

Edition 2, 14 February 2024Edition 2, 14 February 2024Dates for the DiaryThursday 15 FebruaryWednesday 21 FebruaryYear 2 and Year 2/3 Parent Information Night (5:30pm)Year 4 Parent Information Night (5:30pm)Thursday 22 FebruaryThursday 29 FebruarySchool Board Meeting (MLPS Stafroom 5:30pm)P&C Meeting (MLPS Staffroom 6:00pm)

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of the School Community,

It's been a particularly smooth start to Term 1, with students settling well into the routines of school life and adjusting to the inevitable changes of a new year. You will recall that at the end of last week, we implemented adjustments to the school day in response to the extremely hot weather forecast for Thursday and Friday.

With the temperature tomorrow expected to reach 42 degrees, we will implement these same changes to prioritise the health and wellbeing of students and staff. Students will remain indoors during recess and lunch and physical education lessons will be held in the Undercover Area or classrooms. Teachers will continue to utilise their professional judgment and understanding of individual student needs to ensure those requiring movement breaks are set up for success. We ask that parents provide students with extra water for the day and place icepacks in student lunchboxes.

With the success of week 1 behind us, we have started to notice signs of fatigue among some of our students last week and this week also. This is likely exacerbated by the consistently hot weather, but we have also seen an increasing number of students fall ill, some of whom have since tested positive for Covid-19. With several staff also sick with Covid-19, we ask that you monitor for signs and symptoms, keep students home when they are unwell and test for Covid-19 as necessary.

Your support in this way will help to minimise the spread of illness and reduce the impact to teaching and learning in our classrooms. Like many of you, I too have been juggling the complexity of sick children at a somewhat unexpected time in the school year. On the back of a long holiday break, I was certainly not expecting anyone to be missing school so quickly, but just this week, Charli and Indi have both had days at home to rest and fight off colds. Hopefully it will be smooth sailing for the rest of term!

I have enjoyed attending our parent information nights, with a couple more still to come. On Wednesday and Thursday of week 2, I had the pleasure of attending our Kindy and Year 6 information evenings. Whilst every year in a child's education is equally important, it occurred to me that these first two nights represented the first and final years of schooling at Mount Lawley Primary School. And for a majority of our community, these two years represent the beginning of long partnership between home and school, and as is the case for Year 6, the final year of that partnership. Our school's youngest students and oldest students, but in both instances, important years in which transition is particularly significant. For Kindy, transitioning into formal schooling for the first time and for Year 6, transitioning from primary school to high school.

As a principal, but also as a parent with fond memories of the girls' first days in Kindy, and with Charli now in Year 6, I was reminded of the important relationship that exists between home and school, the length of that relationship and the impact of that relationship. Having lived and worked in regional contexts, change and movement is common and this will often influence the length of the relationship that exists between home and school and therefore, its impact. What a fortunate and privileged position we have as a school, to work with so many of our families to support our students from the beginning to the end of their primary school education.

I look forward to seeing you around the school, on the Third Avenue gates, or at our first assembly for 2024 on Friday 1 March. This is Mr Fogliani's Room 15 assembly, and all parents and members of the community are welcome to attend.

Jared Lawson Principal

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open tomorrow, Thursday 15 February from 8:30am-9:30am. For your convenience, the uniform shop will be open every week on a Thursday from 8:30-9:30am, until Thursday 29 February. From Thursday 14 March, it will then go back to being open fortnightly.

Remember that you can also order uniforms using the Qkr! App, the uniforms will be fulfilled and delivered to your child's classroom on the next day the volunteers are in the uniform shop.

Can you spare one hour, once every few weeks on a Thursday morning? The P&C would love to build a bank of volunteers to help in the uniform shop occasionally. If you can spare some time, or would just like to chat about what is involved, please email uniforms@mlpspc.org

LEGO Club 2024

Lego club will be commencing in Term 1 for Years 4-6, starting in Week 4, and running through to Week 8. This year, Lego club will run on a Friday during lunchtime in the library.

Interested Year 4-6 students will have the opportunity to sign up during Digital Technology classes in week 3 and 4.

Further information for Lego Club for Years 1-3 will be communicated at the beginning of Term 2.

Mrs Hawkesford and Mrs Brodie

Library

Library borrowing commences this week. Please ensure students bring a library bag to school on their timetabled borrowing day. There is a limited amount of borrow bags and these will be reserved for new students, as library bags are currently out of stock in the uniform shop.

The days that the library is open at lunchtime has changed this year, due to LEGO club commencing on Fridays. The library will open at lunch after the second bell on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Students can enjoy quiet reading on these days at lunch and can borrow books if they wish.

