

17 October 2023
Newsletter issue: 15

Uniform Concepts
Term 4 Hours
Tues Wed Thurs
9am—5pm
Saturday
9am—12pm

CHALK DUST CHATTER



**Margaret
River** PRIMARY
SCHOOL
grow and achieve together

Phone 97578 500

Margaretriver.ps@education.wa.edu.au

www.mriverps.wa.edu.au

Precious Possums



Last week saw the EcoEducation Project Officer of Margaret River's Department of Parks and Wildlife and Nature Conservation Group – Mr John Anderson visit the Year 3 cohort. John spent the day educating students and reinforcing the importance of caring for our Critically Endangered Western Ringtail Possum. Our local Western Ringtail Possum is only found in The South West of Western Australia and numbers have reduced by over 90% since colonisation. Our much loved family pets and feral cats kill around 1 ½ billion native Australian animals every year and students were reminded about the importance of keeping our family cats inside and not allowed to roam.

Thanks to John for a great day!



Welcome back to Term 4. We hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday. This term again promises to be filled with fantastic learning experiences for our students. It has been great to see students switching back into school mode and upholding our school values, not only in class but also out in the playground during break times and during incursions and excursions.

Message from the Department of Education

Recent world events have led to some concerns regarding distressing online content finding its way onto student screens and devices.

It's normal for staff, parents and carers to be concerned about what our children may see, so during this time we recognise that keeping families free from harm on the internet is very important.

The [eSafety Commissioner](#) provides some important guidelines and resources to help ensure that online spaces stay safe for everyone. This message will be available on the Public Education in WA Facebook page.

Fun Run

Thank you to all our parents, carers and community members who contributed to ensuring the Annual MRPS Fun Run was a success. The student smiles and participation in the running and activities showed it was a great day for everyone. If your child still has their sponsorship form at home, could they please bring in by the end of the week so we can finalise prizes. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser, with funds going towards updating and maintaining our ICT equipment.

Planning for 2024

As we head towards the end of the school year we are busy putting together a class structure that maximises learning opportunities for students. You can assist us with this planning by notifying the office on 9757 8500 as soon as possible if your family is moving on to an adventure somewhere else in 2024. Thanks for your assistance.

Swimming Lessons

Due to the Margaret River Recreation Centre undergoing renovation, this year swimming lessons will be held at Gnarabup Beach during weeks 6, 7 and 8. Once sessions and classes are finalised, we will share this information with you.

Olympian Visit

Our Year 5's and 6's will have a special visit from two Olympians this Wednesday. Josie Tomic and Aleisha Power will share their personal journeys with students, focusing on mindset, goal setting and resilience.

Sport Options

Sport Options commenced last week for our students in Years 4-6 (and T5) with students enjoying a range of activities and making use of our local environment and expertise. If your child requires special equipment (eg wetsuit, helmet), could you please assist them in ensuring they have what they need for the day.

Lorraine Macaulay, Principal

School Bus Services 2024

Parents who wish to use the bus service need to apply online at [School Bus Services](#). To save a seat for your child, parents are encouraged to submit applications before 24 November 2023. Families that are already registered with School Bus Services do not need to reapply if there are no changes to their current circumstances. However, if they have changed their residential address or school they will need to [reapply for transport assistance](#). Parents can find answers to their questions and contact information on the [School Bus Services website](#).



END OF YEAR CONCERTS AND CEREMONIES



Tuesday 5th December

Pre-Primary—9:15am

YEAR 1—10:15am

YEAR 2/3—11:45am

YEAR 4/5—2:15pm

Wednesday 6th December

KINDY K1 & K3—9:15am

Thursday 7th December

KINDY K2—9:15am

Friday 8th December

YEAR 6 GRADUATION 9.15am

YR 6 Graduation Party 2023

Saturday, 2nd December

(the day after the Go-Carts)

This is a parent organised event and will be held at the Small Theatre at the Heart.

It is going to be loads of fun and will include a disco, photobooth, pizzas and icecreams! See you all there!

More details to follow



2024 SCHOOL CAMP ASSISTANCE

School camps are an amazing opportunity for students. But they can be stressful for some parents to afford.

Saver Plus encourages parents to **save \$50 a month** (for 10 months). Their savings is then matched - a **free \$500 for education costs**, making \$1,000 available for the school camp.

Families that **start saving in September**, will have their savings **ready to pay their school camp fees in July 2024**.

Saver Plus will chat with your families about eligibility:

- Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- Payment from Centrelink and
- Earning an income (employment, carer's payment, or child support).

