



# MUNNO PARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER WEEK 9, TERM 1

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear MPPS Community,

As we leap into the final few weeks of term 1, I would like to express my gratitude for the collective efforts of our community in supporting our students at MPPS.

Our students have made significant progress, and this is a testament to the dedication of our teachers, staff, and families. Your involvement, whether through volunteering, governing council, attending school events, or supporting learning at home, has made a profound impact.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we are creating a positive and empowering educational experience for our students. We look forward to building on this success in the coming terms.

### Pupil free Day

On 17 March, we held a Pupil Free Day dedicated to professional development and collaborative engagement among our staff. This day provided an invaluable opportunity to reflect on our progress towards the goals and actions outlined in our Site Learning Plan.

Our staff participated in sessions focused on Trauma-Informed Practice, enhancing their understanding and application of this critical approach.

Additionally, they deepened their knowledge of the dispositions of Mathematics, specifically resilience, resourcefulness, and reflection.



## IMPORTANT DATES

### R-5 Swimming Week

31-3 to 4/4

### Sports Day- 2pm Dismissal

Friday 11/4

### Year 6 Aquatics

Monday 28/4

## ASSEMBLY

Week 3, 6 and 9  
2:10pm in the Gym

## BELL TIMES

- 8:45am** Teacher on duty in the yard
- 8:50am** School day begins
- 10:50am** Lunch play
- 11:20am** End lunch play
- 1:00pm** Recess play
- 1:20pm** End recess play
- 3:00pm** Home time

## GATE TIMES

### Front Gate:

Open 8:43am Close 9:15am  
Open 2:55pm Close 3:15pm

### Other Gates:

Open 8:43am Close 9:10am  
Open 2:55pm Close 3:10pm



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We extend our sincere gratitude to our families for supporting this initiative, which enables us to further develop our expertise and strengthen our collaborative efforts. Ultimately, this commitment enhances our ability to support our students more effectively.

### **Learning Intentions and Success Criteria**

Following recent professional development, our leadership team have been visiting classrooms to engage with students about learning intentions and success criteria. The importance of this lies with students understanding what they are learning and how they can achieve success. This approach not only supports effective learning but also fosters a collaborative environment where students feel empowered to take charge of their educational journey.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our chats with students as they develop this language of learning and will continue to engage in these powerful conversations throughout the year.

### **NAPLAN online**

Over the last two weeks our year three and five students participated in NAPLAN. Completing tests in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions, Spelling and Grammar, and Numeracy is no small feat, and their confidence, resilience, and persistence truly shone through. These qualities will serve them well in future endeavours.

To our staff, thanks for your ongoing support and guidance throughout the process which has been instrumental in helping our students succeed.

### **Learning blocks**

This a friendly message to ask that all families wait until the bell goes at the end of the day, before they enter learning blocks. This avoids congestion in the hallways and ensures students remain focused until the end of the day. Thank you for your support with this.

