

# MWPS Newsletter



**Last day of term 4 is tomorrow, 20th December. Students will be dismissed at 1:30pm on this day.**

All children will need to be collected from school at this time, no later than you. The Sunraysia bus lines will run the school buses at 2.15pm, therefore parents will need to make alternative arrangements for picking up children.

**Please Note: Due to the early finish time there is no need for your child to bring lunch to school, only supply a snack.**

## ANOTHER GREAT YEAR AT WEST!

Thankyou to students, parents, carers, staff and the wider community for making this yet another super year at West. Please have a safe and enjoyable christmas. I look forward to seeing every in 2020.



## 2019 Student Leaders – Thank You!

Our Student Leaders have done a wonderful job this year. They've continually given up their recess and lunch to meet and to organise activities. I wish them well and hope they continue to seek leadership opportunities in their future.

Also thank you to the following teams:

- House Captains
- Student Representative Council
- Tech Team
- RREP leaders
- Environmental Leaders

### Student Leaders



Logan Baldock, Kalym Higgins, Noah Taylor, Ryleigh MacDonald  
Prince Koyiremeye, Zoe Stone, Beau Kiel, Solopani Miki

# MWPS Mini Concert

WOW – Our mini Concert was fabulous!!

Thank you so much for coming along. We know it was tricky for some of you to get time from work, but it sure was super!!

Our children were a delight!

- Thanks to Karen Willcock for teaching our G3,4,5,6 students the dances. Our children just love to work with Karen. It's wonderful to see them bouncing around happily.
- Thanks to Steph Bradshaw for teaching the Grade Prep, One and Two children the music items. We've loved having music at West this year.
- Thanks to the Lions Club for cooking our yummy breaky.
- Thanks to our fabulous School Council for working so hard to make this morning a success.



## **BIG Thank You & Farewell to 4 Staff members. Sadly, we say Good Bye and Thank You to the following staff.**

### **Marion Vorwerk**

Marion is an amazing educator. She has been a valued member of the MWPS staff for a very long time. Marion has instilled a love of science and the environment in 1000s of children. The students have loved having Marion teach them because she is such a passionate teacher.

Marion has won a great many awards throughout her career, including the prestigious Dame Phyllis Frost Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities award. She also won the Volvo Australia award in 2005 and took several West students to Sweden to present at an Environmental Conference.

Marion's dedication to environmental education and sustainability is extensive and impressive.

One such program was Marion's year 5/6 project where students had the chance each fortnight to care and protect local waterways such as Rio Vista Park, Johnson's Bend and Lake Ranfurly.

She also obtained many grants for the school – including \$60,000 for the large tank on the oval.

In recent years, Marion co-ordinated our *Special Needs Program*, supporting many of our children and ensuring they received the funding they deserved.

We cannot thank Marion enough for all she has done for the students at West and we wish her all the best for the future.



### **Belinda McShane**

Belinda is one of our fabulous Wellbeing Officers.

Several years ago we were lucky enough to employ Belinda. She had spent many years with Community Services. We all know that it's hard to learn if you are unhappy, stressed or traumatised. So Belinda took care of our children's wellbeing and helped us do the same. She has supported hundreds of children and their families. Belinda set up our Breakfast program, which around 50 children attend each week. We are so very fortunate to have had Belinda at West. And we are all very sad to say goodbye. But she is ready to travel with her husband in the next exciting chapter. We thank Belinda for the huge contribution she has made to West. And we wish her all the best.

### **Steph Bradshaw**

This year we welcomed Steph Bradshaw to our staff to teach the younger children music. We thank Steph for all she has done to bring music to West. Steph will be popping in occasionally next year, supporting our new music teacher, Meagan Murray.

Thanks for your work this year Steph.

### **Britney Duffus**

Britney has been a member of our Education Support staff for 3 years and has been a terrific asset. She has supported many children in a variety of year levels and built wonderful relationships with children and adults. She has also been a valuable member of OSHC.

Good luck Britney.

### **New Leaders 2020**

Our model of Student Leadership for the last 2 years has been a team approach. Instead of 2 School Captains, 2 Vice Captains and an SRC president, we now have a team of 8. All are equal. This has proven to be very successful, the children grow together, giving each other feedback and learning from each other. Many Grade Five students delivered a speech last week. Every one of them did a great job. I was very proud of them all.

Afterward, all staff and all students from G3, 4 & 5 voted.

The 8 student leaders who will form the Student Leadership Team for 2020 are:

- **Will Pratt**
- **Declan Baldock**
- **Alana Sakkas**
- **Ruby Hancock**
- **Oscar Hall**
- **Bronte Brown**
- **Dea Singh**
- **Caitlyn Czapla**



We congratulate these 8 children and wish them luck for 2020. I am certainly looking forward to working with them!

There will be many more leadership opportunities available early next year and I encourage those children who were not successful this time to try again for the next positions.

## 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019

### Important Dates

#### 20<sup>th</sup> December

Last day Term 4 - Early dismissal  
1.30pm

#### 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020

- Term 1 Begins (Prep - Gr 6)

### **2020 Victorian Term Dates**

**Term 1:** 29<sup>th</sup> January – 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Term 2:** 14<sup>th</sup> April – 26<sup>th</sup> June

**Term 3:** 13<sup>th</sup> July – 18<sup>th</sup> September

**Term 4:** 15<sup>th</sup> October – 18<sup>th</sup>  
December

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## **Our Classes for 2020**

We are very excited to have our classes for 2020 finalised. Today, students met their teacher and new classmates. They had a couple of hours together enjoying each other's company. A great deal of time and thought has gone into the formation of these classes. It's a very complex process, taking about 4 hours. Please know that every decision we make is for the children's benefit. If you have any concerns, please contact me to discuss.



## **Your Child's School Report**

Yesterday your child brought home his/her end of year report. As you know, our teachers write reports regularly, throughout the year. These are in the form of a CAT (Common Assessment Task) which is online.

Every child who has been at West for the entire year should have received about 15 – 20 of these small reports.

Because our system of student reporting is ongoing, and includes many small reports throughout the year, we do not write a large report midyear or at the end of the year.

Consequently, your child's report will include:

- An indication where he/she is in accordance with the Victorian Curriculum (indicated by a black dot)
- An indication on his/her Work Habits
- The child's written reflection
- Areas for improvement
- A curriculum overview from the Specialist teachers.
- A hard copy of previous CATs



## CANTEEN

Thank you to all our families that have supported the Canteen throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you all again in 2020.

**The Canteen will be closed Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December.**

The staff at Mildura West Primary School would like to wish all our families a safe and happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing you all in 2020