Saver Plus helps your families with budgeting for the cost to attend next year's school camp.

Saver Plus

Matched Savings & Financial Education Program

www.saverplus.org.au



It's Showtime

Saturday 21st October 2023

The Margaret River Agricultural Show, the region's largest community event, returns this year with an action-packed one-day format .

The Show offers a glimpse of the region's rich farming heritage through agricultural and landcare exhibits. Attendees will also have the opportunity to get up close and personal with a variety of furry and feathered friends. The FREE Ag Track treasure trail for primary-aged students returns in 2023.

Hopefully you have already prepared your amazing creations for the exhibition hall.

If not.... it's not too late to get your entries in. You'll have to be quick though because entries close tomorrow Wednesday 18th October at midday. All the details can be found on the MR Show website [HERE](#).

Make sure you check out the school art display that includes our own awesome student artists.

It is guaranteed to be a fabulous fun-filled day with a huge amount of events and exhibitions to entertain the whole family.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!



Cave Curiosity

Our Year 4 students set off with their classes this week to explore the wonders of how some of the local caves were formed and how cave systems function. Visiting both Lake Cave and Mammoth Cave, the excursion experience provided the students with a deeper understanding of the Earth Science content covered in their Semester 2 Inquiry topic : Our World is Changing. Students thoroughly enjoyed the outing and below are two student recounts:



Have you ever wondered what animals looked like 50,000 years ago? Well, my class T6, and all the other year 4s got to learn about that yesterday! We drove from our school to Lake Cave where we learnt about the animals that lived in this area 50,000 years ago. They were about 10 x the normal size of their relatives of today. We call them megafauna. My personal favorite megafauna is the short-nosed kangaroo. We got to pass around replicas of fossils from megafauna. The activity tables were fun, and we got to put together a replica of a kangaroo skeleton. Then we went into a really small cave that showed us what paleontologists do. You could crawl through a tunnel and try to get out the other side. It was super dark and fun! Later, we drove to Mammoth Cave and as we entered the cold, dark cave Nick our tour guide showed us different rock formations! It was the best day!

By Jasmine T6

Did you know that some of the animals alive today also existed in the time of extinct megafauna? Koalas, Tasmanian Devils and Echidnas were all around millions of years ago living with many different animals. Year 4 classes went to the Lake Cave Megafauna workshop yesterday (Monday 16th October) and had an incredible learning experience. There were three rotations: a bone puzzle, finding bones in a Palaeontologist's sand box and a crawl cave.

We also went to Mammoth Cave, where we experienced glow stones, megafauna bones and impressive views from the lookout. We could see the small stream below, the tiny trickle of water which is responsible for the massive chamber of Mammoth Cave.

By Niamh and Piper T7

JAMMING WITH THE BEST

Former MRPS student Felix Castle has just had in his words, "the best weekend of my life". Felix was lucky enough to be awarded a Youth Scholarship for the 2023 Strings Attached Guitar Festival in Margaret River. As part of the experience he spent considerable time being mentored by the extraordinarily talented, Grammy award winning guitarist Larry Mitchell.

Nick's dad commented that "Larry was so kind, generous and patient with Felix and truly is a talented and remarkable man. It was an experience Felix will cherish forever." Congratulations Felix!

You can watch a small snippet of his amazing experience here

[Felix Castle & Larry Mitchell - Strings Attached 2023 - YouTube](#)

Source [Nick Castle - YouTube](#)



Student Health and Wellbeing

MRPS Code of Conduct incorporates six core values:

Cooperation, Empathy, Enthusiasm, Flexibility, Honesty and Respect

VALUE—Cooperation

At Margaret River Primary School, one of our core values is **Cooperation**, which is where we work together to achieve success. You show cooperation when you work in a small group to accomplish a task, or when you allow each person in a group to have a say. For cooperation to work, everyone has to be an active member of the team and do what they agree to do. For example, volunteer to do some jobs at home to help your family, when you play a team sport work toward a common goal, or in the playground encourage everyone to join in. Remember, many hands make light work.

SDERA—Friendships

Children sometimes find it hard to make friends and maintain their friendship with others. Children have to remember that all friendships are not perfect, that every friendship is different. Friendships are a great way to introduce and understand the concept of diversity. Every Friendship is different, students learn that their friendships are different because everyone is different. No two friendships are the same and, therefore, require a different approach. What works in one friendship, might not work in another.

