Settling In
I have enjoyed meeting with the parents and carers, before and after school, as the children settle in for another exciting year of learning at Marden Road. I thank all of our hard working staff for the long hours they’ve put in to get all of our great teaching and learning programs up and running.

Based on the student enrolment number of 651 we have formed 26 classes this year.

We have established five Kindergarten classes and it is very pleasing to see the children settling happily into school life and making a great start to a busy year.

Parents, don’t forget students need to be at school before the bell at 8:55am so they don’t miss any important learning at the start of the day. Thank you to all parents for waiting in the playground for their children after school, this helps to avoid congestion on the classroom verandahs and walkways. Please make sure you are there every day by 2:55pm. Students may get very upset if they think mum or dad is not coming.

Parent Expo
Last Wednesday afternoon many parents and their children joined us at our first Parent Expo. I thought we had an outstanding range of information being presented by the teachers and many community groups that support our school. All of the parents that I spoke to expressed their gratitude for staging this event and thought it was very worthwhile. Many wanted us to do it again every term!

Congratulations and thank you to the organising committee and everyone that helped make the afternoon a success.

Swimming Carnival
Last Thursday 6th February, 23 of our students went to Michael Wenden pool to see if they could qualify to be in our school team that will be competing at the Liverpool Zone carnival. Congratulations to Claudia Theuma, Luka Strbac, Anthony Theuma, Armina Brkic, Chaantya Diwakar, Adem Cosic and Uros Kabic for being successful in qualifying.

Scripture
Next Thursday, 27th February, scripture classes will begin for all grades from K-6. Years 3-6 classes start at 8:55am and K-2 classes at 9:25am.

Classes that will be offered are: Anglican, Catholic, Mandeans, Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist. Those children not attending a scripture class will attend a non-scripture group, supervised by one of our teachers.

Unfortunately, this year there will be no Serbian Orthodox scripture group as there is no scripture teacher to take the class.

Greg Way
Principal

Coming Events for Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>Scripture classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 February</td>
<td>Summer PSSA sport begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>Surf awareness talk</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>Yr6 Parent High School information night</td>
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<tr>
<td>17-28 March</td>
<td>Learn to swim classes</td>
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<td>ببدء دروس الدين لجميع الصفوف</td>
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<td>27 March</td>
<td>27 شباع</td>
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<td>28 March</td>
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<td>4 March</td>
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<td>11 March</td>
<td>11 أذار</td>
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<tr>
<td>17-28 March</td>
<td>17-28 أذار</td>
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White Academic Awards
- Ronan Aguilar SA
- Tanisha Moti 4C
- Sai Maharana 4C
- Llana Mijbil SS
- Bianca Chaudhary 4C
- Sonja Vujanic SM

Silver Behaviour Awards
- Maram Alshabebi 2D
- Haroon Saboory SA
Assembly Items
Each week a class performs at the school assemblies. Listed below are the future items.

Week 4 – 21st February 3-6 – 10am No Item
K-2 – 11.15am No Item
Week 5 – 28th February Whole school Assembly
Week 6– 7th March 3-6 - 10am SH
K-2 – 11.15am 2H

Summer PSSA Sport
Congratulations to all the students selected in summer PSSA teams. We are still waiting on payment and notes from some students. Payment must be made and notes returned immediately because the competition starts next week in week 5. Thank you to our coaches Miss Hatch, Mrs Punch, Mr Donnan, Mr Teasdale and Mr Clayton for their hard work selecting and organising teams.

Mrs Small

After School Sport
After school sports starts this week. Sessions are held Monday years 1-2 and Thursday 3-6 from 3.00pm to 4.15pm. Please note there are still some vacancies for our Monday Session.

Foyer Display
Every week a class will showcase their classroom work in our foyer. Listed below are the classes for the coming weeks. Come in and see our wonderful display.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Kids Matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>SM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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P & C
The P & C are organising a St Patricks Day Fundraiser on Monday the 17th of March. Students are to wear something Green, with a gold coin donation on the day. Our Annual General Meeting will be held Wednesday 12th March at 3.15pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Birthday Celebrations
If you wish to send in something to celebrate your child’s birthday, we are asking parents to send cupcakes or donuts rather than whole cakes. Also, if you are sending in lolly bags please do not add party poppers as they contain gun powder.

Reminder: Marsden Road P/S is a nut free zone.

