

Please remember to bring your child's hat and sunscreen.



## What's Happening?

### April

1<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Raffle

3<sup>rd</sup> April - Fun Run

4<sup>th</sup> April - Grade 1/2

Special Person Day

4<sup>th</sup> April 3:30 – 4:30 –

Maths Olympiad

5<sup>th</sup> April – End of Term

2:30 dismissal

### TERM 2 COMMENCES

TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> April

24<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC

ceremony 9:30

25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC Day –

no students at school

26<sup>th</sup> April – Curriculum Day



The Pineapple Pete Committee

Dear Parents/Carers,

After the recent events across the globe, particularly the horrific attacks in New Zealand a few weeks ago, I have had a number of parents approach me with concerns for how best to 'shield' or 'share' this information with their children. In this week's newsletter I have included some information to guide you in answering these questions. When children attend school they are often surrounded by other children who freely discuss news stories and current affairs. Indeed, as they become avid readers, or surf the internet, you may find that they are suddenly surrounded by images and reports of such incidents. As awful as it is, these reports will become part of their life. Please be advised that our school has a wonderful psychologist, Maite Stainwall. If you think your child may need some support in dealing emotionally with these, please speak to Emma Fuller for referral forms.

### **Coping with Media:**

Children are especially sensitive to media coverage of disasters. They might worry the same sort of thing will happen to them and their family, and fail to understand it's a one-off, discrete event. Parents shouldn't necessarily try to shield their children. Keeping secrets is not possible in this day and age, and trying to hide events can make things more terrifying. Instead parents should try to limit the amount of media the child is exposed to, while explaining what has happened and answering their questions.

It is also important to speak to the child about their feelings and do something with them, like playing a game or heading outside. Providing comfort and affection will help the child to feel safe. Parents can also remind their child there are plenty of good things that happen that don't make the news. To find out more go to: <https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2014-12-23/illustrated-guide-coping-traumatic-news/5985104?pfmredir=sm>

### **Maths Olympiad:**

Maths Olympiad will be starting next week. I would like to congratulate the 20 students chosen to participate. I'm looking forward to sharing their progress with you, and may even include an example of one of the questions for you to try to solve at home!

### **Pineapple Pete Committee:**

Courtney and Nicki have established the "Pineapple Pete Committee". Pineapple Pete lives in Mrs Fuller's office. If you find any coins in the yard, please bring them to the office for Pineapple Pete. The Committee are surveying all the students in the school to find out what the school needs to spend the money on. Mrs Crispe has been a massive spoil sport and said no pets – even though Mrs Fuller really wants a little lamb or a piglet! Watch this space to find out what Pineapple Pete and the Committee can help us with at MPS!

### **Curriculum Day:**

As you know, last week we had a Curriculum Day. The teachers were unpacking the writing curriculum and looking at how to teach and assess writing in their classrooms. We will be starting Writer's Notebooks in Term 2. The school holidays may be a great opportunity to look for things of interest for your child's notebook. Ideas can come from catalogues, newspapers, photos, postcards etc. Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Attendance:**

Please remember to use Compass to inform us if your child is away, or alternatively call the office before 9am. A reminder that holidays should not be taken during term time. Parents taking their child/children out of school for a period of time need to make an appointment with the Principal and classroom teachers 4 weeks prior to the holiday.

**Easter Raffle and Donations:**

The Parents and Friends Committee have sent raffle tickets home with your child. Please can you bring in Easter donations (chocolate eggs, Easter teddies, decorations etc.) and pass on to your child's classroom teacher. These items will be made in to hampers ready for the Easter Raffle on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. All winners will be notified through Compass. Unfortunately the raffle cannot be held during assembly as our school is now too big!

**Sun Smart:**

As we approach the end of Term 1, please remember that as we are a SunSmart school we require sunhats to be worn in Term 2. This is because there will still be some days where the UV rating is high and sun protection is required. The office have downloaded the SunSmart App and make announcements daily to inform the students and teachers of the UV rating along with the maximum temperature. If you would like your child to have sun screen at school, please ensure it is named and put in their bag or on their desk.

**E-Safety:**

Over the past few weeks I have had a number of conversations with students about E-Safety. As parents, you need to be aware of the legal ages of some of these social platforms your children are using. If you, as parents, choose to allow your child access to these, we as a school cannot intervene in 'online' problems between students.

**Car Park:**

Please make sure that you are using the correct entry and exit points of the car park. There have been a few cars driving in the exit and driving out the entrance. This is extremely dangerous and could cause a major accident. It has been noted that the number of cars traveling south on Mickleham Road has dramatically increased. We thank parents for their patience, and ask that you wait in the line rather than swapping in to the other lanes. This too could cause an accident and we want all parents and children to stay safe.

**Aitken Hill Family Easter Egg Hunt:** Join the Easter Fun at Aitken Hill on Good Friday from 10-12. \$5 per person or \$15 per family (2 adults and 2 children).

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy holiday break!

Sue Crispe – *Principal*, and Emma Fuller – *Assistant Principal*