Dear Parents and Caregivers,
Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend last week’s Parent Information Sessions. We hope you found the sessions informative and enjoyed seeing your child’s classroom and meeting his/her teacher. Thank you to all the teachers for preparing the sessions and professionally delivering the information to our audiences. I particularly enjoyed going to each classroom to introduce myself and meet all the parents on the evening. If you were unable to attend, please be sure to see your child’s teacher for an information package in order that you can be well informed about this year’s class routines and organisation. In addition, we are publishing most permission notes and information packages on the school website for easy and immediate access.

This week we had an evaluation conducted of our Positive Behaviour, Engaging Learners (PBEL) program where our students are taught the values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Effort. The evaluation was carried out by a Northern Sydney PBEL co-ordinator and the results were very pleasing. From the surveys completed and the information gathered, results indicated that there are many ways in which PBEL has been successfully embedded at Mimosa. Both staff and students confidently recall the four school values, which demonstrate that they are being referred to and implemented in daily routines on a regular basis.

On Friday, we are holding a special assembly and have organised members of the Manly Sea Eagles to visit the school to present an anti-bullying program to our students. The NRL recognises that bullying is a serious issue for young people and want to take some steps to help young people deal with this important matter. They will bring along some of the Sea Eagles Players to discuss the issues of bullying and how our students can ‘tackle bullying’ at school, at footy or in the local community.

We would like to remind everyone that outside of school hours, students must not remain on site to play on the school equipment or playing fields. These areas are used by MOOSH for before and after school care and the supervisors have a duty of care to the children who are booked into the service. Having other children playing in the same area as our MOOSH students means the areas can become crowded and dangerous. In addition, if an accident occurred to a child not booked into the service, contacting a parent or caregiver could prove difficult as the child’s details would not be on the MOOSH register. If you are unable to collect your child at 3:15pm and you require childcare, please contact MOOSH to register.

Another reminder that there has been a variation to the usual School Development Day organisation. Our next School Development Day will be held on Friday 11 April and therefore students will finish Term 1 on Thursday 10 April. Students will return to school for Term 2 on Monday 28 April 2014.

Unfortunately our Lost Property area is growing by the day with school gear! Much of it is not labelled and therefore cannot be returned to its owner. Please ensure all school wear is clearly labelled with your child’s first and last name.
I would like to bring to your attention a valuable resource for parents. Michael Grose, parenting expert, author and media presenter has a very informative website www.parentingideas.com.au full of information, ideas and material for parents who are raising kids in today’s often challenging world! His parenting magazine can be found at: www.parentingideas.com.au/Parents/Parenting-Magazine
You might find the articles interesting and pick up some valuable tips along the way!

Yours Sincerely,
Matthew Fuller
R/Principal

What to look for in this newsletter…

- Term 1 Calendar
- Scripture & Ethics Information
- 2014 Canteen Menu
- Term 1 Expenses

Scripture and Ethics 2014

Scripture and Ethics classes will begin next Wednesday. If your child is in Kindergarten and they have not yet returned the Scripture note that you received at the information night can you please send it in as soon as possible to his/her class teacher?

Ethics News

Unfortunately we have not been able to secure the services of any new teachers for the Ethics program. Therefore we will only have one Ethics class running this term for Stage 3 students.

For children who were in Stages 1 or 2 and were in Ethics last year they will now attend Non-Scripture. If you would like your child to attend a Scripture class (Protestant or Catholic) can you please send a letter in to your child's class teacher this week.

This year Scripture and Ethics lessons will take place later in the day. This is so that teachers and students can make the most of the valuable learning time in the morning. Scripture and Ethics will begin on Wednesday 26th February- week 5. The session times are below:
11:35-12:15pm – Stage 3
12:15-12:55pm – Stage 2
1:50-2:35 - Early Stage 1 and Stage 1
Students will stay in the same Scripture or Ethics group they were in last year. If you would like your child to change groups you will need to send in a written note to his/her class teacher.

Thank you,
Clare Dawson
Office News

TERM ONE EXPENSES

This week all families should receive a statement of account detailing expenses incurred for Term 1 2014. Further accounts will be sent out at the beginning of each term and will be due by week 8 of that term except in term 4 when accounts are due by Mid November to coincide with the end of the school’s financial year on 30th November.

