

# 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 3 Week 2 Wednesday 27 June 2022

## Upcoming events

Thursday	28 July	OC Test
Friday	5 August	PSSA District Athletics Carnival
Monday	8 August	Monday Munchies - Subway
Tuesday	9 August	P&C Meeting 6.00pm
Thursday	18 August	Surf Sense Program Yr1-6
Friday	19 August	Illawarra Hawks Visit
	19 August	Premier's Reading Challenge Closes
Wednesday	24 August	Southern Stars Rehearsal
Thursday	25 August	Southern Stars Dress Rehearsal
Friday	26 August	Southern Stars Performance Day 1
Saturday	27 August	Southern Stars Performance Day 2
Mon-Frid	5-9 September	Combined Education Week & Book Week Celebrations
Monday	5 September	Story Quest K-6
Tuesday	6 September	Book Parade and Picnic Lunch with parents
Thursday	8 September	Minnamurra Excursion Stage 2 & 3
Saturday	17 September	Bunnings BBQ - P&C
Friday	23 September	Final day of Term 3
Monday	10 October	Term 4 - Students return

## What's Due?

Activity/ Note	Students Involved	Due Date
Term 2 Invoice	All students	Immediately
PSSA District Athletics Carnival	Selected students	Immediately
Monday Munchies – Subway orders due	Participating students	Thursday 4 August

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the start of Term 3, after hopefully enjoying a safe and enjoyable winter break. I want to give you an overview of how we are continuing to ensure our school remains COVID-safe throughout this term.

As we continue to prioritise student and staff learning and wellbeing while at school, our layered COVID-smart measures will continue for Term 3. These 'baseline measures' are aligned to the NSW Government's general community settings and include:

- staying home and getting tested if unwell, and only attending school when symptom free
- strongly encouraging mask-wearing for all staff and students, particularly in the first 4 weeks of term
- rapid antigen testing for symptomatic students and staff, and household contacts attending school to learn and work
- strongly encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations for students, staff and their families, including a booster shot (when eligible)
- strongly encouraging students, staff and their families to get a flu vaccination
- strict requirements for household contacts attending school
- good hygiene practices
- maximising natural ventilation
- boosted cleaning during the day, with particular attention given to high touch surface areas
- responding to local COVID-19 conditions when necessary, by working with the department's Health, Safety and Staff Wellbeing team.

Continuing these baseline COVID-smart measures allows us to prioritise student and staff wellbeing while giving our learners a consistent and productive learning environment this term.

### **What's new in Term 3?**

As winter continues, our COVID-smart measures have been updated in consultation with NSW Health to provide appropriate protection to our school community.

#### **Vaccinations**

The department has updated its policy regarding COVID-19 vaccination for employees following an independent risk assessment of school (and corporate) settings and consultation with unions and relevant stakeholders. While vaccination will no longer be a requirement for our staff from 1 August 2022, it is pleasing to see that a recent survey highlighted that more than 99% of the department's active school-based workforce have had at least two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. We will continue to strongly encourage all our staff to keep up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations as a way of protecting themselves, students, and our school community.

#### **Boosted day cleaning**

The department has made a slight change to its cleaning process. Cleaning of school sites will now be more concentrated during the day, with an increase in cleaning in school hours, and a subsequent reduction out of hours. Boosted day cleaning will continue to focus on high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas.

### **What's continuing for Term 3?**

#### **Masks**

Masks are an effective way of minimising the transmission of respiratory viruses and infections, and protecting our community, especially those who are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and flu. We strongly encourage all students and staff wear a mask for the first 4 weeks of Term 3, particularly in indoor settings or when distancing is not possible. The latest NSW Health advice also recommends wearing a mask for people who have recovered from COVID-19 and recently completed their 7-day isolation period for an additional 3 days (from days 8 to 10 after receiving a positive COVID-19 result). Additionally, as outlined in the below section on household contacts, mask wearing is mandatory for staff and high school students returning to school as household contacts for 5 school days and strongly recommended for primary school students returning to school as household contacts for 5 school days. Students or staff identified as household contacts who are unable to wear a mask will be supported to learn or work remotely.

## Rapid antigen tests (RATs)

Last Friday we sent home another multipack of RAT tests with each student. These RATs can be used as required for symptomatic testing. Beyond this provision, if you require additional RATs let the school know that you need more and we will try and assist. Additionally, our school will be maintaining a reserve stock of RATs onsite to support symptomatic testing in the event of an outbreak in our school community. Please also remember that positive RAT results must be registered with ServiceNSW, and students who test positive to COVID-19 must not attend school until their isolation period ends and they are symptom free.

