



# MPS Matters Newsletter

TERM 4

WEEK 4

2025

Marrickville PS  
Cadigal Country  
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[facebook.com/marrickvillepublicschool](https://facebook.com/marrickvillepublicschool)

*We acknowledge the Cadigal People of the Eora Nation, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which our school is built.*

## Upcoming Events

Week 4	
Thursday 6 November	K-6 Assembly hosted by KZ - 2.45pm in the hall
Friday 7 November	Year 3-6 Sport & Enrichment groups
Week 5	
Monday 10 November	SISA gymnastics program
Tuesday 11 November	Kindergarten Orientation 1 9.30am - 11am
Tuesday 11 November	Stage 3 Interrelate program
Wednesday 12 November	Year 6 Mini-Fete
Week 6	
Tuesday 18 November	Kindergarten Orientation 2 9.30am - 11am
Tuesday 18 November	Stage 3 Interrelate Program
Thursday 20 November	PJ Day (SRC Fundraiser for RPA Hospital School)
Week 7	
Tuesday 25 November	Kindergarten Orientation 3 9.30am - 11am
Tuesday 25 November	Stage 3 Interrelate Program
Wednesday 26 November	Emergency Evacuation & Lockdown Drill
Week 8	
Tuesday 2 December	Year 6 High School Orientation Day
Tuesday 2 December	Instructional Rounds for teachers
Thursday 4 December	K-2 Incursion - Mad About Science

## Principal Report

We received 80 student information forms from parents and carers that we will use when forming trial classes. We are planning on forming 10 classes next year, with an additional Stage 2 class. We will be holding Transition Days on Thursday 20 November and Wednesday 26 November.

Kindergarten Orientation Days commence next Tuesday and will continue for three successive weeks. At this point we have 34 students registered to begin next year, an increase of 3 from this year.

In staffing news, Mrs Emily Connell will be taking maternity leave in 2026, and Ms Megan Hutchinson will be taking on the crucial APCI role here at school. Mr Kieren Irons has relinquished his position here at MPS and we are waiting for the department to let us know how this role will be filled. Ms Donna O'Connor has also let the school know that she will be retiring at the end of the year. Ms O'Connor has been a teacher at the school since 1999 and made a significant contribution to our school. Finally, the School Administration Officer role at MPS (currently filled by Ms Ilaria Donati) has been advertised. Applications close on Wednesday 5 November and interviews will take place over the next couple of weeks.

The roof replacement on D Block is nearing completion. Once it is finished the rooms in D Block and the library will be recarpeted. The final stage for procurement relating to the painting of corridors is underway and it is hoped we receive dates for when this work will be completed within the next couple of weeks. Similarly, we are still waiting to hear when the upgrade of the A Block bathrooms will commence.

Plans for the end of the year are well underway. Our 2026 Student Leadership speeches took place today, and Semester Two student reports are currently being written. This semester, English and mathematics comments will be written in paragraphs (using plain English) rather than bullet points, and each key learning area will also show the grade spread. Reports will be made available to families on Thursday, 11 December, and families are encouraged to arrange interviews with their child's teacher to discuss these reports before the end of the year. Our K-2 and Year 3-5 Presentation Day Assemblies will be held on Tuesday, 16 December and the Year 6 Graduation Assembly and Farewell will be held on Wednesday 17 December. Our end of Year Picnic will be held at school on Thursday 18 December before the year finishes for students and staff on Friday 19 December.

We received 39 responses to our recent Parent/ Carer survey. The responses were overwhelmingly positive with the following strengths highlighted:

The community's reflections highlight several key strengths of the school, with a prevailing sense of warmth, caring, and inclusivity. There is a notable emphasis on fostering a genuine sense of belonging, where staff and teachers know the children and families well, promoting respectful and inclusive relationships. The school offers a rich range of opportunities, including music programs, First Nations initiatives, clubs, and extracurricular activities that enable students to extend themselves beyond regular schooling. Community spirit is strong, and communication between staff, teachers, and families is effective and timely, supporting the wellbeing of all students. The dedication and enthusiasm of teachers, alongside strong leadership, help celebrate diversity and reinforce a safe, supportive environment that values



every child's uniqueness and promotes engagement in various creative, academic, and sporting pursuits.

