Hello from the Principal

I am delighted to be writing my first newsletter item for the Banksia Bulletin as I settle into my new role as Acting Principal at Mt Martha Primary School. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to be in the role of Principal for the next two terms whilst Mrs Judy Beckworth is on leave. My first day was a gloriously sunny day – just perfect to take a stroll around the magnificent grounds and visit every section in the school. Thank you to all the students and teachers for making me feel very welcome as I dropped in to all 30 classrooms and special areas too! It was great to see the students so engaged in their learning and experience the “buzz of activity” happening across all the learning areas of the school.

Since my first introduction to the classes, many of the students have seen me again around the school and have said a friendly hello or stopped for a chat. You can all feel very proud of the lovely community atmosphere that is obvious at Mt Martha Primary School.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Assistant Principals – Mr Hugh O’Brien and Mrs Karen Walker for inducting me so well this week and for running the school so competently during the first two weeks of Term 2.

I am really looking forward to working with the students, teachers, parents and community at Mt Martha. We have an exciting term ahead with the Year 6 Urban City Camp coming up soon, The Mothers’ Day Stall, Whole School Cross Country and other exciting activities planned for Education Week to name just a few! So here’s to a great term and please come and say hello if you see me around the school.

Pam Anderson
Acting Principal

NAPLAN Assessment

“The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The program has been conducted across Australia since 2008. On Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May, students will complete the 2013 NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN assesses student skills in literacy and numeracy. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

Students are expected to participate in the tests. Students with a disability may qualify for reasonable adjustments that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. Some students with very specific circumstances may be exempted from participating in the tests. For information about participation in NAPLAN, you can go to: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at www.nap.edu.au.”

If you have any questions about the NAPLAN assessment please contact your child’s classroom teacher or myself.

Karen Walker
Assistant Principal

COMING EVENTS

MAY

Friday 3rd
- Year 1D & 1E Heronswood Gardens Excursion

Mon 6th - Thu 9th
- Mother’s Day Raffle tickets being sold $2 each

Tuesday 7th
- School Cross Country at MMPS

Wednesday 8th
- PTA Mothers Day Stall 9am - 1pm

Mon 13th - Wed 15th
- Year 6 City Camp

Tuesday 14th
- Year 2A & 2F Gould League & Replas Recycling Factory Excursion

Wednesday 15th
- Year 2B, 2C, 2D & 2E Gould League & Replas Recycling Factory Excursion

Thursday 16th
- Year 4 Drains to the Bay Walk

Mon 20th – Fri 24th
- Education Week

2014 Prep Information Evening

Wednesday 15th May 7.15pm in Staff Centre
A school tour will commence at 6.30pm from the Staff Centre, please note no bookings are required.
Mt Martha Primary School

Friday 24th
- Year 3 Wild Action Incursion MMPS
- District Cross Country at Penbank

Mon 27th – Fri 31st
- Book Fair

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 9th May
Staff centre
All Welcome
Gold for Green Day.

It’s on again
22nd May 2013

Come and join us as we celebrate “Sustainability” at our school and to learn how we can all make a positive difference to our local environment.

Children will come dressed in green and bring a gold coin to help raise funds for our garden projects. This year we hope to buy a school sized worm farm to assist with our waste disposal.

Everyone will be encouraged to walk to school and to bring a rubbish free lunch.

Some of these photos show how our Prep Forest has changed over the past four years. If you take a walk around that section of the oval you will see that the new plants are progressing well.

Each year our Prep students have planted native plants on the oval bank with assistance from their Year 3 or 4 buddies. The oval slope is slowly changing from a barren bank to a shady habitat for our local birds and animals.

We will be planting out other areas around the school and all classes will be engaged in activities to remind them of the importance of our environment.

Parents and friends are encouraged to join us. More information will be published in the Banksia Bulletin soon.

Jenny Spiridis, Environmental Leader.

Planting our Mulberry Tree

On Friday we helped Mr Hartwig plant a mulberry tree down near the tank in a special tub. First we put some water on the plant and in the big hole. Mr Hartwig shook the tree out of the pot and we tickled the roots. Then he put it in the big hole and Emily and Ethan got their hands dirty. We hope our mulberry tree grows and grows to feed our hungry silkworms in Springtime.

By the Preps
Mathletics

Congratulations to the following students for their fantastic achievements in the Mathletics Hall of Fame. Amber B (4B) was 1st in both Australia and the World on April 26th. Chloe C (4B) was 1st in Australian and 20th in the World on April 29th. Kailan C (2C) was 1st in Australia and 35th in the World on May 1st.

Well done Amber, Chloe and Kailan what a great effort.

Donna Gadsby, Maths Coordinator.

If you don’t want Oaks Day 2013 to be cancelled - we need you!