Term 1 fees are due and payable by the end of week 10 (Friday 4th April). Payments should be placed in the labelled box in the school office and can be made by cash, cheque (payable to Mimosa Public School) or credit card. Alternatively you may wish to make a payment by direct credit to the school's bank account. Details are as follows:

Mimosa Public School Administration Account
BSB 032-001   ACCOUNT NO 148935

Please state your child/children's name NOT their student number when making payment.

If you have any questions regarding the account or if you are having any difficulty making payment by the due date please contact the office or Mr Fuller confidentially to discuss the matter. We are happy to accept partial payments.

If you have recently paid dance fees, zone swimming costs or PSSA fees and it still appears on your statement please deduct this amount from your account before paying.

Libby Cleary
School Admin Manager

Stewart House Clothing Appeal

Today you will receive a bag for the Stewart House Clothing Appeal. If you wish to donate any unwanted clothing then fill the bag and return to the school office before Friday 7th March. More bags will be available from the office if needed.

Medical Information Notes

The Department of Education and Communities (DEC) requires that parents/caregivers complete an updated Medical Information Form for each child enrolled in a public school. The new forms help us collect your child's important medical information, and the introduction of new systems will mean we'll be able to better manage the daily and emergency health needs of your child.

While we understand that much of the information has already been provided, there is additional information that the DEC has not asked parents for previously. It would be appreciated if the new forms could please be completed as soon as possible in order that we can update our system. If at any time your details change (phone numbers, doctors, medical information, etc.) please notify the school office in order that we can amend our records.

School Directory

If you wish to be included in this year's School Directory please return your form by 5th March.
The staff of Mimosa P.S.

We are looking forward to continuing another year of quality learning at Mimosa P.S.

| DESCRIPTION | YEAR GROUP | ITEM 1 | ITEM 2 | ITEM 3 | ITEM 4 | ITEM 5 | ITEM 6 | AREA
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Term 1 Expenses, 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,
Changes to spelling at Mimosa in 2014

**Spelling is empowering students with the strategies to use a problem solving approach to spell words.**

**Why is spelling important?**
- Spelling is a tool for writing and therefore communication.
- Spelling is valued in our society.

Learning to spell is an ongoing process. It is not the memorization of lists of increasingly tricky words that are not attached to meaning.

Students need to know about:
- what words mean
- how they sound
- how words look
- how words change form
- where words come from

**How can parents/home partners help?**

**Students involved in lots of reading** – Students need to see the words in print to know how to spell them. Not all words in our English language can be 'sounded out'. Opportunities for students to see and hear words will contribute to the development of spelling. Reading to your child, with your child and encouraging your child to read independently will have a positive impact on development of spelling skills.

**Students involved in lots of writing** – Students can invent spellings for words not yet known based on their growing knowledge of sound/letter relationships, patterns and the written language.

Opportunities for students to see writing and to participate in individual, experimental writing are paramount in the development of spelling.

**Students involved in spelling as problem solving** – Children need to see spelling as a problem solving activity, not words that need to be memorised and then forgotten. Students should be given opportunities to use a range of strategies to solve the spelling of unknown words.

**So when and how can parents/home partners do this?**

With sport, dancing lessons, music lessons, homework etc. finding time to fit extra work in is impossible!

Seeing opportunities in the daily routine is the answer.

- **Shopping Lists** – Encourage your child to write the shopping list for you. Encourage them to have a go at unknown words. Encourage them to identify where they may be able to see the correct spelling. E.g. pantry, ‘junk mail’ etc.
- **When shopping** - ask your child to find the aisle where you can find a nominated item. (Aisle signage)
- **Signs** – Draw your child’s attention to signs. Categorise by what they start with, shortened word etc.
- **TV Guide** – Ask your child to find words they know in the TV guide.
Encourage them to work out what some other words are that would help them to know what is going to be on.

- **TV Credits** – Encourage your child to watch for words they know on the TV. Assist to identify words that occur regularly and work out what they say.
- **Notes** – Have your child write notes for school etc.
- **Lunch orders** – Have your child write their own lunch orders.
- Have a dictionary visible and readily available. Use it together when trying to spell an unfamiliar word.
- Always encourage your child’s attempts to spell new words.

