

Calendar



<p>May</p> <p>Monday 14th Life Ed</p> <p>Tuesday 15th – Thursday 17th Naplan (Yr 3 & 5)</p> <p>Friday 18th Winter Sports (Yr 3-6)</p>	<p>Monday 21st Marc Van</p> <p>June</p> <p>Monday 4th Marc Van</p> <p>Monday 11th Queen's Birthday Public Holiday</p>	<p>Tuesday 12th Report Writing Day – No School (TBC)</p> <p>Monday 18th Marc Van</p> <p>Monday 25th – Friday 29th Smiles on Site</p> <p>Friday 29th Pyjama Day</p>
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Principal's Report

Hi everyone, I hope everyone has had an enjoyable week so far.

School Review

As you may be aware we started our school review process on Monday. The first day is called a Validation day. During this time our School Review team looks over the school data from the last few years to check how we are performing as a school. The Review team also had a chance to meet with a student focus group and have a brief walk around the classes to speak to teachers and students.

Next Monday is our 'Fieldwork Day'. Throughout this day the Review team will have a chance to speak to teachers, ES staff and parents. You might have noticed that I sent out a Flexibuzz message yesterday inviting parents to participate in this feedback session. The feedback session will run from 9am to 10am, if you are interested in being involved please let me know.

Healthy Heroes

Our Grade 3/4 students had some very special guests from the Geelong Football Club yesterday to run their Healthy Heroes Program. Stuart Crameri (player number 36) and Wylie Buzza (player number 12) did a great job speaking to kids about the importance of physical activity, eating healthy food and staying hydrated with water. Our kids did a great job asking lots of insightful questions and joining in with the activities. I was very proud when the players stopped to speak to me about the wonderful manners and behaviour of our kids during the session. Well done kids!



Student Achievement Awards

Prep/1

Jacob Dickson

For working hard on his handwriting

Erin Hay

For working hard on her reading

2/3

Violet Patti

For her respectful listening in class

Shaylah Bampfield

For working hard on her multiplication facts



4/5

Thomas Wood

For having a good understanding of how to write a persuasive story

Robert Fisher

For his positive attitude towards improving his persuasive writing

5-6

Tigga Johnson-Avery

For doing her best in writing

Jesse Rabusin

For his enthusiasm in researching for his MAPPEN diorama project

Art

Alex Loveday

For the flower he made for his Mother's Day card using quilling art

Book BBQ

On Thursday, our 4th Book BBQ raised \$106.50. This money will be spent on new books for our school. A huge thank you to James and Janie Knight for giving their time. The Children are loving the sausages!

School Uniform update

There has been a few questions from parents regarding winter uniform items, particularly around pants for girls. The uniform policy states that navy blue track pants (with or without a school logo) are permitted. Currently, 'leggings' are not part of the policy. Winter kilts are available to order, please see Judith in the office for more information and pricing.

There is plenty of new and second hand uniform available for purchase. Please come to the office to have a look.

Our school uniform policy is one of the policies that will be looked at again by school council. If you have some thoughts and suggestions around this please join the parents morning tea this Friday to share your ideas.

Uniforms

The wearing of school uniform is compulsory. The Meredith Primary School colours are navy blue and red. Our uniform options consist of:

Tops:

Navy blue polar fleece jumper with/without school logo

Red polo shirt with/without school logo

Red polo shirt (long sleeves) with/without school logo

Red and white checked school dress

Navy blue tunic (which may be worn with a white shirt or long sleeved top)

Bottoms:

Navy blue shorts with/without school logo

Navy blue tracksuit pants with/without school logo

*Winter kilts may be ordered through the office

Grade 6 students have the option to purchase a **special polo shirt** with the school logo for their final year.

Arranging meetings with teachers

I have been keeping an eye on how teachers are preparing for the morning classes and I have suggested that we start to formalise parent contact in the mornings to ensure the teachers are in class greeting kids as class starts.

Can I please ask parents and guardians if you would like to speak to a teacher in the morning or after school can you please make a request either through Judith in the front office or through the school diary. Teachers will then make contact back with you to arrange a suitable time. I understand that sometimes it seems easier just to quickly speak to teachers before school starts, however if we have a number of parents attempting to do this at the same time this can cause teachers to be starting class well after the bell has gone.

I have also placed some signage around the school to ask parents and guardians who are picking up their children at the end of the day wait outside the main building or within the office foyer.

