END OF TERM 3 NEWSLETTER
It has been a very busy term in the Echidna class. We had the education week parade in week three which was our main focus during the time leading up to this. Students enjoyed learning about the life cycle of a butterfly as well as the variety of healthy foods that the caterpillar ate on a daily basis. Students created some beautiful artworks and enjoyed creating the banner for the classroom.

Throughout this term, we have focused on a new literacy text called ‘Imagine’ which focused on a variety of differing environments, mathematics where students learnt about 2D and 3D shapes as well as number recognition, addition and position. For Science, the focus was natural and built environments and in creative arts, the students enjoyed creating artworks based on the literacy text.

In week six, students were visited by the Zoo Mobile which was organised by the Aboriginal Committee. The students absolutely loved the singing of the dreaming songs by Col who is an Aboriginal Elder and the continuous interaction with differing animals handled by a zoo keeper who works with these animals on a daily basis. Tyler was lucky enough to have a go of the didgeridoo whilst the other students clapped along to his attempt which was fantastic.

In the last couple of weeks, we have been given a fantastic opportunity to experience the hatching and handling of the Henny Penny chickens which have been incubating in our Library. The children absolutely loved this experience with a couple of students being able to actually hold the chickens.

Thankyou for a fantastic term and I wish the Echidna class all the best for the rest of this year.

Erin & Megan
It has been a very busy term packed with exciting activities and unique events. During the first weeks students worked hard to decorate our classroom with the accelerated literacy theme for the school open day in week 3. Our book was “Danny in the Toy Box”.

We kept everybody fit through participation in the Premier’s Sporting Challenge.

Throughout the term students enjoyed listening to many stories we were reading as a part of the Premier’s Reading Challenge. In week six, mobile unit from Taronga Zoo visited MBS with a selection of Australian animals for our students to interact with.

At the end of the term we were looking after Henny Penny chickens again this year.

We wish all our students and their families a great break. Ewa and Myriam
All Koala students were happy to see each other after the holiday break. We quickly settled back into our classroom routine and were busy working. We enjoyed preparing for Book Week. Our class read ‘We’re Going on a Bear Hunt’.

Koala student’s favourite part of the story was the encounter with the bear in the narrow gloomy cave. Unfortunately, on the day of the parade most Koala students fell ill and were unable to attend.

We have started a new class text ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’. Koala students enjoyed making caterpillars and butterflies from mobilo or Lego and showed interest as they learnt about the butterfly lifecycle. We have are learning about healthy and unhealthy foods – students discussed the cause of a stomach-ache. Koala students also participated in activities that reinforced their skills in counting, identifying and using colours and recognising the days of week.

Taronga Zoo visited our school. Some Koala students were brave enough to get up close and personal with some snakes, lizards, an echidna and frogs.

We have been tasting fruits that the very hungry caterpillar ate in the story. We all choose our favourite fruit and wrote a sentence describing how it tasted. We were surprised to learn most people liked strawberries. Koala students practice writing their name everyday and are all proud of their efforts.

Have a safe and enjoyable in holiday, Freda & Alexsandra
Kookaburra class have had a busy term and they have participated in and enjoyed many things happening around the school. This term, we started reading the book ‘Possum Magic.’ In HSIE and science, we used this book to explore Australia and Aboriginal culture, Australian food and performing magic/experiments.

Week 3 was Education Week, Kookaburra class dressed up as different animals from our term 2 accelerated literacy book ‘Imagine’. The class looked great and won the parade award. Week 6 was Naidoc Week, Kookaburra class attended the Taronga Zoo Mobile incursion where they all enjoyed seeing a frog and touching a snake, echidna and lizard.

Week 7 was the Bankstown Art Matters Exhibition. Kookaburra class created an artwork and this artwork was chosen to be part of an Art Exhibition. Each student received an award for recognition of their contribution. This class artwork was also chosen as Director’s Choice, where Kookaburra class received a trophy.

