

Our School Vision

Our School Vision is to ensure that all students achieve their academic, social, emotional and physical potential in a supportive and purposeful learning environment, where our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Excellence and Kindness underpin all interactions. Our school believes in high expectations for all students in an atmosphere of care and support. We are committed to preparing our students to be creative, adaptable and responsible citizens of both their local and global community.

ACTING PRINCIPALS REPORT

While we have all survived the wintery blast, and many children have enjoyed constructing bridges over the river running through the school, the coming days promise some sunshine and warmth! This is welcome news for the upcoming Spring Fete!

The Year 5-6 class, superbly led and supported by Mrs Box and Mrs Ackland, have organised many events and stalls for the community to enjoy at the upcoming Spring Fete. A great deal of planning by the students has taken place and they are to be commended for their efforts. They have collaborated, problem solved, organised, contacted organisations for donations...the list of valuable life skills involved in this task is long! Well done, 5-6s!

Walk-a-thon

On Thursday 1st December, we are having our annual Walkathon up and down Mount Hollowback. This school community event has been running for almost ten years. The Walkathon supports the Ryder Cheshire Foundation, who established the Raphael School in India 60 years ago. Mt Blowhard Primary School has sponsored two students from the school:

Sunita, who was able to complete her schooling and go onto University to study nursing. She is now a qualified nurse working in Delhi.

Sushma, who has a number of disabilities. Our sponsorship enables Sushma to fully participate in her education at the Raphael School where she lives in Dehra Dun.

Every year students do a wonderful job raising money for our sponsor child and we appreciate the efforts families go to in order to raise this money. As part of our focus on Community Service we are asking ALL students to raise \$5 each through sponsorship by asking relatives and family friends. This will cover our sponsorship commitment. **An example of how to raise this money could be \$2 from a grandparent, \$2 from a next-door neighbour and \$1 from parents.**

Spirit of Blowhard

The Spirit of Blowhard Award will replace the existing Catherine King award. However, the premise of the award remains, being that the Spirit of Blowhard award acknowledges the contribution of a member of the school community. While the staff are amazing, this award is not for them. Nominations can be made by any member of our school – parents, staff, students or members of the wider community. The winner will be decided by a sub-committee of School Council and the award presented at the School Concert on Thursday 15th December.

Keep a look out for the nomination form that will be sent home in the near future!



Soccer Goals

New soccer goals were recently purchased by Parents and Friends and assembled at our last working bee. The new soccer goals are an example of your fundraising support and contributions benefiting the children and community of MBPS.

Fundraising Opportunity-Call for Volunteers

The Ballarat Health Services' Social Club are holding their annual Christmas function for their members on Sunday the 4th of December at the Ballarat Show Grounds. They have kindly offered MBPS the opportunity to raise \$600 for the school if we can be responsible for cooking the BBQ between 10am and 2pm. The Social Club will be organising all the meat, vegetarian options and set up, and it would be our role to simply cook the food.

Therefore, we are calling for 10 volunteers to do a 2-hour BBQ cooking stint to raise money for our school. We would allocate people into one of two shifts: either 10am to 12pm or 12pm to 2pm. If you are available and willing to volunteer your time, please call or message Catherine Chibnall on 0437075112.

NAPLAN 2022

There are many sources of data schools now receive related to NAPLAN. For small schools, accurate trends can be hard to determine because of small cohorts. However, the data below is related to National Minimum Standards and demonstrates the positive learning environment at MBPS.

Year 3 Reading

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:80%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:20%
- Students BELOW the National Minimum Standard:0%

Year 3 Writing

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:100%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:0%
- Students BELOW the National Minimum Standard:0%

Year 3 Spelling

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:90%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:10%Students
- BELOW the National Minimum Standard:0%

Year 3 Grammar & Punctuation

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:100%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:0%
- Students BELOW the National Minimum Standard:0%

Year 3 Numeracy

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:80%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:20%Students
- BELOW the National Minimum Standard:0%

Year 5 Reading

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:89%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:0%
- Students BELOW the National Minimum Standard:11%

Year 5 Writing

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:89%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:11%
- Students BELOW the National Minimum Standard: 0%

Year 5 Spelling

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:89%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:11%Students
- BELOW the National Minimum Standard:0%

Year 5 Grammar & Punctuation

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:89%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:11%
- Students BELOW the National Minimum Standard:0%

Year 5 Numeracy

- Students ABOVE the National Minimum Standard:89%
- Students AT the National Minimum Standard:11%Students
- BELOW the National Minimum Standard:0%

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests are shifting from May to March next year. NAPLAN 2023 will be held during Term 1 from Wednesday 15 March to Monday 27 March 2023.

Students of the Fortnight

Student of the week certificates acknowledge the individual strengths and positive efforts and behaviours of the children. Well-done, everyone!

Principal's Award

Ivy Darbyshire for using her manners!

Robert Walsh - Acting Principal



NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

Prep

Another fortnight of learning completed in the Prep classroom! In Reading, we have been focusing on a text unit called 'Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish'. This text links to our previous unit 'Taking Care of the Earth'. Students used their knowledge from the previous unit to help them understand the problem in the story which was focused on pollution. In Spelling, we have been learning about the sounds that y makes as a vowel and that 'igh' makes the long 'i' sound in the middle of a word.

