

Newsletter



Every child, every day, learning and achieving

Friday 16th July 2021









Every Student - Whatever it takes!

Curriculum - Pedagogy - Relationships

Mabel Park State School respectfully acknowledges 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.

We extend our 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.

From the Principal - Mrs Stacey Wood

Culture

Students

Community

Term 3

Welcome back to Term 3! It is a great honour to have been offered to act in the role as Principal at Mabel Park State School and I am looking forward to the opportunity to deepen connections with the school community.

My vision for our students is to shape their learning experience at Mabel Park State School as future global citizens – providing critical thinking and creative learning experiences that nurture their growing minds to inquire, ask questions and dream big. We have high aspirations for all of our children to meet and exceed their full potential and in my time as Principal I hope to connect with families and learn more about your aspirations for your children and how the school can best support your ambitions.

This year, we have been focussed on 4 key priority areas:

Our talented team of teachers and leaders engage in a range of professional practices to build a culture of high expectations in learning with a focus on every child, every day, learning and achieving.

TRUST COURAGE RESPECT

2021 Focus

To Level Up - English & Maths

Targeted intervention of Inclusive practices

Deepen teacher expertise aligned to the APST

Staff & Student Wellbeing and Engagement





School review

In Week 2 of Term 3, our school will engage in a review process. Every Queensland state school is reviewed by the Education Improvement Branch (EIB) at least once every four years. The reviews play an important part in how the department supports school improvement. They provide schools with independent feedback, tailored to their context and needs.

Review process:

Reviews are conducted by experienced educators trained in the use of the National School Improvement Tool, a nationally recognised framework for reviewing teaching and learning practices. Review teams generally consists of two to four reviewers, but the number of reviewers and length of each review depends upon a range of factors, including the size and context of the school.

Reviewers look closely at each school's performance data and speak with a wide range of staff, students, parents and community members to get an accurate picture of the school. Unlike many other review systems, schools aren't ranked or given a performance rating. Instead, the school is given a comprehensive report for consideration. The report details key findings and recommended improvement strategies to maximise student outcomes.

Feedback from parents and the community is an important part of school reviews, with everyone encouraged to have their say. On Thursday 22 July, Friday 23 July and Monday 26 July Mabel Park State School will be host to a Review Team. They may come to the gates at collection time and invite you to speak with them about the school. For more information, you can contact the school office and request to speak with me and I am more than happy to discuss your questions.

Yours in education,

Stacey Wood

If you or any members of your household have any COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, please do not attend School or any public place – call your doctor or 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) straight away.

Please maintain health, hygiene and social distancing processes.

Deputy Principal: Prep & Year 1 - Mr Omen Facto

Early Years Update

It was great to see our Prep and Year One students returning to school this week with such enthusiasm for learning! With COVID restrictions still in place and continuing until July 23, I applied our staff, parents and school community for working together to ensure the safety of all. Please wear masks when entering buildings and avoid congregating.

We are now halfway through the school year and the progress made so far is truly something to celebrate! There is a lot to look forward to in the second half of the year, with the Lion King musical at the end of this term and school photos coming up soon in Week 4. Please ensure your child/ren have their correct school uniform ready to go for photo days.





School Photos

School Photo Day is on.... Monday 2 August Tuesday 3 August



- All students are to wear the correct school uniform.
- Order envelopes have been handed out. If you haven't received one please collect a blank envelope from the office. If you have misplaced your shoot key, you can request this from school administration or phone MSP (phone number below).
- Order online at <u>msp.com.au</u>, or by placing cash in the envelope that your child was supplied with. Orders close on photo day, please order early to avoid late fees.
- All orders received after photo day are subject to a late fee. These
 orders can be placed by phoning MSP.
- Sibling photos envelopes are available at the office upon request.
 Please follow instructions on the envelope, these photos are taken before school, from 8am.

Extra Curricular Photos

 If your child's photo is taken in sports, music, or leaders photos, they will be given an order form soon after photo day so that you can place this order.

We are here to help!
Please call us on 3848 3946 if you have any questions.

Uniform



School Opinion Survey

The School Opinion Surveys are designed to obtain the views of parents/caregivers, students and school staff from each school on what they do well and how they can improve. Opinions on the school, student learning, and student wellbeing are sought from a parent/caregiver in all families and students in years 5, 6, 8 and 11 from each state school.

Opinions on the school as a workplace are sought from all school staff and principals. A small number of items are also asked of teaching staff on teaching and learning practices and of principals on departmental support.

