

Newsletter



Every child, every day, learning and achieving

Wednesday 10 February 2021





Every Student – Whatever it takes! Curriculum - Pedagogy – Relationships

From the Principal – Jennifer Skeahan

Welcome Back to School

It is so good to be back at School and to meet all our new Prep students and our new students to Mabel Park. Most importantly it is great to see all our returning students. Welcome back!

It seems like such a long time since we have had some normality in welcoming our students to school and waving good bye in the afternoon. Thank you everyone for being so accommodating during the tiring times of 2020. We are still very mindful of social distancing and acceptable numbers of folk gathering in public spaces, however everyone is being mindful and that is very much appreciated and respectful to everyone. Together we are strong and safe.

We are still focusing on ensuring everyone is washing their hands regularly and we are keeping up additional cleaning routines to ensure everyone is safe and compliant here at school. If you or your children are unwell as per the Queensland Health guidelines, please do not bring them to school. Please seek medical support and have a COVID test if advised.

We have been very busy ensuring attendance of our students, and following up with families when we know sometimes difficult circumstances make it more challenging to prepare the students for school. If you need assistance please let us know, we want to help. School is the best place for students. We were very pleased with our Day 8 numbers, totalling 693.

We welcomed a number of new families to our school as a result of many of our current families recommending us as a great school. We are very proud!

This year we are happy to announce that the Deputy Principals contacts for each Year level are:

Mrs Stacey Wood	- Year 5 and Year 6
Ms Tara Le Pla	- Year 3 and Year 4
Mr Omen Facto	- Prep, Year 1 and Year 2
and	
Ms Alexis Bell	- Head of Special Education Service – Inclusion

Please ensure you make contact if you have any questions, concerns or feedback.





Welcome to New Staff

We welcomed a number of new staff to Mabel Park this year, and are happy to introduce the following people:

Ms Tara Le Pla	- Deputy Principal
Mr Kurt McKeown	- HOD Student Services
Ms Natalie Van Zyl	- HOC Teaching and Learning
Mr Patrick Phillips	- HPE teacher
Ms Angela Loudon	- Year 2 teacher
Ms Rachelle Crane	- Year 1 teacher
Mrs Rachel Parker	- Year 2 teacher
Ms Kymberly Richter	- Prep teacher
Ms Monique Bootten	- TRS Support (T1)

Resource Centre Undercover Area

We are very excited about the renovation of our Resource Centre Undercover area. This upgrade to the facility will provide us with a great deal of flexibility for the multi-purpose area. We look forward to having our first full school parades in the coming weeks.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of our great School.

Jennifer Skeahan

Deputy Principal: P-Yr 2 – Mr Omen Facto

It was fantastic to welcome our parents and families back into the school for the start of 2021. Thank you for your support and understanding with ongoing COVID restrictions and social distancing measures to ensure our entire school community stays safe.

It was wonderful to see parents and family members join their Prep children as they commenced their primary school journey. Prep is an exciting milestone for all children and their families, and we look forward to seeing our Preppies grow and flourish over the course of the year.

Our Year One and Two students have also made an exceptional start to the new school year, settling into familiar school routines with their new teachers and classmates. A big thank you to our wonderful teachers and support staff for all of your work in ensuring a successful start to the year for all of our students.

As is usual at the start of the school year, some class adjustments were required to ensure class sizes stay as small as possible. As a school, we ensure that all children are in classes where we meet the targeted class size outlined by the Department of Education. Thank you to those students and families who were required to move class.

We look forward to a very exciting 2021 year with our Prep – Year 2 cohort and families. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact the office.





Deputy Principal: Yr 3 & 4 - Ms Tara Le Pla

Welcome back to School! How wonderful that restrictions have been lifted a little and we can all connect face-to-face again. The year 2020 bought with it so many challenges, lessons and new ways of connecting, learning and working, 2021 brings so many opportunities for us all.

