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melton.ss@education.vic.gov.au

Bacchus Marsh
Coaches

ABSENCE LINE
03 5366 3444

**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

MARCH 28TH	SCHOOL PHOTOS
APRIL 7TH	LAST DAY TERM 1
APRIL 8TH	STUDENT FREE DAY
APRIL 26TH	TERM 2 BEGINS

 **COMPASS**
School Manager



Melton Specialist
School

@meltonspecialistschool.5162

Newsletter Edition 4 2022 - Friday 25th March

Dear Families,

It's amazing to think we are almost at the end of Term 1. It has been an interesting start to the year to say the least and I write this newsletter thinking about how flexible and adaptable you have all been whilst we have juggled with the new COVID safety plans.

I appreciate the support families have given us this term and feel very fortunate to have a school community who has understood that the ongoing staff changes and casual staff in attendance has been unavoidable.

I'm crossing fingers and toes that we move to a more predictable staffing structure next term!

NEWSLETTER COMPETITION

Our newsletter competition has officially been launched!

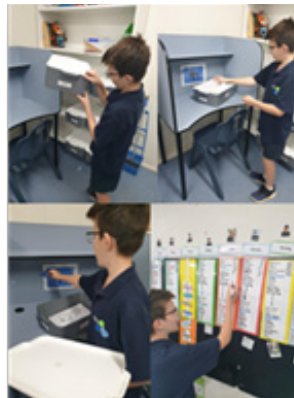
With details communicated last week, I am excited to see the entries and hopefully a new logo or two to sit alongside the new title. I will of course, update you on the winners and hopefully share with you some of the shortlisted entries. Good luck everyone!

TEACCH

Earlier this week I was chatting with a parent who happened to ask me about TEACCH. She had spotted it on my email signature and was curious as to what it meant. It has prompted me to share with you how incredibly proud I am that TEACCH is a fundamental part of how we approach our teaching at Melton SS.



Robby Pham & Yuvraj Singh
Bassi



Josh Grahame



Apollo Perkinson

The TEACCH framework focusses on the strengths and interests of a young person and uses these strengths alongside visual structures to reduce the impact that ASD has on learning and behaviour.

Through a 'whole school' consistent use of visual supports, we can help to organise your child's physical and social environment. This approach can assist your child with daily tasks by simply outlining:

- What is about to happen
- Where they need to be
- What they need to do
- What happens next

When a child is aware of the information above, it promotes much more meaningful engagement with classroom activities, independence and above all, allows a child to appreciate how capable they are. If you would like more information, please follow the link below, or reach out to me. I would be more than happy to have a chat. More information at: <https://teacch.com>

SSG's

This term we will host our Student Support Group (SSG) meetings either via WebEx or in person. For those families who would like to attend the meeting at school please note that we need to sight a vaccination certificate prior to your appointment. Bookings can be made via Compass, calling the administration office or reaching out to the teacher directly, however, the classroom staff have been directed to make contact with families this week to assist you with this process.

04 April 2022 3.00 – 4.00 pm
05 April 2022 3.00 – 4.00 pm
06 April 2022 3.00 – 4.00 pm
07 April 2022 3.00 pm
08 April 2022 8.30 am – 2.30 pm

We will be using this meeting to discuss the achievement of your child's Individual Learning Plan (ILP) goals set in Term 4 last year and to set new goals for the next 6 months. I have been reading through the draft reports of ILPs and regardless of the interruptions to learning it has been really exciting to see some amazing work by children across the school and I'm sure you will enjoy seeing the changes from last year to this.

DRIVEWAY DUTY

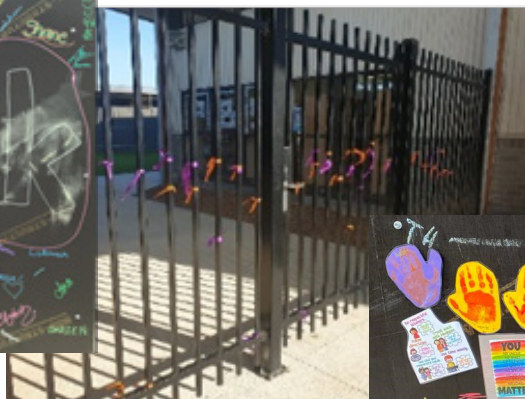
Morning driveway supervision ends at 9:15am. We would like to remind parents and carers who utilise the driveway for morning drop offs that if you should arrive after this time, please either use the intercom or call the office on 9743 4966 to make your presence known.

National Day of Action Against Bullying

Last Friday our school participated in this very important national day. Our amazing Student Engagement Team developed activities for our students across the school to practice key skills like identifying and responding to incidents of bullying and how to practice being kind.

They took advantage of the new hoarding which has been erected around the demolition site to write messages as a class and work together to support everyone in the school.

Whilst this day was an opportunity to reinforce these important messages – we all agreed that one day is not enough to focus on these key skills and the teaching will continue in classes well into the future.



Best wishes,

Brooke

Parkour Skills at Gymnastics Unlimited

This year S1 and S2 have been participating in a five week course in learning Parkour skills at Gymnastics Unlimited in Caroline Springs. This is a program that has not been done before in Victorian Schools and MSS is leading the way for others to introduce this innovative and engaging way of teaching; social thinking, social competencies, getting along with others, joining in a challenging physical activity, exercising our brains and having fun while doing it! The real bonus is that we are leading the way in improving outcomes and pathways for our students, as well as connecting students to community based activities they may wish to pursue.



We have already had professional staff at the gym identify several students who have shown natural talent at this sort of activity. The H&PE curriculum focuses on the explicit development of movement skills and concepts required for students to participate in a range of physical activities with competence and confidence.

