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MOUNT BLOWHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No 2

25th February 2022

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

Parent Opinion Survey

On December 22nd, 2021, we received our Parent Opinion Survey results. These results are also compared to similar, network and state schools. There is much to be proud of, and always something to work towards for continual improvement.

Below are just a few examples of some of the survey results. These results are measured in percentage of positive endorsement. That is, the percentage of respondents that gave a 4 (agree) or a 5 (strongly agree) on a 5-point scale.

Parent Opinion Survey



Percentage Endorsement in 2021 (%)

For School ethos and environment - All

98%
Your school

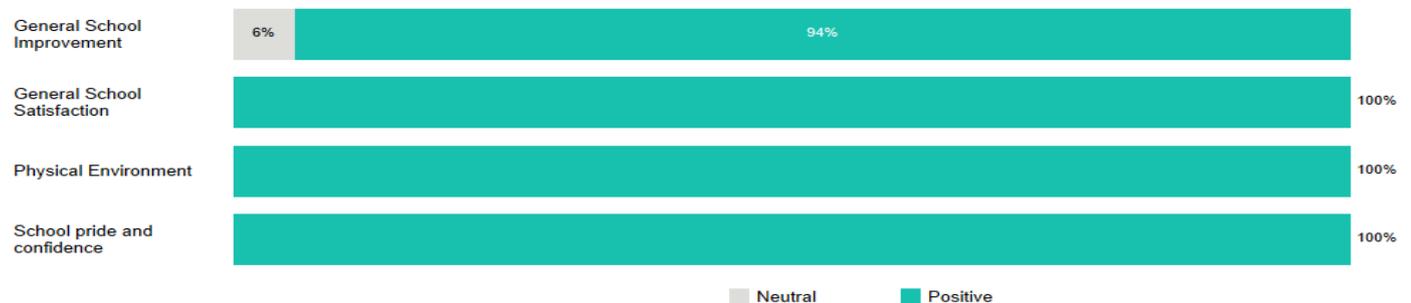
85%
Similar schools

79%
Network

80%
State

Percentage Endorsement in 2021 (%)

