



MAHOGANY RISE Primary School Newsletter



What we are learning this fortnight

Junior Jabba (Foundation and 1/2s)

What great start to the year the Junior students have had! In Grade 1 & 2 students have been looking at writing recounts, developing our morning routines and playing games to get to know our new teachers and classmates. Students have been reviewing the Zones of Regulation and using the afternoons to develop social skills. The Foundation students have had a busy couple of weeks. Students have explored the school grounds and met many of the important people at Mahogany. The 3/4 buddies have visited twice and begun building friendships with the Foundation classes.

Senior Spiel (3-6s)

Our 3-6 cohort has been working well together in establishing a routine in and out of the classroom. Students have been beating the bell each morning, getting ready to learn and using technology effectively. The targeted learning groups started as of Wednesday and students created a personal timetable to recognise where to go for Phonics, Literacy and Numeracy. We have excitedly welcomed Ms Knox in our Art classes, Mr Crowe in our Digi Tech classes and Mr McMaster leading 3/4F. The 3/4 students have participated in an Online Internet Safety webinar. They have learned strategies to keep them safe in the online world, as well as what to do if they feel they are at risk on the internet.

Digital Technology

This fortnight in Digital Technologies, students have been developing procedures on safely using our iPads and Chromebooks within the classroom. Grade 5/6 students have been creating posters using design tools on Canva, including making pledges about Safer Internet Day. The Grade 3/4's have been using Google Classroom and experimented with Google Docs and Slides to show their understandings of using Chromebooks Safely. The Grade 1/2s have all been practising logging into Seesaw and using the camera, voice recording and drawing tools. It was also international Safer Internet Day on Tuesday the 7th Feb and our students all discussed the importance of being safe online.

Physical Education

What a brilliant start to the year we have had in Physical Education. Our Runners Club Program kicked off on Tuesday morning at 8:30am with many students and parents running and walking laps of our school oval. Students in Year 3-6 are completing a variety of field events such as long jump & discus in preparation for our District field events scheduled at Ballam Park on Wednesday 29th March for selected students only. The junior students will be working on Fundamental Movement skills through game play. Don't forget to wear house tops every Friday for our house activities.

Art

It has been an amazing start to the year in Art. This week our Senior School students enjoyed drawing a self portrait as well as drawing something they love or enjoy in the reflection of their sunglasses. The Junior School drew self portraits using black markers and then placed pieces of crepe paper all over their page. They used a paint brush to gently paint water over the top making the dye from the crepe paper transfer onto their page. Next week we will be completing directed drawings of cats inspired by the famous artist Paul Klee.

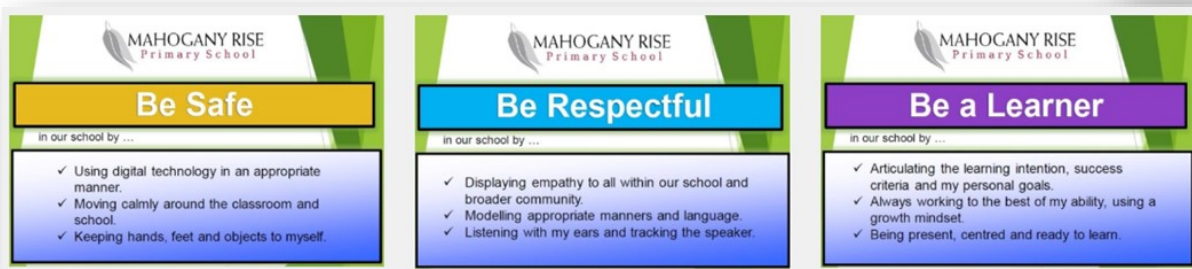


From the Principal

Welcome back to another school year! I can't believe we are in 2023. My own kids are in year 9, 7 and grade 5. Time certainly does fly. Here is a picture of my children heading off to school last week. They grow up so fast!



At our first assembly last week, we welcomed our new students to the school, as well as our Foundation students for 2023. I'm so thrilled about how quickly all of our students have settled into the school year. I'm seeing our school expectations being demonstrated everywhere I look!



We also presented our 2023 Student Leaders with their badges last Monday. Congratulations to all students who were selected to a leadership position this year.



