve a problem in the yard.

Room 22 - Abbie: for participating in the All Abilities Cricket despite initial reluctance, and helping others.

Room 24 - Michael: For independently using 'I think I can' words as part of the RESILIENCE, RIGHTS & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS games and activities learned.

SWPBS Awards - being Respectful

Room 21 - Aden: by modelling active listening skills during classroom learning. Well done Aden!

Room 22 - Clayton: by cleaning up the bottles and items left behind at the Cricket Carnival.

Room 24 - Graham: by encouraging his cricket team during the cricket carnival.

Some of our past award winners



ART

Over the last fortnight most students around the school have focussed on Halloween inspired Art.

Most students are excited to be involved in Halloween activities, as it gains popularity in Australia.

The drawing and painting of the Jack-o-Lanterns were created by Narni, Aden and Noah.

The handprint spiders were created by Cameron & Lincoln from Room 1.

The drawing and painting, using food dye of psychedelic spider webs were created by Patrick, Matthew, Jax and Harrison.



EARLY YEARS' NEWS

Early Years have been working on their Inquiry Unit called Celebrations. Room Two students have been busy creating a celebration wall collage and have also completed a range of other activities to depict how and why we celebrate. Some of the activities completed by the students so far are participating in an excursion to the Mildura Show, and learning about Diwali (The Festival of Lights). Room Two students are excited to continue their learning of the many different celebrations we celebrate for the remainder of the Term.



Room Two fireworks behind a Ferris wheel.



Room Two Circus hand animals.



Room Two makeshift carousels and Mildura Show writing.



Braxton rolling clay to make a candle tea-light holder for Diwali.



Bunya cutting his hot dog bun. We cooked hot dogs to celebrate the Mildura Show.



During the Mildura Show excursion, Room Two students watched the Dino Man and had a photo with him.

UPPER PRIMARY YEARS' NEWS

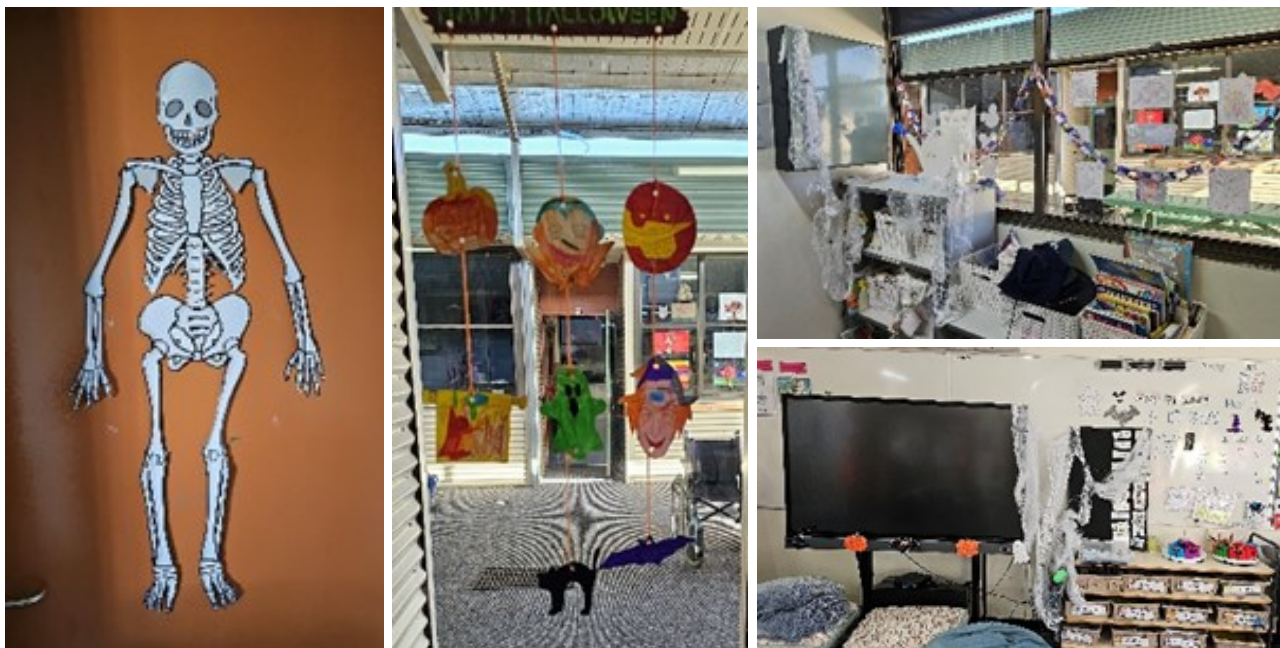
Upper Primary students have been very busy learning about minibeasts in Science. They have been planting in the garden to attract insects and doing a variety of minibeast crafts. Students in Rooms 3 and 4 have been doing yoga in PE this term. The students have been practicing different relaxation techniques that we can use to keep us calm and regulated. In Music Therapy Rooms 3 and 4 students have been learning about the violin. Everyone had a turn helping to move the bow and to feel the vibrations as it was played. Classes have been celebrating Halloween this week and attended the Halloween Disco on Thursday.



Keoni practices his cobra pose. Braxton is listening to Estelle play the violin. Koray and Vicki are doing Cosmic Kids Yoga together.

Personal and Applied Learning NEWS

Happy Halloween from PAL. Classroom's have created and put up spooky decorations. Students participated in activities based on Halloween such as counting pumpkins and colouring spiders. Students are looking forward to the Disco being run by VPC students this Thursday.



SECONDARY/VPC NEWS

Cricket Carnival

On October 19 and 20, some of the Secondary students participated in the Interschool Cricket carnival. It was heart-warming to see our students displaying strengths of kindness, respect and responsibility. New friendships were formed and the staff were proud of the sportsmanship displayed. Everyone who attended had a fantastic time and can't wait to participate again next year. The team from Wyndham presented the Senior MSS team with a cricket bat to keep, showing their respect for the effort and sportsmanship our team displayed.



Even though the weather has been a bit hit and miss, the students have been practicing their sun safety wearing their hats.

Heidi, the Secondary Team Leader, has been spending time in the yard, building and facilitating positive relationships.



Vaping Survey

Students in Room 20 undertook an anonymous survey of student responses about vaping which showed interesting results. We learned that:

The youngest age of students first trying a vape was 10 years old.

The average age of students trying a vape was 14 years old.

50 percent of students have an adult at home that vapes in front of them.

There was a minimal number of students who still wanted to try a vape after receiving vaping education.

Most of the students surveyed knew where to get help and advice for quitting vaping.

Some students indicated that they would like help quitting vaping.

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 Year 12 Graduation	28 Lunch orders due in.	29	30			

December

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

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.

