



Matong Public School NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 2019

Week 5

Fri 31st May

Small Schools Athletics
hosted by Matong Public
School – Coolamon

Week 7

Mon 10th June

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Thurs 13th June

Riverina Cross Country

Week 8

Thurs 20th June

Photo Day



NOTES TO BE RETURNED:

- **Small School Athletics
Permission Note – Due
Monday, 27th May**
- Japanese Cuisine Lunch
Orders for Wed,
29th May must be handed
in to the School Office by
Mon, 27th May.

Prep underway for the centenary being held in October.

Some keen volunteers helping Lelia sand and restore old benches.

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Matong Public School

5649 Canola Way

Matong NSW 2652



**Education &
Communities**

Public Schools NSW

Relieving Principal's News

Last week was Miss McKelvie's last days before taking maternity leave. We wish her well and cannot wait to meet her additional family member. We are sure she will visit us at school in the near future to share her little bundle of joy. We are fortunate to have Miss Rebecca Penfold replacing Miss McKelvie for the two days – Thursday and Friday, who will be continuing the job share position with Miss Cooper. Thank you to Miss Penfold for taking the time to teach alongside Miss McKelvie at the beginning of the term to assist all students in a smooth transition as well as develop her understanding of K/1/2 classroom practice. We hope she enjoys her time at MPS.

Well done to all the Year 3 and 5 students who completed their NAPLAN assessments last week. The only written component of the test was undertaken by Year 3 in completing the 'writing' assessment. Every other assessment is now delivered to the students online using the computer and headphones.

Recently staff engaged in several professional learning opportunities. These have included: the 'Got it' and 'Friends' programs at Coolamon Central School, 'Berry Street' trauma informed course in Narrandera, an administration two day course in Albury which Mrs Fisher attended, and Miss Cooper attended a Sheena Cameron writing workshop in Wagga Wagga. Each of these courses have been valuable and we look forward to implementing programs and strategies into the school.

We were fortunate enough to have had Owen and Kathy from the Local Landcare deliver a lesson in the outdoor learning space which previous principal, Mr Lucas, had envisaged. Mr Owen explained to us that Mr Lucas was a friend of his as he too had been a Principal in a small country school. The lesson was thoroughly enjoyed by all students and staff. We hope they come back to visit us soon.

Next Friday we will be participating in the small schools athletics carnival at Coolamon Central School oval. Miss Tilly has been very busy organising this event as MPS hosts this day. Parent assistance on the day would be much appreciated.

Other recent sports events have included the Paul Kelly Cup, NSW AFL state championships, and Mortimer Shield rugby clinic. We are very proud of Digby, Baxter, Charlie and Arthur for being selected to be part of these sporting events.

In a couple of weeks' time we will be selecting a soccer team to participate in a Small Schools Knockout challenge which is going to be held on Friday, June 7th at Narrandera. A team of 11-13 players will be selected at school to participate in the event.

Many thanks,

Kerri McPherson

Relieving Principal

Upcoming Events 2019

Term 2

Fri. 31st May	Small Schools Athletics
Thurs. 13 th June	Riverina Cross Country
Thurs. 20 th June	Photo Day
Wed. 3 rd July	District Athletics @ Ardlethan

Term 3

Thurs. 8 th August	Wagga Excursion / REEC Visit
Tues. 13 th August	Life Ed Van
Fri. 30 th August	Riverina Athletics
Tues. 3 rd September	ICAS - begins
Thurs. 19 th September	ICAS - ends
Sat. 12 th October	MPS 100 th Year Celebration

Assembly Awards – Week 4

Principal's Awards



Elsie Ferguson

For her polite manner and eagerness to learn.

Laura Hatty

For being a kind friend and playing sensibly with others.

Class Merit Awards

Sophie Taylor – For staying focussed when completing learning tasks.

Evie Bensch – For effort and enthusiasm during reading groups.

Zanthe Richardson – For a positive attitude to her learning.

Julia Walsh – For an excellent effort in creative writing.

Library Awards

Tom Malone – For insightful contributions to discussions and showing initiative in all tasks.

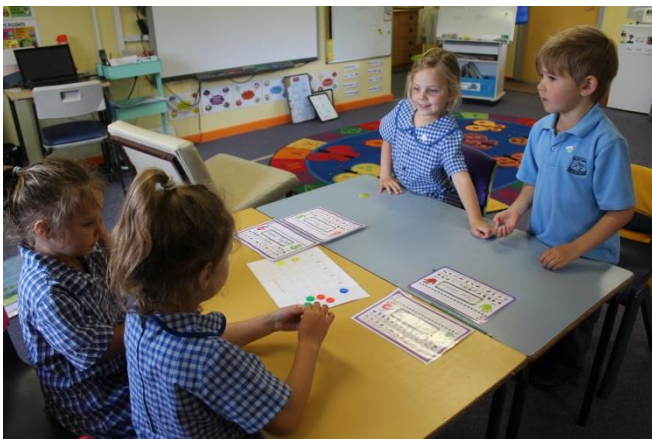
Arthur Skarlis – For showing initiative and demonstrating great leadership skills.

Stage One News

Wanted for class program: Tins with lids e.g. Milo, coffee, baby formula etc. Thank you.

