



# MILLFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWS



**19<sup>th</sup> February, 2016**

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**Week 4, Term 1**

## Responsible and Respectful Use of Social Media

Times have changed. A few years ago parents discussed concerns or issues with friends at the school gate. Today, with the internet, mobile phones and social media, discussions between you and your friends can reach a far wider audience than ever before. Social media can provide an enjoyable way to socialise online and keep you connected with what is going on in your school community. While these technologies can be great for sharing ideas and keeping in touch, don't forget that comments about your school community can have greater impact than expected and can have very real consequences for the reputations of the school and individuals including teachers, principals, other parents, students and yourself. As a parent and carer, you are your child's first role model when it comes to online behaviour. Make sure your online conduct demonstrates how they can use social media respectfully and safely. There are also legal implications around what people are able to post and share about others. The idea of privacy in the online world can be confusing but essentially posting or sharing personal information about another person online requires consent.



Schools are always looking for feedback and are happy to help with any concerns or queries when they can. If you are worried about an aspect of school life, please contact your child's teacher or principal as often it can be fixed very quickly, or the facts explained. See the attached sheet for more information. (c) Vic Department of Education

## Small School's Swimming Carnival Success

Congratulations to all of our swimmers who participated at the small school carnival on Tuesday. There were some fantastic individual results, and plenty of personal bests. Many of our students won their heats so we are hopeful the times will qualify for the zone carnival to be held next Thursday. Students will be notified as soon as we have the results.

## If you do just one thing with your child each week –Read, read, read!

Research shows that reading with your child has the largest impact on school success. Reading opens the door to all subject content and is a skill that is vital to a successful future. This week all students have received their home readers. These can be swapped as many times through the week as you wish, although for younger students it is recommended that you read a text 3-5 times to build fluency and accuracy each time. Don't forget that reading with your child can take many forms including the child reading to you, you reading to your child or shared reading. If you need any extra tips please see your child's teacher.

## *Dates for your Calendar*

### Term 1

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb**  
Zone Swimming

**Fri 25<sup>th</sup>-Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Mar**  
Easter long weekend

### Attachments

Unexplained absences  
Accounts  
Receipts

### Returns

Student details update

## Cessnock Show 2016 Schools Fruit and Vegetable Competition

As you may know, Millfield PS has been the reigning vegetable growing champions for the past 2 years. This year the rules have changed slightly so we need YOUR HELP to maintain our champion shield!



### Rules and classes

- All produce must be grown by or with the assistance of a student in the school OR HOME GARDEN.
- **Tomatoes** with stem, bunch of 3, large or small varieties
- **Sweet Corn** in husk, 3, any variety
- **Zucchini** with stem, 3, any variety
- **Cucumber** with stem, 3, any variety
- **Lettuce**, 1, any variety
- Any fruit or vegetable, presented with stem where appropriate

Please bring your winning produce to the front office by WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY so Miss Cornish can enter them into the show by the closing date. Thank you!

## Recognising our safe, respectful and responsible learners

### Class Awards K

**Grace Eddy** outstanding efforts in mathematics this week  
**Moana James** being a happy student who is always ready to learn

### Class Awards S1

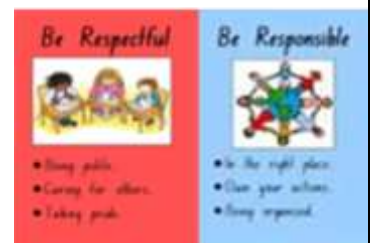
**Kayeley Thompson** contributing great answers in maths  
**Christopher Wright** working hard and having fun in all activities

### Class Awards S2

**Joshua Lucock** always doing his absolute best. What a wonderful start to 2016  
**Winter Barnes** improved concentration and work completion. Well done!

### Class Awards S3

**Ebony Linton** working on being a fluent reader!  
**Trent Singleton** always trying his best in all KLAS



### Principal's Award

Congratulations to Lily Brell who this week receives the Principal's award. Lily demonstrated a huge effort at the swimming carnival, and challenged herself in an area that is not one of her strengths. Well done Lily.