The MMPS Oaks Day Luncheon has been the event on the Mt Martha calendar. Unfortunately with last year’s committee unable to dedicate their time due to changes in their personal circumstances; The Oaks Day Luncheon is in danger of being cancelled this year. We need a group of enthusiastic parents to organise this year’s event. The previous committee will be around to offer support and the benefit of their experience. If you are interested in putting your own touches to this fantastic event, please email Amy at amy@zooloo.com.au before Friday May 10th, as we will need to cancel our booking at Safety Beach Yacht Club if there is no interest.

MORNINGTON SECONDARY COLLEGE
Scholarships, YEAR 7 2014

Scholarships are now open for students enrolling into year 7, 2014. They include Academic, Sports, Swimming, ICT-Notebook and Instrumental Music. Scholarship applications should be submitted by 17 May 2013.

The scholarships will contribute substantially to the educational costs for the first two years of the recipient’s secondary education. The notebook scholarship recipient will receive a notebook computer for two years. Contact Mornington Secondary College on 5970 0200 or download an application form from www.mornsc.vic.edu.au.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL HELPERS Wednesday 8th May

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Yes, I would like to help at the Mother’s Day Stall

Name: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Mobile: …………………………………………………………………………………

Email: …………………………………………………………………………………

Times preferred (please circle):
8.30am-9.30am 9.30am-10.30am 10.30am-11.30am 11.30-1pm
Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of $250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

Payment amounts - 2013:

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<td>Instalment Two</td>
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*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is Friday 2nd August 2013.
Family Maths Problems

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

**Eggciting encounters (Prep – Year 2)**

You will need:

- 4 egg cartons (or draw circles on a piece of paper to make the pattern the egg cartons would form)
- 18 counters, (such as dried beans, buttons, macaroni) for each player.

What to do:

This is a game for two people.

1. Use the bottom part only of the egg cartons and place them along side each other.
2. The first player places one counter in the hole they choose. The other player then has a turn with a counter. Continue taking turns to add a new counter.
3. The object is to get 4 of your counters in a row in any direction: horizontally (side to side), vertically (up and down) or diagonally (corner to corner) and also to stop the other player from winning.

**Eggsactly right (Year 3 & 4)**

You will need:

- egg carton
- paper and a pen/pencil

What to do:

1. How many eggs fill the egg carton?
2. How many groups of 6 eggs will fill the carton?
3. Can you arrange those 6 eggs in 2 different ways to half fill the carton?
4. Draw pictures to show how you arranged the eggs.
5. How many eggs will we need to fill 5 cartons?
6. Write a number story to show your answer.

A bit harder:

In the backyard, I have some chooks and some pigs. Altogether I can count 10 heads and 26 legs. How many chickens do I have?

**Far to go (Year 5 & 6)**

You will need:

- street directory (or a map of the local area, if you live in the country)
- string and a ruler

What to do:

Find where someone you know lives on a map.

First locate the **scale** of the map.

- How much does 1cm equal?
- How much does 5cm equal?
- How much does 10cm equal?
- What is the area covered by the map?

Using the scale, how far is it by road from the place you have chosen to other places in the area?

How far ‘as the crow flies’ (which means directly, without using roads, as if you were flying overhead just as a bird or helicopter does)?

Donna Gadsby, Maths Curriculum Leader.
Mt Martha Primary School is having its 1st Working Bee for 2013 and we need YOU please!

Date: 15 of June 2013.

Time: 9am – 12pm.

Location: Mt Martha Primary School Grounds

Jobs to be completed:

“In the Garden Project” – we want to continue to refine this area of our school grounds. There will be general pruning and mulching tasks in the garden and around the school. General tidy up tasks – relocating rocks to dry river bed and weeding. We would like to use the this Working Bee for general tidy up and maintenance tasks.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Morning tea and drinks provided.

Please complete this attached slip and return to the office so we can plan and organise the tasks on the day. If you can only make it for an hour it would be appreciated. If you can bring along useful tools like a wheelbarrow, spade, shovel, secateurs, gloves etc that would also be very beneficial.

Yes, I am able to help out on Saturday June 15 at the school Working Bee.

My name is ___________________________________________ and my child/ren’s names are ___________________________________________.

Please return to the office as soon as possible.

Hope to see you there! Jenny Spiridis and Hugh O’Brien.
Parents' and Teachers' Association Noticeboard

Term 2 Events -

The Mother’s Day Stall – Wednesday the 8th of May 9-1pm. What will the kids bring home this year? The children love to make a special Mother’s Day gift selection just for ‘their mum or special someone’. There will be a range of new goodies on offer for the children to select from. On the day we ask that the children bring no more than $10 to school (prices range from $1-$5 for each item), they will be given the opportunity to make their purchases with their class at an allocated time. Items available to purchase are on display in the glass cabinet at the front office - maybe a trip to the office with your child to give some hints would be a great idea! We will also have a special Mother’s Day $10 Offer on the MMPS Recipe Book - if you haven’t got one this is your chance to add these fantastic tried and tested recipes to your collection! This is a great gift for mothers, grandmothers, aunties etc! Thank you to all the parents who have offered their support for this event.

