Welcome back to all our students, staff and community and all the best for a great Term 3. We have an exciting term ahead with a vast array of special events in store. We have the Jogathon coming up soon, Book Week, Japanese Day, Tabloid Sports and the Film Festival to name just a few. Our Year 4s are looking forward to their camp to Mount Morton in Belgrave Heights later this term.

The Term has got off to an excellent start with our students returning bubbling with enthusiasm and eager to take on the challenges of a new school term. We welcome five new students to Mount Martha Primary – Evie in Prep, Holly, Angelina and Lenny in Year 2 and Louis in Year 5. We wish our new students every success as they settle into their new school environment and trust they will feel “at home” very quickly.

We also have some staff changes for this term. We welcome back Sarah Forward from her long service leave. Laila Contini who was in Sarah’s place as ICT teacher last term, is now teaching 5B for the remainder of the year. We welcome Luke Colthup to 5A whilst Jason Antoniou is in the role of Acting Assistant Principal during Hugh O’Brien long service leave. Nicole Van den Acker is working with the Year 6s whilst Bill Nickeas is on long service leave. Paulina Welbourne is taking Visual Arts whilst Julie Christie is on long service leave for the next fortnight. We welcome these staff members warmly to Mount Martha. We are very fortunate to have such terrific teachers to work with us during our staff members’ periods of leave.

“Lucy Magoo” Lunch Orders
This week parents were sent an SMS from the school informing them that the lunch order service provided through “Lucy Magoo” is no longer in place due to the business being sold. We are currently in the process of investigating other options. In the meantime there will unfortunately be no lunch order service offered at the school. We will inform the community as progress is made on making other arrangements for a lunch order service.

School Uniform
Following information provide in the Banksia Bulletin last term regarding school uniform, I am very pleased to see our students return to school this term attired neatly and wearing their school uniform proudly. Keep up the great effort! We are still in the process of updating our School Uniform Policy and I appreciate the feedback I have had from the community and staff on this matter. The policy is to be discussed at our next Education Committee meeting.

A reminder to all families to please name all school uniform items. We currently have a lot of unnamed items of clothing in the lost property box. The lost property is stored outside the art room. Please check if you have any uniform items missing from last term as we are keen to find homes for all items.

KidsMatter
Primary is an Australian initiative for primary schools that provides a framework, resources and support to identify and implement strategies to improve the mental health and wellbeing of students. The KidsMatter whole school approach assists schools to be the best possible places to nurture and support the wellbeing and academic achievement of all students. Mt Martha Primary School has joined the large number of schools Australia wide that have taken on the initiative. This week staff participated in a professional development session presented by our KidsMatter co-ordinator Karen Marsh. The staff worked on the first component of Kidsmatter – Developing Positive School Community. We will be having regular items in the Banksia Bulletin informing the community about this worthwhile initiative.
Mount Martha’s Got Talent!!

Thank you to our students and teachers for their contributions to a fabulous final assembly for the end of Term 2. I really enjoyed the experience and was “blown away” by the talent and confidence displayed by the students. Congratulations also to all our Term 2 award winners – well done!

Pam Anderson
Acting Principal

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Library Assistance Required

Currently we have a large number of new books that have been purchased for the library. If there are any parents with a little time to spare after school drop off Mrs Maria Harvey would really appreciate assistance. These new resources need to be covered with contact to protect them, before we are able to offer these to students to borrow. Mrs Harvey is in the library from 9am until 11am each day.

Thankyou

Karen Walker Assistant Principal.
During Weeks 6 and 7 of Term 3 MMPS will be celebrating several events that combine National Literacy and Numeracy Week and both the Children’s Book Council of Australia Book Week and Indigenous Book Week. As these events are spread over the whole term, we have decided to celebrate at MMPS over a two week period beginning Monday 19th August. A number of activities have been organised and families are encouraged to check the Banksia Bulletin and Year Level Blogs over the coming weeks to be up-dated about what is happening at each Year Level. Here is a summary of up-coming events.

