



# NEWSLETTER



13<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## Principal's Message

This term has been a very busy and positive one so far with many events to look forward to before the end of term including: Parent/Teacher Interviews, Harmony Day, Snail Trail and our hat parade. Special congratulations to the 20 exceptional students who were inducted as SRC members at our first whole school assembly for the year. They will all do an outstanding job, I am sure, and will make a positive difference for our students and our school. Special congratulations to all our students this term for their respectful behaviour during our Wednesday assemblies. It's been a pleasure and a privilege for me to be there and see the pride our students have for themselves and our school.

## School Swimming Carnival and Zone carnival

This term on 14<sup>th</sup> February Ms Ross and I attended our school swimming carnival. The students in attendance were beautifully behaved, tried their very best and were very supportive and encouraging to each other. It was a wonderful morning. Three lovely students qualified for zone: Riley Sleaman, Skyla Tynan and Lachlan Taylor. All three students did an outstanding job at zone and are to be commended to getting to this very high level of competition. Lachlan won two events, came second in another and third in two other events. He has qualified for Sydney West for three events and is reserve for two and will now go on to represent Blacktown. We could not be prouder of this amazing young person who clearly has a big future ahead of him in his chosen sport. Well done, Lachlan!

## School Website, School Facebook Page and Skoolbag APP

Our school website has been completely updated so I strongly encourage all parents to have a look. There is an abundance of up-to-date, useful information there. In addition to this, our school Facebook page is a positive page which is updated weekly and certainly worth regularly checking into. Well over 400 parents have now downloaded our skoolbag APP and this has become the main form of communication for our school. Please note that you can send an explanation for your child's absence from school and update your contact details via this APP using the e-forms option.

## Late Arrivals

Every morning we have students who are late for school. It is very important for all students to arrive at school on time every day. Every class commences their Reading, Writing and Spelling learning activities promptly at 9am after rolls are marked. Students who are late miss out on this important learning. If a child is just 10 -15 minutes late for school every day this will result in one hour of lost learning time every week totalling 10 hours a term. Many students regularly arrive at 9:30/10am and even later. These students are disadvantaged because they miss out on crucial learning time. This also applies when students are collected early and they miss out on afternoon learning activities.

## Attendance

It is a legal requirement that all children attend school every day from 9am to 3pm. The exceptions are: illness, injury or infectious disease. Periods of non attendance will affect a student's educational progress. Regular non attendance will result in failure to obtain the continuity in their education that is desirable and necessary for them to succeed and achieve. I thank all parents and carers for ensuring that their child attends school every day and on time.



## P&C

Our P&C meet on Wednesday nights at 5pm in the school library once a month. The dates for 2017 are as follows:

29<sup>th</sup> March, 26<sup>th</sup> April, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 26<sup>th</sup> July, 16<sup>th</sup> August, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 6<sup>th</sup> December

I strongly encourage all parents to attend these meetings. Our P&C work hard to support our students and our school. We'd love to see more parents involved.

## CULTIVATING INTELLECTUAL VIRTUES

What do educational 'results' look like? When educating nurses, accountants, teachers, physical therapists and software engineers, it's pretty straightforward to measure outcomes. But what about arts? The usual answer is that these educators are in the business of teaching students how to think. But what does it mean to 'know how to think'? Is there one right way to think? If so, what is it?



Is there a set of intellectual virtues that the whole school enterprise should be working toward, each with a moral dimension?

## INTELLECTUAL VIRTUES

### LOVE OF TRUTH

Finding the truth is difficult and our task has been made more difficult by a new relativism – you have your truth and I have mine, it's all a matter of perspective. What used to be regarded as absolute truth has evolved as diverse voices have enriched the public debate. Love of truth is an intellectual virtue because its absence has serious moral consequences. Relativism chips away at our fundamental respect for one another as human beings. When people have respect for the truth, they seek it out and speak it. Once truth becomes suspect, debates become little more than efforts at manipulation.