School Banking
School banking has been cancelled for the next two weeks. All bank books that were handed in last Thursday will be held here at the school, unless otherwise collected from the office by a parent. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Word Wizards
Each week at our school 3-6 assembly I review a book that I have enjoyed reading. Then I choose five 'Tier Three' words from that book that I particularly like. These five words are listed on a large white sheet stuck onto the window outside my office. This week, the words are:

determination
devastated
momentarily
gorgeous
endured

Students are encouraged to show they know how to use these words in a weekly 'Word Wizard' challenge. Students can write the words in sentences, draw pictures or any other creative response to show they know how to use the words appropriately.

Entries into this weekly challenge need to be put into the Word Wizard box at the front office. If students do this by the end of each Thursday, they will be recognised the next day. Every entry will be recognised on a Word Wizard chart, personalised for each student who participates. The most impressive entries each week will be shared at the school assembly. If students would like to enter the weekly challenge, please make sure their name and class is somewhere on the entry.

Miss Hay
Deputy Principal

Parent Café
Yoga Classes have started every Tuesday from 1.45pm -2.45pm (parents and toddlers classes) $5 an Adult - $2 per child (for the first 5 weeks the Parent Cafe will subsidise this). Parent Cafe Wednesday 9am - 11am on the 26th February. Women on Wheels Program - Run by Peter Warren - come and learn how to save money $$$$ and look after your car/every participant receives a special gift. Please book in at the school office, places are limited. Also there is a First Aide course on Wednesday 5th March at 9am -11am. $25.00 per person, Please book in at the office.

Any questions don’t hesitate to contact Carol on 0412 125 184

Looking forward to meeting you all this year.

Thanks Carol
Parent Expo

Thank you to all students, parents, staff and community members who attended the inaugural Marsden Road Parent Expo. With a BBQ, footballs flying, bankers banking, lots of chatting and freebies galore, the afternoon proved quite a success. There was lots of information about our school, as well as many community groups in the area. If you were unable to attend, be sure to talk to your child’s teacher about anything you may have missed.

Make sure your child comes to school every day!

All children have a right to an education. Only by regular school attendance can children make the most of educational opportunities, leading to greater social and economic outcomes.

Schools play a vital role in the social and emotional development of children. Regular attendance enables students to develop a sense of belonging to a peer group and assists in building important coping and friendship skills. Confident children are less likely to engage in anti-social behaviour. If students miss out on the basic skills in the early years of school, they may experience learning problems in later years.

Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as a part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences. Parents and schools have specific responsibilities concerning children’s attendance at school.

Responsibilities of parents

The Education Act 1990 requires that parents (including carers) ensure that children of compulsory school age are enrolled at and regularly attend school, or are registered with the Office of the Board of Studies NSW for home schooling. The New South Wales Department of Education and Training may take legal action against parents and carers who do not send their children to school without a valid reason.

Next time, I will include information about the responsibilities of principals in relation to school attendance.

Miss Hay
Deputy Principal
This information is taken from the DEC attendance information sheet located at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/schoolsweb/gotoschool/a-z/yr2008/attendanceinfoa.pdf

Head lice

Head lice have been detected in the school. Head lice spread very easily but are easily cured with special preparations available from chemists. Could you please check your child’s hair and if lice or the eggs (nits—small white dots attached to the hair near ears and back of neck) are found, please arrange treatment.

LIBRARY NOTICE

We really need CUSHIONS

in our Library Lounge Room!!

Donations Welcome 😊

From Mrs Sheppard

Canteen Safety and Routines

Lately there have been some issues with placing lunch orders at the school canteen. This has involved some unsafe pushing and also some unfriendly talk with the canteen staff.

Please help the canteen staff by placing lunch orders in the silver lunch order drop box attached to the front of the canteen. If you need to write a lunch order when you are at school, please do this on the trolley, which will now be in front of the canteen in the morning. The trolley will have a copy of the menu, lunch bags and some pens. After the lunch order is written, place the bag with the money inside into the silver drop box. This will mean the serving window is kept free for people who would like to purchase food.

Some people have been concerned about not having the correct money for their lunch orders. The canteen staff will put any required change into the lunch bags.

At Marsden Road Public School, we value the following behaviour at our canteen–

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Be Safe</th>
<th>Line up quietly and in an orderly manner.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buy only for yourself using your own money.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Put your rubbish in the bin.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Move away once you have purchased.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Be Respectful</td>
<td>Wait patiently for your turn.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Use your manners.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Follow all prefect instructions.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Put lunch orders in on time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be a Learner</td>
<td>Wait your turn.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Check your change.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Make healthy and appropriate choices.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Know the menu.</td>
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