

# Mount Keira Demonstration School

Established 1861 "Learning and Caring"

255 Mount Keira Road  
MOUNT KEIRA NSW 2500  
Ph 02 4229 1446 E [mtkeira-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mtkeira-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Website [www.mtkeira-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mtkeira-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)



**The Summit** Term 4 Week 2 Tuesday 22 October 2019

## Term 2 Week

Tuesday 22 October	Coding Program continues (5 weeks)- Lilli Pili, Waratah and Banksia
Friday 25 October	Dance 2B Fit sports program (8 weeks) continues

## Term 3 Week

Monday 28 October	Monday Munchies- Subway
Tuesday 29 October	P and C Meeting 7pm

## Term 5 Week

Monday 11 November	Monday Munchies- Sushi
Wednesday 13 November	Kinder Orientation- all welcome for morning tea 11.15am

## Other important dates for Term 4 2019

Tuesday 19 November	Coding Program commences (5 weeks)-Wattle
Wednesday 27 November	Opening of Kitchen Project by Ryan Park 2pm
Wednesday 4 December	End of Year Performance
Tuesday 10 December	Year 6 Farewell at Jamberoo Action Park- Banksia
Monday 16 December	Talent Quest
Tuesday 17 December	Class Parties
Wednesday 18 December	Last Day of School- Year 6 Farewell Assembly and Farewell Dinner after school
Thursday 19 December	Staff Development Day- no students
Friday 20 December	Staff Development Day- no students
Tuesday 28 January	Staff Development Day- no students
Wednesday 29 January	Year 1-6 students return
Thursday 30 January	Kinder students commence

**PLEASE NOTE: WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS EACH WEEK REQUIRE SPORTS UNIFORM.**

Dear Families

Welcome back to what is already an action packed Term 4. There is an air of excitement, busyness and productivity both in and out of the classrooms.

Staff this term are trialling and becoming immersed in a new initiative for next year, MAPPEN, which covers content and skills from the curriculum in the areas of Science and Technology, History, Geography, PDHPE and integrates with literacy, numeracy and digital technologies. It also ties in perfectly with our concept and inquiry based learning philosophy and our rich tasks, as it provides opportunities for students to explore content and skills through real world examples.

Last term, the staff visited Gwynneville School, which has been using this approach this year, and were all impressed with the learning which was taking place. The children are encouraged to develop questions and to plan and conduct their own inquiries. Our belief at Mt Keira is that along with developing strong literacy and numeracy skills, children need opportunities to question, create and wonder. These are necessary skills for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning. The MAPPEN program will certainly cater for this.

### **Wednesday Wellbeing Afternoons**

Students and staff are extremely excited about our Wednesday wellbeing afternoons which began last Wednesday and which will replace our Fitness afternoons. Each week a group of children will be working in our outdoor kitchen where the focus this first few weeks will be about how we use this area safely. Lessons will be taught about cleanliness, hygiene, correct use of utensils and general safety in the area. They will begin preparing food after we have oriented them to correct behaviours.

We will have a gardening group who will be working in our new playspaces and around the gardens, the mud kitchen will also be utilised and the adventure gully is also a focus. In addition to this, there will be fundamental movement skills groups operating, with our Stage 3 children as leaders, and we will have a mindfulness group looking at relaxation techniques and strategies.

This is an exciting new initiative and we are all looking forward to using our new playspaces. My thanks to our parents who have volunteered their time to assist with the groups and to the P and C for making the playspaces happen.

### **World Teacher's Day**

This Thursday is World Teacher's day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated and committed teaching staff for the work that they do with our children.

### **Play Space Update**

Ben from PlaygroundED has been busy working on our outdoor learning area behind the garage. He has built a beautiful wooden staircase from the small sandstone building to provide access to this area. His daughter has painted a mural on the walls surrounding the water tanks and the area is beginning to rapidly take shape. We will utilise this area on 7 November when the whole school will take part in an outdoor classroom day.

