Coming Events

Term 1, Week 2
- Monday, 1/2/16  
  Kindergarten students commence
- Thursday, 4/2/16  
  Swimming carnival – Yrs 3-6 (Yr 2 – 8 years old this year)
- Friday, 5/2/16  
  Welcome afternoon tea – 2.30-4.00pm – school hall – all parents are invited.

Term 1, Week 3
- Friday, 12/2/16  
  Assembly – 9.00am – parents welcome  
  Sausage Sizzle – 5/6 parents to assist

Term 1, Week 4
- Tuesday, 16/2  
  Parent Information Night
- Thursday, 18/2  
  Tuckertime – Red – Class 5/6 to host

Principal’s Report

I would like to make a special welcome to all our new families to Melrose Park Public School and wish you a happy and enriching experience as part of our school community. The Kindergarten of 2016 look so grown up in their new uniforms and looked ready to take on the world walking proudly in their new shoes. It has truly been the Best Start to meet so many happy and excited students ready for a year of learning and making friends at BIG SCHOOL. Congratulations on a fantastic first day!

As of today we have 194 enrolments. This magical number allows the school to create eight classes.
The names of classes follow our school name M E L R O S E P
5/6 M  Ms Alice Mee (Assistant Principal)
4 E  Miss Phoebe Rom
3 L  Mr Martin Clarke
2 R  Mrs Grace Cabot
2 /1 O  Miss Maz Aguas
1 R  Miss Rachel Fitzpatrick
1 /K  Mrs Chanelle Lim
K P  Mrs Jennie Spenceley (Relieving Assistant Principal)

Support Staff
Ms Riley Learning and Support (LaST) (Assistant Principal)  Monday Tuesday and Wednesday
Mrs Christina Price  This year Mrs Price will be found in 5/6  Monday/Tuesday
Mrs Pam Grover  Technology and Year 5/6  Tuesday Wednesday Thursday
Mrs Caroline Craig  Music  Tuesday
Mrs Sadie Gow  English as Additional Language (EAL)  Wednesday
Ms Narelle Adams  Teacher Librarian  Thursday Friday
Mrs Eun A Park  Korean  Thursday
Mrs Nicole Lewis  School Learning Support Staff (SLSO)
Mrs Giselle Lees  School Learning Support Staff (SLSO)
Ms Lee Somers  Counsellor Tuesday morning
Release from Face to Face Teaching (RFF)
All fulltime teachers are accorded 2 hours of Release From Face to Face Teaching (RFF). During this time off class, teachers continue to work developing programs, planning, marking work, organising activities, taking and making phone calls, meeting with parents, making resources, and a million other work-related activities that can be squeezed into this time. Whilst the teacher is not on class your child will have the opportunity to work with other teachers in areas such as library music and technology. Our support staff collaborate and work with the class teacher in the development of an integrated program.

Casual teachers
Sometimes your child’s teacher will be absent from school due to illness. In these circumstances the school endeavours to employ a short term teacher known as a casual teacher. At other times teachers may be absent from the workplace due to fulfilling professional learning needs. Teachers may also take periods of Long Service Leave, maternity leave or leave without pay for personal reasons. With all absences the class teacher will leave their teaching program to be followed and the class will supported to continue the learning program.

Professional Learning
Teachers are lifelong learners and as part of their professional requirements undertake weekly professional learning sessions. Each Monday afternoon, teachers will not be available for interviews as this afternoon is scheduled for professional learning time. The first week of professional learning included Department Compliance training in Child Protection, Health and Safety as well as the School Excellence Framework and Curriculum Overviews. Before school on Wednesday mornings staff also participate in weekly communication meetings and discuss areas of school organisation. Staff are unable for interviews at this time. Our school is indeed fortunate to have a wonderful and dedicated team supporting your child.

