



29-39 Menin Road
Matraville NSW 2036
Subscribe: <https://soldierssps.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email: matravilss-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 02 9311 1175
Fax: 02 9661 4232



27 August 2019

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The term has certainly flown by and has been packed with exciting events and celebrations. We are so lucky to have such an engaged and dedicated school community to support the teaching and learning programs at our wonderful school. Just in case you were not aware, not only are our students learning in the classroom with their teacher but we seek to ensure that every experience is a learning opportunity. Here is a list of the opportunities for learning currently happening at Soldiers' Settlement:-

Learning Opportunities at Soldiers' Settlement

Literacy

- Multilit
- Minilit
- Reading and literacy groups
- SPARK Reading Mentors
- Writing workshops
- Spelling Bee
- Multicultural Public Speaking Competition



Mathematics

- SPARK 1-1 mentoring program
- Targeted numeracy groups
- Targeting Effective Numeracy Strategies (TEN)
- Maths Olympiad Enrichment program
- Matific Challenge

STEM Program

- Coding
- Robotics
- Movie Making with Green Screen
- Lego Robotics

- Creative and Critical Thinking

Collaborative Learning Projects (CLP)

- Investigative hands on research tasks

Creative and Performing Arts

- Full time music teacher
- Links with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra
- Whole School Performance (End of year)

Environmental and Sustainability

- Worm farms
- Garden program
- Kitchen Garden upgrade project (in progress)

Extracurricular Programs (Before school and at Lunchtimes)

- Senior Choir and Junior Choir
- Chess Club
- Koori and Contemporary Dance
- STEM Club
- Happy Playground
- SRC – Student Representative Council
- Boot Camp (Wednesday)
- Junior and Senior Guitar Gro
- Breakfast Club and Kidz Kafe (Monday – Friday)

For more information regarding any of our programs, please contact the school office and one of our staff will be in touch.

Have a great week!

Polly Palaitis
Principal

ENROL NOW FOR 2020



P&C COLOUR RUN & FATHER'S DAY BBQ

Wednesday 4th September

Next week we are combining our Colour Run fundraising with a special Father's and Other's Day BBQ lunch.

Father's and Other's Day BBQ Lunch

The P&C will be holding a lunchtime sausage sizzle before the colour run. Please RSVP to Claire Stafford via the Soldiers' Settlement Public School Facebook page.



Please keep those sponsors coming. Thank you to those families who have already raised and pledged to this exciting fundraiser. We are really looking forward to a really fun afternoon!

NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS

On Thursday 3rd August, NAIDOC celebrations were held across the local Little Bay Community of Schools. Students from our neighbouring schools at Matraville Sports High, La Perouse Public School, Malabar Public School, Chifley Public School and Soldiers' Settlement were hosts to an amazing day of festivities. At Soldiers' Settlement, the day got underway when Auntie Barbara welcomed everyone to Bidjigal country. Uncle Dean and the Ngaran Ngaran cultural group performed a smoking ceremony and traditional fire making and dance performance for the students and teachers from the visiting schools. Throughout the day, students participated in engaging activities that showcased Aboriginal culture such as art making and beading, bush tucker talks and Indigenous games. What's more, students were fortunate to taste some of Auntie Sugar's famous Johnny Cakes. By all accounts, the day was a great success!

Miss Lawrence



EDUCATION WEEK

On Wednesday the 7th of August, the teachers and students opened up their classrooms for our families to come in and visit to see and hear about all the wonderful things that have been happening at Soldiers' Settlement. Some of us were also lucky enough to have our grandparents come into our classrooms to visit and engage in some activities with their grandchildren followed by enjoying a delicious morning tea to celebrate their special role in our school community.

The guitar group created a great atmosphere as they entertained the visitors during morning tea.



100 DAYS OF KINDERGARTEN

On Thursday 8th August 2019, our Kindergarten students reached a great milestone completing 100 days of academic learning, gaining understanding to routines and forming friendships! To commemorate this special occasion we started the celebrations in the classrooms with the kindergarten children, their families and teachers by participating in a wide range of activities like 100 cup challenge, roll to 100, building 100 out of Lego pieces and arts and craft. We then moved to the hall where our children were presented with a 100 day certificate and shared a video of what they will be doing when they are 100 years old. Many children and our wonderful teachers displayed great creativity and came dressed up to celebrate this special day too. It was a fantastic day and we all had so much fun!