The following areas for development were also mentioned:

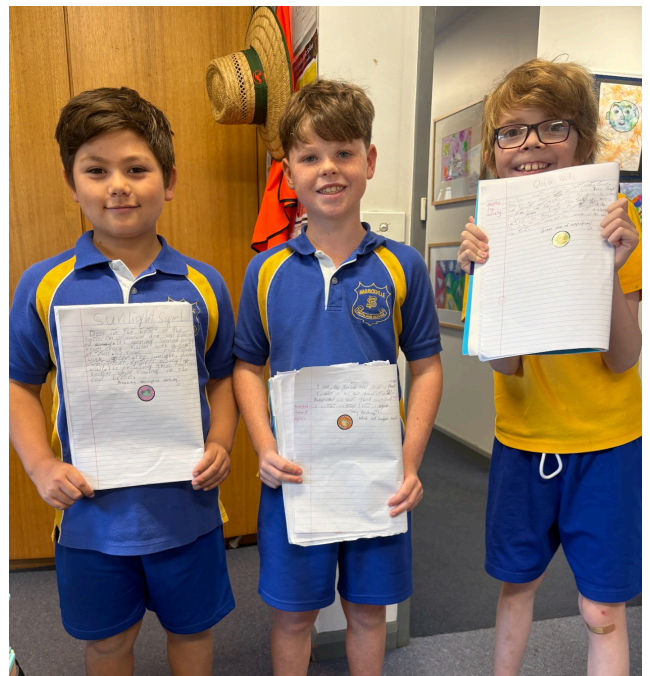
The responses indicate that while there is overall satisfaction with the school, there are several areas where improvements could be made. Many parents expressed a need for more regular and personalised communication regarding their child's academic progress and behaviour, including timely notifications when children are sent to reflection or require additional support. They also value ongoing updates about learning goals throughout the year, rather than limited feedback at reporting periods. Several comments highlighted a desire for increased transparency and follow-through on learning support, mental health support, and homework requirements, with more clarity on who responds to parental queries. Parents appreciate opportunities for children to engage in enrichment, creative arts, and leadership roles, but seek greater recognition for creative achievements alongside academics. Ensuring positive and inclusive relationships, supporting individual needs, and promoting a collaborative dialogue where feedback is genuinely considered are also emphasised as important. Strengthening baseline standards for teacher-parent communication, offering more small-group or homework support, and acknowledging diversity and cultural events may further enhance the school experience for both students and families.

Special thanks to everyone who provided fantastic feedback by completing this survey.

## Stage 2 Spotlight

This week, Quinn, Elliot and Oscar (3/4DM) showed me their incredibly descriptive writing examples. It is always great to receive visits from students keen to show high quality work!

*Deep in the heart of the forest an unknown den was concealed. Its opening sealed away from every visitor with a coat of moss. The room, overflowing with green. The sunlight danced omnipresent, endless along the wall. The enclosing trees muttered secrets while flowing in the cool breeze - Quinn*