### HONESTY

Honesty enables students to face the limits of what they themselves know. It encourages them to own up to their mistakes and it allows them to acknowledge uncongenial truths about the world.

### FAIR-MINDEDNESS

Fair-mindedness is essential if we are to learn how to avoid motivated reasoning – the tendency to embrace evidence that is consistent with what we already believe and ignore what we don't want to hear. Fair-mindedness is essential in evaluating the arguments of others.

### HUMILITY

When people are humble, they can face up to their own mistakes and shortcomings and ask others for help.

### PERSEVERANCE

Little that's worth knowing comes easily and educators need to develop tenacity and grit in their students.

### COURAGE

Risk-taking is part of learning and so is stepping up in the face of disagreement by others, including those in authority.

### GOOD LISTENING

Tuning in to what others are saying opens the possibility that our views of the world and our plans for how to live in it may need modification.

### PERSPECTIVE AND EMPATHY

Everything is obvious once you know it. Teachers, at all levels, must remind themselves of what they were like before they understood something well so they will be able to explain it to their students.



## PRACTICAL WISDOM

Wisdom is what enables people to find the balance between timidity and recklessness, carelessness and obsessiveness, flightiness and stubbornness, speaking up and listening, trust and scepticism, empathy and detachment.

Wisdom is also what enables us to make difficult decisions when intellectual virtues conflict.

Being empathetic, fair, and open-minded often rubs up against fidelity to the truth. Practical wisdom is a master virtue.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF INTELLECTUAL VIRTUES

These qualities are essential to success in all parts of adult life.

People with intellectual virtues will be persistent, ask for help when they need it, provide help when others need it and not settle for expedient but inaccurate solutions to tough problems.

They will be flexible, able to admit to and learn from mistakes and open to change.

**Schools should be more systematic about developing these virtues.**

For instance, the questions we ask in class teach students how to ask questions.

Students watch who we call on, or don't, and learn about fairness.

We teach them when and how to interrupt by when and how we interrupt.

We teach them how to listen by how carefully we listen.

If they see us admitting that we don't know something, we encourage intellectual honesty as well as humility.

**We are always modelling. And students are always watching.** Acknowledgement: "Intellectual Virtues" by Barry Schwartz in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 26, 2015

*Warm regards,*

*Mandy Hollis, Principal*

## K-2 Hat Parade



On Friday

7<sup>th</sup> April, Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two will conclude Term One with a festive Hat Parade. We ask that parents work with their children at home to create an interesting hat (in an Easter theme or any other theme) to wear at our parade. We warmly invite parents, family and friends to attend the parade in the school hall at 2.15pm.

We look forward to seeing you there!

K-2 teachers



**BE SAFE**

## SNAIL TRAIL YEAR 6 FUNDRAISER Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March



We will be having a Snail Trail to raise funds for the Year 6 departing gift to the school.

Each class will be building a snail trail of small coins (no old 1 or 2 cent coins or foreign coins) to make the longest trail. There will be one winning class from K-2 and one from Years 3-6. To make sure it's fair, the winning class will be the longest trail per person in the class. The two classes will have an ice cream party to celebrate. Please start collecting your coins now!

Year 6 teachers

**BE RESPECTFUL**

## ENROL NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2018

If you know of any friends or neighbours that have a child turning 5 before the



31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 please ask at the administration office for an enrolment form.

### Important information:

• **Smart Start:** This program aims to help your child become familiar with the school environment and routines, and to develop their pre-skills in literacy and numeracy. Smart Start will run each Thursday from 9.15am to 10.45am, commencing in Term 3 - dates to be advised. The program will

**BE A LEARNER**



run for a number of weeks and finish mid November Term 4. Applications will be offered to all enrolled students for 2017 and will be sent by mail during early Term 3.

- **Teddy Bear's Picnic:**

In September dates to be advised.

- **Kindergarten Orientation:**

During November dates to be advised.