The suite of 2021 School Opinion Surveys will be open between **15 and 30 July 2021**. Additional information about the surveys is located on the <u>School Opinion Survey FAQs page</u>.

In 2021, a new administration method is being trialed where families, students in Years 5, 6, 8 and 11 and school staff will be emailed an invitation with a unique link to complete survey. The emails will be sent from Central office (not schools) and all personal details such as email addresses will be separated and deleted from responses before data is stored for reporting.





Deputy Principal: Year 2, 3 - Mrs Natalie Van Zyl

Wellbeing of students

The wellbeing of students is the department's first and foremost priority. When emergencies happen everyone in our community can be affected and children and young people need support from parents, carers and other family members.

During the Coronavirus pandemic, it is also important that students are provided with accurate information about what is happening and how they can help to keep themselves and their family safe.

Children and young people may need help to understand what is going on in a way that is appropriate for their age and development. To assist parents and carers to talk to their children about Coronavirus and support their wellbeing, the department has developed: COVID-19 advice for parents and carers (PDF, 257KB).

Younger students can read the Feeling happy and safe fact sheet (PDF, 279KB) to find out how to stay safe and well and who to ask for help if they need it.

Younger Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students can read the Feeling happy and safe fact sheet—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander version (PDF, 687KB)Older students can find tips, useful websites and services to support them to stay safe and well in the Student wellbeing and safety fact sheet (PDF, 153KB).

During the Coronavirus pandemic, some students may be caring for loved ones at home. The Young carer student fact sheet (PDF, 282KB) provides information to help students who are caring for others access the support they need to keep them and their family safe during the pandemic.

- Supporting your child
- Maintaining healthy routines
- Setting up a learning space
- Accessing digital devices and the internet
- Communicating with teachers

Supporting your child

You can support your child by:

- monitoring reactions and listen to how they feel and what they are thinking
- be aware of what you say when children and young people are around and let them know they can ask you questions anytime. Make feelings normal by letting your children know it is okay to have feelings such as sadness, anger, frustration, worry, fear or anxiety
- share that you are also feeling this way, without overloading them with adult responsibilities. Encourage them to talk with you about how they are feeling, let them know there's no wrong way to feel or think, and that all feelings are valid
- providing correct information
- be honest and stick to the facts, without providing too much detail. Limit the amount of media coverage children see, hear and read. Explain news to them and discuss what has been seen, read and heard







- o if your children are feeling upset or anxious about stories they are seeing or hearing, make sure they take some time off to think about something else. Switching devices off for a few hours may help.
- providing a sense of stability for your children, may help them feel more comfortable during times of uncertainty. If schools are temporarily closed or school attendance is interrupted, think about the importance of:
 - sleep: getting enough sleep and rest can help us all feel better during the day. Set regular times for going to bed and getting up in the morning. Keep normal bedtime routines for younger children and expect the same from your older primary and high school-aged children too
 - o food and drink: make sure your children are eating regularly throughout the day and drinking plenty of water
 - o moving: being physically active can lift your mood, be relaxing and provide an opportunity for fun
 - o relaxation and fun: is there something your children enjoy doing that will help them relax? Everyone needs a little time out to just think about something nice, whether that is playing games, singing or communicating with friends. Set rules and limitations around social media usage and other online interactions.
- providing reassurance:
 - focus on the good. When times are difficult, it can help to take notice of the good things still in your life.
 Encourage your children to take some time to think about the positives—kind people, good friends, beautiful moments—however small. Point out the people working to fix the situation.

Further information about looking after mental health and wellbeing (PDF, 250KB) can be found on the department' website.

Deputy Principal - Year 4, 5 & 6 / Head of Curriculum: Mrs Alexis Bell

Year 6 Indigenous STEM excursion

Our Year 6 students have been invited to attend a no-cost half-day excursion to Griffith University's Logan Campus to participate in a range of immersive Indigenous STEM (Science - Technology - Engineering - Maths) activities including learning about boomerangs, weaving, bush medicines, and native bees. This event will celebrate the rich cultural and STEM knowledge held by Indigenous Australians and highlight its value to our students. There is no need for payment, as the university is covering the cost, including buses, however a permission form must be signed and returned to enable students to attend. This form will be sent home today.