**What should you do if your child asks you to spell a word for him/her?**

- Ask your child what sounds he/she can hear in the word.
- Ask your child to say the first sound and/or the last sound.
- Acknowledge if you can’t, or you are unsure of the spelling and look it up in the dictionary together.
- Spell the word for him/her, vocalising strategies that you are using to spell it correctly.
- Just spell it.

**Should children be encouraged to only write (pen to paper) when they are sure their spelling is correct?**

No!

“Get it out, get it down, get it right”

**Encourage** and praise your child’s attempts to express their ideas in writing. **Value** your child’s writing for its purpose. **Enjoy** your child’s writing. **Praise** the parts of the spelling that your child has correct. **Assist** your child to proofread and attend to spelling when appropriate.

**What can you learn from reading your child’s writing?**

If your child does not write for fear of making spelling mistakes, development of spelling skills will be affected. Spelling lessons in class will involve problem solving activities which will be based around the 4 forms of spelling. Students will no longer be bringing home lists of words to practice each week. They will be engaging in explicit spelling instruction in the classroom using words relevant to their units of work and their learning. Assessment of your child’s progress will occur as part of the teaching and learning cycle and teachers will implement lessons specifically targeting the spelling skills your child needs to develop.

**4 Forms of Spelling**

**PHONOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE**

How words and letter combinations sound

- The names of letters, the sounds they represent and the ways in which letters can be grouped to make different sounds
- The concept of onset and rime e.g. p is the onset and ink is the rime
- How to segment the sounds in words into ‘chunks’ of sound
VISUAL KNOWLEDGE

The way words and letter combinations look
- Recall and compare the appearance of words
- Recognise what letters look like and how to write them
- Recognise that letters can be grouped in particular ways, e.g. endings

MORPHEMIC KNOWLEDGE

The meaning of words and the way they take different spellings when they change form
- How compound words are constructed
- Suffixes and prefixes and rule generalizations

ETYMOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

The derivation of words
- Roots of words and word meanings, origins and history
- Clusters of letters that not only look the same but are related in meaning, often because of their root

If you have any questions at all please speak to your child's class teacher.

Reading Eggs

This year students from K-6 will be using the computer reading program, 'Reading Eggs'. Students will access Reading Eggs during class time and can also do so at home. Reading Eggs is a valuable educational tool that will reinforce English skills students are learning in class. Students are encouraged to use Reading Eggs at home. Teachers have access to students' progress and results.

Your child's login name and password will be sent home in the coming weeks. The program costs $10 per student and will be billed to your Term 1 fees. If you have any questions regarding Reading Eggs please ask your child's class teacher.
Learning Support includes Reading Recovery and Multilit

Dear Parents,

I am the new Reading Recovery and Learning Support Teacher at Mimosa P.S. I have been teaching in Northern Beaches Schools for over 20 years as a classroom teacher. Coincidentally I previously taught at Mimosa P.S. from 1997 to 1981 when I left to have the first of my four children. In 2008 I trained as a Reading Recovery teacher at Manly Vale Public School and enjoyed my five years there. I am excited to be back at Mimosa and look forward to working with your lovely children.

I encourage you to read the call for Multilit Tutors also in this newsletter. Please consider helping as the strategies you learn will help you when you are reading with your own children.

Regards,

Leonie Somerville

Canteen Update

Easter Bun Fundraiser

The canteen committee have organised an Easter Bun Fundraiser in conjunction with Balfours Bakery.
We will be sending home an order form in the next couple of days. Last orders will be 19th March with delivery to the school expected 9th April. Keep an eye out!!

Canteen Price Update

The new canteen price list is included in this newsletter again. Please make sure you use the new 2014 prices.
MultiLit Tutors Wanted

MultiLit has been successfully running at Mimosa since 2012. We are looking for wonderful volunteers to assist us in maintaining this program.

What is MultiLit?
MultiLit (or ‘Making Up Lost Time in Literacy’) is an intensive, structured and systematic program which aims to address the needs of low progress readers.

What students would be involved? The students involved will be those students from Years 2 to 6 that have been identified in need of extra reading support.

