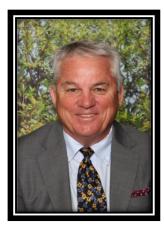


A Message from Mr Kelly



Welcome to term three and a special welcome to those new families in our school's community. It is wonderful to again write to you as Mount Druitt Public's principal after several months away on extended leave. No, I haven't been fired, no, I'm not in gaol and yes, I'm still an employee of the Department of Education (D.E.T) N.S.W.

After what feels like a lifetime working with D.E.T. I'd accrued many months of leave as mentioned above and thought the time was right to take such leave before moving onto retirement. One thing I have learned after all of these years as a principal is that the best transition in any school is a quick one. Due to the pandemic and a host of procedures to ensure the safety of all involved I really didn't get the chance to address the school in an assembly and outline what direction the school was heading. However, I knew M.D.P.S. was in very good hands.

Its leadership teams' (Ms Uthmeyer, Ms Devile, Ms Watkins, Ms Youkhana, Ms O'Kelly, Ms Kaur, Ms Pedano, Ms McDonald and Mr Barnett from the office) effort was formally recognised by our department last year for its' continued focus on student welfare and learning. I must also acknowledge their hard work with staff welfare because you cannot separate staff and student welfare in an environment that has many people working so closely together.



I can assure you that all decisions made by this group were centred around what was best for the kids in our care. We sometimes disagreed but we always moved on as a professional group with a commitment to the future.

In this commitment we understood, and still understand the importance and need for the support and trust of those parents and carers who make up our community. I do know that all schools achieve a lot more if everyone involved works together. We need to understand that we are all somewhat responsible for the journey that sees young girls and boys grow into adults. Adults that are not only literate and numerate but also empathetic, honest, tolerant and respectful of each other no matter what colour or religion we find in our classrooms and neighbourhood. We've worked hard at Mount Druitt Public over many years and will continue to do so.

My extended leave ends this term and the position of principal for M.D.P.S will be advertised and filled by the department's merit selection process in the near future. Again, I would like to thank the school's leadership team for their professionalism and plain hard work over what has been recently a difficult period for all schools. I would also like to acknowledge those hardworking staff who have and continue to provide a wonderful service to our community now and in the past. The work that these teachers do is well beyond the call of duty. The likes of Ms. Jenny Rist (AP) who passed away a few years ago will not be forgotten. Just ask those now young adults who were lucky enough to have her standing in front of them as an educator. Teaching is a tremendous profession and those early career teachers who are centred on what's best for the kids should be encouraged in every way. I would also like to especially thank Ms. Ramirez who has been a loyal, honest and hardworking individual for the school. Mrs. Nicole Collisson has also walked the same path with Mrs. Ramirez and I know the staff has always appreciated their hard work, support, advice and honesty.

Finally, can I thank the boys and girls that have been through our service. To those older students, always be proud of where you're from. Be brave and stick up for those who can't stick up for themselves. To those little ones, maybe they'll read this one day in a few years' time and understand just what the saying *"it takes an entire village to raise a child"* really means. I'd like to think that we do this well at M.D.P.S.

I'd also like to thank our hardworking cleaners, support staff, those in our office and the diligent and friendly "lolly pop" pedestrian officers who all, just like our teachers, fully understand just what village they're looking after.

Yours in education

Michael Kelly

Principal Mount Druitt Public School 2003-2021

A Message from the Relieving Principal

Congratulations Mr Kelly

Mr Kelly officially retires from the Department of Education this term. Mr Kelly commenced his career at Hebersham Public School in 1979 and took up the role of principal, Mt Druitt Public School, in 2003. He has had an outstanding career, with a firm belief in always doing what is in the best interest of the students. He improved the lives of many thousands of children and their families, as well as staff, in many settings – Jamisontown PS, Clairgate PS, Wilmot PS, and then Doonside PS, where he enjoyed his first principalship. On behalf of Mount Druitt Public School, and beyond, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mick and thank him for his *service to students and staff*.

He will be missed.

