



MILLER PUBLIC SCHOOL



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NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2020

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Welcome to Spring!

This week sees the start of Spring, slightly warmer weather but a continued focus on our health and safety with the evolving COVID19 pandemic. We are doing our very best to continue to share learning and exciting events with our community through Facebook and Skoolbag and we appreciate when parents engage with us through these forums.

You will notice when your child is away from school each day you now receive an SMS just after 10am clarifying the absence. Please reply to this message (at no cost) with a reason explaining your child's absence. This will assist school staff in managing our legal requirements around attendance and reducing the need for a letter to be sent seeking an explanation. If your contact details change please notify the school office to ensure we have the most recent telephone numbers.

Mrs Selena Gandy
Principal
3 September 2020

Frosty Fridays

Year 6 will be selling ice blocks each Friday for \$1 under the COLA at lunch times to support their fundraising. This will occur until the end of this term.

Year 1 Phonics Results

Parents of students in year 1 will receive results this week of a screening assessment students undertook recently. As a school we will be analysing closely these results and implementing strategies to support students who require additional instruction in this key curriculum area.

Instructional Leader / Deputy Principal

Ms Felicity Young will be joining us from Monday next week to work as the ILDP until the end of 2020 whilst Mrs Tong is on maternity leave. Ms Young joins us from Mascot Public School.

Bicycles and Scooters

An increasing number of students are riding these to school each day and it is great to see the benefits they bring for health and wellbeing.

NSW laws state all bike riders, including children **must** wear a helmet and riders of scooters **should** wear a helmet. Please ensure these rules are followed. If students do not wear helmets, particularly with bikes, they will not be permitted to ride them to school.





NOTICES

Pick Up / Drop Off

As the need continues for parents to Kiss and Drop their children at the gate, I feel it is necessary to remind parents to follow the road rules and signage at the front of the school. I fear we are approaching the time when a serious accident or injury may occur.

Please refrain from reversing up the road, performing multiple U turns, stopping directly opposite the front gate and calling children across the road or asking them to run across the road. School staff are not permitted to cross children across the road and there have been multiple instances where we have been fearful for the safety of some of our students.

Behaviour

I continue to ask for your support as parents in reinforcing the message to your children around behaviour and the need for all students to keep their hands and feet to themselves. It is not okay to hit, punch, kick or in fact touch anybody else irrespective of how angry they may make you feel. There are many staff at school who are willing and able to talk to students throughout the day to support them with their emotional regulation and we ask you to remind your children of this and the importance of asking for help if they need it.

Staff Development Day – Friday 18/12/20

The last day for students to attend school this year is Wednesday 16 December. The staff will participate in professional learning at school on Thursday 17 December but the school will be officially closed on Friday 18 December. This includes the school office. Staff are completing extended professional learning on two evenings in Term 3 and early Term 4 to facilitate the required hours.

Uniform

Our new Aboriginal shirts arrived last week and students wore them to school this week for the first time. A reminder that these can be worn to school on Wednesdays only, apologies for the miscommunication around this last week.

Year 6 shirts can be worn Mondays to Thursdays.

We appreciate your support in adhering to the requested days. As a school we are mindful of maintaining uniform standards and the expectations around these.

All students are required to wear the correct Miller Public School hat to school each day and will not be permitted to play on the oval without one.

Support Unit Review Meetings – Wednesday 16 September

Each year we are required to review the appropriateness of placements for all students in support unit classes. To best ensure we adhere to COVID guidelines we will be conducting these reviews via phone with class teachers, Mrs Lysaght our DP Support, our school counsellor and parents. A note has been sent home to all parents for our students in the support unit with details of how to book your meeting. For parents not available to attend, please take the time to contribute your thoughts on the forms provided to allow us to engage with your valuable feedback.

Canteen

Unfortunately, we will have no school canteen for the remainder of 2020. As a school we are investigating options to run a school funded canteen for 2021. The current financial climate and impact of COVID has meant that it was not a financially attractive option for prospective tenders.