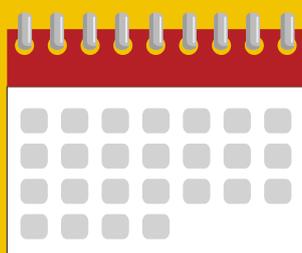




MKPS NEWSLETTER

VOL. 11, 20TH NOV, 2020



CALENDAR EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 9th - 13th - NAIDOC Week
- 11th - Remembrance Day
- 17th - Year 6 Mini Fete
- 19th - Year 6 Gibberagong overnight excursion
- 24th - Gala League Day
- 30th - Uncle Laurie visit

DECEMBER

- 3rd - Year 6 farewell
- 10th - Stage 2 Overnight School Camp
- 14th - School Colour Run
- 15th - Talent Quest
- 16th - Last day of term

**respect,
responsibility,
resilience and
personal best.**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

HALF-WAY THROUGH TERM 4
AND WE'RE ON THE HOME STRETCH!



Term 4 is typically a busy time, as teachers are finalising end-of-year assessments and preparing reports, as well as handover information for next year's teachers.

Term 4 is also a time for evaluating the year that has been and making plans for the year ahead. For MKPS, both of these processes are particularly significant this year as we completed our EV - External Validation (similar to a quality review and accreditation), and are in the final year of a 3-year plan. Plus, like all schools, we are currently in the beginning stages of developing a new school plan, this one will be 4-year plan, called the Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP). Your input, submitted via surveys, is so important to ensuring our plan is well-rounded and reflective of our families. We've been limited in how we could seek your opinions this year, so please take the opportunity to complete any surveys we distribute. The plan should be finished by the end of Term 1 next year.

Speaking of plans for next year, we have started thinking about class formations and determining our staffing needs to suit. A number of factors are considered in this process, but our number one priority is student learning and wellbeing, but staff expertise and professional growth are also high on the decision-making agenda. Students have been given the opportunity to make suggestions of who they think would make good learning partners which will also be considered.

Mrs Hughes!

I need to bring attention to one of our policies regarding digital devices. Some students have had phones or smart watches at school and using them throughout the day. Smart phones and watches are included in our definition of digital devices. We thank you for following our procedures. Please note the following paragraphs relating to this matter in our "**Student Use of Digital Devices and Online Services Procedures**" which is included on our website:



*At Mount Kuring-gai Public school, the use of digital devices by students **during class, lunch and afternoon tea is restricted** unless use is approved by a teacher or principal for educational purposes.*

*If students bring a digital device to school it **must remain turned off in their school bag**. If a student uses a device without approval, their device may need to be stored in the office for the day. Students in this situation must drop their device off to the office when they arrive to school and may collect their device at the end of the school day.*

While all care will be taken, the school takes no responsibility for lost or damaged devices.

 **Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

I have also included the **School Community Charter** later in this newsletter which outlines the principles of **Collaborative, Respectful Communication** expected in public schools. These include:

- treating each other with respect
- prioritising the wellbeing of students and staff
- working together productively
- zero tolerance for unsafe behaviour (including aggressive and threatening behaviours)



LOCK DOWN

MKPS Students and staff did an amazing job last week when we had a Lock Down drill from the playground. Everyone moved quickly and sensibly from the playground and went straight to our assembly places. Well done everyone!



While NSW has seen great improvements in Covid-19, we must remember that this is due to us all following guidelines and restrictions. I thank you for being so supportive and understanding of the school's restrictions in not coming on-site and keeping your children home when they are sick - this has significantly reduced the amount of sickness in general that we have had at school, which gives us good evidence to support this approach continuing into post-Covid times!

We do now have the opportunity to invite parents/carers on-site for specific purposes. This "invitation only" guideline has allowed us to invite one family representative of each awardee to attend the Presentation Assemblies.

The **Presentation Assemblies will be held on Tuesday 8th December**. We will need to hold two separate assemblies to accommodate family representatives within the numbers allowed. Representatives will need to maintain 1.5m distance and must stay in their allocated seating and not enter the hall. They will need to wait outside the gate until invited in and leave within 15mins of the assembly's conclusion. These conditions sound harsh, but we are so excited to be able to have family members on-site!

a copy of the letter explaining our Presentation Assemblies is included later in this newsletter

MKPS has been working on all of these things this year and will continue our focus on evidence-based practice next year to keep improving outcomes for our students!

