



MERRYLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 20 November 2025 Term 4 Week 6

Principal Address



It is Week 6 at MPS!

Kindergarten Orientation

It has been a real joy to see so many families coming along to the Kindy O sessions. Last week our parents/carers got some insight into what English and Mathematics looks like in Kindergarten in a workshop that gave them some strategies they can use at home. Today is the last session and we are excited to see all of our Kindy 2026 students again! Thank you families for your support and involvement in this program. We hope that the new version of Kindy O in 2025 was an improvement on previous programs. If you enjoyed the program this year, please let us know. If you have ideas for how we could further improve, please let us know.

Performance Groups

Our school has a lot of student talent and we love opportunities for our students to shine on stage. I had the privilege of seeing our Dynamite Dancers perform last week at the Bankstown Dance Festival. They were amazing and we had many positive comments from other members of the audience. In just two week's time we will be seeing many of our students present items at our Celebration of Achievement Assemblies. They are currently practising with teachers during school time. If your child tells you they are in a special item for these events, please remind them to listen for rehearsal times in our morning announcements. A special reminder to our choir students that you have only two more Monday after school rehearsals and it is important to attend. If you have a sibling, they are welcome to stay in Ms Chayna's room with you until 4.00pm to help families with afternoon pick up.

Talent Quest

This week many of our students have been auditioning for our Student Talent Quest coming up in a few weeks. This is not a competitive event. It is an opportunity for students to share their skills and passion in the performing arts. Ms Webster is coordinating the auditions and rehearsals. Ms Webster has included details in the newsletter so please read on.

High School Transition

It will be very exciting on 2 December when all Year 6 students going to government (public) high schools have their High School Orientation Days. This may also be a time when many families have questions about what they need to buy for their child to be prepared for high school. The Department of Education has set out some very clear information about what families can expect. At Merrylands PS, we apply school funding subsidies to all excursions to assist families and also provide subsidies or payment plans for uniforms. We do not ask for financial contributions. Instead we appreciate when families support school P & C or SRC fundraising events across the school that provide funds for school projects or charities.

There are a number of documents included that make clear what can or can't be requested of families in a high school setting, as well as the form to seek financial support. If you have any questions about this or would like assistance in completing a form to request financial support, please contact the office and we will be able to support you confidentially. Please see the attachments in the community information section.

P&C

Thank you to the P&C who are holding an End of Year Market next week over three afternoons. At the last P&C meeting I asked the members to donate funds towards a new inclusive play area with synthetic grass and cubby houses. Your support for the upcoming market will help them to achieve this goal.



Thank you Bronwyn York Principal, Merrylands Public School

Celebration of Achievements Day





Office News

Early Leave for appointments

Families are strongly encouraged to arrange appointments outside of your child's learning time. Their learning time at school is our no.1 priority! We understand the challenges that families may face with specialist appointments or emergency situations. As all absence is visible and checked by the Department of Education, please ensure you provide documentation of appointments. This can be by screenshots of appointment texts or medical certificates/reports verifying where your child was when not at school. It is not always easy to locate children during break times when there are 625 students playing, so contacting the school in the morning is advisable. It can also be disruptive to the class learning to interrupt the teacher in the afternoon learning session so that a child can pack up and leave. If your child is accessing therapy sessions that overlap with school hours and you haven't had a conversation with the school, please contact the office so we can support this in the best way possible.

Not Returning

If you are not returning to school next year please contact the office by phone or by email.

Leave

If you are going on leave and not returning until after the Term 1 Monday 2 February 2026 start date please ensure that you have completed a extended leave form and also advise by letter that they will be returning to school for your child's enrolment place to be held at Merrylands Public School. This is a Dep.of Education requirement that is linked to our teacher allocation so it is important!

Kindergarten

Last Friday students from KM, KP and KSL spent an afternoon exploring colour and paint in Visual Art. They painted their own version of *The Rainbow Fish*, even adding a touch of sparkle!

This activity allowed students to make connections with their Kindergarten peers in preparation for Year 1 in 2026.















Healthy Harold visit Years K-2

Last week our students enjoyed a visit from Healthy Harold. They were excited and engaged throughout the session, participating in activities that made the learning fun and meaningful. Students explored important social skills, including how to be a good friend and how to care for others.

The presenters would like to say a massive thankyou to all the staff for being so accommodating, welcoming and helpful. 'It was such a pleasure to teach with everyone' they said.

The students all had so much fun and were so welcoming and kind, the presenters had the best time and can't wait to visit our school again!

Well done everyone who participated and was part of this program, representing MPS beautifully.



