National Literacy and Numeracy Week - Read For Australia

Literacy and Numeracy Week aims to highlight the importance of literacy and numeracy skills for all children and young people, with a focus on school-aged children. We are participating in the Read for Australia activity on Thursday 29th August when each class will share the same book as other students all over Australia.

The book selected for Read for Australia in 2013 is “Herman and Rosie” by Gus Gordon. It is about friendship, living in a city and following your dreams. This inspiring story will appeal across all ages and as a springboard to other activities that will be explored by classes after the oral reading.

The Numeracy activity is ‘This is Rubbish!’

This activity will involve students using mathematics to analyse the waste at their school. Students will collect, classify and count the rubbish in their classroom or schoolyard bins. The data collected from the activity will be used to find the main sources of waste and how much of it there is.

Supporting the Indigenous Literacy Foundation

We will be supporting The Indigenous Literacy Foundation during our two week celebration. Indigenous Literacy Week aims to help raise funds to increase literacy levels and improve the lives and opportunities of Indigenous Australians living in remote and isolated regions. They need our support to help raise funds to buy books and literacy resources for these communities. More information can be found at www.indigenousliteracyfoundation.org.au

Our Great Book Swap Challenge is our fundraising event in which students swap books with one another. This year we would like to also involve parents so there will also be an opportunity to swap some books for older readers! Participants bring along a gold coin and a book they’ve read and enjoyed. All these pre-loved books are put together in a central location and then they may choose a “new” book they would like to keep. More information will be sent home soon, but start to think about books that you may like to swap.
Children's Book Council of Australia Book Week

Book & Movie Character Dress-Up Day

On Wednesday 21st August we are holding a special day where we will be dressing up as our favourite book or movie character. Children will not be required to wear school uniform on this day. The Australian Curriculum has included “viewing” as a key component of the literacy program so we have included the movie theme as well as favourite book characters as a dress up option. A gold coin donation on this day will support The Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Stay tuned for further updates about all of these events in the BB, and watch out for Blog posts and posters up around the school.

SPORTS NEWS

WINTER DAYS/SAFETY

As we are now having a few colder days, students need to wear appropriate clothing and footwear for PE lessons. The School Gym is not heated and can be cold during the day. Wearing a jumper/jacket is advisable as they can always be removed as students warm up. Appropriate footwear is an essential part of the PE program. Wet footpaths and rain on concrete surfaces makes the need for footwear with good grip an important component of our Health and Safety for children.

JOG-A-THON

Next Thursday 25th July, the whole school will be involved in the Jog-a-thon. This is a major fundraiser with all the money raised going towards improving the play equipment. Everyone will receive a tally card in the morning, to use around the track collecting marshal ticks from the teachers at the check points.

Students are to get sponsorship from parents, relatives and also close friends to encourage more laps of the track or an overall donation. Sponsorship forms and information was sent out last term and hopefully over the holiday break, everyone has collected sponsors. More sponsorship cards can be collected from front office or via the class teacher.

Everyone that receives money from our Jog-a-thon will go into a large raffle to win some amazing brand new sport equipment. Things that can be won are tennis racquet, basketballs, skipping ropes, vortex howlers, bocce set, AFL footballs, netballs plus a lot more. These will be drawn at our final Assembly in term 3.

Cameron Sweatman, Physical Education Teacher.
Education Maintenance Allowance

**Instalment Two**

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

Parents and guardians may be eligible for the EMA if they have a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card.

The second instalment of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) payment is due to be paid from mid-August onwards for parents/guardians who chose the ‘direct deposit’ or ‘pay direct to school’ payment option on their application form.

Parents/guardians who chose the cheque payment option will receive their payment from late August / early September.

Parents and guardians who lodged an EMA application at the beginning of the year do not need to lodge another EMA application to receive the second instalment EMA payment.

Parents/guardians whose children have transferred to this school since 28 February 2013 will need to submit a new EMA application form. Applications close on **2 August 2013**.