We're on track!



| What works best

Students learn best when schools:

- 1 Have high expectations
- 2 Use explicit teaching
- 3 Provide effective feedback
- 4 Use student data to guide next steps
- 5 Use high quality assessments
- 6 Manage their classrooms well
- 7 Support wellbeing
- 8 Enable teacher collaboration



HAVE YOU BID ON OUR ONLINE AUCTION OF CLASS ARTWORKS?

The P&C have commissioned our student artists to create collaborative artworks to auction off and raise funds for our school.

Imagine having an original artwork hanging in your home!

<https://www.myminiauction.com/mkpsmountainfest>



MKPS Art Auction

Welcome to the Mount Kuring-Gai Public School 2020 Art Auction! Artworks from every class this year are up for grabs! Bi...

 MyMiniAuction.com

2019 Pack also available



Please make sure to read through the rest of the newsletter to read important messages. Including...

- Transition to big school and high school: info for parents & carers
- Great website supporting families
- AECG Agreement with Dept. of Ed.
- Parking & driving fines
- Community announcements
- Teaching & learning in 2021
- Wonderful examples of our students living the MKPS life!



Online enrolment for new students is now available at our school! If your child lives within the local intake area of our school and is an Australian or New Zealand citizen, you can make an application for enrolment through our school website under the 'Enrolment' tab. For further information please call the school on **9457 9088** education.nsw.gov.au

CONTEMPORARY TEACHING AND LEARNING

Contemporary learning prepares students across all curriculum areas and learning stages with skills and capabilities to thrive in a rapidly changing and interconnected world and engages their sense of curiosity.

Contemporary teachers know and understand the needs and talents of their students. They are flexible and select from a range of effective teaching strategies. They integrate curriculum to allow deep learning to occur.

Contemporary learning environments inspire students to be leaders of their own learning. Students collaborate and use critical and creative thinking to solve complex problems and become mindful global citizens.

LEARNING DISPOSITIONS

The term 'learning dispositions', sometimes called 'habits of mind', refer to the way in which learners engage in and relate to the learning process. Learning dispositions affect how students approach learning and therefore the outcomes of their learning. Different research identifies different dispositions but there is consensus about the importance of the learning dispositions furthering skills, engagement and deep understanding.

Development of these dispositions is fundamental for students to develop an awareness of the way they learn and establish future-focused attitudes to learning - critical if they are to be able to become lifelong learners.

Some commonly identified learning dispositions that are particularly relevant when thinking about future-focused practices, include the following:

PERSISTENCE, AGILITY & FLEXIBILITY, MOTIVATION & DRIVE TO LEARN, METACOGNITION (THINKING ABOUT THINKING), PROBLEM-SOLVING & QUESTIONING

MKPS T&L GOALS 2021

Even before Covid, MKPS teachers closely monitored the latest research in teaching and learning (T&L), and have been embedding quality strategies into their teaching delivery. Stage Two, in particular, successfully utilised digital platforms and co-teaching approaches from the start of the year - which was also why we were one of the first schools in the state to be online in March!

Due to our success and that of our colleagues in other schools, such as Waitara PS and Anzac Park PS, we have decided to expand our approach in 2021 and run Stage Three as a 'hub' with the teachers implementing co-teaching principles throughout most of each day. We are currently sourcing quotes to refurbish the Stage Three classrooms to make it more flexible to allow more flow and flexibility of grouping amongst the students. Teachers collaborate to design and teach programs. This enables teaching, learning and assessment options to be increased as well as teaching effectiveness and efficiency. As a result, there is increased enjoyment and engagement of students and teachers. Increased engagement = increased learning outcomes!

This collaborative environment gives students opportunities to develop and practise skills in: decision-making, problem-solving, values clarification, communication, critical thinking, resilience, negotiation, conflict resolution and teamwork.