Week 8 was the Henny Penny Chick Hatching Program. Kookaburra class were able to see chicks hatching in the incubator and got to pat and hold chickens in their pen. They were very excited to see the black chickens.
Wishing everyone safe holidays! Bianca, Chris and Sharisse
Another term has flown by in the blink of an eye! I guess it came and went so quickly because Emu Class have had so much going on! The first 2 weeks of term were spent busily getting organised for Education Week and more particularly for the Tuesday of Week #3 when we travelled from class to class to see what book each class had looked at for Accelerated Literacy. Emu Class thoroughly enjoyed reading and completing work related to *Tie Me Kangaroo Down Sport and Australia*. Many Emus were disappointed when it was time to begin a new text later in the term. But more about that later.

In Science, Emu Class have been learning all about their body – what is on the inside and the different jobs that various parts of our body do for us. Emu Class created a great piece of art showing the different parts of our head, including the parts of our head that everybody can see, such as our eyes, nose and hair with a flap opening up to show the skull, and another flap showing the human brain. It is all very interesting!

Naidoc Week fell over the last holidays this year, so MBS celebrated in Week 6. Emu Class decorated stencils with emus, traced their hands and replicated traditional Aboriginal art using cotton buds to produce dotted paintings and the whole school decorated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags as well as boomerangs. Emu Class students thoroughly enjoyed this experience. Mitchell even placed one of the Aboriginal snakes that he cut out around his neck as you can see below!

All Emus are experts when it comes to recognising the date, and everybody circles their own desk top calendar on a daily basis so that Emma and Jackie have lots of reminders for what date to write on the many pieces of work students complete each day. We have also started to read ‘Willy and Hugh’ for Accelerated Literacy this term. Even though we miss reading and singing ‘Tie Me Kangaroo Down Sport’, everybody enjoys reading about making a new friend, and Emu class highly recommend ‘Willy and Hugh’.
Emu Class students enjoyed visiting, reading about, and of course gently handling the Henny Penny chicks over the two weeks that they came for a visit—thank you to Bianca who organised for them to come! Emus were also very excited to experience the Animals of the Dreamtime when Taronga Zoo came to MBS! Well—some of the animals made the journey! Thanks to Erin who arranged for a snake, lizard, frog and echidna to meet and greet students. What a wonderful time Emus students had! Daniel even got up to play guitar with one of the presenters! He did a fantastic job.

Everybody continues to enjoy sport with Mat on Thursdays, and while we don’t like to boast—some students in Emu Class are pretty good with a skipping rope! We have also been learning basic skills for touch football which we participate in each Thursday afternoon.

Lastly, here are some photos of the artwork submitted by Emu Class for the Fisher’s Ghost Art Award Competition. We think our fireworks look wonderful! And while it was a group effort, credit where credit is due. Thanks for the great idea Jackie!

With everything that has gone on over term 3 it is clear that Emu Class need a nice relaxing holiday. So, have a happy, safe and peaceful break, because we all know that the teacher on Emu Class will come back with just as much work to complete in the fourth and final term for 2015. She’s a little demanding of her students!

Emma and Jackie
Bilby class has had a very productive term. The students started the term with the book parade for education week. Congratulations to all the students on their wonderful costumes. It was lovely to see everyone enjoying the day.

Bilby class have studied ‘Where is the Green Sheep?’ by Mem Fox and ‘Belinda’ by Pamela Allen in accelerated literacy this term.

In maths we have been working on patterns matching, creating and continuing patterns. In science we have studied the weather by looking at different pictures of sunny, rainy, windy and cloudy weather. The class then made rain using water, shaving cream and food colouring. For personal development Bilby class has been doing ‘Feelings’. We have listened to songs about how we feel, created pictures of happy, sad and angry faces and made collages of what different feelings look like.

All the students in Bilby class enjoyed participating in whole school events this term including the Zoo Mobile incursion and the Henny Penny Hatchlings program.

Bilby class wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Shauna, Sandra, Kylie and Bilby students.
Well another term has come and gone. The term started very well and all the boys returned from their holidays refreshed and ready to work. Before the holidays we had been studying the book A Nice Walk in the Jungle. This text is about a class of students who go for a walk in the jungle with their teacher and met a hungry boa constrictor. All the boys enjoyed reading the book and completing worksheets about it. It was also the text we chose for our Book Week event. We were all very proud that we won best costumes in the parade in the Primary section of the school. Currently we are studying Where the Wild Things Are. This is a very popular story with the students in Kangaroo Class. All the boys enjoy using the puppets of the wild things and Max to help recreate the story.

