



Murrurundi Public School

Pride in our Heritage, Confidence in our Future

Be Respectful Be Responsible Do Your Personal Best



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 2 —Week 4

Wednesday 24 May 2023

Date	What	Who	Further Information
30 May	Small Schools Athletics Carnival Bus provided for students	K-2	Please return permission Notes Via School Stream
6 June	P&C Meeting—6:00pm		Please enter school via back gate 2/3/4 Classroom
9 June	Small Schools Public Speaking	Nominated Students	More Information Soon
26 June	Combined Small Schools STEM	K-6	More Information Soon

Weekly Reminders

Library Day - Wednesday please ensure your child has a library bag so they can borrow books from the school library .

Sport Days - Wednesday and Friday - Please wear your sports uniform.

Canteen Day - Monday . Canteen order bags go home Friday

National Sorry Day

Every year on 26 May, National Sorry Day remembers and acknowledges the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities, which we now know as 'The Stolen Generations'. National Sorry Day is a day to acknowledge the strength of Stolen Generations Survivors and reflect on how we can all play a part in the healing process for our people and nation. While this date carries great significance for the Stolen Generations and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, it is also commemorated by Australians right around the country. All students will be completing activities over the next two weeks to help develop an understanding of the significance of National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week.

National Simultaneous Storytime

National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. Now in its 23rd successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Foundation to Year 6.

By facilitating NSS we aim to:

- promote the value of reading and literacy,
 - promote the value and fun of books,
 - promote an Australian writer and publisher,
 - promote story time activities in libraries and communities around the country,
 - and provide opportunities to involve parents, grandparents, the media and others to participate in and enjoy the occasion
- This week, our K-1 class will be listening to the story 'Speedy Sloth' and completing some activities based on the story.

Biggest Morning Tea

We are looking to the community once again joining us for the Biggest Morning Tea. Many students can't wait to share morning tea with their families and friends and then play games.

Attendance Targets

Now that we are moving on from the COVID pandemic and returning to 'normal' life, we are getting back on track with our attendance targets. Our targets for 2023 are:

Reducing the amount of unjustified absences; and increase the number of students attending school at or above 90% of the school term to a minimum of 70%. Currently we are sitting at 50.9%

Attendance Policy: What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for home schooling. Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

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
- gives students time to greet their friends before class
- reduces classroom disruption. Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

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. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence. Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why. Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

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My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school. Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences - You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.
- Application to the Children's Court - Compulsory Schooling Order. If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.
- Prosecution in the Local Court School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

Mrs Darlington

Principal



Class K/1

During the Scone Horse Festival, K/1 went Scone and attended the Jack Johnson Memorial Day.

We had a great day, watching sheep being shorn, a horse being shod, dog high jump and working dogs doing what they do best. K/1 students then wrote about their experience back at school.