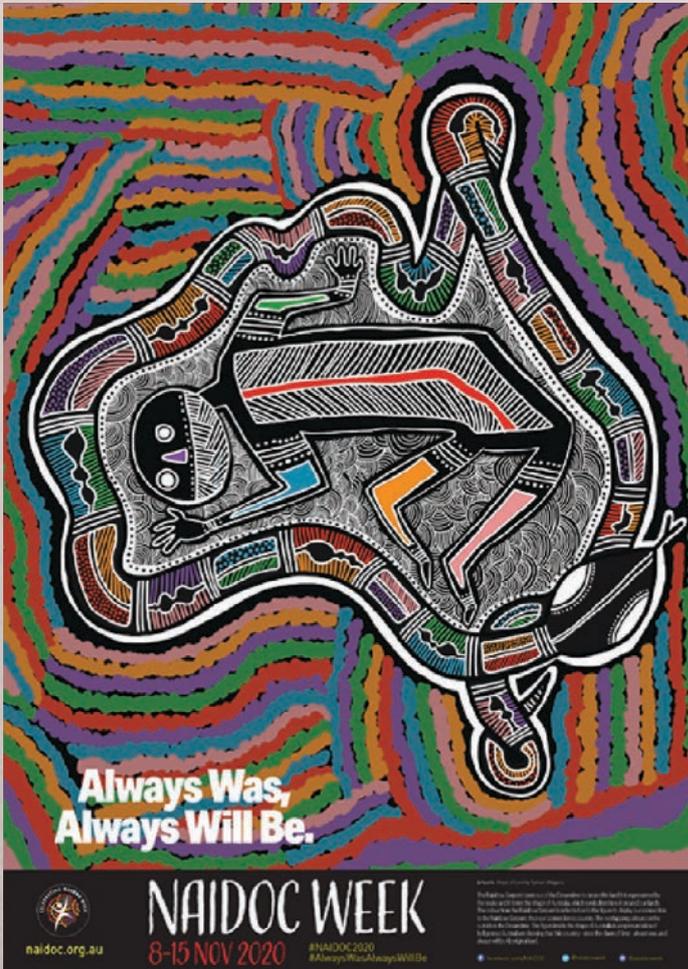
MORE INFO WILL FOLLOW ABOUT OUR 2021 "STAGE THREE HUB"

NAIDOC WEEK



2020 National NAIDOC Poster artwork, Shape of Land, by Noongar and Saibai Islander man Tyrown Waigana.

Shape of Land description: The Rainbow Serpent came out of the Dreamtime to create this land. It is represented by the snake and it forms the shape of Australia, which symbolises how it created our lands. The colour from the Rainbow Serpent is reflected on to the figure to display our connection to the Rainbow Serpent, thus our connection to country. The overlapping colours on the outside is the Dreamtime. The figure inside the shape of Australia is a representation of Indigenous Australians showing that this country - since the dawn of time - **Always Was, Always Will Be Aboriginal Land.**



On the 30th November, we will welcome Uncle Laurie to our school, when he will introduce the children to some of our country's history and share some of his culture with us.

Uncle Laurie will start the day with a traditional Smoking Ceremony and will then spend time with each class throughout the day focusing on local history & significant sites, a hands-on look at artifacts, Indigenous Australian's use of native plants on-site and we'll also get a demonstration of the boomerang and might get to have a try ourselves!

A word from Uncle Laurie:

I'm Laurie Bimson, Guringai man, a descendant of Bungaree, leader of the Guringai tribe at the time of European arrival. My people are salt water people and have been the custodians of Guringai country for about 40,000 years.

*Always was, Always will be,
Aboriginal land*

MESSAGE FROM OUR'



Hi everyone,

The P&C has received a grant to build a sensory garden at the school. So far, a small group of P&C members and teachers have been planning for the garden.

We are now looking for any members of our school community who have **experience in concreting, building landscaping** etc. or are happy just to help out in any way they can. Help might be anything from advice to helping at a working bee. 

The first stage of the garden will be a yarning circle/outdoor classroom on the grassed area at the corner of Leeming and King st. Attached is an image of a similar yarning circle to give you an idea of the work that would be required.

If you would like to be involved or know someone who might please let us know at mkps.pandc@gmail.com. **Any help would be greatly appreciated.**



The use of a Yarning Circle is an important process within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. It has been used by Indigenous peoples from around the world for centuries to learn from a collective group, build respectful relationships, and to preserve and pass on cultural knowledge.

