Moree East Public School Year 6 students and staff were mesmerised when Victor and Elvis from the Out of Africa Circus took time out of their busy schedule to accept an invitation to join a DRUMBEAT circle last Friday. Victor and Elvis are acrobatic performers who are also talented drummers and they were able to demonstrate some spontaneous rhythms that delighted the class. The DRUMBEAT program uses African Djembe Drums to explore rhythm, harmony, relationships, identity and community and teamwork. With the able assistance of Victor and Elvis, all these elements were successfully demonstrated by the students. The students were able to make a connection with the rhythms which will have a lasting impression and give them plenty to discuss at the next DRUMBEAT session.
Quote for the Week:
“What most people need to learn in life is how to love people and use things instead of using people and loving things.” (Author Unknown)

A warm welcome to 2012, for all our new and returning families. I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed the break over New Years. It was a bit of a rocky start to the school year due to all the flooding, as several of our staff were cut off from work but we now have a full contingent on board ready to provide a quality education to the students. Our thoughts are with all the families who were unfortunate to have flood water in their homes and we pray that the damage was only minor.

Our new Kindergarten students began their schooling journey yesterday and it was lovely to meet them all. I look forward to watching them grow in their learning as the year progresses.

The first meeting of the MEPS Community Connections Group will be Tuesday the 14th of February at 10.00am. We invite all parents to come along and enjoy a cuppa and morning tea while we have an informal chat about things we can do as a community to move our school forward. Some of the ideas raised at the end of 2011 are: the formation of a ‘mens group’, parent workshops, creative arts mentors, parent/staff dinners and a school fete, to name a few. Our goal is to make MEPS the best it can be for our kids, so if that is important to you too, please come along on Tuesday.

Staff for 2012: I would like to welcome Miss Jade Gabriel to our staff this year. Jade will be teaching library and healthy living/cooking. The rest of the staff remain relatively unchanged from last year but there has been a shuffle around on some grades. Staff for this year are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Mrs Melinda Mikaere</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Miss Lisa Scott</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>K-23 Mrs Paula Briggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>1-24 Mr Kyl Churchill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>2-21 Mrs Barbara Cutmore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3/4</td>
<td>3/4-20 Ms Michelle Mead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4/5</td>
<td>4/5-10 Miss Kirstie McDonnell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>6-10 Ms Diane Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library/Healthy living/Cooking</td>
<td>Miss Jade Gabriel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Support</td>
<td>Mrs Anastasia Southon / Mrs Katrina Barwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Recovery</td>
<td>Mr Russell Honnery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aboriginal Education Officers</td>
<td>Miss Jacqui Draper / Mr Warren Saunders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Learning Support Officer</td>
<td>Miss Jess Brand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Manager</td>
<td>Ms Melanie Hammond</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration Officer</td>
<td>Mrs Tania Peachey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schools as Community Centres</td>
<td>Mrs Annabelle Simpson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grounds Assistant</td>
<td>Mr Jeff Patrick</td>
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Term Calendar: Included in our newsletter is a term planner outlining some of the activities this term. Please continue to check the planner weekly as new dates are added.

Swimming Carnival: Our annual swimming carnival was held yesterday and all attending staff reported that the students were extremely well behaved and had a great day. A full swimming report will be included in next week’s newsletter.

Facebook: MEPS have developed an official ‘Face Book’ page to keep parents up to date with what’s going on in the school. There are a couple of unofficial pages not endorsed by the school so to ensure you have the right page look for the maroon coloured crest and photos of the school. Please go to the page and ‘like’ to get the updates on your homepage.

Parking at the school: Just a reminder that for the safety of all, staff vehicles only are permitted to park in the driveway. If you are dropping off or picking up at the school please park your car and walk in to avoid accidents. If you are parking on the opposite side of the street, we encourage you to safely walk your children across the road at the crossing.

Student Details: The school is required to contact families for a variety of reasons so it is imperative that we maintain up to date contact details. If you have recently changed your address or phone number please contact the school with your new details as soon as possible.

Until next time ...
Warm Regards

M. Mikaere
SPECIAL EVENTS—DRUMBEAT WITH OUR VISITORS VICTOR AND ELVIS FROM "OUT OF AFRICA CIRCUS" THAT VISITED MOREE RECENTLY
MY FAMILY: Mum and two brothers

WHERE I GREW UP: Moree

WHAT CLASS I AM IN: Year 6

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

- FAVOURITE MOVIE: Step Up 3
- FAVOURITE SPORT: Touch Football
- FAVOURITE HOBBY: Running
- FAVOURITE PETS: Dog called “Snappy”
- FAVOURITE FOOTBALL TEAM: Titans

WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO WHEN I LEAVE SCHOOL: Be a professional runner
**Accident Insurance**

insure your child against any medical costs of accidents arising at school you are strongly advised to take out private health insurance or check if your school is covered for school accident insurance available via your school’s P&C Association.

Parents are reminded that the department does not provide accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools. The only cover provided by the state government is through the Supplementary Sporting Injuries Benefits Scheme, which covers all students permanently injured or killed while participating in authorised school sporting or athletic activities. The scheme does not cover dental injuries, reimbursement of medical expenses, legal expenses or costs. For more information go to http://www.sportinginjuries.nsw.gov.au/ or call 02 4321 5392.

**Summer Water Safety**

Being in, on or around the water is an enjoyable part of living in Australia. However, drowning is one of the leading causes of preventable death and permanent brain injury in children under five years of age, with more than 50 children between one and 15 drowning every year. Drowning is tragic and preventable.