If you have any questions or concerns around this please contact me.



Winter Sports

Despite the weather being quite windy and cold last Friday, our kids did a great job during the first round of Winter Sports last Friday. I would like to thank all the teachers and parents who attended to help or support our kids. Next Friday, the 18th of May, we will be back at Bannockburn College to run the second round of sports. I encourage you to come along and support our kids if you can spare the time.

Senior Citizens Lunches next week

Next week we start back with our Senior Citizens lunch program. We are in need of more volunteers to assist throughout the year. We thought it would be best to start a roster, so that the same people are not expected to commit each time. Julie Hine has offered to assist in coordinating a roster for the remainder of the dates this year. If you can spare the time to assist please make contact with **Julie Hine** on **0449 92 5883**.

School Office hours

Unfortunately Belinda is still waiting on a date for her shoulder surgery, which means she is unlikely to return this term. Until she returns, Judith will continue to fill in. Judith and I have recently negotiated her hours of work. Here are the updated school office hours:

Monday	8.30am – 12pm	1pm – 3.15pm
Tuesday	8.30am – 11am	1pm – 4pm
Wednesday	8.30am – 11am	1pm – 4pm
Thursday	8.30am – 11am	1pm – 4pm
Friday	8.30am – 12pm	1pm – 3.15pm

Parent and Friends Morning Tea

It is great to see that we had a number of parents and friends join our second morning tea last Friday. Each week I plan to raise a question for the group to discuss over a cuppa. If you can spare the time, please hand around after our school assembly.



SmilesOn Site

Meredith Primary School is collaborating with Smiles Onsite to promote healthier, happier smiles at our school! This incredible service is being offered for **FREE** under the federal government's Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS), and comes along with the chance to grab some amazing prizes.

The Smiles on Site van (see image) will be onsite during the last week of this term.

All students will be given a consent form to bring home so that they can participate, and also so that they can go in the draw to win prizes!!

How does it work?

The Child Dental Benefit Schedule grants all eligible parents with \$1000 worth of Medicare towards dental per child, over a two-year period. Eligible parents should receive a confirmation letter; however if you are still unsure, Smiles Onsite can check for you on completion of their consent form.

Can I make use of this service if I'm not eligible?

Of course! Smiles Onsite can do almost everything that your local dentist can do on board there state-of-the-art mobile Clinic. If you would like them to see your child for a scale and clean, fillings, fissure seals etc., these services can be offered with NO GAP payable.

This service is a great opportunity to get kids into the habit of good oral hygiene, and we hope you're as excited about it as we are!

You can fill out the dental consent form for your son or daughter by inserting this link on the web browser -

<https://form.jotform.co/80848500209859>

If you have any further questions about this program or your eligibility, please contact Smiles Onsite directly on 1800 276 453.



That is it for this week; I hope everyone has a great weekend!

Shane Sachse
Acting Principal

**15th, 16th & 17th May – NAPLAN**

You would be aware that our Grade 3 and Grade 5 students have their NAPLAN assessments coming up soon. Teachers have been doing a great job in preparing the students for these tests, the important thing you can do as parents is reassure your child that everything will be ok and all they need to do is try their best. A big factor that influences poor performance is anxiety. Healthy eating and good levels of sleep leading up to the tests will ensure your child is well prepared. There are many resources on the web that can assist students in taking these types of tests; here are a few different strategies you can discuss with your child:

- When answering multiple-choice questions, cross out the answers you know are definitely wrong.
- Underline the important key words in each question to help you understand what the question is about
- Think about your answer first, does it make sense?
- Try not to waste time on questions you are finding hard, move on to the next question and come back to the harder ones at the end.
- Make sure your work is neat.

Families will receive an information flyer about these tests over the next couple of days.



AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA PRESENTS

High Tea

*At St Joseph's Parish Hall
Lawler Street, Meredith*

Our guest speaker is Hailey. Born in Geelong and now living in She Oaks, she was offered a scholarship to the Australian Defence Force Academy, graduating in 2007. Hailey served 8 months in Afghanistan and retired from the Army in 2017 reaching the rank of Captain.

*Date: Thursday 17th May 2018
Time: 10.00 am
Cost: \$25*

Come along and support this worthy cause. Great prizes, good fun, a delicious high tea, champagne & fruit punch.



**Australia's
Biggest
Morning
Tea**