In Writing, we have been writing sentences that have who, what doing and where details. We have also been learning how to start a sentence with the words 'before' and 'after' to ensure the events are ordered correctly.

In Maths, we have been focussing on extending our addition learning by using the 'count on' strategy. This strategy is quicker and more efficient than the 'count all' strategy we first learned.

In History, we have been exploring who is in our family and the events that different families celebrate.

Students of the Week:

Thomas for always being friendly and a good friend to everyone

Charlotte for always completing tasks to the best of her ability and putting in maximum effort.

Miss Bilton 😊

Year 1/2

It has been a busy week of learning in the Year 1/2 classroom. After learning about ancient Greek civilizations earlier in the term, we have been reading a different Greek myth every day.

Vocab words include: *spectators, amusing, retrieve, flattered, proof & aimlessly.*

In Maths, the class has been working with 2D & 3D shapes. We have been analysing the properties of shapes (in terms of: *edges, corners, faces & vertices*). Students have also been learning to draw 2D shapes that have been flipped and rotated. Shape transformation is important because it helps students with the real-world skill of visualising how shapes fit together when designing, fixing or building.

Students of the week:

Alice for writing all the different parts in her story summary.

Lachlan for his accurate answers to maths addition facts.

Mr Nettelbeck

MBPS PREP TRANSITION



Session 1: Tuesday 8th November 9am - 11am

Session 2: Tuesday 15th November 9am - 11am

Session 3: Tuesday 29th November 9am - 11am

Session 4: Tuesday 6th December 9am - 1pm

Session 5: Tuesday 13th December 9am - 2:30pm
(state-wide step-up day)



CHINESE

In Chinese, students from all year levels have had a wonderful start to the term. Foundation students learnt about the origin of Chinese Pictographs, and began to recognise some simple Chinese characters that came from the shape/picture of real objects. Year 1 and 2 students learnt a range of Chinese characters for the human body parts, and they enjoyed learning Characters by completing puzzles. Year 3 and 4 students focused on learning to say their favourite sports in Chinese. They created Chinese sentences like 'What sports do you do? I play...'. The Year 5 and 6 students have put a great deal of effort into learning the history of The Great Wall of China. They explored interesting facts about The Great Wall of China by searching information online and reading information texts. Students also enjoyed learning the Chinese song '每天学中文/Learn Chinese' Every day'.



Art News

During Art this Term, students in years 3/4 and 5/6 students created Night Sky constellations. They made these by using pearlescent watercolours and then stitching their own constellation designs. The Prep and year 1/2 students also did their own Night sky's using watercolours, but instead of stitching their constellations, they drew them.



Art News

The senior students have been looking at different shading techniques using a variety of graphite pencils. This week students have started learning about drawing a detailed picture of a face by sketching and using symmetrical lines when drawing features.



The junior students have been learning about the Art Element of Shape. They have learnt the difference between Geometric and Organic shapes and how they are used in Art works. Students have used a variety of shapes to create a close up of a butterfly or flower. They created these artworks using a black oil pastels and painting using water colours.

Later this Term, students will be creating Christmas crafts. A huge thank you to the Parents and Friends committee for the donation so we could purchase supplies for these activities.

PE

As the wet weather continues we are greatful to have our gym. Last Friday all students enjoyed completing the beep test in small groups and achieving level 18.15 as a team.

Year 3-6 have been training for their cricket competition that has now been postponed.

Prep to year 2 have been practicing the skill of striking using different types of racquets and bats.



2022 DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR



The Blowhard Community Playgroup is a brilliant, volunteer run group that meets here at in the MBPS meeting room. Anyone is welcome to come along to the playgroup, you don't have to be a current parent of the school! If you would like more information on playgroup, please contact **Anita on 0466 698 703**. The upcoming dates for playgroup are:

- Friday 18th November 9.00am
- Friday 16th December 9.00am

Mt BLOWHARD COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 8th Prep Transition 9 to 11 am
Thursday 10th Spring Fete
Tuesday 15th Prep Transition 9 to 11 am
Friday 18th Playgroup
Friday 18th Crazy Hair Day
Monday 21st Curriculum Day-pupil free
Tuesday 29th Prep Transition 9 to 11 am

DECEMBER

Thursday 1st Walk-a-Thon
Monday 5th Years 5/6 bike ride
Tuesday 6th Prep Transition 9.00am to 1pm
Thursday 8th Year 6 treat day (TBC)
Friday 9th Blowhard's Got Talent
Tuesday 13th Prep Transition 9.00am to 2.30pm
Tuesday 13th Year 6 to 7 transition day
Thursday 15th Christmas Concert
Friday 16th Playgroup
Friday 16th School reports emailed home
Monday 19th Class parties
Tuesday 20th Last day of the school year, 1:30 pm finish

2023 Dates for the Diary

FEBRUARY

Friday 10th Curriculum Day- Pupil free day

APRIL

Wednesday 5th, Movie Night
Thursday 6th, last day of term-2:30 pm finish

MARCH

Wednesday 15th, NAPLAN commences for Years 3 and 5 students

Friday 18th November

40 NIGHTS OF HOME READING



**CRAZY
HAIR
DAY FOR
CYSTIC
FIBROSIS**