Principal’s Report

School Plan 2015—2017

Parents and community members are encouraged to download and read the Maroubra Junction Public School 2015-2017 School Plan. This has come together after extensive discussions with staff, students and community about the vision, context and directions of our school over the next three years. Our school will endeavour to report back to the community in a timely manner the progress of our goals and processes over the coming weeks, terms and years. Please take the time to read and see how our school intends to increase student outcomes.

Term Statement of Accounts

This week in the mail parents have received the term 2 statement of accounts. This lists all activities for each child at this school for term 2. We hope that this information gives parents sufficient financial notice to plan for these costs. Parents can pay in the usual manner through the class money folders in either one lump sum or by instalments or activities. As previous, any parents seeking financial assistance should ask at the office or directly with the Principal.

It is important to note that students will continue to receive permission notes before each event, however these simply need to be signed and returned to the class teachers. Information about activities including Raw Art, Recorders and excursions may be unknown to parents at this point in time, but information will be coming out in a timely fashion before each event so parents are aware. What we are trying to do is to separate the information/permission side from the money side and make it easier for both parents and the school.

This is a trial in 2015 and will be evaluated at the end of the year. Whilst we appreciate having Internet banking available would be easier for some, unfortunately that option is not available to us with our new office system at this time. We know that it is coming but cannot give a date for implementation.

ANZAC Commemorations

An emotional, sombre and reflective week last week with the ANZAC commemorations. Thanks to our student leaders and to Miss Noble for an outstanding service at school. Thanks also to the many students, parents and staff that attended local Anzac Day services. The Maroubra service on Anzac Pde was particularly moving and it was great to see a number of our families present, I am hopeful that we can develop strong ties with this branch each year.

Important Information

It is always a busy time here at MJPS and it is really important that students and parents are familiar with what is happening in each term. Events coming up include;

- NAPLAN for Years 3 and 5
- Bush Camp for Years 5 and 6
- Opportunity Class 2016 Applications for Year 4

Have a great week everyone.

Matt Ackerman
Principal (rel)
School Gates
A reminder to all parents and visitors entering and leaving school premises about closing the metal gates. These gates are for the safety of all our students and they must be closed during school hours.

Please assist us by ensuring these gates are closed behind you when you enter or leave the school grounds. Thank you for your cooperation.

Banking
Yesterday we processed 68 deposits for over $350 and distributed 5 rewards. We’ve added the rewards cards to some student banking folders where some students are due rewards. Find out more about student banking here http://www.mjpspandc.com.au/c/student-banking If you’d like to be part of the school banking team meet us in the office around 9am on Tuesday mornings.

Create East 2015
NSW Public Schools are invited to nominate students in Years 4, 5 or 6 to take part in Create East’s 2015 production, “ZOMEDY”. The program is a three day workshop culminating in an integrated, high quality performance. All applicants must demonstrate a high level of commitment, skill and cooperative behaviour. Eligible students must be able to work independently, in groups and new environments.

- **Art Design** applicants should be suited to working on costumes, props, and set construction as well as creating display artworks and being a stagehand for the show.
- **Band** applicants should have a minimum of two years experience playing their instrument.
- **Choir** applicants will be part of a large vocal ensemble. It would be an advantage to be a member of a school choir and to read music. Must be able to hold a part with pitch accuracy.
- **Dance** applicants should have some formal dance training and need to have experience in performing in front of an audience.
- **Drama** applicants need creativity, good voice projection & improvisation skills.
- **Film** applicants need acting ability for filmed scenes plus sketch & computer skill for animation

ALL applicants must attend auditions being held on 22 MAY. Auditions will take place in various schools including Stanmore, Rozelle, Forest Lodge, Newtown and Ferncourt Public Schools. Specific details including time & place will be emailed after 11 May.

COST FOR STUDENT PARTICIPANTS:
Student fees are $175 per student for the three days, including workshops and performances.

Any students wishing to participate should see the Office for an application package. Applications must be completed online by Friday 8th May.

Opportunity Class (OC)
Opportunity classes cater for highly achieving Year 5 and 6 academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These classes help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Parents normally apply when the students are in Year 4. Students who are placed then attend the opportunity class full-time in Years 5 and 6 at the primary school with an opportunity class. It is a two-year placement program. In the majority of cases, students who accept a place in an opportunity class will leave their current school to attend the school with an opportunity class.