For School ethos and environment



Parent Opinion Survey ⓘ



Percentage Endorsement in 2021 (%) ⓘ

For Safety - Not Experiencing Bullying

100%
Your school

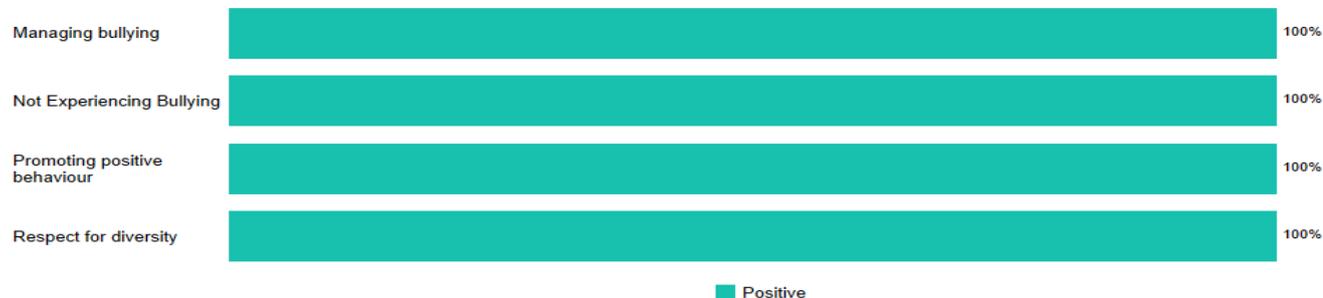
68%
Similar schools

63%
Network

69%
State

Percentage Endorsement in 2021 (%) ⓘ

For Safety



■ Positive

Parent Opinion Survey ⓘ



Percentage Endorsement in 2021 (%) ⓘ

For Student cognitive engagement - Stimulating learning environment

100%
Your school

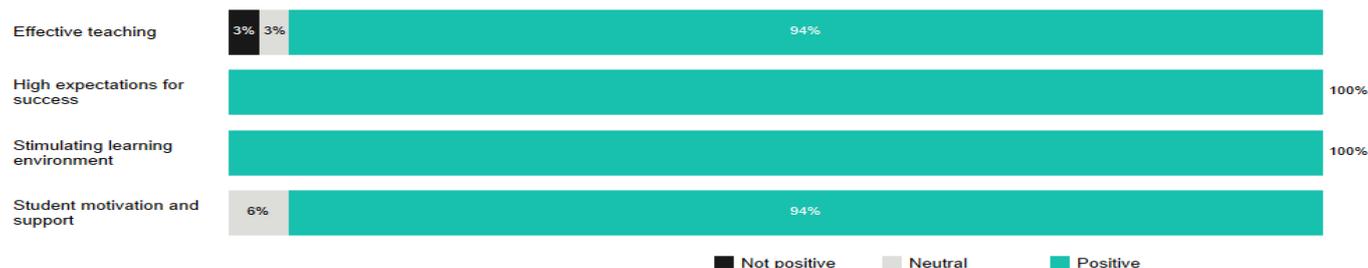
83%
Similar schools

78%
Network

79%
State

Percentage Endorsement in 2021 (%) ⓘ

For Student cognitive engagement



■ Not positive ■ Neutral ■ Positive

Community Barbecue

The MBPS Welcome Barbecue will take place on Thursday 10th March, commencing at approximately 5:30 pm. Meat and veggie burgers will be provided, along with Zooper Doopers. Due to COVID restrictions, families are asked to bring their own salad and dessert. Unlike previous barbecues, there will be no shared salads or desserts this year. We look forward to coming together as a community for the first time in 2022.

Movie Night

Save the date! Sing 2 will be coming to the MBPS drive in theatre on Friday 1st April. Keep an eye out for details in the coming days and weeks! It promises to be another fantastic community event

CCTV

Due to the vandalism that occurred last year, we have been granted approval to install CCTV. We will be following the DET guidelines of use and access to the CCTV information.

School Leaders 2022

At the end of last year, our Year 5 students presented their leadership speeches for School Captain and House Captain. This process requires a great deal of courage, which our students demonstrated in spades. They all spoke beautifully, and their passion and pride for the school was evident. The school leaders were then announced at the end of year school concert.

Our 2022 school captains:

School Captain-Ben



School Captain-Tilly



Vice Captain-Jack



Vice Captain-Jack



Our 2022 house captains:

Coghill-Ed



Coghill-Walker



Cavern-Max



Cavern-Harry



Bolton-Ed



Bolton-Juliette



Hollowback-Bobbi



Hollowback-Bryce



School Council Nominations

School Councils play a key role in Victorian Government schools and being a member of the school council is a rewarding and challenging experience. Acting as a team, council supports the principal to provide the best possible educational outcomes for students. (DET 2017)

There are many ways in which members of school councils support schools. These include participating in discussions about school vision and broad directions for the school, approving expenditure, reviewing and developing school policies, raising funds for school-related purposes, helping look after the school's grounds and buildings and creating interest in the school in the wider community.

We are now calling for nominations for this year's school council. If you are interested in being a school council member, nomination forms are available at the school office. You can either self-nominate, or nominate someone. Please complete the nomination form and return it to the school office by **3:45 pm on Friday 4th March**.

The new School Council will begin at the **Thursday 17th March** meeting, after the Annual General Meeting. There are seven parent positions that are open for nominations, and two that were vacant last year.

School council meetings take place at approximately 7:15 pm on the third Thursday of each month. This equates to two meetings per term, or 8-9 meetings per year. Meetings conclude between 8:30 pm and 9:00 pm.

Parents and Friends Committee

The P&F Committee organise social and fundraising activities to connect students, families and the community, and to provide additional resources and opportunities for the school that may not be possible otherwise. If you are interested in contributing time and ideas to the P&F Committee, please join us on the 16th of Feb, or contact Catherine Chibnall on Ph: 0437075112 if you have any questions.

Parents and Friends meet 1-2 times per term, with days and dates determined by the committee to ensure flexibility and maximum attendance.

Years 3 and 5, NAPLAN Online

Schools are transitioning from paper-based to computer-based assessments. Most schools will complete NAPLAN tests online in 2022. All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are more engaging for students. One of the main benefits is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test presents questions which may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

Some familiarisation and explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at

<https://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

The NAPLAN online test window starts on **Tuesday 10 May and finishes on Friday 20 May 2022**. Tests must be scheduled as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

School Visitors-Best Practice

Testament to the staff and quality teaching and learning approaches we deliver at MBPS, we regularly have schools visiting to observe and discuss our approaches. On Monday, we will welcome a couple of teachers from Ballarat and an Education Improvement Leader from Regional Office. They will be observing our science of learning and science of reading in practice, including instruction in phonics, morphology, content related reading and the MBPS maths instructional model, which includes review and retrieval practice.

Assemblies

Assemblies take place each Friday at approximately 3:00 pm. Fortunately, visitors are welcome to attend. Wearing of a face mask, proof of double vaccination and social distancing are required to attend. We hope you can join us!

