

6 February 2024
Newsletter issue: 1

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Click the link

Uniform Concepts

To order online before 5pm
Tuesday for free delivery to
school on Wednesday.

CHALK DUST CHATTER



Margaret
River PRIMARY
SCHOOL
grow and achieve together

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WELCOME BACK!



The team at MRPS would love to welcome back to all
our families, new and old! Pictured are some of our
wonderful smiling students of 2024 and some very
enthusiastic year one teachers!



REMINDER—Our school canteen is closed on Wednesdays

Orders can be placed online through [Quikcliq](#) up until 9am.
Orders can also be placed in person between 8.40 –9.00am. Menus
and ordering info can be found on our school website [here](#).

Principal's Report

Welcome back everyone to our amazing school. It is always wonderful to see old and new faces and share all the excitement, new friends, big smiles, new classroom teachers, shiny shoes and so on.

Although this term is short we will still be holding the Athletics and Surf Carnival later in the term. We have also decided as a staff to hold Combined Assemblies with the Yr. 1 - 6 students. These will be held every three weeks with the support of our School Councillors and Sport Captains once elected.

COMPASS continues to be our mode of communication and if you have any challenges with this app, please check in at the front office as our team are an amazing support to ensure you are kept up to date with what is happening at our school.

Our ever supportive P&C are looking to have some new members join their group. If you are interested please let us know. I myself spent many years as a P&C member throughout my children's school years and thought it was such a great group to be involved with and made some everlasting friendships.

Lastly we would also like to welcome any interested members to our School Board. We run 1-2 meetings per term and are always keen to welcome new members. If you would like any information about the School Board please don't hesitate to contact me by telephone or email.

Take care and have a wonderful week.

Warm regards

Lorraine Macaulay (Principal)

Planned Vacations in 2024

We appreciate that there are times when students will be absent from school due to planned family events.

If you have a planned vacation outside of the regular school holidays, we ask that you email us at Margaretriver.ps@education.wa.edu.au or make an appointment to speak with a member of the administration team. You will receive correspondence from us later this year if a student's attendance rate drops below 90% and we do this to ensure that families are aware of the impact on learning through missing school. This is particularly the case with regular absences that can result in students missing important steps in sequential learning.

School Development Days

These are days that are set aside for schools to provide professional learning for staff, to analyse students' achievement and to plan learning experiences that meet their needs.

We have our next school development day scheduled for Friday 1st March. After having taught student for five weeks, this is an excellent time for teachers to work together in year levels to plan learning experiences forward into the year.

The other School Development Days planned for 2024 are as follows—

Monday 15th July

Monday 7th October

Friday 13th December

All of these dates are pupil free.

Library News

Our lovely library team have been busy getting the library ready for this year. There is a great range of new books to borrow and popular series have been re stocked and are ready to go. Please check in with your teacher for your child's library day as they will need to bring a library bag to borrow books. School library bags are available to purchase from the front office. If you have any spare bags at home, Lee would appreciate these to keep as spares.

This year the library will be open for students at lunchtime on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and is also open Monday to Thursday from 8:30-9:00am for those students who would like to exchange their books before their class library session.



KITCHEN GARDEN

CLASSES UP AND RUNNING

Around 200 students start in the Kitchen Garden Program this week.

If you'd like to volunteer your time in the kitchen or garden please contact your child's teacher.

Please note: Garden volunteers MUST sign in and out of the front office.

2024 Kitchen Garden Timetable Year 4's

	Weeks 3, 5, 7, 9			Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8	
	Kitchen Wednesday	Kitchen Thursday		Garden Tuesday	Garden Thursday
9.30-11.00			10.15-11.00		
11.25-12.55	T5 Tracey Noonan	T6 Barbara Rothwell	11.25-12.10	T3 Dan Morrison	T6 Barbara Rothwell
1.50-3.20		T3 Dan Morrison	1.50-2.35	T5 Tracey Noonan	

2024 Kitchen Garden Timetable Year 5 & 5/6

	Weeks 3, 5, 7, 9			Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8	
	Garden Tuesday	Garden Thursday		Kitchen Wednesday	Kitchen Thursday
10.15-11.00			9.30-11.00		
11.25-12.10	T4 Troy Yates	11 Courtenay Gray	11.25-12.55	T4 Troy Yates	11 Courtenay Gray
1.50-2.35	T2 Gabrielle Clark		1.50-3.20	T2 Gabrielle Clark	

Volunteering in the Program allows you to:

- spend quality time with your child
- pick up some gardening tips;
- meet like-minded people;
- perhaps share your skills and knowledge with the kids.

Once a year or once a week - we are grateful for any time you may be able to give.

FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Hello everyone and welcome to another wonderful year at MRPS music room.

The music room noticeboard is a great place to check during the year for all the relevant upcoming events, choir, bands, incursions and excursions. At the moment you will be able to find all of the IMSS timetables displayed. Starting dates for percussion lessons are yet to be confirmed. Could guitar students please remember to bring their instruments in this Thursday. All classes will be held in T7, except for percussion which will be held in the music room.

IMSS

Due to students leaving the school we have limited vacancies in the IMSS program in trumpet, trombone, flute and clarinet. If you have a child in Year 5 and your child is interested in joining please contact me as soon as possible. Thank you.

MRPS School Bands

If you have one or two-years experience playing an instrument or are keen to sing and you are prepared to commit for the duration of the school year, we would like to invite you to audition to join our MRPS Rock Bands.

