Achieving Educational Excellence in a Caring Environment

Newsletter

Week 3 Term 1

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<td>Thursday 19 &amp; Friday 20 February</td>
<td>Goal Setting Interviews</td>
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<td>Monday 23 February – Friday 27 February</td>
<td>Goal Setting Interviews</td>
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<td>Monday 23 February</td>
<td>Voting Opens for Board Elections</td>
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<td>Monday 23 February</td>
<td>Book Club Orders due</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24 February</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM – Meeting Room 7pm – 9.30pm</td>
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<td>Friday 27 February</td>
<td>Assembly – Hall Noon – 1pm</td>
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Attachments

- Term 1 Calendar
- P&C 2015 AGM Notice
- P&C & Sub Committees AGM Nomination Form
- P&C Email Permission
- School Banking Flyer
- Come & Try Joey Scouts Flyer

Message from the Principal

Thank you for your attendance at last week’s information night- your feedback to staff and myself has been overwhelming! We appreciate your continued support and positivity around the school: children seeing and hearing parents and staff working collaboratively at the school provide a very strong social foundation for them.
Getting to Know You Interviews reminder.
Thank you for making the time to speak to your child’s class teacher. There is still another week if you have not done so yet and also your reflections on your child are very useful so please ensure they are returned as soon as possible too. At the interview you will be given your child’s six-week overview (if you were unable to come to the information night) and will be asked to check your contact details. We know there have been some problems with the online booking system this year— their system went down nationwide at the weekend and, as they are based in WA, they were starting three hours behind— and we appreciate your patience.

Voluntary Contributions
Your voluntary contributions this year are being spent on literacy and numeracy resources. Please take the option of requesting that your voluntary contribution is made to the library trust fund so that you are eligible to claim this back against your tax in July. We are using these to purchase year sets of dictionaries (word origins, spelling and grammar, thesaurus and mathematical) and atlases. Your generous support with the voluntary contributions will help the school incredibly. We have 422 children enrolled from Kindergarten to Year Six. If every family paid $75 per child (averaging out for families with more than one child) we would receive $31,650 at a cost to you of $52.50 assuming you are in the 30% tax bracket, less if you are in a higher bracket. This is double what we need to achieve our goal ($17,500) but based on what we received last year we will only be able to realise half of our goal. So your support is vital! We make savings in many ways (we make our own resources in our own time at our own cost often) to help our children. De in the office is doing an amazing job of stretching every dollar further and Vicki in the library never misses a trick to save money when ordering new resources. But we cannot provide these resources to our children as quickly as we would like to without your support and appreciate any help (financial or through volunteering) you are able to give us.

Spare Book Pack resources
One way you might be able to help further is if you have spare dictionaries (or glue sticks, notebooks etc.) from previous years that are sitting at home unused we would love to have them and it would reduce the cost to us of providing these for families in need and help towards our planned class sets.

Book bags
A reminder that your child is required to have a bag for the library. We sell Miles Franklin bags at the front office for $10 and we also have some spare bags that have been donated to us in the library. However, once they run out your child will not be able to borrow if they don’t have a bag.

Mercy’s farewell
There will be an assembly for Mercy in week 6 (Friday 13th March) at 12.00 in the hall. Former students and their families are welcome to attend. This is an opportunity for the children to farewell Mercy after 29 years of dedicated service to the school. Please mark this space in your diaries as Mercy has touched the hearts and minds of so many of our children and families!

P&C AGM
Next Tuesday the P&C are holding the AGM in the meeting room. All parents and community members are eligible to stand for one of the positions or to vote if there is more than one candidate.

Chris
Living the PYP @ Miles Franklin

A key practice that all PYP schools needs to model is that: The school community demonstrates an understanding of the, and commitment to, the Primary Years Programme (PYP). These weekly newsletter articles are written to inform and involve the school community in our journey at Miles Franklin towards authorisation as an International Baccalaureate World School.

At our parent information evening last week, I gave an update of our journey at Miles Franklin Primary School towards becoming an IB World School, offering the Primary Years Programme (PYP).

