SCHOOL EMBLEM

Lord Camden’s white shield is set on a grey olive branch mantling and contains a bunch of grapes and a sheep’s head. The grapes signify that this school area was once a vineyard, whilst the sheep’s head signifies the historical link with John Macarthur and the Sheep Industry. A light appears in the centre line.
WELCOME TO MAWARRA PUBLIC SCHOOL
We look forward to working with your family to provide the best possible education for your child

GENERAL INFORMATION AT GLANCE

Address: Macarthur Road, Elderslie, NSW, 2570
Email: mawarra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.mawarra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Telephone: 4658 0990  Facsimile: 4658 0223

School Executive: Mr Shuki Borthwick (Principal)
Mrs Dianne Cronshaw (Assistant Principal)
Mr Frank Scott (Assistant Principal)
Mrs Vicky Steinweiss (Assistant Principal)

Administration Staff: Mrs Karen Tapsall (School Admin Manager)
Mrs Jenny Rhodes (School Admin Officer)
Mrs Lisa Scaife (School Admin Officer)

School Times: 8.55 am—2.55 pm
Office Hours: 8.30 am—3.30 pm
PARENTS CONTRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL IN A VARIETY OF WAYS:-
Staff at Mawarra Public School encourage parents to become involved in all aspects of their child’s learning. Parents may be directly involved in all or any of these:-

Mowing - our beautiful school grounds are maintained by parents. At the beginning of each year, parents are asked to go on the roster which involves mowing in a team, one or two Saturday mornings per year.

Parent Groups - Parents’ and Citizens’ Association, and school curriculum committees.

Working with children - by arrangement with the teacher, such as hearing reading, providing individual assistance to students, developmental play, assisting with sports groups or coaching. PLEASE NOTE - all visitors to the school must report to the Administration Office to sign in, and then again when leaving to sign out. Child Protection Declaration must be completed by all volunteers.

Visiting the school - on special occasions - assemblies, sports days, Education Week, Open Days.

PARENTS’ AND CITIZEN’S ASSOCIATION
The Mawarra Parents’ and Citizens’ Association promotes the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and school staff into close communication and cooperation. It also assists in providing equipment for the school and supporting the school’s strategic plan.

The P&C Association meets in the staffroom on the third Monday of every month at 7.30 pm.

CANTEEN
The Canteen is a lease operated canteen and endeavours to promote at every opportunity, healthy food options. Lisa Barnard can be contacted during canteen hours regarding any canteen matters on mobile number 0422 082386.

TERM DATES, 2011

- **Term 1:** Friday 28th January, 2011, Staff Development Day, (Pupil Free Day).
  Monday 31st January, 2011 (students Years 1 to 6).
  Tuesday 1st February, 2011 (Kindergarten students) to Friday 8th April, 2011.

- **Term 2:** Tuesday 26th April, 2011, Staff Development Day, (Pupil Free Day).
  Wednesday 27th April, 2011 to Friday 1st July, 2011.

- **Term 3:** Monday 18th July, 2011, Staff Development Day, (Pupil Free Day).
  Tuesday 19th July, 2011 to Friday 23rd September, 2011.

- **Term 4:** Monday 10th October, 2011 to 20th December, 2011.

MAWARRA PUBLIC SCHOOL PROVIDES:
Quality school curricula in the six key learning areas of primary education. These are:-

**English:** Students learn to read, to write in a variety of forms and to listen and communicate effectively, (reading, writing, spelling, handwriting, talking and listening and literature).

**Mathematics:** Students develop mathematical competence for daily living and problem solving. The sub-strands studied are data, measurement, space and geometry, number, patterns and algebra.

**Science and Technology:** Students gain an understanding of how they interact with natural and built environments, (science and computers).

**Human and Society and Its Environment:** Studies of society and environment are included in this area.

**Creative and Practical Arts:** Students work with a variety of media to express themselves, (music, visual art and drama).

**Health, Physical Education and Personal Development:** Students are encouraged to adopt an active, healthy lifestyle, (fitness, sport, child protection and health studies are elements of this key learning area).

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:
Extra curricula activities are strongly encouraged with many children able to take part in additional activities including, science fair, public speaking, debating, various gala days, band, choir, dancing and socials.
All activities are enthusiastically undertaken and bring great credit to the school.