### **Parking – Pick-Up Drop-Off**

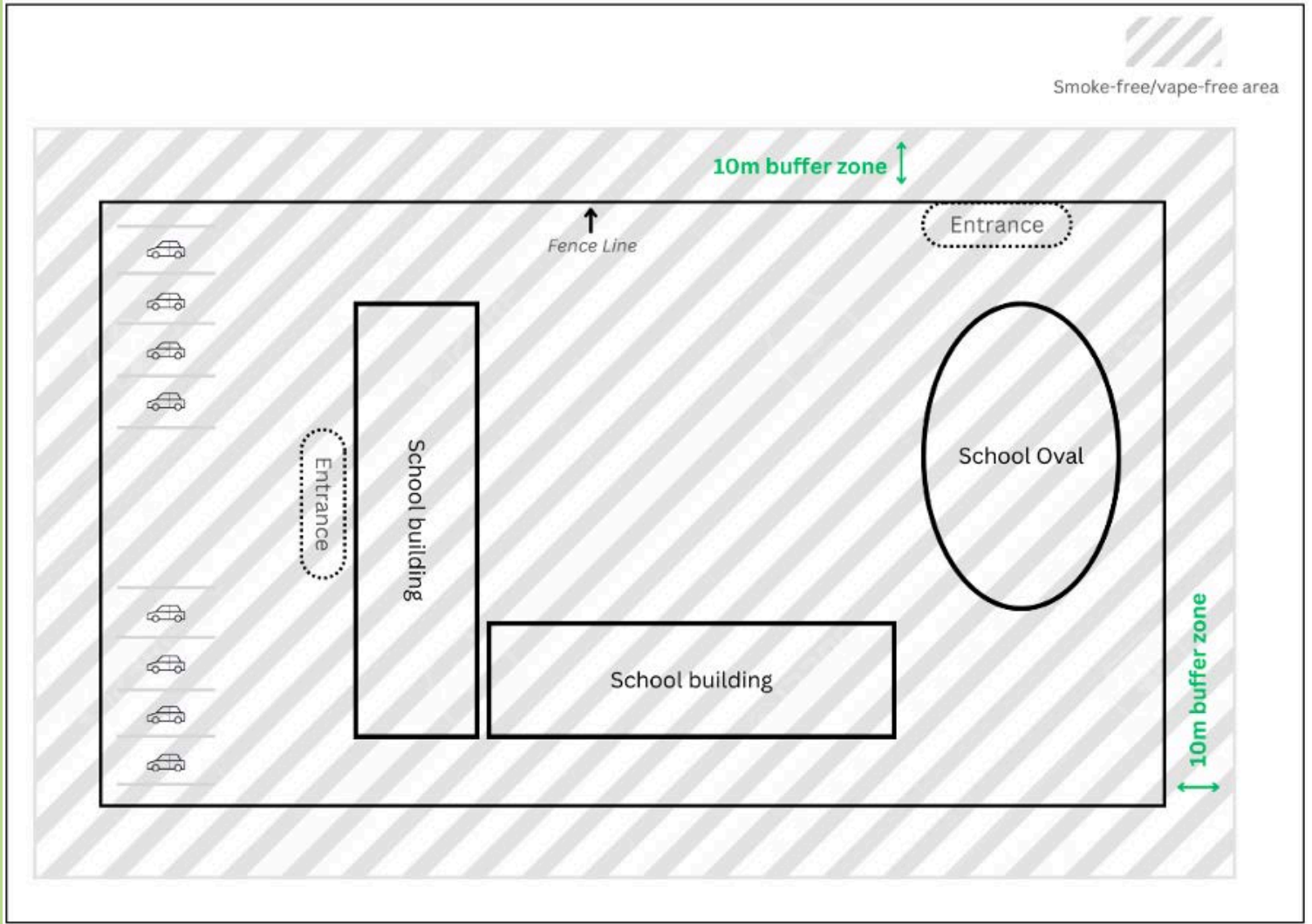
We kindly remind all parents and guardians to park safely and considerately during school pick-up and drop-off times. Recently, we have received some complaints regarding unsafe parking practices, which can pose risks to our students and disrupt traffic flow. Please ensure you are using designated parking areas and following all traffic rules to maintain a safe environment for everyone.

Your cooperation is essential in ensuring the safety and well-being of our school community. Let's work together to make pick-up and drop-off times smooth and secure for all. Thank you for your understanding and support.

### **Smoking and Vape Free zone**

This is a friendly reminder that smoking and vaping are banned in all public areas of 'early childhood services' and 'education and children's services' facilities, and within 10 metres of the boundary of these premises. The below diagram outlines where the new smoking and vaping laws apply at a school.

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Best regards,  
Andrew Castenetto  
Principal



## PBL FOCUS FOR WEEKS 7,8,9

**Non Classroom  
Procedures**

**We make safe  
choices**

Success



**We solve and  
report problems  
to an adult**

Responsibility



## FUNDRAISING

### ★ Join Our Fundraising Team! ★

Are you passionate about making a difference in our school community? We're looking for enthusiastic and dedicated individuals to join our fundraising team at Munno Para Primary School!

As a team member, you'll have the opportunity to:

- Collaborate on exciting fundraising events
- Help shape the future of our school
- Connect with other motivated parents and community members

No experience is necessary—just a willingness to contribute and have fun! Whether you can spare a few hours or more, your involvement will make a big impact.

Please come into the front office or email [Ryan.Hunter9@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Ryan.Hunter9@schools.sa.edu.au) for more information.