Miles Franklin Primary School applied to become authorised as an IB World School, offering the PYP in September 2013. We are currently in a compulsory two year Candidate Phase with the International Baccalaureate organisation and are working towards meeting the rigorous requirements to become fully accredited by 2016.

This week’s question:

Why is goal setting an important part of the PYP?

I spoke to the parents about why, as a school community, we are committed to becoming a fully accredited IB World School. The reason is quite simple- we are focused on improving educational outcomes for our students, for your children. We want to prepare our students to be lifelong learners, engaged in their schooling and with a thirst for knowledge that will last long after they finish their time with us at Miles Franklin. In order for the child to be at the heart of our curriculum, we are focussed on the following PYP Standards:

Teaching and learning builds on what students know and can do. The school provides students with feedback to inform and improve their learning.

At Miles Franklin we therefore:

- Commence the year reviewing a range of assessment data on each student, to know each child personally and plan for instruction that builds on each student’s prior knowledge.
- Analyse assessment data at weekly planning sessions in order to design learning engagements that cater for the needs of our students.
- Hold Getting to Know You conference style interviews in Weeks 3 and 4, to set personalised learning goals for each child, in partnership with families.
- Use Learning Intentions and Success Criteria, so that students know the purpose of what they are learning and how tasks link to their personal learning goals.
- Actively involve students on a regular basis in reflecting on their learning.
Discussion starters - Ask your child this week:

- Why is it important to set personal learning goals?
- How can we (parents/teachers) help you with meeting your personal learning goals?
- What is one thing you have shown improvement in recently? How do you know you have improved?

Nicole Jaggers  
PYP Coordinator  
nicole.jaggers@ed.act.edu.au

SAVE THE DATE:  
‘Living the PYP @ Miles Franklin’- Community Event

Topic: What is a ‘Unit of Inquiry’ and how can you become involved?

Date: Wednesday 4 March 5.30-6.30pm  
OR a repeat session on Friday 6 March 9.00-10.00am

Where: Miles Franklin Primary School library.

Presenter: Nicole Jaggers, Miles Franklin PYP Coordinator

P&C News

The air is buzzing – what a “Stellar” year it is going to be

A big thanks to all the staff, new and returning, for making the school buzz with optimism and enthusiasm. Most kids are settling in and I personally continue to love the electronic booking system for parent teacher interviews. Initiatives like this by the school are fantastic, so if you like something, don’t forget to pass the message onto staff. We had our first general meeting last night and I was really happy to see some new faces in the mix. Thanks to all those who came along and participated. I will provide more detail on some decisions and discussion that happened in next week’s newsletter which will be my final one as President. Due to family, work and study commitments I can’t continue with the role of President, I won’t be able to commit the time it deserves. So I encourage all parents to come forward and take on something at next week’s AGM – big or small. There are positions that must be filled or the association will not continue so have a think about the great things we provide to the school and parent community and think what you would miss if the P&C didn’t exist.

Just some small thoughts:

“I forgot to get bread last night – why don’t I get a lunch order today. Oh I can’t because there is no Canteen anymore”

“I would really love my kids to learn music but don’t have the time to run around with lessons after school.” Well the Music Scheme offers access to music tutors during school time to help you with this.
“Oh I need new uniforms for the kids, Johnny has grown out of his shirts and I don’t have time to go to the shops.”
Well the Uniform shop provides easy ordering access to save you time.

“I wouldn’t be able to work if it wasn’t for out of school care at the school.”
If you want this service to continue then the management committee (out of hour’s school care subcommittee) needs positions to be filled. How important is this for your family?

“My kids love that new playground and love getting books and sitting down reading in the library.”
In collaboration with the school your P&C has funded all these things and the school would not have been able to have purchased this great equipment and resources on its own.

So to all parents, have a good look around the school. There will not be many things the P&C has not contributed to financially or by some sort of personal exertion that you see. What would you miss if we didn’t exist??

