## Principal’s Report

**Keeping Safe and Healthy at School**

Parents need to be aware that some of our students suffer from food allergies and maybe at risk of an anaphylaxis reaction. Some of our young students could be considered too young to understand the effects of nuts or nut products for students diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis.

The school encourages families not to send nuts or nut products to the school or on school activities. This forms a part of the school’s risk management strategy to support students with health needs. To support students with health needs we remind them to wash their hands before and after eating and that they are not to share food with other children. Food that is uneaten is encouraged to go back home.

### Health Plans

Every year parents of children with identified health plans (including asthma and anaphylaxis) are required to supply the school with an updated health plan for their child. This plan needs to be signed off by your child’s doctor and sent along to the school. If in doubt of the review date please speak to Karen in the office.

We seek to keep every child well and healthy at school.

### P&C

Thank you to the parents who came along to the first P&C meeting of the year. Thank you to the people who put up their hand to take on a role within the school

P – Still Vacant
VP – Nina Mather
T - Lisa Schindler
S - Dolores Bragg

I would like to acknowledge the wonderful contribution of our past president Deb Riley for the amazing job she did as president for the last few years. It has been a wonderful collaboration working with you. Thank you to the hard working committee of 2014. Your time has been greatly appreciated and the school is in a much stronger position as a result of all your efforts.

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### Coming Events

#### Week 5

- **Wednesday, 25/2**
  - School Banking
  - Yr 1 & 2 School House Museum Excursion
- **Thursday, 26/2**
  - Library Day
  - Assembly – 2.05pm – 4/5E to host
- **Friday, 27/2**
  - Sports Uniform (all term)
  - Sausage Sizzle – 4/5E parents requested to assist
  - PSSA – Rd 3 vs North Ryde PS – Magdala Oval
- **Sunday, 1/3**
  - P&C Bowling Afternoon

#### Week 6

- **Wednesday, 4/3**
  - School Banking
- **Thursday, 5/3**
  - Library Day
  - Tuckertime – Green/Amber – 4/5 to host
- **Friday, 6/3**
  - PSSA – Rd 4 v Hunters Hill – Bill Mitchell Res

#### Week 7

- **Monday, 9/3**
  - Life Education
- **Tuesday, 10/3**
  - Life Education
  - Zone Swimming Carnival
- **Wednesday, 11/3**
  - Life Education
  - NRMA Science Day
- **Thursday, 12/3**
  - Life Education
  - Yrs 4, 5 & 6 – Marsden Sports Day
  - Assembly – 3L to host
- **Friday, 13/3**
  - Ride to School
  - Sausage Sizzle – 3L parents to assist
  - PSSA – Rd5 – vs Ryde PS – Ryde Oval
- **Sunday, 15/3**
  - Working Bee
A strong P&C is a strong school. Please support them as their efforts support all students.

**Position Vacant – We Need You**
Thank you to the many people who volunteered to take up positions on the P&C for 2015.

There is one position still to fill and that is the role of President. This role must be filled as there are programs such as OHSC that operate under the main P&C body. We thank Deb Riley for her service and contribution as past president. She will still be at the school to give our new president support whenever needed. Nina (with a tiny baby) is happy to support in her role of vice president.

I am sure there is someone in our parent community who could step into this role and make it their own. There is great support from the school and there are many hands who help in the activities of the P&C. Please say “Yes, I can do this”

Please contact Nina on 0410 434 854 for further information

**Bowling Afternoon**
Once upon a time our family bowling event was held on a Saturday night and many people felt that it became a late night for our young students. This year Bowling will be held this Sunday afternoon which will make a pleasant time for our families.

Don’t worry if you don’t know anyone or can’t bowl; the kids do and we can all enjoy watching them and saying hello to other parents. Book your tickets today for a great afternoon of action.

**West Ryde St Fair**
The West Ryde St Fair is on again on Saturday 28th March (yes the same day as the election).

As students are too young to vote they can participate in the morning street parade and have fun supporting the school and earning prizes for the best Easter hat. More information will be in next week’s newsletter.