Bankstown East Hills District Dance Festival -Merrylands Dynamites Performance

Congratulations to every single performer in our Merrylands Dynamites Hip Hop Dance Group for their sensational performance at Bankstown Sports Club last week. Our girls had the entire audience captivated with their outstanding performance and glittering costumes. We couldn't have been prouder of each and every one of our performers, you were amazing! It was wonderful to have so many MPS parents, teachers and friends in the audience, thank you for your support.

Ms Webster, our choreographer and teacher, you are truly an inspiration. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to this group. What a wonderful way to celebrate your 40th year of teaching dance in 2025. Thank you also to Mrs York for sewing our spectacular costumes and to Miss Helen for everything you do to support our team.



1 - It was wonderful to have the opportunity to rehearse our piece in our stage rehearsal.



2 - The Merrylands Dynamites before their awesome performance.

Merrylands Talent Showcase Auditions

We will be holding our 3rd annual Talent Showcase in the last week of this term (Week 10), the exact date is yet to be confirmed. Interested students can sing, dance, play a musical instrument, tell jokes, do magic or anything to entertain an audience. All students who would like to participate in the showcase need to audition their piece. Auditions start this week and may continue next week depending on the number of students auditioning. All items must be no longer than 2 minutes. If music is required, we need to know the song and artist's name. Any songs rated 'E' that have inappropriate language or content, will not be permitted. If you have any questions, please see Ms Webster our very own hip hop dancing Teacher Librarian.

Who	When	Where
K-2 auditions	Wednesday 19.11.25- Break 2	Library
3-6 Auditions	Thursday 20.11.25- Break 2	Library

Sports News

Merrylands/Parramatta PSSA League Tag Gala Day

Over 90 students are participating in the NRL League Gala Day this Friday 21st November. Students are playing in mixed and boys, non-competitive games at Old Saleyards Reserve, North Parramatta.

We have also been specially invited, due to our on-going commitment to rugby league, to play in a Beach Touch Gala Day on Thursday, 27th November at Glenwood Reserve, Beach Volleyball Centre.

For those selected students, permissions and monies should be made by this Friday, 21st on your School Bytes portal.

Library News

Library books



Last week marked the end of student borrowing for 2025. All library books need to be returned as soon as possible, before our annual stocktake begins. The first class in each stage to return all their library books will win a class ice-cream partyl Books can be returned to the return tray in the library on any school day between the hours of 8.30-3.05. We really appreciate your assistance in helping your child locate and return all their library books. While unfortunately, we cannot allow students to borrow books for the summer holidays, Merrylands Public Library is open 7 days a week and has a great range of books for students (and adults) of all ages. See the link below for their opening times-

https://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/locations-and-hours

Uniform shop

A reminder to all our families that **Celebration of Achievement Day is coming up** on the Wednesday 3rd December, and therefore to any families who would like to **purchase any uniforms for that day**, they will have **one last opportunity to next week on the Wednesday 26th November.**

The Uniform shop will be open it's usual hours of 8.30am to 9.30am.

School Calendar Term 4 2025



WEEK 6

Monday 17th November Year 5 Transition MHS

Tuesday 18th November
Assembly 3 - 6 (2:00pm - 2:30pm)
Assembly K - 2 (2:30pm - 3:00pm)

Thursday 20th November
Kindy Orientation Session 5 - Students learn in class; Parents attend school led workshops separately

Friday 21st November Joint League Tag Gala Day



WEEK 7

Tuesday 25th November
Assembly 3 - 6 (2:00pm - 2:30pm)
Assembly K - 2 (2:30pm - 3:00pm)
MULTI Sports Support Unit - Bankstown Basketball Stadium (9:30am - 2:00pm)

Wednesday 26th November P&C End of Year Market 3:00pm-4:00pm

Thursday 27th November Beach touch football gala day P&C End of Year Market 3:00pm-4:00pm

SRC Fundraiser Cooling schools -Planting x 2 classes 10.00-11.00am & 11:30am-12:30pm



WEEK 8

Tuesday 2nd December High School Orientation

Wednesday 3rd December
Celebration of Achievements

Friday 5rd December

Cumberland Council Christmas Fair 4-7pm



WEEK 9

Monday 8th December
Enrichment writers excursion

Tuesday 9th December Kindy excursion to State Library Guide dogs visit

Wednesday 10th December
Stage 2 SU Excursion
SISA fun day with class teachers
Year 6 Farewell





