From the Principal

**Soccer Teams**

Last weekend I had the pleasure of watching a number of our teams play soccer from the Under 5’s/6’s to our Open team. It was great to witness developing skills, great participation and sportsmanship. Well done players and thanks to our coordinator Mr Carter and the many parents who support in the roles of coaches, team managers and side-line encouragers.

**Anzac Day/Grandparents Day**

Our Student Councillors and Sports Leaders will represent our school at the Anzac Day March, with Hannah, Chloe and Kate laying the wreath during the service. Thankyou to Miss Evans for coordinating our involvement.

In previous years we have combined Anzac Day with Grandparents and Senior Friends Day at our school. Due to Anzac Day falling in the school holidays, our Grandparents Day will be held later in the year to coincide with Remembrance Day on 11 November.

**Miandetta Facebook Page**

Miandetta Primary School now has a Facebook page! The page will be used to promote school events and student achievements, to issue reminders and notices. All information posted on the Facebook site will still continue to be communicated through the newsletter and message books. These will still be our main form of communication.

**Points to note:**

- Posts will remain hidden until approved by the Administrator.
- Photos of students are not permitted to be posted.
- Posts or comments that are offensive, in bad taste or use inappropriate language for a general audience will be hidden.
- Parents are reminded of Facebook’s Terms of Service which states the minimum age for a Facebook user is 13 years. This is a parental responsibility to enforce.
- Please read the “About” section of the page for a full outline of our focus.
- This page is not a form of communication with the school. If you have any questions or messages please continue to call the school as the page will not be constantly monitored.

The Facebook page is **Miandetta Primary School, Tasmania**, so please ‘like’ the page and keep up to date with what is happening at our great school! Please note the official Miandetta Page has our school logo as the profile picture, so make sure you ‘like’ the correct page!

**School Association**

Please consider putting your name forward for the School Association. We value parental input! Details of the role and a nomination slip are over the page.

**Thank You**

Thankyou to all volunteers who have supported us during first term; as classroom helpers, bankers, walkers, BBQ cooks, committee representatives and the list goes on… Thankyou and we look forward to your continuing assistance next term.

**Hats** - As per the Sun Safe Policy, hats are not required during term 2 and term 3. School hats can now be taken home and washed.

**Launceston PSST Athletics Carnival**

All the best to Heidi D’Monte, Bella Fehey and Baynen Lowe who will represent the North West Coast in the Launceston PSST athletics carnival.

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to Ben Sallese and Matthew Ruffels who played in the East Devonport Futsal Grand Final on the weekend and won.

Congratulations to Tianah and Bridie who both participated in the Latrobe Swimming Club event recently. Tianah was titled the 11 year old girls Club Champion and Most Improved Swimmer 2013-2014 and Bridie is the 10 year old girls Club Champion.

**Change of School Times - Reminder**

The new times are:

- 8.30 am - Classrooms open
- 8.55 am - School begins
- 8.55 to 10.40 am - First block
- 10.40 to 10.50 am - Recess

There is no change to the remainder of the day. These times will commence from second term.

**Moderation Day - Reminder**

This Thursday 17 April, the last day of term one, teaching staff will be moderating student work with staff from other Devonport schools. Students do not attend school on Moderation Day.

**Holiday Break**

A busy and productive term is drawing to an end. I wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday break. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 5 May.

Mandy Beard
Literacy Volunteers - Reminder

Reading and writing are essential ‘life skills’ and are the keys to all other areas of learning. Our school focuses on the development of these skills and many parents support our work by assisting with home reading. We are asking for volunteers to also assist us at school with the development of children’s reading skills. This assistance may either be in the form of listening to children read or providing more in-depth support through our Unlocking Literacy Program.

For further details please contact Sandra Allen at school. If you have some spare time to help with reading, whether it is once a week or more often, please complete and return the reply form below by 17 April. You also may know someone in the community including retired neighbours or grandparents who may like to assist with our work in developing children’s reading skills. If so please pass this information on to them or ask them to contact the school.

