New School App

Our new school app has started off very positively. We have had over 275 downloads from the app store and received many positive comments from our community. If you haven’t got your app yet, just head to your app store and search for Maroubra Junction Skoolbag. There is no username or password for this app.

We have recently added more policies in the School Policy section and added the canteen menu for term one. Stay tuned for more additions over the coming weeks.

Welcome BBQ

It was fantastic to see so many parents and students at the Welcome BBQ and Disco last Friday night. A big thank you to the P&C members who assisted in the cooking and selling of food and drinks.

The atmosphere was very positive and everyone had a great time.

Uniform Shop has moved!

The Uniform Shop has now moved to the Hall and will sell clothing from the P&C storeroom inside the Hall. Starting next Tuesday, the Uniform Shop will also be open two mornings a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8.45am to 9.15am.

The new Uniform Shop looks fantastic and I thank the P&C members and Mac for all their work in getting this space ready.

Student Handstands

Last week we saw an unfortunate accident to one of our students whilst completing a handstand in the playground. Whilst no parent nor teacher can completely control what a child does at all times, it is our clear message to discourage these handstands at school. Can parents please reinforce this message at home as we will at school. We wish our beautiful student the speediest of recoveries and hope she is back playing safely soon.

Enjoy your week.

Matthew Ackerman
Principal (rel)
I hope everyone has had a fantastic start back to the 2016 school year at MJPS. Its great to see all our students so settled into their new classes and the teachers have been very busy creating a positive tone for learning as we begin a new school year.

The weather has been very warm over the past month and we thank the school community for their support in encouraging our students to wear their hats outside. This is one of the expectations listed under our school’s Safety Core Value.

These are our Core Value stars which are also displayed in classrooms so that MJPS students can regularly refer to the expectations of our whole school Positive Behaviour Plan. This Positive Behaviour Plan was developed in consultation with students, teachers and parents several years ago. It can be found on our school website and new School Bag App. We will continue to have a weekly Core Value focus across the whole school which will be communicated in this newsletter.

Visible Learning

On February 17, the MJPS leadership team were involved in a Visible Learning Evidence into Action Day. We continued to work on our school plan focus on making learning visible. In order to make informed decisions about student learning, the leadership team will be collecting data and evidence across the school community. The team will begin with a focus on how do students feel about learning at MJPS. The team will be withdrawing students from class for a short interview about learning. These students will be selected at random across K-6 and we will be communicating results with school community.

Catherine Pierce
Deputy Principal (rel)

Core Value Corner

We ask parents to support our schools core value by regularly checking the weekly core value corner in school newsletters and discussing the focus expectations with your child/children. This week’s Expectation of the Week is a great one for the our warmer weather...and it is

**WEAR YOUR SCHOOL HAT OUTSIDE.** This expectation belongs to the Core Value of SAFETY.

All students need to have a school hat at school everyday. Hats need to be labelled clearly with each student’s full name. If we forget our hat we need to go to the no hat area outside the Year 1 rooms. This area is for quiet games only.

Hats are to be worn to and from school and in the morning before school. Students should be responsible for their own hat every day.

**We’re championing sun safe hats**

Our school recognises the need to protect student’s skin and educate them about sun safety to reduce the risk of skin cancer. We provide ongoing education that promotes healthy lifestyles and individual and collective responsibility for sun safety. Sun safe hats are part of our schools approach to sun safety and are supported in the following ways:

The school hat is part of our school uniform and is a sun safe design

Students wear sun safe hats when they are outside

We consider sun safety and the wearing of sun safe hats when planning school excursions

We have a rewards system in place to recognise students consistently wearing their sun safe hat.

**Did you know that when it comes to sun protection, not all hats are equal?**

We all know that sun safe hats help protect against skin cancer and eye damage. But did you know that baseball caps do not provide adequate protection from the sun? There is very clear evidence that baseball caps leave the cheeks, ears, chin and back of the neck exposed to ultraviolet radiation, and this is the site of many skin cancers in later life.

Contact the SunSmart team
p: (02) 9334 1761
e: sunsmartschools@nswcc.org.au
w: www.sunsmartnsw.com.au
School Council News

The new School Council met for the first time on Monday 22nd. I am pleased to report that Craig Jones (Sam 2P & Holly 1V) is our new President, with Terri Flynn (Curtis 5G, Myles 4Y) council secretary. We also welcomed Sophie Diller (Simon 4H), Danielle Bambridge (Teacher 3B) and Caitlin French (Teacher 6F) to the council alongside current members Davina Park (Lara 6F) and Karen Birrell (Hannah 3CK & Phoebe 3B).