Auditions will be held next week on Tuesday 13th at 1.05pm in the music room. You will need to prepare a 2 minute piece to sing and/or play on an instrument OF YOUR CHOICE. Guitar/keyboard/woodwind/flute/drums ... Graeme Smailes coaches rock bands at lunch time on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the music room and Tony Lane takes a rock band after school Thursday 3.30 - 4.30 pm.

Children's Choir - MRPS Dreamcatchers

Come along to choir on Wednesday's (over the next couple of weeks you can come along and see if it's for you,) then a commitment is necessary (just like a sporting activity or looking after a pet! lol!)

Understandably there will be times when you cannot attend. Please be kind enough to let Ms. Hel Bel know and ask others what you may have missed out on. A note with further information and a contract will be sent home with students who express an interest to join our fabulous choir.

This year, NAPLAN will take place in Term 1 from the 13th March through to the 25th March.

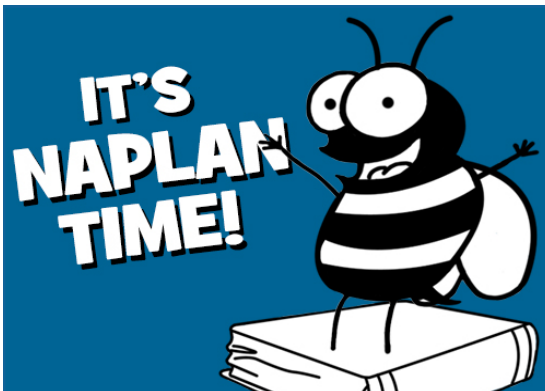
NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.



TERM ONE PLANNER 2024

W k	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
H	22 Jan	23	24	25	26 Australia Day	27	28
1	29 Jan Teachers Return School Development Day	30 School Development Day	31 Students resume Whole School Assembly 10.40am	1 Feb	2	3	4
2	5 Feb	6	7	8 P & C Meeting 5.30pm	9 EMA Excursion YR5	10	11
3	12 Feb Combined Assembly	13 Band auditions	14	15	16	17	18
4	19 Feb	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26 Feb Combined Assembly	27	28 Surfing Carnival	29	1 March School Development Day (Pupil free)	2	3
6	4 March Labour Day	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	11 March	12	13 NAPLAN starts School Photos	14	15	16	17
8	18 March	19	20	21 Athletics jumping and throwing events	22 Athletics Carnival	23	24
9	25 March Combined Assembly	26 NAPLAN finishes	27	28 Students last day	29 Good Friday	30	31
H	1 April Easter Monday	2	3	4	5	6	7
H	8 April	9	10	11	12	13	14

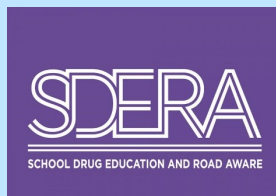
School Councillors: Speeches will be on Tuesday 13 February. Parents are invited to attend. Students from year 6 will vote in this election. There are positions for 2 girls and 2 boys,

Faction Captains: Speeches and voting will be on Friday 16 February prior to faction athletics training. Each faction will conduct their own elections for one boy and one girl.

Student Health and Wellbeing

MRPS Code of Conduct incorporates six core values:

Cooperation, Empathy, Enthusiasm, Flexibility, Honesty and Respect

**School Drug Education and Road Aware**

Welcome back, I hope you had a fun and safe holiday season with lots of quality time with your family. While parents and family will always have the primary role in children's safety and wellbeing, education is vital for children and young people to thrive in an increasing complex society. School Drug Education and Road Aware (SDERA) is the State Government's primary drug and road safety education strategy for young people. This programs provides prevention education aimed at keeping our young children safer. Our school implements this Challenges and Choices program as part of our schools EQ health program. Every newsletter there is an article about one of the 4 focus areas:

1. Safety on Wheels
2. Passenger & Pedestrian Safety
3. Resilience and Wellbeing
4. Drug Education

We change focus areas depending on what the Inquiry Topics are within the school. We share vital information and some interesting statistics. The aim of the SDERA program is to educate children and families with the hope of empowering them to make personal and socially-responsible decisions. SDERA aims to actively encourage children across WA to make safer choices by educating on pedestrian safety, passenger safety and rider safety.

SDERA

This term we will be talking about Resilience and Wellbeing. The past few years the world has had many challenges and changes, and this has impacted numerous families in several different ways. Resilience is the ability to "Bounce Back" from problems and setbacks. Together we can create resilient kids. It is important for you and your family to learn the personal and social skills that will help become more resilient and cope with problems and difficult situations that may come your way. Let your children make mistakes. By having to overcome normal challenges for their age and understanding that "no-one is perfect", your child will learn how to "Bounce Back" and be more resourceful. By over-protecting your child and doing things for them, you deny your child important opportunities for developing resilience.

To be a good friend to others, we start by teaching kids to be a good friend to themselves.

These are the four elements of this topic;

- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social awareness
- Social management

The key skills and attitudes that foster resilience are;

Helpful and Positive thinking- using brave talk, using humour, thinking "What's wrong with this situation?"

NOT "What's wrong with me?" OR "Why me?"

Getting the skill to recognise your emotions and to be able to control your feelings and your behaviour so you're behaving fairly and thoughtfully. We have two kinds of strengths, these are personal strengths such as being kind, and ability strengths such as being a good reader. Understanding other peoples' feelings and emotions so you can get along with them. Seeking help or knowing who to talk to when you have problems or difficult emotions. Knowing how and when to tell someone how you are feeling. Finding the courage to overcome fear. Keep your mind on the positives in your life.

Thank you for playing a vital role in your health and wellbeing education.

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