## P&C News

Thanks to all parents who attended our first P&C meeting for the year. It was a fabulous turnout. We have an exciting year planned with our usual great fundraisers taking place which provide some great resources for our kids. A huge thankyou also to all families and friends who supported our pizza night on Tuesday. We are still waiting to get a total back from Dominos but it looks like it was well worth it.

Our next P&C meeting will be our annual AGM. to be held on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March**. If you wish to become involved in an executive role, please nominate by contacting Mr Anderson.

### Canteen Helpers Required

Our canteen is well and truly up and running with some great new products on offer. We are looking for helpers of a Monday, so if you are able to help out one Monday a month, or even for a short time of a Morning please add your name to a blank space and return the below roster sheet. We thank everyone for their support. All helpers will be supported by an experienced canteen member.

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### *Canteen Roster ( Term 1 2016)*

Mon 29/2	Teresa Butler		
Mon 7/3	Felicity Lucock		
Mon 14/3	Teresa Butler		
Mon 21/3	Felicity Lucock		
Mon 28/3	Easter Monday – No Canteen		
Mon 4/4	Teresa Butler		

# Good for Kids good for life

## SCREEN FREE QUIET TIME

Some families have a daily quiet time where everyone takes a break. Do your children watch movies during their quiet time?

Why not try some of these activities instead to reduce the amount of screen time they are exposed to during the day and to keep their minds active!

- 🍏 Reading books
- 🍏 Arts and crafts
- 🍏 Puzzles
- 🍏 Card games
- 🍏 Listening to some relaxing music
- 🍏 Spending time in the garden



Adapted from: Murrumbidgee Local Health District Quick Bites



**Health**  
Hunter New England  
Local Health District

PHONE 4924 6499

## Social Media & Your School

Be a positive role model by demonstrating respectful and responsible behaviours when communicating with and about your child's school online.



### Times have changed

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Social media can provide an enjoyable way to socialise online and keep you connected with what is going on in your school community.

While these technologies can be great for sharing ideas and keeping in touch, don't forget that comments about your school community can have greater impact than expected and can have very real consequences for the reputations of individuals including teachers, principals, other parents, students and yourself.

As a parent and carer, you are your child's first role model when it comes to online behaviour. Make sure your online conduct demonstrates how they can use social media respectfully and safely.



There are also legal implications around what people are able to post and share about others. The idea of privacy in the online world can be confusing but essentially posting or sharing personal information about another person online requires consent.

### Top tips for positive and respectful online communication with your school community

Avoid posting negative comments that identify your school or individuals.

Feedback from the school community is important for schools and the department. Each school has a complaints process for raising concerns. If you have a concern, rather than go online, speak directly to your child's teacher, or Principal.

If after having this conversation you feel that your concerns have not been resolved, you can contact the **Community Liaison Officer** at your closest Department of Education and Training Regional Office, who will assist you and the school to find a solution.

Remember: serious instances of inappropriate online behavior may constitute a criminal offence and become a police matter. School staff may obtain personal legal advice if they feel that online content seriously impacts their reputation.

Try not to be emotive or hasty.  
Keep comments calm and polite.

Before you post something online about your child's school ask yourself:

- Am I being a good role model for my child?
- Will this information reflect badly on me?
- Does the school community or individual really need to know this information?
- Is this information relevant, helpful and positive?
- Will this information upset or embarrass the school community or an individual?
- Am I making situation worse?

If things do get heated online consider logging out and taking time to relax.



## Get to know social media.

It may be helpful to research online networks and mobile applications. In particular look at:

Terms of Use  
Policies and procedures for  
the removal of content  
Privacy settings

## Be proactive.

If you see something you feel should be removed, flag it. Some sites will allow you to do this anonymously.

## Address inappropriate content.

If you encounter inappropriate content online, there are a number of steps you can take:

Refrain from responding.

If you think the content is explicit, pornographic or exploitative of minors, contact the eSafety Commission <https://esafety.gov.au/complaints-and-reporting>

If the inappropriate or negative comments are in regards to your child's school or members of the school community you should also contact the school Principal. Report the content to the social media provider (e.g. Facebook). Providers can remove content that contravenes their Terms of Use.