Merrylands Public School Awards

BRONZE AWARDS							
Edris M	KP	Anaya S	KP	Zackariah A	KP	Osman A	KP
Hedieh H	KP	Matakunui T	KP	Amaya K	KP	Huzaifa M	KP
Saifan U	K/5P	Eshaal W	K/5P	Mahsa S	K/5P	Yasa M	1B
Zeynab M	1B	Kamaluddin S	1B	Bibi Maryam S	1B	Ayanna J	1B
Yan Y	3/6G	Esraa A	KSL	Melina S	KSL	Nashmeel Y	1CJ
Luqman E	1CJ						

SILVER AWARDS							
Adam A	1M	Ilmah C	1M	Sayed M	1M	Taliyah T	1M
Mohammed T	1M	Rawan Z	1M	Michael M	2K	Yasra K	2K
Agra M	2M	Melisa A	4S	Izabella H	4S		

		G	OLD AW	ARDS		
Rahil S	2K	Selena A	2K	Sahara K	2K	



Term 4 Weeks 6 and 7

We are safe when using digital devices.



Certificate of Appreciation



Merrylands Public School

in recognition of your support of Saver Plus. Helping more than 65,000 people build life-changing savings habits.



3 - Certificate of Appreciation

Merrylands Public School community taking up this offer through Smith Family.

Well done our School is in the Top 20!

SRC Spotlight



P & C Fundraiser



Community Information





Community Pantry 2025

Discover **low-cost groceries** that help you save money and connect with your local community.



Merrylands Anglican Church 30 St Ann Street Merrylands 2160

Time 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

When Monday

Pantry food dates

JUL 07 21
AUG 04 18
SEP 01 15 29
OCT 13 27 JAN _ FEB | 03 17 MAR 03 17 31 APR 14 28 NOV 10 24 DEC 08 MAY 12 26 JUN 23



How pantry food works Contribute \$15
EFTPOS available

Fill a bag with groceries of your choice

For more information: 02 9637 2522 merrylandsanglican@gmail.com www.merrylandsanglican.org



Scan here to find details of all our other sites

anglicare.org.au A partnership initiative of Anglicare



Community Pantry 2025

Discover **low-cost groceries** that help you save money and connect with your local community.

Where St Mark's Anglican Church 39 Jamieson Street Granville 2142

Time 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

When Friday

Pantry food dates

JAN -FEB 07 21 MAR 07 21 APR 04 MAY 02 16 30 AUG 08 22 SEP 05 19 OCT 03 17 31 NOV 14 28 DEC 12 JUN 13 27



How pantry food works





Fill a bag with groceries of your choice



Scan here to find details of all our other sites

anglicare.org.au A partnership initiative of Anglicare







Table of items for which schools may and may not request voluntary parent contributions

Schools can invite parents to 'opt in' for these optional activities/consumables	Schools can request parents contribute, but there should be annual consultation with P&C/school community*	Schools cannot request parents contribute to		
Extra-curricular activities happening outside class time such as band, choir, dance and drama programs, public speaking, debating which may include access to coaching, tuition etc.	Mandatory excursions (including camps, swimming and athletics carnivals) and incursions	Delivery of core curriculum e.g. Year 5 English, Year 2 mathematics, Year 4 PDHPE or decodable texts.		
Technology subscriptions that offer additional or optional homework to classroom instruction such as MathsOnline	Specialist curriculum delivery by third parties or school sport, including transport costs, equipment and facility hire (e.g. robotics, gymnastics, swimming, music).	Communal classroom essentials (e.g. pens, highlighters, paper, glue sticks, esicsors, soap, tissues) Note: schools may provide a stationery list to parents for items for students' individual use.		
Opt-in excursions e.g. overseas		Teaching and SASS staff		
Special milestones e.g. Year 6 shirt, Year 6 farewell events		School funded infrastructure projects, except through the Library Fund and Building Fund		
Bring Your Own Device e.g. laptop, ChromeBook, Ipad		Technology subscriptions used in direct classroom instruction and mandatory homework such as Reading Eggs, Mathletics		
Fundraisers e.g. Jeans for Genes Day, Red Nose Day				
Contributions to a school's Library Fund and Building Fund				
Voluntary contributions: capped at \$51				
Student assistance (to cover part or all of the cost) in cases of financial hardship may be provided but is not required.	Student assistance (to cover part or all of the cost) must be provided in cases of financial hardship.	Student assistance is not provided as these cannot be requested.		

education.nsw.gov.au

- Consultation with schools' Parents and Community Association (P&C)/school community will look different in different contexts. It may include:
 Formal endorsement from the school's P&C and/or School Council or School Reference Group (Connected Communities schools).
 Community consultation may also include:

- Discussion at a parents' meeting or gathering where parents and carers are given the opportunity to provide feedback
- A survey or feedback form sent out to all families

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SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Table of items for which schools may and may not request voluntary parent contributions