A Yarning Circle is a harmonious, creative and collaborative way of communicating to

- encourage responsible, respectful and honest interactions between participants, building trusting relationships;
- foster accountability and provide a safe place to be heard and to respond;
- promote student to student interactions and student-school-community connectedness;
- enrich learning experiences for students.

A YARNING CIRCLE CAN BE USED AS A LEARNING TOOL TO ENRICH AND PROMOTE THE SHARED KNOWLEDGE OF THE GROUP.

IT BUILDS ON EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS IN RESPECTFUL AND MEANINGFUL WAYS.

remembrance day

Each year at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month we observe a minute's silence to remember all those who served in wars. Remembrance Day marks the signing of a Peace Agreement on the 11th of Nov, 1918, ending the First World War. It is now a time when Australians think of the soldiers and workers who served our country and of their families who sacrificed.

We will remember them



K/1E

Each class discussed the importance of Remembrance Day and completed some related activities

LEST WE FORGET

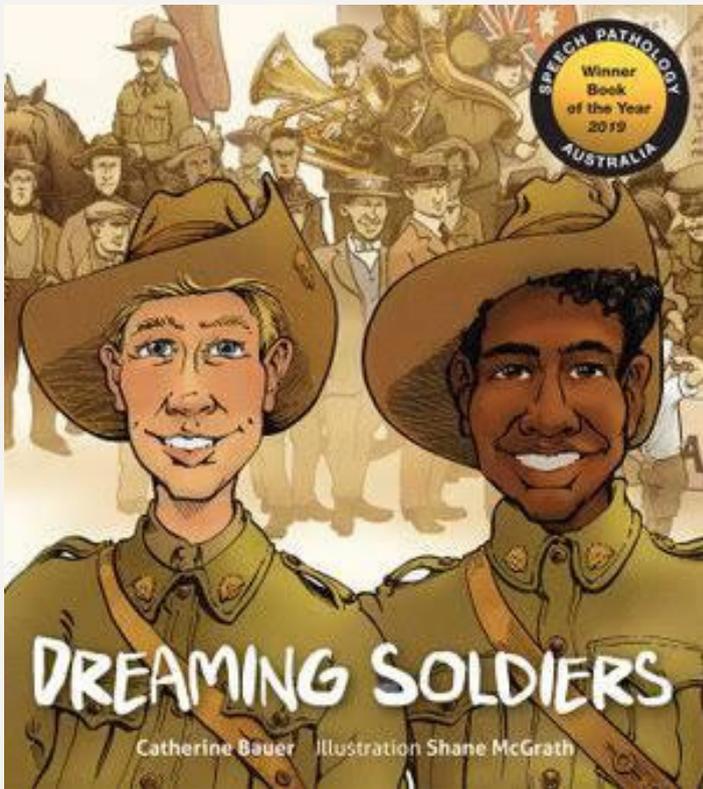
They went with songs to the battle, they were young, Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow; They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted, They fell with their faces to the foe. They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them: They have no part in our labour of the day-time; They sleep beyond England's foam. They went with songs to the battle, they were young, Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow; They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted, They fell with their faces to the foe. They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them: They have no part in our labour of the day-time; They sleep beyond England's foam.