Mother’s Day Raffle – Hey Kids, would you like to win mum a hamper of prizes valued over $500? Mum’s, would you like to receive a hamper filled with prizes over $500? Raffle tickets will be sold in the classroom to the students for $2 each in the week commencing the 6th of May (6th/7th/8th/9th May). The prize will be drawn on Friday the 10th - ready to be given on Sunday the 12th. Bring $2 to school on any of these days to purchase a ticket and go into the draw to win!!!!! The hamper with all its goodies is on display in the front office - take a peek and remember for $2 (or more) you could be in the running to take home this great prize!

Are you proud to be a local? Do you like to support our school? Well this fundraiser is for you! Order forms are in this newsletter to purchase a sticker that you can put on your car that will represent where you live. The sticker is only $4.50 to purchase, the Sitches family are kindly donating $2 for every sticker sold back to the school. We have extended the final day to order to Friday 10th May!

Book Fair – This is a great opportunity for the children to look and purchase some wonderful books - whilst supporting the school. Children will be able to go with their classes to view the books on sale – Monday 27th and Tuesday the 28th of May and then the Book Fair will be open to children and parents to make purchases on Wednesday 29th, Thursday 30th and Friday the 31st of May. Watch this space for more details of times!

Oaks Day 2013

Due to the lack of interest when we called on parents to be part of the 2013 Oaks Day Committee in Term One, it looks like the Oaks Day Luncheon will not be going ahead this year. With last year’s committee unable to dedicate their time due to changes in their personal circumstances; we had hoped to find a group of enthusiastic parents to organize this year’s event. The previous committee will be around to offer support and the benefit of their experience, as required. If you are interested in putting your own touches to this fantastic event, please email Amy at amy@zooloo.com.au before Friday the 10th of May, as we will need to cancel our booking at Safety Beach Yacht Club if there is no interest.

It was lovely to meet and catch up with the parents who came to the morning tea. Thank you to the PTA team who supported this event with not only your presence but your yummy treats.

Thank you.

Jaala Mayer – PTA president
Teacher Questions

Mr Beirne - Year 4 Teacher

Favourite colour? *Man Salmon*

Celebrity crush? *Giaan Rooney*

Favourite TV show? *The Mentalist*

Favourite movie/book? *Zoolander, The Day After Tomorrow*

Previous job? *Barista*

Do you have a pet? *No*

Birthday? *May 17*

Why did you become a teacher? *I enjoy working with people from all different walks of life.*

Favourite food? *Indian*

Favourite drink? *Strong Soy Latte*

Mrs Spiridis - Year 4 Teacher

Favourite colour? *Yellow*

Celebrity crush? *Colin Firth*

Favourite TV show? *Dr Blake Mysteries*

Favourite movie/book? *The book Thief*

Previous job? *Occupational Therapist’s Assistant*

Do you have a pet? *2 dogs*

What’s are their names? *Tess & Sam*

Birthday? *July*

Why did you become a teacher? *Love guiding / helping people*

Favourite food? *Pavlova*

Favourite drink? *White Tea*
Miss Virtanen - Year 4 Teacher

Favourite colour? *Aqua Blue*

Celebrity crush? *Johnny Depp*

Favourite TV show? *The Voice*

Favourite movie/book? *Twilight*

Previous job? *Princess Cruises, Kids Entertainment*

Do you have a pet? *Quaker Parrot*

What’s its name? *Cookie*

Birthday? *February 5*

Why did you become a teacher? *To make a difference to the education of children*

Favourite food? *Mexican*

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Mrs Giles - Year 4 Teacher

Favourite colour? *Blue*

Celebrity crush? *Adam Sandler*

Favourite TV show? *The Loop*

Favourite movie/book? *Shawshank Redemption, The Damage Done*

Previous job? *PA, Sales*

Do you have a pet? *No*

Birthday? *January 9*

Why did you become a teacher? *Wanted to help my own children*

Favourite food? *Anything Italian*

Favourite drink? *Coffee*
Active kids are healthy kids

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

Friday 24 May 2013
walk.com.au

Take the Challenge

Download the FREE APP

WIN GREAT PRIZES

Supported by The Australian Government and All State, Territory and Local Governments
Dear Parents

We would like to electronically communicate our weekly changes to the lunch menu we offer students of Mount Martha Primary. We would like to offer parents the opportunity to sign up to our weekly newsletter.

