Week 6 Highlights
I was blessed last week to see students achieving their personal best both academically and socially. Taylor Wallace from 5/6B, brought me a persuasive writing sample he had completed in class. He had previously found writing of any kind quite difficult, but through persistence and hard work he wrote a great sample. I enjoyed reading his reasons for why we shouldn’t have pets. I was also impressed with another senior boy, Cameron Ede from 5/6A. He was playing handball and had his game interrupted by other students purposely running through it. He didn’t lose his cool although he could feel himself getting angry. He walked away and sat in a quiet place until he felt calm again. This showed great resilience and I was very proud of the mature approach he took.

School Plan 2015-2017
All members of staff have been evaluating and analysing current school programs as well as academic results from NAPLAN and class assessments. We are now putting the final touches on the directions we would like Mayfield East to take over the next three years. I’d like to thank all the parents and caregivers who completed both paper and online surveys last year. Your thoughts and comments were appreciated. Our three strategic directions are:

1. Enhancing the quality of student learning
2. Strengthening student social and emotional well-being
3. Encouraging and increasing levels of community engagement

Parking
I am very grateful to our parents and caregivers who are dropping and picking up their children from the designated areas outside our school. I know it can be challenging to find a park. Please remember to adhere to the road signs as there have been reports from nearby residents who are unable to get their cars out of their driveways. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Easter Hat Parade
Students in Kindergarten through to Year 2 will participate in an Easter Hat Parade on 2nd April – the last day of term one. Each student in K-2 is required to make an Easter Hat at home and bring to school by Wednesday 1st April. The hat should be brought to school in a bag clearly marked with your child’s name. In class, students will write a sentence about their created Easter Hat which will be announced before they parade. The P&C will be holding an Easter raffle and this raffle will be drawn throughout the Easter Hat parade. Primary students will watch the Infants parade to support and cheer our younger school members.

Kitchen Program
Students in Years 2-6 are very lucky at Mayfield East. They get to take part in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. When children are cooking, Miss James is always demonstrating and teaching the children good hygiene practices. Likewise, when in the garden, safety practices are taught and followed. For children to continue to enjoy and participate in this program they are asked to follow two guidelines.

- Children must wear a hat when working in the garden. There is a small supply of hats that can be borrowed in the event your child has misplaced theirs.
- Children, both boys and girls, need to ensure their hair is tied back and off their face. Again, there are elastic bands children can borrow should they forget to have their hair appropriately tied back.

Children who are unable to comply with these two guidelines will be asked to leave the kitchen and/or garden. They will join another class in our school for the remainder of the session.

Allison Thompson
Relieving Principal

Dates for Your Calendar

Wed March 11: Student Leader Program
Thurs March 19: Newcastle Writers’ Festival
March 20: HARMONY DAY Year 7 2016 forms due back today
March 28: P&C Election BBQ & Cake Stall
Library News
This week we are featuring the following book titles:

**Non Fiction**
- Picture Atlas
- The Vikings
- Encyclopaedia of Birds

**Early Stage 1/Stage 1**
- Angelina and Alice
- Angelina, Star of the Show
- Parachute

**Stage 2**
- Weirdo

**Stage 3**
- Top Trumps Ultimate Cars
- My Story, the Titanic

Our new audiobooks are now available for borrowing by parents only from the library. At present we only have 10 popular stories by Roald Dahl, however we hope to be able to add to our collection as we have more funds available. Please see Mrs Bayl in the library either before or after school Wednesday to Friday only.

**Year 6 Waratah Taster Lesson Day**
On Friday 6th March, all Year 6 students attended a Taster Lesson Day at Waratah Technology High School. We were picked up by bus and travelled with Year 6 students from Mayfield West Demonstration School. On arrival at Waratah we were placed into two groups for the day. Over the course of the day we got to experience all aspects of high school. We participated in science, woodwork, drama, HSIE and music lessons. We even had a BBQ lunch!

Miss Black took us along for the day and said that we were outstanding! Lots of other teachers from Waratah Technology High School kept telling Miss Black how lucky she was to be able to teach such wonderful students. We were so excited about spending the day at high school and we can’t wait for even more opportunities later in the year.

We need to remember to bring in our application forms for high school by the end of next week!

**Choir 2015**
Earlier in the year our choir auditioned for Star Struck. We sent in two audition tapes. We were required to sing the National Anthem and we also sang a song called ‘Hola Lola’. Our choir did such wonderful jobs, that we were accepted into Star Struck for 2015!

I am so proud of all students involved and I cannot wait to find out further information about our exciting year ahead. If you are a choir parent that has not received an email, please let me know so that I can fix any issues that you may have.

Thank you to all those students attending on a Tuesday morning at 8.15 am. This is now even more important as we have a whole new repertoire to learn! See you Tuesday morning!

Miss Black
Choir Teacher

**Book Packs**
Payment is now overdue. Please come to the office to make your payment as soon as possible. These book packs are specifically designed for each class to enhance your child’s learning. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact the school to make an appointment with Mrs Thompson to discuss a payment plan.

**Public Speaking**
Does your child suffer glossophobia? Fear of public speaking is common. Try creating opportunities for your child to present speeches to the family, without putting pressure on them to perform. Here are some tried and true tips to make your child’s next speech a success.


