



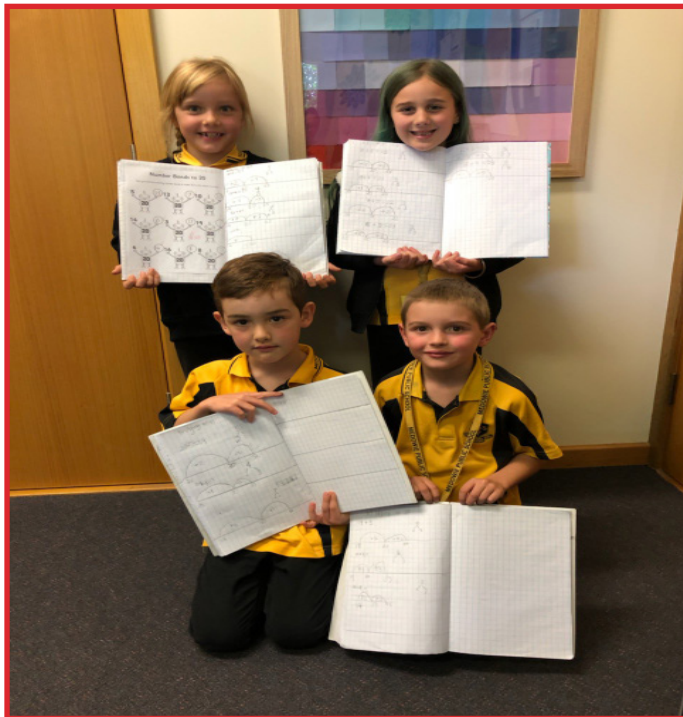
# Medowie Public School

**Term 2 Week 10**

**Wednesday 1st July 2020**

## Marvellous Mathematicians

It was lovely to see students from 1P show off their mathematical skills and expertise in using number lines. Maddy, Jane, Harry and Declan had been working very hard in class. I am glad to have the opportunity to share their work with our wider community to acknowledge their efforts.



## Staffing Update

Our school has recently held two merit positions – one classroom and one library position. It is with great pleasure I can now announce the successful applicants. Mrs

Erin Humphrey will be our new K/1N teacher. She spent one day at our school last week and will spend the whole day with K/1N this Thursday to allow for a smooth transition. Mrs Helen Styan was successful in gaining our school's library position. Again, she spent a day at our school last week to gain first-hand experience in how our library operates. Both ladies are extremely excited to commence working at our school. I would like to thank Mrs Neal and Mrs Newton for the work they have carried out at our school over Semester One. I know many students, staff and parents alike will miss them.

## 2021 Kindergarten Enrolments

Yes, it is that time of year where we are asking our families to let our office know if they have a child who will be starting Kindergarten in 2021. Our school would also appreciate sharing this information with neighbours and community members to ensure we adequately plan and prepare for the coming year. As most of you are aware, our staffing allocation is reliant on the number of students we have enrolled in our school. To maintain 14 mainstream classes we need approximately 341 students. Similarly, if you are aware that your family will be moving in 2021 it would be appreciated if you could inform the school office at your earliest convenience.

## Semester One Reports

Semester One reports will be sent home with all of our students this coming Friday. These reports look a little different to those of previous reporting periods. As a direct

### What's on at Medowie...

<b>3rd July</b>	Last day of Term 2
<b>Term 3</b>	
<b>21st July</b>	Students return to school

### Notes in Circulation

ICAS online payment closes 17th July

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result of the learning from home period, which spanned over 7 weeks, schools have been asked to remove the A-E grading component from reports this semester. Reports will have comments and information regarding the effort each child has applied against each subject area. From reading reports over the last week, I have been impressed by the diligence our students showed during the learning from home period, which can be attributed to not only the dedication of my staff, but of our community. A vast majority of our students completed set tasks assigned in their Google Classroom as well as being active participants in daily Adobe Connect sessions. In addition, I have placed a Principal's Award sticker on all reports where a student has commendable application to their attitude towards learning. I have noticed that one factor that prevented students from receiving a sticker was their attitude towards completing set tasks at home. Whilst I do not want any family to undergo hardship in order for their child/children to complete homework, it is definitely an activity worth pursuing to set up great habits for children as they continue their schooling into high school and beyond.