It is so important to create a school culture that embraces and celebrates diversity to ensure ALL of our students feel a sense of belonging so they can grow and achieve together. To show our school values Cooperation, Respect, Empathy, Honesty, Enthusiasm, and flexibility every day.

Trust and respect are important qualities in a friendship, children learn what those attributes look like in-action. We teach kids that respect means we honour our friend's thoughts, feelings, and opinions...EVEN IF our thoughts, feelings, and opinions are different. We honour, accept, and embrace who they are. A healthy friendship has a strong foundation of trust & respect. Here are some great tips to get you started:

- Being able to trust each other, be open and honest with each other
- Respect each other and their opinions
- ♦ It's normal to disagree with your friends, remember to talk about the problems, forgive and forget
- Cooperate – listen – be flexible - have each other's back
- Good to have more than one friend, more fun with more people
- It's OK to have different friends for different times
- Have each other's backs, stand up for yourself and your friends
- Show confidence in who YOU really are, don't be fake to impress others
- ♦ Treat others how you would like to be treated



Children need to have healthy relationships with their friends. You can set goals with your friends. Reflect upon your friendships, be responsible for your part of the friendship. Remind each other about the positive qualities that they have. Children will be able to appreciate the impact they have on the world around them, recognising they matter and deserve healthy, respectful friendships. Remember that friendships change continuously and that's okay. Be friendly to everyone, you don't have to be best friends with everyone. A friend is someone you want to be friends with because they're true to who they are! Talk to each other honestly about any situation between you and your friends that results in negative feelings, you need to talk about it, confront the issue – forgive and forget. That what makes friendships closer and stronger. Here's to having amazing friends for the good and bad times in our lives.

Thank you for playing a vital role in your child's resilience and wellbeing education.

For more information visit www.sdera.wa.edu.au

W k	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
1	9 Oct Students resume	10 YR 3 Possum Incursion	11	12	13 Sporting Options	14	15
2	16 Oct YR 4 Cave excursion	17 YR 3 Nature Conservation	18 YR 3 + 6 Lions Eye Clinic	19 P&C Meeting 5.30pm	20 Sporting Options	21	22
3	23 Oct Junior Assembly YR 6 Caves Incursion	24 School Board Meeting 5pm	25	26 Graduation Photos	27 Sporting Options	28	29
4	30 Oct Senior Assembly	31 YR 5 Destination High School K1/K3 Outdoor Classroom Day	1 Nov	2 K2 Outdoor Classroom Day	3 Sporting Options	4	5
5	6 Nov	7	8	9	10 Sporting Options	11	12
6	13 Nov YR 6 Camp Week Junior Assembly Swimming Lessons	14 <hr/> <hr/>	15	16 <hr/> <hr/>	17 <hr/> <hr/>	18	19
7	20 Nov Senior Assembly Swimming Lessons	21 School Board Meeting 5pm YR5 EMA Presentation <hr/>	22	23	24	25	26
8	27 Nov YR 6 Destination High School MRSHS Swimming Lessons	28 Staff Meeting School Choir @ Mirrambeena <hr/>	29 School Bands @ Settlers Tavern	30 YR 3 Bioblitz	1 Dec PP Millers Excurs. YR 6 Go Kart Day Volunteer Morn/Tea	2 YR 6 Grad Party PM	3
9	4 Dec	5 PP – YR 5 Award Presentations	6 Kindy1&3 Concert	7 Kindy2 Concert	8 YR 6 Graduation Awards Day Xmas Crackers Carols in the Park	9	10
10	11 Dec Combined Assembly	12	13	14 Students last day	15 Teachers last day School Development Day	16	17
H	18 Dec	19	20	21	22	23	24
H	25 Dec Xmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31

Maggie Dent
quietly improving lives



Saturday 28th October 2023
4:30pm - 6:30pm
Augusta Primary School

Tickets: \$25pp or
\$20 early bird
(until 8th October)



SCAN ME

COMMUNITY DINNER

Stick around or takeaway a healthy dinner, available after the event by donation at the school canteen.

PCYC Blue Light Disco

Our local PCYC have organised a Blue Light Disco that will be held in our undercover area at the school during the event. Fun disco food will be available to purchase from the canteen. More details to come soon.



Proudly sponsored by



Starts Week 2 Term 4 2023



Ford aussie hoops

NEW



REGISTRATION LINK:

www.playhq.com/basketball-wa/register/11e2ef

NEW CENTRE LOCATIONS

Wednesday's 3:45pm Cowaramup
Thursday's 3:45pm Margaret River



OPEN TO
PRE PRIMARY
5-6 YR OLDS

info@margaretriverbasketball.com

\$85
per term
plus optional
merch pack

LIMITED
SPOTS
AVAILABLE



hit the
HOOPS



TERM 4 REGISTRATIONS
NOW OPEN

REGISTER NOW

RUN, JUMP, THROW!