2023 is going to be a fabulous year. This year our great little schools turns 20 years old! Back in 2003, Pines Forest PS and Monterey PS (our site) merged to create Mahogany Rise Primary School. This was commemorated with the engraved bricks under the shade sail area. Staff and School Council have a few ideas about how to celebrate our 20 years, but if you have any ideas, please let me know!



School Council

You would have noticed on Compass (and students brought home a letter too), about our call out for School Council Nominations. If you are interested in joining our School Council, you can grab a nomination form from the office. If you have any questions about what's involved, please come and find me and I'll be happy to talk you through the ins and outs.



Works around the school

We had a few odd jobs completed over the holidays, but the most exciting, are the footings being poured for the new under cover area / bike shed. I've been told the steel is being delivered and installed in March! I can't wait to have the bike shed more accessible, so that more students can ride, skate or scoot to school. This will be positioned at the corner of the school at Jenkins Street and Monterey Blvd (See to the right).



From the Principal

Welcome to new Staff

A very warm welcome to three new teachers to our school; Samantha Knox, Steve Crowe and Luke McMaster. Sam is well known to the students at MRPS having completed many teacher relief days as she returned from maternity leave last year, and will be teaching Art in 2023. Steve is a very experienced teacher, having held leadership positions at his previous school, and has headed up Digital Technologies at a very large school. Steve will be teaching Digi Tech. Luke McMaster, another experienced teacher, and a teacher I've had the pleasure of working with me at my previous school. Please welcome our three new teachers, we are very lucky to have such quality people join our school community.



As you may know, Shannon Jackson, Michelle Connick and Sam Ward will go on maternity leave at various times throughout term 1. So very exciting! We can't wait to have them back when the time is right for them.



School Improvement (Leadership) Team for 2023

I'd also like to introduce our School Improvement Team for 2023. They are;

- Rachel Barry: Years 3-6 Leader, Literacy Coordinator and Year 5/6 Teacher
- Josh Murphy: Foundation-yr2 Leader, Numeracy Coordinator and Year 1/2 Teacher
- Megan Macindoe: Early Years and Transition Leader, and Foundation Teacher
- Michael Shanks: Disability and Inclusion / Wellbeing Leader



The above fabulous teachers will work closely with Jack Mazurek (Assistant Principal) and myself to work at achieving the Annual Implementation Plan goals for 2023 and ensure our students achieve their best learning outcomes possible.

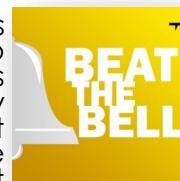
NAPLAN 2023

This year NAPLAN is being held in term 1 from March 15-27 for all year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. This is significantly earlier than in previous years, which will allow our results to be provided much earlier in the school year. The year 3-6 teachers already have begun work on assisting students to become prepared for the assessments, not just so they can perform at their best, but also to reduce any anxiety it may cause. If you're worried about NAPLAN for your child, or if you have any questions please speak with your child's teacher.



Attendance

I've been so impressed with the students "Beating the Bell" each day! It's been great to see. One of our school goals for the year is to also decrease the amount of students absent from school. The old saying "it's not ok to be away" is a very important one to remember. I know at my home, I can sometimes struggle to motivate my kids to get to school, but missing 'the odd' day can sometimes add up to over a term absence over the course of your child's primary schooling. If you need support with improving your child's attendance, please contact your child's teacher. I could even offer a few strategies that I use at home!



Pines Junior Football Club

Pines JFC are holding their junior open day on Sunday 19th February. Like in previous years, MRPS, thanks to the support of the Peninsula Kingswood Community Fund, will be supporting all budding footballers to join Pines Junior Footy Club. I'm really passionate about the health and wellbeing of our students, so I'd love to see as many students play as possible. Please come and see me if you'd like any more information (or like their Facebook Page for updates).



Important Dates Term 1

- Annual Report to the Community- Tuesday 7th March 3.30pm
- Whole School Curriculum Day- Friday 10th March (student free day)
- Labour Day Public Holiday- Monday 13th March



Enjoy the weekend, the weather is going to be beautiful!

Andrew Schneider
Principal

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