A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Well here we are at the last full week of learning for 2014. I find it quite amazing that we are here. It only seems like a few months since we started the year off with such great expectations and motivation. 2014 has been a very good year with lots of changes that have benefited our students’ learning and our teachers’ teaching. I am very proud to have led a great year of team and partnership building for students, staff, parents and community. With lots of exciting plans for 2015, we all need a great relaxing and reinvigorating holiday to prepare us for another great year.

Draft School Vision Statement:
As part of our school evaluation process, we asked you to have your say about our school presently and into the future. From your input, the following has been written reflecting our school community’s comments:

Metford Public School is a positive learning community that builds upon quality relationships and develops inquiring minds. Learners feel valued and safe to explore opportunities with confidence and be passionate about their learning in readiness for their future challenges.

This vision is closely aligned to the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians (December 2008), in which schools play a vital role in promoting intellectual, physical, social, emotional, moral, spiritual and aesthetic development and wellbeing of young Australians.
Metford Public School shares this responsibility with students, parents, carers, families, the community and educators.
Our vision is further underpinned by our core values of Respect, Responsibility and Commitment with Honour and Pride.

This is still in draft format as I would like your input. If you have any comment to make please let me know via the school email, personally or in a note.
As part of the 2015-2017 Metford Public School Plan we will be focusing on three Strategic Directions to meet the learning needs of our community. These have also been developed from the community consultations that took place in Term 4.

Strategic Direction 1: Students access high quality, personalized, reflective learning.
Our purpose is to provide a high standard of education through teaching and learning programs that consider and inspire students and teachers to achieve their full potential. This personalised approach prioritises the quality learning environment.

Strategic Direction 2: Teachers are self and student aware through innovative and reflective practice
Our purpose is to ensure that teaching is a practice of on-going learning in a culture of collaboration, innovation, reflection, communication and empowered leadership.

Strategic Direction 3: Students, staff and community goals are served through learning systems and networks

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK
As you start and end your day, be thankful for every little thing in your life. You will come to realise how blessed you truly are.
Our purpose is to build inclusive, collaborative networks through communities of practice. Student engagement, learning and well-being are a focus and build relevant knowledge and skills that reflect local priorities.

**Swimming Fun:**
Our students have worked really hard at their swimming lessons and have improved greatly since the beginning of last week. Their teachers are very proud of them.

**Year 6 Farewell:**
Staff, Year 5 and 6 students are preparing for a wonderful night of celebrating 7 years of primary education for our 2014 year 6 students. This will be held in our hall from 5:30pm till 9pm. Next week, our final newsletter for the year will be a collation of photos from the year. Enjoy remembering our special times of learning and sharing education from the 2014 year.

Regards **Cathy**

**IMPORTANT ROAD SAFETY REMINDER FOR PARENTS AND CARERS THESE HOLIDAYS**

As the school holidays approach, it is important to remember when walking near roads, on footpaths, near driveways and in car parks always:

- **hold your child’s hand.** Until they are at least 8 years old children need to hold an adult’s hand. Until they at least 10, children should be closely supervised by an adult and hold hands when crossing the road.

- **talk to your child about road safety.** Talk about how to be safe when near roads. Be a good role model.

- **point out road safety dangers and differences** in new environments. This is especially important when on holidays in different surroundings. Roads, footpaths and pedestrian facilities may look different in holiday areas.

The best way to keep your child safe on or near the road is to hold their hand.

**Talk with your child daily about road safety.**

**Remind other adults and carers about this too.**

You can find out more at [Transport for NSW](http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/children/pedestriansafety.html)

Have a safe holiday break!

**PRINCIPAL’S LUNCHES 4.12.14**
COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER’S NEWS

Hi Everyone. The P & C Carols Under The Cola was a wonderful evening and a huge thank you to everyone from our P & C, parent volunteers, staff and students who gave their all to make it a huge success.

VOLUNTEERS MORNING TEA – To show our appreciation to everyone who has volunteered their time in 2014 to assist with many activities and programs, we are hosting a morning tea this Friday 12th December in the Hall. Please join us from 11.30am to 12.30pm. Invitations have gone out but if you haven’t received yours, please let our office know.