My name is Tara Le Pla and I will be acting in the Deputy Principal role for this year. I am excited to work across both campuses, supporting Year 3 and 4 Students. I have received such a warm welcome from staff, students and their families already. I am certain that all of our other new staff and students have felt this same connection.

I am passionate about supporting our students and our community by contributing to the wonderful culture that has been developed and continues to grow at our school through our values of Trust, Courage and Respect.

This year is my 17th year in Education - I have enjoyed every moment of my time in primary schools, high schools and specialised alternative education sites across several Regions. I am very happy to be back in Logan, but especially, to be part of the great community that is Mabel Park State School.

Deputy Principal: Yr 5 & 6 – Mrs Stacey Wood

It has been a fantastic start to the school year on the Middle Campus! Seeing our Year 5 and 6 students wearing their uniforms with pride, representing the school values of Trust, Courage and Respect, and leading by example has been a pleasure to witness. At Year Level Parades we have had a focus on *grit*; that is, never giving up on a challenge and always striving to achieve our best. *Grit* is a key element to succeeding at school, and it is a trait that can be learned. To develop *grit*, students:

Give it your best effort

Redo if necessary

Ignore the urge to quit

Take the time to do it right

GRIT is the ability to stick to committed goals and to work towards its fulfillment despite the struggles and difficulties that gets in the way.

-	and I'm sticking
	Ive got a plan and Ivm sticking to it.
	7
	1

In other words...

Image Source: <u>https://www.slideshare.net/eiramespi07/grit-and-growth-mindset-80278101/5</u>





Every child, every day, learning and achieving

Curriculum News

Across all year levels we are embarking on a range of new Learning Areas this year. These subjects include Visual Arts, Design Technology and Health.

Visual Arts In addition to the overarching aims of the Australian Curriculum: The Arts, visual arts knowledge, understanding and skills ensure that, individually and collaboratively, students develop: • conceptual and perceptual ideas and representations through design and inquiry processes • visual arts techniques, materials, processes and technologies • critical and creative thinking, using visual arts languages, theories and practices to apply aesthetic judgement • respect for and acknowledgement of the diverse roles, innovations, traditions, histories and cultures of artists, craftspeople and designers; visual arts as social and cultural practices; and industry as artists and audiences • confidence, curiosity, imagination and enjoyment • a personal aesthetic through engagement with visual arts making and ways of representing and communicating. Design Technology In addition to the overarching aims for the Australian Curriculum: Technologies, Design and Technologies more specifically aims to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to ensure that, individually and collaboratively, students: • develop confidence as critical users of technologies and designers and producers of designed solutions • investigate, generate and critique innovative and ethical designed solutions for sustainable futures • use design and systems thinking to generate design ideas and communicate these to a range of audiences • producers of designed solutions suitable for a range of technologies contexts by selecting and manipulating a range of materials, systems, components, tools and equipment reatively, competently and safely; and managing processes		
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 develop and use personal, behavioural, social and cognitive skills and strategies to promote a sense of personal identity and wellbeing and to build and manage respectful relationships
 acquire, apply and evaluate movement skills, concepts and strategies to respond confidently, competently and creatively in a variety of physical activity contexts and settings
 engage in and enjoy regular movement-based learning experiences and understand and appreciate their significance to personal, social, cultural, environmental and health practices and outcomes
 analyse how varied and changing personal and contextual factors shape understanding of, and opportunities for, health and physical activity locally, regionally and globally.

Source: https://australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/learning-areas/

Students and teachers are reporting already that they are thoroughly enjoying exploring this new range of learning areas, aligned with the Australian Curriculum. These learning areas will appear on student report cards at the end of Term 2.