When will MultiLit take place? MultiLit is a 20 week program. From 9:15-11:15 Monday to Thursday. The 1st Student intake is in Term 2. The 2nd student intake is in Term 4.

Student Selection:
10 students will be selected based on priority of need. Class teachers will carry out assessments and observations and then they will nominate students who would be suitable for the program. After which, the Learning Support Team, the School Counselor and the Principal will discuss and prioritise which students will be placed on the MultiLit program. Parents will be informed if their child has been selected. This selection process will be strictly adhered too and students with the greatest needs will be offered a place first.

Helpers Needed:
In order for MultiLit to be carried out effectively we will require tutors or volunteers to help students complete this program. Volunteers will be needed Monday to Thursday from 9:15-11:15. The sessions will be 40 minutes, one-to-one with tutor and student in the staffroom. Therefore, a minimum tutor time commitment a morning is 40 minutes. We would love your help either for 40 minutes, a full morning or a few mornings a week. Whatever you could offer would be great! All that is needed from you as a tutor is your ability to show patience and encouragement to those students on the program. If you yourself are unable to assist but you know a retiree, a grandparent or a neighbour who may be willing to help, please pass this information on to them. We encourage all parents to support this school initiative; however, if you are a volunteer this does not guarantee your child a placement in the program.

MultiLit Training Session:
We will be holding a training session later this term for volunteers. More information will be sent about this via email to those people who show an expression of interest. Please complete the information below and return to the school office if you would be interested in volunteering as a MultiLit tutor.

Thank you for your support.

The Multilit Team

MultiLit - Tutor Expression of Interest
Please complete the information below and return it to the office if you are interested in becoming a Multi-Lit Tutor.

Name ____________________________________________
Email ____________________________________________
Phone ____________________________________________

Possible Availability:
Please tick which days and times that you could possibly assist as a MultiLit tutor.

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<td>26 Feb Scripture &amp; Ethics Commences</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>3 Mar</td>
<td>4 Mar Davidson High School Open Night</td>
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<td>6 Mar Special Canteen Day Induction Day Assembly 2:15</td>
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<td>17 Mar</td>
<td>18 Mar School Cross Country</td>
<td>19 Mar</td>
<td>20 Mar Cross Country wet weather back up</td>
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<td>25 Mar Area North Swimming Carnival Homebush</td>
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<td>31 Mar Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>1 Apr Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>7 Apr P. &amp; C. Meeting</td>
<td>8 Apr</td>
<td>9 Apr State Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>10 Apr State Swimming Carnival Students last day of Term 1</td>
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<td>29 Apr Year 3 Excursion</td>
<td>30 Apr Year 4 Excursion</td>
<td>1 May</td>
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These dates were correct at the time of publication. The dates are not exhaustive and may be added to or amended as the term progresses. All communication regarding variations to the Term 1 Calendar will be communicated to parents through Mimosa Matters or in specific school notes.
**Mimosa Canteen Menu 2014**

**TERM ONE**

**Hot Recess Snacks**
Various mini hot snacks are available to purchase over the counter during recess @ 50c per piece.
See Blackboard for specials (Eg: Chicken breast crackles, mini pizzas, garlic bread, mini spring rolls)
Lunch order bags $0.10

**Sandwiches, Rolls & Wraps**
Sandwiches are spread with low fat margarine & made with wholesome bread. Bread Roll or Wrap (add .50c)
- Jam, Honey or Vegemite $1.50
- Cheese $2.00
- Ham $2.50
- Egg $2.00
- Chicken, Lettuce & Mayo $3.00
- Add Salad to any above $1.00
- Extra: Individually - tomato, lettuce, carrot, cucumber, beetroot, cheese $0.50

**Hot Food**
- Chicken Burger $3.50
- Lettuce & mayonnaise $3.50
- Beef Burger $3.50
- Sausage (chicken, tomato, cheese & tomato sauce) $3.50
- Chicken Tender, lettuce, tomato & mayonnaise $3.50
- Homemade* Twista Pasta $3.50
  with Bolognese sauce
- Homemade* Macaroni Cheese $3.50
  with light milk, cheese & ham
- Homemade* Fried Rice $3.50
- Lite Meat Pie $3.40
- Mini Meat Pie $1.50
- Lite Sausage Roll $2.70
- Pizza Rounder (ham & cheese) $2.70
- Fantastic Noodles in cup $2.30
- Chicken Nuggets & Small Salad $2.60
  - 3 nuggets $2.60
  - 5 nuggets $3.20
- Hot Cheese Rolls Half $1.00
  Full $2.00
- Add Ham/Tomato Each $0.50
- Tomato sauce portion $0.25