The Kindergarten Team



BOOK WEEK

On Tuesday the 6th of August, the staff and students at Soldiers' Settlement took part in another fantastic book week parade celebrating our favourite books, characters, authors and illustrators! As this year's theme was 'Reading is my Secret Power' it was wonderful to see so many heroes in action around the school grounds... including the teachers! Thank you to our book week committee and the community for supporting one of our favourite annual school events. We can't wait to hear what the theme for 2020 will be!



BOOK FAIR

Our 2019 Book Fair was a huge success, selling over \$3500 worth of books and stationery items. It was fantastic to see so many Soldiers' Settlement families supporting this wonderful fundraising event. Thank you to all the generous parents and carers who donated to our classroom wish lists, the teachers were very excited to receive their books. If you have placed an order for a book that had sold out, they will be arriving shortly.

Thank you again for supporting this wonderful event.

Miss Barr
Tech Guru/Librarian

A PEEK INTO LEARNING IN 4/5 NGARRANG

To coincide with Education Week and the 2019 Book Week theme 'Reading is My Secret Power', the students in 4/5 Ngarrang created super hero versions of themselves that hold secret learning powers. The students discussed their own individual learning strengths and were able to recognise that everyone is different and unique. It was a great opportunity to

celebrate the students' varying passions and talents. We have displayed their superheros on the wall in our classroom.

Miss Lawrence



SPORT REPORT

Zone Athletics Carnival:

Over the past two Fridays, a number of our students travelled to E.S Marks to participate in the Zone ESPSSA Athletics Carnival. I would like to congratulate all the students involved and thank them for being wonderful representatives of our school!

PSSA Sport:

Winter PSSA sport will resume again next Friday 23rd August. Please check the Term 3 draw attached to see information about specific sports such as game location and the school we are competing against

Thank you also to all the keen PSSA sport students who consistently turn up to training every Thursday morning at 8am! Despite the frosty mornings, it has been great seeing the students working hard to improve their skills.

Please leave your pet dogs at home!

While we encourage the support of family and friends at all of our sporting events, please leave your pet dogs at home! This is a rule enforced by Randwick City Council and ESPSSA organisers. Soldiers' Settlement strongly supports this rule for the safety of all our students at sport.

Premiers Sporting Challenge:

The Premier's Sporting Challenge has now come to an end. Well done to the students in year 3-6 who have filled in their physical activity card each week! Please return the cards to your classroom teacher so results can be entered online.

Message from ESPSSA:

ESPSSA Website

The ESPSSA has recently changed their website address to a new domain. The site contains information about upcoming ESPSSA events, such as the Zone Athletics Carnival. To more easily access the new website, please utilise the following correct URL, as to not be rerouted to our previous webpage:

<https://www.easternsuburbsspsssa.nsw.edu.au/>

Brayden Irons
Sports Coordinator

Please find attached the Term draw for each of our sports.

STAGE 3 SOUTHS SYDNEY RABBITOHS CLINIC

This past Monday, our Stage 3 students participated in the Rabbitohs Football Clinic at Pioneers Park. The students were involved in a number of drills, skills and games on the day alongside the Rabbitohs first grade squad.

"Today we went to Pioneer Park, Malabar for the Souths Cares Randwick Clinic". We enjoyed playing all the games such as kick tennis and scrambled tag. Meeting all the Souths players was really awesome as well as getting their signatures!"

- Tvisha and Mia

"All year 5/6 students went on an excursion to Pioneer Park. While we were there, we played a number of games together. After the games we all came together to take a photo with the Rabbitohs Players. We were given a team photo which the players signed for us!"

- Ellie



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Over the last few weeks, children have engaged in many activities in recognition of NAIDOC celebrations. Children enjoyed participating in Koori dancing, traditional active games and learning about plants from our school's bush tucker garden. We would like to thank the school's Aboriginal education officer, Akeisha, and our preschool families for delivering these experiences.

