Maddington Mail: 1 August 2025 - Issue 6



Principal



Good morning parents and carers

New Website

We're excited to announce the launch of our brand new Maddington Primary School website! The site features up to date information including upcoming events, important notices, newsletters, and more. It's a great way to stay informed and connected with what's happening at school. We encourage all families to visit the website regularly to keep up with the latest news and updates.

Successful Compass Transition

We are pleased to share that our transition to the Compass platform has been successfully completed. As part of this change, all attendance SMS messages will now be sent from our new contact, **MPS**. To explain a student absence, simply click on the hyperlink included in the message. Please note that replies to these messages are not received by the school.

Families have been emailed their Compass login details, including a unique username and password, along with instructions to download the Compass app from the App Store or Google Play. If you haven't seen this email, we recommend checking your junk or spam folder, as the information is personalised for your family. If you're unable to locate the email or need assistance, please contact the front office so we can ensure your contact details are up to date.

Mobile Phone Policy

We kindly ask that all mobile phones, smart watches, and any listening accessories be handed in to the front office at the start of each school day. This helps ensure a focused and distraction free learning environment for all our students. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Cross Country and Athletics

Get ready to lace up your sneakers and unleash your competitive spirit. This term, these events bring the entire school together for days of athletic prowess, camaraderie, and fun-filled competition.

Our annual cross-country events are held on Friday 8 August.

Events:

Year 5 & 6 Girls and Boys - 1500m races

Year 3 & 4 Girls and Boys - 1000m races

Year 1 & 2 Girls and Boys - 800m races

Events begin at 1.45pm on the school oval. All students are encouraged to wear their Faction shirts on the day.

Jumps, throws and short distance events are scheduled for **Tuesday 2 September** with our athletics carnival scheduled for **Friday 5 September**. We look forward to seeing everyone come to cheer on your faction.

We are excited to share that, for the first time, Maddington Primary School will be hosting the Interschool Athletics Carnival. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our school community spirit, and we're looking forward to welcoming students from Orange Grove PS, Herne Hill PS, Pickering Brook PS.

As part of the event, we will be running a sausage sizzle and would greatly appreciate any parent or caregiver support. If you're able to assist, please contact the front office.

Similar to our own school carnival, events such as jumps, throws, and short-distance races are scheduled for Tuesday, 16 September, with the main carnival day taking place on Friday, 19 September.

Further details will be shared once our school carnival is complete, and the interschool team has been selected.

Book Week

Students are invited to participate in Book Week by wearing costumes that align with the theme "Book and Adventure" on Tuesday 19 August. We eagerly anticipate witnessing the creativity and imagination reflected in their attire.

PEAC Testing

Next week, our Year 4 students will be participating in PEAC (Primary Extension and Challenge) testing. This assessment is designed to identify students with exceptional academic ability and offers opportunities for extension and enrichment in a range of learning areas. We encourage all students to try their best and approach the test with a positive mindset. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Maddington Maths Morning

We are excited to be hosting our Maddington Maths Morning on Wednesday, 27 August. Students are currently preparing a range of fun, engaging, and thought-provoking maths activities to enjoy with their parents and carers. This event is a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase their learning and share their mathematical thinking in a collaborative and supportive environment. We warmly encourage all parents and carers to join us and be part of this special morning.

Kindergarten Enrolment for 2026

We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten in 2026 for children born between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022. If your child is eligible, we encourage you to enrol early, as places are limited. Enrolments close on 25 July 2025. Please contact the school office if you have any questions or need help with the process.

High School Options

Choosing the right secondary school is an important and sometimes challenging decision for families. Our school is part of the Djarlgarro network of secondary schools, which includes Yule Brook College, Cannington Community College, and Sevenoaks Senior College. Each school within this network offers a range of educational pathways to suit different learning styles and future goals, including ATAR courses, the Big Picture program, scholarship opportunities, and trade certificates.

To support families in making informed decisions about secondary schooling, our Year 6 students will take part in transition visits to local high schools during this term. We are currently awaiting final confirmation of visit dates from the high schools and will share this information with families as soon as it becomes available.

These experiences will allow students to explore different learning environments, while families are encouraged to engage in conversations with their children and contact the schools directly for further information about enrolment. We recommend that families begin considering secondary school options from as early as Year 3. This proactive approach is particularly important as some scholarship programs require entrance testing and have early application deadlines within the academic year.

Student Pick Up and Drop Off

We understand that school pick-up and drop-off times can be busy and sometimes challenging. However, ensuring the safety of all students remains our top priority.

To support a secure and well organised environment, we kindly remind all parents that the staff car park located at the front of the school on Albany Highway is not to be used for student pick-up or drop-off under any circumstances.

Instead, we ask that all families use the designated rear car park, accessible via Atfield Street, for collecting and dropping off students.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and efficient school environment.

Leigh Summers

Principal

Attendance SMS Transition to new System

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our School is transitioning to **Compass** as our new communication and management platform. Compass will allow you to easily access updates, attendance information, reports, and more, all in one place.

We understand that transitions can come with the occasional challenge, and we appreciate your patience as we make this important shift. Our team is here to support you throughout the process.

We strongly encourage you to download the Compass app, as it will become our primary method of communication moving forward.

Thank you for your continued support.

Important Dates



Term 3

Wednesday August 6 - School Assembly Room 15

Tuesday August 19 - Book week Parade

Wednesday August 20 - School assembly Room 9

Tuesday 2 September - MPS Sports Carnival: Jumps and Throws

Friday 5 September - MPS Sports Carnival

Wednesday 10 September - School Assembly Room 17

Tuesday 16 September - Interschool Carnival Jumps and throws

Friday 19 September - Interschool Carnival Athletics

Friday 26 September - Last Day of Term 3

Assembly

Our next assembly will be held in Week 3 of Term 3 on **Wednesday 6 August 2025**, commencing at **9am** in the undercover area. The assembly will be hosted by Room 15.

