Dear Mayfield West School Community,

Hunter Region Athletics
Congratulations to Taimana Elers, Jayden Gore, Gus Barclay and Ruby Swain for representing Mayfield West Demonstration School at the Hunter Region Athletics Carnival on Friday 1st September 2017. Be proud of your achievements. The staff, students and community are all very proud of your skill, commitment and fair sportsmanship attitude.

Father’s Day Stall
Thank you to our hard working P&C who organised and ran the Father’s Day stall. There were a large number of items for sale and the students thoroughly enjoyed shopping and spending their money on the perfect gift for their dads, granddads or significant male in their lives. Thank you for supporting this P&C initiative.

Student Illness
If your child has been sick with vomiting or diarrhoea, we ask that children are kept home for the 24 hour period after the symptoms have stopped. This will help limit the spread of illness across the school population. NSW Department of Health guidelines.

School Hours
Over the last two weeks I have noticed that a higher number of students arrive at school before 8:30am. Please note that supervision commences at 8:30am. All students must be seated under the middle COLA and wait for the teacher's instructions in the morning.

In the afternoon the siren rings at 3:00pm. K-2 students and WEMOSSH meet under the middle COLA. All other students need to make their way home immediately after being dismissed from class. Staff supervise afternoon dismissal at the crossing and bus duty. Students are not permitted to be on the play equipment or play under the COLAs. We appreciate your support with ensuring that children leave the school promptly and safely. Thank you for your cooperation in this area.

All students need a hat at school.

Black Buckets
A number of black buckets with red lids are missing from our school. I have asked staff, the cleaners and students if they know of their location. If any parent or carer is able to provide any information on this matter it would be appreciated.

Cluster Choir
Please support our Cluster Choir, Miss Pearson and Miss Riley by attending the performance at Callaghan College Waratah on Thursday 7th September. We look forward to seeing lots of our community at this event.

Stay well everyone
Deborah Kelly
Relieving Principal
The Mad Food Science Program
Students in years P-6 will participate in a fun and Interactive program that focuses on important health messages. The main objectives of the program are to teach children:

- to take responsibility for what they put in their mouth
- to taste food with their tongue, not with their eyes
- why their body needs a rainbow of fruit and vegetables
- how to read food packets, and why real food is so much better
- how food can affect your their mood, concentration and behaviour
- how to start positive conversations about healthy food at home
- to make better choices together with parents – at home, and in lunchboxes

The school and P&C are offering a Parent Information session on Tuesday 19th September at 7:00pm for all community members to attend in the hall.

Please click on the link provided and learn more about this innovative program https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9U2MFkRfdnC4VFQyEc3c5bHM/view

Important Dates
7th September  Cluster Choir rehearsal an performance at 6 pm
12th September  Kindergarten 2018 Parent Information Session 6.30 pm
13th September  Kindergarten Australian Reptile Park Excursion
14th September  Water Safety Talks
19th September  Mad Food Science Bus
20th September  Mad Food Science Bus  P & C Meeting 6 pm
22nd September  Last day of Term 3

Assembly Roster
This week’s assembly will be hosted by 1S.  Assembly commences at 2.30 pm in the hall.

Quality Kids
KB  Miranda Lange  Nash Jonas
KH  Emily Shain  Noah Button
KP  Hailie Cadogan  Sarah Rinkin
KT  Conor Laird  Osman Kamara
1P  Ren Allan-Dennis  Mason Cadogan
1S  Lucy McDonald  Oliver Diamond
1/2C  Chloe Porter  Silas Mears
2C  Coby Apthorpe  Lola Gore
2R  Roman Trovato  Henry Swain

P&C News
Father’s Day Stall
Thank you again to everyone that made a purchase at our Father’s Day stall. Also a huge thank you to our wonderful volunteers who helped at both stalls. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Election Day BBQ - Saturday, 9th September 2017
Unfortunately we have had to cancel our BBQ at the Election Day this Saturday due to a shortage of volunteers. Thank you to anyone who did register to help on the day.

