

MWPS Newsletter

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Term 2, 18th June 2025



What's happening

Reports

We are introducing updated school reports.

The new format has been developed by the NSW Department of Education in response to feedback from parents and educators to make reports easier to read and understand. Your child's report will still show their progress across all subject areas.

- Years 1-6 teacher comments will appear in English, Mathematics and the General comment section, in line with department policy.
- Kindergarten teacher comments will appear in English and Mathematics and the General comment section as well as other key learning areas including, Creative Arts, HSIE, PDHPE, Science and Technology.
- Parent-teacher interviews remain an important way to discuss your child's progress and achievement in more detail.
- This year the reports will be sent out via School Bytes and in printed form.

A Space Odyssey



Zac Reid recently represented our school at *A Space Odyssey*, a two-day enrichment course for high-achieving Year 5 and 6 students with a passion for space and astronomy. He explored our solar system, learned about Red Giants, White Dwarfs, supernovas, and black holes, and investigated the possibilities of life beyond Earth.

We are proud to share that Zac was recognised as a top student during the course, showing exceptional curiosity, enthusiasm, and scientific thinking. Well done, Zac!

Calendar Update 2025

Term 2

Mondays

Gymnastrix K-2
Breakfast club in Connect
Groove Nation
PSSA - Yr3-6

Tuesdays/Wednesdays Fridays -Starting May 2

Week 8

Mon 16th June

3/4S Boccia Excursion

Wed 18th June

Crazy Hair Day

Thur 19th June

K-2 Public Speaking Showcase
Kindy 2026 Information Session-5:30pm
P&C Meeting -7pm

Week 9

Mon 23rd June

NAIDOC Event-Brolga Dance Workshop

Tue 24th June

FOIM-Recorder Rehearsal
NAIDOC Event-Wingaru Incursion-Yr3-6

Wed 25th June

NAIDOC Event-The Great Book Swap

Thu 26th June

Honour Assembly

Week 10

Mon 30th June

NAIDOC Events-Assembly,
Performance & BBQ

Tue 1st July

Kindy-Cooks River Walk Excursion

Wed 2nd July

NAIDOC Event-Wingaru Incursion-YrK-2

Wed 2nd July-Fri 4th July

Stage 3 Camp-Canberra

Fri 4th July

Stage 2-Botany Bay Excursion
Last day of Term 2

Term 3

Week 1

Tue 22nd July

Students Return

Week 2

Tue 29th July

K-6 Athletics Carnival

Week 3

Thur 7th August

P&C Meeting

Public Speaking at MWPS

Public speaking is a powerful tool that can shape perceptions, inspire action, and create meaningful connections. Its value extends beyond the ability to convey information; it fosters confidence, enhances communication skills, and can be a boost to a student's personal growth. Appreciating the art of public speaking involves recognising the courage it takes to stand before an audience, the skill required to engage and captivate, and the impact a well-delivered message can have on listeners.

Thank you to all our students in Years 3-6 who participated this year. It takes courage and dedication to share ideas in a way that captivates the audience. It was very hard for the judges to make a decision for first, second and third place. Please take the time to have a read of the amazing finalist speeches on the next page.



Bake Sale



The bake sale was an incredible success, surpassing all expectations and leaving everyone with a sweet sense of accomplishment. There were many amazing goodies to choose from, cookies to creatively decorated cupcakes. The teamwork and enthusiasm of the Year 6, coupled with the generous support of the school community, resulted in a record-breaking amount of funds raised for our Year 6 Farewell.

Community Announcement



Become a foster carer today

Open your heart and home to a child in need

We urgently need more foster carers in NSW, and you could be who we're looking for!



Interested? Snap the code to learn more

Make a difference Give stability and support to a child or young person.

Be rewarded Transform lives, including your own.

Be part of the community Join a network making an impact in young lives.

wesley mission

The Wait is Over The Coffee Machine has arrived !



A huge thank you to the P&C for bringing back Cafe West! Once training is completed, our community will never be short of coffee during morning drop off or school events.



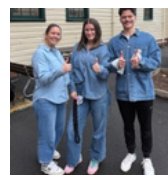
Reconciliation Week



The Deadly Legends have been developing their Cultural knowledge through authentic maths and literacy experiences, learning on Country with Elders, about Bush Tucker, symbols in art and traditional tools. From Reconciliation to NAIDOC week the Deadly Legends are bringing their learning to our broader community.

Teachers having fun during Wellbeing Week

Monochrome Monday, Twin Tuesday, Denim Wednesday, Retro Thursday, Fun Friday



Speeches presented in the Years 3-6 Public Speaking Showcase

When does a migrant become and Australian?