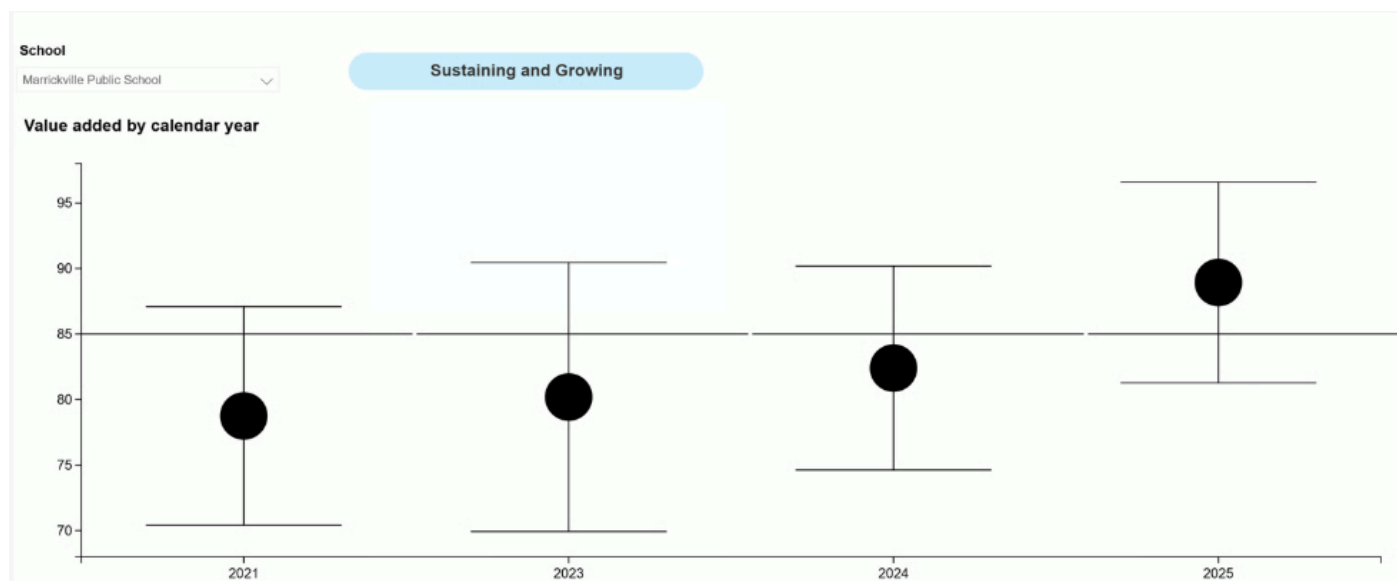


*I see the secret cave hiding things. I wonder if this area has been explored. Bang! 'What was that?' I need to explore. I trampled and... Bang! I heard it again - Elliot*



## NAPLAN Data

This week our school was given access to our NAPLAN Value Added report for students who participated in NAPLAN assessments in Years 3 and Year 5. The NAPLAN Year 3-5 Value Add report shows the amount of progress or growth a student has made in their literacy and numeracy skills between Year 3 and Year 5. It looks beyond just scores to measure how much a student has improved compared to what might be expected, taking into account their starting point in Year 3. This helps identify how effectively teaching and support are helping students grow over time. In short, it highlights the value added to a student's learning during these early school years.



The black dot represents the average value added for our school in a particular year. The horizontal line represents the average value added for all schools in the state.

The graph below shows our school's growth compared to other schools in the state.





## Monster Ball

It was great seeing so many families attend our Monster Ball last Thursday. The creative costumes on display were wonderful to see. Special thanks to our wonderful P&C for their efforts in ensuring this event took place, especially Eric Bustos, who went to extraordinary lengths to ensure our COLA was an especially spooky area! Thanks as well to Cheezy Duz It Pizzas for again providing delicious meals for our families. It was another great community event!





## Year 5 Leadership Speeches

Today, our 2026 Student Leader Nominees gave their speeches to the school to argue why they would be good leaders.



## Parent Teacher Meetings

Did you know you can request a parent-teacher meeting at any time throughout the year? These meetings are a great way to check in on your child's progress, ask questions, or discuss any concerns you may have.

To arrange a meeting, please email the school with "Attention: [Teacher's Name]" in the subject line and kindly request that the teacher provide some suitable times to meet. Meetings can take place in person at school or over the phone, whichever you prefer.

When sending your request, it's helpful to include the reason for the meeting (for example, to discuss friendship concerns or check in on your child's learning progress). This allows the teacher to prepare and ensure the conversation is as productive as possible.

## No Halloween Candy at School

We know many children enjoyed collecting treats over Halloween, but we kindly ask that lollies and Halloween candy are not packed in lunch boxes or brought to school. Many students already find it challenging to stay focused during learning time, and sugary snacks can make this even harder. Thank you for helping us maintain a calm and productive learning environment for all students.





## Stage 1 Geography Excursion

Students in Stage 1 participated in a walking excursion to Marrickville Library and Jarvie Park. At the library, students investigated the history of Marrickville with a focus on how community members used the land, from a brick pit, to farm land and finally the houses and streets that we know today. Students also got to explore the library including parts that used to be part of the hospital and newer areas for reading and leisure.

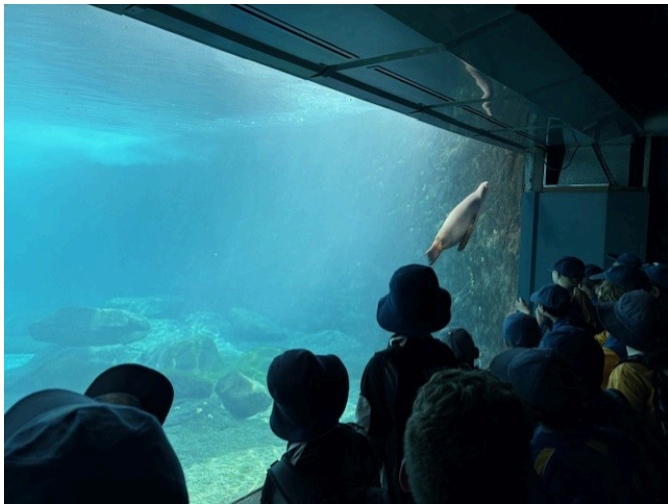
At Jarvie Park, students explored how the space had been set up for leisure and recreation. This is the springboard for our next project in Stage 1: looking at how we can improve the playground.