Korean Language Program
We welcome Mrs EunA Park to the staff at Melrose Park PS. Mrs Park will lead students and staff in the learning of Korean. This program is sponsored through the Department of Education by the Korean Consulate. Mrs Park will be here each Thursday and present classes for Year 2 through to Year 6. We are very excited to be able to bring Asian language learning into the school.

Assembly
As a result of Korean teaching on Thursdays, our whole school assembly will now be held on a Friday morning after the morning bell. Assembly occurs each fortnight with the first assembly next week, 12th February. Parents are most welcome to attend with the understanding that as space is tight within the hall for students, parents may sit or stand quietly at the back of the hall or in the COLA area.

Dance Dance Dance
This semester our Creative Arts focus will be preparing for a school musical. Each fortnight classes will participate in a dance program that will develop technique, and performance skills. This program will commence for K-2 students next Monday with Yr 3-6 the following week. This is an exciting program that will enhance our School Concert in Term 3.

Expression of Interest
Not only do teachers undertake professional learning, our wonderful Administration Staff of Karen Price and Debra Beauman also require intensive training in the new School Administration system, Learning Management Business Reform (LMBR). The school seeks an Expression of Interest from qualified applicants to work as a Relieving School Administration Manager (SAM) whilst Karen and Deb are both out of the school (on the same day). This position will also support our community of schools in the local area. If interested please speak to Karen in the office.

Clare Kristensen
Principal

At Melrose Park Public School we are Respectful Responsible Learners
Assistant Principal’s Report
MPPS uses a variety of communication systems including weekly newsletters, the school website and the Skoolbag app. Skoolbag is available for Apple and Android devices and instructions for downloading the app can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Jen Riley
Assistant Principal

News from the Library
Welcome to Melrose Park Public School Library for 2016

This year library borrowing will take place on Wednesdays with Mrs Beauman. Students can borrow two books for two weeks. So don’t forget your library bags on Wednesday.

Library lessons will take place in the library with me (Mrs Adams) on Thursdays and Fridays. In these lessons, students will develop their love of literature as well as expand their information skills.

If parents would like to discuss their children’s reading, choice of books or any other library matters, please do not hesitate to visit the library before or after school.

Mrs Adams (School Librarian)

Ukulele Lessons

Did you know Mrs Adams plays the ukulele? She is eager to share her skills with any students in Yrs 3-6 who would like to learn. The first practice will be on Thursday 11th February, second half of lunch.

Stage Two and Three News

Years 3-6 have got off to a busy start to the school year. Despite the stormy weather, they have been moving around the school, visiting different teachers to reinforce the school expectations, begin their book covers and participate in sport team selections.

As Years 3-6 will be buddies to the younger students, they have added responsibilities to model the school expectations. Being responsible, wearing their raincoats and moving sensibly around the school during stormy weather is just one example of how students can show younger students responsible behaviour.

This term, one of our visual arts focuses is print making so several of our book covers involve simple prints. Later in the term we will be requesting some additional resources such as recycled thick cardboard and Styrofoam trays and plates so that we can try different types of printing.

At Melrose Park Public School we are Respectful Responsible Learners
Summer PSSA trials have commenced. Year 3 & 4 students can participate in T-Ball with Mrs Kristensen and Years 5 & 6 can participate in softball with Mr Clark. Students playing PSSA will need to pay for buses to away games. Students who are not participating in PSSA will remain at school on Fridays and do sport with Miss Mee and Miss Rom.

This Thursday is our **school swimming carnival**. Students should be at school at 8:45 so that they are ready to depart at 9am. Swimming costumes should be worn under the students’ school uniforms and clothes packed for changing after the carnival. Students should also remember their towel, goggles, plastic bag for wet clothes, sun screen, hat, water bottle and enough food and drink for the day.

**Miss Mee**

**P & C Report**

Welcome to all our new Kindy families. Should you ever wish to speak to me I am available on the contact details below.

**Sausage Sizzle**

**YEARLY ORDERS**

For the new families, at Melrose Park we hold a sausage sizzle for lunch once every fortnight. This equates to 4-5 times each term. Each class takes a turn to be the ‘host’ and as such we ask that 2 to 3 parents from the host class volunteer their time to help cook and serve the sausages.

