



"To Be All I Can"

FOR YOUR DIARY

22.5	Assembly, 2pm - Room 8 leading
26.5	Board of Trustees Meeting, 7pm in the staffroom
27.5	ICAS Computer Skills
28.5	Disco Years 1-4 5.30pm - 6.45pm; Years 5-8 7pm - 8.30pm
29.5	Teacher Only Day - school closed
1 .6	Queen's Birthday - school closed
2.6	PTA Meeting, 7.30pm in the staffroom
10.6	ICAS Science
12.6	Assembly, 2pm - Room 6 leading
23.6	Board of Trustees Meeting, 7pm in the staffroom
24.6	ICAS - Spelling/Writing

Dear Parents

If you were confronted by pirates, Little Red Riding Hoods, or dinosaurs last Friday then you were party, in one form or another, to Mapua School's Book Fair dress up day and what a great day it was. Our thanks to all those parents who racked their brains about what character their children could come along dressed as. We know it's an extra imposition on your time and energy, but when you see the delight the children have in being a part of this special day I'm sure you'd agree that it's worth it. There's nothing like a character day to reinforce the enjoyment of reading and the value of books.

We do hope that you had a chance to visit the Book Fair. Many of you did and the takings for the three days were in excess of \$2,700. This means that many home libraries have been extended and children have even more access and encouragement to read. We too were very happy to receive some \$700 of buying value from holding the fair and thus are able to purchase new material for the school library. Our sincere thanks go to Jan Egarr, the library staff team, and parents who assisted in the running of the fair.

The Board has recently let a tender for the upgrade of the toilet block. On first arriving here at Mapua members of the PTA approached me regarding the general state of the toilet area. While this block was basically in good order, children were finding doors hard to open and some of our newest students were frightened off by the relatively dark interior. The Board has since worked through the letting of a tender to improve a number of aspects about this block. These include the upgrading of the boys urinal, ceiling, wall and floor resurfacing, skylights, automatic ventilation, easing of door returns, and a general tidy up of facilities such as mirrors etc. This work will be carried out during the next holiday period and there should be no inconvenience to children in any way. We trust that this upgrade will resolve the issues brought to us by parents and children and provide students with a clean, healthy, and fresh toilet area.

A timely reminder to children that cross country training begins here in week 7 and we encourage students to get in a little pre-training if they wish to do well in this area or they simply wish to get fit.

Rairi Rairi (Papa Ra) will be in the school next week and we look forward to meeting him and sharing educational understandings with him.

Finally we wish to remind families that the school will be closed on Friday May 29th when the staff will be involved in a Teacher Only Day focusing on the Enterprise Concept outlined in the New Curriculum Document. We kindly ask that children remain at home on that day. We chose this particular date as it leads into Queen's Birthday weekend (Monday June the 1st is a public holiday) and therefore may prove beneficial to some families who wish to head away for this period.

All the very best for the week ahead.

Trying to be 'All We Can'

Neil Chalmers
Principal

Disco, Disco, Disco...

The disco is coming up in week 5 and tickets will be sold before school outside the admin block. The disco will be held on Thursday and parents helping with the canteen and security will receive a roster that will be coming back with your child this week - thanks for your help.

The times for juniors (Yr1-4) are 5.30-6.45pm and the senior (Yr5-8) times are 7.00-8.30pm.

Remember the theme for this disco is Black and White so if you want, dress accordingly.

We all look forward to seeing you there!



From The House Leaders

Room 7 are learning to write persuasively. One of the pieces they had to write about was whether cancelling break time to allow for more learning time was a good idea or not.

Check out three of the arguments written as a result of this prompt.

Many people say that children would have more time to work if playtime is cancelled. I think that it's a really good idea that the school is cancelling break time.

This is going to be great because we can go home early and do our homework. When we have finished the other schools will be doing their homework and we will be into our leisure time.

If a school cancels break time, there'd be no gaps in our learning. We would be learning more and winning competitions with high test scores. This would be a benefit because more people would want their children coming to this school because they would want them to be smart too.

Thirdly, the staff would not have to go on duty. This is a benefit because we would not have grumpy teachers making us miss our lunch time.

So do you want to have more leisure time, a smarter school, more friends coming to this school and no grumpy teachers? If the answer is yes, then banning break times is a great idea.

By Fabian

Ahh! Fresh air. However, many people say that children would have more time to work if playtime was cancelled. I don't believe in this statement at all. I believe it would be harmful to our learning and it is an outrageous statement.

Firstly, break time does not take away learning time, instead it gives you time for learning social skills. If you try to get a job and don't know how to socialise with people in a positive way the employer will choose someone else over you.

Secondly, students need to run around and enjoy the rough and tumble that occurs at break time. This is part of the process of growing into strong sports people.

Thirdly, we would become unfit and overweight. Unfit people become sick a lot easier than fit people therefore they would miss out on school. Parents and caregivers would not send their child to this school because they would get unfit and large.

Finally our brains need food, water and fresh air to keep mentally fit and function properly.

Overall, as you can see break time is vital to all children because we need fresh air, food, water, fitness and social time to achieve our learning goals to improve our skills and knowledge. So what do you think about banning break times now?

By Nikau

Cancelling break time! What an outrage! Break time is what keeps our bodies and brains mentally and physically fit. The school has said that they are going to cancel break time every day of the year. I think that this is going to be a tragedy.

Firstly, if the school bans breaktime our brains will go out of control because we will not be able to eat enough and food keeps our brain going. Also it keeps our brains in control of our body because if we don't eat we could faint.

Secondly, break time is not just for the students. It is also gives the teachers time to prepare for the next lesson. Also teachers need to eat as well. They are the ones teaching us so they eat more because they have to think a lot more than us and have to apply their brains more.

Thirdly, children need to develop their social skills. Later in life if they do not have social skills they will not be able to make friends and develop relationships with other people. If they do have good social skills they will be able to go further in life.

Break time is vital to students and teachers because break time provides time for socialising, eating to recharge the batteries that power the brain and to catch up on lesson preparation. So I believe that schools are crazy if they think that cancelling break time is a good idea.

By Storm



School Fees Reminders have recently been posted out to those families with amounts owing for worksheets, Maths Mate, student diaries, and MOTEC. As the school struggles to cover unpaid fees while maintaining a quality programme for students, it would be appreciated if these could be paid by the end of this term. As usual we are happy to accept regular partial payments at a rate that you can reasonably manage. Thank you for your assistance with this.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

“AUGUST RUSH” (PG) – BRILLIANT FAMILY MOVIE

Starring Robin Williams

Saturday the 6th June at Hills Community Church Mapua - 5.45-8.30pm
(Movie begins at 6.30pm)

FREE ENTRY

Food will be available for purchase - Soup and a roll \$4.00; A cup of saveloys \$2.50; Cake and Coffee \$5.00; Slices \$2.50. Tea and Coffee \$2.50 (bottomless cup); Popcorn, Chocolate Bars, Drinks

All proceeds from the sale of food will be donated to Ross Wilson for the purchase of communication equipment. Extra donations will be welcome.

Creche for under 5s available for a gold coin donation

Waimea College Movie Night Head to Waimea College for a movie night, viewing Disney's "Ratatouille", Friday 22nd May starting at 5.30pm at the Waimea College Hall. \$3 children, \$5 adults, family deal \$15. Tickets and information from Rachael Worsley, 5402292, 0273884740.

Great for birthday parties, treats or just a family night out!

This is a fundraiser for the Year 11 and 12 French students who are heading to Noumea, New Caledonia in July.