



Moulamein Public School

Email: Moulamein-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

www.moulamein-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

T: 03 5887 5208

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2022 Term 2 Week 4

Principal Messages - Jennie Wilson

Breakfast program and Fundraiser

Every Wednesday and Thursday, we are running a breakfast club in our new kitchen and the students are loving it! I would like to thank our staff for providing this opportunity and it is now part of Mrs Mertz's role. This is another way our school is supporting students and families in our community. Our role goes beyond teaching the curriculum. The school is covering the cost of the breakfast program each week. Breakfast is of no cost to the students and we want to offer the students a healthy start to the day!

This weekend Ms Jude Downie and Miss Kaitlyn Pappin are hoping to raise money for our Breakfast club by offering an egg and bacon roll while voting.

Make sure you bring your cash!

Donations would be greatly appreciated and will be accepted at the Election entrance and at the school office at anytime.



SUPPORT MOULAMEIN PS

BREAKFAST CLUB

POLLING DAY -21-5-22

BRING CASH PLEASE
DONATIONS ALSO WELCOME

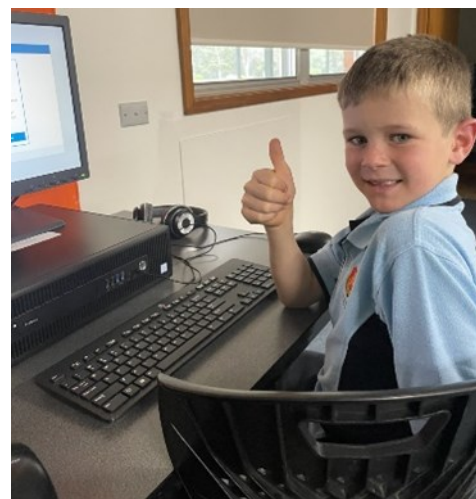


ROLL \$5



NAPLAN- that is a wrap!

Last week students in Year 3 and 5 completed their NAPLAN tests as scheduled. Everything ran very smoothly and most students were able to complete them on the scheduled day. Some students finished on Monday this week due to being absent. This year has been very different to other years. All students completed their tests online, which some students found very challenging. Students were also asked to type their story writing in Year 5. This type of assessment suits some students in Australia, but not others. In our case, our students have much higher results when they are able to complete a test on paper. Some students find it challenging to read entire stories off the computer screen. All students did participate in practice tests before the day and we asked them to simply just do their best. Unfortunately, I could not opt out of the online testing and it was mandatory for students to complete their tests online. Teachers assess students reading every day in their literacy session and their mathematical ability in all lessons. Teachers are skilled in using different assessments to develop an understanding of learning and developing a plan for improvement for each child. NAPLAN (most are multiple choice answers) is one type of assessment and everyone should be mindful of this.



Mother's Day Thank you

A big thank you to staff who spent their weekend making scones for our families morning tea and to those families who came along. Thank you also to Mrs Cathy Mertz who organised it while I was on sick leave and our support staff who are always there to help out too. It was lovely to see our families back on school grounds for another event.



Excursion K-2

Students in K-2 will be participating in an exciting school excursion next term. Edward the Emu, is an award winning and popular children's picture book by Sheena Rowles and Rod Clement that the Monkey Baa theatre group brings to the stage. The Swan Hill Town Hall will be hosting the performance and we have booked tickets already! Featuring exceptional, world-class puppetry, an original score, and inventive storytelling. Some families may even have the book at home. Students in K-2 study this book within our Australian Literature theme.



Outline of the performance: Edward is bored with his lot. Being the only emu at the zoo leaves him feeling glum and under the impression that the grass is greener in another animal's enclosure. Convinced that the other creatures are more popular, Edward breaks ranks in search of fun and finds Edwina along the way! Come on an adventure with the emus as they hilariously navigate their feathered existential crises, seeking to find their place in the world. Meanwhile, the zookeepers are in hot pursuit to restore order to the zoo.

Student leave during the term

Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. Holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods are included as absences. Our school is flagged by the Department of Education as having a poor attendance rate, which is why we keep reminding families how important regular attendance is.

A principal legally cannot not accept a reason for travel during school term if it is not in the best interests of the student. This includes educational, social and participation reasons. In this case, a Certificate of Extended Leave – Holiday will not be issued.

Parents or carers of children of compulsory school age are responsible for ensuring their child attends school every day. Children must commence school by age 6 and then complete year 10.

Parents of children from Kindergarten to Year 12 must ensure their children attend school every day. 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 circumstances e.g. attending a funeral.

Parents must provide an explanation for absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence. Where an explanation has not been received within the 7-day timeframe, the school will record the absence as unjustified on the student's record.