The first Sausage Sizzle for this term is **next Friday, 12th February** and 5/6 will be the host. Please ensure ALL orders are in by **TUESDAY 9th February**, as we place our sausage orders on a Wednesday morning, order form is attached.

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.

**Sausage Sizzle Change – Starting Term 1 2016**

*With our wonderful school getting bigger each year and the need for sausage sizzle to run more efficiently, our Co-Ordinator needs more time to organise the administration involved each term. With this in mind, we have decided to make the order form yearly. You can choose to pay for the whole year upfront or by term (all monies must be received by the last week of each term for the following terms Sausage Sizzle, except in T1 by due date stated on form). As we have been lucky enough to receive some sausage sizzle subsidies, we have been able to slightly reduce the cost and the orders are now for all fortnightly sausage sizzles regardless of attendance.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What’s Changed</th>
<th>How does it affect me</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One Order form for whole year</td>
<td>Unless you want to change your order, you can forget about forms each term.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price</td>
<td>It’s cheaper per year!!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option to pay whole year upfront</td>
<td>Pay once then sit back &amp; relax for a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All sausage sizzles are covered</td>
<td>Because of the subsidies covering some expenses, there’s no need for you to calculate based on attendance, it’s all the same price.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The smiles from our friendly volunteers are free :-)

You still have a choice of beef or chicken & of Ice block or lemonade ice block!!!!

**Welcome Afternoon Tea**

*This Friday 5th February,* we are having a meet and greet of the new families at school. If you are able to *help with catering by providing some nibbles or cake* this would be appreciated. Also if you are able to come to school early and meet some of the new faces in the afternoon, it would be lovely to have you. Come meet a new parent or catch up with existing families 2.30 – 4pm in the hall.
P&C AGM/Meeting
The first meeting for 2016 will be on Monday 22nd February @ 7.30pm in the library. This will also be our Annual AGM. If you are interested in volunteering for a position on the P&C and would like to discuss the roles please call/email me on the details below.

Positions are
President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Community Support Coordinator
Sausage Sizzle Coordinator
Book Club Coordinator
Market Day Coordinators
OOSCH Committee Members
School Banking Coordinators

In coming along to the meetings you do not have to put your hand up for a position on the committee. You can help out for certain events, as little or as much as you are available – if you are unable to help out you are still encouraged to attend the meetings to learn more about the school. All help is greatly appreciated – “many hands make light work”. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to put yourself forward for a position please put it in writing to be put forward at the meeting.

Uniform Shop
The uniform shop is currently open on Mondays and Fridays from 8.40am – 9.15am. Order forms are found on the school website which can be printed and sent in with payment enclosed or Internet transfer to the P&C account. Once payment has been cleared, the Uniform shop will collate the order and deliver to your child’s class on one of these days.

Yr 6 Shirts
Order forms going home this week. Due back by Thursday 11th February.

Family Bowling Afternoon
Keep this date free Sunday 28th February @ 4pm at Tenpin City Lidcombe. More information to come, later in the month.

Labels Fundraiser
To prevent your child from losing their belongings please visit www.ozlabels.com.au and use the fundraising code FRS1240. They have different size sticky labels, sew on, stick on and shoe labels. They do package deals or separate orders, with very fast delivery. 20% of all sales are donated back to the P&C.

Dates to Remember for Term 1:
5th February – Welcome Arvo Tea (all welcome, afternoon tea donations required)
22nd February @ 7.30pm – P&C Meeting & AGM Library
28th February @ 4pm – Ten Pin Bowling Afternoon (students/siblings/parents welcome)
8th March – Raffle Tickets go home for Easter Raffle
Date TBC - Mufti Day, Easter hamper donation as penalty more info to come
24th March – Easter Raffle Drawn

If you would like to contact me, my details are:
Mobile – 0416 130 274
Email – melroseparkpc@hotmail.com
Like us on Facebook: Melrose Park PS P&C

Cathy Lincoln
P&C President

At Melrose Park Public School we are Respectful Responsible Learners
Bookclub
Hello all and welcome to 2016. I have received a backorder from the final bookclub order of 2015 and unfortunately I have misplaced the note saying who it belongs to. If you are currently waiting on a book from last year’s final order, would you kindly contact Mrs Price at the front office in order to receive it.

