



Moulamein Public School

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2021 Term 3 Week 3

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Principal Messages - Jennie Wilson

Education Week is an annual celebration of NSW public education and the achievements of our schools, students and education system. This year Education Week will run from Monday 26 to Friday 30 July 2021 celebrating the theme Lifelong Learners. This year we would like to highlight our new maths program and the special activities that are running this term each week.



This year's theme is 'Lifelong learners' and celebrates education as a lifelong journey from before a child enters an early childhood setting, progressing to primary and secondary school, and continuing their learning journey into adulthood; learning a trade, entering tertiary education, or the workforce. Learning can look different for individual students and our system is equipped to provide learning support for all of our students. Learning often takes place beyond the classroom and we should celebrate all types of learning that occurs at all levels across our education system.

We will be sharing photos of the special activities on Facebook next week. At the end of the week we will also post mini movies of the learning happening across K-6. For parents who do not access our social media page, we will publish photos in the WONGI also. Don't forget to leave some comments on our Facebook posts so we can show the students!

COVID -19 Restriction Reminder

- ♦ Parents are unable to enter the school grounds. This includes at pick-up or drop off. Please stay outside the school fence. Staff are on duty from 8.30 to assist students.
- ♦ Parents who are attending meetings, must come to the office first and sign-in via the QR code. Parents on site for a particular purpose must remain in the designated areas and not enter classrooms.
- ♦ Our office remains open for urgent matters only. We would appreciate you wearing a mask on entry.
- ♦ Parents are unable to attend school events until further notice
- ♦ Swimming is postponed until further notice.
- ♦ All excursions are cancelled.

Book Fair

Book Fair will still go ahead, just in a modified way. Students will be given time in class to visit the Book Fair which will be set up in the Green Room. From Tuesday, students will visit the fair and can purchase books, posters and trinkets from Scholastic. The school receives a commission on orders, which will give our library more books as well. This is another way we are promoting reading at home and encouraging students to be excited about books. The book fair is separate from Book Week, which will be later in the term. Students can bring cash to school to purchase books. We suggest that students have a zip lock bag with their name on the outside ready for Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Mrs Wilson will take the students with money to the fair over the three days. Books start from \$10. If parents would like to pay by cheque, students can take home a wish list and then supply a cheque via the office. We are also allowing parents to visit the book fair outside school hours. Social distancing will limit numbers in the green room and parents must use a QR code when entering. Parents are encouraged to wear a mask and sanitise on entry if they want to purchase books as well. Please see the opening hours above for parents.



So don't forget to check out our Facebook page so you can see highlights of our activities next week. Videos and photos will be placed on this platform each day! We look forward to sharing Education Week with you virtually.

Planet Art National Tree Planting

On Friday it is National Tree Planting Day! Students in Year 5/6 will be participating in this due to the work of Stacey Brooke and the Western Murray Land Improvement Group. A big thank you to Stacey for also attracting sponsorship from Murray River Council and Murray Irrigation. Sponsorship funds have been used to purchase the trees, planting equipment and water systems. Our Year 5/6 class are very much looking forward to participating in the program.

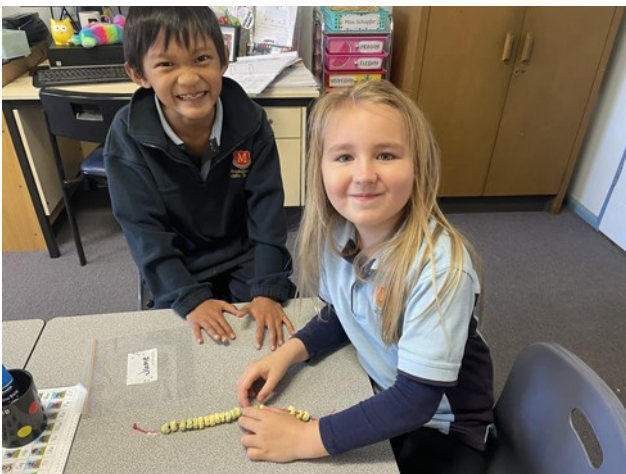
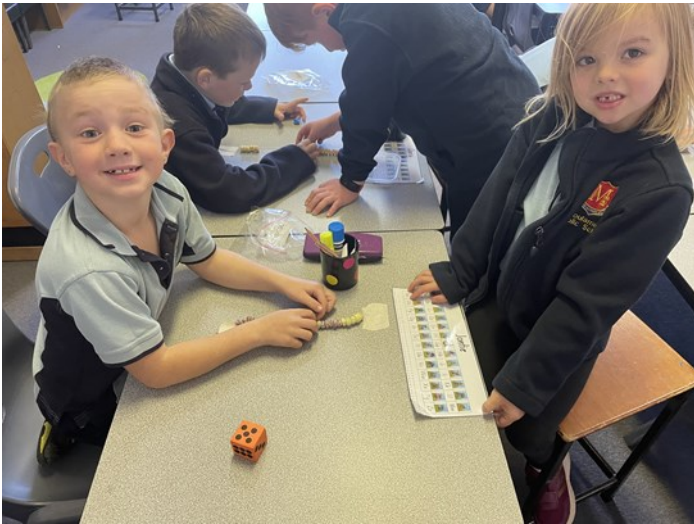
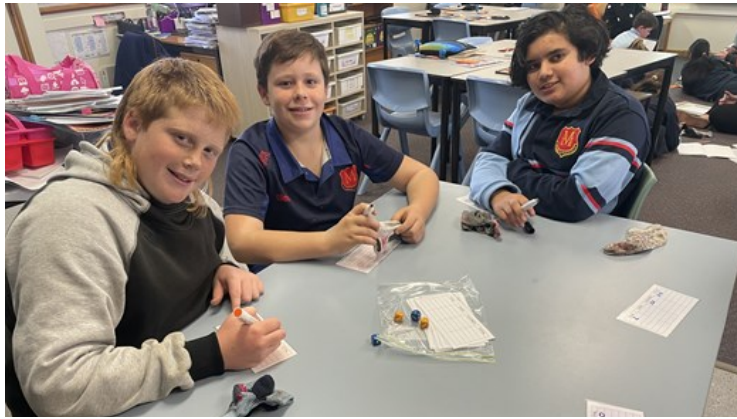


