

# 2019 Mackellar Primary School Newsletter

Weekly Newsletter —November 8 2019 — Issue 33



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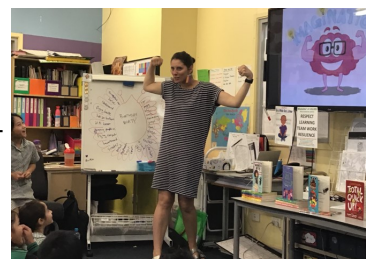
## Dear Mackellar Families,

Recent weather conditions certainly had us on alert at Mackellar recently. As part of our duty of care, we monitor weather forecasts very closely to ensure that we are protecting our students who may be affected from one or a combination of asthma triggers, such as seasonal pollens, humid temperatures and/or extreme windy conditions. A significant number of students stayed indoors during recess and lunchtime last week as a preventative measure against asthma attacks. If your child is diagnosed with asthma, it is imperative that an Asthma Plan is provided by your child's doctor and that you give the school a copy and inform us about any updates. Asthma Plans must be updated annually.



## Grade 3s and Author Alex Miles

Last week, our Grade 3 students had an exciting visit from author Alex Miles and participated in an inspiring writing workshop. Alex Miles shared many experiences with our students, such as writing books in the 'Zac Power', 'Starring Olive Black' and 'Girl Geeks' series, and her time as a script writer on 'Neighbours'. She spoke about the journey of how books travel from concept to the bookshelf. Students saw real examples of idea generation, plotting, editing, illustrations and design. Along the way, they explored how they can apply the principles of patience, perseverance and collaboration to their own writing. Students were also involved in group writing activities to generate story ideas. It was pleasing to see our students sharing ideas and inspiring each other during the collaborative workshop.



Students from all year levels have the opportunity to order books online which will be signed by Alex Miles and delivered to the school. Please note that orders close midnight, **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> of November**.

### How to order

Cost: \$15 per book. Visit Alex's website to place your order, choose the name you'd like signed in the book(s) and find out the closing date for orders. The books will be signed and handed out at school.

Visit [byalexmiles.com.au/signed-books](http://byalexmiles.com.au/signed-books)

## Prep Transition

Our 2020 Foundation students have excitedly commenced their transition into Primary School. Participating in transition to school programs and activities helps parents/carers and children gain an understanding of what school will be like. Children have an opportunity to familiarise themselves with their new environment, routines and staff members. It is also a wonderful opportunity to establish friendships with other children and families who will be attending the school.



### Further key dates for this exciting milestone are:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November: 2020 Prep Transition session at 9.15am to 10.30am

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November: 2020 Prep Transition session at 9.15am to 10.30am

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December: 2020 Prep Transition session at 9.15am to 10.30am

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December: 2020 Prep Information Night at 5.00pm to 7.00pm

The Information Evening will be held at The Hive. The aim of the evening is to give families the opportunity to find out more about our Prep program and how best to prepare their child for school. A barbeque will be provided for parents and Carers. We are looking forward to this important gathering. Childcare will be available at no cost

Occasionally, parents and carers ask how they can help their children with Maths. There are countless ways to assist children and many online apps and sites that offer engaging games and interesting learning activities, however there are ways that we can help children through everyday experiences. Speaking with your child's classroom teacher is always a great start to obtaining advice (about any area of their education) and I have prepared a few ideas that are attached to this newsletter. I hope that you find them helpful.

Here's wishing all Mackellarians a wonderful week!

Sincerely,

*Tanya Lindsay-Clark*

**Student Wellbeing**

You can assist in the development of your child's mathematical understandings, skills and use of strategies by recognising and maximising everyday real-life situations. Maths makes sense to children when they experience its connection to their real world. It's important for children to realise that **MATHS IS EVERYWHERE**. Maths has an ongoing, natural presence and purpose in our lives. **We are all continual learners of mathematics.**

**Developing Mathematical Strategies for Problem-solving – Understanding the 'language of Maths' is directly linked to your child's mathematical development and progress.**

Create opportunities by engaging in conversations about how and why. Encourage the use of different strategies and experimenting through trial and error. E.g. A casual chat about how much we are saving with a 'SPECIAL' price. Some of us will subtract from the original price, whilst others will add on from the special price. Both correct and interesting! Also, 'We leave home in 45 minutes. What time will that make it?'