Learning from Home

We are now in contact with 100% of our families which is fantastic news. Teachers should be in contact once per week to help support you and your children with learning from home. Students should be working on average 2 – 3 hours a day with reading and numeracy being a priority. Children should be taking regular breaks throughout learning time. Most of our students are working online to complete work however for those families that require printed packages, work is being posted the week beforehand to ensure that it is received on time. The school is in the process of purchasing a subscription to maths seeds for Kindergarten to year 2 students (linked to reading eggs) and Mathletics for years 3,4,5 and 6. Please keep an eye out for information regarding how to access these programs early next week.

Parent Concerns

Some parents have expressed concerns over the progress their children are making during learning from home and are wanting to send them back to school. I fully understand and empathise with how difficult it can be to engage your child/children with meaningful work, keep them on task and run a household or work from home. However, unless there are extenuating circumstances or you are an essential worker, you must keep your children at home. Given the current cases in the Mount Druitt area, it is more important than ever that we continue to follow the advice from NSW Health to reduce the risk of spreading Covid – 19. If you feel that you have extenuating circumstances requiring you to send your child/children back to school then please discuss with your child's teacher first.

Wellbeing Wednesdays

At Mount Druitt Public School, we believe the wellbeing of students, staff and families is very important. Every Wednesday at 12pm we ask that our students and their families switch off from work and choose something enjoyable to do. What can you do in this time?

- Go for a bike ride,
- Listen to music
- Zoom with a friend,
- Watch a movie
- Cook something yummy
- Have a dance party

Learning from Home Engagement Prizes

Each fortnight class teachers will be awarding a prize to one student in their class that actively engages with learning from home or improved their engagement. Prizes will be announced by the class teacher each fortnight and posted to students in the mail.

Technology Loans

The school currently has a small number of devices (laptops and ipads) available for students that still need them. Older siblings that attend high school will need to contact their school and organise to borrow devices through them. We also have a small number of routers and dongles available for families to give them access to wifi. Please contact your child's teacher through class dojo to organise the loan.

Kind Regards

Díanne Uthmeyer

Relieving Principal

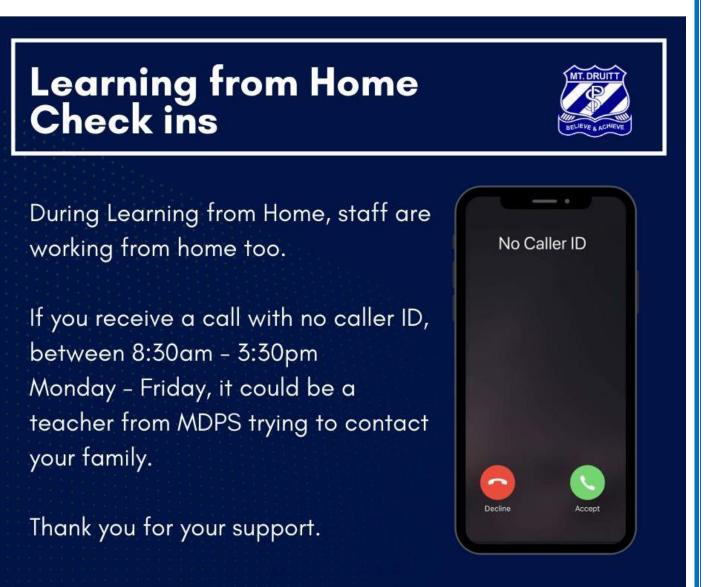


FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

Preschool Fees

Preschool fees have been waived by the Department of Education for 2021. No fees are to be paid until 2022. Please contact the office if you have already paid fees this year.

Learning from Home Check ins



For any concerns, you can contact your class teacher directly via ClassDojo or you can call the school office and they will pass the message on.





Hello families,

Please see below a timetable for Funday Friday activities for the rest of term. Watch out on class dojo for a reminder each Wednesday afternoon.

Don't forget to post a photo on Class Dojo!

| Week | Date | Theme | Directions |
|------|-------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 5 | 13th August | Bring a Pet / Toy to 'School' | Enjoy learning in the company of your pet or favourite toy. |
| 6 | 20th August | Crazy Hair Day | Create a crazy hairdo OR wear your favourite hat while learning from home. |
| 7 | 27th August | Book Week | Take some time out to read a book. It might be by yourself or with others. |
| 8 | 3rd September | Colour me Happy | Dress head to toe in your favourite colour/s |
| 9 | 10th September | Silly Sock Day | Wear odd socks, wear stripy socks, wear long socks, wear short socks Wear any socks that are funny and silly. |
| 10 | 17th September | Free time Friday | Pack up at lunchtime and have some fun with your family 😊 |

PRESCHOOL LEARNING FROM HOME

Can you draw a dinosaur?