**Salad Boxes & Fruit**
- Salad box $3.00
  (lettuce, tomato, carrot, cucumber, beetroot)
- Add meat/tuna (add $1.00 each)
- Egg/Cheddar (add $0.50 each)
- Piece of fruit (incl slinky apple) $1.20
- Fruit Salad small $1.20

'Homemade' means made on the premises of the canteen.

**Snack Items**
- Hard Boiled Egg $1.00
- Jumpy's (Chicken/S&W/BBQ) $1.00
- Real McCoy Chips $1.00
- Cookie $0.70
- Ginger Bread Man $1.40
- Jelly/Yoghurt frogs (max 4) each $0.10
- Popcorn $1.00
- Noodle Snacks $0.50

**Drinks**
- Water – (600 ml) $0.70
- Juice Popper 100% (250ml) $1.00
- Flavoured Milk 300ml $1.60
- Chocolate or Strawberry $1.60
- Quench Sparkling Flavoured Water (various Flavours) $1.70
- Play Water – Still Water (various Flavours) $1.70

**Frozen Snack Items**
- Frozen Fruit Jellies $0.40
- Frozen Fruit Yoghurt $1.50
- Fruit Stacks $0.60
- Bulla Ice Cream tubs $1.10
- Mosoies (chocolate/strawberry) $1.20
- Paddle Pops $1.50
- Berri Fruit Cups $0.70
- Calippo $0.80
- Juices Apple/Blackcurrant $0.50

**Green** = indicates more healthy & nutritional food/drink choices.
**Amber** = foods that are not as healthy for you, so go SLOW and choose carefully, but better than red!

**SUSHI WEDNESDAY**
- Chicken Teriyaki Roll $3.00
- Cooked Tuna & Cucumber Roll $3.00
- Raw Salmon & Avocado Roll $3.00
- Mini Avocado Box $4.00
- Mini Cooked Tuna Box $4.00
- Mini Avocado Box $4.00

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**CAFE OPEN**
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Recess from 11.15am - 11.35am
Lunch from 12.55pm - 1.15pm

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**Please ensure lunch order bags are large enough to hold the order – bags available to purchase at canteen. (10c)
(Any change due will be taped to the front of the lunch bag).**

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**PRE-SCHOOL**
- Chicken nuggets $1.50
- Sausage roll (chicken) $2.00
- Chicken burger $3.50
- Lettuce, tomato, cheese & tomato sauce $3.50
- Ham, cheese & tomato sauce $3.50
- Sheep’s milk cheese and ham $3.50
- Monte Cristo $3.50

****This is an interim menu for 2014 and items and prices may change as required. Any changes will be notified through the P&C or School Newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions please email: mimosasacanteen@gmail.com**
Dear Parents/Guardians of Year 6 students,

The Forest High School will be running their GATS Test on Saturday 15th March from 9am to 11.30am in the school hall.

Students wishing to be placed in our Gifted and Talented class for Year 7 2015 must first sit for this test. The Year 7 G&T class for Year 7 2015 will be determined after close examination of the test results and the students' NAPLAN results from Year 5.

The cost of the test is $20.00, payable on the day. Students are to bring a 2B or B pencil, an eraser and a ruler. No calculators or dictionaries can be used.

The test consists of three parts:

Part 1 - Mathematics - 40 multiple-choice questions.

Part 2 - Reading and language - 40 multiple-choice questions

Part 3 - One writing task

Students are requested to arrive at The Forest High School by 8.45am for a 9am start. They are also requested to bring a copy of their NAPLAN results on the day of the test.

If you would like your child to sit for this test please ring The Forest High School on 94515111 and register your name, your child's name, address and phone number. Please register before Friday 7th March.

Mrs Jane Dean
Deputy Principal