Education Week at Preschool

This week children were delighted to participate in many special events to celebrate education week:

On Tuesday children came dressed up as their favourite characters to walk in the school's book parade. Children enjoyed showing off their costumes during the parade, and watching other students participate in the book parade. Families were then invited to visit the book fair at the school's library.

On Wednesday children were delighted to welcome their grandparents into our preschool to spend a session with them and show them all the activities they enjoy doing at preschool. Children were especially excited to perform for their families a preview of their concert dance.

On Thursday preschool children attended the '100 days of Kindergarten assembly'. This was great to help children get excited about attending kindergarten next year!

We would like to thank all our families who attended these special events and hope you had an enjoyable week!



Education Week at Preschool - Outcome 5.2: Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts.

SRC REPORT

This Wednesday the 21st of August, we will be holding a Crazy Hair Day to raise awareness for Cystic Fibrosis. Students will be encouraged to come to school with their craziest hairstyle and bring a gold coin donation.



SRC meetings will be continue to be held on Wednesdays during the first half of lunch during this term.

Finally, thank you for all of those families who kindly contributed to our Stewart House clothing drive.

LEARNING AND WELLBEING TIPS: BUILDING CONFIDENCE

Confident children are motivated to engage in more experiences, more able to build positive relationships, and become happier, successful adults.



How does confidence develop?

Babies are born curious

They want to touch, see, hear and taste everything within their reach. Toddlers and preschoolers demonstrate their need to understand their world by asking many 'why' questions. From their repeated experiences of seeing their actions affect their world and the people in it, young children begin to see themselves as capable and having control. This helps them to feel good about themselves and builds their self-confidence.

When they begin school, children typically start out with high expectations

But when they see how they do things compared to others, their view of their own abilities often changes. They learn that they're good at some things and not so good at others. They also see how other children and educators respond to what they do. These things influence children's confidence in their abilities. They also influence how willing they are to have a go in situations where they feel unsure.

Your response

The way adults respond to children as they explore their place in the world is their template for solving many challenging and difficult problems later on. For young children, it helps strengthen their sense of self when significant adults nurture their natural curiosity and demonstrate patience and interest. In primary school years, children who are suddenly less sure

of themselves may need extra support and encouragement to build a functional sense of confidence they can take with them into adolescence.

Building children's confidence allows them to have a go at and try new things

It allows them to develop social and emotional learning skills and tackle new tasks – even when they might be daunting or completely new. Confidence improves through building on small successes.

You can support children when you:

- explain that skills develop with practice
- make sure that goals are achievable by breaking down large tasks or responsibilities into small steps
- scaffold their learning and help when necessary, without taking over
- encourage them to persist when they don't succeed straightaway
- praise effort, persistence and individual improvement
- acknowledge what they've done well and not so well
- arrange safe and interesting spaces where they're free to explore and see the effects of their actions
- answer their questions appropriately – sometimes you won't know the answer, and that's OK
- ask them questions to help them solve problems and promote further learning
- help them experience that learning is fun
- use rewards and praise selectively, focusing on the child's effort rather than the outcome.

SAVE THE DATE!!!



Soldiers' Settlement Public School End of Year Spectacular

Venue: Souths Juniors Kingsford
Date: Thursday 14th November 2019
Time: 6.00pm

More details available closer to the date.

Our Soldiers Spectacular 2019 preparations are underway. On the evening of 14th November, we will gather at Souths Juniors to celebrate our amazing students as they perform a musical sure to delight friends and family alike.

I have been working in collaboration with the teachers to write a fun and inspiring script so that each child is once again involved in the minimum of one class item and finale item.

We look forward to starting our rehearsals this term.

Mrs Christian.

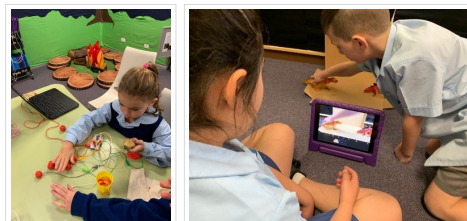
GROW YOUR MIND



TECHNOLOGY AND STEM

So many exciting things happening in our STEM/Technology Hub. This term our focus is on filming using the Green Screen and Stop Motion animation. Our senior students are creating advertisements to persuade us to recycle. Our K – 2 students are retelling fairytales using stop motion filming whilst our Stage 1 students are trying to persuade our Principal, Mrs Palaitis to agree to a few changes to the school environment such as a swimming pool or petting zoo. We have been having so much fun during our learning time in the tech hub.

