A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to Metford Public School to all our existing families and a special welcome to all our new families. We, as a school community, are looking forward to building on our existing learning partnerships and building new ones. Learning together as a community is very important to us as teachers, as there is a lot of evidence that positively supports the idea that families that work together with schools and their children will have positive attitudes to learning forever and will be productive citizens in their communities. Come into our school, chat to teachers, myself and office staff and let us know how you can help build upon your child’s learning experiences. Can you work in our classrooms? Can you help out with transport? Can you help in the canteen? Do you have special skills that you think will help our students? Our teachers will be holding information sessions very soon to discuss with you how our school operates and your questions and concerns will be respectfully answered.

We have some staff changes this year. Mrs Robyn Radcliffe has resigned from the Department of Education. Mr Simon Jasper is the teacher of her class. Mr West has taken up the opportunity to work with year 2 students when Mrs O’Brien is working with students in the Reading Recovery program which is for Year 1 students. Mr West will still have teaching responsibility for PDHPE in the mornings 4 times per week. Mr Nigel Richardson is our other PDHPE teacher who will be working on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Miss Crouch and Mr Bruce are back with us for this term at least at this stage. There will be 3 new teachers employed permanently at MPS this year. Mrs Wright will be our Librarian from Monday to Thursday. Miss Wong continues to replace Mrs Davis in the learning and support team.

We have a new School Counsellor this term as well. Mrs Sue Mackenzie will be working at Metford PS on Wednesdays and odd week Thursdays.

MPS Uniforms:
Our P and C have been wonderful opening our Uniform Shop through the holidays and since school returned.

Our new school shirts are still being phased in with no white shirts from the beginning on 2017. These new shirts are available at a cost of $25 each.

Sports shirts with our school logo are available in correct house colours, also. Opportunity was given to families to pre order these last year. If you did so, they will be delivered to your child/children this week. Cost is $20 and they can be still ordered as the P and C have plenty in stock for you to purchase.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

There are only two days of the year in which nothing can be done. One is called yesterday and the other is called tomorrow. That means today is the ideal day to love, to believe, to create, and to live.

Dalai Lama
School hats with our school emblem are available from the office for a cost of $6. This is our uniform hat so purchase from our school office is appreciated. Caps are NOT uniform and are not to be worn. Sun protection for your child’s ears is not provided with a cap.

**Kindergarten 2016:**
Our kindergarten students have been coming to school in small groups and will start altogether on Wednesday this week. Their Best Start Assessments have been completed and this will inform learning for all students so that their specific learning needs are met from day 1. It will be an exciting day for us all!

**MPS Swimming Carnival:**
16th February is the date set for our swimmers who are 8 years and older this year. It will be held all day at Maitland Pool. More details coming home soon.

**Reminders about Parking:**
Parking is always an issue around schools and Metford PS is no different. Please follow the parking rules as below and ensure that all our students are safe. If you park in the Kiss and Drop zone in Melaleuca Drive make sure that you are not more than 3 metres or more than 2 minutes away from your car between 8-9.30am and 2.30-4pm. Fines can be imposed by council and police.

**Face Book:**
Don’t forget to like our Face Book page to make sure you get lots of information and updates about what is going on at our great school. [https://www.facebook.com/Metford-Public-School-616131241751619/?ref=bookmarks](https://www.facebook.com/Metford-Public-School-616131241751619/?ref=bookmarks)

**2016 Dates for your diary**

- **Term 1** Thursday 28th January – Friday 8th April (11 weeks)
- **Term 2** Wednesday 27th April – Friday 1st July (10 weeks)
- **Term 3** Tuesday 19th July – Friday 23rd September (10 weeks)
- **Term 4** Monday 10th October – 16th December (10 weeks)

- **1st February** - 2016 Leaders’ photo with Maitland Mercury
- **9th February** – Maitland AECG at 9am – Hunter Valley Grammar
- **11th February** – Drum Corp begins
- **16th February** – MPS Swimming Carnival
- **23rd February** – Maitland Zone Swimming Carnival
- **8th March** – Maitland AECG at 4pm – venue TBC
- **25th March** – Good Friday
- **28th March** – Easter Monday
- **8th April** – Final day of Term 1, 2016

Regards

*Cathy Watt*

**FOYER DISPLAY**
This week the display is showcasing our staff ‘family tree’. Please feel free to come and see who we are and how we all fit into the framework of our school.
Metford Public School
Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

What is PBL?
Positive Behaviour for Learning is a whole school approach to proactive, school-wide behaviour management.