## Household contacts

Students identified as household contacts remain able to attend school providing they are symptom free, notify the school and return a negative COVID-19 test result daily for 5 consecutive school days. Primary students, while not required, are strongly encouraged to wear a mask for 5 consecutive school days (except when eating/drinking or exercising). Please note that students identified as household contacts are still unable to attend overnight excursions, including camps. Visitors identified as household contacts who are engaging directly with students are required to return a negative COVID-19 test result before attending our school and wear a mask.

## Responding to our local situation

We will continue to liaise with NSW Health and the department's Health, Safety and Staff Wellbeing Case Management team to ensure our COVID-smart settings keep up with the latest developments. If local conditions require it, this may mean reintroducing temporary additional COVID-smart measures to act as a 'circuit breaker', including:

- mandating mask wearing for all staff (primary school settings)
- postponing or limiting non-essential activities like excursions, indoor assemblies and visitors to the school
- directing cohorts to learn remotely for short periods of time.

## Maximising natural ventilation

The department has reviewed environmental differences across NSW as part of their winter ventilation planning to ensure that local climatic conditions at each school are considered. The department will continue to provide local guidance to schools, including advice on maximising natural ventilation while balancing thermal comfort and the use of indoor and outdoor learning areas for school activities to support schools to adapt to local climate conditions throughout the winter months.

Reducing the risk of illness this winter. Finally, it is important to note NSW Health's advice to reduce our risk of not only COVID-19, but other illnesses that may affect our school at this time of year such as the flu and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), both of which can be serious in younger people. We can all protect our loved ones and our community by:

- staying home and getting tested if unwell or displaying any symptoms
- keeping up to date with our vaccinations – including the flu vaccine, which is available from your local GP, pharmacy or Aboriginal Medical Service now
- flu vaccines are free for all children aged 6 months to under 5 years, or for a small charge for those aged 5 years and older
- getting tested immediately for COVID-19 if you become symptomatic and isolating until you receive a negative result and are symptom free
- practicing good hand hygiene by washing regularly with soap and water
- taking a RAT before visiting vulnerable loved ones or going to large gatherings and events.

### Southern Stars update

Last Thursday, the Southern Stars dance troupe attended a mass dance rehearsal at WIN Entertainment Centre. The students loved practising their routines on the WEC stage and seeing the items of other primary and high school students in the Illawarra. Thank you to the students involved for their hard work and patience during the rehearsal and to the Southern Stars production team for their organisation. Thank you also to families for assisting with pickups and drop offs! We are very much looking forward to our next rehearsal in show week.



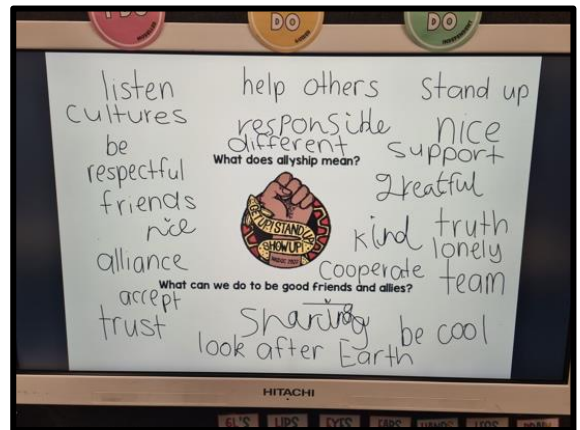
It is shaping up to be an amazing show! Tickets can be purchased at the following link: <https://wsec.com.au/event/southern-stars>

### NAIDOC Week

Last Wednesday, our school commemorated NAIDOC Week (3-10 July) with some special activities during our Wellness Wednesday time. This year, the theme of NAIDOC Week was Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!, which encourages Australians to support institutional reform, call out racism and celebrate those who have driven and led change over generations. Students enjoyed learning about the culture, history, languages and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Some of the activities students participated in included a yarning circle about the importance of an Acknowledgement to Country, listening to stories told by Aboriginal Australians and learning about the significance of Mount Keira to the Dharawal people.