**Science Starters**
Did humans live with dinosaurs? Does the moon disappear in the day? Kids love to know the answers to life's mysteries but there are a few facts they often get wrong in the name of science.

WE NEED YOUR TIME  (just a little bit will do, and maybe bring your neighbours, co-workers and extended family to enjoy our fundraisers financially)

SATURDAY 28th MARCH (T1, Wk 9) - STATE ELECTION
Volunteer list now up! Even an hour of your time makes a difference, we will require people to help set up tables, BBQ and eskis from 7:45 onwards.

Crema Coffee have donated a coffee machine for the day, Brett will be helping with that, which means

We Need:
* Volunteers to letterbox drop some flyers before the day (please email me ASAP zoroxburgh@gmail.com)
* Volunteers to run the BBQ & cake & raffle stalls (sign up sheet now on notice board)
* Cakes, slices, jams, pickles, relish, lemon butter, more of that mint slice everyone comes to our school specifically to buy on election day. Trays will be sent home in the few days before the election.

Please note: we need FULL INGREDIENTS LISTED for allergen awareness. Cheers!

THURSDAY 26th MARCH 1:30pm  (T1, Wk9) – EASTER HAT PARADE & RAFFLE DRAWN
Tickets will go home next week 50c/each or 3 for $1

This year prizes will be drawn between class parades, so hop up to school at 1:30 (and don’t forget to get your tickets and money to the office on Wednesday 25th.)

We Need:
* Easters egg donations, baskets, toys (new only due to health regulations), anything Easter themed, ASAP to front office or to Liz Liddell
  • Sell lots of tickets! They will be sent home next week, additional tickets will be available from the front office.

*Return tickets to front office by Wednesday 25th March

FRIDAY 8th MAY (T2, Wk3) – MOTHER'S DAY STALL
We are hoping to provide some exciting pressie options in conjunction with our kitchen/garden team as well as donations. We like to provide many options for the children to celebrate the care they receive from important women in their lives.

We Need:
* Donations of appropriate items (including things like plants, seeds and pots) to front office or Liz Liddell. Please ensure that items are unused, in date, not leaking. Ribbons, cellophane and tape also welcome.
* We will also need some volunteers to help on the day, everyone is welcome.

This is always staffed by volunteers, and is a great way to connect and meet other parents (and kids!) if you are new to the school community.

Other P&C events on the horizon include: Bunnings BBQs, Mother’s & Father’s Day stalls, Annual Super Duper Trivia night (date TBA), Fun Run and some more of our mega-ultra-excitement-plus raffles. We welcome all suggestions, donations and time given - help us help the MEPS students!

Cheers and thanks in advance,
Zoë Roxburgh, MEPS P&C Vice President and Communications Co-Ordinator zoroxburgh@gmail.com

Next meeting will be our 2015 AGM
Tuesday 24th March at 6pm in the library
complimentary babysitting available – meeting may run slightly longer due to voting and additional agenda items, but should close at approx. 8pm

*New executive will be nominated and voted in, positions effective immediately*
To be eligible to be nominated or to vote, you must have attended and paid for your membership at our first meeting of the year.
Our operational procedures run in accordance with constitutional guidelines set by the P&C Federation.
AFFORDABLE & ENJOYABLE MUSIC LESSONS

**MONICA & MAREA’S MUSIC STUDIO**
*(Est. 1976)*

36 George Street, Mayfield NSW 2304

Lessons available in
Piano * Keyboard * Flute * Recorder
Guitar (Acoustic/Electric/Bass) * Singing

Monica and Marea are graduates from Newcastle Conservatorium/University, & Catholic University of Australia

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Please feel free to contact us and discuss your music dreams or visit our website: [monicaandmareasmusicstudio.com.au](http://monicaandmareasmusicstudio.com.au)

PH: 4968 9000 or
Monica on mobile 0407 705 021 or
Marea on mobile 0429 705 021

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**Nutrition Snippet**

*The simplest way... to make lunch healthy.*

It takes no more time to pack a healthy lunch than an unhealthy one – and lunch boxes are a great time to give your kids fruit and veg!

- add vegie sticks - like carrot, capsicum and celery - every day
- cut fruit into small pieces, kids are more likely to eat small pieces of food
- squeeze lemon juice over cut apple to prevent it from going brown
- pack a wholemeal sandwich and a reduced-fat yoghurt
- choose water over juice – it’s healthier and cheaper
- always add an ice brick in summer to keep your kids’ lunch cool.

*Remember: pack fruit + veg every day!*

For more information visit
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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**Easts Junior Rugby**

Wants You!

Want to play with a family based club?

Interested In Rugby?

A club that values players!

Want to play with a family oriented club?

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A club that values players!

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Interested In Rugby?

A club that values players!

Major Premiers in U/16s & U/18s in the 2014 season!

Players needed from U/7s – U/18s

Contact Sonia on 0412 665 233 or Email: 0402 280 714 for further info
on Black Easts Junior Rugby Club

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays @ Anglers Park, Maitland Rd Mayfield

Tillett Sports Park

Assistance with transport to and from training & games available.

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**Cancer Council NSW**

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