Coming Events

**Term 1, Week 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 28/2</td>
<td>Family Bowling Evening – just for fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Banking – 8.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 3/3</td>
<td>Tuckertime – ICEBLOCKS - FIJI CYCLONE FUNDRAISER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4/3</td>
<td>School’s Clean Up Day – Keep Australia Clean Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PSSA – vs Hunters Hill PS – Meadowbank Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term 1, Week 7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8/3</td>
<td>Zone Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9/3</td>
<td>School Banking – 8.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Photos (Sibling Photos – lunchtime)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Being Brave Incursion – 2-3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10/3</td>
<td>Marsden HS Gala Day Yr 4,5,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 11/3</td>
<td>Ride to School Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assembly – 9.00am - 3L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sausage Sizzle – 3L Parents to assist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO PSSA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term 1, Week 8**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14/3</td>
<td>3 Way Reporting with Student Teacher and Parent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 16/3</td>
<td>School Banking – 8.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 17/3</td>
<td>Mufti Day P&amp;C fundraiser – donation for Easter Raffles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuckertime – Red – 3L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18/3</td>
<td>National Day of Action Against Bullying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cancer Council Parent Food Workshop 9.00- 10.30 in Canteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PSSA – vs Ryde PS – Ryde Oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 19/3</td>
<td>Street Parade Easter Fair West Ryde 9.00- 10.30 all welcome to walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Melrose Musical Wednesday night July 27th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Presentation Day Thursday December 8th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Photos**

All students took home an envelope for the School Photos which will be taken on Wednesday morning 9th March. Please read and follow the directions for payment if you wish to purchase a photo pack. A company known as The School Photographer will take this year’s photos. If you have more than one child at the school and would like a “sibling” photo, an order form can be collected from the office or you can place your order directly on line. Please send your confirmation in to the school.
Mufti Day

Mufti Day is a day where students may have a uniform-free day. The cost of wearing play clothes to school is a donation to the P&C Fundraising appeal for the EASTER BASKET Raffle. As this day is also St Patricks Day, 17th March, the wearing of green to school is also encouraged.

Reporting to Parents

Our school reports student progress to parents each term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Reporting Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>3 Way Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Written Reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Parent Teacher interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Student Led Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Written Reports</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 - Way Conferences

A 3-Way conference will be held in Term 1. A 3-Way Conference involves the class teacher, parents and the student. The first conference provides an opportunity for the student to discuss and review appropriate goals for their learning with the assistance of the class teacher and parents. From Monday 14th March teachers will set aside time before and after school for parents to participate in their child’s learning journey. However, if you have any concerns, don’t wait for a parent-teacher meeting. Please make an appointment to discuss these concerns as they arise with the relevant teacher.

Harmony Day    Monday 21st March

Harmony Day is held every year on 21st March to coincide with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The message of Harmony Day is everyone belongs. It’s a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home.

This year Koumarri Aboriginal Cultural Centre will travel to us. The ultimate Aboriginal education experience is a very interactive program designed by Koomurri to maximise the learning opportunities for both students and teachers. Families are welcome to join us for this experience.

- Smoking Ceremony & Welcome Song & Dance Show
- Didgeridoo Show and Storytelling
- Artefacts, Weaponry, Bush Survival
- Aboriginal Face Painting
- Aboriginal Song and Dance
- Aboriginal Art (On Canvas)
- Boomerang Throwing
- Farewell Concert with Student and Teacher participation

2016 Ryde District Primary School Public Speaking Competition

Students in Years 5 & 6 who are interested in participating in the Ryde District Primary School Public Speaking competition have been asked to return their expression of interest to the school. The school selection will occur on Monday March 7th. Harrison Bowen presented an outstanding speech to win the Ryde District competition last year.

At Melrose Park Public School we are Respectful Responsible Learners
West Ryde St Fair  join in the fun

Saturday 19th March is the day set aside for the West Ryde Street fair and parade. If you have an hour or two on Saturday morning 9.00-10.30am please come and join in the Melrose Park contingent as we walk through the streets of West Ryde to the shopping centre. Parents are most welcome to walk with their child behind the school banner. There are prizes to be won for the best school participation and prizes to be won for the best Easter hat, decorated bike and paper plane.

- **Activities on the day include:**
- Schools Bunting competition
- Paper Plane competition
- Stage performances and demonstrations
- Street parade for churches, community groups, businesses and schools
- Easter bonnet competition – 2 sections – schools and individuals
- Easter Best Decorated Wheels competition – prams, cycles, skateboards, scooters etc
- Singing Star contest
- Children’s rides, entertainment and an animal farm

2016 Ryde Schools Spectacular

Expression of Interest notes were sent out for this year’s Ryde Schools Spectacular Event and are to be returned by this Friday 4th March. The Ryde Schools Spectacular is a celebration of the creative arts of students from the Ryde district public schools and held each year at the Opera House. Schools present choir, dance and dramatic items and we are looking for interested singers, dancers and performers to join the concert. Selection for inclusion in the concert, particularly in dance and drama, is highly competitive as it is a 2 hour concert, with over 20 schools vying for participation.