**Annual General Meetings – Next Week Tuesday 24th February (Various times – see attachments to newsletter)**

AGM Agenda, Reports & 2014 minutes – all available from school website [www.mfps.act.edu.au](http://www.mfps.act.edu.au). Go to the Dropbox folder/P&C AGM information

**Fete volunteer gathering & a chance for newbies to come and meet parents involved in the fete**
Friday February 20th 2015, 4 – 7 pm @ Belconnen Soccer Club
A casual gathering is being held to celebrate our special fete volunteers for 2014 who made it such a successful day. Anyone interested in wanting to be involved for 2015 is also welcome to come along to meet the network of fete helpers. Kids are welcome to attend. More news for the planning of the 2015 fete will be coming in future newsletters.
See you at the AGM
Allison Reid
P&C President
Friday 20th March is Harmony Day  
On Friday 20th March we will be having some special events at preschool and school to celebrate Harmony Day.

Children can come to school dressed up in a costume from another country or they can wear a piece of orange coloured clothing. Parents do not need to purchase elaborate costumes. Dressing up could be as simple as (but not limited to) a French beret, a grass skirt and a lei, a Mexican hat, a Hawaiian shirt, a karate uniform, a kimono, a sari or a cheongsam. Children may like to bring a flag from their country of origin.

At 9.15 am, pupils from both the Preschool and the Primary School will parade their costumes out on the black top. Parents are welcome to stay and watch the parade.

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome to all returning students and a warm welcome to all new students. The library is open from 8.30am for students and parents/carers. Parents/carers are welcome to read to their children or borrow books before school. If you would like your own borrower account please see Vicki in the library.

LIBRARY BAGS
Please ensure that your children have a library bag. Bags help to protect the library books from any food or drink in the student’s school bags.

BOOKCLUB
Scholastic Book Club catalogues were distributed this week to all students. Scholastic offers parents the opportunity to purchase the latest books at very competitive pricing. 20% of total sales are awarded to the library for the purchase of new books. Book Club enables our library the opportunity to acquire ‘free’ books. There are usually 2 issues of Book Club catalogues each term. Orders for Issue 1 are due back to school before Monday 23 February.

HELP WANTED
Help is required with many tasks in the library. If you would like to volunteer please see Vicki. Any help is welcomed and very much appreciated.
School Banking Rewards now available! Term 1

These new rewards have just been released for Term 1, and are available while stocks last:

- ET DVD
- Planet Handball

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for these exclusive School Banking reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour. There are 2 new items to come in Term 2 as well!

Remember our school earns 5% commission on every deposit made (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

If your children are not currently involved in the School Banking program and you would like to know more, please ask for a 2015 School Banking program Information Pack from the School office.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program and don’t forget that Thursday is School Banking day!

Schools Account Opening Day

If you would like your children to join the School Banking program we are holding an Account Opening Day on Tuesday 3 March outside the Kindergarten area from 8.30am.

Please come along, bring some identification and join your child up so that they can earn some fabulous rewards and learn the importance of saving.
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<td>IB PYP Evening – 5:30-6:30pm</td>
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<td>IB PYP Session – 9:30-10:30am</td>
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<td>Canberra Day</td>
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<td>Assembly – SRC and Mrs Woodman’s Farewell - Noon</td>
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<td>AFL Clinics</td>
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<td>Harmony Day Parade – P-6 – 9:15am</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 7pm</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Camp</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Camp AFL Clinics</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Camp Belconnen Regional Swimming Assembly – Year 1 - Noon</td>
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<td>Apr 1</td>
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<td>NAPLAN information session 5:30-6:30pm</td>
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<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>MFPS Cross Country TBC</td>
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Miles Franklin Parents & Citizens Association
Notice of Annual General Meeting
Week 4 - Tuesday 24th February 2015

Subcommittees

**Canteen and Uniform shop:** 6:30 – 7:15 - School staff room

Positions to be filled: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Uniform Shop coordinator

Contact: Allison Reid at MFPandC@Outlook.com

**Out of School Hours Care:** 6:30 – 7:15 pm - OSHC room

Positions to be filled: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer

Contact: Joanna Price-Murray at jofprice@grapevine.com.au

**Music Scheme:** 6:00 – 7:00 pm – School meeting room

Positions to be filled: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and enrolment officer

Contact: Sarah Power at powies@iinet.net.au

**Preschool:** 6:30 – 7:15 pm – Preschool class room

Positions to be filled: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Fun day coordinator

Contact: Leanne Hayes at leannelobo@hotmail.com

**Main P and C Committee:** 7:30 – 8:30 pm - School meeting room

Office bearer positions to be filled: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

General member positions to be filled: Fete Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator and ACT P&C Council Delegate.