PBL is a system that uses applied research and evidence based practices and strategies for all students to increase academic performance, improve safety and establish a positive school culture.

Everyone, Everywhere, All the Time!

PBL is a system supported by Metford Public School to promote and maximise academic achievement and behavioural competence. We know that when good behaviour choices and good teaching come together, our students can excel in their learning. Our school is proud to be a part of this exciting initiative.

As part of the PBL process, we have established three values: Commitment, Respect and Responsibility (see below). Within these values, are three clear rules or ‘behaviour expectations’ we expect in all areas of our school. We are explicitly teaching these expectations to the students in PBL lessons and reward them frequently with positive acknowledgement for their great behaviour.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At Metford Public School we value:</th>
<th>At Metford Public School we believe:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Commitment** to QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING | We enjoy and value learning.  
We have high expectations for all.  
We never give up. |
| **Respect of** QUALITY RELATIONSHIPS | We respect ourselves, others and the environment.  
We talk and listen respectfully.  
We take turns and co-operate. |
| **Responsibility for** QUALITY CITIZENSHIP | We choose to follow school and classroom rules.  
We play safely and fairly.  
We celebrate our successes. |

As a Positive Behaviour for Learning school, we value Commitment, Respect and Responsibility.

All students demonstrate our PBL values through the Rocky 5 rules and reward system.
COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER

Hi everyone and welcome back! I hope you had the opportunity to enjoy some family time during the holiday break. A very special welcome to our new Kinder students and their families. This will be an exciting time for you and your child as they embark on their learning journey.

BREAKFAST CLUB – This important program is again being supported by Greenhills Dental and we sincerely thank them for continuing to do so in 2016. We need your help to get this program running and hope to start in Week 3. If you can spare the time on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday from 8.20am to 9am please let our office know. All that’s required is preparation of fruit, cooking toast and serving cereal. Our students love it!

Maitland Family Support is running 2 parent programs this term. Keeping Children Safe will run for 3 Fridays from 9.30am to 12.30pm starting on 19th February. 123 Magic will run for 3 Fridays from 10am to 12pm starting 4th March. Contact Maitland Family Support on 49140444 to register. Collect a flyer from the office or have a look at the notice board under the NOLA.

Expressions of interest open to those of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent to enrol in the following courses – Community courses, Design courses, Industry Resource courses, Business courses, Community & Health courses. Programs are through Hunter TAFE and for further information contact Lynette Lacey on 4923 7466. Flyers are available at our office.

UNIFORM SHOP – Open every morning in the hall from 8.30am to 9.30am. Payments are cash only please.

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PUPS

POPPING UP TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

PUPS is a program offered to pre-school students who will attend Kindergarten at School the following year. PUPS is a transition/orientation program, supporting children before they start school. The program targets school readiness, social and emotional development, gross/fine motor skills, literacy and numeracy activities, interactive Smartboard exposure and craft. PUPS aims to make student's familiar with school routines and expectations before they start kindergarten.

In Term 4, the students in the PUPS program will engage in specialised activities in the Kindergarten rooms. This will ensure a smooth transition into Kindergarten the following year.

WHEN: the PUPS program starts on Friday 29th April 2016
WHERE: MPS PUPS room
DAY/TIME: Fridays 9-11am
**STUDENT BANKING**

Student banking has recommenced this week and can be handed in at the office each Friday. If you wish to start school banking with your children, forms are available from the office.

**SCHOOL CANTEEN**

Our school canteen would love to hear from any parent volunteers who can regularly spare a day or half day to help. If you have some spare time please let the office know or speak to Kathy Keen in our canteen.

**NEWS FROM THE FRONT OFFICE**

**General Contribution:**
For 2015 the school has again purchased the majority of the stationary goods that students needed to start their schooling which at this time of the year it is a great saving for all our families. The School General Contribution for 2015 has been set as: $25 for the first child and $25 for the second child a maximum of $50 per family will be charged.

General Contribution is a voluntary fee, however it is greatly appreciated and it is used for resources to benefit your child’s schooling.

The General Contribution can be paid at the school office by cash, cheque or EFTPOS.

**Office Closed:** The school office will be closed every Friday morning until 8.45am due to staff meetings.

**Late or early leavers:**
Start time for school is 8.55am. Students who arrive after 9.05am must come to the office, sign in and collect a pink slip to give to their teacher.