All interested choir students should be able to perform at least once during their years in primary school.

Dance – If there is enough interest, the school will audition a dance group this year. Students in Years 1-6 are invited to audition. Up to 30 students will be selected for participation in a school item with rehearsals occurring on Tuesdays during lunch time. Costs are involved for extra dance tuition.

Drama – Solo performers audition later in the year for the coveted roles of dramatic links between items. The producer has already type cast the roles and will choose accordingly. Rehearsals are held at another school and it is the parents’ responsibility to take their child to rehearsals. Our school can send a limited number of performers for audition.

Choir – Melrose Park PS has traditionally participated in the Combined Choir at the Opera House. 25 students from Years 3-6 can participate in the Spectacular Choir this year. Students will rehearse at school and then attend four external rehearsals in school time.

Ride2School Day @ Melrose Park

National Ride2School Day is the fun and easy opportunity for Australian students and school communities to embrace a healthier start and to try walking, scootering and riding to school. On Friday more that 300,000 students across Australia, are expected to participate. This year our school has moved our **Ride2School day** to **Friday 11 March**, allowing the school to collaborate with Parramatta City Council in running a Cycling Australia program called, ‘Let’s Ride’.

So on Friday 11 March, students will be encouraged to walk, ride or catch public transport to school. Riding/walking or scootering partway is also okay. Please check that your child’s bike/scooter and helmet are safe, before they set out for school (see diagram below). A
permission slip will be sent out during the week explaining the ‘Let’s Ride’ program being run at the school that day.

### Emergency and Student Information Cards
Today we are sending home emergency contact cards for completion. Each child needs their own card updated each year. Please fill in all the relevant information and return as soon as possible.

**Clare Kristensen**  
Principal

### P&C Report

**P&C Committee 2016**

We still have the Vice President role vacant for 2016. Unlike most of the roles on the P&C, there are no set responsibilities for this position, the role is more to assist the President and provide back up for events. Like any role, certain tasks can be allocated to the Vice President upon availability. If you are interested in this position or finding out more information please contact the P&C.

***Expression of Interest – Family Portraits***
If you are interested in having a Family Portrait done in mid-August this year please contact let the P&C know. We need a minimum number of families to go ahead with this fundraiser.

### Multilit Helpers Required
If you are interested in helping the school with its reading program please contact the school – more volunteers are required for 2016.

### Sausage Sizzle
Thank you to last week’s helpers Marlene and Nicola.  
The next Sausage Sizzle for this term is **NEXT Friday, 11th March** and Year 3 will be the host.  
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.

### Coffee Shop
Coffee will be on sale in the canteen every Thursday and Friday morning. So head on over to the canteen for some freshly brewed coffee for $3.00 and say hi to our new coffee team of Lana and Kendall.

### Ten Pin Bowling Afternoon
This was a great time for everyone involved on Sunday with 18 full lanes of players with profit of approx. $500.00.

### School Banking (Commonwealth Bank)
The school does banking through the Commonwealth Bank every Wednesday Morning from 8.30am. Kids can bank on behalf of younger or older sibling.

For each new student that signs up the school receives $5 and also for every deposit made through the school we receive a % back to the P&C.

*** All you need to do is sign up at your local Commonwealth Bank with a birth certificate and get a deposit book to use each week. You can deposit as little as 5c.

### P&C Meeting
The next P&C meeting for this term will be on Monday 21st March 2016 @ 7.30pm. All welcome.

### Dates to Remember for Term 1:
- 8th March – Raffle Tickets go home for Easter Raffle (next week)  
- 17th March - Mufti Day, Easter hamper donation as penalty more info to come  
- 18th March – Easter hamper making – volunteers needed

---

At Melrose Park Public School we are Respectful Responsible Learners
Term 1, Week 6, 2016

19th March – Easter Street Fair West Ryde
21st March – P&C meeting @ 7.30pm
23rd March – Open Afternoon for new families
24th March – Easter Raffle Drawn
7th April – Cross Country Carnival at the school

Contact Details
If you would like to contact me, my details are:
Mobile – 0416 130 274
Email – melroseparkpc@hotmail.com

Facebook
If you haven’t already done so, like the P&C page on Facebook – Melrose Park P&C PS.

Cathy Lincoln
P&C President

FIJI Cyclone Fundraising
This Thursday Tuckertime

- To support the children and schools of Fiji after the recent cyclone
- Iceblocks will be sold for $2 each
- All money will go to Fiji

Support a great cause

At Melrose Park Public School we are Respectful Responsible Learners
Bike Safety: The ‘M’ Check

Regular ‘ABC’ Check that should be done before every ride
A = Air inflated tyres?!
B = Brakes (front & rear ok?)
C = Chain seating, slipping or rusting?!