### **P&C Meeting**

Our Term 4 P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 29 October in the Library at 7pm. I look forward to seeing you all there.

## **Deadly Awards**

We are delighted to advise that Lani and Kobi were nominated for DEADLY awards. The Deadly Awards are an important event on the educational calendar to recognise and celebrate the efforts and achievements of Aboriginal students, staff and members of the community. It was a wonderful afternoon acknowledging the efforts of these students and others across the area.

## **Film by the Coast**

Last term Lilli Pilli and Waratah worked extremely hard to design, perform, produce, edit and film a variety of movies/films for the 2019 October Films by the Coast festival. After submitting a number of the student's films to the festival, it is with great pleasure to announce that the film made by Miss Ford's class about being upstanders to bullies, was selected to be shown at the festival. Congratulations to Miss Ford's class but also to Miss Green's class who also produced a wonderful film. The festival is also being held tonight at Anita's Theatre.

## **Showcase Assembly**

Our Showcase Assembly was a fabulous community afternoon. Thank you to all of the families who celebrated our children's learning in Term 3 by attending the Showcase Assembly. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the students learning and acknowledge their hard work and dedication over the past term. A great way to finish Term 3!

Our Showcase Assembly and End of year concert for Term 4 will be held on Wednesday 4 December commencing at 5:00pm with the performance scheduled from 6pm. Please save this important date in your diaries as we have a show not to be missed! More details will be advised over the next few weeks.

## **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Ari for his thoughtful and kind donation of 500+ books to the children in rural Zimbabwe through donations to the Books for Zim project. An act of kindness indeed!

## **Thank You**

Thanks to the Colquhoun family for donating a Christmas tree for our concert.

## **Dance to be fit program**

Our whole school dance program commenced last week for eight weeks. This program will supplement our PDHPE component of the curriculum. Each class will participate in a 40 minute lesson each Friday. Dance is a mandatory component of the curriculum and it is expected that students participate. The cost of the program is \$32.00 per student. This cost will appear on the Term 4 invoice.

The dances the students will be learning will also be part of our end of year concert which is sure to be another great event.

## **Coding Program**

Once again this term all students will participate in a five week Coding program with our contractors Scope IT. The Lilli Pilli, Waratah and Banksia students commenced last week and the Wattle students

will commence 19 November. The cost of the program \$50 for the older students and \$25 for Wattle will appear on the Term 4 invoice, which will come home shortly. We are excited to see the growth of the students over the past few years as they build on their knowledge to complete more complex projects. We look forward to seeing what they achieve this term.

## Enrolments

As we are currently looking at how the school will be structured next year, it is of vital importance that we have **accurate numbers of students who will be attending MKDS in 2020**. If your child **will not** be returning next year **please notify the school office as soon as possible**. If you are aware of other families **enrolling** their child please ask them to **contact the school office as soon as possible**. Our staffing allocation is based on these numbers.

In preparing for our coming school year, we have our **Kindergarten Orientation day on Wednesday 13 November**. This is always an exciting time, often tinged with some nervousness from both the 'new' kindies and their parents. The Year 5 buddies have been participating in buddy training with Miss Green and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of their little 'buddies' to assist them in settling into school life.

We invite members of the community to join us at the Kinder Orientation morning tea to welcome our new parents from 11.15am. If you are able to attend or would like to donate something for morning tea it would be greatly appreciated. Please let Mrs Christlo know if you are attending or wish to make a contribution towards the morning tea.

## Attendance

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. Please ensure you submit an absence form on Skoolbag on the day that your child is absent so that their teacher can mark the roll with the appropriate absence notation.

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, please discuss this with the Principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents. All late students must report to the office with their parents or a letter stating the reason for the lateness. Once rolls are marked in the classroom they cannot be amended there to reflect a late arrival.

All students in Kindergarten to Year 6 are required to attend school until Wednesday 18 December, the last day of teaching for 2019.

Teacher will then have 2 days of Staff Development training.

