PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

A suggestion from a parent was that the school from the commencement of the new year, contact parents by text when students are absent. This is not to be over-inquisitive but in the name of safety. In current times where many young children are being ‘coaxed’ in cars by strangers and the like, it would be introduced only as an extra safety measure for our precious students. Some parents may see this as ‘over-the-top’ but if you are happy for us to contact you, for peace of mind, when your child is absent could you please complete the permission note included in this newsletter.

Year 6 Farewell.

Most of our Year 6 students commenced at Lake Munmorah High on Monday. Last week they had their Year 6 Farewell in our Hall and it was a great night. What made it so special was the wonderful effort many people went to in organising the night. Besides their committed teachers, Mrs McDonald, Ms Hyland and Mr Shepherd, the parents and family members who cooked, decorated, served, shopped and carried out many behind-the-scenes activities need to be recognised and congratulated for ensuring the night’s success. Thank you so much to all involved. We all said goodbye to the students last Friday as they walked under the arch and many tears were shed (parents too!). We wish them every success in the future.

P&C Xmas Luncheon

Last Friday the P&C volunteers staged the annual Xmas Luncheon and it was an outstanding success due to their terrific efforts. It was great to see so many family members here to share in the experience. Thank you so much to all involved!

Volunteers Morning Tea.

This took place yesterday and it was nice to see that our valued helpers were on hand to chat and share in the well-deserved morning tea. Our students and staff members greatly appreciate your assistance. Thank you!

Music Bus.

All classes had the opportunity to visit the ‘Music Bus’ today, as did the parents in the morning between 8.30 and 9.00am. If enough interest is generated we may have the Music Bus here once per week to teach musical instrument lessons from the commencement of 2016.

Responsible Pet Lessons

These take place for our Kindergarten to Year 2 students tomorrow. We also invited the students taking part in the Horizons, ‘Ready, Set, Go’ Program to attend.

Reports

On Friday all Yearly School Reports (Kindergarten to Year 5) will be going home. Please feel free to contact class teachers for an appointment if you wish to discuss any issues.

School Bus Travel

Unfortunately, on Friday morning we were informed about the negative behaviour displayed by some of our students by the bus driver. It seems many students are not remaining in their seats, eating food, yelling and screaming as well as being rude to the bus driver. I ask parents of students travelling to and from school to impress upon your children of the dangers of distracting the bus driver, moving around on the bus whilst in motion and behaving irresponsibly. I have spoken to the students but would like your support in this matter. Whilst many of our students ‘do the right thing’ our whole school’s reputation can be tarnished by the few who wish to ‘muck around’.

Busways have also informed us of a change in one of the bus’s numbers. Bus 3 will, from this week on, be known as Bus 2664.

Xmas and Holiday Message

I’d just like to share with you part of my speech at the Presentation Day last week. ‘As the very fortunate Principal of Mannering Park Public School I reap many benefits that I like to brag about to other Principals. I get to work with a whole school full of fantastic students who continue to strive for success, a dedicated group of staff members who give their all to ensure our students come first and foremost and are receiving quality learning, wonderfully caring parents and families who provide opportunities for their children and an incredibly supportive community who do so much for all of us. It’s an absolute privilege to be here – it’s just the best school!’ Thank you everyone! I’d like to wish everyone a Merry Xmas, Happy New Year and please enjoy the holidays in safety with your family and friends! See you in 2016.

Peter Mandroules
Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 4

Thurs 10 Dec: Responsible Pet Program K-2 & Kindy Transition
Fri 11 Dec: K-5 Reports home
Wed 16 Dec: Poolside Picnic Years 3-5
Wed 16 Dec: K-2 Performance and Xmas Picnic Day
Wed 16 Dec: Last day of Term 4

Term 1 2016

Wed 27 Jan: SDD, staff return
Thurs 28 Jan: Yrs 1-6 students return
Fri 29 Jan: Kindy start
Thurs 18 Feb: Swimming Carnival

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop will be open on Wednesday, 27 January from 9:00am—1:00pm for all your last minute uniform needs. From Feb 2016 onwards the uniform shop will revert back to normal hours, which are: Wed and Fri 8.30-9:00am and Thurs 2-3pm.

Thank you for your support this year.

WATER FUN REWARD DAY

The K-4 Reward day is on tomorrow, 10 December. There will be a slip’n’slide and other water games for the students who have reached the required amount of points on their Classroom Behaviour Card.

Students are to come to school in their water fun clothes. Appropriate attire would be cossie, rash vest and board shorts or similar. School socks and shoes to be worn to school. Children
need to bring: thongs, towel, school uniform, underwear, goggles. Children can bring their own water pistol as long as their name is clearly marked on it. Students will change into their school uniform after the activities.

