I respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Yugambeh and Jagera people and recognise that this area has always been a place of teaching and learning.

I extend my respect to the Elders, past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, the traditions, the cultures and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Welcome to 2017!

I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas break. We’ve had a fabulous start to the year with lots of new enrolments. On behalf of the Mabel Park SS community I’d like to welcome back all of our existing families and give a special welcome to all of our new families. I hope that you love our school as much as we do and enjoy all of the exciting opportunities we provide.

**Meet our teachers afternoon – Tuesday 7 Feb 3:00 – 4:00pm**

This year’s “meet the teachers” afternoon BBQ will be held on Tuesday 8 Feb. Each class will have a newsletter that you can collect that outlines rules and routines for your child’s class this year. It will also be a great opportunity to meet all of our wonderful teachers and ask any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

**Possible teacher reshuffle**

Our school is staffed according to the number of students enrolled. Education Queensland makes decisions based on the number of students enrolled on Day 8 of the new school year. With our current number of students, it looks likely that we may lose teaching staff. Classes will remain intact, however, they may have a different teacher in the next few weeks. At this stage, we believe that the reshuffle could take place in Year 1 or Year 2 and Year 4. We cannot say for sure that this will happen in these year levels just yet but needed to let you know sooner rather than later.

**Parade**

Just a reminder that we have parade each Monday morning at 9am. Everyone is welcome to attend as it’s a great way to hear what is going on at the school and what important events may be coming up.

**Community Education Counsellor (Indigenous) – Aunty Leanne.**

Our Community Education Counsellor, Aunty Leanne Smith, has decided to move on from Mabel Park State School in order to undertake employment with the Kumara organisation. Leanne’s new role will be primarily in family support, working with young Indigenous students ranging in age from 5 – 18. Her primary focus will be supporting students and their families to engage with schooling in order to improve the learning outcomes and life outcomes for these young people. This new position is full time and will take Leanne all over the South East including the islands off the coast. Those of you that know Leanne will understand that she is an expert in this field and will contribute to the growth and development of the young people and families that she works with.
The Mabel Park State School family will very much miss Aunty Leanne’s dedication and ‘whatever it takes’ approach to ensuring the happiness and security of the many indigenous children that attend our school. I would like to personally thank Aunty Leanne for her dedicated work and support for the students of Mabel Park State School. I have officially retained Aunty Leanne as a consultant for our school. We will not let her slip away easily. She will be sadly missed by students, staff and parents alike. We wish you well with your new role Leanne.

**Student Resource Scheme**

Thank you to the many, many parents who have sent their students to school with the required books and equipment as per their book list for their year level. We have had a great start to the school year and I very much thank parents for their very strong show of support for our school by providing all of the necessary resources required to support their children’s learning.

**P & C – Third week of the Month. Next Meeting, AGM, Thursday March 16 6.00pm**

Our outgoing P & C President, Mrs Leanne Smith, has moved on to other employment for 2017. I would like to very much thank Leanne for her contribution as P & C President across 2016. Her contributions to keeping our P & C afloat across the year were many and varied and her enthusiasm for the job was endless. She will be very much missed by students, staff and parents alike. Leanne will be present at our AGM in March, hence the 6pm start time to accommodate her commitment to her new employment.

As a result of Leanne’s departure and other members of the P & C no longer having children at our school, we have several positions available on our 2017 P & C. We will be needing a President, Treasurer, and Secretary to get the ball rolling. If you are interested in these positions, or just in being a part of our P & C, please don’t hesitate to contact me on the school number 33865333.

**Attendance**

Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Mabel Park SS’s target for attendance is 95%. For students to achieve 95% attendance they have to have less than 10 days off in a year. Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day. They learn better, they make friends, they are happier and they have a brighter future.

**Late Slips, Early Departures**

If a student arrives after 8.40am they are required to obtain a late slip from the office and present this to the teacher upon arrival to the classroom. If a parent requires their student to leave school early during learning time they must present to either the Junior or Middle Campus office and discuss the reason for leaving with a Deputy Principal. If a student is required to leave school during learning time to attend important appointments, then students must be signed out in the office and a release slip be issued before the child can leave the school grounds. Office staff will amend the roll, if required. Students will not be released early from school during the last session of learning time unless a parent presents with an appointment card for a doctor or other similar health professional.
Commencement of the new school year
Welcome back to all of our existing Mabel Park families and a warm welcome to the new families that have joined us this year. Thanks to the excellent preparation by our school staff and the support of our families, students on the middle campus have experienced a smooth start to the 2017 school year.