### **Mobile Phone Use**

A reminder to parents about the use of mobile phones in primary schools. In response to recommendations made by a review team the use of mobile devices during school hours will be restricted in NSW public primary schools.

The review team, which consisted of Dr Michael Carr-Gregg and cybersafety expert Susan McLean amongst others, decided that primary students can still take a phone to school but it will need to be kept in their bag or stored elsewhere and turned off during school hours, unless a teacher gives them permission. At MKDS if children need to have a mobile phone at school for reasons of safety after school they will need to hand it in to the office each morning and collect it each afternoon. The phone should be clearly labelled with their name on it.

In emergencies, parents can still contact their children through school administration offices.

### **Selective High School Placement for 2021**

Selective high schools cater for high achieving academically gifted students. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Applications for selective high school placement are considered mainly based on the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment scores.

The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on **Thursday 12 March 2020**

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2021, you need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from mid-September 2019 at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>.

The application website closes on **11 November 2019. You must apply before the closing date.**

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Unit for assistance.

### **UOW Little and Early Learning Labs**

The University of Wollongong invites students, to apply for positions in their academic enrichment school holiday program. They are targeting students in Years 1-6 during 2019, who are passionate, self-motivated and curious learners. The program runs on various dates from 6-16 January 2020.

Applications close 6 November 2019. For more information and applications please visit the UOW site <https://www.uow.edu.au/engage/outreach-pathways/learning-labs/wollongong-learning-labs/>

## Road Safety

Road safety should be a constant focus of everyone in our community. As part of our regular road safety reviews we have included in this newsletter information from the RTA regarding walking safely to and from school. Please take the time to review this important information with your children.

Whilst the area in front of the school does not have any designated drop off/pick up areas it is suggested that, for the convenience of all families, if you intend to leave your vehicle when you drop off or pick up your children you should park below the bottom gate or across the road so that the front area is more accessible for quick drop offs and pick ups.

## School Security

Please remember that if you ever hear noise or notice unwanted visitors to our school please contact **school security on 1300 88 00 21**. This kind of behaviour is disappointing and comes at a large cost to the school. The school staff and students appreciate your help with this. We want to come back to our school the way we leave it!

**Community watch is the best form of security.**

Enjoy your week,

Mrs Lanyon

**Relieving Principal**

## What's Due?

Reminders were sent home this week for Term 3 fees. Please ensure they are finalised this week or contact the Principal to discuss as a matter of urgency. Student assistance may be available.

Activity/ Note	Students Involved	Due Date
Monday Munchies	Interested students	Thursday 24 October
Term 3 invoices - sent home last term	All families	Overdue
Book Club- orders sent home last week. Order online	Interested students	Sunday 27 October



# EXPO NIGHT

Monday 21 October 3:30pm - 5:30pm

**Come along and see the school, samples of work and a variety of activities across the faculties.**

**Open for all interested primary students and their families**

**Smith's Hill High School Expo is on Monday 21 October 2019.** Expo is an opportunity for prospective students and their parents to see the school, samples of work and a variety of activities across the faculties.

Please forward this invitation to any family members or friends with children who would like to become a future member of the Smith's Hill High School community.

Our Expo commences at 3:30pm in the school's Multi-purpose Unit (MPU) with a welcome address by the Principal. Following this, you will be able to choose your own pathway around the school. Smith's Hill High School SRC and PR Teams will guide visitors to the various displays and activities until 5:30pm.

You will receive a detailed program of events and a map of the school as you enter the MPU, which is situated on the western side of the school next to the courts in Keira Street. To allow you to see a good proportion of the school, displays, exhibitions, demonstrations and performances will occur in a number of venues throughout the evening.

We look forward to seeing you at the EXPO evening. For enquiries, please contact the school on 02 4229 4266 during school hours (8:30am – 3:30pm).