- **Parent Information Night:**

Date to be advised

## CANTEEN CLOSED ON MONDAYS



**LOVE**  
the **LIBRARY**

### Exciting news

#### from the Library:

The Premier's Reading Challenge starts today (Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March) and runs all the way through to Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> August in Term 3. The challenge is set by the Premier of NSW to encourage a love of reading for love and pleasure in students. Students can begin entering their PRC books online. (An instruction sheet on how to do this is attached). K-2 students will have some PRC books read to them during class time and entered by their class

teachers. K-2 students need to read 30 K-2 PRC books (5 of which can be non-PRC, personal choice books), 3-4 students must read 20 3-4 PRC Books (5 of which can be non-PRC, personal choice books) and 5-6 must also read 20 5-6 PRC Books (5 of which can be non PRC, personal choice books), Students who successfully complete the challenge will receive a Challenge Completion Certificate in Term 4 during K-2 and 3-6 assemblies. Students who have successfully completed the challenge for: four consecutive years receive a Gold Certificate, for 7 consecutive years receive a Platinum Certification and every year from years 3 to 9 (inclusive of year 9) receive the PRC Medal - these students are placed on an Honour Roll to track each level of completion. Personal Reading Logs are available from the library or on the PRC website. So get your reading on!!

#### INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS COMPETITION (ICAS) 2017

#### LAST CHANCE TO ENTER

The International Schools English, Mathematics and Spelling Studies competitions are on again this year.

Parents of students in Years 3-6 may elect to have their children sit any or all of the competitions. There is a cost of \$9 each for English and Mathematics and \$12 for Spelling. All students will



receive certificates and a full analysis of their results.

#### Spelling Comp Years 3-6

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

#### English Comp Years 3-6

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August**

#### Maths Comp Years 3-6

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

These competitions are not compulsory. If you wish your child to participate, please send the note given to children on Friday or ask at the office. Forms no later than the **closing date of Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> March**, as paperwork must be processed. Please NO late entries.

### Marayong South Public School Weekly Breakfast Club



To help promote healthy eating, Marayong South will be hosting a weekly breakfast club on

**Thursday & Friday mornings at 8.30am - 8.50am**

The weekly breakfast club will be held outside of the School Library and will be offering toast and fruit.

50 cent donations are welcome but not mandatory.

Breakfast Club are looking for volunteers to help on Thursday and Friday mornings from 8.15am. If you are available, please see Mrs Cooper.



## Assembly Roster

Weeks 8-11

Wednesdays at 2pm

Week 8 5N

Week 9 1/2S

Week 10 5/6R

Week 11 No assembly



## **SRC FUNDRAISER CRAZY HAIR DAY**

*On Thursday, 23rd March, it's Crazy Hair Day. For a gold coin donation, students can come to school with crazy hairstyles to support the Cancer Council's Shave for a Cure initiative. The SRC be offering coloured hairspray for \$1 at Recess and they will sell hair clips starting from 50c each.*



### PLEASE NOTE

**THE DRIVEWAY IS CLOSED  
FROM 8AM – 4PM TO TRAFFIC  
FOR THE SAFETY  
OF YOUR CHILDREN  
STAFF & DELIVERIES ONLY  
PARKING IN THE SCHOOL  
GROUPS IS PROHIBITED  
IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS**

Parents please  
update your  
information if you  
have changed your  
address, phone  
numbers or  
emergency contacts.



**Parent may, use any  
of the following: call  
in, phone, use the  
Skoolbag app or  
email the school with  
their updates.**

[Marayongs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Marayongs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



- **School Voluntary  
Levy Contribution  
for Term 1 overdue  
\$30 or full year  
payment \$60 per  
student**
- **Stage 2 Camp  
Full payment due by  
Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June  
2017, places  
available**
- **Stage 3 Camp  
Full payment due by  
Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup>  
June 2017, places  
available**

## Save the Date!

**SCHOOL PHOTOS  
THURSDAY  
18<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
Week 4 Term 2  
Envelopes will be  
sent home early  
Term 2**



# PETER PAN

MARAYONG SOUTH WANDERERS

PETER PAN

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2017

PETER PAN the Pantomime 1pm show at the State Theatre. Todd McKenney will play Bonnie Lytgoe's in the up coming pantomime.