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

Alice Broome: For her delightful greetings and manners!

Robert Walsh - Acting Principal



Prep

It has been such a wonderful fortnight of learning in the Prep classroom. In Spelling, we have been working on the letters ‘m’ and ‘p’ and the sounds that they make. Students have now learnt 6 letters and sounds and have been reading and writing words using this knowledge – wow!

In Reading, we have continued reading a nursery rhyme each day. This week we have read Little Bo Peep and Little Boy Blue. Students compared the similarities and differences between the two. In Writing, we have been learning about nouns. Students have been explaining what a noun is and discussing how they know if a particular word is a noun or not. This learning is essential for creating complete sentences, which will be an upcoming focus of ours.

In Maths, we have been learning to subitise small collections – this is when you can look at a collection and know straight away how many is there (without counting). We have also been learning to read, write and model the numbers 6 and 7. Just like with learning letters, it is essential that students are explicitly taught number formation so they can accurately and fluently write numbers.

Student of The Week:

Ziggy for trying hard and putting lots of effort into his learning.

Miss Bilton 😊

Year 1/2

It’s been a productive fortnight in the Year 1/2 classroom. In Maths, students have been skip counting forward and backwards by 2s, 5s and 10s from different starting points. We have been learning to recognise number patterns which deepens understanding beyond just rote learning a sequence.

In Reading, our whole class text has offered rich background knowledge on cycles in nature; day and night, the seasons, and the life cycles of plants, frogs and butterflies. This has supported writing lessons which used ‘because, ‘but or ‘so’ to join two ideas into a single sentence. This week we have also started reading fairy tales, with the students using descriptive words (adjectives) to make their writing more interesting.

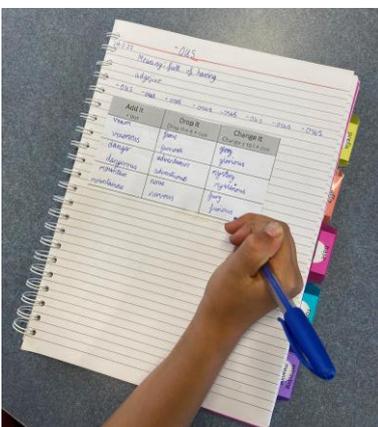
Many other lessons fill out the week – spelling, handwriting, morphology, PE, Art and Chinese. We also find time for some lighter fun activities too, with ‘Mr Nettelbeck’s Box of Mystery’ sometimes making an appearance at the end of the day!

Students of the week:

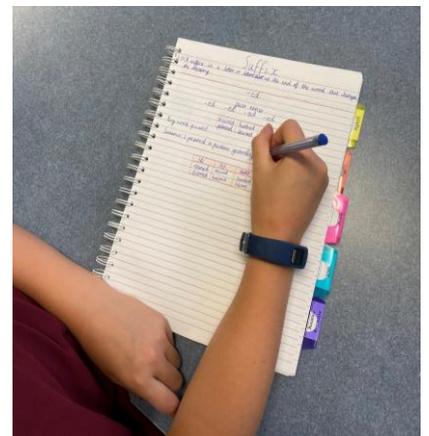
Freya for bringing her rich general knowledge to class discussions.

Mr Nettelbeck

Year 3/4 Classroom News



The Year 3/4s have had a fantastic fortnight of learning. Students are enjoying our literacy review, which we now complete each morning. We revise and practice a range of literacy skills such as spelling, vocabulary, handwriting and sentence writing strategies. We have also been diving right into our new Morphology lessons. Students have a fancy new morphology book, with coloured tabs for the different sections of their book. Test the Year 3/4s, can they tell you what these suffixes mean? -ing, -ed and -ist. In Writing, students have been practising turning



fragments into sentences and writing using different sentence types. They have also enjoyed writing narrative stories, and using their creative imagination to come up with interesting ideas.

In Maths, we have been working on strategies for addition and subtraction. We have completed our first two weeks of Maths Mates homework now. I am very proud of all students for taking on their homework enthusiastically and returning it on time. Students are reminded to read nightly and record it in their diaries, they need to be handed in every Friday with a parent signature.

Student of the week:

Cleo for her enthusiasm in our class novel lessons, and always volunteering to answer questions.

Miss McPherson 😊

Year 5/6

It's been a bit of a mixed-up time in the Year 5/6 class this fortnight. The kids have had a couple of different teachers while I was away in lockdown. Thanks to all the students for their understanding and hard work.

