



Newsletter

Week 7 Term 1

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 20 March	Harmony Day Parade Preschool – Year 6 9.15am – Blacktop (hall if raining)
Wednesday 25 March	P&C Meeting 7pm – Meeting Room
Wednesday 25 – Friday 27 March	Year 5/6 Camp – Cooba
Friday 27 March	Assembly 12 Noon – Hall Year 1
Friday 27 March	Belconnen PSSA Swimming
Wednesday 1 April	NAPLAN Information Session 5.30 - Library
FRIDAY 20 MARCH	Applications close for Canteen Positions

Attachments

- Hot Cross Bun Drive Flyer
- Music Scheme Flyer
- Phoenix Gym Flyer
- Homework Helper

SCHOOL PHOTOS

- Photo envelopes sent home Thursday 19 March.
- Photo Day for Kindy – Year 6 is Tuesday 31 March
- Photo Day for Preschool Blue & Yellow is Tuesday 31 March
- Photo Day for Preschool Red is Thursday 2 April
- K-6 Family Photo envelopes available from the front office
- Preschool Family Photo envelopes available from preschool

Message from the Principal

Homework helper

In regards to feedback we have received, and something we have committed to in our annual plan, we are commencing a fortnightly 'homework helper' for parents (attached to the newsletter). Parents have stated that if it is hard to get into the classrooms regularly, it is hard to know what your child will be learning. Please remember we send out our Unit of Inquiry overview every six weeks, as opposed to once a term, and these will help you understand the areas your child will be learning. In addition though, we feel it is important parents have some more guidance on how they can help their child at home so each team has written some dot-points for how you can help over the next fortnight to reinforce the work they are doing in the classroom. You will see reading for most year groups most fortnights as we value this so highly- please see the following paragraph but will continue to highlight the areas you can focus on when helping your child at home. Now that we have commenced the cycle they will come out in week 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Parent Reading Sessions

Thank you for coming to our recent reading sessions. These are an important opportunity where we can help parents in reading strategies for your children. Of the variables that can influence the educational progression of children the research says the school is 10%, the teacher is 40% but the parents are 50%. Helping your child to read at home can make a massive difference and this difference flows into all areas of their learning: to answer a maths question, you need to be able to read it first. We will be having further sessions this year to assist parents who need to help more advanced readers and also for those who might have missed these this week (if you did, see this weeks 'Living the PYP@Miles Franklin' article Will Johnston wrote further on in the newsletter for more information).

Mercy Woodman's Farewell Assembly.

Thank you all so much for your support last week in dressing your children in the three



respective colours of the French flag. The assembly went well, not too many tissues were needed and the children sang 'So Long, Farewell' beautifully! To acknowledge Mercy's legacy the school decided to honour her by naming the Library the Woodman Library due to her service in the school and for the community, her love of books and also for many years she taught in the space where the library is today. One of our parents,

Erin White, made a beautiful cake. Mercy will return later in the year as a relief teacher and also for the Miles Franklin Brilliant Writers.

Mathletics

Many of you will now be aware that we are rolling out Mathletics across the school. We decided it would be a valuable resource for children to have both at home and for use at school. If you need any assistance with Mathletics please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Voluntary Contributions

To date we have received \$3805 in voluntary contributions. This equates to just over \$7 per child. As I wrote a few weeks ago, your voluntary contributions allow us to purchase the extras in the school that we are not funded for. This year, we have not put dictionaries in the backpack but will be putting the voluntary contributions into class sets of dictionaries. Your contributions are important to enable us to continue this vital project for our children and your support is gratefully received.

P&C Meeting

Please remember there is a P&C meeting next Wednesday, 25th March, at 7.00pm in the meeting room. Please note the change of day.

Harmony Day

Please remember we are celebrating Harmony Day this Friday. We ask if children can dress in traditional clothing or costumes which reflect their cultural heritage or to wear orange, the colour of Harmony Day. I will send my apologies for not being there in advance as I have to attend a Principals as Literacy Leaders (PALLs) course all day on Friday.

Choir reminder

Please see last week's newsletter for more information. If you would like your child to participate, please contact the front office by Friday 20th March either via email or in person/phone and we will add you to a list.

Chris

NAPLAN Information Session

We will be holding a NAPLAN information session on Wednesday 1 April from 5:30pm-6:30pm in the school's library. Parents of students across all age groups are invited to attend. The session will provide information on NAPLAN and how you can support your child in preparation for this type of testing.

