

Edition 17, 8 November 2023

Dates for the Diary					
Friday 10 November	Monday 13 November	Tuesday 14 November			
Year 5 Room 4 Assembly	LEGO Masters Grand Final	School Chess Championships			
Thursday 16 November	Friday 17 November	Friday 24 November			
2024 Student Leader Election Speeches	Music Assembly	Talent Show Assembly			
Kindness Week Activities					
Monday 20 November – Thursday 24 November					

Dear Parents and Carers,

Week 5 already, I can't believe how quickly the term, in fact the year, has flown by. Our teachers are busy assessing and starting to write the students' end of year reports. This is always a busy but rewarding time as teachers have the opportunity to consider student academic growth and achievements. We have a busy 6 weeks ahead, please keep informed of all our events by viewing your Connect Notices regularly.

When I checked our MLPS Parent Survey 2023 there had been 73 submitted responses and 15 surveys commenced but not submitted. Parent responses via the school survey are a valuable source of information for school improvement. By collecting your considered feedback, we can tailor our celebrations and efforts to address specific issues that are unique to our school community. So please help us remain responsive and relevant to the changing needs of our students and families by completing the survey before Friday.

After positive feedback about my very brief reference to bullying in our last newsletter I thought I would further expand on the ideas presented.

In the early years it is important to start conversations with your children about how to get along with others and be friendly. As you know social behaviours such as sharing, taking turns and cooperating with others are important skills. It is also important to teach them about unfriendly behaviours and problem solving. True bullying behaviours are not as common in younger students, at this age their inappropriate behaviour tends to be more reactive than calculated. So, although we may see children reacting aggressively to others, it is often as a reaction.

As students get older, they will begin to establish solid friendships and move into friendship groups. This is the time to talk about bullying – what it is, how to respond and how to not bully. The definition we use at MLPS is - Bullying is any repeated, deliberate behaviour where there is a power imbalance between the two parties. It is intended to cause fear, distress or harm to another person, either physically or emotionally. One quarrel is not bullying, but no one should have to put up with persistent unkindness. Be sure to check in with your child, speak regularly about the importance of having good, kind friends, and treating everyone with respect. Let them know it is okay to ask for your help or advice any time.

Research demonstrates that efforts to change the attitudes and behaviour of students are more likely to be successful if families are actively involved and share a sense of ownership over the process.

These are some of the things you can do to help us reduce bullying at school:

- Talk regularly with your children about being kind and respectful.
- Encourage your children to ask for help if they are being bullied at school.
- If your children are fighting at home, help them discuss their problem and come to a mutual solution. Model and scaffold appropriate resolutions.
- Encourage your children to be assertive by helping them to practise speaking in a firm but friendly way, making eye contact, looking calm, smiling and feeling good about themselves. Ideally, they should state how they are feeling, the cause of that feeling, and a potential solution.

This information, and much more, is available on the Friendly Schools website <u>https://friendlyschools.com.au/families/</u> Again, I urge you to encourage your child to seek adult help if they are being treated inappropriately.

We have been receiving an increasing number of reports of students and families with COVID 19. We thank you for supporting us to keep everyone at school healthy by keeping your children at home when they are unwell and encouraging good hygiene habits.

Take Care Sandra Martin

Class Planning 2024

We have commenced developing our classes for the 2024 school year, and it is very important that we are working with accurate student numbers. If your child/children are not attending MLPS next year, please let us know as early as possible by emailing mountlawley.ps@education.wa.edu.au

If you have any educational exceptional circumstances that you would like taken into consideration for your child's class placement for 2024, please provide them in writing to <u>Sandra.Martin1@education.wa.edu.au</u> by this Friday 27 October (Week 3 Term 4).

Before School Supervision

MLPS originally implemented before school supervision from 8.00am as we are not able to offer before school care on site. Duty of Care requirements are that staff supervise during this time. We would like to continue this provision however; it is becoming increasingly difficult with the large numbers of students attending.

We would like to remind families that this service is in place for students who need to be dropped at school earlier than 8.30, because parents need to go to work. Students sit quietly in the undercover area talking to friends, reading, drawing or engaging in other quiet activities. Please do not drop your child at school prior to 8.00am.

After School Play

With the fine weather upon us many families are staying and playing after school.

A few reminders:

- All play is on the oval, basketball courts or the two playgrounds facing Third Avenue. No students should be in the nature play, undercover area or outside of Room 11 and 12.
- Students are not to play in the sandpit with the boat.
- Students waiting for pick up should not be playing.
- We do expect that after school play is fully supervised by parents at all times.
- Students are expected to follow the same rules after school that we have during the day. We expect their behaviour to be kind and respectful and for students to continue to play safely.
- Play equipment is not to be accessed after school.
- Please endeavour to leave the school grounds by 3.45pm.

MLPS LEGO Masters 2023 Grand Final

Congratulations to the 148 students who competed in the Lego Master heats over the last 4 weeks. The builds were incredible, and everyone should be very proud of their achievements. The teams were judged on creativity, building to theme and teamwork. Two teams from each heat progressed onto the Grand Final. The Grand Final will take place next Monday 13 November during lunchtime in the library. The Grand Final builds will then be on display in the library where all students and staff will have the opportunity to vote for the Junior and Senior winning builds during Week 6. Winners of Lego Masters 2023 will be announced at the student led assembly on Monday 4 December. Good Luck to all competitors.

Junior Grand Finalists:

Nina H and Margot K, Macy L and Shriya P, Otis T and Harvey G, Josephine L and Rose D, Indi M and Adeline H, Oliver T and Cooper C, Josephine L and Izzy M, Raff L and Marcus R.

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Senior Grand Finalists:

Charlie E and Sreetanvi M, William S and James O, Kade W and Ewan L, Linda H and Alyssa D, Xavier G and Willis M, Jacob H and Jeremy W.

Mrs Brodie and Mrs Hawkesford

NAIDOC Medal of Excellence



Congratulations to Alyssa D in Year 5 who received a NAIDOC Medal of Excellence for her Poetry entry in the "2023 NAIDOC Week School Initiatives". The aim of these initiatives is to provide our kids with a greater understanding on the importance of friendship and cultural diversity.



P&C Traffic Management Group

The Walking Buses are on again this Friday 10 November with routes along Clothilde St, Woodsome St and Clifton Crescent. Please sign your children up via Qkr! and check the MLPS website for the Walking School Bus Guidelines and the route detail. Your children can join along the route, but we need you to sign up so we have a record of each child that will be joining the bus.

If you are interested in being part of the Traffic Management Group in 2024, please let us know. We are meeting next Wednesday 15 November, 7pm at the Inglewood Hotel to discuss the program for 2024, we would love you to come along and join us. You can catch Sharnie, Kirsten or Alan for more details, or email us at <u>contact@mlpspc.org</u> if you are keen.

Honour Certificates

Congratulations to the following Students who received an Honour Certificates at last week's Junior assembly.

Paxton L – Year 1	Adam T – Year 1	Roman R – Year 1	Archie G – Year 1
Mako H – Year 1	Margot K – Year 2	Kylara W – Year 2	Caterina T – Year 2
Ryan T – Year 2	Charlie Y – Year 2	Hazel M – Year 3	Chloe P – Year 3

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2023 Banksia Yearbooks

A reminder that you can pre order 2023 Banksia Year Books online Via Qkr! for \$35 each.

If you are unsure if you have already pre ordered a Banksia Yearbook (these were available to order when completing your Campion booklist order last year), please call the office to check on 9238 0800.

Yearbooks will be distributed in the last week of Term 4.

Community News