*MKDS Newsletter*  
*22 October 2019*  
*mkds.pandc@gmail.com*



## WHATS ON!

### Term 4 P&C Meeting-Tuesday October 29 at 7pm

If you have something you would like to raise at the meeting (project, idea, concern) then email [mkds.pandc@gmail.com](mailto:mkds.pandc@gmail.com) and we will add it to the agenda. We will be discussing event dates for next year, the outdoor kitchen and celebrating the completion of 2 years of playground projects.

We are also looking for a parent to be our new secretary. Kelly Rewel has done an amazing job over the last three years and will do a handover with you leading up to the AGM next year.

### Wellness Wednesday – Helpers needed next Wednesday 30 October

Helpers are needed next Wednesday 30 October to mulch the Outdoor Classroom. Children will start at 2pm as part of our Wellness Wednesday, families can help anytime 2-4pm. Bring your gloves, buckets and barrows. Please ensure you sign in at the office and have checked you have signed the appropriate child protection forms with Mrs Christlo beforehand. RSVP to Lili on 0409 157888 if you can help.

### Working Bee – Saturday 12pm to 3pm

Bring your shovels, wheelbarrows, gloves, hats, water bottles, sunscreen and snacks and make sure you sign in at the front gate so that you are covered by P&C insurance.

## NEWS AND REMINDERS

### P&C Admin Project

Thank you to Jo Bennett for the hours of work put into consolidating P&C historical information to help us transition to a new email and document storage platform.



## Outdoor projects

Our final play space, the outdoor classroom is getting close to completion. The area is next to the Cola to the right of the girls toilets, all the way up to the school garage. Come in and have a look, say hello to Ben from PLAYGROUNDED. When it is completed it will be a great place for the children to work outside on maths, science and art while exploring the creek eco system. It has been a project a long time in the making, the area first being cleared by John Meakin and Lili Zlojutro in 2015 and our first application for grant funding submitted in 2016.



Please continue to bring in any interesting items for the creative space/ mud kitchen including twigs, seed pods, pinecones etc. The kids love building and decorating with them and including them in their mud meals. Anything natural, interesting and safe can be dropped off in the mud kitchen area and would be greatly appreciated. Please note that branches are not suitable as they may be a fire risk.



**School uniforms** – Summer uniforms are now being worn. If you have any second hand items you can donate to our clothing pool, before Kinder Orientation, it would be greatly appreciated as our stocks are low.

**Monday Munchies** – Subway 28 October. Orders due Thursday 24 October.

Subway – kids pack (includes drink & dessert)	\$6.50
Subway – foot long sub pack (includes drink & dessert)	\$9.50

### **How to order – Subway kids pack**

- Your child will have to collect a Subway bag from the library.
- Circle your selection on the form which is attached to Subway bag.
- Return your bag and correct money (**no change given**). Do not place loose money in the Subway bag please put it in an envelope inside the bag so that the Subway bag is not contaminated
- Orders close Thursday 3:15pm (**No late orders accepted**)

Thank you Maddy Morris for putting together the Monday Munchies roster for Term 4 and for the wonderful parents who have volunteered so far. There are some gaps that need to be filled so message Maddy on 0431019650 or mcairns77@gmail.com if you can help. You will be given support if you haven't done it before.