Look at how our students learn Mathematics!

We say no to text books and focus on computation and processing skills.

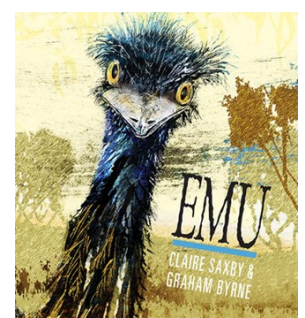
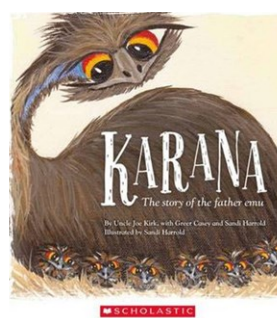
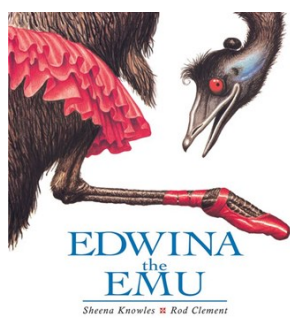
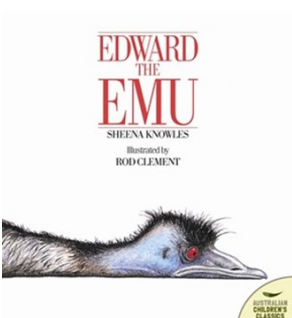
Learning Mathematics through games is engaging and our students are thriving in these learning opportunities. Teachers have been attending Professional Learning around teaching the big ideas in Mathematics and starting strong in the early years.





News from the Kinder Year 1 Classroom

This Term, Kinder and Year 1 are looking at Australian Animals in English and as part of our Living Things unit in Science. Our starting focus has been emus. We have read a number of picture books about emus and have also watched a variety of short video clips to gain facts for our writing.



Here is what students have learnt so far:

Emus are omnivores. Emus can swim.

By Jobi

Emus are omnivores. They have long legs.

By Jasper

Emus are omnivores. They eat shoots, flowers and bugs. They have long legs to run fast. Emus can strike out at predators with their feet.

By Kamilah

Emus have long feathers and long legs. They can run very, very, fast.

By Marlee

Emus are a big bird with small wings. They have long feathers and large eggs. Emus can run fast but they cannot fly. They are omnivores.

By Hannah

Emus are omnivores. They have long legs. They cannot fly. Emus are funny.

By Joren

Emus eat grasses and insects.

By Ruby

Emus have two long parts on each feather. Emus can kick at animals if they try to get their eggs.

Emus are a type of bird with long legs.

By Levi

Emus cannot fly. They are omnivores. They have small wings and long scaly legs.

By Rafael

Emus are a big bird. They have lots of long feathers.

By Dan

Emus have long legs and they are a big type of bird. Emus can run very fast. They lay eggs on the ground in a nest and the male sits on them.

By Willow

Emus have to lay eggs on the ground because they cannot fly up to the trees.

By Albie

Emus have feathers and claws.

By Joe

Last week we were very lucky to have emu eggs sent in by Kamilah's family for us to investigate. Students loved feeling the shells and they served as inspiration for our guided writing.