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Literacy Volunteer
I am interested in helping students with Reading at school

Name: ______________________________________   Contact number: _____________________

Fundraising Committee Fundraiser - Entertainment Voucher Book - NOW AVAILABLE

Once again, this year we have Entertainment Voucher Books available. Voucher Books are available for purchase from the school office for $65. The book of vouchers can be used at various restaurants, cafes, amusement venues, wildlife parks and many more places around Tasmania. There are also some amazing offers that can be used throughout Australia including: accommodation, car hire, Virgin flights, Ticketmaster, theme parks and much more! This year the voucher book can purchased as a book or as an electronic version on your smart phone. Even if you only use a couple of vouchers, this book is of great value and will save you a huge amount!
If you would like to have a look through the book and see all the amazing offers, there is a display book at the office.

April is International Autism Awareness Month

As mentioned last week in the newsletter, individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) have a wide range of difficulties and abilities. Usually by the age of three, children who have an ASD display these characteristics:

Social interaction and relationship difficulties:
They might not respond when people speak or gesture towards them, even when their names are called out. They may make little eye contact with others and usually won’t copy other people’s actions, like clapping. They may not be interested in chatting or playing, especially with other children and have trouble with giving and sharing.

Communication and language difficulties:
People with ASD usually take longer than the average to learn language and communication. People with ASD will find it hard to comprehend language, so understanding simple instructions and social communication can be difficult. When people with ASD do have language skills, they may talk about their own special interests, and occasionally use language skills to communicate with others. They might echo what they hear, repeating patterns of words without attaching any meaning to them.

Repetitive behaviour, routines and sensory difficulties:
Even from a young age, people with ASD will often prefer the same routines – feeding, sleeping or leaving the house needs to be done the same way every time. They might be upset by even minute changes. Many people with ASD also like to repeat behaviour, like lining their toys up in a particular way over and over again. Individuals with an ASD may have a range of narrow and intense interests that capture their attention to the exclusion of other activities and interests. They may have difficulty interpreting sensory information and can be overwhelmed by many sensory experiences.

Although each individual diagnosed with ASD has these core characteristics that define their condition, it does not define them as a person. Every person with ASD is a unique individual with their own set of likes, dislikes, personality and capabilities. Get to know someone in your school community who has ASD or talk to their parents and remember to be Autism Aware.

For more information call 1300 288 476 or visit autismtas.org.au
Easter Raffle Books DUE TOMORROW MORNING
Easter raffle books are now due. This is the last chance! The raffle will be drawn on 16 April but there is still plenty of time to get your donations of Easter eggs in to our draw. Thank you to all the families who have already donated and/or returned their raffle books.

School Association - Reminder
Parents, school staff and members of the broader community together form our School Association.
The main roles of the School Association are:
• To support the development of directions, values and priorities for the school
• To liaise with staff re general operations of the school
• To establish and communicate with committees to support specific areas of the school eg: canteen, uniform and fundraising etc.
In addition, the School Association provides an opportunity for all of us to work together to the benefit of all children who attend our school.
If you are interested in becoming a member of this committee, please complete the form attached and return to the office by TOMORROW. Members are elected for a 2 year period.

Devonport LINC School Holiday Program
The Devonport LINC are holding a holiday program: “Storytime” being held on Tuesday 29 April from 10am - 10:30am. “Storytime” will have stories and craft for children up to 6 years.
“Make an Elephant House” will be held on Wednesday 30 April between 10:30am - 11:30am. Come and help make a house for the elephants in “too many elephants in this house”. For 7-12 year olds. Bookings essential.

Bass Straight Maritime Centre Devonport
The Devonport Bass Straight Maritime Centre is holding a Family Pirate Day on Thursday 24 April from 10am - 2pm. Come along and enjoy; jumping castle, face painting, pirate photo booth, sail the simulator, music, sausage sizzle and much more! Enjoy 50% off entry. Don’t forget to come dressed in your pirate gear as there’s a prize for the best dressed pirate. For further information, please call 6424 7100.

The Junction School Holiday Program
The Junction - Youth, Family and Community Inc. have a holiday program running through the holidays. If you would like a copy of the events being held, please see the office.

Latrobe Basketball Association
Latrobe Basketball Association will be holding a school holiday clinic for under 10 boys and girls on Friday 2 May. Registrations are essential. For further information or to register, please call 0407 278 977.

