

# EMU EXPRESS

Marayong Heights Public School

Term 4, Week 5



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## Upcoming Events

### Term 4

#### Week 6

Monday 8 November	Mrs Littlejohn's Virtual Farewell Assembly 9:30am
Tuesday 9 November	Check in Assessment – Stage 3
Thursday 9 November	Remembrance Day
Thursday 9 November	Check in Assessment – Stage 3

#### Week 7

Monday 15 November	Kindergarten 2022 Q & A session 5-6pm via Zoom
Tuesday 16 November	Kindergarten 2022 Enrolment Interviews 12-4pm
Wednesday 17 November	Kindergarten 2022 Enrolment Interviews 12-4pm
Wednesday 17 November	Year 4 Opportunity Class Test

#### Week 8

Tuesday 23 November	Kindergarten Walk Around sessions 3:15-4:30pm
Wednesday 24 November	Tell Them From Me survey
Wednesday 24 November	Kindergarten Walk Around sessions 3:15-4:30pm
Friday 26 November	Year 5 Leadership 2022 Speeches

#### Week 9

Tuesday 30 November	End of Year Fun Day
Friday 3 December	Whole School Assembly

#### Week 10

Monday 6 December	Year 6 Graduation Assembly
Monday 6 December	Year 6 Farewell
Tuesday 7 December	Presentation Day Assembly
Friday 10 December	100% Attendance Morning Tea
Friday 10 December	Reports home to parents

#### Week 11

Thursday 16 December	Last day of the year for students
Friday 17 December	School Development Day – staff only

## Principal's Report

### Dear Parents and Carers,

As you can see from the calendar above, we have a few busy weeks ahead! All celebrations and events will be conducted in line with NSW Health and Department of Education guidelines. We understand there may be some disappointment as a result of the restrictions; however, we look forward to the support from our community to ensure that all events adhere to safety guidelines. We will do our very best to ensure our special end of year events are as 'normal' as possible.

### Semester 2 Reports

Our teachers are currently preparing to write student reports which is quite a complicated process given they were not face to face with their students for many weeks. As a result, reports will look quite different this semester, being modified to account for the impact of the lockdown restrictions. Reports will go home on Friday 10 December.

## Is your child unwell?

There are quite a few germs around at the moment, consequently I need to remind all families that students and staff must not attend work or school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Please be respectful of our staff if they do question the return of your child without a negative Covid test, they are simply doing their job.



Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms must be sent home and not return to school unless:

- they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available
- they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free.

In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms (seasonal asthma or allergies), a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.

Anyone who is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms is strongly encouraged to get tested and self-isolate until a negative result is received.

## November 8

As I am sure you're all aware, there was an announcement made earlier in the week indicating that from 8 November Level 3 Plus schools will be moving to a Level 3 setting, with a slight reduction in restrictions. This change applies to our school, all changes are listed below. Please note that we are required to adhere to all health and DoE guidelines.

NSW Department of Education

## Term 4 roadmap

### From 8 November

- All schools will operate on updated Level 3 settings for the rest of Term 4.
- School sports allowed
  - Inter-school sports allowed outside of school hours
  - Assemblies and presentations allowed outdoors on-site
  - Excursions allowed outdoors
  - Dancing and some music classes allowed
  - Fully vaccinated visitors allowed on site to support curriculum delivery, wellbeing programs and school operations
  - Community use allowed (including P&C meetings)

### From Term 1 2022

We can look forward to more freedoms as schools return in 2022.

## Keeping us all safe

A combination of layered safety measures allow us to prioritise student and staff wellness while we keep schools open.

### Stay home if unwell

- Do not attend or participate if unwell, even with mild symptoms.



### Vaccinations required

- All adults must be fully vaccinated.



### Always check in

- All staff and visitors must check in when attending a school site or gathering.



### Wear masks indoors

- Masks are required indoors for all staff, visitors and students in Year 7 or above, and strongly recommended indoors for primary students.
- You can take your mask off when eating or exercising.



### Physically distance

- Maintain 1.5 metres physical distancing wherever practicable.



### Maximise ventilation

- Activities and events should be held outdoors where practicable.
- Indoor spaces will be well ventilated and as large as possible for the number of attendees.



### Stick to your cohorts

- Avoid mingling with other groups when moving around the school.



For the latest information, refer to [education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19](https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19).



## NAPLAN 2021, Check in Assessments and Tell Them From Me

All Year 3 and Year 5 received their NAPLAN results last week. I would like to remind you that these results provide a snapshot of what your child can do. The results do not define them, we know your children are so much more. We see

their creativity, their funny sense of humour, their sporting prowess, their helpfulness and kindness. These qualities are not reflected in NAPLAN results. As teachers, we use these results to evaluate how we are progressing as a school. We evaluate the data to find areas of focus and to celebrate successes. We are incredibly proud of the growth our students have had between Year 3 and Year 5, particularly in Numeracy.