## Stage 3 Excursion

Last Thursday, Stage 3 visited Taronga Zoo for an excursion as part of their living world science unit. Students were able to view the structural and behavioural adaptations of various animals throughout their guided walks around the grounds. Both classes also got to witness organised shows featuring seals and birds, where zoo keepers explained the importance of making sustainable choices to support our animals. Students were thoroughly engaged during the hands-on lesson by the zoo educators and got to see lots of native animals up close. Robbie, Ruby, Abel and Nathan also presented staff with 3D models of enrichment designs that they created last term using CAD software and our new 3D printers. The zoo educators were impressed by their knowledge and creative ideas. Thanks to Mr Crawley for organising such a fun and educational day.



## Selective High School & Opportunity Classes

Applications for selective high school and opportunity class entry in 2027 will be open from 6 November 2025 to 20 February 2026.

For opportunity class placement, parents and carers need to apply when their child is in Year 3 (or when their child is in year 4 up until the end of Week 3, Term 1).

For selective high school placement, parents and carers need to apply when their child is in Year 5 (or when their child is in year 6 up until the end of Week 3, Term 1).

The placement tests will be computer-based and are held in May. Most test centres will be local high schools. Some primary schools may be required to act as test centres. Only one test is held on each test day. A student will only be required to sit the placement test on one day.

### 2026 test dates

#### Test dates

Test	Date
Selective High School Placement Test	Friday 1 May and Saturday 2 May 2026
Opportunity Class Placement Test	Friday 8 May and Saturday 9 May 2026
Make-up test (SHS and OC)	Friday 22 May 2026

## PJ Day for a Great Cause!

Our Student Representative Council (SRC) has organised a PJ Day fundraiser on **Thursday, 20 November**! Students are encouraged to come to school in their comfiest pyjamas, and all funds raised will go directly to support the Royal Prince Alfred (RPA) Hospital School. SRC students will be collecting any donations on the day.

The RPA Hospital School provides individualised education for K-12 students during hospital stays, helping them continue learning even while receiving medical care. This year, RPA Hospital School staff and students are doing a 20km Walkathon through the Inner West to raise funds for their expanded services, including support in Emergency and Outpatient departments.

Please consider contributing to this wonderful cause. Funds raised will also go towards Student Learning Packs, encouraging a love of learning and reading for young patients. For more details about the initiative, please visit their website. Let's get cosy in our PJs and make a difference together!

The RPA team anticipate passing our school at approximately 10:02am on Friday, 28 November.



## K-6 Assembly

Tomorrow's assembly will be hosted by KZ in the hall at **2:45pm**. During this assembly, the following students will be presented with awards.

Term 4 Week 4			
Class	First Name	Teacher Comment	
KZ	Coral MS	for fantastic writing in literacy. Well done!	
KZ	Naomi H	for challenging herself when completing writing and mathematics activities.	
KB	Luciana B	for showing wonderful improvement and believing in herself when writing independently.	
KB	Ayden C	for his hard work in writing and for showing great focus and commitment in mathematics.	
1/2H	Clare H	for her passion to achieve her best in all learning areas.	
1/2H	Alasdair B	for the huge improvement in his handwriting this term, keep up the good work!	
1/2K	Arritthe A	for trying her best during maths groups.	
1/2K	Warnurra D	for her engagement, enthusiasm in all subject areas at all times.	
1/2S	Harrison K	for sequencing his writing using time connectives.	
1/2S	Beatrice C	for working hard to show different strategies to solve number problems.	
3/4DM	Xavi N	for quiet persistence in his learning and for a strong ability to ignore distractions.	
3/4DM	Woody H	for a greatly improved attitude to all areas of learning.	
3/4W	Eden RP	for his sharing of ideas and technical vocabulary in writing tasks.	
3/4W	Molly F	for her use of figurative language and description in stories and poems.	
5/6C	Alessandro S	for his hypnotising performance in the school musical, as well as improvements in mathematics.	
5/6C	Brooklyn M	for her consistent improvement when writing informative summary paragraphs in class.	
5/6P	Bella S	for consistently high effort in all subject areas and at all times.	
5/6P	Archie R	for always being a pleasure to learn with, a pleasure to teach and a pleasure to know.	
ICT/STEM	Isaac L	1/2K	for designing and making a brand new instrument that produces unique and engaging sounds.
ICT/STEM	Robbie B	5/6C	for demonstrating engagement and skill in designing and printing enrichment objects for Taronga Zoo animals using the 3D printer.
Library	Annabel S	1/2H	for consistent borrowing and always being an active learner in Library lessons.
Library	Elliot W	3/4DM	for engaging with non-fiction books about animals and for his observant contributions in shared reading.