Disclaimer: Parents should note that advertisements for educational services, companies, activities or similar events are published as ‘community service’. Miandetta Primary School is in no way liable for the quality, supervision or integrity of the provider and strongly suggests that parents make their own enquiries before engaging with the advertised event.

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Term 1 Ends for Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Uniform Orders Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>Moderation Day - No School for Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>Term 1 Ends for Teachers</td>
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<td>April 18</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>ANZAC Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Term 2 Begins-Please note new school times</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Community Forum - Aggression and Bullying</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The new silkies have had an exciting few days. On Friday afternoon they had a bath and blow dry in readiness for the Devonport Chook Show. In the beauty salon we had helpers from the Sutton family. It was great to have Alice, Meg, Eve and their parents helping us to get the silkies ready for their debut at the Poultry Club.

Mr Dick met us at the Club rooms and showed us how to prepare the chickens for judging. After some clucking and fussing we were ready! It was great to have some families supporting our school and also enjoying looking at all the different poultry breeds.

After a lovely morning tea, Mr Dick donned his white coat and began judging. Participants were not permitted to enter the judging area. We received a favourable report and the only thing we need to do is wait for them to grow a little bit bigger. In our category we received a first place and two seconds.

It was an eggcellent day! Our next show is in June and we hope to see you there!

P/1 Ruffels and 1/2 Rippon
### Supporting Your Child’s Literacy Skills

**Some ideas to help with Home Reading or DVDs/Videos children watch:**

This framework of questions to ask **Before** reading or viewing, **During** the reading or viewing and **After** reading or viewing will support you to guide and develop your child’s understanding of the book, DVD or Video.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The purpose of the questions is...</th>
<th>Examples of Questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BEFORE READING</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• To find out what your child may already know about the topic or focus in the text</td>
<td>• What do you think this story will be about?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To link any background knowledge your child may already have about the type of book/DVD</td>
<td>• What do you already know about...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To support your child to think about their own ideas and feelings about what the text is about</td>
<td>• Why do you think the author wanted to write this story?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• To confirm your child is reading for meaning</td>
<td>• What are the characters thinking or feeling?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To support them with strategies to help them read for meaning and understanding the text</td>
<td>• What do you think the next picture will look like?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DURING READING</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To find out how they are connecting what they knew before they read or viewed the text to any new information they learn after reading the text</td>
<td>• Is this character like anyone you know?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• To have them retell or relate what the text was about</td>
<td>• Does this book remind you of something that has happened to you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Start them thinking creatively about what they think the author wanted them to believe</td>
<td>• What do you think will happen next?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To consider why they think the author wrote that particular book</td>
<td>• If you could ask the people in the picture a question what would it be?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AFTER READING</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Can you tell me what the book is about in a few sentences?</td>
<td>• What did you feel when you read this book?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• What did you think that is how the author wanted you to feel?</td>
<td>• Do you think that is how the author wanted you to feel?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• What did you notice about the types of words used in this book?</td>
<td>• What did you notice about the types of words used in this book?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In what ways is this book different from the last one we read?</td>
<td>• In what ways is this book different from the last one we read?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Were there any words that were a bit confusing for you?</td>
<td>• Were there any words that were a bit confusing for you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Why do you think the author chose to write a book about this?</td>
<td>• What kind of person do you think the author is?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• What would this story be like if the main character was a girl instead of a boy?</td>
<td>• What would this story be like if the main character was a girl instead of a boy?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Whose view about the world is being told in this story?</td>
<td>• Whose view about the world is being told in this story?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Whose view or ideas are not being told?</td>
<td>• Whose view or ideas are not being told?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**To the Returning Officer for the School Association ~ Miandetta Primary School – Nomination Form 2014**

I wish to nominate for a position on the 2014 and 2015 School Association Committee

**Nominee:** ..........................................................  **Parent / Community** (Please circle)

**Address:** ..........................................................................................................................

**Phone:** .............................................. **Mobile:** ..................................................

**Nominator:** ..................................................  **Signed:** ..........................................

**Date:** ..................................................

Please return to Miandetta Primary School Office by Wednesday 16 April, 2014.