

Mount Keira Demonstration School

Established 1861 "Learning and Caring"

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The Summit Term 2 Week 4 Wednesday 18 May 2022

Upcoming events

Friday 20 May	District Cross Country Carnival
	Walk Safely to School Day
Wednesday 25 May	Simultaneous Storytime
Friday 27 May	Farewell Assembly – Glynis Lanyon
Tuesday 28 June	Rich Task Showcase K-6
Friday 1 July	Last day of term

What's Due?

Activity/ Note	Students Involved	Due Date
Term 1 Invoice	All students	Immediately
Emergency contact sheet (orange), Permission to Publish form and Student use of Digital Device and Online Services Policy and Agreement	All students	Immediately
Big Permission Note and Gardening and Food Related Activities note	Kindergarten and other new students	Immediately

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and community members who attended our on-site and online P&C AGM and General meeting last night. It was a wonderful opportunity to discuss all the exciting plans we have for the year ahead.

As you are aware, there will be some upcoming changes to our school uniform. A huge thank you to Holly Tootell and the Uniform Sub-Committee for their work in consulting with our parent community and coordinating uniform supply arrangements through Poppets for our school. As part of the consultation process, this information will now be taken to the students and teachers for a final review. We hope to share the uniform transition arrangements with you by the end of this term.

Thank you to those families who have already paid their students' Term 1 invoice or have contacted the school to make arrangements for payment. It would be appreciated if payment of the outstanding invoices could be made immediately. The Term 1 invoices - depending on your child's school year - include amounts relating to sporting, bus, computer/IT and camp fees that the school has already paid and remains out of pocket for. We will be following up via phone call with any families with outstanding Term 1 invoices who have not already contacted the school. Term 2 invoices will be sent out shortly.

Farewell Mrs Lanyon

We will be celebrating the career and retirement of Mrs Glynis Lanyon on Friday 27 May. There will be two celebration events held on this day. Our school is organising a special assembly which will begin at 10:30am and will be followed by a morning tea, kindly organised by our wonderful P&C. Parents and community members are invited to join us for this assembly.

In addition, the P&C are organising an after-school hours celebration on our school site. If you are a former family or staff member of the school and would like to join us to celebrate we will be holding drinks and nibbles at the school on Friday 27 May from 4:15-6:30pm. This is an over 18's event and is BYO alcohol. Light refreshments will be served. If you are interested in attending please email the school at mtkeira-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au to RSVP by Monday 23 May or fill in the RSVP form on Skool Bag that Mrs Christlo sent out on Monday.



We are putting together a memory booklet. If you would like to contribute with a special memory or message please email the school email by Friday 20 May.

If you wish to make a contribution to Glynis' gift from the P&C please transfer funds to the Mount Keira P and C account by Monday 23 May.

We hope you can join us for this special event.

Staffing News

In Semester 2, we will see the return of both Allira Robinson and Ashlea Travis from maternity leave to their permanent teaching roles. This means we will have changes to our current staffing and class arrangements. These changes will be communicated to our school community by the end of this term when these arrangements are finalised. We look forward to welcoming back both of these highly experienced teachers to our teaching staff.

Curriculum Reform

The NSW Curriculum Reform is well underway with the release of the English K-2 Mathematics and English syllabuses for implementation in some schools beginning this year. The remaining curriculum documents for all Key Learning Areas K-6 are due to be available by 2024.

NESA has developed state-wide teacher expert networks (TENs) to ensure that the new curriculum connects with practice and works well in the classroom. TENs are networks of over 200 teachers from across NSW involved in curriculum reform. TENs teachers user-test new resources and provide feedback and advice to NESA on the new curriculum. TENs will also share knowledge about the new curriculum in their schools, regions and sectors. In 2021 Mrs May was fortunate enough to be selected as one of the 200 teachers across the state to engage in the TENs Network for three years. This valuable experience has enabled the teachers at Mount Keira Demonstration School to participate in the most current professional learning on the curriculum and to preview some of the new syllabus materials.

