Welcome back to the 2014 school year to all of our students, new students and in particular our Kindergarten students. Also, welcome back to you, our parents and carers. MEPS thanks you for entrusting us with your child’s education. We are so honoured to be a part of their educational journey.

2014 is going to be a BIG year and we have already started off with a BANG!!

Last Monday and Tuesday all MEPS staff engaged in the local ‘Connecting to Country’, cultural awareness program coordinated by the local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group. The MEPS staff were honoured and sincerely appreciated the knowledge shared by members of the local Aboriginal community and Elders. We feel it has marked the beginning of a journey that will strengthen community and school working relationships to better support our children’s learning.

Also…new staff!!! Congratulations to Ms Carol Barker and Mr Josh Mawby for gaining permanent positions. Ms Barker is the schools School Administrative Officer and will join Ms Melaine Hammond, School Administrative Manager in the front office. Mr Mawby joins the teaching team and has been assigned the Year 5/6 boys class.

Matthew Priestley also has joined our staff as the ‘Connected Communities’, Senior Leader – Community Engagement and Connections. Matthew will be supporting the implementation of the Connected Communities strategy.

Although were beginning the year with great excitement it saddens me to inform you that Mrs Annabelle Simpson, Coordinator – Schools as Community Centres for the past 11 years is resigning with her final day on Friday, 14th February. I would like to, on behalf of the MEPS staff and students say THANK YOU to Mrs Simpson. We wish her health, happiness and success in all her future endeavours.
THE SCHOOL DAY

BELL TIMES

SCHOOL STARTS- 8:55am
LUNCH BREAK– 11:10am to 11:40am
RECESS– 1:40pm to 2:10
SCHOOL ENDS– 2:55pm

BREAKFAST CLUB

MEPS operates a breakfast club every morning, Monday to Friday, in the Careunga Kitchen from 8.15am to 8.50am.

EMERGENCY LUNCHES

IF, FOR WHAT EVER REASON IT MAY BE, YOUR CHILD IS NEEDING A SANDWICH AT LUNCH OR RECESS THEN MEPS PROVIDES THIS SERVICE. WE ARE NOT HERE TO JUDGE BUT TO SUPPORT EVERY CHILD’S EDUCATION AND NUTRITION IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT.

FRUIT BREAK

Every day at 10am all classes stop for a fruit break so ensure that you pack a fresh piece of fruit in your child’s lunch box.
On Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th February, all Moree East Public School staff joined with the Moree Secondary College and engaged in the Connecting to Country program. The state cultural awareness program was localised by the Moree Aboriginal Education Consultative Group and delivered by community people.

MEPS staff were honoured to be included in the sharing of stories and information about the country and it’s people which our school stands proudly on. We understand that the we must work together to acquire information about our students in order for us to provide a learning environment that is of high quality and culturally inclusive. We know that this is just the beginning of a journey in developing critical relationships with the Murray community that will inform and shape a genuine Partnership Agreement with the Moree local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group.

On behalf on the MEPS staff, I would like to say thank you to all who were involved in the coordination and delivery on the program, in particular the Elders, Crystal Duncan, Matthew Priestley and Craig Duncan.
Come and meet the MEPS staff at a Family Fun Evening.

On Tuesday 25th February a Family Fun Evening will be held on the front lawn of MEPS.

This is a prime opportunity for parents and carers to come and meet the MEPS staff for 2014 in a relaxing environment.

Classrooms will be open so your child can show off their learning space.

Bring a picnic rug and relax whilst your child joins in organised games.

A BBQ will be operating and you can purchase sausage sandwiches for $1.00, drinks for $1.00, ice sticks for 50 cents.
Did you know that if a child misses eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over 1 year of school?

What to do if my child is absent from school?
*Let us know why your child was absent from school.
*Ring the school or write a note.

Weekly raffle prizes are drawn on each Friday assembly for students who attends school every day.
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE PCYC?

The Moree PCYC has some exciting new activities in 2014 for school aged children and there has been some changes to the previous timetable;

**Laser Tag** - The 1st, 2nd & 3rd Fridays each month from 6pm - 9pm. The cost is $5 per game or 3 games for $12. Each game runs for 15 minutes of adrenaline pumping action packed fun. Laser tag is also available for hire on Saturday & Sundays for Birthday parties, Team Bonding sessions, Businesses and Youth Groups. Ages 5+

**Blue Light Disco** - The last Friday of each month and the cost is $5. Junior Disco runs from 6pm - 7:30pm and the Seniors from 8pm - 10pm

**Gymnastics** - Thursdays 3:30pm - 5:15pm. Please note a change to costing due to affiliation now with Gymnastics NSW and they are as follows; $40 term fee and $35 affiliation fee with Gymnastics NSW (Please note affiliation fee is for 12 months). Ages 5+

**Brazilian Jui Jitsu** - Has now moved to Tuesday Night at 6pm and cost is $5. Ages 5+

**Archery** - Has now moved to Tuesday at 6pm and cost is $5. Ages 5+

**Physical Culture** - An exciting move for the Moree PCYC as it is now called home for the Moree Physical Culture club for 2014. If you wish to participate please contact club for more information.

**Junior Futsal** - We are requesting interested parents to come along on Wednesday at 4pm to the Moree PCYC to hopefully generate enough interest to continue Futsal at our club. We hope to operate a competition with a minimum of four teams and need parental guidance and confirmation of children attendances before futsal will operate.

**Junior Netball** - We are looking to run a Junior Indoor Netball competition of a Tuesday afternoon. We are asking all parents/ friends that are interested and willing to help to contact the Moree PCYC.

Please note to participate in the above you must be a current member of the Moree PCYC. Junior Membership for 12 months is $10. Please find our updated timetable for 2014 at [www.pcycnsw.org.au/moree](http://www.pcycnsw.org.au/moree)

For all other information please contact the club on 02 67523741
Moree JRL is just about ready to kick off for another season.

Registrations can be done on line for all current players. Inbox MJRL or email mjrlclub@gmail.com for the link, user name and password.

New registrations can come down to Boughton Oval this Saturday 15th and next Saturday 22nd of February 2014 and register your child.

A copy of Birth Certificate, Medicare and an email address is required.

Minis- $60  
Under 8’s- $70  
Under 10’s to Under 16’s- $80

Also if any girls are interested we are trying to get a League Tag team together. Ages are 12 turning 13, 14, 15 turning 16, cost $80.

Training will start for Under 10’s and up on Tuesday 11th March, 2014 at 4:30pm-5:30pm.  
Mini’s and 8’s start Thursday 13th March, 2014 at 4:30pm-5:30pm.

Our first game is a trial match against Goondiwindi on the 1st March, 2014.