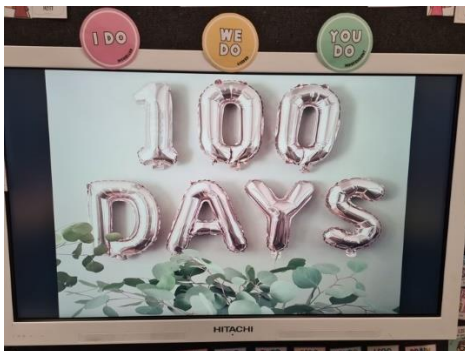
Each group within the school contributed to a brainstorming session on what they believe allyship means and how we all can be good friends to each other in celebration of NAIDOC week. Each student chose a word from our brainstorming list that was meaningful to them and wrote and decorated a petal that we turned into blooming NAIDOC flowers. These flowers look fantastic displayed in our office walkway.

Thank you to all teachers involved for their excellent organisation and to students for showing respect on this important day. We hope you enjoy the pictures of our NAIDOC Week celebrations!



### K-2 100 Days of Learning

On Monday, Wattle and Lilli Pilli students celebrated 100 days of learning, and the students all looked fantastic, dressed up as if they were 100 years old. Throughout the day, they completed a range of 100 fun-themed activities, including writing what they would buy if they got \$100, racing their friends to 100, making 100 using a variety of items, practise counting by 5's and 10's and creating magnificent 100-day crowns and self-portraits. The students were excited to receive a little surprise at the end of the day; a box of 'smarties' to celebrate that they are all '100 days smarter'. We are very proud of our students and cannot wait to see what the next 100 days of learning bring.



## National Pyjama Day

On Friday 22 July the Student Representative Council held a fundraiser for National Pyjama Day. Students wore their warm cosy pyjamas and enjoyed a popcorn snack while they watched a movie in the afternoon. We raised \$58.50 for the Pyjama Foundation and these funds will go to foster children in need. The SRC raised \$290.95 from the food and drinks on the day. It was so wonderful to see the students and staff dressed in their PJ's.

## Interns

Next week we will have three new faces among our teaching staff. We will be welcoming Ms Mammone, Mr Lalli and Ms Murdoch to our school. They are in their final year of university and will be with us for six weeks. The first two weeks of their placement are supervised by the classroom teacher and the next four weeks require them to take on a full time teaching load to complete the requirements of their internship. They will be on the following classes:

- Wattle – Mr Lalli
- Lilli Pilli – Ms Murdoch
- Banskia – Ms Mammone

## Supporting our Tournament of Minds Team

The following list provides allowable items and materials our ToM team can use to make props, costumes, and any other items to help them complete their challenge solution for this year's tournament. We would greatly appreciate it if you have any spare items on this list that you can donate to help the team. Please send any items you can spare with your child to Miss Reskic in Wattle. We thank you very much for your support.

<b>ONLY</b> the following materials may be used for the creation of your props and costumes.		
Aluminium foil	Foam rubber	Papier Mache – eg Mix It
Balloons	Gloves	Plastic – piping, tubing, bags etc
Balls – ping pong, foam, polystyrene, plastic	Glue	Plasticine, play dough
Blu-Tack	Goggle eyes	Polystyrene
Buttons	Hessian	Raffia
Cardboard	Magnets	Ribbon
Cellophane	Make-up and hair products	Socks
Cling Wrap	Nails, screws, bolts	Staples
Cotton Wool	Paddle pop sticks	String, twine
Crayons	Paints, textas	Swimming caps
Dried Peas, beans	Pantyhose	Tape – adhesive, masking, duct
Drinking straws	Paper – butchers, plain, coloured, crepe, tissue	Torch (in working order)
*Dye – fabric, food	Paper clips – all sorts	Velcro
Elastic	Paper plates, paper cups	Whistles
Elastic bands	Pasta	Wire
Feathers	Pencils, pens	Wood
Fabric – any type inc.fur	Pins – safety, split, hair	Yarn – cotton, woollen etc
Fishing line	Pipe cleaners	

## Congratulations

Fletcher and Paterson have made it through to the State Championships at the snow interschools competitions in 2 disciplines each – well done! Fletcher for Snowboard Cross and Snowboard GS and Paterson for Ski Cross and Alpine. These races will be held the week 22 - 26 August at Perisher.