### **Behaviour Awards**

Tomorrow I am fortunate to host a morning tea for students who have received 20 PBL awards this year. This demonstrates we have students who are flawlessly following our schools expectations of being respectful, responsible and resilient every day. I encourage everyone to keep working hard to strive for this milestone throughout the rest of the school year.



### **Positive Awards**

This week has seen our students who have received 10 PBL awards receive an extra half hour of play before recess time. We have had so many students reach this level that Stage 3, Stage 2 and Stage 1/Early Stage 1 have received their extra play on different days.

### **External Visitors and New School Site Form**

A new procedure has been introduced into all Department of Education schools regarding External Service Providers and visitors being able to enter school sites next term. Essentially, all visitors to our school site other than Department of Education staff, are required to complete a site form, at each visit, acknowledging they will adhere to the health and hygiene measures of our school. For members of our community that may be volunteering in the canteen or attending a parent/teacher meeting, this form must be completed. It also extends to our service providers delivering health services to specific students, the Music Bus, Scripture and Murrook Cultural visits, to name just a few of the services that have been allowed to resume in Term 3. To accommodate these new requirements, the sign on visitor book has been relocated to the office counter.



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## Whole School PBL Reward

It is amazing how hard our students have worked to achieve a whole school reward this term. The PBL token container, located outside the library, was so full yesterday it would have been impossible to even squeeze in one more. As a result this Friday, 3rd July, we will finish the school term on a high note by having a Pyjama Day. All children are invited to wear their most favourite PJ's to school for the day.

## School Security and Upcoming Holidays

The upcoming school holidays will begin on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July. Students will return to school on Tuesday 21st July. Please note there is a staff development day on Monday 20th July. Staff will use this day to listen to an address by our Department's Secretary and Deputy Secretary regarding the launch of a new planning model, evaluate the progress our school has made against our current improvement measures and work together to maintain consistent teacher judgements in relation to wellbeing incidents.

During the holiday period it would be greatly appreciated if everyone could be vigilant regarding our school and grounds. Should anyone see any suspicious activity or need to report a security incident, the School Security Unit can be contacted on 1300 88 00 21.

I wish all our families a lovely break after what has been a different and challenging term. I am sure everyone will come back refreshed and eager to commence Semester Two. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this term successful, particularly during our learning from home period. I look forward to working with everyone again next term. Stay safe and warm during these holidays!

Allison Thompson  
Principal

### Lost Property

**We have a large amount of unnamed items of clothing and lunchboxes etc. Our lost property is situated in the office foyer. Feel free to come and have a look. Please make sure you label all items of clothing and other belongings so they can be returned to your child.**

## What's On In Our Backyard Magazine

Check out the interactive digital winter issue of Port Stephens Family Magazine 'What's On In Our Backyard'.

It's packed full of local stories and useful information, family things to do, wellbeing tips, clubs and classes, recipes and so much more!

Follow the link below to read now [https://issuu.com/whatsoninourbackyard/docs/whatsoninourbackyard\\_issue39\\_fa](https://issuu.com/whatsoninourbackyard/docs/whatsoninourbackyard_issue39_fa)



## Band

All of our school's band instruments will be serviced over the July holidays.

It is essential that students return their instruments to Mrs Sanson BEFORE FRIDAY.

Training Band - please return instruments on WEDNESDAY.

Senior Band - please return instruments on THURSDAY. Remember band finishes at 3.30pm this week.

**MAKE SURE YOUR MOUTHPIECE HAS BEEN WELL SCRUBBED BEFORE YOU RETURN THE INSTRUMENT.**

We expect that the instruments will all be back ready for a fresh start in Term 3.

See Mrs Sanson if you have any questions about the process.

Regards,  
Mrs Sanson      Mr Haug

## Sentence Starters

During daily writing 5W have been focusing on sizzling story starters. Here are some of our starters we constructed using the image below as our stimulus.