Our Year 4 students have quickly adapted to school life on the middle campus and are focused on their learning. Year 5 and Year 6 students are leading the way and so far have set a wonderful example for our other students to follow. Students, parents and carers are reminded that students need to be: ‘At school every day, on time, in uniform, ready to be a STAR (Safe, Team, Achieve and Responsible).’

Attendance—Every Day Counts
Every day counts is a state wide initiative that aims to assist in improving student attendance at school through a shared commitment by students, parents, caregivers, schools and the community.

“Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.”

Why it’s important
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do
The main reasons for absence are:
Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

Holidays - It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

“Day off” – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.
Celebrating Excellent Attendance at Mabel Park

Every Monday morning on parade we celebrate excellent attendance through ‘best class’ and ‘most improved class’ trophies. Each week classes that attain 95% and above will receive a certificate and a Chupa-Chup from the Principal. Any class that achieves 100% attendance will receive a class pizza party. Individual students who maintain a 100% attendance record will be invited to the Principal’s Morning Tea.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let the school know so we can work together to get your child to school every day. For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx

Meet the Teacher Afternoon

Our Meet the Teacher BBQ will be held on Tuesday 7 February from 3 – 4pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and receive information relating to classroom procedures and expectations. As communication between schools and families is important for a child’s success at school, we look forward to seeing you all there.

From the Junior Campus Deputies

Prep and Year 1

Welcome to all of the new families in Prep and Year 1. The children are settling into their new classes and learning the classroom and school routines.

Each week in the newsletter, there will be a snapshot of what the children are learning in class.

Prep students are:

- learning to write their names or words
- exploring maths concepts through investigations
- participating in music and physical education activities.
- learning to have positive interactions with their friends
- participating in all learning activities.

Year 1 are:

- exploring number and counting to 100 in different patterns of 2’s, 5’s and 10’s
- using nouns, verbs and adjectives when writing
- learning different reading strategies for example: using pictures in the book to read, learning sight words or learning to sounding out words
- becoming responsible and independent by being prepared for learning

The students are engaged in lots of different learning activities during the day. When asking your children about their day. It is important to ask specific questions for example: What book did your teacher read today? What did you write about today? What song did you learn in Music?

If you would like to discuss your child’s learning progress please see your child’s classroom teacher.

The teachers are looking forward to meeting all of the families at Meet the teacher BBQ on Tuesday 7 February at 3pm.
Year 2 and Year 3

WELCOME BACK!
I would like to congratulate all the students for an excellent start to the 2017 school year. The students have been very excited to bring their own books and equipment and I would like to thank all of the parents for the effort you made in making this a success.

Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students

Our school is committed to providing a safe, respectful and disciplined learning environment for students and staff, where students have opportunities to engage in quality learning experiences and acquire values supportive of their lifelong wellbeing. During the first two weeks of school, the students have been revisiting and practicing the Mabel Park expectations of S.T.A.R.

Non-Book Ways to Get Your Child Reading

Inspire your child with these creative approaches.

1. Make cards. Have your child make their own cards for holidays, birthdays, party invitations, and thank-you notes. Help them write a personal message to each recipient.

2. Learn “how to.” Is there something your child would really like to do, such as perform magic, encourage them to find out how by reading about it.

3. Get cooking. Invite your child to help you bake a cake or a special meal together. If necessary, simplify and rewrite a recipe's instructions so they can read it to you.

4. Play board games. Scrabble or Boggle are specifically good for building vocabulary and spelling.

5. Host a scavenger hunt. Make a list of items that your child needs to find inside your house or around the yard. Provide written clues that lead to the treasures.

Year 2
Congratulations to Miss Hughes and her 2KH students who were practicing their skip counting by 2’s to 100’.

Year 3
Congratulations to 3ET for 100% attendance on Tuesday. You are all Mabel Park Stars!
Welcome back to school for 2017!
There has been a significant shift in the Special Education model and the way support is being delivered this year. Instead of teachers being assigned to a cohort year level, Special Education teachers are assigned to an ability year level. This is to provide equitable support to students, teachers and families. All students have been very settled this week and have been transitioning beautifully to intensive support classes.

This year there will be more alternative programs available for students to support their non-academic needs. Some of the many programs provided include emotional regulation, social skills, fine motor, gross motor, self-care, sensory integration and transitioning programs. These programs will commence in week 3.