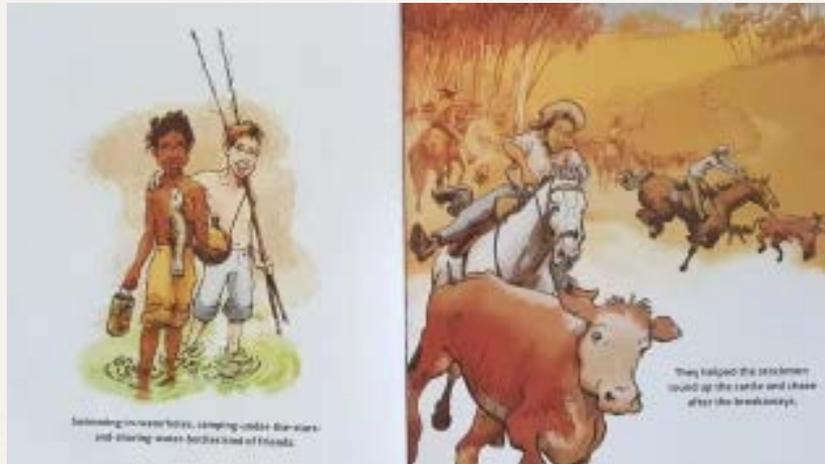
5/6W

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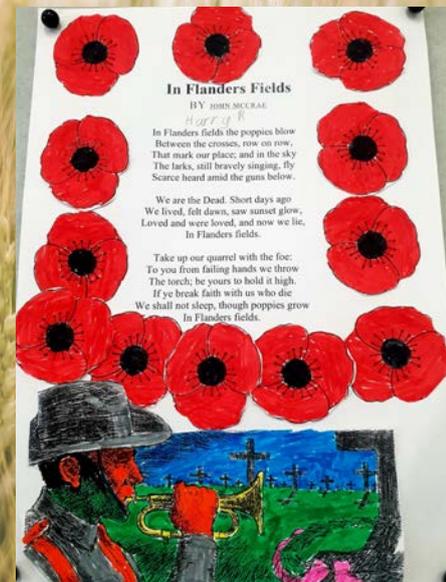
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Stage Two students read and discussed 'Dreaming Soldiers' by Catherine Bauer - a story of two mates from different cultures. Friends from childhood and friends for life.



3/4C & 3/4T





K/1E



1/2W

Life in the Past and Today

1/2W

Life in the Past and Life today

The Past	Today
- People were not treated equally because of the colour of their skin.	- there is smaller wars.
- Mostly Males were fighting.	- People are treated equally.
- there were bigger war.	- Male and female Nurse and soldiers
- there were female Nurses.	- anyone can be anything they want to be.

The Past	today
People were not treated the same	1. Smaller Wars
bigger Wars	2. People are treated equally
Female had to be nurses	3. Male and Female Nurse and Soldiers
1. Mostly Males were fighting	4. less People Die
5. More Soldiers	5. anyone can be anything
6. World War	6. more procteshan



Arnold

14/3/1939

Dear diary,

Today has been very bizzare we lost a lot of lives, and i cant sleep so i am writing to you under my covers,one because i can still hear the bombing of the guns and two PARASITES ARE INVADING MY BED!!!!!! But i am pretty sure i am not the only one awake.

BANG! Our troop was awoken by a big bomb, so we were up at about 2.00am, ready to serve for our country ! sometimes i wish i was dead! The food is absolutely revolting! There's no toilets,no tv no showers no nothing!!

Today i received letters from my family which has given me the courage to keep going! Although i would do anything to see them again but there is nothing i can do but keep fighting!!!

THE WAR IS FINALLY OVER!!! Im so happy even words cant explain it.i can see my family again!!

Im so lucky to be alive! This has been a nightmare and is now a dream! IT IS THE LAST WAR!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

4/5S

Australian Soldier Biography



Name: Fanny Isobel Catherine Tyson

Birth and Early Life: On 1890 (we dont know date) Fanny was born. Her Hometown is Elsternwick, Glen Fira, Victoria. At 1915 She started to work at 1st Australian Hospital. Much of her early is unknown.

War(s) Fought In: (shes a sister nurse)

Significant Achievements: 17 Jun 1915, Enlisted Australian Army Nursing Service, Sister, SN sister. 1 Oct 1918, Promoted. 20 Apr 1919, Involvement in Aus Army Nursing service.

Death: She died at the young age of 22. on the 20 APR 1919 at Hurdett camp, Salisbury, England she passed away.

Interesting Facts: Worked at the first hospital in Australia.

K/1E



KD





We must love COOKIES here at MKPS!
Total Funds raised for Year 6 - \$1,800!
Thanks to Robyn (Cooper's mum) & team for her efforts in organising this fundraiser for our Year 6 students!



Total Trays sold - 194
Total Funds raised for Year 6 - \$1,063
Thanks to Natalie (Daniel's mum) & team for their efforts with this delicious fundraiser!



KD

We love sport in Kindergarten. This week during sport, KD spent some time with K/1E focusing on throwing and catching. KD students teamed up with with a partner to practice throwing and catching a ball as well as rolling and bouncing. The students had to make sure they were focused on the ball and their partner to ensure they were ready to throw and catch the ball. The students had to try and remain focused on their partner while the teachers tried to make the games trickier by getting the students to balance on one foot and bounce the ball with one hand behind their back. There are so many fun games KD love to play during sport time too. Fruit salad and octopus are some of our favourites! KD have shown fantastic team work and resilience while completing sport this week. Well done KD and keep up the great work!