Students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will sit the Check-in Assessment over the next couple of weeks. This data will prove to be extremely valuable, it will provide a snapshot indicating how students are travelling after the Learning from Home period.

The Tell Them From Me survey is scheduled to occur soon. We will be asking for feedback from our students, teachers and parents. This data will be used to guide us as we move into the new year.

The link to the parent survey is [here](#). We really value your feedback and would love to see as many parents completing the survey as possible.

## Staffing News

As you are aware Mrs Littlejohn chose to retire earlier in the year and we look forward to celebrating her career and saying our farewells during a virtual celebration next week. This virtual celebration will be recorded and shared with our community at a later date. The recruitment process to permanently fill the principal position is underway and I look forward to announcing who will be replacing Mrs Littlejohn by the end of the term.

## Gates

We have noticed that many of our students have been arriving early, some earlier than 8am. Our automatic gates on both Guerie Street and Shields Street remain closed in the morning until teachers are on duty at 8:30am. If you need to drop your children off earlier than 8:30am due to work commitments, I encourage you to consider using the before and after school care facility at our school. The care provider, [Camp Australia](#), will be happy to answer any questions you may have about their service.

## Playground News

We have a few exciting changes occurring in our playground. The Year 6 area is receiving an upgrade in the form of fake turf, we are adding some additional seating on the oval and having an activity circuit installed. We are also having two water bottle refill stations installed to ensure children always have access to drinking water, particularly while the bubblers are closed due to health restrictions.



Mrs Alison Jeremijczyk

## From the Deputy Principal

### Welcome back

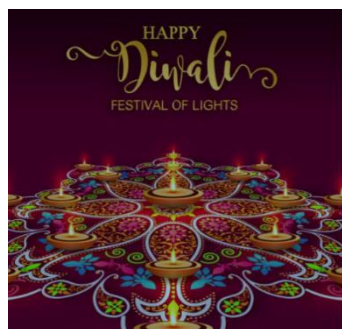
Welcome back to Term 4! It is so lovely to see lots of happy faces, arriving at school each day, parents included. Students were greeted with a balloon arch and a 'welcome back' sign. A big shout out to Miss Dunford and Miss Lansangan for organising it.



### Staggered Dismissals

Thank you to all families who have arrived promptly to collect their children in the afternoon since implementing our new dismissal times due to COVID-19 procedures. To avoid students mixing cohorts in the afternoon, it is important that children are collected promptly and then move off. Parents are encouraged to socially distance during this time.

Stage	Dismissal Time
I am in Kindergarten.	I need to be collected at 2:40pm.
I am in Stage 1.	I need to be collected at 2:50pm.
I am in Stage 2.	I need to be collected at 2:55pm
I am in Stage 3.	I need to be collected at 3:00pm.



### Diwali – 4 November

The Hindu religious holiday of Diwali, also called Deepavali or the "Festival of Lights", is not an official public holiday in Australia. However, it has nonetheless grown in significance over the years. Diwali is widely celebrated in India and is observed by Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Newar Buddhists around the world. Today, there are private and public Diwali festivals held all over Australia.

We would like to wish all our families celebrating, a very happy Diwali.

### School Uniform Shop

Up until this point in time we have not been permitted to have parents on the school grounds to make over the counter purchases at the uniform shop, nor have Excel Uniforms staff been allowed on our school site. However, from 8 November our uniform shop will reopen. We are awaiting confirmation from Excel uniforms about the hours they will be open. If you wish, you can continue to place orders online and they will be delivered to your child to take home. Visit our school website in [the Kindergarten Orientation](#) tab to download a copy.



## Kindergarten Orientation

We are very excited to welcome all our 2022 Kindergarten students, parents and carers to Marayong Heights Public School. We have recently uploaded lots of information onto [our website](#) that may support your child's transition.

Due to the very recent changes in NSW Health and Department Guidelines restrictions, we have re-worked our orientation program planning to include a short face-to-face 'Walk Around' session. We will be in touch with our new kindergarten families soon regarding these sessions. However, they will take place on 23 and 24 November from 3:15-4:30pm. One fully vaccinated parent will be able to visit the school with their child to meet the teachers and tour our school grounds. We are also hoping to have the uniform shop open so families can purchase uniforms.

Information Packs: Have been posted home. In your pack, you will find a variety of information and resources to prepare yourself and your child/ren for coming to school.