Stage 1 Learning STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Concepts.





Student Absences

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that if your child is absent from school there is a requirement for you to provide a reasonable explanation for the absence within seven days. It is the Principal's discretion as to whether they deem an explanation as reasonable. If an explanation is not received the students' absence will automatically be recorded as unjustified.

Absences include late arrivals and early departures to and from school and also require an explanation. Absence notification methods that are acceptable are via verbal (telephone or in person), email or written. If your child is absent because of illness for more than three consecutive days, you will be required to provide a medical certificate with your absence notification. At times there may be a requirement for your children to be absent for extended periods of time. If this is the case you will need to contact the principal and complete an application for extended leave prior to the leave being taken. It is the principal's discretion whether this application will be approved or declined.

MPS Absence Note forms will be sent home today for you to keep at home and return with your child after any absences.



Hollows as Homes in Primary Schools

Wirraminna Petaurus Education Group and Murrumbidgee Landcare visited four wonderful primary schools on the 13th and 14th of May as part of the 'Hollows as Homes' project to educate students and teachers on the need to preserve and build habitat for many of our vulnerable mammals, birds and reptiles.

The message to the school students is a very simple one. Many of the mammals, birds and reptiles in our environment rely on hollows to live in and breed, plus to protect them from the elements. These hollows can take up to 100 years to develop. If we do not take action to look after our remnant vegetation, put up nesting boxes and leave fallen timber on the ground these animals may not breed successfully.

Owen Dunlop showed the children the taxidermy specimens of a Squirrel Glider, a Lace monitor plus several birds that had unfortunately died. Kathy Tenison explained the special requirements of Turquoise Parrot nest boxes and how important it is that researchers investigate animal behaviour and requirements when designing suitable homes and their placement.

Being able to handle the specimens and chat about the need to preserve habitat for the animals proved to be a wonderful experience for the children. The students watched a video produced by Wirraminna Petaurus showing the Squirrel Glider moving through the air from tree to tree. Trees need to be less than 20m apart to ensure the gliders spend minimal time on the ground reducing the risk of predation.

The students had a wonderful time searching for puppet animals in the bush close to their schools. How lucky they are to live in the bush and have native habitat on their school grounds. The puppets hid in logs, up trees and in bushes awaiting their discovery. The thrill of finding so many animals in the bush and acting like real environmental scientists documenting their evidence was a joy to watch. Teaming younger and older students together for a learning experience in an outback school worked exceptionally well.

The teachers from Boree Creek, Matong, Whitton and Darlington Point Primary Schools should be very proud of their students they were simply a joy to work with. More visits and sharing of resources are planned for the coming year.

This small project was funded by LLS Foundation Irrigation. Thankyou so much for providing this experience for the teachers and students.



Coolamon Library

Storytime

Storytime will be Friday, this 24th May @ 10.30am theme "Grandparents", we welcome any grandparents to come along too.. The morning is filled with lots of stories, songs and finishing up with a craft the children are able to take home.

Soap making workshop

Come and learn the art of making soap here at the Library on Tuesday, 28th May @ 10.30am. Cost is \$10.00 per person, phone the Library for further details 69272492.

Tech Savvy Seniors Computer Classes

The library will be hosting FREE computer courses for our seniors starting in June, they will be held over eight weeks. Limited spots are available and you will need to bring your own computer devices. Phone the library for further details - 692742492.

Eastern Riverina Arts

Got an idea for a great creative project for your community? Eastern Riverina Arts will be bringing their office to the Coolamon Library on Tuesday, 11th June from 10.30am - 4.30pm. Learn about upcoming grants and support options available through both private and public sectors. Discuss event promotion options with their consultants - To make an appointment phone the Library - 69272492.

Lego Club

Lego club has commenced again, it is held every Wednesday from @ 4.00pm - 5.00pm and then on Saturday mornings from 10.30am - 11.30am here at the Library. The aim of the Lego Club program is for children to have fun, learn to communicate with others and to develop problem-solving skills. This is a free program and is being offered to children from 5 years to 15 years of age. All Lego is provided and any donation of Lego would be kindly appreciated.

SunSmart Snippet

The simplest way

... to choose a SunSmart hat

A SunSmart hat not only protects the face, head, neck and ears, it can also reduce the amount of UV radiation reaching the eyes by 50%.



CHOOSE a SunSmart hat:

- Broad-brimmed hats
- Bucket hats
- Legionnaire style hats

Baseball caps and sun visors do not protect the cheeks, ears and back of the neck and are not recommended.

To help keep your kids safe in the sun, check your schools SunSmart status by heading to www.sunsmartnsw.com.au

Love to sing? In Year 5 to Year 12?



2019 Riverina Choral Camp is the place for you!

A three and a half day choral singing camp including one day tour to perform at local schools.

A great opportunity to be selected for Riverina, State and Schools Spectacular Choirs.

When: Sunday 26 May to Friday 31 May 2019
Where: Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre
Cost: \$420

Register your interest here:
<https://goo.gl/forms/cdJwKsC9iAOiylyf2>

**Education
Public Schools**

Camp Coordinator: Holly Rose
Contact: 6922 5087
Email: sturt-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Host School: Sturt Public School