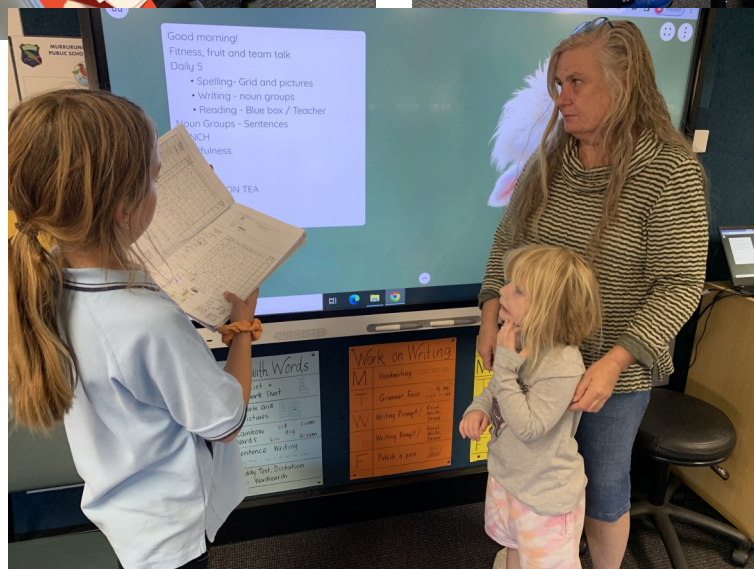
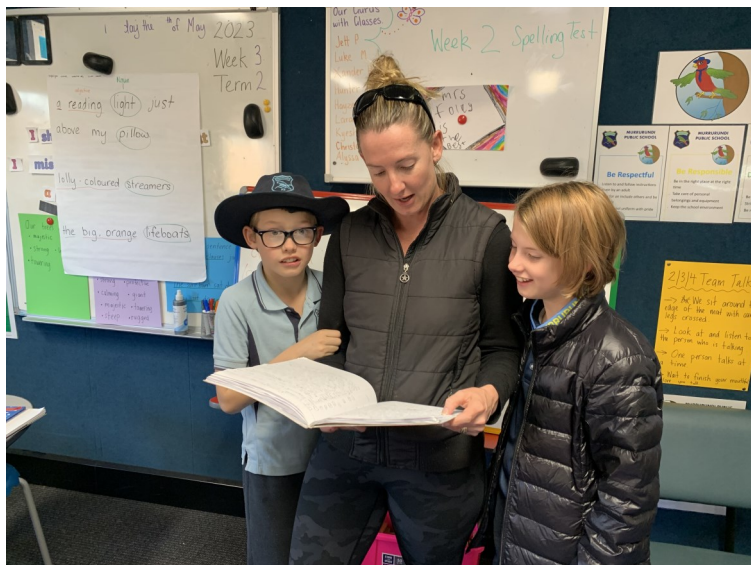
Ms Mitchell and Mrs Leayr



Class 2/3/4

Time flies when you're having fun! So much learning is happening in our room and it was lovely to be able to share it with our families recently. We also enjoyed a fabulous day out at the Jack Johnson Memorial Day where we saw sheep dogs doing their thing, sheep shearing, equestrian horses, alpacas, Texas long-horned bulls, and the most exciting, dog high jump! We have also enjoyed learning and practicing the High Jump ourselves, with Sam for sport. We weren't quite as clever as those doggies but we did our best!

Mrs Foley, Ms Fin and Ms Petrie



Class 2/3/4 Jack Johnson Memorial Day Excursion



Biggest Morning Tea

The SRC held a Biggest Morning Tea for our school students, staff, family members and community members on Wednesday 24th May at 10.30am. Students and visitors enjoyed morning tea and activities and a concert from Dayna and Sarah.

A total of \$275.50 was raised for the Cancer Council. Well done everyone and thank you for visiting our beautiful school. The guessing competition was won by Charlie P. The Guess was Lucky Teapot No 2.

Jump Rope for Heart kicks off this term!

Jump Rope for Heart is the Heart Foundation's primary school skipping challenge that helps kids move more, have fun and raise funds for lifesaving research and programs.

This year is the 40th year of Jump Rope for Heart! To celebrate this milestone, we've got an audacious goal to see our student Heart Heroes at MPS to log 40 hours of skipping throughout the program!

[Register your child online](https://www.jumprope.org.au/parents), so they can receive the full benefits of the program and participate in online fundraising, simply follow the link below to get started. www.jumprope.org.au/parents

Students will be skipping *throughout the rest of the term in morning fitness and during breaks.*

You can share their online fundraising page with family and friends to help raise money for this great cause.

We will hold our school Jump Off Day in Week 10, this will mark the end of the program and is a chance for everyone to come together to skip and show off their newly learned skills.

Thank you for supporting the Jump Rope for Heart program!

Mrs Foley



**Don't forget Back to School vouchers
expire on the 30 June 2023.**

**Vouchers can be used to
purchase school uniforms available in
our uniform shop or clothing pool.**

Murrurundi P&C General Meeting

The next P&C Meeting will be held **Tuesday 6 June** in the class 2/3/4

classroom at 6.00pm. Everyone welcome and invited to attend.

Please enter the school via the back gate behind the Bowling club.