Ryan Hunter  
Student Wellbeing Leader

## MATHEMATICS INTERVENTION - BOND BLOCKS

In Term 2, we will begin implementation of our new Maths intervention program, Bond Blocks. This is very exciting as a lot of work has happened behind the scenes to find a program that is evidence-informed and will best support our students to develop their core skills in Maths. Students across Years 3 and 4 have completed a pre-assessment to see if and where they fit into the program and will form the first groups of students to participate. We will then begin expanding the program to provide Maths intervention across other year levels from Term 3. Please have a read of the Bond Blocks information sheet below to find out more about the program.

Olivia Giersch  
Curriculum and Pedagogy  
Coordinator



## About the Bond Blocks Core Kit

You are receiving this letter because your child is joining an intervention group using the Bond Blocks Core Kit. They will be developing addition and subtraction skills with numbers up to 30 in a small group for 10 minutes, four times a week in addition to their normal maths lessons.

Bond Blocks fill the **missing link** to help students move from concretely **counting by ones** to abstractly adding with numbers and symbols.

Bond Blocks is informed by research using evidence-based methodology, developed by Australian teacher Narelle

Rice together with Dr Paul Swan.

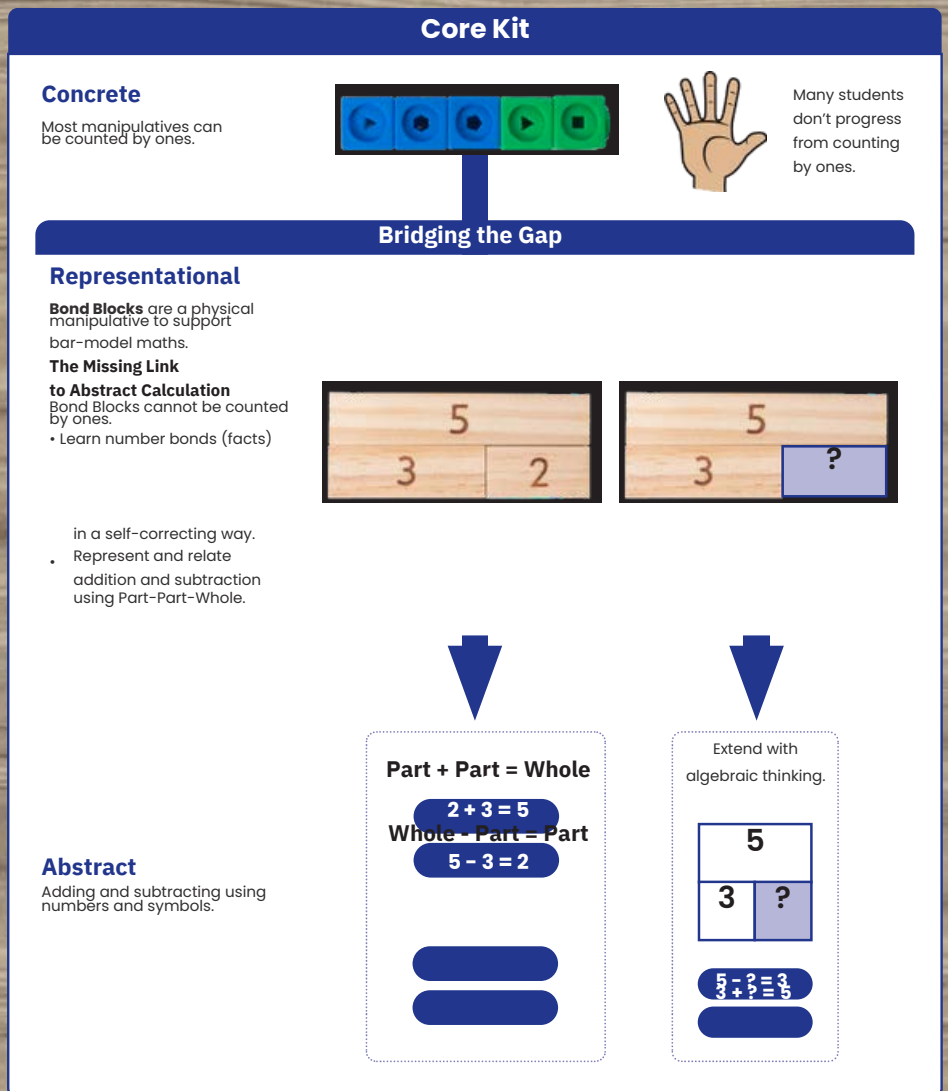
It was also winner of the 2022

Educational Publishing Awards.