The chilly wind catches up to us. My spine shivers in fright. The calm and gentle water starts to pick up. The calm boat washes around in the murky, freezing river. The disgusting, murky river takes the six children down to the other side of the river. **Alannah**

As we settle into the old broken canoe we hear...The people in front of us going down the waterfall crying out loud. We follow the noise and end up in a really dangerous rapid. We turn right and suddenly turn left. We end up going down the largest waterfall in Asia, "Ahhhhhhh" said all of the children on the boat. **Marley**

Swoosh!! As the wind boosts the children's canoes a step ahead. It was a foggy, windy day and the children in China were paddling their rough, skinny, wooden canoes to school. **Addison**

Chirping birds, ribberting frogs, leaves rustling as we sit in the rough, slippery and splintery canoe. Feeling a rough current coming are way. We row the canoe along the murky, gloomy and cold river. **Kirsten**

Falling softly down the stream were some middle-aged children in their wooden canoes. These children were on an unforgettable journey. These children are about to face some of the largest rapids in Asia and all of the world. And hopefully, no one falls out. **Addison**

Tweeting birds, croaking frogs and crunching leaves as we sit on the damp smooth wooden seat of the small cramped canoe. As the canoe slowly drifted towards a river on green murky muddy water and felt like they were being slowly stalked by a creature lurking behind them. **Lincoln**

Chirping birds, croaking frogs, rustling leaves as we start to hop in our smooth wooden canoes to escape or town from flood. Our canoes rock as we get in and the sound of a small waterfall in the foggy, gloomy, wet distance. Feeling the strong currents trying to drag you in a direction, you are strong, shivers down your back and your hair standing on end, you push through the currents and you make it safely. **Benjamin**

As me and my friends went to the rain forest in our canoes we realised it was very foggy and very swampy. We could hear the sound of frogs ribberting and birds' chirping. We stayed in our canoes for several days roaming through the swampy water. **Ryan**

"Just great we're lost!" said Eliza. "Don't worry we will make it to school" hoped Baeleigh. "Maybe we should look for the sign it might give us directions" said Anthony. **Anthony**

As the dam broke the water came rushing through the town. The girls ran and grabbed the old wooden canoes and started to paddle and came across... A dark scary lake! There was so much steam and old broken trees. **Leah**

As the rain calms down and the boats emerge from the flooded jungle the murky water made the boat start to rock. **Charli**

"We are gonna win!" yelled Iran, the most selfish little boy you have ever met. Iran, Xander, James, Molly, Janey and Alice were all racing in small canoes. They were in teams, team pink and team blue. They were racing to school from their small island 1km from shore. They go through the river as a shortcut but get a bad shiver down their spine as they paddle faster. **Jemima**

As we float down the salty riveting river we hear the sounds of birds, frogs and fish swishing their tails in the water. **Baeleigh**

Raindrops on the tin roof were relaxing, but then all of a sudden \*BOOM\*. The power goes out standing there in the dark, everyone walks outside to see it has flooded. Everyone runs out to get their canoes. The next day it was flooded and all of the kids had to go in their canoes but one group of kids got lost and didn't see the waterfall. What happens next? **Olivia**

Tweeting birds, croaking frogs and trees swaying as we row down the river. As we slowly go down the calm, flowing, river we sing songs and listen to the animals, insects and our friends. We can see fish in the water and logs and sticks on top of the cold, wet, moist, dirty water. We stopped at a clear site and we swung on the tall long vines. **Marley**

As a wooden canoe with 3 children were on their way to anywhere, they used their sticks to swish the water and make the canoe go around the swerve corner. Then they saw 3 kids in another canoe and the kids introduced each other "Hi my name is Jack and this is Wendy and Josh".

**Broch**

"When are we going to get there?" "Jen stop asking!"  
"But when are we going to get there?" "We get there when we get there!" Jon argued. **Dean**

Splashing oars, ribberting frogs and chirping birds making their way around our canoe there is water calmly flowing around us. As the murky water flows around us we scream while we go down a massive waterfall. **Ben**

Leaping across the lily pads were frogs while we quietly went to school. While we go we see we are going straight to the edge of a waterfall. Then we quickly row back to home our Mum asks why are you back here cause there's a waterfall in our way well you're late for school. **Alex**

One day the fam wanted to go on a kayak day. So, they got ready for the day and set off. When they got there, they paid for 2 kayaks. The kids got one kayak and the grownups got the other one. Next minute they were paddling through the water and they saw a lot of mist and fog and they cold here crunch crunch crunch! **Max**

Sitting straight up in the wooden, broken canoe, feeling the strong currents ahead pushing on the damp oars. You feel as though you are getting colder and colder, with the foggy wind brushing against your skin leaving shivers down your spine. **Leila**