Finish time is 2.45pm. If you need to pick your child up early please come to the office, sign your child out and take a pink slip to their teacher.

**Updating details:**
If you have had any changes to your phone number, address, student medical conditions or emergency contacts please contact the office so we can update your child’s details.

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**SCHOOL CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016 Term 1 (11 weeks)</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Every Week</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Breakfast Club</td>
<td>Breakfast Club</td>
<td>School Assembly</td>
<td></td>
<td>Student banking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group 3 Kindergarten start</td>
<td>Group 4 Kindergarten start</td>
<td>1.30pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wk 2 Feb 1-5</td>
<td>All Kindergarten start together</td>
<td></td>
<td>Principal’s lunch starts Week 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wk 3 Feb 8-12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DrumCorp begins 9am &amp; 9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wk 4 Feb 15-19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Swimming Carnival at Maitland Pool</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOOL CANTEEN ROSTER Term 1 Week 2 & 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk 2</th>
<th>1.2.16</th>
<th>2.2.16</th>
<th>3.2.16</th>
<th>4.2.16</th>
<th>5.2.16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30-12pm</td>
<td>Kathy, Bronnie, Sabreena, Payton</td>
<td>Kathy, Theresa 2 volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Katrina, Paul</td>
<td>Kathy, Lisa 2 volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy, April, Paul, Lisa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2.30pm</td>
<td>Kathy, Bronnie 1 volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy 2 volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Paul 1 volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy 2 volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy, April, Paul</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk 3</th>
<th>8.2.16</th>
<th>9.2.16</th>
<th>10.2.16</th>
<th>11.2.16</th>
<th>12.2.16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30-12pm</td>
<td>Kathy, Bronnie, Sabreena, Payton</td>
<td>Kathy, Theresa, Kristy 1 volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Katrina 2 volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Lisa 2 volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Paul, April, Lisa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2.30pm</td>
<td>Kathy, Bronnie 1 volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Kristy 1 volunteer needed</td>
<td>Kathy 2 volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy 2 volunteers needed</td>
<td>Kathy, Paul, April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Metford Munchies - Menu Price List - 25th January 2016**

### Salad Boxes
- Small Salad $4.50
- Large Salad $5.50
  - Lettuce, cheese,
  - Cucumber, Tomato,
  - Beetroot, Pineapple,
  - Carrot, Boiled egg.
  - (Ham 50c extra)
- Chicken Caesar salad $6.50
- Caesar salad $5.50
- Small Side Salad:
  - Lettuce, cheese & tomato
- Fruit Salad box $4.50
- Small fruit Cup $0.50

### Sandwiches & Wraps
- Vegemite $2.00
- Cheese $2.00
- Tomato $2.00
- Egg $2.50
- Salad $4.00
- Ham $2.50
- Ham & salad $4.50
- Extras $0.50 each
  - 2 slices of bread $0.50
  - Bread roll $0.50 extra
  - Toasted $0.20 extra
  - Chicken finger wrap $3.50

### Hot Food
- Pies large $3.00
  - Potato $3.50
- Party pie $2.00
- Sausage roll $2.50
- Chicken Fingers $0.50 each

### Drinks
- Milk lite 300ml-
  - Chocolate, Strawberry, Banana $1.60
- Juice-
  - Apple, Orange, Apple & Blackcurrant $1.60
- Sparkling water-
  - Lemon, strawberry, Watermelon, grape $1.60
  - Water $1.20

### Snacks
- Piece of Fruit $0.50
- Fruit cup $0.50
- Cheese & bacon roll $1.50
- Muffin - Chocolate $1.50
- Finger buns $1.50
- Chips- Honey soy $1.20
- JJ's - chicken, pizza, S&V $1.20
- Zombie monsters $0.60
- Nice & Lite crackers $0.60
- Popcorn- small $0.20
  - large $0.80

### Frozen Juice cup -
  - Apple & B/current, Apple & Mango, Tropical
  - Apple, Orange $0.50

### Frozen Milk Cup-
  - Chocolate, Strawberry, Banana, Rainbow $1.00

### Juice Bombs-
  - Apple & B/current, Apple & Mango, Tropical
  - Apple, Orange $0.20

### Milk Bombs -
  - Chocolate, Strawberry, Banana $0.20

### Sauce -
  - Tomato, BBQ $0.30