We will use the Bond Blocks Core Kit to develop:

- Fluency with number bonds, leading

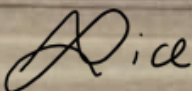
- to recall.
- Addition and subtraction to 20 and beyond.
- Robust understandings of addition and subtraction concepts, and relationships between them.
- Flexible, efficient calculating strategies.
- Number concepts including place value.
- Mathematical reasoning and problem solving.

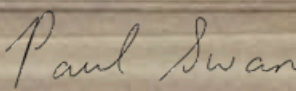


## Support for Parents

The Bond Blocks Core Kit is made up of over 100 sequenced activities. Each activity is completed on an A3 board and is modelled in a **video** on the activity's matching webpage. You can view these without a login.

See [www.bondblocks.com](http://www.bondblocks.com)

  
**Narelle Rice**  
 Creator of Bond Blocks,  
 Author and Educator

  
**Paul Swan**  
 Author and Educator

# SUPER MARIO BROS MOVIE



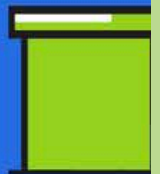
# Movie Night



Wednesday 9 April - 6:00pm  
start



In the school gym  
BYO snacks, chairs, pillows



.....  
Popcorn/lollies available on the night  
cash only

FREE EVENT - FAMILIES WELCOME

## PE NEWS

### Get Ready for Sports Week! 🎉

We've got an exciting week ahead in Week 11, with not one but two awesome sports events!

#### 🏆 Mini-Sports Day – Wednesday, 9th April

This special day is for students who have qualified through PE trials with Mr. Barnett. They'll be competing in long jump, high jump, and distance running, earning points for themselves and their team. While not everyone will be competing, all students will have the chance to cheer on their classmates and be part of the action!

#### 🎉 Sports Day – Friday, 11th April

Our whole-school Sports Day is set to be a fun-filled day of competition, teamwork, and school spirit! In the morning, Tri-Skills will run a variety of activities before we move into sprints and group events in the afternoon. Division 1 races will also take place, with students competing for year-level championships.

#### 📌 Important Reminder!

To take part in all the Tri-Skills activities, students must have their consent forms returned. Please make sure forms are signed and sent back as soon as possible so no one misses out on the fun!

#### 🌟 Get involved!

- Dress in your team colours to show your spirit!
- Parents are welcome to join us on Friday for the main Sports Day, and if your child is competing in Mini-Sports Day, you're welcome to come along on Wednesday too!

#### Important Info:

- ✓ Adult toilets will be available at the gym—just ask a staff member if you need directions.
- ✓ We follow the Junior Sports Policy and ask everyone to support our school values: Respect, Responsibility, and Success.
- ✓ Most importantly—let's make it a fun and positive day for everyone!

We can't wait to see the energy, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship from all our students. Let's make this Sports Week the best one yet! 🎉