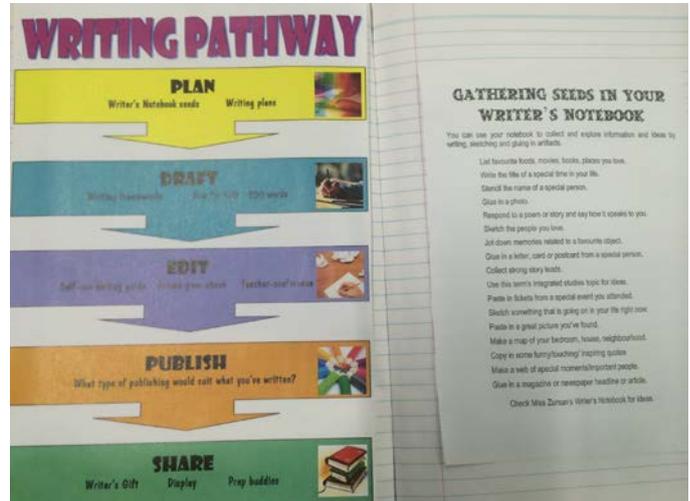
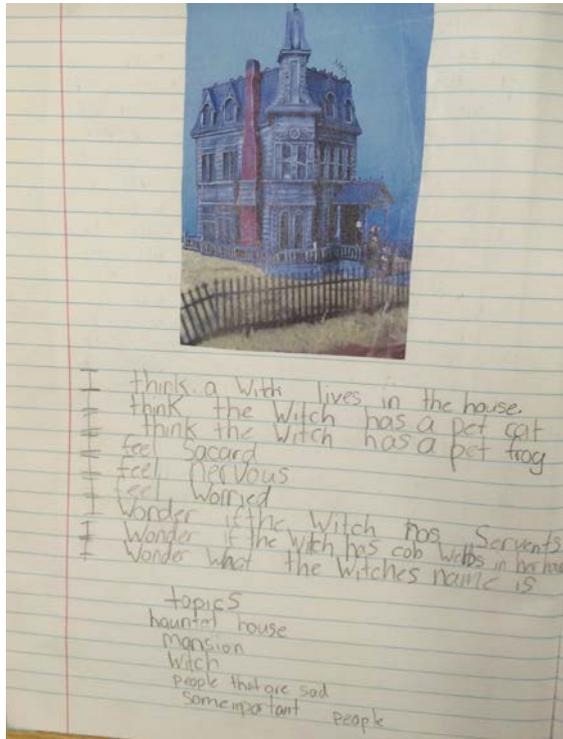
Year 3 News

Literacy

In literacy, year 3 have been investigating persuasive texts and in particular, expositions. When composing an exposition, students understand the structure that an exposition follows; introduction, arguments and conclusion and the importance of being persuasive and convincing. Students have also learned about the importance of language features for this particular text type; such as the rhetorical question and modal verbs.

Each student in year 3 has been working on and creating their own writer's notebook. Writer's notebook is a tool to engage students in their writing, by linking writing to their everyday lives, which makes learning more relevant and purposeful. We look forward to continuing to work on these throughout the year!

In Literacy groups all students have been completing different activities within these session times, which have included activities based upon; reading, comprehension, reader's theatre and grammar. We have placed a great focus on sentence structure this term and have been learning about compound sentences, conjunctions and connectives. We can already see such an improvement in student writing!



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.

This edition is focussed on addressing the following PYP practice:

Teaching and learning builds on what students know and can do.

This week's question: **How can I assist my child with reading at home?**

'READING WITH YOUR CHILD' WORKSHOPS

On Tuesday morning and Wednesday afternoon this week, we hosted two *Reading with your child* workshops. Both were extremely well attended. We were thrilled to see such a high level of support and involvement from our parent community and hope it continues with other sessions we offer during the year.

The workshop covered information on the importance of creating a comfortable atmosphere when reading with your child. Reading should never be made to feel like a chore and enjoyment is key to children becoming readers. As well as the readers that children will bring home, it is important to share other texts with your child too. These may be well above their reading level, however with a parent or carer reading, or indeed an older sibling or relative, your child can develop a love and enjoyment of reading.

When reading home readers with your child it is important to break the process up in to three sections:

1. Before reading: The before reading section, or orientation, is a very important part of the process where questioning and discussion will ensure your child is well prepared to read the book.
2. Actual reading of the book: Whilst reading, it is important the adult is not too quick to make corrections. Give your child plenty of time before jumping in to help. When praising your child it is important to praise the reading they are doing, rather than the student themselves. Try saying things such as "You used sounding our well today Johnny!", instead of "Well done Johnny!"
3. After reading the book: After reading the book, it is important that you ask your child some questions around the text to ensure they have comprehended what they have read.

The Power Point presentation from our reading workshop is available in the Miles Franklin dropbox (PYP Folder) and will be a handy resource to refer to from time to time as your child progresses with their reading. Should you have any further questions or enquiries please drop in and see your child's class teacher, Luned Scholfield, Jill Goodwin, or myself where we will be able to support you.

