



Mac Valley Views

Newsletter - Week 5, Term 1, 2025

Principal: Sarah Allen



A huge thank you to the Hawkesbury Teacher's Association for their generous donation of this beautiful book on "The Mysteries of the Universe" recognising all of our students for their resilience in 2024 and to Mrs Butler for her expertise building us this awesome new cubby house! The children all love both!



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 1 2025

- 28 Feb - Parent Information & P&C Meeting
- 23 Mar-7 Apr - Basketball lessons (Mondays)
- 10 Mar - Dental Health visit
- 14 Mar - Swimming & Water Safety Yrs 1-5
- 12-24 Mar - NAPLAN
- 28 Mar - Swimming & Water Safety YRs 1-5
- 2 Apr - Envision Optometrists - eye tests
- 11 Apr - X Country Carnival at Maroota PS
- 11 Apr - Last day of Term 1, 2025

Principal's Report

Dear Families and Friends,

We are so fortunate to have such wonderful resources for the children to learn with. The Year 4/5 students are especially lucky to have their own set of three books, which I believe are the most beautifully published books I've ever seen. These are Emily Rodda's newly released fantasy trilogy called Landovel. Emily is the renowned author of Australian classics like Rowan of Rin and the Deltora Quest series. We have just begun to delve into the first story of a boy who was captured and kept as the poison taster for the tyrant of El - sounds like a thrilling tale about to unfold!

Exploring the box and the book covers, I just loved the children's responses, particularly when Max put the book to his nose and breathed deeply and said how much he loves the smell of a new book!

In an age where screens dominate, I just loved this moment, my heart singing for the memories they are creating.

Happy reading! Kind regards.....Sarah

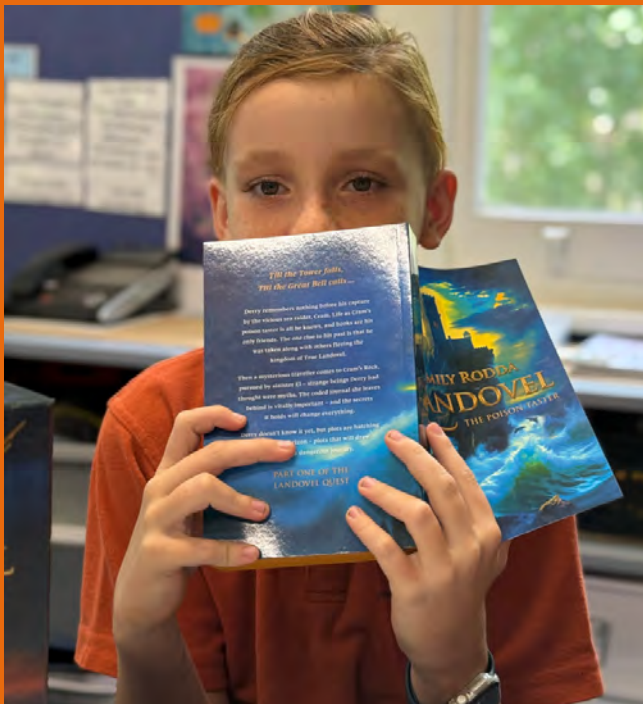
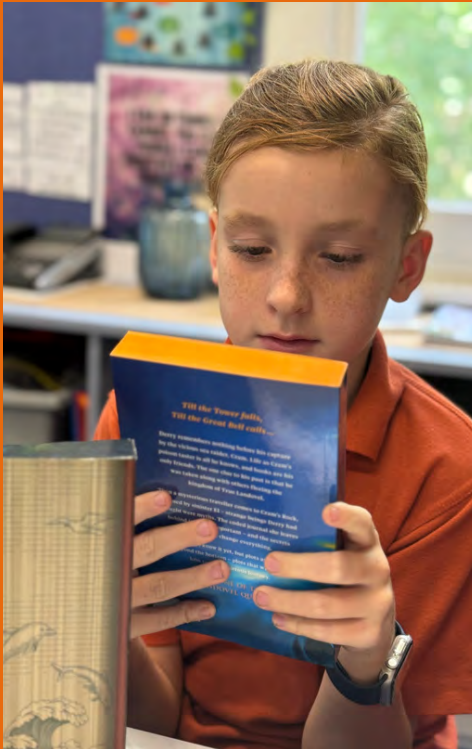
Reminder

Notes due back...

- ...Forms for Dental Health Visit
- ...Swimming permission note (Yrs 1-5)
- ...Annual General Permission forms

Inspiring Joyful Learning

New books
for Years 4/5





This week we have been practising how to form upper and lower case letters using playdough.

We have also been counting collections using one to one correspondence.

Students have enjoyed using water colours to create artistic masterpieces.



Peer Support
Activities



What a wonderful bunch of school
leaders we have to assist in
supporting our K/1 Group!



Basketball

Our skills are improving each week
under the expert guidance of Ms Kate!





Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)



education.nsw.gov.au

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



More information

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

NSW Department of Education

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

education.nsw.gov.au

THE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

Term 2

Thursday 8th May 2025

COMING SOON!
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

MACDONALD VALLEY



ENROLLING NOW FOR 2025

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY

Are you looking for care for your little one in a safe nurturing environment? We provide the opportunity for 0-5 year olds to have fun learning experiences and make some new friends in our Valley community. We are located at Macdonald Valley Public School, Central Macdonald, and have spots available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you would like to know more please email or phone us.

macvalleyfdc@outlook.com

Simone Butler on **0413 683 553**

Rachel Slater on **0459 420 261**

ATTENDANCE

- We are here to support your child in getting the most out of their learning, which starts with them attending school every day.
- If your child cannot be at school because they are sick, have a medical appointment or other reasons, please inform us of their absence. You can contact our School Office on: 4568 2120

UNIFORM UPDATE: A bulk jacket order will be placed soon...If you are wanting to order a water repellent fleecy lined jacket for your child please pay online and return an order form to the School Office before March 3, 2025



GET BACK TO SCHOOL READY

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Download today to keep up to date with school information. Notices, newsletters, absentee notifications and much more.

Simple Free Download
In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.



MACDONALD VALLEY



TERM 1, WEEK 3

To celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Day on Monday 17th February we focused on being kind to our friends at Day Care. After a play at the school playground on Monday we found lots of beautiful bark on a nature walk, which we used to make a Kindness Tree. The children were rewarded during the week if they did something kind towards their friends. It was really lovely to witness many different acts of kindness from all the children and they loved being able to chose a heart and find a place on the tree for it. It is looking rather full after a week but there is definitely still more room for more kindness next week.

NEXT WEEK

We will be completing our Emergency drills and are looking forward to welcoming Logan back to Day Care!



Macdonald Valley Public School is willing to support advertisements for local businesses and community functions for our youth, however parents will need to assess for themselves the quality of products and services advertised and the suitable management of functions attended by their children.

MAC VALLEY STARS!

We are very proud of our students' achievements in external events and competitions and are committed to recognising their achievements, however, this cannot happen unless we are informed.

Please ring us or send us something in writing if your child or a group of students achieve success in external events so we can recognise their achievements in our weekly newsletters.

Mrs Stafford
School Administrative Manager



P&C NOTICEBOARD

Our P&C meetings are held once a term.
Our next P&C meeting will be held from 3:30pm
on Friday, 28th February 2025

ALL WELCOME!

P&C Committee

President: Emily Streckfuss

Vice Presidents: Susan Walker & Ieva Aboltins

Secretary: Fiona Kelly

Treasurer: Tanya O'Neill

Uniform Coordinator: Ieva Aboltins

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