Parent Enrolment Interviews and Best Start: Confirmation letters will be sent home to all families to confirm their chosen dates and times for the enrolment interviews and the Best Start Assessment.

School Website: Visit our school website to access important information about our school and videos of our students, teachers, and school environment, to ensure you have a sense of Marayong Heights Public School.

Parent Q & A session: We will be holding a parent Q & A session on Monday 15 November from 5-6pm. See our school website for more information.



Mrs Leotta



## Placement in Selective High Schools for Year 7 entry in 2023

You must apply online at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>



High Performing Students Team

## Placement in selective high schools for Year 7 entry in **2023** Information for applicants

Thinking of applying for a government selective high school for Year 7 in 2023?

You must apply online at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>



### Key Dates

Application website opens:  
**19 October 2021**

Application website closes:  
**17 November 2021**  
You must apply before this date.

Test centre and test authority advice released:  
**24 February 2022**

Selective High School placement test:  
**10 March 2022**

Placement outcome expected to be released:  
**8 July 2022**

Please read this booklet carefully before applying.

There may be changes to the procedures in this document.

Check the website at [education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc](https://education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc) regularly for updates throughout the application and placement process.

Please check the website for information before you contact the Team.

After applying, you will be able to log into your application dashboard to change details and send and receive messages.

The Selective High Schools placement process for Year 7 entry is administered by the High Performing Students Team. It is referred to as 'the Team' in this document.

#### Contact Details:

High Performing Students Team, NSW Department of Education

[shs-oc@nsw.edu.au](mailto:shs-oc@nsw.edu.au)

Telephone: 1300 880 367

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/772251106301086/>

## Positive Behaviour for Learning

### Fortnightly Focus

At Marayong Heights, we have been explicitly teaching our students strategies that support positive behaviours in the classroom and playground. We do this by making expectations clear, teaching children how to meet them and reinforcing children's appropriate behaviour.

The focus for the fortnight will be looking at the expectation of, **'We listen to and follow instructions.'**

### At Marayong Heights Public School,



**WE LISTEN TO AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.**



## Creative Kids Corner

# LILAC WRITERS



This week we used adjectives to write interesting sentences about our spooky monsters.



# Creative Writing with Apricot

Throughout the term, Apricot has been learning about different types of poems. This week we focused on **Limericks**.

## What is a Limerick?

A limerick is a five line poem. It follows an A,A,B,B,A rhyming pattern and they are often comedic.

Here are some of our limericks below:

### **The Duckling**

*The duckling was often green,  
The duck ate all of his beans,  
Then there was a huge crowd,  
They were always quite loud,  
Then he knew that they were mean.*

*By Giselle*

### **The Boy**

*There once was a boy named Pat,  
Who had wings like a black bat,  
When he flew far away,  
At the end of the day,  
He never got to come back.*

*By Patrick L*

### **Rig the Fat Pig**

*There was a pig whose name was Rig.  
He was a very large, round pig.  
Rig likes to play all day.  
He always wants to stay  
And he has a big brother called Sig.*

*By Ester*

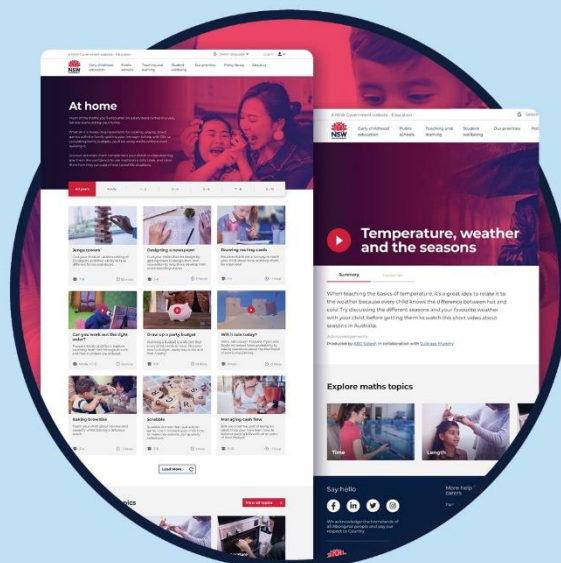
### **Sally and Callie**

*There once was a girl named Sally,  
Who had a sister named Callie,  
They loved to do shopping ,  
But now they love hopping,  
They made a new friend called Allie.*

*By Danielle*

## Explore the Everyday Maths Hub >

[education.nsw.gov.au/everyday-maths](http://education.nsw.gov.au/everyday-maths)



## P&C Update

Marayong Heights Public School - Parents & Citizens Association

Goal of the P&C: - Our ultimate goal is to raise funds that can be donated to the school to contribute towards purchases that have been identified as important and beneficial to the students learning experience.