Nuwaira

Hafsah

NUWAIRA

Jernine Ibrahim



Using LEGO or Blocks to build something that could transport you somewhere...



"I made a grasshopper spider. This will transport me quicker and safer" - Jacob

"I made a a Truck and Spaceship" - Eric

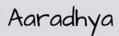


Write your name in different colours. How many colours can you use to write your name? Learning to look after our gardens





Abdullah



PRESCHOOL LEARNING FROM HOME

Can you make binoculars?





Inaaya

Mrs Donzow & her kids working from home



Mrs McDonald working from home

Miss Gaby





Miss Gaby working from home with her cute pet cat.



Mrs Elsie working from home with her Son's



Mrs Nazia working from home with her kids



Thank you so much to our Preschool families for all of their support during this time. We love seeing all of your amazing learning from home on Story Park. Keep up the great work!

Preschool Educators

Multicat 1, Multicat 2 and Early Intervention



The students in Multicat and Early Intervention have been working extremely hard whilst learning at home. They have been working on strengthening their fine motor skills with different tasks like tracing. The students have been learning the sounds of the week and have enjoyed learning about the different forms of transport. Along with all this great work they have been creating different masterpieces in the forms of different pieces of art. All the students have been enjoying story time with the teachers. Keep up the great work and we can't wait to see you back at school soon.

KINDY LEARNING FROM LOME

Kindergarten we are so proud of you! Keep working hard, trying your best and sharing all your amazing work with your teachers. Families – a big thank you for helping to support your little learner's school journey at home. We appreciate all the effort you are putting in to ensure your child continues to learn and grow. We acknowledge this is a team effort and wouldn't be able to do this without you. Thank you for being connected with us through Class Dojo.



Shout out to our kindergarten superstars who have been challenging themselves to complete all set tasks with a smile on their faces!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN KC