The council reached agreement for community users who have been authorised to operate on school grounds to advertise in the newsletter. This will give parents more information about the sorts of activities available to students. Council also discussed school finances, rewording of the Selection of Sports Teams policy and the Enrolment policy. Council also discussed ways to improve communication with parents and agreed to implement the Skoolbag app. iPhone users can download the Skoolbag app from the iTunes store and Android users can download the app from the Google play store. The school Facebook page is still in operation and newsletters are available and online from the school website.

If you have concerns regarding school policies and procedures, you can contact the school council by email on mjpsschoolcouncil@gmail.com or can find out more information about the council on the school website.

Craig Jones
President

Arabic Community Meeting

As we have done in previous years, we warmly invite our Arabic community to a parent information session on Wednesday 16 March at 9.15am. The meeting will be attended by the school Principal and Deputy Principal, English teachers and an accredited interpreter. We hope that many of our mums and dads can come and hear what is happening in 2016. There will also be an opportunity for parents to ask questions in this meeting.

Community meetings for other cultures in our school community are also being investigated for 2016.

Schools Clean Up 2016

In support of Clean Up Australia Day 2016, MJPS is holding A Schools’ Clean Up Day on Friday 4 March 2016. Each class will be given a designated area to clean and spend no more than 30 minutes collecting rubbish around the area. Students are asked to bring their own protective disposable or gardening gloves on the day if possible. Spare disposable gloves will be provided for those children who need them. We trust that this event enables our school to take a small amount of time to make a huge difference in cleaning up our school ground.

Parent volunteers needed for ethics classes in 2016

We urgently need your help! We currently do not have enough ethics teachers to hold ethics classes on Monday mornings for all of the students enrolled in ethics in years 3-6 an on Thursday for K-2.

If you are free on Mondays or Thursdays and might be interested in becoming a volunteer ethics teacher, please contact Julie Noonan, our volunteer parent ethics coordinator at julie.noonan@optusnet.com.au. Or go to www.primaryethics.com.au and click on the link ‘Become an ethics teacher’ to find our more.

Volunteer Ethics Teachers are fully trained and supported by Primary Ethics to deliver an age-appropriate DET approved curriculum every week and are provided with accompanying learning and teaching materials. It is a fantastic way to work with our school and interact with students in a meaningful way.
Sports Stars

Over recent weeks, we have had numerous students trialling out for Eastern Suburbs PSSA sports teams. These teams are formed from the best athletes from every school in the area, so it is quite an achievement to make.

Congratulations to the following students who will now attend the Married Zone trial with the Sydney Coastal representatives:

Matthew G., Jackson D., Hamzah A., Axel J. and James T. for rugby league.

Finn G., Emilio V., and Tarrant W. for soccer

Matthew G., Chase D. and Dennis H. for AFL

Congratulations to the following students who will now compete at the Sydney East Regional Carnival:

Chase D., Aulio C., Noah M. and Charlie C. for tennis

Zone Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday 23rd of February, MJPS students proudly participated in the zone swimming carnival. It was a scorching hot day and there was a strong MJPS presence in a variety of events. Congratulations to all students who swam on the day.

The following students also made it to the Regional Swimming Carnival:

Ashley G. - 9yrs 50m Freestyle, Junior Breaststroke, Junior Backstroke
Emilio V. - 12 yr 50m Freestyle, Senior Breaststroke
Ethan G. - 11yr Butterfly
Jackson D. - 11yr 50m Freestyle
Matthew K. - 8 yr 50m Freestyle
Tatiana A. - 11yr 50m Freestyle, 11yr Backstroke, 11yr Butterfly
Senior Boys Relay: Emilio V, Jackson D, Ethan G, Matthew G
Kindergarten meet their Year 6 Buddies!

Kindergarten meet their Year 6 buddies for the first time last Friday! There was much excitement as they got to know each other through developmental play. It was hard to tell who had more fun and we look forward to future sessions together.
Easter Hat Parade

Even though the hot cross buns have been on sale since the beginning of the year, Easter is now on its way. Get involved with the MJPS Easter celebrations as follows. A K-2 Easter Hat Parade to be held Thursday 24th March after drop off(parents, it’s time to get the hot glue guns, fluffy chicks and sequins out!. Following the parade we will be holding our Annual Easter Raffle. A book of 10 raffle tickets will be sent home with each of your children soon. Tickets are $1 each and all funds raised will benefit the school.