**Contact:** School Office for an application form and further information.

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**Key Dates:**

- **Eligibility day - 15 July 2013**
- **Parent applications close - 2 August 2013**
- **Direct Deposit payments - Mid August 2013 onwards**
- **Cheque payments - Late August / Early September 2013**
Welcome back to Term 3 – I hope that you had a lovely break and enjoyed the time with family and friends.

Term 3 Events –

**Hot Chocolate Day** – Tuesday the 23rd of July – Notices due back Friday (tomorrow) the 19th of July.

**The Scout Raffle Ticket Books** – This one is easy - MMPS families have the opportunity to win some fantastic prizes whilst supporting our school and the Scout organisation. Raffle ticket books were sent home on Friday 31 May – please sell as many tickets as you can and return the raffle ticket stubs together with the money to the school by Friday 26 July. All ticket books must be returned to the school by the due date regardless of whether tickets have been sold or not. Remember with each ticket sold MMPS receives $1.50 which will be used to improve facilities for our children.

**Prep, year 1 and year 2 movie night** – put your pjs on and rug up with a sleeping bag and pillow – munch on some popcorn and take over the gym for a giant movie night watching the classic ‘The Jungle Book’! Year 3s get ready to snuggle up in the staff centre and crunch on some popcorn and watch a fantastic movie ‘Wallace and Gromit and the Curse of the Were Rabbit’ with your friends! Notices will be sent home with each child – **notices are due back Monday the 29th of July 4pm**. Due to catering and adult to children number ratios we cannot accept late notices or arrivals on the night.

**HELP HELP HELP** – Saturday the 10th of August – we have organised a sausage sizzle at Bunnings – We need you support on the day to help with this event. Please fill out the slip below indicating what time you can help. We have the potential to raise over $1500.00 with this fantastic event. Thank you in advance for your help and support with this event.

Our next meeting is to be held on Tuesday the 23rd of July, 7pm in the staff centre. We will be discussing and finalising details for the up and coming events in Term 3 and 4 – Parents Movie Night, Movie Night for the preps, 1,2 and year 3, Footy Day and Father’s Day Breakfast. We would love to see you there!

Thank you to the PTA girls and also parents who helped with the sausage sizzle day – we had a great day. Thank you also to the office girls for all your support before and on the day and a big thank you to the year 6 leaders who ran around the school making sure that the junior year levels had sausages, sauce and icy poles.

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**YES I can HELP with the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle – Saturday the 10th of August**

Name:_________________________________________ Child’s Name:________________________________________

Contact Number:____________________________________

Please Circle:

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**Family Maths Problems**

Here are some ways you can enjoy Maths with your family.

**How many hands?** *(Prep – Year 2)*

You will need:
- cardboard or paper
- pencil or pen
- scissors

**What to do:**
Trace an outline of your hand onto your cardboard or paper. Cut it out carefully.

Use your cut out to measure 5 things around your house.

For example:
1. How many hands long is your bed?
2. How many hands long is the table?
3. How many hands long are your jeans?

You might like to draw a picture of the things you measured and write down how many hands long each one was.

**Grocery shopping** *(Year 3 & 4)*

You will need:
- shopping list
- calculator

**What to do:**
1. You are going to the supermarkets to help with the shopping. Make a list of things to buy.
2. Write down next to each item how much you think it will cost.
3. Add up the cost on the calculator so you know how much money to take with you.
4. After you buy the goods, check your estimate with the supermarket receipt.
5. Was there a difference?
6. What was the difference?

**Heartbeat** *(Year 5 & 6)*

You will need:
- pen and paper
- a calculator may be useful

**What to do:**
1. How many times does your heart beat in a day? Talk about how you could work this out step by step. Record your result.
   Heartbeats are faster at some times, like during sport, than others, like during sleep, but just for this activity, let’s pretend our heart is beating all day just at the same rate it is beating now.
2. Do this with everybody in your family. Compare the results – pulses are very individual things and vary quite a lot.
3. How many times does your hear beat in a year?

Donna Gadsby, Maths Curriculum Leader.
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