<b>Monday Munchies Roster Term 4 2019</b>		
We are in desperate need of more volunteers for our roster this term. Monday Munchies can only run with the help of volunteer parents. If you can spare some time (less than half an hour) for one of the slots needed filling below please contact Madeleine Morris (0431019650) as soon as possible.		
<b>Date/time</b>	<b>Name and phone number</b>	<b>Duties</b>
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 9:15am	Madeleine Morris 0431019650	Subway - Collate orders, count money, staple orders to bags, place in class tubs
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 3:15pm	Madeleine Morris 0431019650	Take order, class tubs and money to Subway Figtree (Near Dominos & Star Kebabs on Princes Highway) pick up more bags.
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 11am	Alissa Stewart 0403507436	Pick up lunches from Subway Figtree and deliver to classrooms (lunch starts at 11.15am)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 9:15am	Madeleine Morris 0431019650	Sushi - Collate orders, count money, phone through order to Sushi Shop and to yoghurt buying volunteer.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November before 3:15pm	Nicki McNamara 0403737203	Purchase frozen yoghurts & place in school freezer. Check if more bags are needed
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 10.45am	<b><i>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</i></b>	Sushi is delivered to school, place sushi in prepared bags, deliver class tubs to each classroom before 11.15am
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 1.15pm	<b><i>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</i></b>	Place frozen yoghurts in prepared bags then deliver class tubs to classrooms just before recess at 1.30pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 9:15am	Heather Vucenovic 0421231766	Kebabs - Collate orders, count money, place in class tubs ready to be delivered
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 3:15pm	Heather Vucenovic 0421231766	Deliver orders in class tubs and money to Star Kebabs Figtree (near Dominos & Subway on Princes Highway) pick up more bags
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 11am	<b><i>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</i></b>	Pick up lunches from Star Kebabs at Figtree and deliver to classrooms (lunch starts at 11.15)
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Madeleine Morris 0431019650	Klarie's Kitchen - Collate orders, count money. Phone/text orders through to Klarissa.
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 10.45	Kera Bruton 0413028326	Lunches are delivered to school, place orders in prepared bags, deliver class tubs to each classroom before 11.15am



# Road safety

## Walking together safely to and from school

Walking to school and back home again is a great way to spend time with your children and encourage safe and healthy behaviours.

Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children safer as a pedestrian:

- Talk with your children about being alert in the road environment.
- Plan and practice your trip to school so you use pedestrian crossings where possible.
- Always hold your child's hand. Children need your help to spot dangers such as vehicles coming out of driveways. They can also be easily distracted and wander into traffic.
- Meet your child near the school gate and don't call them from across the road.
- Explain why the place you have chosen is the safest place to cross.
- Remind your child to **STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK!** every time they cross the road and keep checking until safely across.
- Talk to them about why they should stop, look, listen, think before crossing a driveway, road or carpark.

Young children can learn and practice these safe pedestrian behaviours with you. This will help them to be safer pedestrians when they are old enough to travel alone.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)



### Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 2

- Hold a grown up's hand when:
  - you cross the road
  - you're on the footpath
  - you're in a car park

### Messages to share with children in Years 3 to 6

- Use a safe place to cross the road
- **Stop! Look! Listen! Think!** every time you cross the road and keep checking until safely across

**STOP!**  
one step back from the kerb

**LOOK!**  
continuously both ways

**LISTEN!**  
for the sounds of approaching traffic

**THINK!**  
whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

## Have Your Say on Before and After School Care

The NSW Government is committed to providing before and after school care to all students of public primary schools in New South Wales. As part of the reform, [a parent web form](#) has been established by Service NSW that will enable parents to tell the department about their specific care needs and to stay up to date with any new developments.

The information provided by parents will help the Department of Education to understand your needs, give them insights into where there are gaps in service delivery and help to ensure the extra places are delivered where they are required.

Have your say today at <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/basc>.

NSW Department of Education

## Before and After School Care Have your say

The NSW Government is committed to increasing the provision of before and after school care.

Have your say at

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/basc>

Online feedback closes December 2019





*Live in Wollongong*

# Maggie Dent

*From the Sandpit to Adulthood:  
Helping Today's Children to Thrive*



Every parent wants their children to thrive – to grow up happy, healthy, strong, kind and capable of realising their full potential. In this seminar, Maggie explores the 10 keys to parenting that support this goal. She acknowledges there is no 'perfect' and that challenge, adversity and failure can actually help our kids grow stronger and smarter.

**Monday, November 18, 7pm  
Wests Illawarra**

Maggie Dent is one of Australia's most popular and respected parenting speakers and authors. Known as the "Queen of Common Sense", Maggie is an advocate for the healthy, common-sense raising of children in order to strengthen families and communities. She is a passionate, positive voice for children of all ages.



**For information and registration**  
[www.maggiedent.floktu.com](http://www.maggiedent.floktu.com)