**Time** – Children often enjoy having wall calendars at home to highlight important dates. Engage in conversations about special times such as, 'How many months/weeks/days is your birthday?' 'How many weeks/days this month/season/year? Use analogue clocks at home that have seconds hands (less than \$25 at major stores), as well as digital clocks. Draw attention to the features and purpose of the hands on clocks.

**Measurement, Fractions, Division, Volume, Capacity** – Share a cake into equal slices of 8, for e.g. (fractions). Show that 4 slices eaten would be  $\frac{4}{8}$  which is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the cake. Allow your child to help in the kitchen. Draw attention to packaging and weight (volume and capacity) of products. E.g. litres for liquids and grams for cans. E.g. 'Pass the 1 litre bottle of milk.' 'How much water is contained in your drink bottle?'

**Develop Reasoning, Logic, Calculating, Chance and Prediction** – BOARD GAMES: Monopoly, Connect 4, Mastermind, Drafts and Chess. Jigsaw puzzles, magic squares, sudoku puzzles and simple CARD games are invaluable! Online Maths games are also available on many Numeracy Apps.

**Money** – Allow your child to handle money and play with coins. Have your child write their own lunch orders and work out how much money is required and how much change to expect. Encourage your child to work within a budget. Take your child shopping with you. Compare prices. You might hear, 'This container is cheaper and has half a litre more.'

**Direction, Location, Position, Distance, Symbols** – Encourage your child to read signs and symbols, the Melbourne Melways and/or online maps to assist you with directions. If you are going away, locate the holiday destination and travelling time. How far did we travel today?

**Multiplication Tables** – Highlight real life situations to show that we can multiply or use repeated addition. E.g. 3 siblings have 4 lollies each. How many lollies altogether? ( $4+4+4$  or  $3 \times 4$ , 3 groups of 4). Help your child to learn the X Tables. Start off with 'counting by' and develop speed and accuracy. When your child has built confidence, work on automatic response. Build automatic recall skills gradually.

**Estimation, Guess & Check** – Everyday conversations E.g. 'How many minutes do you think it will take us to do....?' 'How many days will our loaf of bread last?' 'How did you work that out?'

**Following Timetables** – Create family timetables and have them on display at home. Use the Television Guide. When viewing, have your child calculate how much time is devoted to commercials in a 1/2 hour time slot.

**Measurement / Mass** – Use of bathroom and kitchen scales. Have your child devise a way to keep track of their growth over time.

**Temperature** – Thermometers - \$2 Shop. Compare weather forecasts over a week or fortnight.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY** .... Research indicates that parent/carer attitudes towards Maths have a powerful impact on their child's overall confidence and approach to Maths. Be highly conscious of MINDSETS that can easily develop within your child. If a child hears a parent saying, 'I like Maths' or 'I've always been good at Maths,' then there is a high chance that the child will emulate this, however negative comments about past anxieties or struggles with Maths can unfortunately be unconsciously adopted.

- Model your scribbly notes of TRIAL AND ERROR when working with money and ESTIMATING, CHECKING, PROBLEM-SOLVING and EXPLORING STRATEGIES.
- THINK ALOUD when calculating TIME, DISTANCES or MEASUREMENTS e.g.

## Statewide Year 6 to 7 Orientation Day

The statewide Year 6 to 7 Orientation Day will be held on **Tuesday 10th December 2019**. Grade 6 students are not to attend Mackellar on this day. They attend their secondary schools. Starting times may vary from school to school so if you are unsure about what time your child must be at their secondary school in the morning please contact them.

Students who are not attending government schools in 2019 may have an alternative orientation day. If this applies to your son or daughter and you are unsure of the orientation date, please contact the secondary school.

If you have any concerns please contact or visit our Transition Coordinator Alecia Mayne in the 5/6 Building, Room 18.

## HONEY POT CAFÉ

Mackellar's Honey Pot Café is open on Thursday afternoons from 3pm. Please come along to this exciting experience created by our student caterers who are looking forward to serving you!