Stopping at Darling Harbour to eat.

COST \$105.00. Names with a deposit \$20, **Balance NO LATER THAN 1/5/2017**

Coach Leaves 10am

Pick Up: Lyton Street cnr Arthur Ave, Blacktown

Blacktown Station North Side near lift (Bus Interchange Stands)

For any further enquiries please phone Melva on 9621 5507

~Friends and neighbours most welcome~



## Beautiful The Carole King Musical

MARAYONG SOUTH WANDERERS

BEAUTIFUL the CAROLE KING MUSICAL

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Beautiful the Carole King Musical, 3pm show at Sydney Lyric Theatre. Before she was Carole King, Superstar, She was Carole Klein teenage songwriter Beautiful tells the inspiring true story of Carole King's remarkable rise to stardom, she fought her way into the record business as a Teenager and, by the time she reached her twenties, was writing hits for the biggest Acts in Rock'n'Roll. But it wasn't until her personal life began to crack that she finally managed to find her true voice, becoming one of the most successful acts in pop music history Some of her songs are ==WILL YOU LOVE ME TOMORROW, { You make me feel like } A NATURAL WOMAN, I FEEL THE EARTH MOVE, YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND, LOCOMOTION, SO FAR AWAY, ONE FINE DAY and IT'S TOO LATE.

Stopping at Darling Harbour to eat.

COST \$166.00 Names with a Deposit \$20, Balance NO LATER THAN 1-9-2017

Coach Leaves 12 pm

Pick Up: Lyton Street cnr Arthur Ave, Blacktown

Blacktown Station North Side near lift (Bus Interchange Stands)

For any further enquiries please phone Melva on 9621 5507

~Friends and neighbours most welcome~

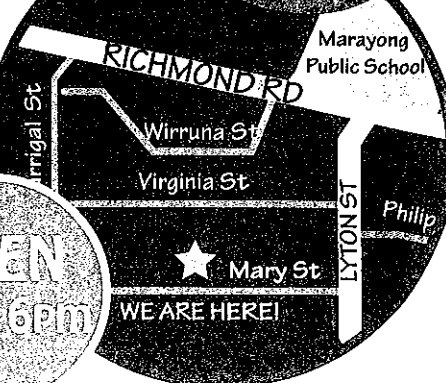
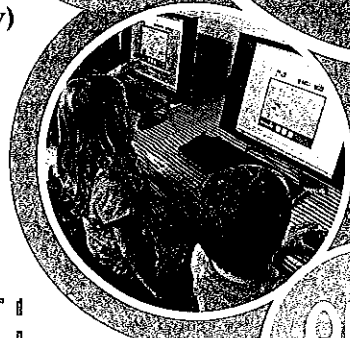
# Mary Street

## Childcare Centre & Preschool



- 40 place centre for 2-6 years
- High quality care and education
- Qualified, experienced & dedicated educators
- Focusing on the Early Years Learning Framework
- School Readiness Program (Numeracy & Literacy)
- Access your child's online portfolio
- Animal farm & vegi garden enclosed
- \$73 per day/CCB & CCR available
- Hot Lunch / Sun Hat/ Bed linen provided
- Free programs include:
  - Computer / Second Language / Science Experiment

**2017**  
**Enrol Now!**  
Limited Vacancies



**OPEN**  
7am-6pm

### SPECIAL BONUS COUPON

This coupon entitles the bearers children to 2 FREE WEEKS\*

(New Enrolments only)  
\*Terms and conditions apply

Phone: 9621-8778 • 15 Mary Street Blacktown NSW 2148 • [www.marystchildcare.com.au](http://www.marystchildcare.com.au)



Nutrition Snippet

## The simplest way

...to know the serves you need.