Canteen Roster
Wednesday 6th September  Renee
Thursday 7th September  Remuna
Friday 8th September  Kim and Remuna
Monday 11th September  Gayle and Dee
Tuesday 12th September  Katie
Library News
Premier’s Reading Challenge 2017
The PRC has now finished for another year. Congratulations to the following students on the completion of the challenge - Coran Young 3A, Elyssia Smith 3/4H, Bailey Fogarty 3/4H, Kaitlyn McDonald 4RP, Rebecca Skellams 4RP, Carlie Stow 4RP, Gus Barclay 5/6P, Amielle Clifford-Ward 5/6P, Nate Dickinson 5K, Tara Lipnevits 5K, Travis Mugo 5/6P, Taneika Smith 5/6P, Ela Tabulutu 5/6P, Mia Towney 5/6P & Corey Reeves 5/6P. Congratulations also to KB, KH, KP, KT, 1P, 1S, 1/2C, 2C & 2R - all our classes K-2 have completed the challenge. Fantastic reading everyone!

Book Week 2017 - Escape to Everywhere
Our school celebrated Book Week last week with a wonderful storyteller, Aunty Peach, visiting the school on Wednesday. Aunty Peach entertained students K-6 with magic tricks, storytelling and some fantastic acting from the students. I’d be afraid to run into Little Red Riding Hood if I was a wolf!
The library also has some Book Week competitions for students to enter - a colouring competition, a word target & a quiz. The CBCA has announced the Book of the Year award winners. Congratulations to Rockhopping by Trace Balla (Younger Readers), Go Home, Cheeky Animals! by Johanna Bell & Dion Beasley (Early Childhood), Home in the Rain by Bob Graham (Picture Book), Amazing Animals of Australia’s National Parks by Gina Newton and The Patchwork Bike by Van T Rudd & Maxine Beneba Clarke (Crichton Award for New Illustrators). All winning and shortlisted books are in the library and will be available for borrowing next week.

Happy reading
Mrs Troup
Chilin’s visit

I have come back to MWDS for 7 weeks because my mum wants me to practice English. It is easier to learn English from here because if I learn English in China the teacher doesn’t exactly know how to teach us as most of them are Chinese.

We have been staying at Birmingham Gardens with my mum’s friend Linda. We have had a really good time there and will be sad to leave.

I have been in 2C with Mr Creasey and have had lots of fun. We got to dance and do lots of new things like spelling practice, writing and art. I really enjoyed it because it is actually really fun. We do not have to do a lot of work like we do in China.

CLUSTER CHOIR ‘TRIBUTE’

The Cluster Choir performance will be held at Waratah Callaghan Campus on Thursday 7th September from 5:15pm. A rehearsal will occur during the day with students returning later that evening for the performance. All parents, carers, teachers and students are invited to attend and are asked to make a gold coin donation at the door.

On Friday 8th September, the Cluster Choir students from Mayfield West will perform some songs at the morning assembly at 8:55am. All parents and carers are invited to watch them perform again.
Taimana Elers

Last week Taimana Elers attended the State Touch Football in Wagga Wagga representing Hunter PSSA. Taimana had a great tournament with the team finishing 3rd out of 13 teams. He also won the Most Valuable Player award for his team.

Taimana has now been called into the NSW State Touch Football team putting the Hunter Region and MWDs on the map as they prepare to compete in the School Sport Australia’s Pacific School Games in Adelaide in December where he will play against teams from other states and territories in Australia. He is one of 12 players to take part in the NSW team.

Taimana’s family are extremely happy about his selection into the team and he is looking forward to attending the training camps and the tournament later in the year.

Congratulations Taimana on your amazing sporting achievements this year, the whole school community wishes you continued success with your sporting endeavours.
Mayfield West Demonstration School
Empowering students today, transforming lives tomorrow

2018 Kindergarten Information
Parent Information Session

Tuesday 12th September 2017 in the Hall 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm
Parents will be invited to attend an information session on Kindergarten. The Principal will give information about the school, its philosophy, general information, and how to enrol in Kindergarten for 2018. The Principal will outline the orientation visits for the remainder of the year. The Assistant Principal and Kindergarten teachers will discuss the Early Stage 1 curriculum, Best Start assessments and expectations for their first year at school.