Imagine having to start a new chapter of your life in a different country. Bad, right? Especially if it's in Australia, the culture, language and lifestyle, its challenging.... but definitely not devastating! But now imagine having to leave everything behind because of conflict! This is what happens to some migrants and today I'll be exploring 'When Does a Migrant Become an Australian'. Migrants are people who have moved countries because of certain reasons that are as simple as curiosity, or as devastating as war.

These reasons as well as the time they come in their life can affect when they feel and become Australian. I'll now be exploring these reasons through stories and interviews I conducted with my family.

My first story is about my cousin-in law. She came here from NZ because she wanted to explore the world. When she came to Australia she had to overcome having no family connections and also making new friends. During the interview, I asked her when did you feel Aussie she said after being able to build a stable life and understand the slang. From this I learnt that even if you're not too foreign, it will still take time to feel like an Aussie and it may take time and connections to feel Aussie.

But is that it? Well now let's look into another story where the migrant doesn't feel Aussie, even with connections and a stable life.

This story is about my aunty from Norway. She came here because her husband wanted to come back to Australia and wanted their son to grow up here. Just so you know, Norway is very foreign because of its culture, language and lifestyle, so it must be hard to fit in after living more than 45 years in Norway. When I asked her the question 'When did you first feel Aussie?' she responded 'not quite yet' since she has a strong attachment to Norway. I asked a follow up question of 'When will you feel like an Aussie?'. She said 'After she gets a citizenship and has connections'. From this I learnt that if you're very foreign you may not feel Aussie as fast as others and that it may take time, connections and strong attachments.

Now let's move onto somebody who has lost everything.

My third story is about my uncle. When he was 14 he was taken captive by the Khmer Rouge and forced to work. After a lot of hard times they finally escaped to a refugee camp. They were then sent to Australia as migrants. When they came here they had no money, no house and only some immediate family. But with their courage they found a way to build a stable life. When I asked him the question 'When did you feel Aussie?' he said being able to talk about Aussie things and build a stable life. From this I learnt that migrants that lost everything feel Aussie after they built a stable life and connected with it.

Now that I have explored these stories of three migrants and asked them where did you feel Australian, I found that common reasons are that they've spent time in Australia making connections to a stable and better life with their kids and have strong connections.

We can help migrants feel like Aussies by helping them connect with community help them build their life back to normal and making strong connections to culture.

Sebastian 4D

What Makes a Good Leader –

Hello everyone, today I will discuss ‘What Makes a Good Leader’?

What does make a good leader?

This question might be running through your mind or the person’s next to you. Well, I am here to share with you some qualities and examples for what a good leader might say, do, and respond like.

In my pursuit to research what makes a good leader, I stumbled across a book in our bookshelf called, The Heart of a Leader, written by Ken Blachard. Inside this wonderful book my eyes fixed on one quote which stood out to me. ‘If a God wanted us to talk more than listen he would have given us two mouths, rather than two ears.’ The best leaders I know always take the time to stop and really listen.

Great leaders are inclusive. They want to work with others to collaborate and focus on people’s strengths. They are respectful of people’s cultural background and religious beliefs.

The people I consider to be great leaders inspire others to be their best selves. They will stand up and speak up for those without a voice. You might not think of yourself as a leader, however you may find that people are always drawn to you, always seeking your counsel and asking you for your advice. Or like the one day I experienced at school, when we had a fire drill.

A Kindergarten girl ran to me and because she felt safe enough, she let me know that the fire alarm was scaring her. I told her not to worry and explained to her why we have fire drills. She calmed down and we moved together to the congregation area. I continued to comfort her and held her hand and we waited together. After school, that girl’s mother told my mum what I had done. My mum said, You showed true leadership skills’. I think it’s essential for a leader to stay calm and patient when under pressure so they are able to guide others to safety through rational and logical reasoning.

Great leaders always find words that are positive and affirming. They do not dismiss others and see every opportunity as a growth experience. Great leaders are forward thinking and do not put themselves above others and have a way of making everyone feel included and part of a team.

In my research, I interviewed our principal, Miss Ling. I asked her what inspired you to be the amazing leader you are today?

She said, “I always liked being a teacher and then I thought I could make a difference in the school?”

Then I asked her, ‘What makes you inspired to keep going?’

She said, “the beautiful kids at MWPS, of course.”

So it seems to me that in the heart of a leader their motivation for choosing to do what they do includes wanting to make the lives of others better!

So you might be still sitting there thinking. Do I have what it takes to be a leader? There is only one way to find out.

I dare you to look at yourself in the mirror and ask yourself, ‘Why not me?’ You might just surprise yourself!

