A word from our P & C

In this newsletter you will find a “Consent to Sell Raffle Tickets” Consent form that needs to be signed and returned to school ASAP, as the Mothers Day Raffle tickets are due to be sent home this week, ONLY once families have returned these forms, so we would appreciate it if all families could get those forms back straight away, so you can get your tickets ASAP!

Friday 15th April
Chocolate Muffin
$2.50

Term 1 Attendance was 97.6%
Dear Parents, Carers & Community Members,

Welcome to Term Two!

Term two is always an exceptionally busy time at Mena Creek State School as we see many events impacting on our core business, Teaching and Learning. I apologise for the big block of text but:

Next Wednesday, students in Years 4-6 will travel to St John’s, Silkwood to attend the Cross Country Carnival. Students have been in training since before (and for some, during) the holidays and will be able to show their abilities in this field from 9:30. All parents are more than welcome to attend. Our school-based carnival will be run from 1:40 the following Friday, with all students participating.

The following Monday 25 April, is of course ANZAC Day which sees the majority of our students marching in the ANZAC Day March led by the RSL. It is always fantastic to see so many students proudly wearing their uniforms to show respect for those who have served or are still serving in our Defence Forces. More information will be sent home closer to the day.

The month of May sees Years 3 and 5 students participating in the NAPLAN tests. These tests are run across three days, 10th, 11th and 12th of May. Mena Creek has a strong tradition of excellence in these tests through continued focus on quality teaching and assessment practises that focus on the individual child, rather than the tasks, and this tradition is expected to be upheld. Parents involved will receive further information about the NAPLAN assessment period throughout the lead up to the tests.

An athletics day will be held this term, at this stage in approximately week 8. This will not only act as an excellent opportunity for our Sports Captains to rally their teams, but also provide a chance for our greater school community to come together.

This term will see students’ achievements reported on formally and report cards sent home. This is the culmination of 6 months of teaching and learning. It is important to remember that Mena Creek State School encourages communication THROUGHOUT the school year, rather than simply at the end of each semester. If you ever have a query about your child’s school, please do not hesitate to pick up the phone and arrange a meeting with school staff. That is only mentioning SOME of the events this term.

Finally, most days at Mena Creek, I find myself asking the student body two simple questions. Those questions are, “What is our (staff) job at school?”, and, “What is your (students) job at school?” Students are always extremely quick to identify that the staff have a responsibility to TEACH and that students have a responsibility to LEARN! There is a third job that isn’t discussed at school, “What is the job of a parent?” As a parent, educator and principal, I am well aware that there are times that the responsibilities of a parent include teaching and assisting my child to learn away from the school setting. Homework is one excellent way for parents to show that they care about their child’s learning and by spending a little time each day checking and talking about your child’s work, you will become informed and support your child’s learning. Making sure that your child is READY TO LEARN, through having all of the necessary equipment and school books, an appropriate diet and level of exercise, a healthy attitude to school, plenty of sleep through established routines and someone to help them stay on track is a small but VITAL part of a parent’s job and when done, will lead to a higher degree of success for your child. If you would like to discuss ANY of these key responsibilities, please do not hesitate to arrange a meeting time with your child’s teacher. Keep up the hard work!

Until next newsletter

Cameron Wedgwood, Principal

ANZAC DAY MARCH

Mena Creek State School students will meet on the Esplanade across from the RSL at 8am for an 8:30 March. All students will need to be in full school uniform including hat, shoes and socks. We ask that as many students and parents as possible come along and represent MCSS and show their support to the ANZACS.

Triple P

Positive Parenting is an effective approach to raising children that emphasises the positive. Parents who use Triple P skills are less stressed and typically feel more confident in managing daily parenting tasks. Children who grow up with positive parenting are likely to develop the skills they need to do well at school, build friendships and feel good about themselves.

Over the course of the term we will Discuss 4 key Skill sets that Triple P Promote.

1. Developing a Healthy Relationship with your Children

**Spending quality time**

Spending brief frequent amounts of time (as little as 1 or 2 minutes) involved in child-preferred activities provides opportunities for children feel valued and practises conversational skills.

**Talking with your Children**

Having brief conversations with children about an activity or interest to them, will promote vocabulary, conversational and social skills.

**Showing Affection**

Physical affection (e.g. hugging, touching, cuddling etc.) provides opportunities for our children to become comfortable with intimacy and physical affection.

For help/ideas chat to your Parenting Promotion Officer: Jolene 0488321605

everyfamily.org.au