Wednesday 14 February is Library Lovers Day, this is a day that we celebrate our incredible library and all the books inside. We are extremely lucky to have an amazing, resourced library for all students to enjoy. This is largely due to the continued support from our P & C, thank you to the P & C committee and everyone who attend P & C events and support their fundraising activities.

Library dates for your diary

- Book Fair: Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 May When Scholastic Book Club comes to the library.
- National Simultaneous Story Time: Wednesday 22 May An in-school event reading "Bowerbird Blues" at the same time as thousands of other students around the country.
- Book Week Parade: Friday 23 August Our most anticipated event, students dress as their favourite book characters and come together for a whole school assembly and parade, to celebrate reading. The theme this year is "Reading is Magic".

School Board

A reminder that Parent Representative nominations for the Mount Lawley Primary School Board close 4.30pm this Friday, 16 February. Below are six things to consider when nominating to be a school Board member:

- 1. Do I have the time to do this properly?
- 2. Am I confident that I will be able to reflect the needs of the school community?
- 3. Can I work collaboratively with others to best support Mount Lawley Primary School?
- 4. Will I be able to support and promote Mount Lawley Primary School within the community?
- 5. Am I going to be available for all meetings and other commitments as required by a School Board member?
- 6. Do I feel I know enough about my school and its needs?

The Board aspires to be representative across all cohorts from K - 6 to capture different perspectives. Experience in chairing a school board and liaising with the Department of Education would be highly valuable to assist in providing continuity through a period of leadership transition with the appointment of a new permanent Principal next term.

Please check Connect for further information regarding the nomination process.



A big thanks must go to the parents and children who have chosen to use alternative ways to get to school by either walking, riding, or scooting to school over the first 2 weeks of school.

Walking School Bus

To continue to encourage more families to walk to school we trialled the 'Walking School Bus' program last year and would like to kick this off again this year.

We would like to run the 'Walking School Bus' every 2nd Friday morning starting on Friday 1 March. You meet at the designated 'Walking School Bus' point closest to you and walk together to school with the aim to get to school by 08:30.

We do however require parents to volunteer to run the buses from the 3 'bus station meeting points' on these days. It would require setting up a WhatsApp group for the registered families and confirming attendance and then leading the 'Walking School Bus' to school on the relevant mornings.

The full information guide is available on the MLPS website – MLPS P&C Walking School Bus

If you are interested in volunteering as a 'walking bus driver' then please email the TMG committee on <u>traffic@mlpspc.org</u> by no later than 22 February.

Upcoming Events:

National Ride2School Day (22 March)

Year 1 Bike Education Lessons (date TBC) - Thanks to our active participation in the "Your Move" program in 2023



Student Medical Plans

Does your child have a medical action plan at school (for asthma, anaphylaxis, allergy, or any other medical condition)? If you have not already done so, you are required to update this plan for 2024. Please come to the office to check over the plan from 2023, update any information and ensure that all medication is in date.

If your child does not have a current medical action plan, and there has been a change to their medical needs, please contact the office on 9283 0800.

Office contact details

A reminder that all correspondence to the MLPS front office should be sent to <u>mountlawley.ps@education.wa.edu.au</u>. This is delivered to all members of our team, and ensures a timely response to your request.

P&C Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for Mount Lawley Primary School P&C will be held on Thursday 29 February 2024 in the Staffroom.

Please come for an informal catch-up and to complete any membership or nomination forms from 5:30pm. This ensures a prompt start of the formal meeting at 6pm.

New faces are always welcome!! Please come along and get involved in your school community!

It is a great opportunity to hear directly from the school leadership and work collaboratively with other P&C members to support our school.

If you are able, please **sign up to become a member or renew your membership for the year ahead by clicking on this link <u>P&C</u> <u>Membership Form</u>. Being a member means you can play an active role in fundraising and work together with the school to make sure raised funds contribute to improved outcomes for students.**

Also, please consider taking an additional step and **putting your hand up for other positions**. Contributing just a few hours a month can go a long way to helping our P&C achieve great outcomes for our school, and there are many forms that this can take. Each year our office bearer roles are open for nomination. Office bearer roles include President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. We have nominations for all office bearer roles this year, other than Treasurer. However, nominations are welcome. As well as office bearer roles, our school community is able to nominate for Executive Committee roles, Committee Chair Roles, and Sub-Committee roles.

If you would like further information, please feel free to approach me if you see me at school to discuss, or send me an email and we can arrange a discussion.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Breanna Catania President, Mount Lawley Primary School P&C.

Community News