In our classrooms, our teachers are continuing to explore and develop Learning Walls each term. These spaces are dedicated to interactive learning for our students – co-constructing the learning and being able to revisit this learning in future lessons. Learning Walls are a record of student thinking – giving students an increased sense of ownership over what they have learned. See some examples of our 2020 learning walls below:











Booklists

A huge thank you to families for supplying all items listed on the 2021 booklists. Some items, such as Visual Art diaries, are still being obtained. Please send the remaining supplies in with your child as soon as possible, thank you. The booklists can be viewed on the school website, or you can contact your child's class teacher to discuss which items may be outstanding.

Head of Inclusive Education – Ms Alexis Bell

Welcome to the 2021 school year! It's always very exciting, and a little nerve-wracking, starting a new school year, for parents, children and teachers. The prospect of a new teacher and new classmates can be daunting. Here are some great ways to get the new school year off to a good start:

Connect with your child's new teacher

There are a number of ways you can connect with your child's new teacher. Including:

Phoning the school. Teachers may not always be able to speak to you at the time of your call, as they may be teaching or have a playground duty, however the office administrators will always pass on a message to your child's teacher requesting a return phone call.

Emailing the teacher. If you would like to communicate with your child's teacher via email, you will first need to speak to the teacher to request their email address.

Face-to-face. Please remember social distancing guidelines if you choose to communicate face-to-face, and be aware that teachers often have meetings, planning and preparation to complete before and after school, so these should be limited to short conversations, such as letting the teacher know about an appointment your child may have or advising of the reason for an absence from school.

It's always a good idea to talk to your child about what they have been learning, but if you can, try to speak with your child's teacher as well. This will give you a chance to find out what you can do to support your child at home and also be aware of any specific areas they may need to work on.





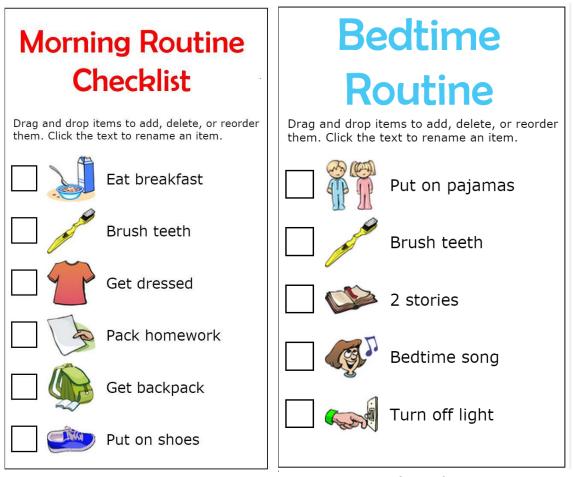
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Routines

It can be a challenge to get back into the swing of school routines. The following ideas may help you and your child adjust to these:

Regular bedtimes. Keeping a consistent routine and time that children go to bed each night is important. Regular bedtime routines such as tooth brushing, a shared story or quiet reading and then lights out can reduce the arguments and tantrums that sometimes occur at bedtime. When children know the expectations of the bedtime routine, they are more likely to resist going to bed. Research shows that avoiding screens for about half an hour before sleep helps our brains to relax and prepare for sleep.

Encouraging responsibility. All teachers can tell you that children often use the excuse "My mum forgot to pack my hat/library bag/lunch/note, etc." Encouraging children to take responsibility for preparing for the day ahead builds independence and helps develop problem solving skills. Prep children can begin with small tasks such as checking their hat is in their bag each morning or unpacking their lunchbox each afternoon, older children can work on jobs like packing their own lunch or laying out their uniform each night, ready for the next day.



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Head of Curriculum – Mrs Danielle Finlay

Reading Comprehension Focus: Predicting

This fortnight our school-wide reading focus is Predicting.

What is predicting?

A prediction is a statement or informed guess about what might happen in a text. In order to predict, readers are encouraged to use clues from a text such as the genre, title, illustrations and blurb. Predicting encourages active engagement in the reading process and can support the development of reading comprehension.