Our teachers here at Mount Keira Demonstration School engage in professional development activities each week. One of our main focus areas this year is the curriculum reform, and in particular, the English and Mathematics K-2 syllabus documents. The teachers have been involved in a range of familiarisation activities to ensure we have the resources and understanding to implement the changes to our curriculum effectively. On the Staff Development Day, Miss Reskic and Mrs May presented a session to teachers of Mount Keira Demonstration School and Keiraville Public School focused on using quality texts to support students with

understanding and responding to literature. In addition, the teachers have been engaging in learning on the most current research-based models of effective reading instruction, including a systematic approach to teaching phonics. Our school has been selected to host the Curriculum Reform Community for the Wollongong North Network of more than 20 schools. Each term we will have leaders from a variety of public schools attending our school to engage in professional learning on the new curriculum - a very exciting opportunity for our school!

We will be holding some parent information sessions about the new K-2 syllabuses for English and Mathematics later in the year.

Quality Teaching Rounds

Earlier in the year, Mrs Gehrke and Miss Klasson attended professional learning on Quality Teaching Rounds (QTR) which is a department-endorsed, research-based, high-impact professional learning approach to improving teaching practice. It enhances participants' knowledge about the department's Quality Teaching model. Using the model, teachers and leaders engage in a process that enables them to collaborate effectively, so that they can continuously refine their quality teaching practice. It aims to support teachers to confidently lead and participate in small professional learning communities (PLC) focused on teaching improvement. This Thursday Mrs Gehrke and Miss Klasson will begin leading the teachers through their first Quality Teaching Round. We look forward to seeing this process in action to support quality teaching across our school.

Inclusive, engaging and respectful schools reforms

The Inclusive, Engaging and Respectful (IER) Schools package was announced in February this year by NSW Minister for Education and Early Learning, Hon Sarah Mitchell.

It centres on three new policies and procedures and a framework that together set the guidelines for how we ensure all children and young people can learn through public education in a safe and engaging way. The three new policies include:

- Inclusive Education Policy for students with disability
- Student Behaviour Policy and Procedures
- Restrictive Practices Framework and Restrictive Practices Reduction and Elimination Policy and Procedures.

With these new policies, we want all students to:

- be included in all aspects of school life and supported to learn to their fullest capability
- be supported in engaging, respectful, and effective classrooms with positive and inclusive practices
- feel welcomed, valued and safe in our schools and classroom

Strategic Direction 3 in our school's Strategic Improvement Plan 2021-2024 is focused on Wellbeing and Engagement for all. The staff and I are reviewing our current approach to all of the areas covered by these policies, and wish to share any changes we believe need to be made with you by the end of this year.

Rich Task Showcase

Later this term on Tuesday 28 June we will be holding our first Rich Task Showcase for 2022. Each class will be sharing information and projects from their work throughout this term. Please come along and share in this celebration of student work and achievement.

National Walk Safely to School

Well it's that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking! Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. Although walking all the way to school isn't always realistic, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine. You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:



- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car down the street from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

MKDS have registered for National Walk Safely to School Day. We are encouraging all students to walk safely to school this Friday morning. The SRC students will be serving breakfast at our school kitchen from 8:45-9:15am. There will be a range of fresh fruit as well as some cereal served with lite milk. If your child would like some cereal, we are asking that you pack a **bowl and spoon** for them as we won't have any supplied here at school. Please make sure the bowl and spoon are not glass or ceramic. For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

UCI World Road Championships

The UCI World Road Championships is being hosted by the City of Wollongong from 18 to 25 September 2022. This is an exciting event for our city and will attract people from right around the globe. The event will take place during the last week of Term 3, and the time trials running along a city circuit from Monday 19 to Friday 23 September, will affect the operations of a number of schools in the Wollongong area, to varying degrees.

Representatives from the NSW Department of Education are currently working with affected schools, UCI, Wollongong City Council, the State Government and Transport on a plan to support the event and minimise disruption to each school as much as possible.