Contact: P&C President Allison Reid at MFPandC@Outlook.com

*Nomination forms for positions available from front office or School website DropBox (P&C AGM Folder)*
Miles Franklin Parents & Citizens Association
Annual General Meeting - Week 4 Tuesday 24\textsuperscript{th} February 2015
See main notice for meeting times and contacts

\textbf{What we do}

The P&C and its subcommittees provide valuable services to the school, fundraises for extra resources and provides the parent community the opportunity to have a say in everything from traffic safety problems, student support services, libraries & IT, bullying & enrolment issues just to name a few. Our P&C is made up of the main P&C Association committee and four subcommittees outlined below.

\textbf{Main P and C Committee}

Would you like to meet other parents from the school, find out more about how the school works, raise issues of concern and be involved in deciding where our fundraising dollars go? The main P&C committee runs the association and oversees the subcommittees and what services they provide to the school. We are also a member of the ACT Council of P&C Associations which can provide assistance in helping us deal with many common issues and concerns faced by parents with primary school aged children.

\textbf{Subcommittee: Canteen and Uniform shop}

The Canteen and Uniform Shop Subcommittee provides support to the Canteen and operates the Uniform Shop. The aim is to promote services, encourage healthy eating, offer convenience and manage funds to maintain the operation of the canteen and uniform shop. If you would like a say in the type of food and activities the Canteen and Uniform Shop provide come to the AGM to find out more.

\textbf{Subcommittee: Out of School Hours Care (MFOSHC)}

The Miles Franklin Out of School Hours Care provides high quality before, after and holiday program care for students of Miles Franklin Primary. The day to day operations are managed by the director and the finances are managed by the book keeper, with the parent management committee providing oversight to the running of the centre. The Out of School Hours Care subcommittee have some exciting projects this year and would welcome parents from the school to get involved.

\textbf{Subcommittee: Music Scheme}

The Music Scheme arranges music tuition for students of MFPS. Currently tuition is offered in keyboard, guitar, piano, recorder, flute and violin. The scheme also organises the well regarded Miles Franklin Music Festival which is held at the school in Term 3.

A reminder that your children do not have to be part of the music scheme for parents to become members of the committee - all parent helpers are welcome to help out.

\textbf{Subcommittee: Preschool:}

This subcommittee provides preschool parents the opportunity to network with fellow preschool parents, fundraise and discuss issues that are particular to the preschool. They also run an annual fun day at the latter end of the year aiming to bring together the current and future preschool parent community to showcase our amazing preschool facilities.
Miles Franklin Parents & Citizens Association Incorporated
Annual General Meeting- February 24th 2015
Nomination Form for AGM advertised positions

I wish to nominate________________________________________ as a candidate for the position of

Candidate’s name

________________________________________ in the __________________________ committee

Position name Committee/Subcommittee name

Candidate

I accept the nomination for the position of ______________________________ in the above stated committee.

Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________

Moved by:

Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________

Seconded by:

Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________

Notes:

- The candidate, nominator and seconder must be members of the Association.
- Candidates may nominate themselves.
- “Moved by” and “Seconded by” may be completed before, or at the meeting.
- Additional Officers or General Member positions as determined by the P&C Association are not considered part of the P&C Executive Committee
- Signed Nomination forms can be handed into the P&C locked box (located opposite canteen) labelled “P&C AGM Nominations” or scanned & emailed to MFPandC@outlook.com before Tuesday 24th February 12pm or brought to the meeting.

List of Committees and Positions available:

Main P&C Committee:

Executive (office bearer) positions to be filled: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

General member positions to be filled: Fete Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator and ACT P&C Council Delegate.