Key questions to support predictions:

- **Before reading:** What might this text/story be about? Who might the characters be? What do you think might happen in this text/story?
- **During reading:** What do you think might happen next? How might the character respond to the problem? How could the problem be resolved?
- After / during reading: Were your predictions correct? What information did you use to help form your predictions?

Term 1 English Focus

This term in English...

Prep	Our Prep students are reading and exploring narratives. They are learning about the characters, events and settings of texts and how to make connections.
Year 1	Our Year 1 students are reading and exploring narratives. They are learning about the purpose, text structure and elements that make a story exciting to read. Students will comprehend the story, retell events and make connections to the characters and events.
Year 2	Our Year 2 students are reading and exploring narrative and procedural texts. They are learning to identify the purpose, text structure and language features of each genre of text. Students will create a multimodal procedure.
Year 3	Our Year 3 students are reading a range of persuasive texts. They are learning to identify the text structure, vocabulary used to persuade the audience and the point of view of the author. Students will apply this learning to write a persuasive letter that raises awareness of an endangered Australian animal.
Year 4	Our Year 4 students are interpreting and evaluating a variety of poems. They are learning about the text structure of poems and language devices used to engage the audience. Students will evaluate the effectiveness of a poem.





Year 5	Our Year 5 students are comprehending and analysing feature articles. They are learning to identify the intended audience, purpose, point of view and vocabulary used to persuade the audience. Students will apply this learning to create their own multimodal feature article.
Year 6	Our Year 6 students are exploring, analysing and evaluating a variety of advertisements. They are learning to identify the purpose, intended audience and persuasive techniques used to influence an audience and how to evaluate the effectiveness of an advertisement. Students will apply this learning to create their own multimodal advertisement for a holiday destination.

Head of Curriculum – Student Services – Teresa Radicke

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Students have been participating in our Switch On Program over the last two weeks. The program helps establish clear and consistent expectations for student behaviour and efficient daily routines and procedures that align with our school values of TRUST, COURAGE and RESPECT. It creates a learning environment that is structured, consistent and engaging for staff and students.

Attendance

It has been fantastic to see so many students Here, Every day, Ready and On time.

Congratulations to P.3, P.4, 1.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 4.3, 5.3 and 6.1 for achieving above 95% and being in the GREEN ZONE for their class attendance in Week 2.

Maintaining high attendance is a priority for us at Mabel Park State School. Help us reach our target of 95% attendance.

Our overall school attendance from Week 2 was 91.5%.

Congratulations to our PREP students for achieving 97.6% and in the GREEN ZONE for attendance.

Year Level Attendance

PREP	91%
YEAR 1	91.6%
YEAR 2	89.8%
YEAR 3	94.1%
Overall Junior Campus	91.6%

Overall Middle Campus	91.3%
YEAR 6	91.8%
YEAR 5	91.7%
YEAR 4	90.6%

It is important to be at school every day. If your child is NOT at school then they are NOT learning.





Greater than 95%	Between 95% - 85%	Less than 85%
1 to 2 days absent	3 to 7 days absent	More than 7 days absent
Very Good!	Cause for concern	Serious concern
Best chance to succeed.	Less chance of success.	Your child may find it difficult to
You are making the best	Be sure your child doesn't miss	make progress.
investment in your child's	out on all the learning we are	
future!	doing in class!	

If YOU miss	That equals	Which is
1 day each fortnight	20 days	4 weeks per year
1 day each week	40 days	8 weeks per year
2 days per week	80 days	16 weeks per year
3 days per week	120 days	24 weeks per year

Lateness can also affect your attendance. School starts at 8:30am. If you arrive after 8:40am, you need to collect a late slip from the office.

If your child is unwell and cannot come to school, please notify the school of your child's absence by:

- Ringing the school 07 33865333
- Replying to the SMS sent by the school
- Writing a note explaining the absence

Are your contact details up to date?

In the event of an emergency or accident, the school MUST be able to contact you immediately by telephone, so we need to have the most up-to-date information on our system.