MADDO MATHS MORNING





Enrolments Open for 2026



Maddington Primary School is now accepting enrolments for 2026

Kindergarten 2026: Children born between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022

Pre-Primary 2026: Children born between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021

Please contact the school administration team on

Ph: 9205 5900

Email: maddington.ps@education.wa.edu.au¹

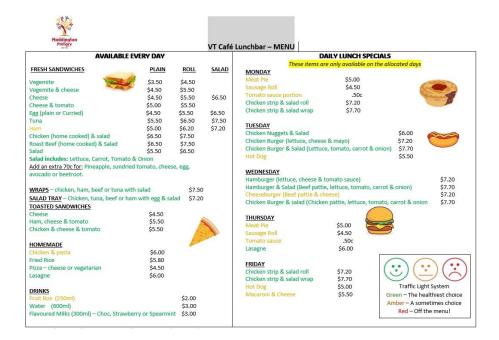
to complete enrolment documentation. We require Birth Certificate, any Visa Documents, Proof of Address and Australian Immunisation History Statement.



School Lunch Orders

If you'd like to order lunch, this is available Monday to Friday. Paper lunch bags and instructions on how to make a lunch order are outside the Administration Office near the quadrangle. Payment method is cash. Please see the menu below.

¹mailto:maddington.ps@education.wa.edu.au



Winter Uniform & Labelling Personal Items

Stephanie Sanderson - Chaplain

Now the weather has changed I would like to offer to parents and carers our school uniform windcheaters and zip up jackets. Some have the school logo and some don't. I will be putting them in tubs outside the canteen roller door for you to take for free. Please only take what you need, so others can benefit as well.

As the colder weather is now upon us, just a reminder for students to wear school jackets or plain maroon jackets. Please remember to label your child's belongings. This helps us return any lost property a lot easier.

Volunteers Needed





Needed



Maddington PS are proud to be hosting an Interschool Athletics Carnival at the end of Term 3.

We are wanting to provide a fundraising Sausage Sizzle on the day and we are wanting parent volunteers to assist as a working committee to organise and help.

If you are interested in assisting with this event, could you please register your expression of interest at the front office asap as we are currently planning this event. Thank you.





School Psychologist

LIMITING SCREEN TIME

Information provided by Mikhaela Powell (School Psychologist).

From smartphones and social media to television, gaming, and tablet-based technologies; our children are constantly overwhelmed by technology. While we want students to develop the skills to be able to use technologies due to the increasing digital age and the added benefits they bring (e.g., enhanced learning and communication opportunities), we know that increased exposure to "screen time" can have negative effects on a child's physical health, mental wellbeing, ability to form connections, and sleep. We don't want to ban technology entirely as this is not realistic or reasonable. However, below are some universal tips to help limit "screen time":

• Create screen-free zones. Decide which areas should be screen-free (e.g., bedrooms, before bed, at the dinner table) and when screens can be used (e.g., during shared family time where screen use can be monitored such as 4-5 pm on weekdays). Allow

your child to have some input in the family's screen time rules, this allows for a higher likelihood of cooperation.

- Schedule screen-free hours (e.g., no video games on school nights or no electronic devices an hour before bedtime). This is to increase expectations and limit excessive use.
- Plan screen time transitions. Set expectations with your child before the screen time session starts (e.g., "You can watch one show and then it's bath time"). Provide a warning when it's almost time to stop (e.g., "It's time to turn the TV off after the program", "You have 10 minutes left on the tablet"). Help to save the content (e.g., "It's time to stop using the iPad now. Do you want me to help you save what you were doing?").
- Monitor what your child is accessing. Watch shows, games, and apps before providing your child with access. The following link can assist with age-appropriate content: Common Sense Media². Where possible, watch the content with your child and check their understanding.
- Model the preferred behaviour. Limit your screen time by setting aside your screens during set times. Children are more likely to follow by example.
- **Guide to screen-free activities.** Provide alternative options to screen time use (e.g., playing outside, doing arts and crafts, playing a sport). Create an "activity menu" with your child that lists their preferred non-screen activities. This allows for readily available choices.
- **Encourage digital literacy.** Educate your child about online safety. Discuss what makes a good-quality app, game, TV show or movie.

If you would like to learn more and access additional support, please visit the following websites:

- Healthy WA Screen Time³
- NSW Government | Screen Time⁴
- Raising Children: Screen Time, 3–11-year-olds⁵

If you are having significant difficulty limiting screen time at home, it may be helpful to access additional support:

Discuss concerns with the school and your child's teacher.

²https://www.commonsensemedia.org/

³https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S T/Screen-time

⁴https://www.schn.health.nsw.gov.au/kids-health-hub/physical-activity-kids/managing-childrens-screen-time

⁵<u>https://raisingchildren.net.au/preschoolers/media-technology/screen-time-healthy-screen-use/managing-screen-time-3-11-years</u>

- Discuss concerns with your child's GP.
- Seek out external support where necessary. For example, a mental health professional.

Mikhaela Powell (School Psychologist).

Community Information - Child Parent Centre East Maddington







Contact Us

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P: 9205 5900

E: maddington.ps@education.wa.edu.au

Visit us on the web at www.maddingtonps.wa.edu.au $^{\rm 6}$

⁶https://www.parkwoodprimaryschool.wa.edu.au/