5/6W

Students in Stage 3 celebrated Book Week by creating stories, including illustrations, and presented them to their Kindergarten buddies. Stage Three students spent time with KD and K/1E reading through their stories and other books in the sunshine together.



Year 6 have been very busy working on their covid-friendly mini fete stalls in preparation for their Mini Fete on Tuesday 17th November. You will be seeing some very colourful posters around the school advertising the variety of stalls and how many tokens will be needed to participate in each of the activities. We can't wait to hold our Mini Fete!

ZERO HERO DAY

Students had a wonderful time in Week 10 of Term 3 during their extended play as their Zero Hero reward to finish off the term. It was great to see so many teachers getting involved in Chess challenges, handball competitions and shoot outs with the students! We look forward to the next two Zero Hero Days later this term!



K-2 SPORTS GALA DAY

On the last day of Term 3, our K-2 students took part in a Sports Gala Day at Mt Kuring-Gai Oval. Students rotated through a range of fun activities and sports games that were organised by the 5/6W students.

The students had a great afternoon and were definitely ready for the holidays by the end of the day. A very big thank you to our senior students who showed great leadership and organisational skills in assisting in the coordination and supervision of the day.



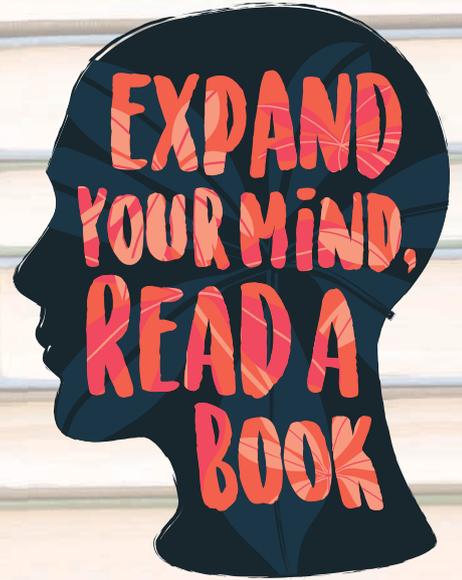


BOOK WEEK

The theme for Book Week this year was Curious Creatures, Wild Minds. The aim for the week is to provide students with the chance to stretch their students' minds and see where their curiosity can take them. A variety to activities were completed in class throughout the week. Our Book week Parade was clearly different to previous years, with students parading in their amazing costumes along the school fence, for all parents to see. We were amazed by the wide variety of characters and the enthusiasm by so many of the students. Thank you to all the parents for the late nights in preparation for the event and to all the students and teachers for the superb effort this year.



BOOK





**NEVER
STOP
READING**



I ♥ BOOKS



PREMIER'S

debating

On Thursday 22nd October, the MKPS debating team participated in the first round of the debating knockout finals against Strathfield North Public School. Our topic was "That we should only ever give feedback in primary school instead of grades or marks".

We were the negative team. This was an extremely difficult topic for our students as we really value feedback and know how important it is to our learning. We were so impressed with the quality of arguments and rebuttals from our team. Unfortunately, we just missed out on the win.

Thank you to Maude and Pippa who have been in the debating team for the past two years. We are looking forward to continuing to work with Jack, Eddie and Claire in 2021 and see which of our Year 4 students will be joining us.

GREAT BARRIER REEF FUN RUN

Our Great Barrier Reef fun run has come to an end. Not only did our students make it to their goal destination, they absolutely smashed it by collectively running over **4000km** over the 6 week challenge to reach Papua New Guinea.

Not only did students improve their fitness throughout the challenge, they also raised \$950 which will contribute to the purchase of new sports equipment. In addition, 63 native trees will be planted on the schools behalf as part of this go green initiative.

To celebrate this fantastic effort, students will take part in a 'Colour Explosion Run' at school on Monday 14th December, where we will also recognise class and individual achievements.







NEW SPORTS EQUIPMENT



We are very excited (well, Mrs Todd is!!) to have recently received our order of seven new badminton nets and badminton equipment. These nets can be adjusted to suit a variety of sports including badminton, volleyball, Newcombe ball, modified tennis and handball, giving the students a greater variety of activities to take part in during their PE and Sports lessons.



