

Frequently Asked Questions for new students to MPS

Can I bring a scooter or bike to play on?



You can travel to school on scooters and bikes, however bikes are not to be used on the school grounds during school time.

During 1st and 2nd lunch you can use your scooter on our scooter track and around the main tarmac area. Helmets must be worn with scooters.

What do I do if I've lost something?



First look around the places you've spent time in.

Then look in the 'Lost Property' boxes located in the corridor by the library.

If your item is named it usually turns up after a few days.

What do I do if I feel sick or hurt myself?



In class: talk to your home class teacher. If you are not feeling well or have hurt yourself, you will be sent to the Office with a class member and a note about your symptoms. The Office Staff will take you to our 'Sick Bay' to lie down or tend to your injury. Office Staff will check on your wellbeing. They will notify your parents if you need to go home. If you do need to go home a class member will bring over your school bag.

In the playground: see the Duty Teacher. The Duty Teacher will decide if you need to go to the 'Sick Bay' and will take you there for treatment or monitoring. They will call your parents if you need to go home or see a doctor. If you do need to go home a class member will bring over your school bag.

Where do I sit at lunchtimes?



At 1st lunch (11-11.30) juniors (New entrants – Yr 2) will sit outside Pudding Hill to eat something from their lunchboxes before going to play. Seniors (Yr 3 – Yr 6) are allowed to eat outside their classes and then play. At 2nd lunch juniors will take their lunchboxes to sit outside Pudding Hill. Seniors sit in the area outside Opuke. You must wait for the Duty Teacher to dismiss you after 15 minutes. There are drinking fountains around the school if you need a drink.

Can I bring food to be heated for my lunch?



Yes, you can bring food like pies, toasties and pizza etc. to be warmed. We do not have the facilities to heat noodles or other foods that need boiling water. You must make sure your item is wrapped in tin foil and has your name and class clearly labelled on it. There will be a place in your class where you can leave your food item when you get to school. It will be collected by a senior student. At 2nd lunch you can collect your food item by the bell outside the office – wait for your name to be called.

Where can I play at lunchtimes?



If you are a new entrant to Year 2 you can play on the 'adventure playground', which includes climbing frames, a flying fox, slide and swing rope etc. You are also allowed on the playing fields, main court area, the trees around Mahuri and the 'red house' at the entrance and scooter track. If you are a Yr 3-6 you are allowed on the above as well as the treeline on alternate weeks (this will be posted in the daily notices). No students are to play behind the classrooms on the Mt Hutt College side – you must be able to be seen by duty teachers.

What is the 'treeline'?



The treeline is the long strip of trees on our playing fields. If you are in Yr 3-6 you are allowed to play in the treeline, build huts and climb the trees (no higher than 6ft). Yr 3 & 4 alternate weeks with Yr 5 & 6 in the treeline - the weeks are announced in our daily notices.

Is there anything to play with during lunch times?



At 2nd lunch our PALs (Physical Activity Leaders) will bring out a trolley from our PE Shed. The trolley contains balls, bats, hoops and other equipment to play with. You must return any items you play with to the trolley by the end of lunch. If you lose or break any equipment, please let the PALs know.

The library is also open during some lunchtimes (see the daily notices).

What is a 'Duty Teacher' and what is their role?



A Duty Teacher is a teacher who supervises at 1st and 2nd lunch. They wear orange high-vis vests and will carry a pack that contains plasters, details of children who have severe allergies and a behaviour book. Duty Teachers ensure that students are safe and happy. If you are injured or feel unwell seek out the Duty Teacher and let them know your symptoms. Duty Teachers also reward students showing our MPS values in the playground with 'Stellar Cards'.

What can I do if something in the playground isn't working out for me?



At MPS we follow something called using your **WITS**. It stands for:

Walk away

Ignore

Talk it out

Seek help from an adult

Usually by doing the **WIT** you can avoid seeking help from a duty teacher. However, if none of the first 3 things work then find the duty teacher.

What is a 'Stellar Card'?

Stellar Car	rd
Name:	
Class:	
Teacher Initial:	
You showed you were (circle a value):	***
Sporting	****
Trustworthy	
Accepting	
Responsible	

A 'Stellar Card' is a reward Duty Teachers will award to students who display our MPS values in the playground. They will write down the reason you were awarded this and your details. You will then be sent to put your card in the House Colour Box.

Stellar Cards will be drawn each week and those students will attend a 'Fun 'n Games Friday' where you are able to play board games, sports, arts & crafts and have a whole lot of fun! Stellar Cards are also added up each week and combined to House Colour scores to establish an overall winning House each term.

What is a 'Whanau Hui'?



Every fortnight, usually on a Friday, you will meet in a specific place with your House group. This will include any family members at the school. We have time in our House group to sing songs, share our learning and successes and talk about our behaviour focuses or any announcements.

What are House Colours and the House Colour Box?



When you enrol at MPS you will be given a House Colour, either Whero (Red), Kahurangi (Blue), Kakariki (Green) or Kowhai (Yellow). During the school year students will carry out sporting activities and whole school events within their House Colour group. We have a 'House Colour' box outside the Principal's Office where 'Stellar Cards' can be placed and this will go towards your House Colour. Winning houses get to do fun things together throughout the year.

What is a STAR certificate?



In class we have STAR certificates to celebrate our achievements for showing our STAR values. We are working towards being Sporting, Trustworthy, Accepting and Responsible. Your teachers will reward you with stars for your certificate when you are consistently showing these values. When a section, for example Accepting, has been filled you will be awarded a 'Collectors Card' in your 'Whanau Hui' and your photo will be included in the school newsletter. You can attach the 'Collectors Card' to your school bag zip!

How does the library work?



Each student is able to take out 2 school library books. Your class will have a time during the week where you can return, renew or get out new books. The daily notices will let you know when the library is open during 2nd lunch. You can use the library for colouring activities, to read quietly or get out books. If you lose library books you will have to pay a fee.

What do I do if I'm catching the bus home?



At the end of the day all bus students will go to the hall. Find the name of your bus and sit down in a row with the others from your bus. Your bus monitor (usually a Yr 6 student) will do a roll call and let you know when it is time to line up at the bus shed outside. If you are off the bus that day you must sign out of the 'bus book' which is located in the Office during the day or in the hall after school. Please let the Office staff know if you are off buses on a regular day (sports etc.).