



Howard Springs Primary School

Merit Award Policy

Purpose:

The Howard Springs Primary School Merit Award Policy demonstrate our school's commitment to acknowledging and celebrating student's academic growth and/or achievement across key learning areas.

The policy informs our staff, students and families of how students' progress through the merit award process.

This policy helps us achieve:

- improved student wellbeing
- improved student engagement at school
- improved student academic achievement and success.

Process

Mini Merit Awards

- Mini Merit Awards are given to students for genuine academic growth or achievement. Blank mini merit awards are available at the front office.
- Classroom teachers select **3 students** per fortnight to write a mini merit awards to be handed out by Leadership at whole school assemblies.
- All mini merit awards are to be handed into the front office Wednesday prior to whole school assemblies.
- Teachers will keep a personal record/checklist to ensure all students receive at least 3 Mini Merit awards throughout the school year for genuine academic growth or achievement.
- Teachers are responsible for recording the mini merit on GradeXpert for tracking purposes.
- Teachers are responsible for notifying families 4 days before the assembly.
- Students will receive *between 3 and 5 mini merits over the course of the year* from their classroom teacher.
- End of year awards (Citizenship/Endeavor/Academic/Board of Studies/Jan Hopkins Art Award etc) will be counted towards the merit process and will be equal to 1 'Mini Merit'. Administration staff will record end of year awards on GradeXpert.

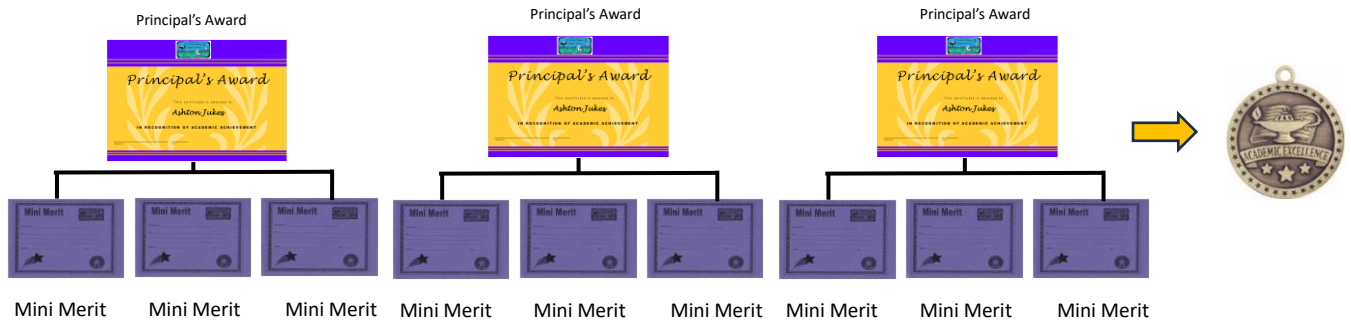
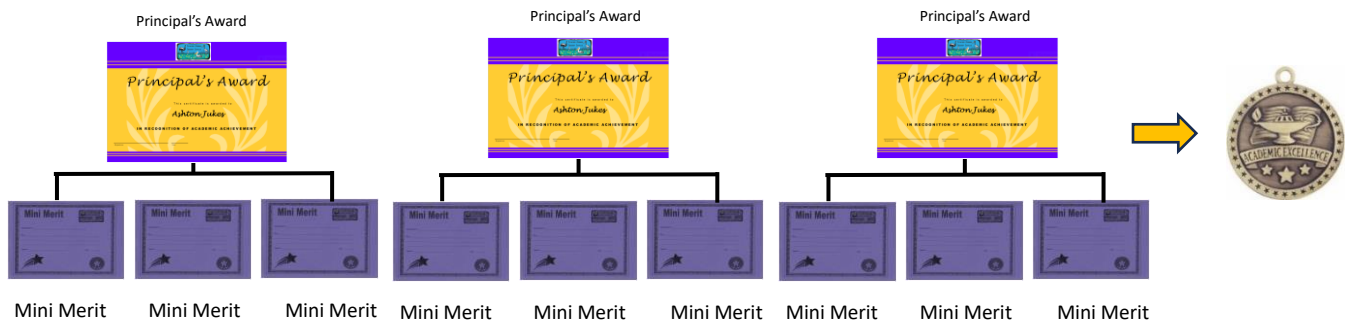
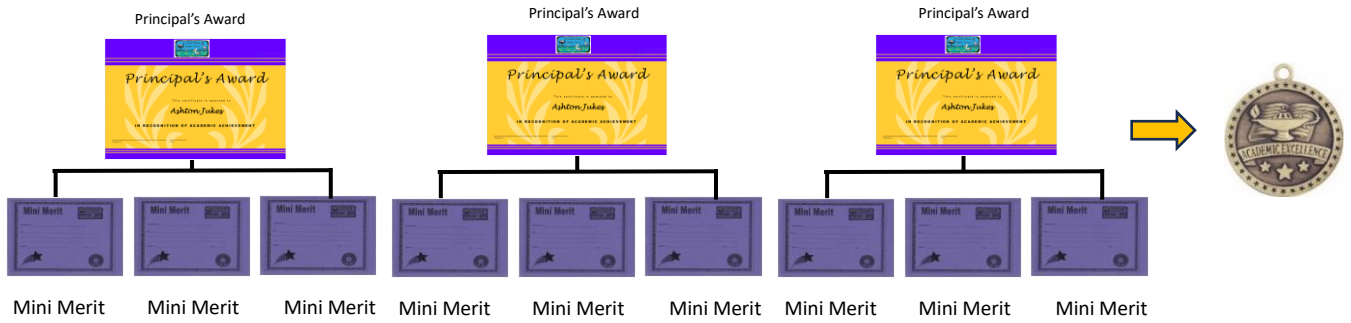
Merit Award Reward System:

Students collect mini merit

3 Mini Merits = 1 Principal's Award

3 Principal's Award = 1 Medallion (9 Mini Merits)

3 Medallions (27 Mini Merits) = Trophy + Name on perpetual trophy



Our Vision: We Dream, We Believe, We Strive to Achieve

Examples and non-examples of academic growth and/or achievement:

Examples	Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurately applying the concept of 'value' in your artworks this term. • Using Tier 2 and 3 vocabulary in your writing to make it more specific. • Applying feedback to your writing to 'bump it up'. • Increasing your reading fluency and blending CVC words. • Reading aloud with improved fluency and expression. • Applying efficient strategies to solve 2-step worded problems accurately • Learning your 2, 3, and 5 times tables! • Reaching your Term 2 target in writing (using a wider variety of punctuation). 	<p>Focused on academic growth and achievement in curriculum learning areas.</p> <p>Language is specific and makes sense to students and their families.</p>
Non-examples	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning up the classroom. • Being a caring friend. • Using your 5 L's during mat time. • Reaching the top of the token chart. • Joining in on Math rotations more consistently. • Fluent reading. • Great athleticism in P.E. • Good drawing skills. 	<p>These examples are either behaviour related, linked to 'natural talent', or not specific enough in terms of identifying growth or achievement.</p>

Generic email template (copy and paste):

<p>Dear _____ (parent/caregiver's name),</p> <p>Please be advised that _____ (child's name) will be receiving a Mini Merit award at the next whole school assembly and we would love for you to attend if possible. The assembly will be held on _____ (insert data) and begin at 8:30am.</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p>
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