I'm happy to share this great website with you. This website is a fantastic resource for any Australian family to support you in raising your family.



Supported by



The Australian Parenting Website



At raisingchildren.net.au, we provide free, reliable, up-to-date and independent information to help your family grow and thrive together. We're funded by the Australian Government, reviewed by experts and non-commercial, so you know you can trust us. Designed for busy families and full of tips and tricks for you to try, our content is easy to find and easy to digest. We have the answers to hundreds of parenting questions, where and when you need them. Our articles, videos and interactive resources are tailored to different ages and stages, taking you from nurturing a newborn to raising a confident, resilient teen – and helping you to look after yourself as a parent too. raisingchildren.net.au is here for you, every step of your parenting journey.

Raising Children Network

 Raising Children Network

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/>



Pregnancy



Newborns



Babies



Toddlers



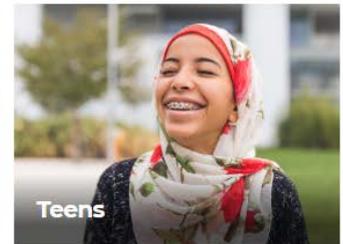
Preschoolers



School age



Pre-teens



Teens



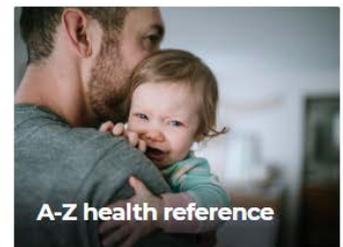
Grown-ups



Autism



Disability



A-Z health reference



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Find the best movies for your family with our child-friendly reviews. Search new releases and older movies by age, rating and genre.

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Mental health resources

Are you a professional working with families? Get information about child, teenage and parent mental health and wellbeing.

Mental health index



NSW AECG INC AND NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

SCHOOLS WILL RESPECT THE IDENTITY, CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANGUAGES OF ABORIGINAL STUDENTS AND BE WELCOMING AND RESPECTFUL PLACES



NSW AECG AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WILL WORK TOGETHER SO EVERY ABORIGINAL CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON CAN ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL THROUGH EDUCATION



ALL STUDENTS IN NSW WILL UNDERSTAND THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE LANDS ON WHICH THEY LIVE



ABORIGINAL PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, COMMUNITIES, STUDENTS AND STAFF ACROSS NSW HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THEIR VOICES HEARD IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS NEW PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT



HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSULTATION WITH COMMUNITIES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, ACKNOWLEDGING THE AECG'S GRASSROOTS STRUCTURE



WALKING TOGETHER, WORKING TOGETHER



New South Wales
Aboriginal Education
Consultative Group Inc.



Sing • Act • Dance

Perform in a Show!



Peter Pan

Summer Holiday Camps

We Give Kids Confidence

Ages 5 to 13 years



kids up front

DRAMA ACADEMY

Lindfield Public School

Monday 4 to Friday 8 January 2021

Pymble Public School

Monday 11 to Friday 15 January 2021

For full details and to BOOK online

www.kidsupfront.com.au

*Pending COVID restrictions

FRESH CUT XMAS TREES

TREES
FROM
\$55

HOME
DELIVERY
AVAILABLE
FROM \$10
MT COLAH, ASQUITH,
MT KU RING-GAI,
BEROWRA

SCOUT CHRISTMAS TREES SAT 12TH DECEMBER 2020

HUNT RESERVE, MT COLAH

8.00AM - 3PM (or Sold Out)

1st Mt Colah / Mt Ku ring gai Scouts

www.mcmkscoutgroup.com/xmastrees



Scouts
AUSTRALIA



C3 SYD
WAHROONGA

Carols

Evening

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2020

FROM 4:30PM



*Come join us for an evening of COVID safe activities
and carols!*

THE BUSH SCHOOL WAHROONGA
71 BURNS ROAD
WAHROONGA, 2076

BYO picnic blanket or chair

*There are restrictions on numbers due to
COVID 19. Make sure you come early to secure
a spot.*