We are raising money for a SENSORY GARDEN:



Currently what it looks like



What it could look like.  
(Not actual Design)



Marayong Heights Public School - Parents & Citizens Association  
Term 4, Week 4 – 2021

Email: mhpspandc21@gmail.com

President: Louise Ironside Vice President: Sarah Lambert

Treasurer: Nicole Strachan Secretary: Vesna Zailac

Goal of the P&C: - Our ultimate goal is to raise funds that can be donated to the school to contribute towards purchases that have been identified as important and beneficial to the students learning experience.

Wow, hasn't time flown by.....I don't know about you, but I came out the other side a bit wider and definitely a little bit greyer.....hee hee hee. Thank Goodness school is back.....lol

A special shout out to Mr Andrew Paris in this newsletter. Even though we were in lockdown, Andrew contacted Bunnings Warehouse, and they generously donated a Brand-new BBQ, Gas Bottle and cooking accessories, that the P&C can utilise to further our fundraising efforts. Awesome effort!!!



**School Banking**



It is with a sad heart that I advise School Banking at MHPS (and nationwide) will cease to continue in 2022. As MHPS is still restricted with entry, it has been decided banking we will stop now. Thank you to all our bankers, parents and volunteer co-ordinators over the years who have helped keep this running at our school since.....2010

Our P&C is run purely on Volunteers. They are an amazing bunch of individuals who come together with the same mind set of improving the school experience for each child. If you would like to be a part of this amazing team, come along to our next P&C meeting and say hi.

**P&C MEETING**

We are planning a P&C meeting for next Tuesday night 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7pm. This meeting will be via ZOOM.

Meeting ID: 768 5557 6318

Passcode: Qb049k

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2021

7pm

Thanks Louise

Our Facebook page is going great guns. Come check us out at:

**Marayong Heights Public School P&C Communications**  
The purpose of this group is to provide updated information to Parents and Carers on upcoming P&C run events.





## Community News

### **QHHS ORIENTATION VISITS START NEXT WEEK**

**Monday 22 - Thursday 25 November**



#### **WHEN CAN I VISIT?**

Quakers Hill East Public School  
Monday 22 November 5-6pm

Marayong Heights Public School  
Monday 22 November 6:15-7:15pm

Hambledon Public School  
Tuesday 23 November 5-6:30pm

Barnier Public School  
Wednesday 24 November 5-6:30pm

Quakers Hill Public School  
Thursday 25 November 5-6pm

#### **WHAT IF MY CHILD ATTENDS A DIFFERENT SCHOOL?**

Parents from other schools can arrange an appointment with our front office for Wednesday 1 December. During your visit you will be able to access the uniform shop. Alternatively, you may wish to access the uniform shop during our special opening hours in January 2022.

# QHHS 2021 ORIENTATION EVENTS



Year 7 orientation at QHHS will be a little different this year.

For safety, each of our partner schools will be assigned a date and time to access the uniform shop, purchase book packs and make payments to our office. We ask that families stick to these times, wear masks, respect social distancing and remain on the school grounds no longer than necessary.

Additional information will soon be available on the school website and Facebook. Information packs will be distributed to our partner schools in Week 6 – you can also collect a copy during your visit:

- Quakers Hill East PS – Monday 22 Nov (5-6pm)
- Marayong Heights PS – Monday 22 Nov (6:15pm - 7:15pm)
- Hambledon PS – Tuesday 23 Nov (5-6:30pm)
- Barnier PS – Wednesday 24 Nov (5-6:30pm)
- Quakers Hill PS – Thursday 25 Nov (5-6pm)

[quakershil-h.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://quakershil-h.schools.nsw.gov.au)

# ORIENTATION AFTERNOON 1

**Monday 22 November 2021**

**5:00pm - 7:15pm**



## **Quakers Hill East PS & Marayong Height PS**

Families of Year 6 students from Marayong Heights PS & Quakers Hill East PS are invited to attend this transition event at Quakers Hill High School. During the afternoon you will be able to try on and purchase uniforms, pay fees and purchase book packs. Students are encouraged to wear clothing that will allow them to place the uniforms on top.

All attendees are required to wear masks, practice social distancing and sign-in on arrival at the school.

### **What is the schedule?**

Quakers Hill East Public School 5:00pm - 6:00pm.

Marayong Heights Public School 6:15pm - 7:15pm

### **What if my child attends a different school?**

Parents from other schools can arrange an appointment with our front office for Wednesday 1 December. During your visit you will be able to access the uniform shop. Alternatively, you may wish to access the uniform shop during our special opening hours in January 2022.