Canteen & Uniform Shop subcommittee:

Positions to be filled: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Uniform Shop coordinator

Out of School Hours care (MSOSH) Subcommittee:

Positions to be filled: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer

Music Scheme Subcommittee:

Positions to be filled: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and enrolment officer

Preschool Subcommittee:

Positions to be filled: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Fun day coordinator
About Miles Franklin Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) and communicating with you by email

The Miles Franklin School P&C is a great place for families with students to meet others, join in a range of community activities and even get support from other parents at times. We aim to keep it a friendly, community-oriented atmosphere where everyone is welcome.

ALL parents and carers of children at the school are eligible members of the P&C and are encouraged to be involved.

The role of the P&C includes helping people come together, making suggestions to/asking questions of the Principal, getting to know each other, feeling that you can contribute to the school & having fun during this precious time of your child’s life. The more members we have actively participating in the P&C association the better we can achieve our objectives.

Please consider coming along to the first P&C meeting of the year in Week 3 (Tuesday 7pm) and getting involved – it’s a great way to meet new people and really contribute to your child’s school experience.

As we use email to communicate with parents, it is essential that we have an accurate and up to date email contact list of parents. Opting for PC email is great way to engage with activities, issues and useful information for parents in your school even if you can't make it to meetings.

So please complete and sign the below form and return it to the school or to the P&C. Your email address will be kept confidential and only used for authorised P&C/school communication purposes.

Name: ___________________________________________________

Email address:_____________________________________________

Contact phone numbers:_____________________________________

Signed:__________________________________   Date: _________________

Please return to the School Reception or sign, scan & send to the P&C at MFPandC@outlook.com

Many thanks

Allison Reid, P&C President
School Banking 2015 is ready for launch.

For over 80 years, the School Banking program has been teaching Australian children lifelong money skills. This year, your child is invited to join the Dollarmites on an intergalactic mission to Planet Savings.

Information on how students can get on board with School Banking, including a Savings Tracker and a rewards redemption card, is available from your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Your school has received parent packs that include all the information you need to get on board. If you haven’t received a parent pack yet, please ask your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Rewarding good savings habits with eight new items in 2015

The School Banking program encourages good savings habits by rewarding students with awesome reward items. For every 10 deposits made through the program, they can redeem a reward from our Outer Space Savers range, including ET DVDs, Planet Handballs, Invisible Ink Martian Pens, Intergalactic Rockets, Glow-in-the-Dark Solar Systems, Cosmic Light Beam Torches, Outer Space Savers Money Boxes and Lunar Light Bands.

You could win a family trip to Disneyland

In a School Banking first, students who make 25 or more School Banking deposits in 2015 will automatically receive one entry into the competition to win a family trip to California’s Disneyland. The prize includes return airfares, five nights accommodation, transfers and three days park entry for up to two adults and two kids, plus AUD$2,000 spending money.

For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Things to know before you can: Conditions apply, Promotion starts 9.00am AEDT 27/1/15 and ends 11.59pm AEDT 18/12/15. Entry is open to all YouthSaver account holders aged 5–13 years who participate in CommBank’s School Banking program. Entrants under 18 must have parent/guardian consent. The draw will take place at 12.30pm AEDT on 12/1/16 at the Promoter’s office. The first valid entry drawn will win a family trip to California’s Disneyland valued at $22,245. The winner’s name will be published in the public notices section of The Australian on 26/1/16. Promoter is Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124 of Level 2, 11 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Full terms and conditions available at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking NSW Permit No LTPS/14/09857; ACT Permit No TP14/04345; VIC Permit No 14/5986; SA Permit No T14/2327.
Come and Try Joey Scouts

Joey Scouts is the first section of Scouts, for boys and girls who are 6 and 7 years of age. Joeys is a gentle introduction to the world of challenges and adventures through scouting. Fun and friendship is the main aim! The local Scout Group is called Crowajalinglong and we are located on Heydon Crescent (next to the shops). Joeys meet on a Monday evening from 6.15-7.15pm. For more information, please ring Carolyn (Joey Leader) on 62585131.