In our class this week we have been working hard with our new Literacy review and Morphology lessons each day. We have continued to read our class novel 'Once'. During this reading session, the students and I are having wonderful rich discussions and making fantastic predictions for the rest of the book.

In Maths we have finished learning about place value and working hard on our times tables as well as our unit on addition, rounding and estimation.

We are looking forward to camp on Monday. Can students please be at school by 8:45am sharp ready to go with their bags packed, mattress, sleeping bags and day packs. Any concerns about camp please feel free to contact me.

Student of The Week:

Max for being on task and doing his when asked.

Mrs Box 😊

MOVIE NIGHT SPONSORSHIP



MOUNT BLOWHARD PS MOVIE NIGHT: FRIDAY 1st APRIL 2022

Calling for your support to help our school...and advertise your business!

On Friday 1st April, Mt Blowhard Primary School is running a movie night as a major fundraiser for our school. As this is a major fundraiser for us, we need your help and support. Do you know any businesses that would be willing to sponsor us? They can purchase an advertising slot, with their logo to be shown before the film starts, during the pre-credits, during interval, and at the end of the night. Entry advertising slots cost \$100. Businesses can also become a *Gold Sponsor* of the evening by contributing \$500 to the event. Gold Sponsorship will entitle the business to ongoing advertising throughout 2022 in the school newsletter, school Facebook page, the weekly whole school assembly, as well as constant advertising on the night of the event.

They can register their interest via the school email at

mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au or see Zelma and she can email out a letter and invoice.



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Monday 28th to Wednesday 2nd March Year 5/6 Beach Camp

MARCH

Thursday 10th Community Barbecue-TBC

Monday 14th Labour Day public holiday

Monday 14th Preps (Foundation) full time

Monday 28th Curriculum Day (pupil free)-TBC

APRIL

Friday 1st April Movie Night

Friday 8th April Last day of term 1, 2:30 pm finish

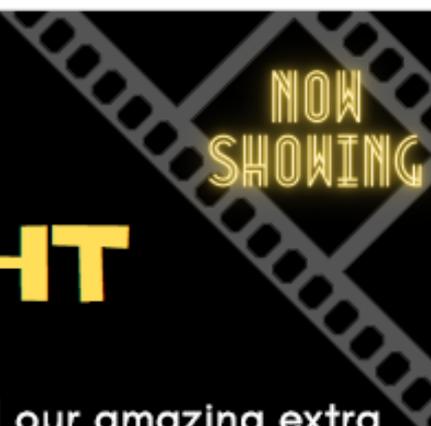
Monday 25th ANZAC Day public holiday

Tuesday 26th Term 2 commences

MAY

Tuesday 10th May NAPLAN online commences





NOW
SHOWING



We are having a
MOVIE NIGHT

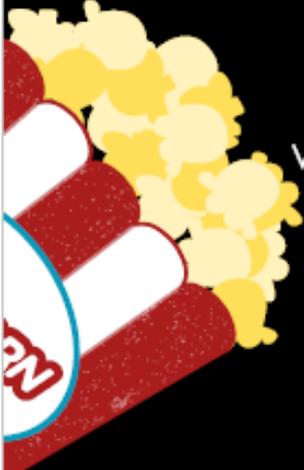
To raise money for our great school and our amazing extra curricular activities Mount Blowhard Primary School will be holding a Drive-in Movie Night with a BBQ tea on Friday the 1st of April.

People will be able to enjoy the movie while relaxing in their vehicles or bring along deck chairs and picnic rugs to soak up the atmosphere up the front on the grass. We'd love to see all school families come along and join in on the fun.



WHEN: FRIDAY THE 1ST OF APRIL 2022
GATES OPEN AT 6PM. BBQ TEA FROM 6.30PM
MOVIE TO COMMENCE AT DUSK (APPROXIMATELY 8PM).

PRICE: \$25 PER CAR. TO SECURE A TICKET PLEASE CONTACT ZELMA IN THE OFFICE. PLEASE ALSO PROVIDE ZELMA WITH THE TYPE OF VEHICLE YOU WILL BE DRIVING TO HELP WITH PLANNING CAR PARKING ARRANGEMENTS ON THE NIGHT.



BBQ: \$1 PER SAUSAGE OR \$2 PER HAMBURGER. VEGETARIAN OPTIONS AVAILABLE AT THE SAME PRICE. THERE WILL ALSO BE LOLLIES, POPCORN, ICE CREAMS AND DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE BEFORE THE MOVIE AND DURING THE INTERMISSION.

All funds raised will go towards equipment, resources and future events for the school.