**Clare Kristensen**
Principal

**Principal’s Award for Book Work**
The following children will be receiving a Principal’s Award at this week’s assembly:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KP</td>
<td>Fox</td>
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<tr>
<td>KE</td>
<td>Mia K</td>
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<td>1 S</td>
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<td>2/1 O</td>
<td>Nathan S</td>
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<td>2 R</td>
<td>Tiffanie</td>
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<td>3 L</td>
<td>Joshua R</td>
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<td>4/5 E</td>
<td>Max P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 M</td>
<td>Oscar</td>
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**Communication**

**Skoolbag App Trial**
This is our final week of trialling the Skoolbag app. The app enables you to receive reminders and information about events through push notifications. You will also receive an alert when the weekly newsletter is uploaded. If you have any feedback, please complete the brief survey by entering the URL [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9MW6XXF](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9MW6XXF). The link is also available on the school website and through the Skoolbag app.

**Learning and Support**

**Support your Child with Reading**
The goal of reading is for your child to make sense of what is being read. Pause, prompt, praise is a technique you can apply when your child is reading aloud and has difficulty identifying a word.

**Pause**
During reading, wait and give your child time to work out the word they don't know. Pausing creates an opportunity for your child to try to self-correct or work out the word for him/herself.

**PROMPT**
If your child works out the word, suggest that he/she goes back to the beginning of the sentence and re-reads the whole sentence. If your child has not worked out the problem word, prompt them with some suggestions.

Say things like:
- *Keep reading on and miss out the difficult word and see if that helps you to work it out what it is.*
- *Look at the pictures and see if they give you a clue to what the word might be.*
- *Look at the sound the word begins with, use that clue and think about what might make sense here.*

Then ask your child if they need help to figure out the word.

**PRAISE**
Be supportive of your child’s reading by providing them with praise. It is great to give them feedback on their reading process.

You might say:
- *Well done, I thought it was brilliant the way that you went back, re-read the sentence from the beginning and worked out that word you were having trouble with.*
That was great reading tonight, I know I had to tell you a few words but you also worked out some pretty tricky ones for yourself. Well done.

(Adapted from Curriculum Support)

Volunteers Needed
Multilit (Making Up Lost Time In Literacy) is a program that assists students to develop their reading skills. We are fortunate to have a number of parent volunteers who deliver this program to individual students each week. Our volunteers find it incredibly rewarding to see the improvement in a student’s reading. If you are interested in volunteering and would like to attend a training session at MPPS, please email melrosepk.p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au. Thank you to all our current volunteers. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated.

Jen Riley
Assistant Principal

Home Sport
Each Friday, students in years 3-6 participate in either PSSA or a Home Sport program. This term, we have a tennis program running during Home Sport. This enables children to participate in a range of activities with the focus of improving fundamental movement skills such as hitting, bouncing, catching and throwing.

The program has been running for the past 2 weeks and students are thoroughly enjoying themselves. They have played mini tennis as well as competed against each other for the pair who had the most consecutive hits, bounces and catches. They are also beginning to learn how to keep score during a tennis match.

Physical activity is a valuable part of each child's development, whether it be at PSSA or Home Sport. The aim of Home Sport at MPPS is for students to develop skills and participate in physical activity.

We appreciate your support as we continue to develop and improve our Home Sport program at MPPS.

Alex Roberts
PDHPE Coordinator

NRMA Science & Road Safety Day

On Wednesday March 11, Melrose Park will be hosting an NRMA Science & Road Safety Day, a new road safety program that will be delivered free of charge to our school by the National Roads & Motorists’ Association with the aim of helping our students stay safe of the road.
This program involves students participating in road safety shows in the hall and completing road safety workbooks in the classroom to help the road safety messages stick.

The shows combine important road safety message with science. Messages such as “Wear their seatbelt” have a greater impact when children have a stronger understanding of the forces they experience when travelling in a car and what could happen to them should the car stop suddenly in a crash. In the science show, a crash test dummy – an egg – memorably shows children how a seatbelt works to restrain passengers in a crash and more importantly why a seatbelt must be worn on each trip.

Parents play a vital role in keeping their children safe, and so we would like to invite you to come and watch the first show of the day, starting at 9:00am in the school hall, to see what your children are learning and how you can reinforce these road safety messages at home.