There is no provision to apply for Year 6 placement only. For further information in other languages see:


For an Aboriginal perspective of selective high schools and opportunity classes refer to:


Parents apply online from the Unit’s website at the following link: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement and read the instructions carefully. You will register to receive a password and then log in to complete the application and submit it. Once you have successfully submitted your application, you will receive an email with a copy of your application containing your child’s student number.

Year 4 students should have received information this week. If parents have any questions they should make an appointment with Mrs Roberts (Year 4 Assistant Principal).

Stage 3 Camp
Information packages have been sent out this week to all students attending the Great Aussie Bush Camp from the 18th May.

It is important that all required information is returned and final payment made by Friday 8th May.

Please see Miss Noble for more details.

Year 6 Parent Meeting
Parents of Year 6 students are reminded about the next meeting this Thursday at 7.00pm at school in the 6H classroom.
Sports Information

PSSA Trials
Thank you to all of the students who trialled for the PSSA Netball, Rugby League and Soccer Teams. They were keenly participated in and made the coaches decision hard. We are extremely lucky to have skilled and enthusiastic coaches at the school and I’m sure we all appreciate the difficult decision it is for coaches to select students into these teams.

Round 1 will begin on Friday, Week 3. Information regarding venues and who we are playing will be in the newsletter for that week.

PSSA Coaches

Any student that missed the Winter Sport Survey can access it here

Sports Stars
Emilio V, Chase D, Jackson D, Dennis H. and Matthew G. competed at the Sydney East Boys Touch Carnival on Monday. Their team came third in the carnival, losing their Semi-Final 1-0.

Matthew G. (5G) was selected into the Sydney East Team and will now travel to Coffs Harbour to compete in the NSW State Titles. An excellent achievement for a Year 5 student.

NAPLAN—Years 3 and 5
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. It is important to remember that NAPLAN tests are not pass/fail tests. At the classroom level it is one of a number of important tools used by teachers to measure student progress. To provide an overview of the format of the tests, a full set of example tests is available.

In 2015, NAPLAN tests will be held on 12-14 May.

Information specifically for parents and carers can be found in the 2015 NAPLAN information brochure for parents and carers.

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are already learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure that students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Excessive preparation is not useful and can lead to unnecessary anxiety. If you have any questions about your child's preparation for NAPLAN, you are encouraged to make a time to speak with their teacher.

NAPLAN tests are constructed to give students an opportunity to demonstrate skills they have learned over time through the school curriculum, and NAPLAN test days should be treated as just another routine event on the school calendar. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure them that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.

If parents have any questions about NAPLAN and their child, please talk to your class teacher or Mrs Roberts (Year 3) and Miss Noble (Year 5).
On Thursday morning I woke up with a sense of purpose, it was the regional school’s Anzac Commemoration Ceremony. Knowing this, I got ready for school and packed a special item, the medals my great, great grandfather won in his traumatic war experience. I set off for school and joined Mr Ackerman, Ms Pierce and Natasha.

Hyde Park

When we reached Hyde Park we met La Perouse representative’s and got ourselves situated as some of the the High School students introduced themselves as our hosts. The ceremony started off with a group of soldier’s marching to the cenotaph – this is called the catafalque. Then the R.S.L Presidents introduced themselves and told us a few sad stories from the war. A high school student played the Last Post on his bugle; unfortunately I managed to faint during the playing of the last post and was not able to help Natasha lay our wreath, my dad said it was because I was so immersed in the information that I fainted just like many did in the fight for Gallipoli. One could say I was getting the full experience. Altogether the service I attended was very solemn and heartfelt.

The MJPS ANZAC Assembly

We introduced the Maroubra R.S.L representatives and they spoke a few words about the war effort for WW1, WW2 and all the wars since. Nate played the Last Post, and after the one minute of silence, the Rouse. After this we acknowledged the students who’s ancestors helped in any of the wars including my own great, great grandfather. It was amazing to hear the stories and see pictures of the soldiers who risked their lives fighting for the freedom of Australia. The R.S.L Representative then presented Natasha and I, as school captains, with the Maroubra R.S.L ANZAC Centenary Commemoration Award to keep in the schools display cabinet. It was a true honor to represent MJPS on this important national occasion.