Miss Barr
Tech Guru/Librarian



STUDENT ABSENCES – REMINDER


- The Department of Education deems that all students must attend school every day.
- Families are also advised that holidays should be taken during school holiday periods.
- If your child is absent from school please notify the school in writing by either sending an email to the

school email or sending a note to the class teacher explaining the absence.

- **If your child is sick for one day, you DO NOT need to ring the school but can send a note to school with your child on the following day.**
- If absences are not explained, a letter will be sent home from the class teacher asking parents to explain.
- Absences are recorded in the class roll and this roll is admissible as evidence in a court of law.
- Partial absences are also recorded in the roll, where a child arrives late to school or leaves school early.
- If a student is late to school, a parent should escort them to the office so they can give the reason for the late arrival.
- Sleeping in, bad traffic and general lateness are not justifiable reasons for being late to school and these absences are marked as unjustified.
- Students, who are constantly late to school, miss the morning lesson introduction leading to gaps in learning.
- Please endeavour to maximize your child's attendance at school to ensure that they have the best start possible, every day!

EVERY DAY COUNTS ...				
A day here or there doesn't seem like much but ...				
When your child misses just ...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Prep to Year 12, that is ...	This means the best your child can achieve is ...
1 day a fortnight	20 days a year	4 weeks of school	Nearly 1½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days a year	8 weeks of school	Over 2½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days a year	16 weeks of school	Over 5 years of learning of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days a year	24 weeks of school	Over 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed ...



ONLINE SAFETY TOOL

Introducing a New Interactive Online Safety Tool for Parents and Carers

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner has introduced a new interactive online tool for parents and carers. This tool is to assist and teach the foundations of online topics such as social media, screen time, personal information, inappropriate content, cyberbullying and contact with strangers. Whether you're a parent, carer, aunt, uncle or grandparent it can be a difficult task keeping up with young people and technology or even knowing when and how to start the conversation about online safety in your household.

Meet Screen Smart Parent Tour - our new interactive self-reflective tool that helps parents and carers of pre and young teens keep on track with online safety.

The virtual tour takes you through six important online topics including **social media**, **screen time**, **personal information**, **inappropriate content**, **cyberbullying** and **contact with strangers**. Each topic offers practical tips and advice on how

to allow children to explore safely and manage online issues if they arise.

2019 STUDENT HEALTH CARE PLANS AND DIETARY REQUIREMENTS – DUE IMMEDIATELY

2019 Student Health Care Plans and Dietary Requirements

The updating of student health care plans is an ongoing process. As part of this process, we ask that if there are any adjustments or modifications to your child's health care and/or dietary needs.

All enquiries regarding health plans should be directed to Ms Cummings, Learning and Wellbeing Coordinator.

As with any school, we have children with severe allergies and a range of health care needs. In order to keep all of our students safe and healthy, we ask that you:

- do not send nuts or nut products to school with your child;
- Please do not send Nutella or peanut butter;
- remind your child not to share food at school; and
- contact your child's teacher in advance if you are considering bringing in food for the class i.e. birthday celebrations (this will allow your child's teacher to put provisions in place that support the wellbeing of all our students). We encourage healthy options and cupcakes/muffins in place of cakes.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS

Parent Support

One of the best ways you can support our school is by reading our newsletter each fortnight and paying your school fees and voluntary contributions in a timely manner. These funds are essential in enabling our school to provide all the learning opportunities for your child. They allow us to provide the very best education for your child, above what the government funding allows. Fees assistance is available for any families if required and can be arranged via a confidential phone call or email to the principal requesting assistance.

Payments

Cash and cheque can be sent to school and given to your class teacher or can be directly dropped off at the office. If paying by cash please send the exact amount.

The preferred method of payment is Parent Online Payments through our school website. Parent online payments (POP) provide parents and school debtors with a secure payment facility to deposit into the school's account via a credit or debit card. The payment portal is accessed via the school's website and allows parents to pay using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card.