Begin with listening to others. Find your motivation and it will become you why.

Thank you, I hope I have inspired you today to know what it really takes to be a leader!

By Ayla 4E

Names Matter

What is the definition of name? The definition of name is a word or set of words by which a person is known, addressed, or referred to. But what does this mean to you? Because a name or a word can be much more powerful than you realise

Did you know sometimes people who come from foreign countries actually change their traditional name for a more western one? But why would they? In our world, name calling is still a thing at present. And people try to change their names to fit in, as some get teased or bullied, making them feel insecure about their own name, and having a different one could make people feel even worse.

I know someone who originally came from a different country...VIETNAM!? As this person's name was Vietnamese it was quite different from what you would think of a first name in Australia. Her name was Dung, which everybody could pronounce right in Vietnam, but when she moved to Australia, people mispronounced it all the time!(which was quite normal!) She said she felt kind of irritated or annoyed, after all who wouldn't feel annoyed after hearing your name said wrong so many times . So instead she changed her name to an English name: Kate.... Much more of a simpler name right? And I know there are so many people who can relate and have the same thing that has happened to them as well.

How many times have you accidentally hurt someone using your words? You will see how easy it is just to say something with such a big effect on people.....Let's put this into a scenario.

Imagine you're starting a new school in a brand new country that you have never been to before. You walk through the gates and go into your classroom confidently. The teacher introduces you to the class and when they do it they say your name. They accidentally pronounce your name wrong and you are forced to correct them. Your confidence fades a bit, but nothing could bring you down on the first day of school right?!. Unexpectedly soon, there are whispers around about “a new kid” and before you know it, you hear students starting to talk behind your back. Call you names, and on top of that, you don't get much of the slang or words they use, so you are made fun of even more. Some people don't even bother trying to see if you can hear them or not, they just carry on talking about you as if there was nobody there. You try to stand up for yourself, but what you say has no difference to what it was before. You feel hurt but you aren't allowed to just run out of school either. By now ALL of your confidence is GONE, It's DISAPPEARED into thin AIR. If you were in this scenario, how would this make you feel? Wouldn't you feel like you wouldn't want to go to school anymore? This is something that actually happens to some people in real life . Would you say that it was a nickname if it wasn't funny or if someone was upset about it? Would it be playfully teasing if someone didn't like it?

Words have a significant effect on people, which could either leave them feeling happy or the exact opposite. ANGRY, ANXIOUS, UPSET, ANNOYED those are just a few. Names can leave a scar on them that they will never forget.

Names could mean more than a single word. One little slip could destroy friendships and hurt others badly. SO.....

Remember, think before you say NAMES CAN HURT, NAMES MATTER.
By Zoe 5/6DR

Diversity & Inclusion

Imagine if we all looked exactly the same, if we all dressed exactly the same, if we all spoke the exact same language & we ate the exact same food. Pretty boring, right?

Fortunately, take a look around. We're certainly not a boring bunch! We're tall & short & we have black hair & blond hair & we all had something different for lunch! Our diversity makes us interesting.

Though diversity is not always about what you can see on the surface, diversity includes a lot of stuff we can't see.

It's like a big iceberg.

The tip of the iceberg is the only bit you can see above the water and that's the bit you can see just by looking at someone. Whilst the massive part under the iceberg is the part we can't see and that's the bit that truly makes us diverse.

Diversity is much more complex than just what you can see on the surface.

What really makes us diverse is what is hidden, things like personality, skills, disabilities – and abilities - languages we speak & our education. All of these things make us diverse.

We are so fortunate to live in Australia where we strive for everyone to feel a sense of belonging and this country is an excellent place for people to settle. Not just because of the kangaroos, but due to the rich diversity of its multicultural country.

So, what does diversity mean?

I've heard someone describe diversity in an excellent way, they said to think of diversity as a colouring box full of coloured pencils, we can all have different colours, but together we can create beautiful pictures.

And what does inclusion mean?

Inclusion is the action of including or being included in a group.

Also, It's about how a community becomes happy when everyone treats each other with kindness and respect.

Back in year 4, I was playing hide-and-seek tips, and when someone wanted to join, another person told them they couldn't. How do you think this made them feel to be excluded? Instead of excluding people like this, we should include one another. Maybe put yourself in someone else's shoes.

Why is being Diverse and Inclusive important?

Diversity and inclusion are important because they lead to a more vibrant and productive world where everyone feels valued, respected and happy.

Isn't this the world you want to live in!?

Of course! Unfortunately, humans aren't always on their best behaviour!

So, creating a better world takes real effort.

It's up to our generation to make sure that every one of us feels loved, respected and included.