Dawn Service

The 25th of April, ANZAC Day finally arrived on Saturday. It was 100 years since the Australian and New Zealand soldiers landed at Gallipoli! We woke up at 4am, Lara and I put on our great, great grandfather’s medals, and dad put on his service medals (dad was in the US Navy and served in the Gulf War), and we made our way to the Maroubra Cenotaph in the dark. Standing at the Dawn Service and listening to the order of service was a reflective and somber time for everyone involved. I watched as Mr Ackerman laid the wreath for the school, stopping and taking a moment to think about what the kids only a few years older than me gave their lives for in Gallipoli, our great nation today - Australia.

Cyrus Park Brisbin, MJPS School Captain
Maroubra Junction Public School Band Program

Welcome back to term 2
Welcome back to term 2 and what a great term of music making we have ahead of us!
All band rehearsals and tutorials are now under way and you should all have the music you need for this term.
Remember to have everything you need for your tutorials and rehearsals so that we can get working straight away on
your new music.
Don’t forget to visit the schools webpage on our website at - www.directionsinmusic.com.au

Upcoming performance!
Junior Band - Assembly Performance, 7th May
Junior and Senior Band – Winter Band Bash, 24th June

What to practise!
Junior Band – Junior Band we be looking at the exercise on page 8 in your red books as well as getting your first
proper piece of music, Beethoven’s Ninth!
Senior Band – Continue to work on Somewhere Out There and The Simpsons from term 1 as well as your new
pieces of music, Surge and the Defeating the Giant.

Practise tip – Make your practice area comfortable!
Is your seat comfortable? Is the room well ventilated? Is there proper lighting? Make sure that your practice area is
comfortable and free from distractions so you can concentrate. Also, consider adjusting your practice schedule depending
on the time of year. For example, during summer when the temperature is hotter, you can schedule your practice in
the mornings when it’s cooler. During winter and if possible, set your practice time in the afternoons when it’s warmer.

Section of the week!
This week it goes to the........Flute section!!!

Richard Sandham
MJPS Program Manager
P&C Meeting
Come along to our first meeting of Term 2 to be held on Thursday 7th May at 7pm in the library. At this meeting the school’s wish list will be further discussed. The school is requesting that the P&C contribute $40,000 to the installation of artificial turf on the landscape area. The installation of the turf will provide more useable space for our children and meet the needs of our growing school. We will also be discussing issues we are having with the staffing of the Uniform Shop on Tuesdays and a way forward.

Mothers Day
The Mothers Day stall will be held on Friday of Week 3, 8th May. The P&C has purchased a variety of gorgeous gifts for kids to buy for $5, $7 and one gift selection for $10. The kids love choosing a special present to spoil their mum, so please send your child to school on Friday 8 May with a shopping bag and $5-$10 to spend. Lots of helpers are needed to set up and sell from 8.30am to 11am on the Friday morning. If you are able to help out please email Karen at mjpsevents@gmail.com.

Entertainment Books
In previous years, the P&C have sold Entertainment Books with proceeds going back to the school. Books can be purchased online. Entertainment Book Order MJPS

Uniform Shop
Days and hours - Term 2 2015
Due to a lack of parent volunteers for Tuesday afternoons, FROM WEEK 2, the shop will only be open on FRIDAY mornings, until further notice. It will also be open every Friday at 8.45am-9.15am, as per usual.

If you cannot make it to the shop on Fridays, please fill out a form available at the school office or online. Your order will be processed as soon as possible, as per normal practice. http://www.maroubrajn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/uniform-shop

Thank you for your understanding. If anyone is willing to assist in the shop, please email mjpsuniformshop@gmail.com. Thanks to Kiran Thwaites for organising the roster during this challenging period.

Karen Birrell, President
mjpspandc@gmail.com
BOTANY FAMILY FUN RUN

SAT - 9/5/15 1:00 SIR JOSEPH BANKS PARK
A FUN FAMILY EVENT IN OUR COMMUNITY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- RUN 1, 2, 3, 5, 10KM OR A HALF MARATHON
- INDIVIDUAL OR TEAMS
- SHORTER DISTANCES GREAT FOR PARENTS TO RUN WITH KIDS
- JOIN ROB AS HE COMPLETES HIS 40TH HALF MARATHON IN HIS 40TH YEAR

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