Please note, if the period of absence is in excess of 50 days, the student may be eligible to enrol in Distance Education and a conversation around this scenario should take place with all stakeholders to ensure available options for continuity of education are considered.

Wellbeing Wednesday is up and running

Student wellbeing is an important focus of the NSW Department of Education. Our school aims for all students to be healthy, happy, successful and productive individuals. We want our students to have positive and respectful relationships and experience a sense of belonging to their school and community.

"Research shows students who experience opportunities for social and emotional learning participate more in class, demonstrate more pro-social behaviour, have fewer absences, have improved attendance, show reductions in aggression and disruptive behaviour and are more likely to complete school."

With this in mind, staff have decided to run 'Wellbeing Wednesday Activities' on Wednesday afternoons, aimed at supporting, enhancing and building the wellbeing of every child.

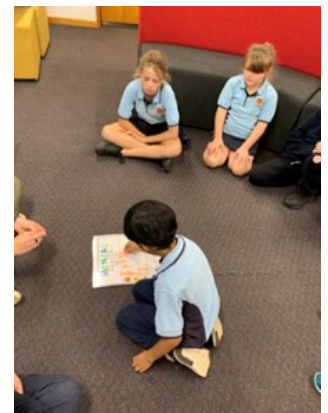
Students have been split into 5 mixed aged groups that will rotate through a series of activities with Mrs Wilson, Mrs Mertz, Miss Schupfer, Mrs Wheeler and Miss Wilson. Each session will start with a short wellbeing check in or focus point before students commence their main wellbeing activity.

Wellbeing Wednesday started last Wednesday, with our first focus activity being a Mental Health Check In.

Each group discussed what mental health means and why it is important. Students were given the opportunity to identify how they were feeling at the start of the session and explain what had made them feel this way. We discussed the importance of seeking help when you are feeling particularly down or upset and identified the people at home and at school you can turn to for support.

What was interesting was when we asked students to identify where they were at the end of the wellbeing session. Many wanted to move their markers up the scale which was great to see

MENTAL health CHECK IN:	
I'm great!	
I'm good	
I'm okay	
I'm sad or	
I'm struggling and need help	



Stay tuned for more Wellbeing Wednesday news in future additions of Wongi.

Music with Mrs Wilson

All students are enjoying participating in our new music program with Mrs Wilson once a week for an hour. Students are learning to sing, create, listen to and respond to music. They have even started to compose simple songs. There has long been a correlation between musical training and academic success and improved wellbeing.



Below are some more good reasons for learning music from Kumon music:

Music helps the brain to develop

Different studies have proven that the comprehension of musical language can benefit a child's overall mental development. Figures show that students who study music are more successful on standardised tests and are also likely to achieve better grades in high school. Further research revealed that musical training physically develops the left side of the brain, known to be involved with processing language and reasoning.

Music relieves stress and teaches children to focus

Being in a musical class demands total attention. Because of this, music is a great stress-relieving tool that helps to calm the mind and enhance concentration.

Music helps children understand mathematics

Although they look very different, maths and music are actually quite similar. "When children learn rhythm, they are learning ratios, fractions and proportions," said Professor Gordon Shaw from the University of California, after his study of seven-year-olds in Los Angeles. Music can be a great way of learning maths in an artistic way! Once I received a phone call from a Year 7 high school teacher thanking me for teaching music to my Year 6 class (when I was a full-time classroom teacher) because my students were so good at fractions after being exposed to regular music classes for an entire year.

Music is a form of self-expression

As well as being a way of relieving stress, music could also help children to manage their feelings better by expressing them through language. It gives them the chance to exteriorise their emotions through the instrument they are playing, particularly when they have a go at composing their own music.



Music can improve social skills

Music is often played in a group and, therefore, team-work skills are learned, with all players working together harmoniously. In order to improve the show, attending rehearsals and practising is essential too. Working towards a single goal helps to enhance social skills. "Children who take part in music develop higher levels of social cohesion and understanding of themselves and others," says Dr. Alexandra Lamont, Lecturer in the Psychology of Music at the University of Keele.



Music can make us resilient

No matter what age your child might be, understanding the musical language or learning to play an instrument can be challenging at times. Learning about music takes time. However, those who learn music also learn to be disciplined in their training because that is the key to success. Everything in music takes time and patience. By experiencing that practice and hard work is essential to reach their goals, children will learn a very valuable life lesson.



Music can boost self-confidence

By improving their abilities with a specific musical instrument and achieving their goals, children can feel very satisfied and this can greatly improve their self-esteem. Taking risks and facing challenges is essential for a child to fully develop his or her potential



Jennie Wilson
Principal

Moulamein Public School P&C Association



Moulamein Public School
P&C

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 25th May @ 3.15pm

School Library

All Welcome and encouraged to attend.