Many thanks,
Georgia Pantic (Book Club Co-ordinator)

Composite Classes
At the beginning of a new school year, many parents might suddenly find their child in a composite class. Naturally questions arise; for the older group-will my child be held back? For the younger group-will my child be able to keep up?

Composite classes have been the source of some concern over the years, with parents often believing that their offspring is being disadvantaged in some way by being in one. The key to understanding composites is realising that growth is determined by stages and not magically by ages.

It would be ludicrous to presume that all toddlers, once they reach the age of two, are toilet trained and talk in sentences – some will, some won’t, but all will in the end. Stages of all sorts continue throughout childhood. It is the same with learning.

Every class is already a composite in terms of the range in school starting ages and the different learning abilities and needs of students. State educational authorities throughout Australia group student learning into stages, usually over a two year period. In NSW, Stage 1 is Years one and two, through to Stage 6 covering Years 11 and 12.

Composite classes have always existed. Country schools and smaller schools, including Melrose Park, traditionally have composite classes. The numbers of the whole school, K-6, are taken into account when forming classes and providing teachers to staff schools. The Department of Education indicate that overseas research has shown children in composite classes do no better or worse academically than their peers in straight grade class, but that, socially their development is enhanced. They are more confident, can operate better as part of a group, become more independent learners and better problem solvers. They also make friends outside of their standard age –groups.

The good thing about composite classes is that is draws attention to individual needs and individualises learning. Teachers are professionals experienced in conducting programs in multi age groups. Older students are not held back in composite classes. Teachers can introduce core concepts to the whole class and differentiate instruction for the range of learners in the classroom.

Even within the same class, children will be at different levels. Teachers recognise this and use a continuum of learning to target the work of those who learn more quickly and ensure there are strategies in place for those developing their knowledge, understanding and skills. The classroom is then outcomes based and modelled on the NSW continuum of learning in Literacy and Numeracy so that student needs are catered no matter what year they are in.

At Melrose Park PS teachers, have thought carefully using their professional judgement, looking at the needs of each student, year group dynamics and school needs and have placed students into the class that will meet the needs of the student for 2016.
Latest news

Chess class
The chess class at Melrose Park Public School runs on Tuesday lunch from 11:15 am - 12:00 pm. If you are interested in joining the chess class, please contact the Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170 or via enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au

Upcoming chess event
20th February: Parramatta Saturday Fun Tournament

More information on coaching and events can be found on www.sydneyacademyofchess.com.au

2015 Solution puzzle #19
1. Qxh8+, Bxh8 2. Rxh8#

Puzzle #1: White to play and checkmate in 2 moves.
Melrose Park Public School Chess Classes – 2016

Classes will take place on Tuesdays from 11:15AM – 12:00PM.

To enrol, please tick the appropriate boxes below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 – Cost: $85</th>
<th>□</th>
<th>Workbook 1 – Cost: $28</th>
<th>□</th>
<th>Chess clock – Cost: $75</th>
<th>□</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[2nd Feb - 5th Apr]</td>
<td></td>
<td>[Beginner / Rookie]</td>
<td></td>
<td>[DGDT Easy GameTimer]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 – Cost: $76.50</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Workbook 2 – Cost: $28</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Chess set – Cost: $30</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[3rd May - 28th Jun]</td>
<td></td>
<td>[Intermediate]</td>
<td></td>
<td>[Roll-up chess board + pieces]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3 – Cost: $85</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Workbooks 1 &amp; 2 – Cost: $42</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Advanced Book – Cost: $39</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[19th Jul - 20th Sep]</td>
<td></td>
<td>[SPECIAL OFFER]</td>
<td></td>
<td>[Exploration in Chess Beauty]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4 – Cost: $85</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[11th Oct - 13th Dec]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Delivery Information**