UNIFORM UPDATE - It was decided at last week's P & C meeting to go ahead with shirt style 2 based on feedback received from parents, students and staff. The P & C will work towards ensuring this style will be available for purchase by the end of Term 1 2015. Families are asked to please continue with the white polo shirt until the new style is available. Pre-ordering may be available in Term 1 and will be confirmed. The P & C thanks everyone for their feedback, support and patience.

Our school year is nearing an end and 2014 has been a truly busy one with loads of learning and tons of fun along the way. I have really enjoyed working with many families and students this year and I thank you all for your support. Let’s look forward to an even better 2015. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and New Year, and hope you have many opportunities for some special family time.

School returns for students on Wednesday 28th January 2015. Kinder boy students only attend on Thursday 29th January, and Kinder girl students only attend on Friday 30th January. ALL Kinder students start together on Monday 2nd February 2015.

Happy holidays!

Katherine Barr
### SCHOOL CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 Term 4</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every week</td>
<td>Breakfast club volunteers needed to run</td>
<td>Breakfast club</td>
<td>Breakfast club 11.30-12pm Drumbeats 12.00pm Assembly 1.30pm</td>
<td>Principal’s Lunch</td>
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<td>Week 10 Dec 8-12</td>
<td>Swimming Scheme</td>
<td>MPS Choirs at Greenhills 1.30-2.40pm Year 6 Farewell</td>
<td>2015 Kinder Transition 9-11am Swimming Scheme</td>
<td>Swimming Scheme</td>
<td>Swimming Scheme Volunteers morning tea</td>
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<td>Week 11 Dec 15-19</td>
<td>Last day for students Students Y1-Y6 resume Wednesday 28.1.15</td>
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<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Term 1 Week 1 Jan 26-30</td>
<td>Australia Day</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td>Y1 – Y6 student start school Kinder boys only</td>
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<td>Kinder girls only</td>
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### METFORD MUNCHIES NEWSLETTER  Canteen Roster Term 4 Week 10 & 11

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<td>8.30-12pm</td>
<td>Kathy, Lisa, Kara Kerry</td>
<td>Kathy, Grant, Katrina, Lahra</td>
<td>Kathy, Lynette, Hazel 1 Volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Lahra, Tiana, Katrina, Mel Principal’s Lunch</td>
<td>Kathy, April, Hazel, Angie</td>
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<td>1-2.30pm</td>
<td>Kathy, Kara, Lisa Lahra Volunteers needed Y6 Farewell</td>
<td>Kathy, Grant, Lahra 1 Volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Paul 1 Volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Mel, Lahra/Tiana</td>
<td>Kathy, April, Paul</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.30-12pm</td>
<td>Kathy, Lisa, Kara 2 Volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Grant, Katrina, Lahra</td>
<td>Kathy, Lynette Paul 1 Volunteer needed</td>
<td>MERRY CHRISTMAS And HAPPY NEW YEAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-2.30pm</td>
<td>Kathy, Kara, Jo Lahra</td>
<td>Kathy, Grant, Lahra 1 Volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Paul 1 Volunteer needed</td>
<td>See you all in 2015</td>
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Metford Public School P&C Raffle winners:

Gold Coast Raffle winner:

Congratulations!

Ticket #49 Nadia Misich.

Mega Raffle Winners

Katie Shaunessy  Shontai Rowe-Laing
Brittney Cooke   Katie Shaunessy
Ashley Christie  Jenny crowther
Kim Bridge       Brooke Purcell
Lincoln Henderson Esperanza Pickles
Isabella Lambert Troy Livingstone
Shania Bartlett  Katie Shaunessy
Kylie Burnett    Erin Herald
Dianna Sukarla  Tamika Keen
Tash Cartwright  S.Cranston
Hassett                  Crystal Wells
Rebecca Mahony  Bruce Bennett
Lee Schulha          Craig Ekert

Thank you for your support of a great evening.