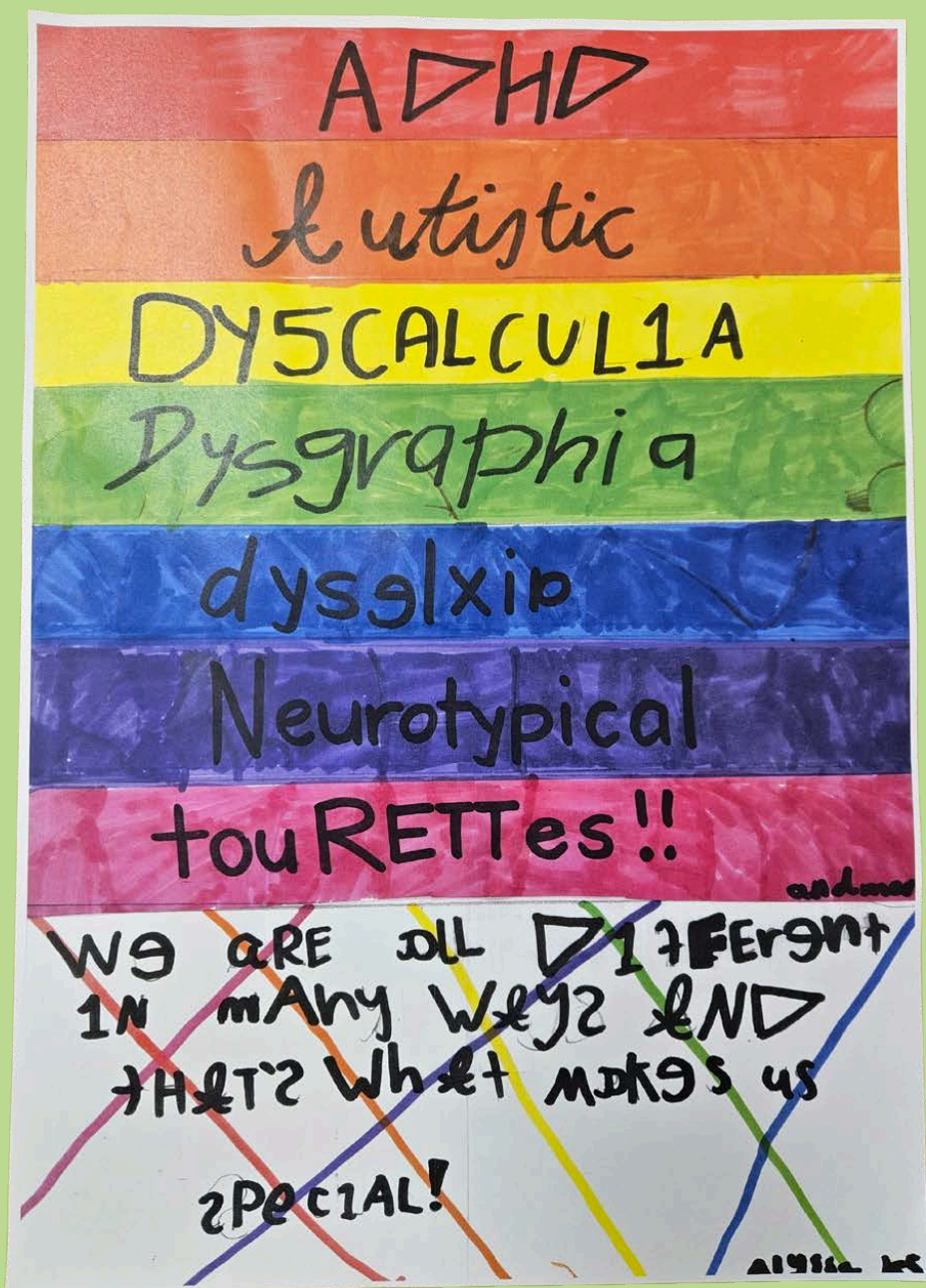
Thanks,  
Mr. Barnett (PE Teacher)



# NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK

This week, our students have been engaging in a variety of activities and stories that highlight the beauty of different brains and how these differences make us special. Students participated in Rainbow Shine Day, where they were able to come dressed in colour casual clothes. Students also celebrated during our Rainbow Shine disco!

We're excited to share that Alyssa, a talented Year 4 student has created two amazing posters celebrating neurodiversity! These colourful designs highlight the unique ways people think and learn, reminding us all of the importance of acceptance and understanding. The posters are now brightening up our school, spreading a positive message about embracing differences.



Sarah Mellors  
Deputy Principal



# NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK- RAINBOW SHINE DISCO



Photo Credit- Layla K4

## HARMONY DAY AND CARCLEW ARTIST

Friday the 21st of March was Harmony Day. This is a day to celebrate cultural diversity. Here at MPPS we are very lucky to have families from over 21 different countries around the world, bringing their own traditions and cultural perspectives. The students were each given a hand and asked to draw a flag on it that represented their families cultural background. These were then put on display in each block. It was amazing to see so many different flags!

To celebrate this amazing day, we had an assembly in the afternoon where we saw a video of some of our students sharing about their cultures, food, home languages, and differences in schooling. Our students also showed off their amazing Auslan skills by signing along to a song called Wavin' Flag.

During the day, all classes were treated to a tray of Indigenous Australian food. On the tray were some crackers, some jam & relish, Johnny cakes, anise myrtle popcorn, dried quandongs, and kangaroo meat sausages. There were certainly some mixed reviews about the food, but many brave students gave it a try, which was lovely to see!!



This term we have been very lucky to have two First Nations artists from Carclew coming to the school on a Wednesday to work with some of our students in Mr Keynes' art lessons.

The students have been using clay to make pots, bowls, plates, and just having fun with their artistic imagination! It's amazing to see what they can come up with.



Kari Shields  
AET, EALD &  
Wellbeing for Learning

