**Principal’s Message**

**NAIDOC Parade**
Thank you to all the students and teachers involved in our NAIDOC celebrations last week. It was a wonderful opportunity to share with our school and the broader community the wonderful achievements of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. It was a fantastic celebration enjoyed by everyone. We look forward to seeing more award winners each and every year. Thank you to parents/carers for attending parade. Thank you to Mrs Miller for organising this successful event.

**School Opinion Survey**
Forty-five parents (selected from a random sample) will soon receive School Opinion Surveys. This is an important tool to see how we as a school are progressing in the eyes of parents, students and staff. If you receive one, please take the time to fill it out as a family and return it ASAP. The results from these surveys help us to make plans for next year. It’s also a great opportunity for us to see what we are doing well.

**Prep 2013**
Is your child born between 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2008? Enrolment for Prep 2013 is now open. Enrolment forms can be collected from the Junior Campus office. When returning these forms it is essential you bring your child’s birth certificate with you. Our office staff will photocopy it and return it to you. Students are unable to start school until their birth certificate has been sighted and copied. Please see information in the Junior Campus section regarding our upcoming Prep Readiness program.

**Student Absences**
Should your child be absent from school for any length of time we must be either notified by phone on the day or with a note when the student returns to school. This notification must include a reason for the absence. Please be aware that every absence that you do not contact us about is recorded on our system as an unexplained student absence.

**Cybersafety and cyberbullying guide for parents and caregivers**
A new booklet Cybersafety and Cyberbullying – A Guide for Parents and Caregivers has been posted to every state school. The booklet provides tips on cybersafety, including suggestions about what to do if a child is a target or responsible for inappropriate behaviour. Print-friendly versions of the guide can be found online.


Please ensure that your child/ren is/are at school each and every day, on time, in uniform ready to learn.

Racquel O’Connor
Principal
Most of our families have been very supportive of our uniform policy and the majority of our students proudly wear their uniform to school on a daily basis. We appreciate and thank you for your continued commitment to making our school feel and look great.

During colder months a maroon or grey jumper can be worn and/or maroon or grey tracksuit pants. Uniform breach notes are distributed where correct uniform is not worn.

If providing correct uniform for your child/ren is financially difficult, please discuss this with your relevant Deputy Principal.

Our Special Education Program continues to grow at Mabel Park State School. We have been allocated some extra staff this semester. Welcome to Jan Forrester (Teacher Aide) who will be working across our Junior and Middle Campus. We will also be welcoming a new Special Education Teacher next week. Her name is Dawn Bennett.

In the coming weeks your child’s Special Education Teacher will be contacting you to sign off on your child’s Individual Support Plan. We are now completing these support plans through our OneSchool program so the format of these will look different to previous years.

Individual Support Plans (ISPs) focus on your child’s individual education needs. These have been developed in consultation with teachers, specialists, Advisory Visiting Teachers, therapists and parents/carers. Once the ISP has been signed by everyone you will be receiving a copy.

AUSLAN

A reminder to all students that we have AUSLAN club during Thursday at 2nd break in 1EK. Ms Burns, Ms Waddell and Ms Kelly are there to support our students learning AUSLAN.

A number of high schools in our area provide a transition program specifically designed to support Special Education students to high school. Some of these programs start this term. Be sure to enrol your student and let their teacher know where they will be attending so relevant information on your child’s transition program can be given.

The Prep Readiness program will be offered on a Wednesday morning from 9am ’til 10:30am. There will be two classes operating at this time, however, each group will have a different start date. Group 1 will commence Wednesday August 8 2012 and continue through to the end of term 4. Group 2 will commence Wednesday 10 October 2012 and continue through to the end of term 4. While the students are engaging in their program on these days, you as parents will be engaging in your own program and activities.

If you are interested in having your child enrolled in Prep Readiness, please complete the enrolment form available at the Junior Campus Office and return ASAP as there are limited places available. I look forward to meeting all our future Prep students in week 5.

Thank you to Mr O’Halloran for filling in for me during Week 1 this term while I was on Long Service Leave.

Diana Boulter
A/Head of Special Education Services

Please note the PCYC Vacation Care (G Block) will be closed during the September School Holidays due to construction work being carried out. If you have any queries please contact Karen or Tamara on 0403 738 819 or 3208 0897.

PCYC NEWS

There were six different categories of medals given on Thursday and the following explains the criteria used to evaluate a students’ eligibility for such awards. The English and Maths Improvement Award was decided upon when students showed improvement in their results. The Indigenous students who had achieved a B or A standard on their 2012 Semester 1 report card. The AUSLAN was given to those students who had achieved a C standard or better received this award. The English and Maths Excellence Award was given to those students who had achieved a B or A standard on their 2012 Semester 1 report card. The Attendance Improvement Award was based on comparing Semester 1 2011 and Semester 1 2012 data and those students whose attendance had improved and was at least 50% received this award. The Attendance Excellence Award was given to those students who achieved a minimum of 90% attendance over Semester 1 2012.

Thank you to Mrs Stephenson and our choir. It was a special moment for our Elders to witness the choir singing the National Anthem in Yugambeh. I would also like to thank Sheyne, Jamieka and Jya for their moving and personal speeches and Laura for displaying her MC capabilities.

A very big thank you goes to Mrs Stephenson and our choir. It was a special moment for our Elders to witness the choir singing the National Anthem in Yugambeh. I would also like to thank Sheyne, Jamieka and Jya for their moving and personal speeches and Laura for displaying her MC capabilities.

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Logan District Athletics Trials
On Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 July, over 30 Mabel Park students competed at the Logan District Trials for athletics. All of our students displayed wonderful behaviour across both days. They all also performed extremely well in their events and 6 of our students were selected in the Logan District Team to compete at a regional level. Congratulations to the following students: Zered T (discus) Samuel S (shot put) Jusce T (100m, 800m, long jump, high jump) Ran Y (100m, 200m) Mulindwa I (100m) Alannah R (100m, long jump). These students will be competing on Friday 17 August. We wish them all the best.

Tamara Hampel
Physical Education Teacher

The theme for Book Week this year is Champions Read. Book Week runs from Saturday 18 – Friday 24 August. Each year, schools and libraries from all over Australia spend a week celebrating books, and Australian authors and illustrators. The Children’s Book Council of Australia’s aim is to foster children’s enjoyment of books, and to highlight the importance of reading.

Mabel Park is celebrating Book Week by having a Fancy Dress Parade on Friday 24 August, starting at 9am. So, come as your favourite book character or a character based on the theme. There will be prizes for the best costume in each year level, and a parent’s prize too. So come and join our celebration.

The Children’s Book Council of Australia

To Mabel Park State School
Parents, Carers and Friends

As your child’s first teacher you have a key role in the literacy and numeracy development of your child. The Parent Ready Reader Program explores the wide range of literacy experiences that happen daily and how these can provide opportunities for learning in natural and exciting ways the knowledge that effective readers use and ways to engage your child with reading.

Would you like to know more? Come along and learn how to support your child to become a confident reader.

Date: Wednesday 22 August
Time: 9:15am – 2:15pm
Venue: The Resource Centre
RSVP: by contacting the school on 3386 5333 by Monday 20 August.