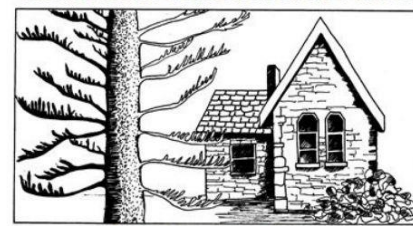
**Vanessa May**

**Relieving Principal**

# Mount Keira

## DEMONSTRATION SCHOOL

Mount Keira Demonstration School



Learning and Caring

## ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2023



### ENROLMENT

To begin the enrolment process, please visit our school website to complete an online enrolment application form or contact our school office.

[mtkeira-p.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://mtkeira-p.schools.nsw.gov.au)

### PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Please join us on Wednesday 16 November at 9:30am for a parent information session about our school. This will be followed by a parent morning tea.



### KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION

Our 2023 Kindergarten students are invited to attend a transition session on Wednesday 16 November from 9:30-11am. Your child must be enrolled at our school to attend this event.



Please contact our school office on (02) 4229 1446 if you would like to organise a school tour or require any further information about our school.





**An update from your P&C Team:**

**Outstanding Insurance / Membership fees \$25**

Over the next few weeks, our Treasurer Nicki will be reaching out to parents with outstanding annual membership fees. This year, our fee is set at \$25 per family and contributes to our ever-increasing "Public Liability Insurance and Student Injury cover" which costs over \$1,000pa. Each family's contribution is important.

If it has slipped your mind, please transfer \$25 to:

MKDS P and C Association

BSB: 062 644

Account Number: 0090 0820

Please reference your family name and "Membership" as a description.

**Bunnings BBQ 17<sup>th</sup> September**

Prep your tongs and save the date!! Volunteers wanted. We will reach out in the coming weeks for volunteers via WhatsApp.

\*Remember if you aren't on our School WhatsApp group chat, please reach out to the Office and they will share your details with me. Or please message Angie on 0413 605 066

**P&C Meeting**

Our next P&C meeting will be on Tuesday 9 August at 6.00pm.

Angie Neira  
P&C President

## Monday Munchies Roster Term 3 2022

### We need your help!

In order for Monday Munchies to continue, we desperately need more volunteers. Last term, some volunteers took on double or triple slots in order for the much-loved program to run. If you are available on a Friday or Monday throughout the term (no more than half an hour is needed), we would love your time! You will be paired with someone to talk you through the process if you haven't volunteered before.

Please contact Maddy Morris (0431019650) if you are available to help out!

**\*Please note frozen yoghurts are now only available for recess purchases on Kebab days (formerly Sushi days)**

Date/time	Name and phone number	Duties
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> August 9:15am <b>(Subway)</b>		Collate orders, count money, place order bags in class tubs.  Take orders/class tubs and money to Subway Figtree (Near Dominos & Star Kebabs on Princes Highway)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> August 10.45am <b>(Subway)</b>		Pick up lunches from Subway Figtree and deliver to classrooms (lunch starts at 11.15am)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> August 9.15am <b>(Sushi)</b>		Sushi - Collate orders, count money, text through order to Brian at Bento House (0412 140 150)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August 10.30am <b>(Sushi)</b>		Pick up lunches from Bento House and pack in order bags, deliver class tubs to each classroom before 11.15am.
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 9.15am <b>(Klarrie's Kitchen)</b>		Klarie's Kitchen - Collate orders, count money, text through order to Klarissa (0414 607 928).
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 10.45am <b>(Klarrie's Kitchen)</b>		Lunches are delivered to school, place orders in prepared bags, deliver class tubs to each classroom before 11.15am.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> September 9.15am <b>(Kebabs/Frozen Yoghurt)</b>		Collate orders, count money, place Kebab order bags in class tubs.  Collate frozen yoghurt order bags (brown paper bags), count money, place order bags in

		<p>piles and store in back storeroom Monday Munchies box.</p> <p>Check staffroom freezer for frozen yoghurts and text through frozen yoghurt quantity needed to yoghurt-buying volunteer.</p> <p>Take orders/class tubs to Star Kebabs Figtree</p>
<p>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September Before 3.15pm <b>(Frozen Yoghurt)</b></p>		<p>Purchase frozen yoghurt and deliver to staff freezer.</p> <p>Place receipt in office for Treasurer.</p>
<p>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 11am <b>(Kebabs)</b></p>		<p>Pick up lunches from Star Kebabs and deliver to classrooms (lunch starts at 11.15am)</p>
<p>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 1.15pm <b>(Frozen Yoghurt)</b></p>		<p>Place frozen yoghurts in prepared bags then deliver class tubs to classrooms just before recess at 1.30pm</p>