The 2023-2024 Little Athletics season is almost here and we are looking forward to another fun filled competitive season.

Children aged from 6-17yrs can register and compete.

We need parents/care givers to stay on Saturday mornings to co-ordinate and record the children's' results as they move from event to event. Events include running, hurdles, shot put, javelin, discus, long jump, triple jump and high jump (depending on age).

Little Athletics develops the basic motor skills of running, jumping and throwing. Developing strength, flexibility, co-ordination and balance, all basic requirements of **ANY** sport.

The costs for this season will be \$190 for the first child, \$170 for the second child and \$150 for each additional child. **We accept Kidsport vouchers.** Please note, we must receive payment prior to the season commencing. The first day of our Little Athletics season is set for **Saturday 28th October** at 8.15am(setup) for an 8.30am start. As a guide a typical meet will finish approx 10-1030am.

6wks program Term 4 and 6wk program Term 1

Trainings (optional) will commence Tuesday 24th October from 3.45pm till 4.30pm.

So come and enjoy a fun family sport where everyone is involved. For more information please email mrlacrego@gmail.com or you are welcome to our AGM on Sunday 10th September from 4pm at the Cowaramup Districts Social Club (RSVP to email). We need more parent volunteers to keep the club thriving.



Margaret River Little Athletics





SAFETY IN A DIGITAL WORLD

FREE parenting information sessions
with WA Child Safety Services



These **FREE** parenting information sessions will cover:

- An overview of popular social media platforms, games and apps.
- How screens are impacting sleep, education and friendships.
- Screen time limits, device restrictions and parental control tools.
- Online grooming and cat phishing.
- Youth produced sexual content, adult content and sexualised media.
- Photo/video/information sharing
- Image based abuse and cyberbullying.
- Resource recommendations.

2.5 hours sessions with Q&A.

Suitable for parents & carers of school aged children. Coffee, tea and biscuits provided.

Bookings essential:

Bunbury & Busselton sessions: Contact PCWA

T: 9720 9200

E: southwest.pcwa@anglicarewa.org.au

Manjimup session: Contact Ruth

T: 9771 1653 | E: ruth@mfc.au

Collie session: Contact Kasey

T: 9734 3364

E: kasey@investinginouryouth.com.au

Southwest Tour Dates:

Bunbury:

Mon 23 Oct | 6-8.30pm

**Bunbury Catholic
College Hall**

Busselton:

Tues 24 Oct | 10-12:30pm

The Shelter Brewery

Manjimup:

Tues 24 Oct | 5:30-8pm

**Manjimup Family
Centre**

Collie:

Wed 25 Oct | 6-8.30pm

**Child & Parent Centre
Collie Valley**

Supported by



WA Child Safety Services
Creating Safer Communities



AnglicareWA

After School Sports is back!

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Next term I will be holding Specialised Coaching sessions for Years 2 to 6 with the Sporting Schools Program. The program will be held on Monday afternoons from 3.20pm to 4pm and Friday lunch times.

This program began in the Week 1 and will continue throughout the Term.

The Sporting Schools Program is based on the enjoyment of being involved in and learning a variety of new skills that are adapted to a number of games and sports. This will range from Athletics skills to Team Sport's skills as well as a variety of fun games.

There are limited spaces in this program therefore positions will be filled on a first in basis. Please return the notes to the front office as soon as possible. The program will be organised and run by Mrs Mandy Sinclair. We will meet in the undercover area. (Please provide your child with a snack for the afternoon session only). Students will need appropriate foot wear. Students please meet me in the undercover area.

This Program is free.

Please indicate below which day you prefer but this will depend upon spaces available and return to the **FRONT OFFICE** as soon as possible.



My child _____ year _____ room _____ is interested in participating in the Sporting Schools Program on:

Please circle one day only

Monday pm 3.20pm to 4pm

OR

Friday Lunch time 1.05pm to 1.50pm

If accepted into the program do you give your child permission to walk / ride home?

Please circle Yes or No

Please return the bottom half of this form only. **You will only receive a response from me if the program is fully booked out. Otherwise, please assume that your child is attending.**

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR CHILD ON TIME (4pm) TO RETAIN THEIR POSITIONS.