Our sport Carnival was an extremely popular event this term. Every one of the Kangaroos tried their hardest at all events and participated to the best of their ability. We are already looking forward to next terms carnival. We have also been participating in rugby on Thursday afternoons this term. Students have been practising skills that they need when playing a game of rugby. This is a very popular part of the week.

A new student, Thomas L started at MBS this term and has joined us in Kangaroo Class. Thomas has settled into his new school and class very well and we are very happy to have him with us. All the boys have tried hard to make Thomas feel welcome.

The Henny Penny chick hatching program visited Mary Brooksbank this term. All the boys enjoyed visiting the chicks. They were very patient watching as the chicks hatched from the eggs and were very gentle when handling the chicks.

Next term will be the last term in primary for a number of students in Kangaroo Class as they will be moving to high school next year. These students will be taking part in a transition program next term that will mean they visit the high school section and take part in class activities and time in the playground. This will help them become familiar with the high school playground as well as the students and teachers.

Kathy, Annika, Megan and I would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday. We look forward to a busy and productive end to the year next term.
This term the Melaleuca boys put their book knowledge to the test in the Mary Brooksbank School Book Parade. As a class Melaleuca sat together to learn the story of ‘Charlie and the Chocolate Factory’. We got very excited as we turned our classroom into Willy Wonka’s Chocolate Factory. On the day of the parade Melaleuca got decked out in our Oompa Loompa costumes and set our sights on a High School Parade Award. Unfortunately we did not win but we had heaps of fun getting dressed up and visiting all the other classroom displays.

This term we also got a visit from the Taronga Zoo Zoomobile. This was a great experience and we got to learn about and touch some of the Zoo’s animals, while singing songs and listening to stories. Some of the animals that we saw included a frog, a lizard, an echidna and a SSSNAKE. Everyone was very brave and either touched or looked closely at all the animals.

Also this term as a part of our class program we have been learning Italian. We have had a great time trying to pronounce all the words and remember what they mean. Each morning we practice greeting each other in Italian so we don’t forget.

We have had a fantastic and busy term and we hope you enjoy our photos of the term that was.

Melaleuca would like to wish everyone a safe holiday. We can’t wait to see everyone back for Term 4.
The boys in Bottlebrush class have worked very hard this term, so it is no surprise they (and us) are counting down the days until the end of term to enjoy a well earned rest.

In Geography this term, we have been learning about waste disposal. Colby, Goziem, Nicholas and Zachary have learnt about and practiced using the different rubbish bins for household waste, garden waste and recycling. They have created and maintained a compost bin (thanks to those who contributed food scraps). Here are some photos of the boys making a fabulous compost stew, which hopefully will be ready to use in our gardens some time during term 4. The boys have also used recycled products to make different artworks such as a chip packet ‘shrinkie’ collage and a placemat made from recycled milk and juice containers.

Colby, Goziem, Nicholas and Zachary have been learning about Australia’s top ten dangerous creatures during our Science unit this term. Colby loves to remind myself and Dot that amongst the ‘top ten’ there are three snakes and one spider (not our favourite type of creatures!).

Technology has been fun this term with the boys exploring with building and coding Lego. Nicholas really showed his patient side when trying to code his bird. The wings did not move as expected but after a few minor changes to the design, he had it sorted. Goziem and Zachary joined forces to make a moving ferris wheel. AND who doesn’t love a crunching, jaw snapping alligator? This stuff is very cool!

Colby, Goziem, Nicholas and Zachary all look forward to Friday (not because it is the day before Saturday) when we go on community access to McDonalds. They are all getting very good at ordering, paying and waiting for their meal to come out, and enjoying the social interaction with the boys in Melaleuca class.

We would like to wish you and your families a safe and restful break! We look forward to seeing you in, what I’m sure, will be a very busy Term 4. Mandy and Dot
Grevillea class have had another fantastic term. In the classroom we have been learning about the life cycle of a range of animals in the ocean and on the land. We have also completed a unit of work about the sea and enjoyed creating artworks to run alongside this unit.