### Menu

Muffins	\$2.00
Coffee	\$3.00
Apple / Orange	\$1.50
Iced Coffee	\$4.00
Tea	\$2.00



## Attendance Award Term 4

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Grade 1G	Grade 3K	Grade 3M	Grade 3M	No Assembly					

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Prep Breakfast	9am to 11am
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Grade 1 Mad about Science Incursion	9am to 2.00pm
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	2020 Prep Transition	9.15am to 10.30am
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	2020 Prep Transition	9.15am to 10.30am
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Mackellar Primary School's 28 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Lunchtime disco. Students may wear their party clothes to school if they want to. (Not a gold coin event.)	Lunchtime disco All day party clothes.
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Teeth On Wheels	For the week
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	2020 Prep Transition 2020 Prep Information Night	9.15am to 10.30am 5pm to 7pm
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	State-wide Grade 6 Transition Day to Year 7 Grade 6s attend their secondary school for 2020 for the entire day	All Day
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Parent/Carers Morning Tea	11.00am to 11.30am
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Grade 6 Graduation Rehearsals will be during the day.	5.30pm to 9.00pm (For students/staff) 7.00pm to 9.00pm (For parents)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Toy Fund donations are due for St. Vincent de Paul Collection	By 3.30pm
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Mackellar Twilight Family Celebration	5.30pm to 7.00pm
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of school for students Students Step Up to their 2020 classes Final whole school assembly for 2019 will be at 9.00am.	3.30pm Finish



# 2019

## MACKELLAR PRIMARY SCHOOL CANTEN MENU

Please ensure all lunch orders are placed in class boxes by 9.30am  
All lunch orders are to be in bags suitable to hold food and drinks otherwise 10c will be charged per bag  
Please use correct change or as close to correct change as possible, as large amounts of change may not be given until it is available.

### MONDAY SPECIAL

#### BAKED

#### POTATOES

\$5.00

Baked Potatoes include

grated cheese and sour cream

**ONLY AVAILABLE MONDAYS**

### THURSDAY SPECIAL

#### CHICKEN BURRITO

\$5.00

Burritos contain chicken, capsicum, spices, grated cheese and sour cream

**ONLY AVAILABLE THURSDAYS**

### SANDWICHES AND ROLLS

(white and wholegrain available)

Vegemite	\$3.20	Cheese	\$3.70
Egg	\$4.20	Egg and Lettuce	\$4.70
Chicken	\$4.50	Chicken and Cheese	\$4.80
Ham	\$4.50	Ham and Cheese	\$4.80
Salad	\$5.00	Salad – add meat	\$5.50
(lettuce, tomato, cucumber, beetroot, carrot, cheese)			

any extras add 50c each

Roll add \$1.00

### HOT FOOD – add sauce 50c each

Large Pie	\$4.50
Large Sausage roll	\$4.30
Party Pies	\$1.50 each
Party Sausage Rolls	\$1.50 each
Hot Dog in Roll	\$4.00
Chicken Nuggets	\$0.80c each
Dim Sims	\$1.00 each
Cup Noodles	\$3.00
(chicken, beef, oriental)	
Crumbed Chicken Tenders	\$2.50 each
Plain Hamburger	\$5.50 add cheese \$6.00
Grilled Chicken	\$5.50 add cheese \$6.00
Chicken Tender Roll	\$5.50 add cheese \$6.00

### HEALTHY HOT FOOD

Plain Pasta	\$2.50 add cheese	\$3.00
Napoleatana Pasta	\$3.00 add cheese	\$3.50
Beef Lasagne		\$5.00
Macaroni Cheese		\$5.00
Pizza Slice	\$4.50 (hawaiian or margarita)	

### WINTER ONLY –

chicken noodle soup	\$1.00
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### DRINKS

Nippys Choc or Strawberry Milk	\$3.00
Orange juice	\$2.50
Water	\$2.00

### TOASTED SANDWICHES

Ham	\$4.50
Cheese	\$4.50
Ham and Cheese	\$4.80
Cheese and Tomato	\$4.80
Ham, cheese and tomato	\$5.00