Emu eggs are way bigger than chook eggs. Their shells feel hard.
by Levi and Rafael

Emu eggs look like a big avocado. They feel a little bit bumpy.
By Ruby and Albie

Emu eggs are dark green and look like a big avocado. They feel a little bit bumpy.
By Hannah, Kamilah and Willow

Emu eggs are green. They feel bumpy.
By Japer and Jobi

Emu eggs are very dark. They are delicate but hard.
By Dan, Joren and Marlee



In Science we have been learning the characteristics that distinguish living things from non-living things. Students had no trouble sorting pictures under the correct headings for our classroom display.

Living Things Grow		Living Things Move on their own		Living Things Need Food, Water and Air	
✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗

We have also been learning about the different coverings living things have on their bodies and the purpose they serve.



Feathers

Birds are covered by feathers. Feathers keep birds warm and keep out water. Feathers also help birds to fly.



Skin

Animals like frogs have soft, smooth, slimy skin.



Shells

Some animals have a protective shell covering their body. It acts like armour to protect their soft body from predators.



Scales

Scales are small plates that protect an animal's skin. Fish have smooth, wet scales while reptiles have dry scales.



Fur

Mammals have hair or fur that cover their bodies. It helps keep them warm and dry.

Our Volume and Capacity Maths lesson last Thursday was lots of fun. After learning that volume is the amount of space an object occupies, students moved around a series of block building challenges to determine the volume of each construction. Some were trickier than others to build, but all did a great job at determining the volumes.





Supporting Children's Social and Emotional Wellbeing

COVID-19 continues to shape who we can see and what we can do - at home, school, work and play. No-one really knows yet what the long-term impact, if any, will be on children. What is known though, is that a caring, consistent and open parent or carer, who is coping as positively as they can, is likely important. The evidence shows that this relationship helps support children's resilience and wellbeing when they adapt to big changes, whatever they are.

However, snap lockdowns can put pressure on these relationships when stuck at home together on short notice. Here are some tips ...

Listen and Involve

Check in regularly with each child. Listen carefully: their concerns might be different to what you expect. Calmly acknowledge and validate their feelings. Then problem solve together as best you can, such as around different ways to stay connected to friends or ideas for a virtual birthday party. Working together supports wellbeing and models positive coping, creative problem-solving and shared decision-making. These are important resilience skills.

Get Outside, Get Active

Exercise reduces stress and boosts mental health. Get everyone active outside as much as the regulations will allow and, where possible, spend time in parks or nature.

Make Memories

Ongoing lockdowns and restrictions can be frustrating and tiring but they won't last forever. Try to keep using these times to try out new things you may not usually do together, such as, games nights or virtual meals with grandparents or friends.

Be Present

Put down your phone, turn off the TV. Put thoughts of the crisis aside. To have quality time together, really be there.

Do Things Together ... and Apart

Make sure there are times every day when you are each doing your own thing. Try the handy Octopus Tool. It can help kids learn to manage boredom positively and independently.

Keep in mind: Home is not a safe place for all children or for some adult/s who care for them. Where this is the case, many of the suggestions above won't likely make it safer. Please seek support from organisations set up to assist families where safety is a concern due to 'stay at home' requirements with ongoing lockdowns.



Managing Big Feelings

Worried? Upset? Bored? Frustrated? It's normal. Feelings like these are important. They let us know when something doesn't feel right and can help remind us to do important things, like wash our hands or call Grandma to cheer her up. Sometimes though, feelings take over our behaviour. Other times, we can get stuck in our thoughts and feelings and it stops us having fun or making the best of the situation. This handy Octopus Tool provides some steps for managing feelings in a positive way. It can be helpful for parents, carers and kids stuck at home. And, for learning emotional literacy.



Handy Octopus Tool

1. Draw an octopus shape and choose an emotion that's bothering you.
2. Think of 8 things you like to do and that you can do by yourself. The more unusual and creative the better! Draw or write them on the tentacles.
3. Stick your octopus somewhere you can find it easily.
4. Now the tricky part ... notice when you are feeling the emotion. Don't try to stop or ignore it, just spot it. Then choose one or more of the activities from your octopus instead.
5. Make a new octopus as often as you want. Try different designs if you prefer - spider, jellyfish, flower, stack of cards ...



★ Top Tip:

It's not always easy to know how you feel, but often your body or behaviour is showing you. For example, if you are whining, feeling grumpy, looking for a snack or bugging others you might be feeling bored. That is a good time to look for your octopus.



★ Keep Talking and Listening

Check in regularly with how each other is feeling about the situation. If you are concerned that you really aren't coping it is important to seek professional advice (many services are available on-line or by phone).

★ Top Tip for Parent/Carers:

Make sure you lay out the resources so children can find these themselves when they need to.