Will Johnston

Executive Teacher

William.Johnston@ed.act.edu.au





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 during a Harmony Day Assembly. Parents are welcome to stay and watch the parade and the assembly.

Come play AFL with the Belconnen Cats in 2015!



Registration now open!

Develop skills, coordination, teamwork
and have fun with your mates!

For age groups 5 to 17yo!

For training & playing times and contacts!

www.belconnencatsafl.com.au



**Free Club Hoodie for
Junior (7-17yo) Players**



Canteen News

Our school canteen follows the National Healthy School Canteens Guidelines and there has been a recent change/amendment to these guidelines that will impact a few items we are currently selling. Over the next few weeks we will be phasing out the sale of Sour Strap lollies and Red Liquorice. These items have been removed from Flexischools and once they have sold out over the counter for lunch and recess they will no longer be available. We know the children will be disappointed, however hope that we can find new items they will enjoy just as much that will meet the Healthy Food guidelines.

Reminder - The Canteen will open with new hours of operation as of Term 2 Week 1 (as of 29th April) Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only. If you currently do orders for Mondays and Tuesdays, this will continue till the end of this term only and you will need to make other arrangements for recess and lunch as of next term. This will also affect your child being able to buy food and drinks on Mondays and Tuesdays over the counter, therefore it will be important for them to bring extra food from home on these days.

VOLUNTEERING - Can you help out? We'd LOVE your help in the Canteen any day of the week for as little or as long as you can spare. Just after 9am to 11am is our busiest time and we could really use extra hands to make this time easier. Please contact Canteen Manager Chris in person at the canteen, email mfpcanteen@bigpond.com or phone 62051775.

We've made some minor changes to our menu so it is available via Flexischools and the school website in the dropbox.

Please feel free to contact us on email mfpcanteen@bigpond.com or phone (02) 62051775 with any feedback or queries.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The rates for contributions are \$100 for one child, \$160.00 for two children, and \$210.00 for three or more children.

Preschool Consumables: \$100.00

Account Name: **Miles Franklin Primary School Management Account**

Account Number: **001 666**

BSB Number: **032-777**

Please send a copy of your payment receipt with your details to the front office.





30 years of Music at Miles Franklin Primary School!

Miles Franklin Primary School has a musical tradition going back to the mid-1980s, when the Music Scheme commenced, enabling private music teachers to come into the school to give lessons for a fee to school children. The Music Scheme is run by a committee of parents with support from the Teaching staff.

Each year, the Music Scheme runs a Music Festival in August, providing an opportunity for children learning music at school, and children from outside the school, to perform in public. As well as giving a focus for the music tuition, it also builds the confidence of children, giving a public demonstration of success in what they have done. Although prizes are awarded in the form of ribbons, the achievement of each child is recognized through receiving participation certificates.

At the end of each year, the Scheme runs a Christmas concert, where all children enrolled in the Music Scheme have a chance to perform for all their parents no matter what their level of ability. Join today!

[Miles Franklin Music Scheme](#)
[How to enrol](#)



Music Lessons

Private music tuition is available at Miles Franklin Primary School, conducted during School hours. Children come out of classes individually for half-hour lessons, with the time of day varying each week to minimize disruption to normal classes. Private music teachers come to the school to deliver these lessons.

Lessons are available for **Piano, Keyboard, Recorder, Flute Guitar, Violin, Viola & Cello**

Parents pay for one term's lessons in advance at a rate set by the committee of the Music Scheme. There is also a \$10 per year levy payable to the Music Scheme to cover administrative costs with running the Scheme.

The Scheme owns a number of musical instruments which children can hire if they do not own an instrument, enabling them to have some lessons before committing to a purchase. The Scheme also owns some music which can be borrowed for a term, reducing the amount of music that a child will need to purchase. Please note that it is up to the tutors' discretion as to what age they deem suitable to start lessons in a particular instrument.

Parent Information- Homework Strategies Week 7

Suggestions for parents/carers to assist their child at home over the next fortnight:

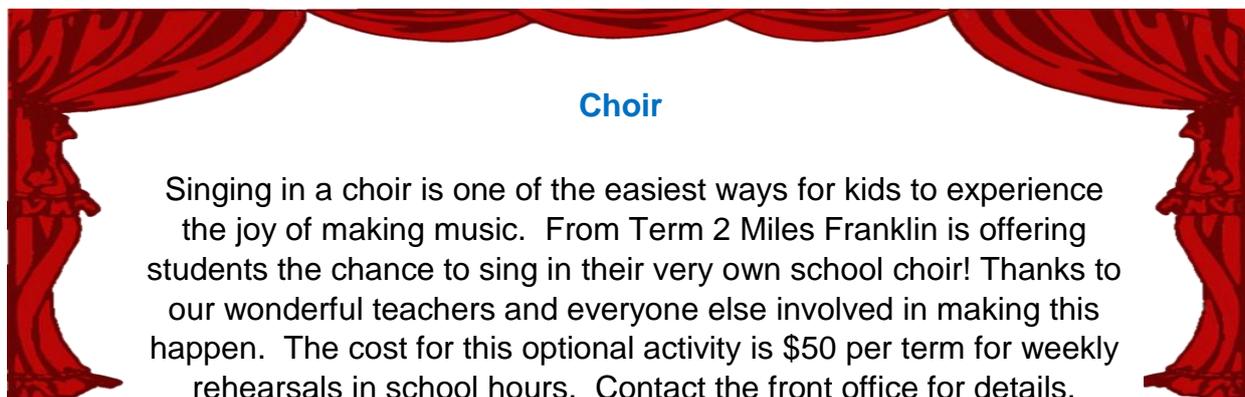
Year Level	Three strategies for home this week:
Preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading with your child • Developing the self help skills of your child by encouraging independence in daily classroom tasks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. putting fruit on the table 2. putting snack on the trolley lunch in the fridge (or in basket) 3. putting own bag away
Kinder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading with your child • Practise saying, recognising and writing the following letters/sounds: /s/a/t/i/p/n/ck/e/h/ • Practise counting forwards and backwards from 0-20.
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading with your child- Ask your child a question about the text such using: who, what, when, where, how? • Practise writing recounts (retelling an event) with your child using the correct structure- title, orientation (where), events (what) and ending. • Practise your friends of 10, 20 or 100. For example $3+7=10$ $3+17=20$, $30+70=100$.
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read aloud with your child and discuss the main ideas, characters and setting (location) within the text. • Practise putting words into alphabetical order and finding their meanings in a dictionary/ use a thesaurus to find synonyms • Discuss place value of two to four digit numbers e.g. how many thousands in 2051
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and discuss stray capitals in writing. (As seen in this sentence- using a capital letter when it should be a lower case letter in a word) • Practise mental computation strategies- adding and subtraction in their head using a mental strategy eg: jump strategy $23 + 9 = 23 + 7$ (jump to 30) then add 2 more = 32 • Read aloud with your child and discuss the main ideas of the text.
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with your child researching internal and external factors that affect our identity. • Practise the split strategy in mental computation. For example to work out $46+33$, split up the tens and the ones: $40 + 30= 70$ $6+3=9$ add together $70+9=79$ • Practise capital letters in writing, avoiding stray capitals (see Year Three)

Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily reading with your child and checking their comprehension by asking 'why' questions• Ask them to research a student question from unit of inquiry and record relevant internet sites• Practise cursive writing
Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practise multiplication strategies (times tables)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Use number cards and Mathletics online program.• Daily reading with your child and check comprehension by asking 'why' questions• Practise researching on the internet (using effective search terms when looking for a topic) and in books, using referencing information following this structure:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Book: Author, <u>Title</u>, Year published◦ Website title, URL

MILES FRANKLIN MUSIC SCHEME

Does your child want to learn an instrument at school? The P&C Music Scheme can help. Contact our friendly Enrolments Officer Debbie at MFPandC@outlook.com for more information (tuition fees apply).

SPOTLIGHT ON:



Choir

Singing in a choir is one of the easiest ways for kids to experience the joy of making music. From Term 2 Miles Franklin is offering students the chance to sing in their very own school choir! Thanks to our wonderful teachers and everyone else involved in making this happen. The cost for this optional activity is \$50 per term for weekly rehearsals in school hours. Contact the front office for details.

THE MILES FRANKLIN MUSIC FESTIVAL

The 30th Miles Franklin Music Festival is coming on 15th and 16th August. This is a major community music event that is highly regarded across the ACT, and our school has been the host for 30 years. Stay tuned for more details.

Isobel Ferrier, Music Scheme secretary



Hot Cross Buns Drive

Order forms due in
Friday March 27th

Orders with cash payment to be placed
in locked box near school canteen.

Please pick up buns from school canteen
on Wednesday April 1st from 2.45pm.

BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU (BJJ) CHILDRENS PROGRAM



Fitness and skills training, including structured BJJ techniques

Promotes self-confidence, discipline and perseverance

Builds self-esteem and teaches respect for peers and adults

Encourages cooperation, interaction and teamwork

☰ MON & THURS: 17:35 -18:25
SAT: 10:00 -11:00

Phoenix's new BJJ curriculum for kids begins 02 February 2015

By enrolling your child in Phoenix's BJJ Program for Kids, your child will not only learn to defend themselves, but more importantly they will build self-confidence, self-discipline and the positive attitude necessary to become a successful young adult.

Your child will increase their concentration, coordination and fitness level. These skills are invaluable in helping your child reach other goals in daily life. Your child will learn from highly trained instructors in a safe environment.



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