Iain Bramley

Student Voice
This year, the Student Voice (SV) has many wonderful activities planned throughout 2015. SV is very enthusiastic about getting the whole school involved in everything we do and encouraging all students to help us out. Some of the great ideas that we’ve already had include a ‘Wet Day’ where we would use the sprinklers on the oval and bring in our own water guns, which would mean that we would have lots of fun while watering the grass, making it environmentally friendly. Another idea that was brought up at the meeting was having a Mufti Day with an Easter Egg hunt and a Slush and Ice Cream stall for lunch. The 20th March is Harmony Day, so don’t forget to wear orange! Of course, we have many more brilliant ideas to come through the year.

Jasmin Ahlawat
School Captain.

P&C Report
As the outgoing President of the P&C, I would like to thank everyone that has helped me along the way while I have held this and other positions on the committee.

AGM/Meeting
Thank you to all the parents who attended last night's AGM/Meeting. Your P&C Committee for 2015 is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Nina Mather</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Delores Callinan (Bragg)</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Lisa Schindler</td>
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<tr>
<td>SausageSizzle Coordinator</td>
<td>Yasmin Adami</td>
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<td>Uniform Shop Coordinator</td>
<td>Thea Gange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Support Coordinator</td>
<td>Kylie Cruise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Market Day Coordinators</td>
<td>Sheridan Collins, Nina Mather, Chantel Latu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banking Coordinator</td>
<td>Marion Daly, Cathy Lincoln</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Club coordinator</td>
<td>Nicola Wrench, Cathy Lincoln</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSHC Representatives</td>
<td>Kerrie O’Brien, Liz Eassie, Trish Chin, Danielle Davis, Erica H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Marion Daly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Parent Coordinator</td>
<td>Chantel Latu</td>
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At Melrose Park Public School we are Respectful Responsible Learners

We still need someone to be the President, so if you are interested please speak with myself or Nina – or email us on the below email.

Ten Pin Bowling Afternoon
Ten Pin City Lidcombe (near Spotlight top of Carpark)
This is on this Sunday 1st March at 4pm. Please arrive at 3.45pm to get shoes and be allocated to your lane.
If you have not sent in your form for this and would like to still come along please contact me via the mobile number or email below as we only have a couple of spots left.

Facebook
If you have not already done so, like the P&C page that we have on Facebook to keep up to date.

Sausage Sizzle
The next Sausage Sizzle for this term is this Friday, 27th February and 4/5 will be the host. If you have not placed your term order please contact Yasmin as per below.

If you are able to help on this day, please leave a message in the office for Yasmin Adami or contact Yasmin on 0432 420 628, or our P&C email below.

School Banking (Commonwealth Bank)
This is on Wednesday morning.

Dates to Remember for Term 1:
1st March @ 4pm - Ten Pin Bowling Afternoon (students/siblings/parents welcome)
15th March Sunday - School Working Bee
17th March – Raffle Tickets go home for Easter Raffle
28th March – State Election
30th March – Mufti Day, Easter hamper donation as penalty more info to come
30th March – Hamper making, volunteers needed
2nd April – Easter Raffle

If you would like to contact me, my details are:
Mobile – 0414 540 430
Email – melroseparkpc@hotmail.com
Like us on Facebook: Melrose Park PS P&C

Deborah Riley
P&C President
The NSW STATE election is being held on Saturday 28th March, and our school hall will be used as a polling place. We will be running a BBQ from 8am and we are looking for people who may be able to help for a couple of hours throughout the day.

We are starting at 8am and are looking for people who are able to help in 2 hour blocks from 8-10am, 10-12pm, 12-2pm and 2-4pm. Thank you for your support of the P&C. The fundraising supports our children at the school.

If you are able to help, please fill in your details send the slip back to school and we will contact you.

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Election Day BBQ

I can help at the Election Day BBQ on Saturday 28th March.

Name: ________________________________ Child’s class: ________________

Contact details: ____________________

Time Preferred circle one

Set up 8 – 10 10 – 12 12 – 2 Pack Away