CATERING FOR STUDENT NEEDS
Reading Recovery, ESL, (English as a Second Language) and STLA, (Support Teacher Learning Assistance) programs occur within the school. Our school’s Learning Support Team closely monitors students and learning programs.
ATTENDANCE
Attendance at school is compulsory by state law. For all absences a written note is required, addressed to the class teacher, indicating the dates of the absence and the reason. Notes are essential as the school must have an explanation which is recorded on their academic record. If you expect your child may be absent for more than three days, please notify the school in advance.

If you wish your child to leave school before the end of the school day, please forward a note with him/her that morning. For safety reasons all children leaving before the end of the school day must be collected by parents who will be required to sign their children out at the school office. An ‘early leavers’ pass will be issued by the front office, and this needs to be handed to the class teacher before your child will be permitted to leave. A partial absence is recorded on your child’s academic record. Children will not be released to other people without written parental permission. Punctuality is a requirement. If your child does arrive late, the time of arrival will be recorded on the roll as a partial absence.

Class rolls record all attendance and absences including late arrivals and early departures. They are checked regularly by the Home - School Liaison Officers who contact parents if absences or lateness are causing concern. *Always* try to make doctors’ or dentists’ appointments for your child before or after school.

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP
It is the policy of the school that no child’s schooling should suffer due to family financial hardship. On any occasion that financial circumstances prevent your child from undertaking an educational activity you are urged to contact the Principal to discuss the matter. Every attempt will be made to arrange a solution. We understand these problems and you should not feel embarrassed about asking for help.

EXCURSIONS
These are held periodically and a special note is issued naming the venue, date, time, cost involved, method of transport, lunch arrangements, appropriate dress, supervision arrangements, etc.

Please Note:
♦ Parental consent notes are required for all excursions.
♦ School uniforms must be worn except where the Principal indicates otherwise.
♦ A medical form accompanies permission slips.
♦ Children on behavior levels may be excluded from excursions.

ILLNESSES, ACCIDENTS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES
If a child is taken ill at school or suffers an injury of significance, the school will make every effort to contact you or one of the people you have listed as your emergency contact person. It is therefore important that you keep all contact details up to date. In the case of illness or accident, if contact cannot be made with you or your nominee or if the matter is urgent, the school will arrange medical treatment if necessary, including ambulance transport.

Some infectious diseases require exclusion from school. It is advisable to confirm these diseases with your family Doctor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Exclusion Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Pox</td>
<td>Excluded for seven days after the first spots appear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Measles</td>
<td>Excluded for seven days from appearance of rash.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>Excluded for five days from appearance of rash or until a Medical Certificate of recovery is produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumps</td>
<td>Excluded for ten days from the onset of the swelling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scabies</td>
<td>Excluded until all evidence of the disease has disappeared or a Medical Certificate is produced stating successful treatment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringworm</td>
<td>Excluded until all evidence of the disease has disappeared or a Medical Certificate is produced stating that lesions are inactive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Blight</td>
<td>Excluded until discharge from eyes has ceased.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conjunctivitis</td>
<td>Excluded as for Sandy Blight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impetigo</td>
<td>Excluded only if on exposed surfaces such as scalp, face, hands and legs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediculosis (Head Lice)</td>
<td>Excluded until hair is completely cleaned; neither nits nor lice being present in the hair.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUN SAFETY
Children are actively encouraged to wear school maroon hats and caps each day, through our “No Hat - Play in the Shade” policy. Hats can be purchased from the office any day between 9.00 am - 9.30 am.
**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**
Scripture lessons are provided for: Protestant, Roman Catholic and Bahai religions. These are held on Tuesdays for half an hour.

**STEWART HOUSE**
Is a home at Curl Curl for children who are in need of a holiday away from their usual environment or because of an illness. The children are given a medical check-up by top medical men and women. All this is paid for by the students and teachers of NSW government schools. We assist by participating in a rag and clothing appeal twice a year. The students usually have one or two appeal days per year to help raise funds for Stewart House.