Schools can invite parents to 'opt in' for these optional activities/consumables	Schools can request parents contribute, but there should be annual consultation with P&C/school community*	Schools cause request parents contribute to Delivery of core curriculum subjects including course material costs and textbooks. This includes all mandatory subjects such as Years 7 and 8 Technology and Year 9 and 10 PDHPE.	
Extra-curricular activities happening outside class time such as band, choir, dance and drama programs, public speaking, debating	Mandatory excursions (including camps, swimming and athletics carnivals) and incursions		
Technology subscriptions that offer additional homework to classroom instruction such as Edrolo, Education Perfect and Atomi	Elective and Stage 6 subject contributions where there are course material costs	Technology subscriptions used in direct classroom instruction and mandatory homework such as Click View, Aludo, MathsOnline	
Book packs which may include items for individual use such as workbooks, pens, ruler, glue stick, Visual Arts Diary. Note: Schools can provide a stationery list if preferred.	Contributions for specialist activities (sport, performing arts, coaching, transport, facility hire and tutoring costs)	School funded infrastructure projects, except through the Library Fund and Building Fund	
Special milestones e.g. Year 12 Jersey, Year 12 Formal		Teaching and SASS staff	
Bring Your Own Device e.g. laptop, ChromeBook			
Fundraisers e.g. Jeans for Genes Day, Red Nose Day	6		
Opt-in excursions e.g. overseas			
Contributions to a school's Library Fund and Building Fund	5	6	
Voluntary contributions: capped at \$110			
Student assistance (to cover part or all of the cost) in cases of financial hardship may be provided but is not required.	Student assistance (to cover part or all of the cost) must be provided in cases of financial hardship.	Student assistance is not provided as these cannot be requested.	

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NSW Department of Education



Request assistance due to financial hardship

We understand that the cost associated with some activities beyond the core curriculum may be difficult for some families to meet at times due to financial hardship. As instruction in public schools is provided free of charge in NSW for every child, the school provides financial support in these circumstances.

We invite families who require assistance due to financial hardship to fill in this form and send it to your school or to speak confidentially with the principal or with a member of the school's office staff. Equitable access to learning opportunities and experiences is a core principle of public education. Every reasonable endeavour will be made to accommodate this request.

Student/s name:	
Year:	
Date of request:	
Reason for request:	
F#	at the state of th

or for the school to cover the cost of the activity (or both).

education.nsw.gov.au

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL Student assistance request form template| 2

Payment plan request:	Please nominate the amount you can contribute. I can pay:			
	Weekly \$ Fortnightly \$ Monthly \$			
Amount requested for school to cover:	Please nominate the amount you would like the school to cover for the activity: \$:			
Parent or carer's signature:				
Principal decision:				
Principal signature:				

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KidsXpress - Tuning In To Kids Information for Garegivers



KidsXpress is a not for profit organisation that delivers services and programs to strengthen th of children under 12 and provide educational services that build the capacity of caregivers.



Tuning In To Kids is a six-session parenting program for parents of children aged 5-12 who would like to learn how to:-

- Be better at talking with your child?
 Be better at understanding your child?
 Help your child learn to manage their emotions?
 Help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
 Teach your child to deal with conflict?

Tuning in to Kids shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence. Children with higher emotional intelligence:-

- Have greater success with making and keeping friends
 Have better concentration at school
 Are more able to calm down when upset or angry
 Tend to have fewer childhood illnesses

Emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!

When: Weekly Session (8 Weeks) Monday 9am - 10.30am



To register interest for the program or for further information please contact the school office 02 9632 9709 or KidsXpress on 02 9380 9220.

Creating a lifetime of change

Get up to **\$500** for education costs

Achieve a savings goal for 10 months, and ANZ will match it up to \$500.

To be eligible, you need to meet these requirements:



18 years or older













Current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card



Saverplus.org.au 1300 610 355





Do you have a health care card? You could be eligible for Saver Plus.

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ to spend on educational costs, up to \$500.

To join, you need to meet all of these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
 ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops



1300 610 355 saverplus.org.au





Hills District - West Pennant Hills Monday 12th January to Friday 16th January, 2026

Bookings www.illustrating-man.com.au



Early Bird Discount

School Holiday 5 Day Program

Book 4 Long Days Monday to Thursday NOT Friday - <u>don't</u> select Friday by 4.30pm Friday December 5th & we'll give you the Friday for FREE. Your child will be added to the Friday list

Saving \$65

The Hills District program always fills up quickly with limited spots. Please try to book ASAP.

Hills District

Monday 12th January - Friday 16th January West Pennant Hills Scout Hall Wilga Street, West Pennant Hills (Corner Victoria Road)



