Upcoming events:

Tuesday 19th February
- **Parent/Teacher Information Afternoon**
  K-2 meeting in KB classroom @ 4pm
  Yr 3—Yr 6 in their individual classroom @ 4pm
- 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 7.30pm

Friday 1st March
- School photos—order forms available at the office

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

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

 Stranger Danger
It is our ongoing responsibility to keep our children informed about child protection and safety. The school tries to ensure that the school site is safe for all students, staff, and volunteers. Please talk to your children regarding stranger danger and give them strategies to keep them safe, for example:-

- Don’t approach anyone in a car
- Only do as your parents say
- Stay away from public toilets etc

We have had reports of people approaching children especially in the Lake Macquarie area. Staff will be doing stranger danger/child protection talks and it is wise for parents to reinforce these strategies at home. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

Nightly Reading/Homework
The school has developed a new policy in line with state and independent school guidelines. I would hope that parents support this policy as it has been developed after much research and debate amongst staff. The main aspect/focus is:-

- K-2 nightly reading 10 mins, maths 5 mins
- 3-6 nightly reading 15 mins, maths 15 mins

The focus in reading and numeracy will assist your children in developing the necessary skills to deal with National
assessments and achieve through knowledge and confidence. The school will be monitoring student homework participation. If you don’t want your children to participate in the homework program please send in an exemption note to their class teacher. Teachers are aware of this exclusion clause and are willing to accommodate your requests.

Parent Information Night/
Welcome
Family is important to Mayfield East Public School Community and we would like to invite all families to come up to the school and meet other families that make up our community. We will have a welcome BBQ and then a family film night in the school hall. It will be over by approximately 7.30pm so that children can be home for their regular bedtime. BBQ starts at around 4.00 to 4.30pm. Looking forward to seeing you all on the night!!

Book Packs
Please make sure you pay for your child’s book pack as soon as possible to enable teachers to fully implement their programs. If you are experiencing financial difficulties please give me a call on 49681495 and we can come to some arrangement that will suit everyone.

Volunteers
Thank you everyone who has put in an expression of interest as a volunteer. We will be contacting you this week and if you still have some time to help please complete the slip in the newsletter and return to the office. We value your support and know the difference you make for our children. Remember everyone has something to give, it’s just a matter of believing you can do it—kids love parent involvement!

Library Usage
Our library has thousands of dollars worth of resources and we want to maximise its use. Promote your child’s interest in books by encouraging them to borrow books weekly and to use the library on Wed/Thurs/Fri lunchtimes. Library needs to be promoted as fun places to be!

Swimming Tutor
The P&C and the school have decided to give our swimmers additional swimming training prior to Zone Carnival. We will inform the families involved once we have booked lanes and support staff. Thank you to the P&C and parents for supporting the opportunities our children experience.

Breakfast Club
Just a reminder that Breakfast Club is open each morning from 8.30am to 8.50am. Children can access breakfast for a small donation (20c is fine) if they have not been able to eat before they get to school. Sometimes a piece of toast and a smile is all that they need to start the day off well. Please encourage your children to access this service.

Uniforms/Hats
Thank you to all our families for embracing the changes to our uniform this year. Your children look great and it would be the most positive response to school uniform in my history with any school. We do try to ensure value for money and the school has the smallest mark-ups possible as advised by the P&C Association of NSW. You and your children are our community, and together we can achieve anything!

“HOMEMADE”
SPECIALS
FROM THE
CANTEEN

**Tomato, Mac & Cheese**
Macaroni in tomato sauce, with melted cheese
$4.00 per serve

**Mini Cheese & Bacon**
Quiche
50c each

Hot Cross Buns
$1.00 each

Please note the following price change:

Chicken Goujons now 5 for $3
Huge Book Sale!

As a result of our annual stocktake at the end of last year we have lots of books that the library no longer needs. Great range of pre-loved junior fiction and fiction books.

Outside the school library.

Prices range from 10c to $1 each (hardcover)

THURSDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

Canteen Roster:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20th Feb</td>
<td>Alethea Parkinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 21st Feb</td>
<td>Kylie Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd Feb</td>
<td>Sarah Stamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 25th Feb</td>
<td>Catherine Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26th Feb</td>
<td>Rebecca Bashford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28th Feb</td>
<td>Jessica Jones</td>
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Australian Mobile Dental Care

We have engaged the services of this organisation to ensure that our students have the appropriate dental care. By bringing the dentist to the school we hope that all children will have the opportunity to have their dental health reviewed. The upfront cost is found on page 3 of the information pack. This can then be claimed from your Private Health Fund if applicable.

Friendships to boost your child’s learning

If children are happy socially they tend to be more engaged in their learning. So teaching your child about the importance of making friends is as vital as learning their ABCs.


Helping your Kindy kid succeed at school

A great way to kick off your child’s formal education is to understand the school culture and what your child is doing in the classroom.


Speech problems

All kids learn how to talk and listen at different rates but did you know there’s a general pattern to your child’s language development?

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: ________________________
Welcome to a new year at MEPS. We have had a very busy start to the year in the office with uniforms and book packs and would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents for their patience while waiting to purchase items from our shop. The students are all looking fantastic in their new shirts. We will be offering an alternative to the fleecy zip jacket for the Autumn/Winter months. They are a Micro-fibre Sports Jacket that is water repellent and a Polar Fleece Vest. To keep the prices as affordable as possible we will not be adding to the cost by printing a crest on the jacket and vest. **These items are being offered on a pre-order/pre-pay basis only.** We have samples of both items at the Uniform Shop for you to have a look at if you are interested. If you would like to order one or both of these items please complete the order form on the back and return **with your money to the office by no later than Friday 8th March 2013.**

**SPORTS JACKET**
- Water repellent finish
- One internal pocket
- Fully lined
- Elastic waist
- Two external pockets
- Sizes 4-16Y $26 each
- Sizes S – 3XL $30 each

**POLAR FLEECE VEST**
- 300g anti-pill polar fleece
- Chunky full zip front (with pull tag)
- Self colour edge trim & zips
- Two external pockets with zip
- Sizes 4-16Y $14 each
- Sizes S-3XL $16 each
MEPS UNIFORM SHOP

WINTER/AUTUMN SPECIAL ORDER

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Total Cost

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Total Cost

Child’s Name: ___________________________    Class: ____________________

Parent Name: ______________________________

Home Phone: ___________________________    Mobile: ___________________________

I enclose $____________________ Cash/Cheque as payment.