- Name: __________________________
- Postal address: _______________________
- Suburb: ___________________________
- State: ___________________________ Postcode: ___________

Pay for four terms in advance and receive a free chess set or workbook 2 valued at up to $30. Offer expires 31st March, 2016. (Please circle your choice)

Payment is due by the day of the first lesson. There will be no refunds for students who miss classes during the term.

**Total amount paid:** $____________

**Method of payment** [please note that cash payments will NOT be accepted]

- Online payment [preferred method]
- Direct deposit
- Visa
- Mastercard

**Sydney Academy of Chess**

BSB: 062 319 Account Number: 1036 9559 [Commonwealth Bank]

In the transaction description, you must write the school code ‘MK’, followed by the term’s equipment code(s) and the child’s first initial and surname.

Codes: Term 1 = 1, Term 2 = 2, Term 3 = 3, Term 4 = 4, Workbook 1 = 5, Workbook 2 = 6, Workbooks 1 & 2 = 56, Advanced Book = 7, Chess clock = 8, Chess set = 9

For example, ‘MK1265JSmith’ would be John Smith’s payment for terms 1 and 2, plus a payment for Workbook 2, and a chess set. If you pay by direct deposit, you must email a receipt and this permission form to enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au or fax to (02) 9745 1176.

- Card Holder’s Name: __________________________
- Card Number: __________ / __________ / __________ / __________
- Expiry Date: __________ / __________ Card Validation Code: __________

**Student’s Name:** __________________________ Date of Birth: __________

**Class:** __________________________ Parent’s Name: __________________________

**Contact Numbers:** (Home) __________________________ (Work) __________________________ (Mobile) __________________________

**Email:** __________________________

**Relevant medical conditions / allergies:** __________________________

**Signed:** __________________________ Date: __________
WE NEED YOU ON THE P & C AGM 22nd FEBRUARY 2016 - 7.30PM
ALL POSITIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE

P&C EXECUTIVE

President: This is a great opportunity to meet new people and continuing to foster our relationships within the school and into the community. This requires a little office time with the Principal but is great for knowing what is going on around the school!

Vice President: Important support role for the executive. This is a great entry position onto the P&C executive and assist the President in all tasks.

Treasurer: Holder of the cheque book and counter of the cash. A great role for someone with a nice autograph (for the cheque book) and who is also good with a calculator.

Secretary: Keep all our affairs and records in order and be the letter writing extraordinaire. Keep minutes of the P&C meetings.

Community Support Co-ordinator
Sending letters out to companies for all donations to the P&C.

Sausage Sizzle Coordinators
Let your inner Master Chef we need someone to cook the sausage sizzle each fortnight. We also need someone to collate the term orders and purchase the food for the fortnightly fundraiser.

Market Day Coordinators: Take charge of our incredible parent workforce and guide the event and fundraising agenda. We’re all about working smarter not harder so bring your brilliant ideas to the table....or simply harness direct the existing powerful talent and keep the FUN in fundraising! This is normally held at the end of October each year.

Uniform Shop: Versace, Myaki, Dinnigan, Wang - whoever you’re wearing, bring them along to the blue and white paradise of the uniform shop and add your flair. This is for approx 30-45mins once or twice a week. Currently run on Monday and Fridays.

Book Club: Get a few friends together once/twice a term to submit then deliver the book orders. All the happy faces are reward enough.

Banking Co-ordinators
To collect money from children for banking, to be available on Wednesday mornings from 8.30-9.20am.
How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:
1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "Install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

For Android users:
You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.
1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

For Windows 8/1 Phone and Windows 8/10 device users:
1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8/1 Windows Phone or Windows 8/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8/1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8/1 and 10 devices.