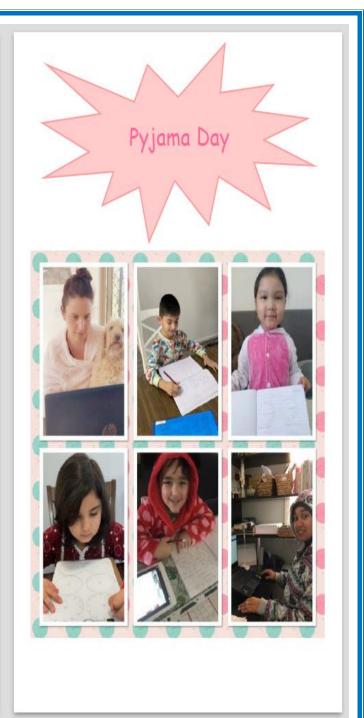


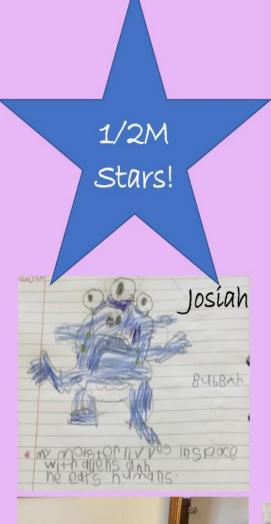






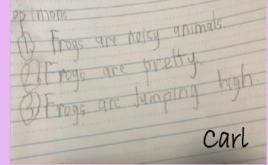








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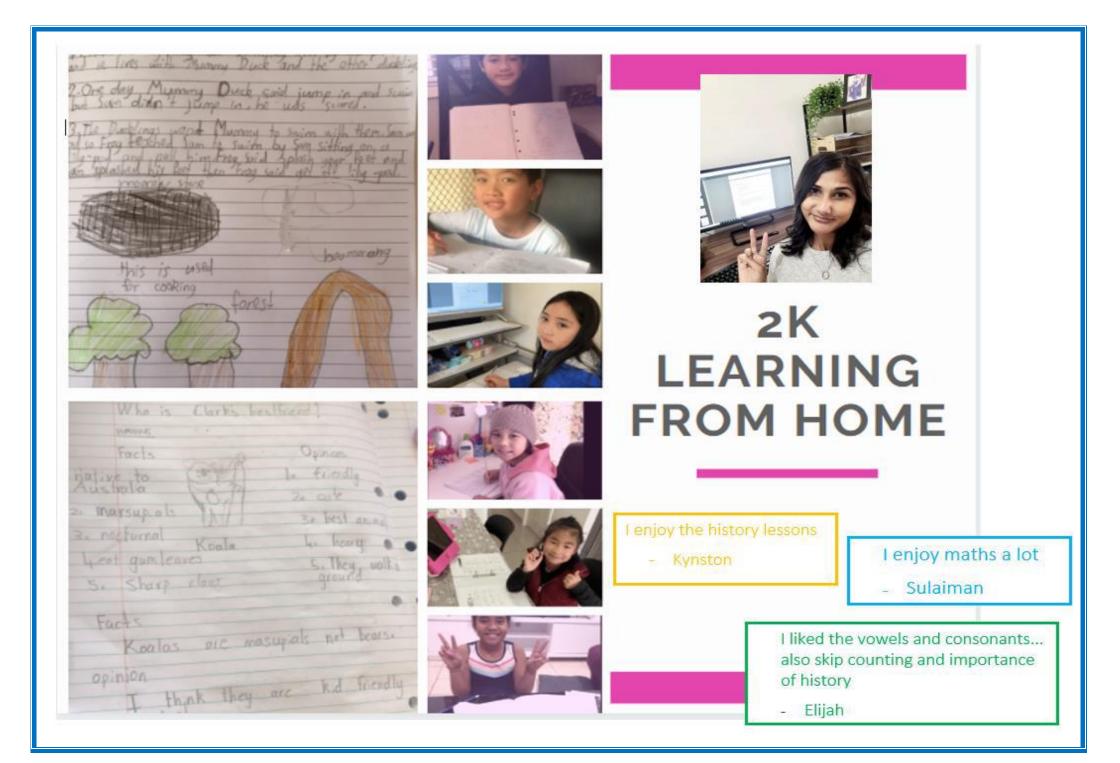


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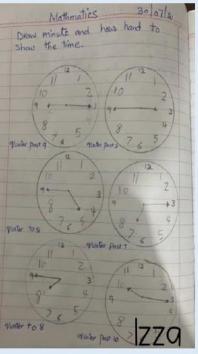
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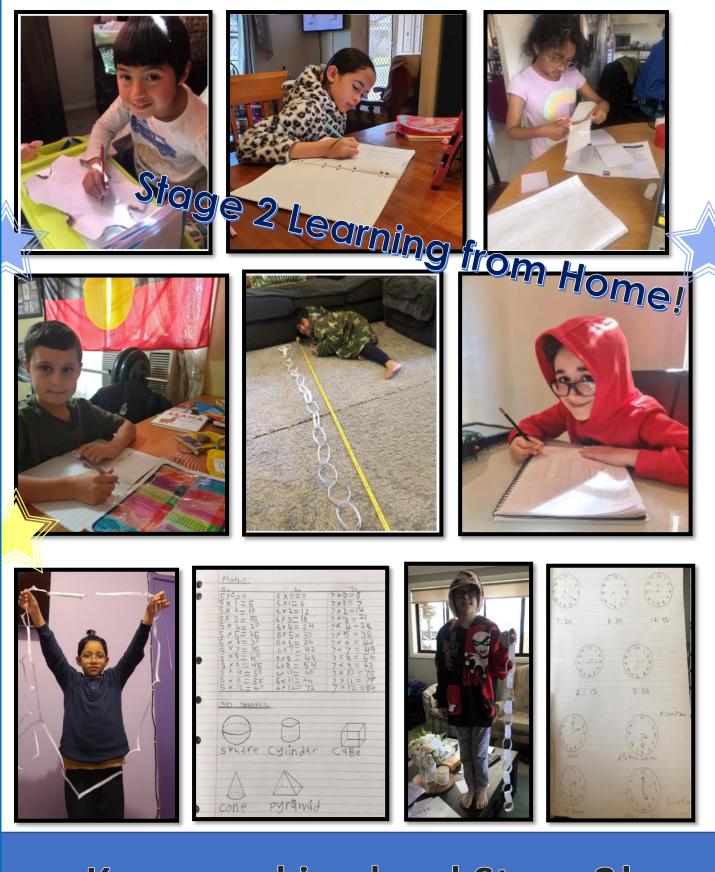
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Keep working hard Stage 2! We are proud of you!