Schools impacted will have a unique plan developed in consultation with key stakeholders, factoring access for students and staff. Special arrangements will be communicated when finalised. We ask for your patience, understanding and support while these arrangements are decided upon. To learn more about this upcoming event, you can visit the UCI 2022 Road World Championships - Frequently Asked Questions page at [UCI FAQ](#)

Congratulations Keira

We are very excited to announce that Keira in Waratah recently competed at the Hip Hop International Competition in Brisbane, representing Australia and placing 8th with her team. Last weekend, she and her team also competed at the Australian Dance Crew State Championships in Sydney, where they placed 2nd! Congratulations, Keira! We are so proud of your achievements.

Vanessa May
Relieving Principal



3/4 Waratah – Class of the Fortnight

This term, students in Waratah are preparing to write reviews of texts. We have been learning about the purposes of reviews and researching examples of where we might find these texts in everyday life. We are currently practising our critical thinking skills so we can effectively evaluate the texts we read and share these opinions in our reviews. This week, students wrote a response to *Mr Huff* by Anna Walker, explaining which elements of the book they liked or disliked. Here are some excerpts of their work and some pictures of them completing it!

I dislike Mr Huff because there's no description and it doesn't intrigue me. I also dislike it because grey is a colour of sadness and it feels like a happy book. - Ruby

I liked this book because at the start it was sad but in the end there was a chance of sunshine. - Liorah

I don't like Mr Huff because of the ending and how rude Bill was to Mr Huff. - Connor

I liked this book because you could see how their feelings go from sad to happy. I loved how you could feel the emotions from Bill and Mr Huff. - Kieran

I dislike the book because the pictures take up all the space. - Miro

I dislike Mr Huff because it doesn't explain the story enough and you don't know what's going on. - Keira

I liked this story because the illustrations were very informative. Secondly, in the end it was very positive. At the start it was negative. Finally, it is a good sized book for beginner readers. - Findlay

I personally dislike the book because the art style was too abstract. - Elijah

I hated Mr Huff because there weren't enough words. - Ethan





Hi all our amazing families,

What a fantastic P&C AGM and meeting we held last night. Thank you to everyone who attended and also thank you to all the families who have put their hand up to continue in their roles, or start some exciting positions. I'll have some more information in the coming weeks on our direction for the year, but in the meantime, reach out to me via WhatsApp if you need anything.

If you aren't a member of the WhatsApp MKDS group, please reach out to the office and they will help you become a member.

Some exciting upcoming events were discussed in our P&C meeting. I will share a few things in the next summit, and anything more pressing will be shared in WhatsApp.

Thank you to everyone,

Angie.

President of the P&C

Annual Membership

At the end of Term 1, each family was provided with a P&C Annual Membership note and request for payment of the Annual Membership Fee which is set at \$25.00 per family. This fee contributes to the ever-increasing insurance costs for public liability and student injury cover. Payment of the annual fee also entitles you to be involved with decision making of the MKDS P&C. We encourage all families to join and support our P&C.


Payments are to be by way of direct deposit into the P&C's bank account (not to the school itself). If you have misplaced your note and do not have the details, please contact Angie Neira or you may email the P&C at mountkeirapublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Working Bees

We will be holding Working Bees every Wednesday this term from 1:00-3:00pm to continue working on tidying and maintaining gardens and areas of our school grounds. If you have some spare time and are available to assist, please join us. For further information, please contact Lili Zlojutro.

MERRIGONG THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS A CDP KIDS PRODUCTION

GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU



LIVE ON STAGE

A play by Richard Tulloch

Adapted from the books by
Sam McBratney and Anita Jeram

10 - 11 JUN
MERRIGONG.COM.AU

MERRIGONG THEATRE SEASON 2022 cdpKids Australian Government NSW Government Australia Council for the Arts Peoplecare WAVEFM 96.5 Wollongong

Dance with a difference



Cheer for Champions

COMPETITION OR JUST FOR FUN! - EVERYONE IMPROVES



7 Day TRIAL CLASS PASS

TRY 7 DAYS OF CLASSES ON US!

MEET OUR COACHES, TOUR OUR FACILITIES & ASK ALL YOUR QUESTIONS!

quality passion family

JAZZ BALLET CHEER TUMBLE HIP HOP TAP LYRICAL BOYS ONLY HIP HOP POM PRESCHOOL

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