Please donate chocolate egg sized eggs to help the Easter Bunny reach all the kids at MJPS. Donations can be left at the office. We are also seeking donations for raffle prizes. Suggested items are Kindy and Year 1 please donate chocolates or gourmet food. Years 2 and 3 please donate something for kids. Years 4 and 5 please donate something for mums and Year 6 please donate something for dads.

That should cover everyone that might win a prize! Thank you in advance for helping your generous donations.

For now, we just need some volunteers to help package and stamp the raffle ticket books so they can be sent home with the students in plenty of time to be sold to friends and family. A “ticket collating working bee” will be held on Monday 7th March at 9.00am in the Hall. BYO stapler. If you could spare an hour or two on this date please email mjpspandc@gmail.com to confirm your availability.

Karen Birrell
MJPS P&C President

Welcome BBQ and Disco

Thank you to my fantastic P&C Executive and ALL the parent helpers. This disco was a fabulous success. We look forward to our disco in Term 2.

Uniform Shop

This week has seen the relocation of the uniform shop to the Hall. Thanks to Szilvia, Belinda, Mary Anne, Penny and Mandy for their fantastic work. A special mention to our General Assistant Mac for assisting and rebuilding shelves. Some minor modifications to the doors of the uniform shop will be undertaken in due course - however for now it is business as usual. Remember Uniform Shop is now located in the HALL.

Next P&C Meeting

At our next meeting on Thursday 3rd March discussion will take place on what resources and activities the P&C will be funding in 2016. Members will be given the opportunity to consider the schools request for funding which includes:
1. Installation of air conditioning in the Library Block $25,000;
2. Installation of air conditioning in the 2 brick rooms near the fig tree $6,000;
3. Installation of air conditioning of all upstairs rooms 8 rooms at $3,000 each totaling $24,000;
4. iPads for K - 2 (each class to receive 5 each) 50 iPads at $550 each totaling $27,500;
5. Updating K-2 Home Readers $5,000
6. Employing Mr Rosenthal for extension Mathematics Yrs 3-6 $5,000; and
7. Parent suggestions received by the P&C that include direct learning and educational resources/activities and funding to improve communications

Class Parent Communication System 2016

Student Name
Parent Name
Email Address
Would you like to be class parent in 2016?

Please return to class teacher as soon as possible.
Communication Tips for Parents
Maroubra Junction Public School

1. Download the School App.
   Simply search for Skoolbag Maroubra Junction in the app store.
   The school app features notifications, calendar and newsletters to keep parents up to date with what's happening.

2. Visit the School Website.
   Find details about our policies, procedures, permission notes, newsletters and calendar. It's a one stop shop for everything you need to know about Maroubra Junction Public School.

3. Subscribe to the parent communication system.
   Class teachers have slips of paper for parents to enter their email address.
   By entering your details, parents receive access to weekly newsletters, current P&C initiatives and updates, all conveniently sent to your nominated email address.

4. ‘Like’ us on Social Media
   Search for Maroubra Junction Public School on Facebook to keep up to date with reminders and messages.
   There are also many great images of students learning and attending the great excursions and camps.
   This is the official page from the school and is monitored by the Department of Education.

5. Find out in the Office
   The office has limited numbers of spare notes, newsletters and school policies that parents can access at any time.

Further Information
Maroubra Junction Public School
128 Storey St
Maroubra NSW 2035
T 9349 8333
http://www.maroubrajn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities
Randwick Girls’ High School

**OPEN NIGHT**

Tuesday 8th March
6.30pm

In the Multi Purpose Centre

- Group tours of whole school
- Meet with staff from all faculties
- Meet and chat with current students
- Individual faculty information kiosks
- Academic and co-curricular information

Randwick Girls’ High School

Enrolment Liaison

Phone: 02 9349 8200

Email: randwickgs.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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Randwick Boys’ High School

**OPEN NIGHT**

Tuesday 8th March
5 - 7pm

Come and speak to our student leaders, staff and new Principal to hear about our outstanding educational, cultural, sporting & civic programs.

Randwick Boys’ High School is a co-operative, caring school with a tradition of academic, sporting and creative achievement.

An Exclusive Education in an Inclusive Environment

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**OPEN DAY 2016**

Prospective students and their families are invited to Open Day 2016.

Saturday 12th March
11 - 1 PM

South Sydney High School

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Community News Disclaimer Maroubra Junction Public School as a service to parents will advertise community events which may be of interest. MJPS does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the events and accepts no responsibility to the management or organization of these events.