**UNIFORM DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls' Summer Uniform</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dress</td>
<td>maroon and light grey check with maroon tie.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socks</td>
<td>short white.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes</td>
<td>black leather.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Hat/Cap</td>
<td>maroon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair Ribbon</td>
<td>maroon.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys' Summer Uniform</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>light grey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>grey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socks</td>
<td>grey with maroon and white stripes on top (short or long).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes</td>
<td>black leather.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Hat/Cap</td>
<td>maroon.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls' Winter Uniform</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tunic</td>
<td>maroon plaid with concealed side pocket or maroon slacks and jumper with a white blouse and tie.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blouse</td>
<td>white.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie</td>
<td>maroon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socks</td>
<td>white.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockings (optional)</td>
<td>grey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes</td>
<td>black leather.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumper</td>
<td>maroon v-necked top or cardigan (wool or interlock).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip Jacket</td>
<td>maroon.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys' Winter Uniform</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>light grey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trousers</td>
<td>grey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie</td>
<td>maroon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socks</td>
<td>long grey with top stripes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes</td>
<td>black leather.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumper</td>
<td>maroon v-necked top (wool or interlock).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip Jacket</td>
<td>maroon.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPORTS UNIFORM K-6**
To be announced, currently under discussion.
PUPIL INFORMATION CARD
All parents are asked to complete an information card, which is filed in the school office. This is for use in emergencies, (illness, accident, etc), and parents are urged to notify the school should any changes occur.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN
The Principal should be fully informed of any custody matters relating to your children. Please remember the school cannot prevent access of a non-custodial parent unless it has a copy of the court order preventing access. Such matters will be treated with sensitivity and confidentiality.

EQUIPMENT
Much of the equipment which children need at school is bought with funds supplied by the Department of School Education. At the beginning of each year your child’s teacher will notify you of particular equipment your child will need at school. 

SCHOOL UNIFORM
The P&C Association, in conjunction with the Principal and staff have, over the years, established a uniform to meet the needs of the children attending the school.

Please note that running shoes, (except for sport) and multicoloured parkas are not part of the uniform. Ties are an important part of the winter uniform for both boys and girls.

The girls and boys uniforms may be bought from Lowes at the Narellan Town Centre, Yeronga School Uniform Warehouse, Shop 6/261 Queen Street, Campbelltown.

A second hand clothing pool is available at school and is operated by the P&C Committee.

LABELS
Please clearly label all your child’s belongings. Finding the owner of lost property becomes a simple process if it is clearly labelled.

LOST PROPERTY is left in the old administration block, (block 2). Children and parents are invited to check at any time.

MEDICATION
All medication must be taken to the school office. It should be accompanied by a Medication Form and a Doctor’s Certificate. Unfortunately, our medication officers are not able to give medication to any student without this information. Students with asthma are able to keep their puffers with them. A medications policy is available from the school office.

TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL
Children should travel directly to and from school by the safest, most direct route. Children are not allowed to leave school grounds during the day at anytime without being signed out by a parent/caregiver. Students are to use the supervised crossing to cross the road.

Bus Travel
Free bus passes and Tcards are available to:-
♦ All K-2 pupils no matter how far they live from the school.
♦ Primary pupils who live more than 1.6 km radial distance from the school.

When an infant pupil enters year 3, the free pass is no longer available unless they live more than the 1.6 km radial distance from the school. School bus information may be obtained from Busways Macarthur P/L, (Narellan Depot), Lot 37 Anzac Avenue, Narellan, (Telephone: (02) 4647 7785). Misbehaviour by pupils could result in free bus passes and Tcards being withdrawn. Bus loading is supervised by a teacher each afternoon. Application forms are available through the office.

Car Travel and Parking
The safety of all children is paramount. Therefore, parents are asked to always park legally outside the school. Parking illegally, near the crossing or in the bus zone, even for a minute, can put children’s lives in danger, especially in wet weather. For safety reasons parents are not to use the school car park to deliver or collect children between the hours of 8.00 am—4.00 pm.

BICYCLES
Pupils under 10 years are not to ride bikes as young children generally have not developed the necessary skills. Any child riding to school should have permission from parents, who should ensure that pupils know the road rules and have the required skills in riding. Children are not to ride in the school grounds and must park the bikes in the approved area, (a chain is recommended). All bike riders must wear an approved safety helmet.