Please keep us updated with any new home address, telephone number and email addresses.

No Hat, No Play Policy

This year we will continue to promote sun safety practices with the **'NO HAT, NO PLAY' policy.** Students without a hat will not be able to play during lunch time and will sit in the designated areas. It is a requirement that students have a hat everyday as it is part of our uniform policy







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CLO (Pacific Islands and Maori) – Mr Mose Iosefa

Talofa, Malo e lelei, Kia ora, Kia orana, warm Pacific Islands and Maori greetings to you all.

Welcome to all our new and returning students this year. This is another exciting year of learning opportunities for our students and I look forward to supporting your child along this journey.

2021 Multicultural (Maori and Pacific Islands) Cultural Group

We thank the 60+ students who have shown interest in joining the Multicultural (Maori and Pacific Islands) Cultural Group this year. Due to limited resources, we can only offer up to 40 places in the program in 2021. Permission notes for students who have secured their place in the program will be distributed this Thursday 11th February 2021. All permission notes must be returned by Friday 19th February 2021. All details are outlined on the permission note. Any questions please contact Mose losefa on 07 3386 5333. We look forward to the program commencing on Tuesday 23rd February 2021 from 2.50pm – 4pm. A friendly reminder that our Year 6 students have a leader's team-building session with Mr I and Mrs Fay on Tuesday 16th February 2021 prior to the introduction of the rest of the group.

Manuia le vaiaso (Have a great week).

Notices and Advertisements

FREE PREP VISION SCREENING

A Registered Nurse will be visiting Mabel Park State School school between 3-5th March 2021 to conduct vision screening for children in their Prep year. If you wish to have your prep child participate in this free vision screening program and have not returned a consent from please, speak to your child's class teacher. Parents do not need to be present for screening, however if you would like to be, please contact the school to arrange this.

If your child's vision is screened, you will be advised of the results in writing. If a vision concern is found, you will receive a phone call from the nurse to discuss referral to an eye health professional for further assessment. If a vision concern is identified and your child requires glasses, eligible health care card holders may be assisted with free basic glasses through the Spectacle Supply Scheme.





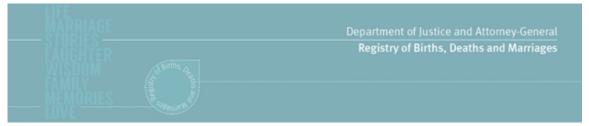
TRUTH CONQUERS

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Do you need to register your child's birth and receive a *free birth certificate?

Come along and meet Victoria Bell, from the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

Victoria will be visiting

Friday 12 February – 8:30am – 2pm

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child and Family Centre 6 Glenda Street Waterford West

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Birth Registration Initiative
- Age Group: 0-5 Years of Age

*All new birth registrations for children under 5 years of age will receive a Free Birth Certificate

You will need to bring identification (ID). This may include:

- your driver licence
- your Medicare card
- your Centrelink Health Benefit card
- your bank card
- letters from Centrelink or other government departments.

The more ID you bring, the easier it will be to register and apply for a birth certificate.

Why do I need to register my child? If your child isn't registered, they can't get a birth certificate. Your child needs a birth certificate to go to school, to access health services and to get a driver licence when they are older.

If you have any questions, please contact Victoria Bell via email at BDMCommunityLiaison@justice.qld.gov.au







Join our friendly and welcoming playgroup. We provide a safe and secure environment for your child to begin their first steps into a world of learning.

> EVERY MONDAY (During the School Term)

> > at

177 Meakin Road, Slacks Creek

9.30 am to 11.30 am

A healthy morning tea provided.





TH CONOUER

KINGSTON EAST NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP INC. 177 MEAKIN ROAD, SLACKS CREEK PHONE: 07 3808 1684 EMAIL: admin@keng.org.au WEBSITE: www.keng.org.au