Now, let me finish with the words of our Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese during his recent victory speech:

No matter who you voted for, no matter where you live, no matter how you worship, or who you love.

Whether you belong to a culture that has known and cared for this continent for 65,000 years or you have chosen our nation as your home and enriched our society with your contribution. We are all Australians.

By Zac 5/6DR

Sports

Why is Ronaldo's bedroom always tidy? Because he's not Messi. Hi, my name is Orlando, and today I'm going to be talking about sports, more specifically the good bits of sports. Sport has an extremely strong connection with a lot of people around the world. There are an estimated 3.5b football fans worldwide. That's almost half of the population, but let's get to my real speech.

How many people here like sports (raise of hands?) Nice, so everyone that put their hand up likes a sport or multiple sports, whether it's watching or playing one. For a lot of us, that sport could maybe be something like soccer, netball, or rugby. Fun fact: The Summer Olympics has expanded from 42 events to 354 events.

I play soccer with my local football club, and there are so many different genders, sexualities, ages, abilities, and cultural backgrounds coming together to play a simple game of soccer. My neighbour started playing when he was 4 years old, and my coach is 58 years old and still plays.

One of the sports I like is Formula 1. It has a bunch of people from around the world competing in it from countries like Japan, Australia, Argentina, Spain, Thailand, and a lot more. They race all around the world in some places I had never even heard of, like Bahrain and Azerbaijan, and I have learned about flags and capital cities from watching all the races.

Historically, in F1, for a long time, most of the drivers were either white, men, or rich, and mostly all three. Today, F1 is trying to change this by introducing the F1 Academy, which is F1 for women. They're also trying to change the fact that people can't buy their way into F1 and try to give promising junior drivers a chance.

The other sport I really like is AFL, and one of the ex-players from my favorite team was a refugee called Allir Allir. He was born in Kenya but moved to Brisbane when he was 9. He had never touched an AFL ball until he was 16. "Sport helped me to connect with other kids." That was a quote from him, and he went on to play for 2 AFL teams.

In the AFL, they have special Pride Rounds for people in the LGBTQ+; they wear special rainbow jerseys, and it brings awareness to people that don't really understand what the LGBTQ+ really is.

Another big thing in sport is people with disabilities. There are lots of examples of people with disabilities in sports, like people that do archery maybe without arms, so they use their feet instead. Or maybe when people play wheelchair basketball without feet. A big example is the Paralympics. Just like the Olympics, but for a wide range of disabled people. It happens after the Olympics, and plays sports such as athletics, 5-a-side football and swimming.

Just like the Paralympics, this is another big example of sport. The National Senior Games Association. It's a sports event held once every 2 years. You must be 50 years old or higher, and people recommend doing it because it keeps you fit, and you could even set new world records, like Julia Hawkins winning a gold medal at 103 years old and being the oldest person ever to compete in the games and win both the 50m and 100m dash.

So, all these examples are a reminder that sport helps connect the world physically and mentally, and a lot of amazing moments come from sports.

Have a good day and thank you for listening to my speech
By Orlando 5/6K

Diversity

Hi, my name is Jack and today I want to talk about something that connects all of us—and yet makes each of us beautifully unique. My speech is all about how everyone has a story.

Have you heard of the saying ‘never judge a book by its cover’? This is an important thought on how we should live our lives. Because only once you get to know someone, can you learn about the life experiences that made them the person they are. This is their story, and everyone has one, but everyone's is unique.

Some stories are about a life filled with fun and adventure. But others are built on pain and struggles. Each of these stories is equally real, equally important, and incredibly interesting.

Consider Jim Carrey, we all know him as a super famous comedian and actor, but did you know he grew up poor and homeless, His family lost their home and started living out of a van. Sadly, homelessness is part of 122,000 people's stories across Australia.

Or, JK Rowling, who was a single Mum, living on government support, when she began writing the first Harry Potter novel. But we only really know her as the world's best-selling author.

I have always been inspired by the exceptional story of Adam Goodes, who was not only a great AFL player for the Sydney Swans, but off the field he spent so much of his life fighting for indigenous rights, standing up to bullies and racists, even though that meant he was often a target of so much hatred. His story and his achievements will now always be part of Australian history.

For me, I believe it is important to remember that if we all had the same journey, there would be nothing to learn from each other. It is amazing how different the world can look if you look at it through someone else's eyes.

So, the next time you meet someone new, instead of assuming or judging them, be curious. Ask questions. Listen. Because behind every person, is a story you have never heard—and it might just change the way you see the world. Our diversity and our stories are our greatest strength.

Everyone Has a unique Story – And That is What Makes Life Beautiful.

By Jack 5/6A