



Maroota Matters

Wednesday 8th December 2021

Maroota Public School students are safe, respectful, responsible learners.

Term 4 Important Dates

Monday 13th December

- Presentation Day
- Water Fun Day

Wednesday 15th December

- Class party

Thursday 16th December

- Last day of school for students

Students return 2022:

Yrs 1 - 6 Tue 1st Feb

Kindergarten Thu 3rd Feb

2022 School Dates

Term 1

1 Feb to 8 Apr 2022

and so, here we are in week 10!
The 2021 school year is almost over.

Share our Space.

Over the Christmas / Summer break, our school grounds will be open for use. The Share our Space program will run from Monday, 20 December to Thursday, 27 January from 8am to 5pm, including weekends and public holidays. So, feel free to pop on in and to use the oval, playgrounds and sports courts for some good old-fashioned, family fun.

School outdoor spaces will be cleaned every Tuesday and Thursday during the program. Cleaners will clean the space and empty rubbish bins at the school.

There are no toilet facilities open for public use, during the Share our Space program.

Please note that children are to be supervised, at all times, by a responsible adult. There will be no school-based supervision, even if teachers are on the school grounds.

Staff News.

Next year, staffing at Maroota Public School will look different to this year. This year was an exceptional year, with staffing levels sitting significantly above our entitlement. Due to our inability to guarantee our current staff members the level of employment that they require, there will be some staff movement. This has been the direct result of a declining student numbers. We had been lucky enough to 'hold' Mrs Dorbis' permanent position for a couple of years, in the hope of building enrolments but we have been informed that we no longer have that position entitlement. Don't worry, though... as our school continues to grow, we are able to regain this position. Fingers crossed!

Miss Bennett has secured employment at Vineyard Public School. With our staffing entitlement limited to 1 ½ teachers, we were unable to grant Miss Bennett the full-time teaching load that she needed. Of course, we are very sad to see her go. We will miss THAT laugh and her caring and nurturing nature that has benefitted our students for the past 3 years. We thank Miss Bennett for all her hard work and for being an integral part of our Maroota PS family. We hope to see her working at Maroota PS again, soon.

Understandably, with the uncertainty, Mrs Tosh has secured 2 days per week at Cattai PS. She will be working as the teacher librarian and teaching geography and history. We are very hopeful that we will be able to keep her here, at Maroota, one day a week to help us out with our teacher librarian needs (maybe some history and geography, too!). This satisfies Mrs Tosh's 3 day per week teaching load preference. We wish to thank Mrs Tosh for her commitment to all things Maroota, and for the care and kindness afforded to our very lucky MPS students. Fingers crossed we can have her, here, 1 day per week!

The Department of Education has announced that a number of small schools will be granted an Assistant Principal (Curriculum and Instruction). Maroota PS is lucky enough to be one of these schools. We are receiving one staff member, one day per week, which is over and above our entitlement and is unrelated to our budget allocation. This successful applicant is currently being decided through the Merit Selection process. We hope to be able to bring you news of this position before the end of the school year.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



No birthdays to announce
in this newsletter



Don't Forget Library Day is
every Tuesday for all
grades.



Sports Day is Friday for all
grades.

So, with all these staff changes, it is no surprise that I am still working on our staffing equation. Please know that I will do everything to ensure the best possible outcomes for our children. I will be a teaching Teaching Principal, there will be the one day per week Assistant Principal (I'm hoping to secure a second day for the successful applicant as a classroom teacher, for consistency) and we are pulling together to make staffing decisions to best utilise the staffing budget that we have. We are also waiting to finalise our enrolments for 2022. Those last few students who may or may not enrol will determine just what our staffing and class structures will look like next year.

Presentation Day and Water Fun Day

Monday, 13th December is Presentation Day. The Presentation Assembly will start at 10am. We ask that students come to school dressed in their school uniform and bring old clothes and shoes (not thongs) to change into. Students will also need to bring a towel or two, in a plastic bag, to make clothing changes and wet clothing transport less horrendous and more organised!

Monday's weather forecast is bleak. Steady rain and low 'Summer' temperatures are predicted. Water Fun Day will still go ahead, regardless, but water activities will be reduced and some 'warmer, dry weather activities' will be planned so that students are not cold and wet all day.

The Banquet

Wednesday, 15th December is the day for our class "It's been great, but SEEYA 2021!" parties. This year we are having a banquet – fresh fruit smoothies, DIY Hamburger builds (with all the trimmings!) and maybe a chokky or strawberry milk bonus! Students will need to bring crunch and sip and a small recess snack, on this day, but they will not need to bring lunch... unless they don't like hamburgers!

The Last Day

Thursday, 16th December is the last day for students, for 2021. It will be a day of fun but it will also be a day for tears (of excitement, joy and anticipation...and maybe a little bit of sadness...).

We will farewell our outgoing year 6 students at a small assembly, starting at 2.30pm, in the hall. It will be a short tribute to our four beautiful 'big kids' who are making their way to high school. On completion of the assembly, the year 6 students will make their way out to the school bell, where they will complete the traditional ringing of the bell ceremony. They will then make their way up to the front of the school, where they will exit, through the arch. Don't forget to pack the tissues!

2022

Students 1-6 start the 2022 school year on Tuesday, 1st February. We look forward to welcoming them to school on that day.

Kindergarten students are timetabled to participate in their Best Start assessment on either Tuesday,

1st or Wednesday 2nd February 2022. Keep an eye on your letterbox for a letter outlining times and venues. All kindergarten students come to school, for their first day, on Thursday, 3rd February. We can't wait to welcome them to big school!

End of Year Note

I know that this year has been a difficult one. I would like to tell you, however, that this has been one of the best years of my life and easily the best year of my career.

Somehow, I found an advertisement that got my attention. I applied and was lucky enough to be able to work in this amazing school as relieving principal. Then the position was advertised and I was lucky enough to be successful at interview and this beautiful school became mine.

I was welcomed wholeheartedly and was given the opportunity to fall in love with Maroota Public School, its students and its community. Thank you, Maroota. I just love being the principal of this incredible school. This year certainly has been a steep learning curve and an interesting ride. I can't think of a school that I would be happier to be on this journey with.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all my Maroota families the happiest of happy Christmases.

Have a WONDERFUL and restful summer holiday. Stay safe and well and I look forward to seeing you all next year, ready for what HAS to be a trouble-free, easy-going and enjoyable 2022.

Ann Smith
Principal



Ann Smith