**MANNO MUNCH NEWS**

Wow, I can’t believe we are so close to the Christmas holidays! We’ve had an amazing week between the Year 6 Farewell, the day to day running of the canteen and our 2015 Christmas Lunch. We can honestly say its been a great success.

We have had so many lovely comments and amazing feedback from this years Christmas lunch, with over 138 confirmed bookings and more arriving on the day.

Thank you to all those who took the time and cared enough to help and support our kids special day.

To our amazing volunteers this week—Rhani, Kylie, Emma, Donna and Joanie, and those who like to remain nameless, thank you so much, you are amazing, caring and thoughtful people.

A reminder all stock is fading down now for the end of term.

Thank you to everyone for supporting our canteen this year. We are very proud to be financial and be a positive asset to the MPPS P&C and our school.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all,* stay safe

Jenny Benson
P&C President

**P&C NEWS**

We would like to wish all students, staff, support staff and our wider school community a very *Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year to you all.*

Thank you for your ongoing support.

**OLD BACKPACKS**

*Calling all old backpacks out of the cupboard!!*

Mary Jerums is a grandmother from our school who has been very active in supporting an orphanage in Uganda. The orphanage is called Mary’s Orphanage of Love & Hope. The children from this orphanage need many things, but Mary is only asking for donations of old backpacks. If you will be updating your child’s backpack over the holidays and can help these children in this small way, please bring in your old backpacks this year or next and Mary will organise for them to go to the orphanage. We hope you can help and thank you for your support.

Miss Hyland

**SCHOOL BANKING**

Yesterday was our last day of school banking. We would like to thank you for your support this year and also thank Tammy, Jenelle and Cheryl for being our banking coordinators. All money that we make from commissions goes towards buying educational equipment for our students. See you all back in 2016. Have a great Christmas.

**Carols**

On Friday night I was lucky enough to take the MPPS Choir to the local Christmas Carols. The students did an absolutely fabulous job, and I could tell that they worked hard with Miss Stephenson learning the words to ‘Jingle Bells’ and ‘Santa Claus is Coming to Town’. Well done to those students who attended, you all did a wonderful job!
MANNERING PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Absences by Text ☐ Yes I would like the school to contact me when my child is absent.

Name: ____________________________

Mobile Number: _______________________

Child/children’s Names: _________________________________________________
Recycling Hero is a FREE program to educate students about recycling and waste on the Central Coast. Over 3500 students from Kindergarten to Year 12 have participated in the program throughout 2015.

Contact us via info@1coast.com.au or on (02) 4336 3121 to find out more.

Recycling and Waste In-Class Sessions
A Remondis Education Officer is available to visit your school to present an interactive session tailored for Early Stage 1 to Stage 6 students.

The session includes information on:
- What items can be recycled, and which items should be placed in the red and green bins.
- What happens to recycling, including a MRF (Material Recovery Facility) video.
- What happens to garden vegetation and general waste after it has been collected.
- The benefits of recycling and reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill.

Sessions range from 30 minutes to 1 hour and are free of charge. Lessons are presented to groups of up to 60 students to maximise student interaction, while fitting in with your school timetable.

Recycling and Waste Excursions
A visit to the Remondis education facility is suited to Stage 2 or 3 primary school, or high school students.

The excursion is free and a $100 bus subsidy is provided towards the hire of a bus for the first 10 schools to book a visit to the education facility in the year.

The excursion includes a tailored recycling and waste presentation on what goes into each bin, what happens to their waste and the benefits on recycling and reducing waste to landfill.

Schools who visit the Remondis education facility can also attend a session on composting at the Kariong Eco Garden.

MYTHBUSTER
WE WEEKLY RECYCLING TIP

Social Media Resource
Our Weekly Recycling Tip page has been relaunched with a new name and a new look - Mythbuster Weekly Recycling Tip.

Simply ‘like’ our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/Mythbuster-Weekly-Recycling-Tip to learn more about what can and can’t be recycled on the Central Coast.

Recycling Hero Storybook Competition
Congratulations to the winners of our Recycling Hero Storybook Competition! The book was written by Shai Squire Hall (below left). Shai is in year 4 at Manning Park Public School and her story was chosen as the winner from a very tough selection of books written by Primary School students across the Central Coast.

The illustrations in Recycling Hero were drawn by Lucy Nash (below right). Lucy attends Copacabana Primary School.

