**Upcoming events:**

**Wednesday 13th February**
- School Fete committee meeting to be held in the Breakfast Club @ 9.15am. All welcome.

**Tuesday 19th February**
- **Parent/Teacher Information Afternoon 4PM TO 4.30PM IN KB’S CLASSROOM—5PM Kindergarten to Year 2 Home Reading Talk in KB**
- Vision screening for Kindergarten students only at 9.30am.

**Tuesday 26th February**
- Year 6 “taster lessons” at Callaghan Waratah.
- P&C Meeting 6.30pm in library. Welcome meeting for new parents.

**Thursday 28th February**
- **“Welcome to our School”**
  Come and join us for a BBQ and movie on the big screen from 4pm until 7.00pm

**Friday 1st March**
- School photos—more information at a later date.

**Saturday 23rd March**
- MEPS Fundraising BBQ at Bunnings Kotara. 9am to 3pm. Volunteers needed

**Friday 26th March**
- P&C Annual General Meeting 6.30pm

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**ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES**
Students participating in Term 4 AASC sports will find their name located on the board out the front of the office. The first week of sports will begin next week, Week 4. Students are offered GIRLS soccer Mondays, 3-4pm and Skateboarding Wednesdays 3-4pm. Thank you, Mrs Hipwell and Miss Black.

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**UNIFORMS**
Doesn’t our school look fantastic with everyone wearing their school uniforms? It has been amazing talking to students at morning assemblies and seeing how great they look. Big thank you to parents who have gone out of their way to ensure their children are appropriately dressed every day. We only had 5 children in our school yesterday that didn’t have a school hat. Fantastic effort!

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**MANGA HIGH**
Two years ago, our school purchased Mathletics, an online maths program to support learning in the classroom. This year, as part of the book pack, students will be given online access to the mathematics program, Manga High. Selected students trialled this program for one month last year and unanimously preferred it to Mathletics. It has a strong arcade feel whilst reinforcing mathematic skills learnt in the classroom. Your child will be provided with a username and password this week. If you have internet access at home, please encourage your child to use this program in their free time. It’s a wonderful way to play games and learn at the same time.
**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Last Friday we held our annual swimming carnival. It was a very successful day. A big thank you to all parents who came along to support our school and give encouragement to your children. We always appreciate your involvement in school activities. Congratulations to the following winners:

**Age Champions:**
Seniors—Jody Foster-Harding
11 Years—Connor Hussey, Jessica Wurth
Juniors—Will Rothery, Tahlia Brown

**Records:**
Open—Cale Stanton
8 Years—Kaylah Beattie, Will Rotherby
9 Years—Tahlia Brown
10 Years—Isabella Fund, Sam Elloy
11 Years—Mia Logue, Callum Sharpe
12 Years—Jody Foster-Harding, Cale Stanton

**Backstroke:**
Juniors—Jasper Beattie, Will Rothery
11 Years—Nikeata Tangye, Koby Smith
Seniors—Jody Foster-Harding, Cale Stanton

**Breaststroke:**
Juniors—Sophie-Lee Berridge
11 Years—Jessica Wurth, Seth Rumble
Seniors—Jody Foster-Harding, Cale Stanton

**Butterfly:**
Juniors—Tahlia Brown
11 Years—Daniel Clarke, Connor Hussey
Seniors—Brittany Hunt, Cale Stanton

**Relay:**
Junior—Ingall
Senior—Crebert

**BOOK PACKS**
The school has organised book packs for all student K-6. This pack is inclusive of:

- stationery,
- writing books,
- text books,
- school contribution,
- internet access,
- online maths program access,
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Program (food component).

Due to the school no longer receiving $36,000 in equity money, we can no longer subsidise the cost of extra-curricular activities. The new book pack fees are $85 for Kindergarten, and $95 for Yr1 to Yr6. This payment can be made in full at the office or can be paid off throughout the term after payment of a 50% deposit. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact the Principal.

**Parent Volunteers:** we are always looking for people to assist in providing the best quality education possible. We are looking for help in the following areas:

- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen/garden
- Reading tutors
- Maths tutors
- Canteen
- Library
- Art/craft
- Music

Please complete the expression of interest and return to the office.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**
The whole school will be having their photos taken on **Friday 1st March**. We usually begin with the youngest classes and finish by around 11.30am. Envelopes detailing cost and the packages available will be handed out to all families the week before photos are to be taken. If you would like any further information please ask at the office.
**MEPS FUNDRAISING**

There will be a meeting on **Wednesday 13th February at 9.15am in the Breakfast Club** building (next to admin). This is an informal get together of any parents who would be interested in getting involved in the planning of a SCHOOL FETE. We are looking at holding this event on Friday 25th October. This a tentative date and will be confirmed later. MEPS has not had a school fete in many years, and we hope to make this a major fundraiser for the year. If you think you would like to be involved or have some ideas you would like to share, please come along to this meeting and find out how you can help our school. If you are unable to come to this meeting, you can email your ideas to:

*meps_fundraising@hotmail.com*

We will be holding a **BBQ at Bunnings Kotara, on Saturday 23rd March.** We are looking for volunteers to come along and help out on the day. If you can spare an hour (even 1/2 an hour) we would love to hear from you. The more people who help out the easier it will be. If you are interested in volunteering please complete the form on the back page of the newsletter and return to the school office.

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

Thank you to all the volunteers who have indicated that they are available to help out in the canteen this year, your support is greatly appreciated. We have a few new items added to the menu:

- **Moosies**  
  (Choc, Strawberry, Blue Moon)  
  $1.00

- **Bulla Frozen Fruit ‘n Yoghurt cups**  
  (Strawberry, Mango)  
  $1.60

- **Bulla 98% Fat Free Ice cream Tubs**  
  $1.20

- **Juices**  
  (Wildberry, Tropical, Apple)  
  60c

- **Mini Hommus or Tzatziki Tub**  
  50c

- **Carrot & Celery Stick Snack Bag**  
  50c

- **Plain Rice biscuits (gluten free)**  
  $1.00

**NEW!!**

**Lunch Pack:** homemade hommus, gluten free plain rice crackers, carrot/celery sticks and seasonal fruit  

**Only $4.00 each**

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**Eat It To Beat It**

Welcome to the Eat It To Beat It Nutrition Snippets

Over the coming weeks we will bring you fruit and vegetable inspiration, tips and creative ideas. Look out for this weekly snippet to receive:

- Quick, mouth-watering Recipe’s for home,
- Tasty Lunchbox tips,
- Grow-your-own horticultural hints,
- Money-saving ideas and
- Fun ‘kids in the kitchen’ suggestions.

We always welcome your feedback. Stay tuned until next week...

MEPS VOLUNTEERS

Yes, I would like to volunteer at the school. I am interested in:

- [ ] Stephanie Alexander Kitchen
- [ ] Canteen
- [ ] Kitchen Garden
- [ ] Library
- [ ] Maths Tutor
- [ ] Art/Craft
- [ ] Reading Tutor
- [ ] Music

Name: ________________________________

Contact No.: _________________________ or _______________________

MEPS FUNDRAISING BBQ

Bunnings @ Kotara

Saturday March 23rd 9am to 3pm

Yes, I am able to help out at the BBQ. I am available to help between _________________ and ________________.

Name: ________________________________

Contact Phone: ________________________