Stage 2

Zoom meeting



We played games!



We saw our friends! We Had FUN!

5/6B Leaning from Home

Going into our 5th week of learning from home, 5/6B Students have demonstrated their resilience through their ability to adapt to change and learn online. Their patience while waiting for content to download, printed packages to arrive in the mail or perseverance with logins to read, do math and attend zoom meetings. They have truly shown me what respectful and responsible learners they are by submitting work daily and engaging with one another online. We have been enjoying the learning activities and vibe of the Olympics lately, where all the students have been creating some amazing work. Keep it up 5/6B, you all deserve a gold medal!



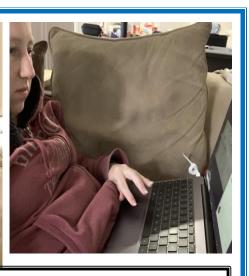
5/6F Learning from home

5/6F have been working hard at home. They have taken on the challenge with their head held high. When it comes to their writing they have been able to produce quality work by ensuring that they are embedding the seven step techniques they have learnt in class. Amazing work 5/6F, keep on striving to do the best you can.

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Working from home –Mr Johnny & Mrs Hancock



Olympic Pictographs by – Ebad, Sheza and Adit (5/6J)

Remote learning with 5/61

5/6J remains committed to maintaining community with one another and reaching for our learning goals during this time of remote learning. We are better together though we are physically apart!





Learning from home, featuring : Ayham, Hamid, Maheer, Hala, Muhammad, Hasib, Hamza, Ebad and Sarah.



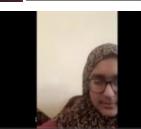


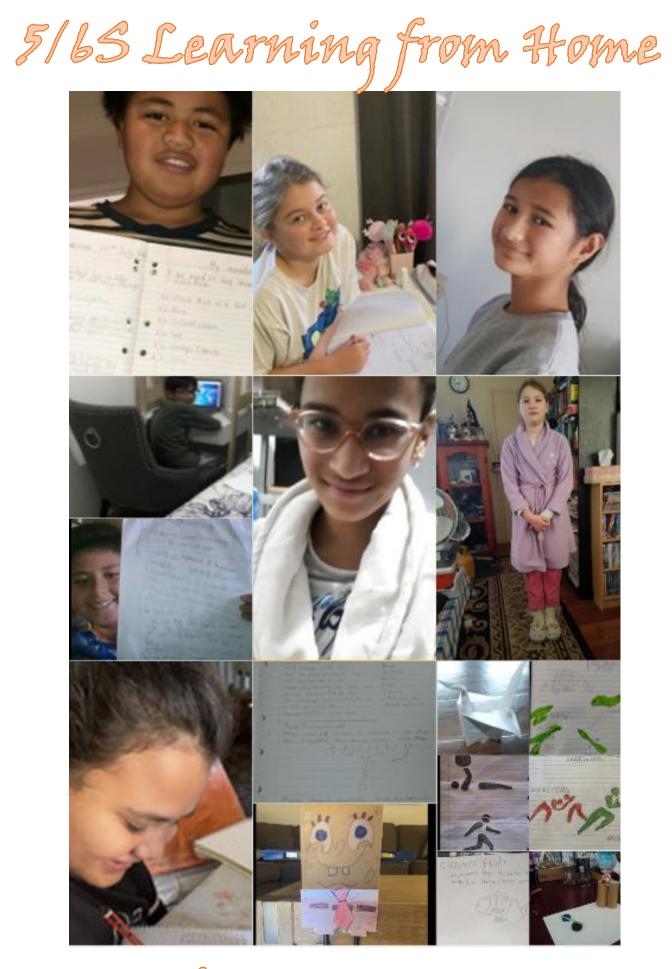












..... and the learning continues





Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the NCCD guidelines (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- vear of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional •
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the Australian Government's Privacy Policy (https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the NCCD Portal (https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Dianne Uthmeyer

Relieving Principal

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