The Recycling Hero book will soon become part of the Waste Education Program, with each participating school receiving a copy to keep.
Summer school holiday activities at your local library

Christmas Craft
Friday 18 December, 2-3pm at Lake Haven Library
Get your kids into the Christmas spirit at this workshop where they’ll create their own decorations and gifts. Simply bring along photos to go in their Christmas scrapbook!

Murphy’s Puppets Pram Show
Monday 21 December, 10.30-11.15am at Tuggerah Library

Dave Hackett’s Creating Awesome Stories
Thursday 7 January, 10.30-11.30am at Tuggerah Library
Join Toasted TV's Cartoon Dave for this awesome interactive workshop where children get the opportunity to learn techniques to create their own storyboard. Aimed at students in years four and above. Cost: $9pp for non-library members; $3pp for library members. Book on 4350 1560.

Paints of War - model terrain modelling
Saturday 9 January, 10.30am-12pm and/or 12.30-2pm at Lake Haven Library
Build a world from your imagination! Get hands on practice and hints and tips for painting gaming miniatures. You may need to come back to collect your work to allow it to dry. Lunch not included. Ages 9+ (younger children can be accommodated for with carer assistance). Cost $6pp. Book on 4350 1570.

Henna Workshop
Tuesday 12 January, 2-3pm at Tuggerah Library
Thursday 14 January, 10-11am at The Entrance Library
While getting hints and tips on how to apply henna, teens also learn what it is, where it comes from, its history and about traditions from countries that use henna art from around the world. Ages 12+. Cost: $3pp. Book on 4350 1560.

Ocean and Coastal Care Initiatives: Let’s bin the little bits too
Wednesday 13 January, 10.30-11.30am at Bateau Bay Library
Children learn about how litter affects animals and our waterways in an interactive setting. Ages 7+. Free. Book on 4350 1580.

Balloon Twirling Workshop
Tuesday 19 January, 10-11am at Toukley Library
Kids will be engaged by this amusing and creative activity, gaining skills they can take home. Ages 7+. Cost: $3pp. Book on 4350 1540.

Make your own flower crown
Tuesday 19 January, 10-11:30am at Tuggerah Library
The perfect event for young girls to create their own accessory and add a little more flair to their summer outfits. Ages 12+. Cost: $3pp. Book on 4350 1560.

Learn the art of knitting
Monday 25 January, 10.30am-12.30pm at Lake Haven Library
Come show off your skills or learn the basics including casting on and off, knitting in garter stitch and construction techniques. Ages 8+. Free. Book on 4350 1570.

Find your nearest library!
Tuggerah - Westfield Shopping Town - Woolworths end – 4350 1560
Lake Haven Shopping Centre - near the bus stop – 4350 1570
Bateau Bay Shopping Centre - near the Medical Centre – 4350 1580
Toukley –Main Rd, near the community hall – 4350 1540
The Entrance – near the traffic lights opposite the Plaza – 4350 1550

Welcome to newsletter for Term 4! It’s 2016 in less than four weeks!
Even though the school year is coming to a close we are still here to help teachers and students. Remember if you are planning your 2016 pupil free days we are happy to come out and show you how to use our extensive range of online resources - contact us anytime.

- Susan Manahan - Information Services Librarian
- Narelle Nolan - Youth Officer
- Michelle Goldsmith - Reference Librarian
- Matthew Paterson - Acting Youth and Children’s Services Librarian

Creating educational opportunities outside the class room

This innovative program, developed in the United Kingdom, aims to motivate children aged 7-14 years (and 5-6 year old with their families) to discover learning opportunities outside of the classroom and encourage lifelong learning.

How it works is students are issued with a Learning Passport, which they obtain from their school, and hours of participation in Learning Destination activities are then recorded.

Once they reach a milestone, anywhere from 30 to 1000 hours, they will be formally rewarded and publically recognised for their initiative and commitment to try new educational activities.

The program has shown participating students have higher attendance and accomplish more than their peers, plus are also more likely to try new things, more easily able to adjust to new learning situations and become more independent.

This self-directed approach to learning looks to foster successful, optimistic and independent students developing lifelong skills to help at school and beyond.

So how does our involvement come in? Students with a Passport can now attend many of our validated events and their efforts will count towards their hours.

To register as a participating school contact Area Co-ordinator Selina Darnley on 4921 8739 or visit http://childrens.university.com.au/ for more information.
Thank you to all the individuals and local businesses who have supported us this year by donating prizes and their services for our raffles, fete and trivia night.

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Dear parents, families, carers & students,

Thank you all for your support and donations for our fundraising raffles, Bunnings BBQ, stalls and fete this year.

You have all made these events a success and the money you have raised will go towards improving school resources.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a happy, fun & safe holiday.

Thanks again,
Jeannette