Our Special Education staff for 2017 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICP Ability level</th>
<th>Special Education Teacher</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Special Education Teacher Aide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Campus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Capabilities</td>
<td>Ally Shultz</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Shayna Kelvins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Christine Lawrence</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Susan Gadaleta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Bronwyn Armstrong</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Susan Gadaleta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Tanya Curry/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Faye Faataappe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Campus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Melissa Perry</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Prem Bose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Kathleen Hancock</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Sonya Reardon/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Kerima Sehic/</td>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Terrie Campbell/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jess Gailbaith</td>
<td></td>
<td>Christabell Rasmussen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kylie Mitchell</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kylie Griffiths/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christabell Rasmussen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Students who receive Gotchas throughout the term are presented with a Gotcha Certificate for excellent behaviour in the playground.

Gold Gotcha (20): NA
Silver Gotcha (15): NA
Bronze Gotcha (10): NA
Weekly Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Helenna Z. Brock C, Kobe B, Cooper R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Austin A, Sefita F, Dakota-Miracle B, Nakia A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Peter T, Elizabeth D, Angel D, Ezakiel T, Rico R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Summer H, Jett TS, Astarra O, Angelina A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Manu, Netane A, Ricky K, Walter F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Maliana V, Hayley C, Cing K, Reginald A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Boramey C, Chan N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension</td>
<td>Hafsa A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Elizabeth S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Justin Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Library News

**Borrowing**

Opening hours for parents and students:
8am – 8:30am
2:40pm – 3pm

Library borrowing starts in Week 3. All students need a **material library bag** to borrow from the library. Most classroom teachers have a permanent weekly or fortnightly library time for their class to borrow. Class days are as follows:

**MONDAY**
- Forthnightly: 5DF, 4VS, 5KM, 4AB
- Weekly: 1FC, 2KH, 3JB

**TUESDAY**
- Forthnightly: 5KC, 5VH
- Weekly: 1JC, 1CW, 3RV

**WEDNESDAY**
- Forthnightly: 3JN, 3ET
- Weekly: PAS, 2MM, 2TS, 6AD, 6DC

**THURSDAY**
- Forthnightly: 5/6EC
- Weekly: 4DL, PEN, PLS

**FRIDAY**
- Weekly: 2ND, 1LB, PKW, 4KT, 2/3KW, 1SC

**Independent Borrowers**

Some teachers encourage their students to be independent borrowers. When your child borrows before school or after school they receive a raffle ticket. The raffle is drawn each Monday on parade which gives your child a chance to win a prize and be **Independent Borrower of the Week**.

**Overdue Library Books 2016**

There are still a lot of overdue library books from last year. Please encourage your child/children to return them as soon as possible. Unfortunately, children with overdue books will not be able to borrow.
Advertisements and Notifications

School Crossing Supervisor

- Casual rates start at $28.19 per hour
- Training provided
- Equal opportunity employer
If interested please contact Eileen Warman on 5585.1871

* All staff are required to undergo a medical and working with children Blue Card check, which will be provided by DTMR.

Queensland Government

Grasshopper Soccer

AUSTRALIA’S #1 NON-COMPETITIVE SOCCER PROGRAM
FOR GIRLS & BOYS
AGES 2 TO 12 YEARS

TRY IT FOR FREE
WISHART STATE SCHOOL
SATURDAY 4TH and 11TH FEBRUARY

ROCHDALE SOUTH and HOLLAND PARK STATE SCHOOLS
SUNDAY 5TH and 12TH FEBRUARY

Take this opportunity to try it out for free
Please call Grasshopper David
To book your free place
PHONE 1300 767 004 / 0432 629 501
PLEASE NOTE PLACES ARE LIMITED

NAB AFL Auskick is running at your school now

Where: Mabel Park State School
When: First session Thursday 16th February
Time: 2:55-3:55pm
Length of program: 4 weeks
Cost: $30

Term 1 NAB AFL Auskickers who register & pay online will be eligible to access 2 Complimentary Brisbane Lions tickets* (1 adult, 1 child. Extra Reserved Seat Tickets can be purchased at 30% off)
*Selected matches only, subject to availability.
(Register & Pay online by Sunday February 26 to receive the first round of offers, see www.aflq.com.au for full T’s and C’s)

For more information visit aflauskick.com.au or call 3394 2198