Riding scooters or skateboards to school is NOT permitted.
REPORTS AND PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
♦ Reports are sent to parents each semester. These reports provide information on the outcomes achieved by each student in all key learning areas. Reports are sent home at the end of term 2, (interviews are held at the end of term 2), and term 4.
♦ An appointment with any staff member can be arranged at a mutually acceptable time. Parents are asked to contact the school beforehand to avoid disrupting routines and teaching time which disadvantages children.
♦ The Principal or teacher may wish to invite parents to the school should there be particular matters requiring discussion.

SCHOOL TIMES
School starts at 8.55 am, recess is at 10.55 am and lunch is at 12.45 pm. The school day finishes at 2.55 pm. Children arriving after 8.55 am or leaving before the 2.55 pm bell need to go to the office to secure a leave pass. This will be recorded as a partial absence.

SUPERVISION
Children arriving at school before 8.40 am are to remain seated in a designated area until the 8.40 am bell. The playground is unsupervised after 3.00 pm. Students are dismissed by the teacher on duty before being picked up by parents at the gates. The road crossing at the main entrance to the school is supervised by a Patrol Officer, (Mr Cecil Smith), each morning and afternoon. Your child, for his/her safety and welfare, should not be in the playground prior to 8.25 am, after 2.55 pm or on weekends and holidays.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should parents drive into the school parking area, (rain, hail or shine), to drop or pick-up children. This is to avoid any accidents to pupils and school personnel.

MONEY COLLECTION
It is requested that all money sent for school activities be sent in a sealed envelope on which is written the child’s name, class and details of the activity as staff are not permitted to accept loose cash. Any reply or permission note should be included. For larger amounts of money we suggest a personal cheque if possible. The envelope should be taken to the office or posted in the “money” slot located near the front counter in the Administration Office.

LIBRARY
The library at Mawarra plays an important role in the overall education of the children from Kindergarten to Year 6. Bulk loans are provided to classrooms to support programs and to promote a love of reading. The library also supports the lexile program. In addition, all classes have regular lessons with the Teacher/Librarian. These are devoted to literature, information skills and the effective use of the library, and to the borrowing of books. At other times, groups and individuals use the library for research, to use the computers to access the internet and lexile tests. Primary students can borrow/return books during the first half hour Monday-Thursday. Infant and lower primary classes visit the library for half and hour each week, (in order to borrow, the children need a library bag, either material or plastic, to protect the books). Upper primary classes have one hour fortnightly visits.

The library operates ‘Bookclub’ twice each term with a Book Fair held in term four. The Premier’s Reading Challenge is also organised through the library as is an annual performance to recognise Book Week.

The Teacher/Librarian is employed for four days per week and the Library Clerical Assistant for one day. Library Monitors play a key role in the functioning of the library. These are chosen each year from self-nominated year 6 students. Both teachers and students use the library widely, so the turnover of books and teaching resources is high. There are always books to be covered and the library is grateful to the support of parents who volunteer their time.

The overall aims of the library program are:-
♦ To provide a positive learning environment where students can interact with ideas and information.
♦ To foster a knowledge and love of good books and to encourage independent reading for pleasure.
♦ To teach students to use a library and its resources effectively so that they become information literate.
♦ To develop confidence in the use of new technologies to access information.
MAWARRA PUBLIC SCHOOL

♦ Aboriginal Name meaning: “A Pleasant Place”
♦ School Motto: “Let Your Light Shine”
♦ School Colours: Maroon, White and Grey
♦ Sport Houses:
  Camelot - Gold
  Denhig - Blue
  Kirkham - Red
  Wivenhoe - Green

School Mission:

At Mawarra Public School our mission is to ensure students achieve personal excellence. We believe that our mission can be achieved through:

♦ Quality teaching.
♦ Quality learning.
♦ A happy, caring and secure environment.

School Song:

1. Here we stand now to sing of Mawarra,
   Where the people are young and free,
   Where we strive in our daily endeavour,
   To let our light shine out for all to see.

   **Chorus:**
   Let your light shine, let your light shine,
   Let your light shine out for all to see,
   Let your light shine, let your light shine,
   Let it shine for you and me.

2. A most pleasant place is Mawarra,
   Where we grow as the grapes once grew,
   Where we learn and prepare for the future,
   And we strive to serve in all we do.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A newsletter is sent home every second Thursday with the eldest member of each family at the school. Copies are available from the school office or for download on the Mawarra Website.