This unique sport is well suited to assisting our students to show respect, safety and responsibility outside the school environment. Great efforts S1 and S2 you should be really proud of how you have overcome nervousness at some difficult physical activities. Some of the favourite activities were the trampolines and foam pit!



The Fizz



On Friday the 18th of March MSS took part in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence.

The theme for 2022 is Kindness Culture. Students were invited to trace their hands and write a supportive message on a school mural for the MSS community. This mural represents every class's commitment to being inclusive and respectful.

It was great to see so many students wearing orange and purple in support of the day. We had an amazing time!

The 9th of every month is RU *still* OK day at MSS. This is a day for MSS young people to check in with themselves and others.

This month the SET focused on encouraging students to reach out and seek support by emailing us with how they were feeling. We created a template to make this easier for students, and we encourage you to support your child to reach out if they would like support from one of us.

set@meltonss.vic.gov.au

WHERE'S WALLY?



Once a week, Wally is going to have a new hiding spot somewhere around the school! He may be tricky to find, but it's always fun looking. Can you find Wally?

set@meltonss.vic.gov.au



MELTON SPECIALIST SCHOOL ALLIED HEALTH HERE'S THE SCOOP!



Key Word Signs of the Fortnight



Key Word Sign uses hand signs and gestures to represent the main words spoken in a sentence. It encourages and supports language development and communication.

Here are some hand signs to try at home!



Happy

Clap heels of open cupped hands together twice, hands moving in small outward circles.



Sad

Place edge of index finger of open dominant hand in front of face. Move this hand formation down in front of face with sad facial expression.



Angry

Hold tips of cupped dominant hand, fingers spread, on waist. Flick formation to palm up, twice. *Show tension in hand shape and increase movement to suit the degree of emotion.



Scared

Cup dominant hand, fingers spread. Bounce fingertips on upper chest, twice. *Show tension in hand shape and increase movement to suit the degree of emotion.



Silly

Spread fingers of dominant hand, palm away from body. Place thumb at temple and wriggle fingers.



Surprised

Place palm of open dominant hand, fingers spread, on chest. Move hand away from body with emphasis.

If you have any questions for any member of the Allied Health Team, contact MSS on 9743 4966.



ASSISTIVEWARE CONTINUES BREAKING BARRIERS TO AAC AND PUSHING FOR AAC ACCEPTANCE.; INCREASING AWARENESS, MAKING KNOWLEDGE ACCESSIBLE AND ENSURING THE PRESUMPTION OF AAC COMPETENCE.

AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH 2022

NDIS funds can be used to purchase these Apps

 **AssistiveWare**



50% OFF RRP
29 March - 4 April, 2022



PROLOQU02G0

PICTELLO

PROLOQU04TEXT

KEEBLE

AAC ON-DEMAND TRAINING VIDEOS



TO PURCHASE THE APP, SEARCH FOR THE APP IN THE APP STORE ON YOUR DEVICE DURING THE DISCOUNT PERIOD. THE PRICE DISPLAYED IN THE APP STORE WILL BE THE DISCOUNTED PRICE. PLEASE FIRST CHECK THE DISPLAYED PRICE TO MAKE SURE IT IS CORRECT, AS THE DATE WILL BE BASED ON AMERICAN TIME ZONES.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE A DEVICE: YOU CAN BUY THE APP WITH YOUR APPLE ID ACCOUNT (E.G. ON YOUR LAPTOP/COMPUTER) AND USING THAT SAME ACCOUNT, RE-DOWNLOAD IT ONTO THE NEW DEVICE WHEN YOU GET IT.

IF YOU NEED ANY SUPPORT, PLEASE CONTACT
MELTON SPECIALIST SCHOOL AND ASK FOR
THE SPEECH PATHOLOGIST.



CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/carer details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent under a temporary care order* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card

Is this an application for special consideration (no CRN needed)? Yes ☐ No ☐

Student details

Student's surname	Student's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DFFH will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the DFFH and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date ____/____/____

Workability Project and Job Advocate program present:

Parent As Career Transition Support

Three Sessions
design to help you
coach young people
on their next steps

6:00pm to 8:00pm
Wednesdays
16th, 23rd 30th
of March
No Cost



LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

A friendly reminder to families that MSS school photos will be on Monday the 28th March. All staff and students will have their photos taken on this day so be sure to come to school camera ready!



CSEF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

MSS families who already claimed CSEF in the past year do not need to complete an application form this year. If you are a new family to our school, or have not claimed before please find further information in newsletter editions one, two or three. The form to complete is on page 7. If you are unsure, please contact Tori in the Admin Office. We will be in contact with any families that apply who do not meet required criteria.

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop will be open on Tuesday mornings between 10:30am-12:00pm, and Thursday afternoons between 12:30pm-2pm. Alternatively you can email or send an order form in with your student's diary to have the order filled and returned to you.

Students are unable to try on uniform items, however feel free to bring in a personal clothing item to help compare sizes. We are **unable to exchange items for different sizes** after purchase. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Preferred payment is Bank Transfer or we can accept **correct Cash** - **we do not have change.**

A copy of the uniform order form is available on our website for you to calculate your total.
Go to our website> Enrolment> Uniform Order Form



RUGBY WINDCHEATERS

As a winter special, we have a limited number of *rugby windcheaters* available. They are a thick material the same as the *windcheaters* and *bomber jackets*, but have the appearance of a long sleeve rugby top with a collar and buttons. The *rugby windcheaters* are **\$25** and available in sizes **6-16**. Please contact the office if you are interested in purchasing one.