This term Grevillea class also began community access. Each Thursday the boys go on the school bus for a drive, collect the ‘earn and learn’ stickers from Woolworths, buy bread rolls and pick up the hot chips we have ordered from the shops. All the boys thoroughly enjoy their outing and are learning about social skills, money skills and road safety along the way.

Grevillea class have also had the opportunity to participate in a Rugby workshop of a Thursday afternoon. The boys enjoy playing a range of games whilst also improving their skills in passing, catching and kicking.

On behalf of Stacey, Kaitlyn and myself we hope that you all have a well-deserved happy and restful break. We look forward to seeing you all again in term 4.
Banksia class has had a magnificent term. We had some major highlights including winning the award for the “Best Dressed” class in the High School for the book week parade. We studied ‘Princess Smarty Pants’ and dressed up as princesses and princes. Emma M and Emma B looked particularly beautiful in their finery and were dressed to impress!

One of the activities that all the girls love is swimming. Each Friday we venture down to the pool and lucky for us it has stayed warm all winter. Amal is making great progress with her confidence in the water and ventures down to the deep end of the pool with support. We have finally convinced her that sharks do not swim in pools so she is a lot more relaxed.

Kristy has also improved greatly and enjoys the created water fountains through the noodle and playing with the ducks. Tianii continues to enjoy going to the pool and even put her head underneath the water independently. She is often smiling and chuckling to herself. It is great to see all the girls having so much fun and laughing together in a very worthwhile activity. On the quiet, we have some very exciting singers emerging from MBS Has Talent. Mariah and Emma M have been belting a range of tunes and enjoying performing in front of their peers. A particular highlight was Mariah’s very loud rendition of ‘Roar’, by Katy Perry which was one performance our ears wont forget!

Every Wednesday of this term, Joanne attended a work program at Afford. She wore work clothes and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Joanne will also be attending the School Spectacular in term 4 and we wish her every success for her performance. Banksia class has a had a splendid term and I would like to congratulate all of the girls on their progress and commitment to their individual programs. I would also like to say a big thankyou to Cindy and Natalie for their continued hard work and humour throughout term 3.

Have a fantastic holiday!
In term 3 Wattle class has really enjoyed going shopping, eating at McDonalds, cooking, pyjama day (yes went to the shops in our pyjamas....so much fun) and our class excursion to Wollongong Science centre.

Enjoy a safe and happy holidays and we look forward to seeing everyone in Term 4.
Jenni & Lisa
Term 3 has been very busy, the first 2 weeks were spent preparing our book week display for Education Week, in week 3. The book chosen for study was ‘Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone’. Students studied 1 chapter each week, they chose their own outfits for the parade with some choosing to dress as wizards and others as “Harry Potter”.

During week 4 students were able to attend school dressed in jeans or mufti for ‘Jeans for Genes Day’. All students loved being able to dress up for the day. In week 5 students attended a performance by Rhythm Village which always very entertaining, allowing students to participate.

The school celebrated Naidoc Week where they decorated cardboard boomerangs with their own dot patterns as well as attending Zoo Mobile in the school hall. Students listened to stories relating to Aboriginal culture and animals. They got to touch lizards and frogs and thought it was very funny when the frog jumped and landed on a staff member. Each Thursday, the students have participated in weekly sport with Matt, learning skills related to ball catching and passing. For 5 weeks students have also been participating in an NRL clinic and each week they have been learning the skills of catching the ball, passing the ball and touching the ball down for a try.

Four of the lads in the class were chosen to attend Afford Industries each Wednesday for 6 weeks. The skills they are expected to demonstrate for work are: following instructions, appropriate social behaviour, showing initiative and staying on task plus showing stamina. The students attending with Marlene for support are: Anthony, Nicholas, Tomasi and Joseph. Term 4 is rapidly approaching which will be the last school term for: Anthony, Tomasi, Caylon and Fran. They are eagerly planning for their formal. Well done everyone on a great term. Have a happy and safe holiday.

Christine and Marlene