Lots of students received merit awards last week for always trying their best. As Fridays are often quite cold, we are now holding the merit award presentation in the hall. This also allows all children to clearly hear their name being read out.

**Public Speaking**
This week has seen many of our stage winners represent our school in the zone public speaking competition. We are very proud of our student's efforts and look forward to hearing the results of these competitions.

**Gymnastics**
Primary students have been enjoying the gymnastics program held on Monday. All participating students have been active and are acquiring new skills in the process. Students who have not paid for this program are completing a fitness program in the hall. Each session is just $2 and students can still bring this money to the office.

**Principal's Award**
These lovely students from 2P assisted in making our school a better place by picking up rubbish last week. Thank you Lili, Dubraska and Rayan for your community service.

**Toilets**
As you are aware, the boys toilets were upgraded over the last school holidays. Earlier this week, automatic soap dispensers were installed. All the boys need to do is put their hand under the dispenser and soap will automatically come out. They have been installed over the sinks to avoid any soap accidentally hitting the floor and causing a slippery surface. The girls toilets will be upgraded over the coming school holidays and then they too, will have soap dispensers fitted.

**School Entrance**
It is anticipated that Transfield will soon complete the work around the brick wall at the entry point to our school. Please remember to not access the staff car park or ask your children to use it as a shortcut. This is an unsafe practice and we want to ensure the safety of every student entering and leaving our grounds. When the scaffolding comes down our Indigenous students are going to work on making a garden using traditional plants that our Aboriginal ancestors would have used hundreds of years ago. It is going to be exciting watching this garden evolve over the coming months.

**Dates for Your Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 11th Aug</td>
<td>ICAS—Maths Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 12th Aug</td>
<td>Smart Start Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 13th Aug</td>
<td>Cluster Choir Rehearsal</td>
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$5 now due for Science Week Laser Light Show on Wednesday 19th August!
Library News

I am very pleased with our students who are borrowing on a regular basis. It is important however that all books are returned promptly before students borrow any additional items.

Just a reminder that the Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes 21st August. If your child is logging their reading record online, please make sure that all titles have been entered before the end of next week. If your child is unsure how to log on, they can ask me for assistance in the library either before school, during their library lesson or the second half of lunch on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday only.

Book Week will be held from Wednesday 26th August to Friday 28th August this year. We are not having a parade however each classroom has been asked to decorate their room. All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are studying a selection of shortlisted books during their library lesson. Our senior students have done a great job of decorating the board with this year’s theme:-

Books light up our world

Last chance to put your child’s name down for our new Homework Club. Please leave your child’s name and class at the office or speak to Ms Peterie.

At a glance

- Kids become better learners when their parents get involved in their education.
- Parental involvement encourages kids to pursue higher education.
- Parental involvement makes kids happier.
- Think laterally about how to get involved in your teen’s school life.
- Seek suggestions from your child’s teacher if you run out of ideas.

When parents are involved in their child’s life, it leads to a happy and well-adjusted child.

There are many ways you can help out at our school. Some of the places you can help are:-

◊ Kitchen
◊ Library
◊ Class reading
◊ Canteen

No experience is necessary however you do need a Working With Children Check before you can volunteer in our school. It’s very easy to apply, our office staff would be very glad to help you find out how.
The two groups chosen for the Wet and Wild Wetland’s Challenge, worked extremely hard together and had a lot of fun in the process. They have reflected on their experience.

**The Kitchen Garden Group wrote:**
The challenge presented some very tricky clues to sort out. Each week we had to sort and research different clues and then find the scientific names for the plants and animals. It was very exciting when we discovered the name of one of our wetlands creatures or plants. We learnt a lot about wetland creatures and it was really fun working together as detectives to sort out and solve the clues. We learnt about specific habitats, diets and distinguishing features of wetland creatures and the benefits and problems some plants can bring to the wetland environment. We all wish it went for longer.

By Chance, Ayden, Chloe, Bindi, Teliah, Lachlan and Tyler.

**The Environmentalists wrote:**
The Wet and Wild Challenge allowed us to learn a lot about different species that live in the wetlands. Each week when we looked at the clues, we learnt new facts about wetland animals and plants. We had lots of fun completing the challenge together as a team. Some of the clues were really difficult and it took a lot of sorting and discussion as a team to discover the four different species being presented. We felt like we really learnt a lot from this challenge and we would love to do it again.

By Kaylah, Phoebe, Darcy, Ella and Charleigh

Natalie Johnson

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**MEPS FATHERS DAY STALL**

Wednesday 2nd of September

The P&C will be holding the Fathers Day stall again this year in the school hall. Available gifts will be priced between $2 - $5

**PLEASE DONATE**

Please drop off any NEW goodies to the office and we will include them in the stall… THANKS!

If you have any questions, or you would like to donate your time on the day, please call/text Nikki Costelloe on 0422145372
Here is a list of the prize winners in the P&C raffle!

1st Prize: Debbie Johns
2nd Prize: Deb Innes
3rd Prize: Julian Stuckey
4th Prize: Moulton Family
5th Prize: Jade Wilson
6th Prize: Graeme Bailey

Congratulations!

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