Toys at school

A number of students have been bringing toys to school. Students have been reminded that toys are NOT to be brought to school. This includes Pop-its, Rubik's cubes, tech decks and other sensory toys. The school has an extensive range of sensory tools for students who need them. If a student brings a toy from home, it will be confiscated for the day and stored in the office. Please remind your children to leave toys at home, or in the car when they arrive at school.





Payment window

If you need to make a payment for school resources, events or excursions, there are three payment options.

Over the counter **EFTPOS** payments MUST be made on the Junior Campus (Borman Street). Our Middle Campus (Paradise Road) office does not have the facilities to process payments and you will be redirected to the Junior Campus office. The payment window is open daily from 8am-12pm. Only EFTPOS payments will be accepted. There are NO cash transactions available.

Alternatively, payments can be made through bank transfer. The school account detail are:

BSB: 064-168

Account No.: 00090757

Reference: Student's name and class

B-Point payments are available when an invoice has been issued. The details for this will be included in the invoice.

Teaching and learning Coach: Mrs Danielle Finlay Bell

Level Up Writing

This week in the Level Up program:

Year 4 students have started learning how to construct effective Red, White, and Blue sentences. These sentences are used to list information, ideas or arguments. We are exploring how to punctuate our sentences correctly using commas and quotation marks to signal quotes from an author.

Year 5 students have started learning how to write Power Sentences to strengthen their paragraphs. Power Sentences are made up of 6 – 12 words and must focus on one idea; they get straight to the point! These sentences are perfect for topic sentences at the beginning of each paragraph.

Sound Waves

Next week, a number of our teachers will be attending a professional development workshop to introduce the Sound Waves spelling program to their classes. Sound Waves involves the explicit teaching of sounds and corresponding letter choices through a variety of different learning activities.

Head of Department - Student Services - Ms Jessica Galbraith, Mr Kurt McKeown and Ms Karley Taylor

Rewards Day

The Semester 1 Rewards Day was a hit with the students involved. These students had worked hard for two terms to reach the target of 600 Gotchas to be eligible to attend this exciting day - 200 Gotchas for each value of: Trust, Courage and Respect. I look forward to planning the next Rewards Day which will be held in Week 10 of Term 4. All 'Level Up' Charts in classrooms have been reset and students have started earning Gotchas towards Semester 2 rewards. These rewards consist of certificates for each level, gala days, wrist bands, Values Badges and the end of Semester Rewards Day.









Values Session

During Term 2 some positive changes were made to our break time consequence system. Previously students may have been sent to 'Restricted Play' for not following the school values. We now run Values Sessions at each break time where students who have not followed the school values engage in a **PBL Lesson** and participate in **Structured Play** to work towards a goal. If your child attends one of these sessions they will have a **Values Session Goal Card** sent home. I encourage you to discuss this card with your child before signing and sending it back to the office.



Switch On Program

At the start of each term the 'Switch On' program is run at Mabel Park State School. This program consists of a daily PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) Lesson and resources to support staff and students. This program has been designed to support students transition back to school from the holidays. Teachers work on establishing clear and consistent expectations for student behaviour, establishing efficient daily routines and procedures and building positive interpersonal relationships with students. The following PBL Lessons were taught as part of the 'Switch On' Program. From Week 2 we will revert back to weekly PBL Lessons.





Week 1

- Follow classroom rules and routines
- Be Here Every day, Ready and On time (Attendance Hero)
- Follow instructions
- Hands, feet, objects and unkind words to yourself.
- Resilience

Week 2

High 5 Strategy

Before School

Before school students need to be in the *Right place at the right time*.

Students are to wait in the following areas:

Prep - Outside their classroom

Year 1 – 3 – Junior Campus Tuckshop Area

Year 4 - 6 - Middle Campus Tuckshop Area



In the Year 1 – 6 areas there is now a teacher or teacher aide on duty each morning. The expectation is that Prep students are supervised by their parents until the teacher collects the class at 8:40am.

Attendance Hero

Don't forget! Attendance Hero is back!

Here at Mabel Park State school we firmly believe that ALL students should be attending school each and every day to be have the best chance at being successful.

Due to this firm belief we are starting our Attendance Hero campaign where any student with an attendance of 95% or greater at the end of the term will receive a special Mabel Park T-shirt to be worn at school.

Starting Date: Week 5 17th/05/21

The program will run from week 5 in Term 2 and finish at the end of week 4 in Term 3. T-shirts will be awarded to students during Year level and whole school Parades. So, take pride and come to school each and every day and your choices will be limitless.







Notices and Advertisements