- Saddle
  - Check it’s secure
  - Correct height should be inline with your hip
  - Check no extension mark
  - Check seat post clamps/bolts

- Brakes
  - All components are tight
  - No frayed cables
  - Brake pads clear from the rim
  - No excess pull required with the levers
  - Brake levers easily accessible

- Gears
  - Derailleur is clear of spokes
  - All gears can be selected
  - Ensure gears don’t slip

- Chain
  - Chain remains on sprockets
  - No excessive play in the chain
  - No sign of rust or stiff links

- Tyres
  - Check the condition (not worn or cracked)
  - Check pressure

- Bottom Bracket
  - Hold pedal crank arms and check there is no side-to-side movement

- Forks & Frame
  - No cracks or holes
  - No wrinkling paintwork or rust

- Front Wheel
  - Check wheel nuts & quick release levers are secure and the wheel sits evenly in fork
  - No spokes missing or loose
  - Wheels roll smoothly
  - Rims running true

NAPLAN Workshop
Like to find out about NAPLAN?
Come to our parent Workshop
Tuesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} March

Session 1  3.15 – 4.00pm
Session 2  6.00 – 6.45pm (Repeat)

All carers welcome to come and have your questions answered

At Melrose Park Public School we are Respectful Responsible Learners
Stage 3 Newsletter

This term, Years 5 and 6 are learning about deserts and how plants and animals adapt to the desert environment. They have had fun experimenting with leaves. Students have been writing about the experiment and creating annotated diagrams:

Over the last two weeks 5/6 M have been doing a science experiment called Bagging Leaves. The aim of the experiment was to explore how plants lose water through their leaves. (Ashlyn)

We went into the peace garden and bagged the leaves on a tree to see what would happen. We each bagged a tree with different types of leaves. (Arjun)

We discovered that plants keep some water in their leaves. The experiment proved this because the leaves began to dry when the water evaporated from the leaves. This formed droplets that we could see in the bag. (Ryan)

Last week my group and I did a bagging leaves project. I predicted that the leaves would shrivel up and die. However, my observation was that the moisture from the leaves, and the heat from the sun made small water droplets form in the bag.
Dear Parents,

The Ryde Schools' Spectacular is a collaborative annual concert held at the Opera House. Students from Northern Sydney public schools are selected to participate either in a school dance item, combined choir, solo items or in the linking dramatic items.

We are calling for expressions of interest for students who would like to participate in the 2016 concert. Be aware that competition is extremely high to be able to perform in the concert. For example, a third of the school dance groups that audition do NOT get in and only about five solo items are accepted from across Northern Sydney.

School Dance group: This year we will endeavour to audition a school dance group for the concert. Natalie, from The Dance Hub, will audition interested students and work with them for an hour on Tuesdays from 11-12 in the school hall. Students will need to give up their lunch hour each week and be fully committed to the rehearsals. The cost for each rehearsal will be approximately $6-$8 depending on the number of students selected. This cost will also include some of the costume rental cost. Students will need to purchase their own dance shoes as specified to fit with the costume. Then the school auditions for inclusion in the Spectacular in August. If the dance group is unsuccessful, other performance opportunities will be arranged. The dance group is open to students in Years 1-6. The cost for dancers is approximately $55 plus costumes and rehearsals.

School Choir: 25 students from Years 3-6 are invited to participate in the mass choir for the Spectacular. Choir rehearsals will occur on Wednesdays at lunch time. Students who are in the dance group can NOT be in the choir as well. Choir will commence after the dance auditions so that students who do not make the dance group, have the opportunity to join the choir. Students from Years 3-6 can be in the choir. If there are more than 25 students, committed older students will be selected. The cost for choir members including shirt and buses is approximately $65.

Drama: Between acts at the concert, there are short linking dramatic pieces. Interested students audition for these 4-8 parts by attending a workshop at another school. Parents are responsible for taking their child to rehearsals. Final details are not yet available. The cost for participation is approximately $40. Students from years 1-6 can audition for the dramatic pieces.

Solos: There are opportunities for solo items such as outstanding musical performances, singers, musicians, dancers. These items are auditioned by the production committee later in the year.

Ticket costs for the concert audience were $40 last year.

If your child is interested in participating in the Ryde Schools’ Spectacular, please complete the expression of interest below.

Miss Mee
Assistant Principal

Ms Kristensen
Principal

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Ryde Schools’ Spectacular 2016

My child/ward would like to audition for selection in the Ryde Schools’ Spectacular. He/She is available for the dress rehearsal and concert dates and is committed to the rehearsals and approximate costs as outlined above.

Please tick the item/s your child is interested in: appropriate

☐ School Dance Group ☐ School Choir ☐ Drama ☐ Solo

Parent/Carer Signature: ____________________________ Date: __________

This note should be returned by Friday March 4th