If your children are not water confident or are not able to swim, consider enrolling in certified swimming classes held throughout the year in public pools around the state. Sport and Recreation offers Swim and Survive courses in the summer months. [http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive/](http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive/)

Royal Lifesaving Society Australia offers valuable courses in resuscitation and rescue as well as fact sheets on water and pool safety, and translated resources.

If you live near the coast, contact your local Surf Lifesaving club for healthy and fun water activities such as Nippers: [www.sls.com.au/](http://www.sls.com.au/)

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**PCYC – YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

- Tuesday 6.30 pm - Karate 5 yrs - Open Age
- Tuesday & Thursday 6.30 pm - Running Club - Beginners to Experienced Runners Welcome
- Wednesday 4.00 pm - 5.30 pm – Circus Trix – 5 yrs - 17 yrs
- Thursday 24 November 4.00 pm - 5.30 pm - Gymnastics 5 yrs - 17 yrs

Basketball & Futsal starting soon
Games Room Open
Maxx Club runs from 5pm—7pm on a Friday evening. It is for kids aged 7—12 and a bus service will be available for you but has limited seating so if you are not registered for the bus service then you may need to arrange your own transport. The night will consist of games, activities and a lesson all based around a particular theme for the evening. You will also receive a meal before leaving. There is no cost, however a gold coin donation is encouraged. It will be held at 114 Anne Street in the Salvation Army building. We hope to see you there. Are you ready for Maxx Club?

For more information call Kyle Johnston on 6751-1657 or email kyle.johnson@jane.salvationarmy.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday, Feb. 10th</th>
<th>Friday, Feb. 17th</th>
<th>Friday, Feb. 24th</th>
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<tr>
<td>Too Cool For School</td>
<td>What Were You Thinking?</td>
<td>Are You Even Listening?</td>
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Connect the dots in the diagram to complete the picture.
What is Physical Culture (Physie)?

- A series of low impact exercises in dance form, choreographed to current music. The routines learnt throughout the year include:
  - Marching and Deportment
  - Exercises
  - Rhythm and Breathing
  - Dance

Benefits of Physical Culture

- Improves posture, balance and breathing.
- No pressure to achieve “results”. Each student can set their own goals and go at their own pace.
- Great for improving self esteem.
- Exceptional value for money.
- Most importantly its fun!

Competitions

- At the end of term 3 we hold our annual competitions. The first is the Interclub Competition, in this competition students compete in team events and individually in “Champion Girl”. The second is the Club Competition; students compete individually against other students from their own club. Every student will get a badge and certificate and most importantly it is completely optional whether students want to compete or not and there are no extra charges for competing.

Age Groups, Times & Cost

- Preschoolers 3-4yrs 4:30-5pm
- Tiny Tots 5-7yrs 5:00-5:45pm
- Teeny Boppers 8-12yrs 5:45-6:30pm
- Teenagers 13-15yrs 6:30-7:15pm
- Ladies 7:15-8pm
- Seniors 16yrs & over 8pm-8:45pm

$5 per week and there is also a one off $40.00 registration to cover insurance and APRA.

Held at Moree East Public School Hall on Thursdays during school terms. Contact Amy Willis on 0400669247, Amanda Williams on 0429 631 506 or Karen Moxey on 0429 344 931
Classes also held in Warialda & Inverell
"YOU CAN DO IT"

“You Can Do It” is the social skills program used at Moree East Public School. The program focuses on 5 Keys to success – Organisation, Confidence, Persistence, Getting Along and Resilience.

This week’s focus is CONFIDENCE

Organisation
Being organised means:
- Making sure I understand my teacher’s instructions before I begin work
- Keeping a neat desk and school bag
- Having all my school supplies ready
Planning when I’m going to do my homework so I have enough time

Confidence
Being Confident means:
- Trying something new
- Doing hard things without asking for help
- Sharing new ideas with my teacher
- Talking to someone new
- Standing up tall
Speaking with a clear voice

Persistence
Being Persistent means:
- Trying hard and not giving up
- Not letting others distract me from my work
- Checking that my work is correct
Finishing my class work and homework on time

Getting Along
Getting Along with others involves:
- Following classroom rules
- Solving conflict peacefully
- Listening and not interrupting when someone is speaking
- Working well with my classmates
Volunteering for jobs

Resilience
Being Resilient means:
- Staying calm
- Not losing my cool
- Not getting extremely worried, angry or down
- Calming down quickly
- Not fighting when upset
Bouncing back
Happy Valentines Day
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>6 Students Return</td>
<td>7 Swimming Carnival - Kindergarten Begin</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14 MEPS CC Meeting 10.00am Community Room</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 AECG Carol Avenue 11.00am</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21 Mens Breakfast 9.00am</td>
<td>22 Welcome Back to School Picnic</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24 McKechnie Shield</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29 Parent Workshop Ladies Craft Soccer/Netball/ Rugby Trials</td>
<td>30 CAPERS Rehearsal</td>
<td>31 Clean Up Australia Day</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>5 Learn To Swim</td>
<td>6 Learn To Swim</td>
<td>7 Learn To Swim</td>
<td>8 Learn To Swim</td>
<td>9 Learn To Swim</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>12 League Trials</td>
<td>13 MEPS CC Meeting 10.00am</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15 AECG MPS 11.00am</td>
<td>16 NECOM Visit</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>19 Northern Soccer Trials</td>
<td>20 Northern League Trials</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22 Technology Camp</td>
<td>23 Technology Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28 Final N/W League Trials</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30 Final N/W Soccer Trials</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>2 Zone Touch Trials</td>
<td>3 Visiting Show</td>
<td>4 K-2 Easter Parade 2pm</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 Good Friday</td>
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<td>April</td>
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