Contact us:

E: [secretary@mpspandc.org](mailto:secretary@mpspandc.org)

F: [/marrickvillepublicschoolpandc](https://marrickvillepublicschoolpandc.org)

[Instagram](#)

## P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held on MONDAY 1 December at 5:30 pm. The meeting will be held in the school library. We will then head up to the Henson Hotel to celebrate the end of the year. All are welcome - students included.

## MONSTER BALL - MONSTER THANK YOU 🧛‍♂️

A huge thank you to Eric and our wonderful parent volunteers for helping set up the decorations for the Monster Ball. We also extend our thanks to Nathan and the *CHEESY DUZ IT* team for keeping everyone well fed and for your generous support of the school through your \$1-per-slice donation.



## Second-hand Uniforms

The P&C uniform room will be open on Mondays while the Gardening Club is on each week. The room will be open, then find Naomi, and she will facilitate payment.

## Enrol Now for 2026!

The Y NSW OSHC provides a safe, fun, and engaging environment for children before and after school. Spaces for 2026 are filling fast — secure your child's place today!

<https://www.ymcansw.org.au/childrens-services/before-after-school-care/>





**Accounts Administrator**  
**Full time, onsite, Marrickville**  
**Annual Salary \$70,000 plus superannuation**

#### **Job description**

We are looking for an organised, proactive and detail oriented Accounts Administrator to join our Sydney team. This role will primarily be responsible for the Accounts Payable function within the in house accounts team, however, experience with Accounts Receivables, Reconciliations, Cashflow, Payroll and Reporting is important.

This onsite role is based at our converted warehouse office in Marrickville and works closely with a creative and collaborative team. As a growing business this position is a great foundation for professional growth opportunities with the role including AP for our Australian, US and UK entities.

#### **The ideal candidate will:**

- Have minimum 5 years experience in a similar role
- Be a confident user of both Xero and Excel
- Have a keen eye for detail and compliance and exceptional skills in time management and organisation
- Be capable of working collaboratively in a team, providing and receiving feedback
- Have strong analytical skills for reconciling accounts, investigating discrepancies, and identifying potential cost-saving opportunities
- Have experience working with International Entities
- Have an enthusiastic attitude and appreciation of sustainable manufacturing

#### **About Mud Australia**

Founded in 1994 and designed by Shelley Simpson, Mud Australia handmakes timeless porcelain homewares locally in Sydney. With thirteen stores in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, London, New York, and Los Angeles, and stockists globally, Mud Australia continues to cement its presence as a global business. Mud Australia is a proudly certified as a carbon-neutral business.

Mud Australia's continued success comes from the many people who work with us in our studio, office, and stores. We seek and recruit diverse people for the many benefits it brings to our business. We're a fun and respectful workplace that loves employing skilled people with personality and passion. We are proud of the work we do, and value high performance in all areas, while fostering a unique and special culture that reflects appreciation and care for our team.

Mud Australia offers generous product discounts to team members in recognition of their efforts. You will also be continually supported and developed through a regular review process that ensures you're working towards inspiring goals.

#### **Work with us**

If you can see yourself in this role please apply with your cover letter and CV to [careers@mudaustralia.com](mailto:careers@mudaustralia.com)

#### **Job summary**

This role will primarily be responsible for Accounts Payables; focusing on accuracy, efficiency and analytical skills.





# Supporting children to learn with confidence.

Every child learns differently – and every parent wants to help their child feel confident.

At Learning Links, our experienced team provides practical, caring support for children with ADHD, literacy and numeracy difficulties, speech and language delays, and emotional wellbeing needs. We help children celebrate their strengths and build self-belief, while giving parents the tools and confidence to support learning at home.

We provide:

## Assessments

To understand learning strengths and challenges, and provide clarity for the best step forward.

## Support Services

To help children build skills and confidence, using personalised, evidence-based strategies.

## Practical Resources

To guide parents to build their knowledge and support learning at home.



 [learninglinks.org.au](https://learninglinks.org.au)



**RPA HOSPITAL SCHOOL**

**CARE / CONNECTION / CONTINUITY**

# WALKATHON

**WHEN: Friday 28th Nov**

**WHERE: Inner West School Loop**

**WHY: Fundraiser to  
Support our School**

**WHO: RPAHS Staff & Supporters**



**SCAN TO SUPPORT!**