Please visit our school website below and click on “Make a payment”. Once you fill out the payment details, you have an instant receipt. It is a safe and secure way to pay for school fees, performances and excursions.

<https://matravilss-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Please note: As a Westpac-hosted solution cardholder and account details will be held securely, helping to protect the school and its customers from fraudulent transactions as well as assisting in meeting the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCIDSS) compliance requirements.

Please note, once your payment is made online, we still require signed permission notes for all excursions and sports for each child participating in the activity to be sent to the office. Please also ensure you enter your child’s name and not your own.

OFFICE NEWS

Reminders:

A permission note must be completed for every student in the family for all activities.

Please note the office does not carry change. If you are paying in cash we ask that you pay the exact amount.

Absences Notes

Absence notes should be given to each child’s teacher on the day they return to school after an absence. Explanations should be clearly outlined so the reason for the absence can be accurately recorded.

If you are intending to take leave for more than three days, and you know in advance, it is important that this be discussed with the school as an application for leave may be required. If your child is absent for longer than three days it is important that you contact the school to let them know the reason for the absence.

After school arrangements

If you need to get a message to your child regarding any change to their afterschool arrangements, please contact the office and ensure we have enough time to relay the message. Sometimes it is difficult to locate children just before the bell is about to ring. Students that are not collected from school at 3.00pm will wait with their teacher and a call will be made to confirm pick up arrangements. As a reminder, the office

SCHOOL NOTICES

Parking Safety around our School

A friendly reminder to parents to assist us in keeping our children safe when driving and parking around the school grounds. Several parents have been seen and spoken to about driving and parking illegally in kiss and drop zones in the surrounding streets. We appreciate that parking has become increasingly difficult due to local building works and increased student numbers. However, students’ safety is of greater concern. Please ensure you park safely near kiss and drop zones and in the streets at all times. Also, please ensure when arriving at school and leaving the school grounds that the

pedestrian gates and ramp gates are used. Those walking through the staff carpark entry are putting both themselves and their child at risk.

Please do not park in or across our neighbour’s driveways. Community members who do so risk a fine from the council rangers or our local constabulary.

The staff carpark is for staff only

Please do not use the staff carpark to drop off or pick up your children from before/after school care. Entry to and exit from the school should be via the Menin Road ramp gate or Lawson street gate.

After School Playground Use

Please be reminded that after the 3.00pm “home time” bell, no formal student supervision is provided either in classrooms or the playground, especially the synthetic grass at the rear of the school or the playground equipment. Students are asked to safely make their way home after the bell. Parents on site after 3.00pm are reminded of their Duty of Care and asked to watch their children to prevent any unforeseen accidents. Students waiting to be picked-up by parents will be asked to safely sit around our meeting tree at the Menin Road gate.

Your attention to these requests is greatly appreciated.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR ENGAGING LEARNERS (PBEL)

Soldiers’ Settlement Public School promotes the values of Respect, Responsibility and Learning. PBEL plays a fundamental role in supporting the Learning and Wellbeing Policy whilst promoting positive expectations for student behaviour.

Positive Behaviour Engaging Students (PBEL) is a school wide program that is all about creating a positive and encouraging learning environment where students know what is expected of them.

PBEL provides a proactive school-wide system for defining, teaching and supporting appropriate student behaviours. The result of PBEL is a positive school environment in which learning and student engagement is enhanced through consistent expectations of behaviour.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Vocal, Guitar and Performance Coaching

“CathymacmusiC” private Tutorial. Beginners welcome.

Private tuition for Cathy’s guitar and vocal performance group will be offered once again during the following lunch hours on Wednesdays. Beginners welcome.

When: Wed 11.15am (Jnrs) Wed 11.45am (Snrs)

Private tuition for Cathy’s beginner guitar and vocal performance group is offered during lunch hours on Tuesdays.

Email Cathy for more information at cathymacmusic@gmail.com. Include in your email your child's full name & class, & your mobile number.

All information including lesson cost, guitar purchase, classroom, and start date will be e-mailed to you on receipt of your email registering your interest.

Look forward to hearing from you. Cathy.