Simply go to www.lucymcgooschoolfoods.com.au to sign up.

To thank you for your registration your child / children will receive a free choc chip muffin scheduled for delivery 10th May 2013.

www.lucymcgooschoolfoods.com.au
PSW NEW STORE HOURS TERM 2 & 3

From Monday 29th April PSW Frankston’s trading hours will be as follows:

Monday - CLOSED

Tuesday - Friday - 8.30am - 4.30pm
Saturday - 8.30am - 2.30pm
Sunday - CLOSED

PSW FRANKSTON
21 Playne St, Frankston Vic 3199
PH: 03 9769 6510
## Community Notices

**Mornington Blue Light Disco**
Friday May 3 at Cruze Club, Grand Hotel, Main St Mornington.
6pm - 8pm (8-15 year olds) Cost $7.

A novelty boys wallet was found in the surrounding streets of MMPS earlier this week. Please contact the school office on 5974 2800 for more information.

| Dr Peter Scott Orthodontist  
Children & Adult Specialist Orthodontist  
Creating Beautiful Smiles  
13 Beach St, Frankston 3199  
PH: 9783 4511 |
|---|
| **STIRLING LINGARD TENNIS COACHING**  
MT MARTHA TENNIS CLUB  
Kinda Classes 4-5years (Free Racket)  
Prep Classes 5-7 years (Free Racket). $14 per lesson  
Group Classes 8-18 years  
Beginners Ladies’ groups am/pm  
Extensive Holiday Clinic program running over the June/July holidays.  
Call 5974 3271 or 0411 082 723 |
| **THE CHOCOLATE KETTLE**  
Mornington’s favourite Chocolate & Lolly Shop is now owned by a MMPS family! We still have all your old favourites including loads of kids lollies, Pink Lady bullets, US confectionary & UK sweets,  
Come in to see us & mention this ad for 10% off just for our fellow MMPS families.  
Shop 10 The Mall (near Main Sail Café)  
90 Main St Mornington Ph 5975 6819  
www.thechocolatekettle.com.au |
| **PACE Health Management**  
Australia’s ‘Leader’s in Exercise Prescription’ are now open in Mt Martha!  
Come in & see us today for your free fitness appraisal & start taking the steps towards a healthier you!  
Exercise Physiology - Personal Training - Groups  
Call us for an appointment today.  
Ph: 5974 3147  
34-38 Lochiel Ave Mt Martha www.pacehm.com.au  
Present this coupon for a free health & fitness assessment |
| **Clinton Richards Electrical**  
Domestic \ Commercial \ Design \ Safety  
No job too big or small  
Prompt, Reliable and Local  
PH: 0408 372 188  
clinton@clintonrichardselectrical.com.au  
Registered Electrical Contractor 17273 |
| **WAXING, TINTING, TANNING**  
8 Helena Street, Mt Martha  
Waxing from $8, Tinting from $10,  
Tanning from $15  
For further enquiries phone Kylie on 0438 741 930 |
| **MORNINGTON CENTRAL PHYSIOTHERAPY**  
Peninsula Sports Medicine Group  
Physiotherapy, Pilates, Massage, Myotherapy  
Ph: 5973 5511  
15 Railway Grove, Mornington  
psmgroup.com.au |
| **Emma Kaman Dance**  
MMPS Gym  
Classes in Hip Hop - Jazz - Ballet  
Kinder to Intermediate level  
Contact Emma on 0419 173 406  
emmakaman@gmail.com  
www.emmakamandance.com.au |
| ** SMALLPRINT**  
A Unique First Impression  
Beautiful hand-crafted pure silver jewellery that captures that special moment in time.  
Danielle Peebles  
Bayside & Mornington Peninsula  
m: 0402 474 146  
e: danielle@smallp.com.au |
MT MARTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL FUNDRAISER
Mornington Peninsula Stickers

ORDER FORM

Only $4.50 each - $2.00 of which comes back to the school.

Show your local pride with these high quality, locally designed and Australian made stickers. Perfect for your car, boat, caravan or school bag, these stickers are ideal for locals, holiday makers and anyone who loves the Mornington Peninsula.

Sticker size: Oval 150mm x 100mm. Sample of sticker on view at school office.

Materials: PVC Vinyl, UV resistant, colourfast and waterproof.

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Please place your order with correct money in a sealed envelope (cash or chq payable to Mt Martha Primary School) and hand into the office. The stickers will be delivered to your child.

Thank you for your support!

Name of child: ____________________________  Class: ____________________________

Parents name: ____________________________  Ph: ____________________________

Total Number of Stickers required @ $4.50 each: ____________________________

Total: $ ____________________________