Eat It To Beat It helps families to eat enough serves of fruit and vegetables. We all need a different number of serves per day, depending on age.

How many serves a day?	Veg	Fruit
Adults	5+	2+
Breastfeeding women	7 1/2	2
12-18 (boys)	5 1/2	2
12-18 (girls)	5	2
9-11	5	2
4-8	4 1/2	1 1/2
2-3	2 1/2	1

A serve of fruit = 150g of fresh fruit or one medium or two small pieces, or one cup chopped fruit.

A serve of veg = 75g of veg or 1/2 cup cooked veg/legumes or 1/2 medium potato or one cup of salad.

For more information visit [www.eatittobeatit.com.au](http://www.eatittobeatit.com.au) or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://www.facebook.com/eatittobeatit)

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Western Sydney Local Health District Live Life Well 50:50:50 program.

**Health**  
NSW  
Western Sydney  
Local Health District

**Eat It To Beat It**

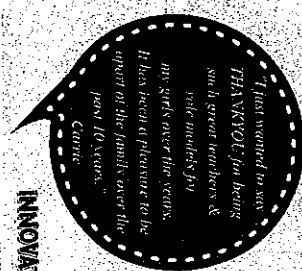


All Styles of Dance

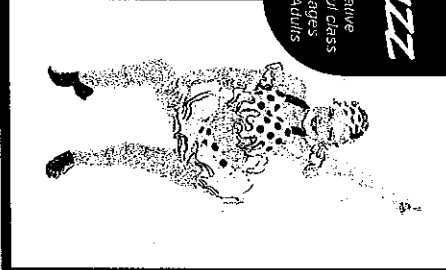
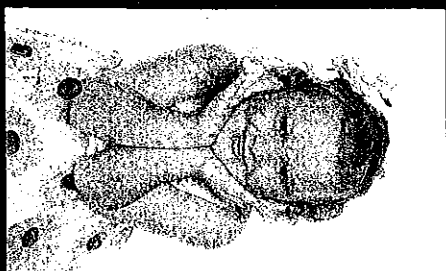


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*This adventurous & magical class will take your child on an exciting journey through dance & beyond.*



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*Jazz*

A creative and joyful class for all ages 5yrs - Adults

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Outstanding Teachers



Every Body Welcome.

Hip Hop

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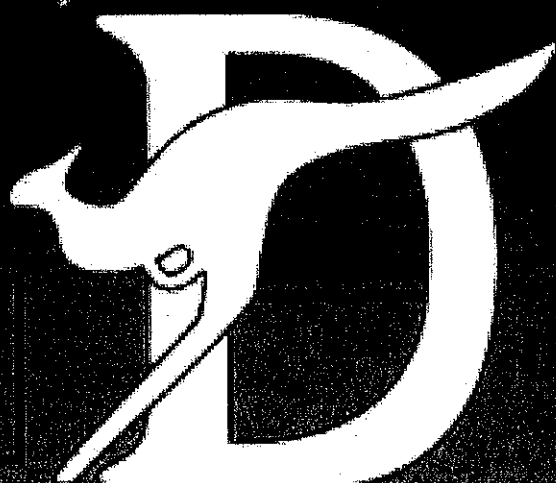
All styles of dance, for all styles of people! Classes held at Shelley Primary School  
For more information please call 0411 486 347 / 0414 348 774

## The Doonside Junior Rugby League Club

would like to invite you to join us as we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> year playing footy.

Registration's are now open.

The cost of registration:  
U6's \$100  
U7's - A grade \$140



Looking for Girl Players for our teams  
Under 13's - 18's

Rego includes:  
Insurance, shorts, socks and jersey \*

We are always looking for a few more Coaches, Managers and Trainers, if you are interested please contact Tracy Reynolds (club secretary) on 0435 429 056 or our facebook page @ Doonside Junior Rugby League Club

\* Free shorts & socks are only available when full rego is paid before round one