Important Dates

Visit 1 Wednesday 18th October 2017
Parents are invited to attend with their child. Please meet in the Kindergarten rooms from 9.30 – 10.30 am. Children will start with a story and then rotate through a variety of activities. Parents are welcome to stay with their child. Teachers will make general observations about the students during this session.

Visit 2 Wednesday 25th October, 2017
9.30 – 10.30 am
Parents take their child to the Kindergarten rooms and then go to the hall for an information session on Literacy lead by the Assistant Principal. Children read a story and complete a related craft activity during this time. Teachers will make general observation about the students during this session.

Visit 3 Wednesday 1st November 2017
9.30 – 10.30 am
Parents and children meet at the Kindergarten rooms. Parents go to the hall for an information session on Numeracy lead by the Assistant Principal. Children complete a number of numeracy based activities with a craft item to take home. Teachers will make general observation about the students during this session.

Visit 4 Wednesday 8th November 2017
9.30 – 10.30 am
Children meet in the Kindergarten rooms where they meet their 2018 Year 6 buddy. The children will go on a tour of the school, stop at the library for a story, visit the office and shown their play area. They line up for a fruit snack at the canteen and have a picnic with their buddy and a play in the playground. Parents go to the hall for a final meeting on finalising their enrolment forms and information about what happens on the first day of Kindergarten. Parents make appointments for Best Start Assessment on the first two days of school at this session.
Would You and Your Family Like To Get Healthier?

Back2Basics Family is an online program aimed at getting children and their families healthier! Participating in the program is free and your family may receive 2 online face-to-face consultations with an Accredited Practising Dietitian, plus 3 months online resources including free subscriptions to our Nutrition website custom-design for families and a Facebook support group exclusively for program participants only.

Your family can participate in the program, if:
✓ You have access to the internet via a smartphone, tablet, laptop, or computer
✓ You have a child aged 4–11 years (before 12th birthday)
✓ At least one parent or carer is willing to participate in the program
✓ You are able to attend appointments in either Newcastle/ Tamworth/ Armidale

Register your interest at www.bit.ly/c0nnecT

Wondering if your family can participate? Ask us today or fill in our online form at above link!
For more information contact Li Chai at b2bfamily@newcastle.edu.au or 4921 5355

This project has been approved by the Hunter New England Human Research Ethics Committee, Approval No. 16/07/20/4.04 and the University of Newcastle Human Research Ethics Committee, Approval No. H-2016-0329.
Monday 4th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

Years 3 and 5 students will be participating in a school readiness test between Monday 11th September and Friday 15th September 2017.

The school readiness test is a ‘practice run’ for schools to assess their technology. This readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. Its purpose is to allow our school to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN online test format and processes
- check whether we have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN online
- provide students with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

The readiness test will provide our school with important feedback about the technical information gained. There will be no reporting of student results from the readiness test.

Year 3 students will complete a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. Year 5 students will complete a combined numeracy/literacy assessment as well as a writing assessment. Each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

A fact sheet with more information is attached. If you have any questions about this readiness assessment, please contact Mrs Roberts-Prisk or Mr Tull.

Kind regards,

Kristina Roberts-Prisk         Trent Tull         Deborah Kelly
NAPLAN Readiness Test Coordinators      Relieving Principal
Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child’s individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to address students’ learning needs.

Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for “tailored testing,” where the test adapts to a student’s performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.
- Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.

NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 16 August and 22 September 2017.

The school readiness test is a “practice test” for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test, question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN Online test.

For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:
http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:
http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-on-line

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

Frequently asked questions

Which students will participate in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate.

How should I prepare my child for the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability.

How long is the school readiness test?

The school readiness test is expected to include two assessments: a writing assessment* and a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. The duration of each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

- Year 3 students will only be expected to complete the combined numeracy/literacy assessment.
Shortland Public School will be hosting the BBQ this year.

We will have Sausage Sandwiches for $2 each, Drinks for $2 each or a package deal of 2 Sausage Sandwiches and a drink for $5.

We will be serving from 5-5.45pm