Class 5/6

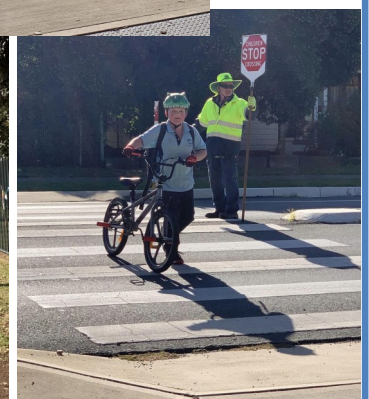
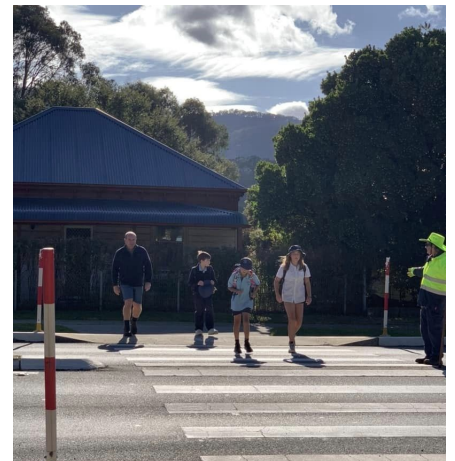
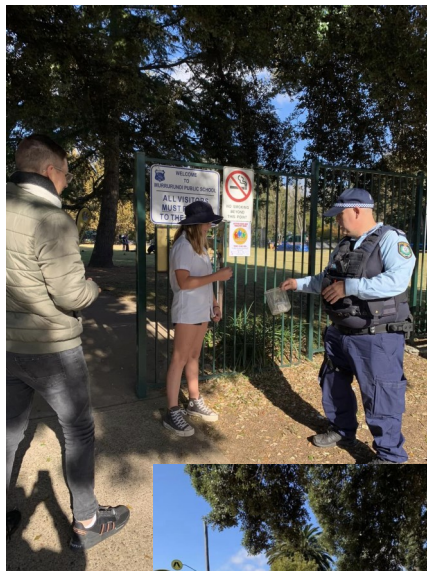
Another busy fortnight in 5/6! Students have been working hard on their speeches with most students now hitting the editing stage and are beginning to write their speeches on to palm cards ready to present at the end of the week or early next week. We have also been working on our persuasive writing unit where students have been asked to write a persuasive text debating whether single use plastics should be banned. Throughout our math's units, we've had a focus on time and reading timetables, including public transport timetables. There's also been a revision on fractions furthering our learning from last term. This next fortnight we begin to explore position and coordinates, including cartesian planes in our learning.

Everyone in 5/6 would like to congratulate Elsie on her efforts at Hunter Football last week. This week we have a large portion of the class competing in the Small Schools Football knockout first round match against Willow Tree PS in Quirindi. We have already had great athletics successes in the High Jump events in the lead up to the Athletics carnival next week.

Mr Pulik and Mrs Gorst



A big thank you to Highway Patrol Officer ?? for visiting our school on Friday and our Crossing Supervisors that assist our students and parents everyday school day ensuring their safety crossing the busy road.



Soccer Trials

Elsie played in the team Eastlakes and they played 3 games and won 20-0 / 4-0 / 10-0. Well Done!!

Assembly Awards Term 2 - Week 4

Merit - Academic

Heidi
Matilda T
Will
Matilda H

PBL

Cooper W—Personal Best
Ella—Responsible
Wyatt—Respect
Samantha—Responsible
Chad—Personal Best
Elsie—Responsible



Silver Award

Chad

Bronze Award

Hunter A
Cody
Jessica
Ayra
Charlie W
Wyatt
Heidi



Jett P - Henry
Matilda H

Principal Award

Alyssa



Attendance requirements and student absences

We are committed to working with you to offer support and remove any barriers that may be preventing your child from regularly attending school.

This is a reminder that all student absences must be explained within 7 days of the first day of them being away from school. Please contact the school promptly whenever your child is absent and let us know the reason for them being away. This allows us to provide the right support and make sure your child's absences are recorded correctly.

In the event your child has repeated or ongoing unexplained absences, we will continue to try to contact you about each absence.

We know that for our students every day of school matters.

Days missed equals years lost. There's approximately 200 days in a school year. When a child misses one day a week over a year, that's 40 days of school, 8 weeks of lessons and 2.5 years over their school life lost. As your child's education has already been interrupted through periods of learning from home due to COVID-19 over the last 2 and a half years, now is the time to prioritise face-to-face learning and making the most of every school day.

If you have any questions or if you need support with your child's attendance, please contact our school office on 02 65466057.