CAROLS

AT HOME ONLINE

13 DEC 7PM

WWW.ASQUTHCAROLS.COM



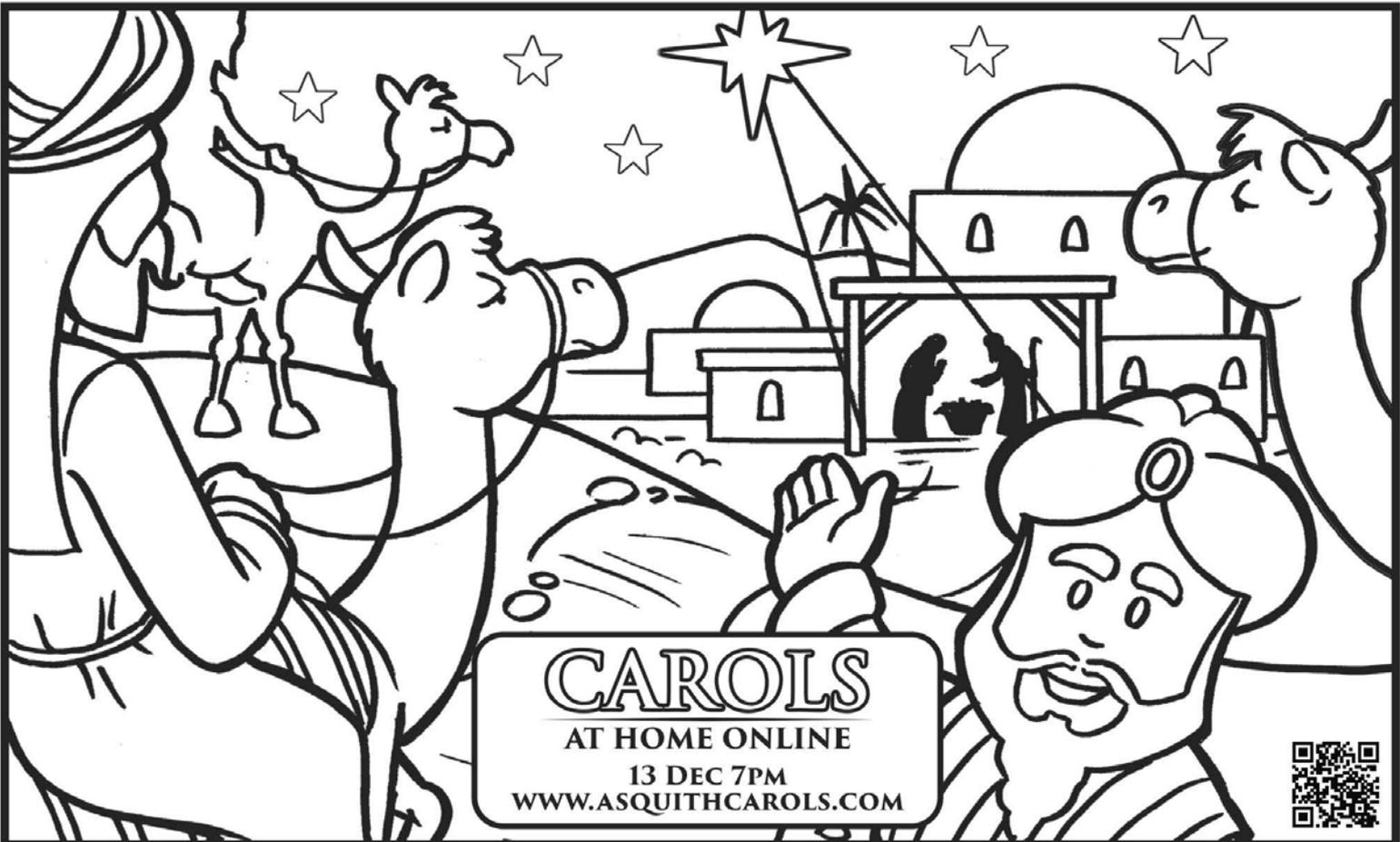
GUEST APPEARANCE
BY COLIN BUCHANAN



St. John's Anglican
Church Asquith



CROSSLIFE CHURCH



COLOURING COMPETITION

Colour in the Christmas scene and email to carols@asquithcarols.com, or post or hand deliver to Asquith Church of Christ, 3 Amor St, Asquith, by noon Friday, 11 Dec 2020.

Join us for Carols online, where we will announce the winners. For more info call 0408 094 868

Name: School year:

Phone: Gender: