Principal Report

Welcome Back - Welcome everyone for the start of Term 4. It has been great to catch up with students, parents and staff to hear how they enjoyed the holidays. The students have already returned to their school routines and are enjoying their learning and time with their friends and teachers.

Term 4 is always busy as students complete their school year and we finalise our planning to ensure a smooth start to 2017. This term we have some fantastic events planned. Some highlights include the Bike Education Program for Years 4, 5 and 6, whole school Japanese Day, whole school Life Education Program and Year 3 camp to Somers. Our Year 6’s will be graduating and we will be increasingly focussing on our transition program for all our students to build familiarity with next year’s learning environment. Transition activities for our 2017 Preps and families are planned to make the start to school next year a little easier. Our students participating in the instrumental music program will have the chance to showcase their talents and progress in performances at concerts this term. Students, staff and families have much to celebrate as we finish off 2016! Please note the dates of our upcoming events as it is easy to miss something in a busy term.

This term we also have the Carnivale on Saturday 26th November. The planning group has been working hard to ensure the day is successful. Helpers are always required in this planning stage and on the day. Please contact the Office or PTA members if you can assist.

Pupil Free Day - A reminder that our next Pupil Free Day will be on Friday 14th October. Our focus is professional development is the Primary Connections Science program. No students are required to attend on this day. Out of Hours School Care will again offer a program (see flyer in this edition of the Banksia Bulletin).

Parent Information Evening - We will be running an information session for parents on Monday 17th October from 6.30 to 8.30pm. This session will be presented by Karen Starkiss from Dyslexia Assessments and Support Services and will focus on practical tips for parents to assist children with dyslexia and other learning difficulties. A separate flyer will be sent home shortly.

Leaving Mount Martha Primary School in 2017? - A reminder to please let the Office know if you are leaving Mount Martha Primary School next year as soon as possible. Teachers will soon be commencing the task of allocating students to classes for next year and as we finalise our options for class structures for 2017. Thank you.

Kind regards

Martin Page
Principal
MT MARTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL
OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE PROGRAM

PUPIL FREE DAY - FRIDAY 14th OCTOBER 2016

THE LETTER DAY!!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DRESS UP AS A OR A 
OR COME IN YOUR PJ’S OR ANYTHING STARTING WITH THE 

LETTER

BRING A PHOTO OF YOUR OWN PET TO MAKE A 
PICTURE FRAME

MAKE PITA BREAD PIZZA FOR AFTERNOON TEA!

PLAYSTATION, PLAYDOUGH, POKEMON, PARACHUTES, PUZZLES, 
PUPPETS, PAPER PLANES AND MUCH MORE .......

COST: $40.00 PER CHILD(LESS CCB%/CCR)

CONTACT: GILLIAN ON 0407 438858 FOR 
BOOKINGS AND AN ENROLMENT FORM 
HOURS: 7.00AM TO 6.00PM

CHILDREN ARE TO BRING THEIR OWN MORNING TEA AND 

LUNCH 
BREAKFAST AND AFTERNOON TEA ARE SUPPLIED 

BOOKINGS CLOSE ON FRIDAY 7TH OCTOBER!!!
2017 PREP INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 12th October 2016
7.00 - 8:30 pm
in Staff Centre

This is a session designed to provide all the information you need to know about our Transition program, ways to prepare for the 2017 school year and important school procedures and administrative details.

Includes guest speakers, PSW fashion parade as well as a light supper will be provided.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Mt Martha Primary School
Glenisla Dve, Mt Martha, 3934. Phone: 5974 2800 Fax: 5974 3634
Email: mount.martha.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.mtmarthaps.vic.edu.au
Dear Parents and Carers,

A key focus of the KidsMatter initiative and the Child Safe Standards framework, is to support students in developing the knowledge and strategies to keep themselves safe in a range of situations. In Term 4, our school has made a commitment to teaching the Primary Protective Behaviours Program across all year levels, to ensure that all students understand how to recognise and respond to unsafe situations.

The aim of the Primary Protective Behaviours program is:
- To help protect children and young people because we cannot be with them every minute of the day.
- To give children and adults permission to talk about problem or difficult situations they face.
- To empower children with the right to feel safe and act to keep themselves safe.
- To help students to understand that threats to their safety do not necessarily come from strangers.
- To provide a safe way of talking about acceptable and unacceptable verbal and physical contact.

The program strategies can provide the basis for helping children to be safe at school and address problems such as bullying. It can also help everyone learn to stay safe from the risks that surround us in everyday life. The program focus is on everyone Feeling safe, Being Safe and Talking about it.

The program is based on two themes:
- We all have the right to feel safe all of the time.
- Nothing is so awful that we can’t talk about it with someone.

In conjunction with the two themes are the three major concepts of the program:
SAFETY – an individual feeling and a basic right for every person
EARLY WARNING SIGNS – specific physical indicators that alert us to possible risks to our safety
NETWORKING – identifying people to talk to and developing communication skills. Students will learn to be PERSISTENT and to keep asking for help until they feel safe again.

Please contact the Principal, or your class teacher if you would like more information about the program.

Regards,
The KidsMatter Team.
Dear Parents and Carers,

Currently our staff, parents, carers and students are being surveyed about the KidsMatter initiative, to ensure that our programs are targeting the needs of our school community. We need as many parents and carers as possible to complete the survey to assist us with our planning and ongoing work in this important area.

By completing the KidsMatter Parent Survey, your constructive feedback and valuable suggestions will enable us to set the future direction for KidsMatter at our school. Through Component 3, we aim to strengthen home-school collaborative partnerships and provide practical and supportive information to families.

Please support our commitment to improving student mental health and wellbeing at Mt Martha Primary School by completing the survey and adding your comments.

The KidsMatter Parent Survey is now available to complete online, for a period of one month, from Thursday the 6th of October. Paper-based surveys will also be available from the office as required. We will continue to provide reminders and links in the Banksia Bulletin over the next few weeks. You can access the survey at:

www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/parentsurvey
A direct link will also be available on the Mt Martha Primary website home page.

To select our school you will need to type in:
Mount Martha Primary School, MOUNT MARTHA, VIC – The schools should appear as you type. This sometimes takes a minute to load.
Select - 2016 Q4: Oct-Dec
Select the language and Year level.
Complete the survey and add comments at the end.

During the next few weeks, teachers will be asking students to complete the KidsMatter Student Survey online during class time. Please read the attached information about the Student Survey. If you wish to have a look at the types of questions students will be asked, you can go to the KidsMatter website and click on Student Surveys to view the format. The KidsMatter Team will use feedback from the student responses to guide our KidsMatter approach at Mt Martha Primary and to address areas of need identified by students.

We thank you for your great support of both the Parent Survey and Student Survey. If you require further information please don’t hesitate to contact Karen Hodgkins, a KidsMatter Team member or your classroom teacher.

Kind regards,
Karen Hodgkins and the KidsMatter Team.
Student Survey  

Information for students and their parents and carers

What is KidsMatter Primary?
Our school is participating in an initiative called KidsMatter Primary to further improve the mental health and wellbeing of students at our school.

What is the survey about and how long will it take?
The survey asks for your views about aspects of the school that relate to supporting student mental health and wellbeing. We expect that it will take about 10 minutes to finish.

Why am I being asked to complete this survey?
It’s good for schools to think about how they are doing things and to hear from all members of the school community. This includes staff, parents and students. All the information plays a part in improving our school.

How is my privacy protected?
Your responses are completely anonymous and it will not be possible to identify you from your answers. The information you provide will be stored electronically in a password secured database, in accordance with the Australian Privacy Act 1988.

What happens to the answers?
Only summarised results are available and will be used by the school to assist with school planning. These results may also be used to inform the national development of the KidsMatter initiative. Please feel free to discuss with your teacher any questions you may have about this important classroom activity.

What choice do I have?
Completing this anonymous survey is entirely your choice and you can choose not to answer some or all of the items. Please feel free to discuss any concerns you may have about completing this survey with your teacher.

What do I need to do to participate?
Please read this information statement with your parent or carer and be sure you understand what it’s about. Your teacher will give you instructions about how to participate or you can visit www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/studentsurvey

If there is anything you or your parents do not understand, please talk to your teacher.

Thank you for your support.
Mount Martha Primary School
Student Banking Registration

Sign up for student banking ‘the Bendigo way’

Monday 17 October, 2.30pm
Mount Martha Primary School
Catch the savings bug
Bendigo Student Banking

Whether it’s for the latest craze in computer games, for a new bike or just for a rainy day, we all know it’s never too early for our kids to start learning about budgeting and saving.

That’s why at Bendigo Bank we’ve introduced our Student Banking Program and Bendigo PiggySaver Account – perfect for primary school aged savers.

With no account keeping fees, no transaction or government fees and no deposit restrictions – plus a host of fun games and rewards for young account holders – a Bendigo PiggySaver Account makes saving easy.

Opening an account is simple. All you need is your child’s birth certificate and Medicare card. Representatives from the Bank will be at the school on Monday 17 October at 2.30pm or alternatively drop into your nearest branch at 5A Bay Road, Mount Martha or phone 5974 4518.

The parent of guardian will need to satisfy the infrared for the 100 point identification check. The Bendigo PiggySaver Account is issued by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo 3550. This material contains general advice only. Please consider your situation and read the Terms and Conditions available from any Bendigo Bank branch, or visit www.bendigobank.com.au before making any decision.

ABN 11 068 346 173 AFSL 231979. SDM (118354L-Q) 14/06/2016
‘i sea, i care’ Ambassadors in Action...

On a beautiful, winter’s day last month, Ambassadors from 11 schools across the Mornington Peninsula gathered for their workshop on ‘Eater and Pollution in the Catchments’ at Eber Wetlands. After watching the crew from Melbourne Water empty the litter tray, the Ambassadors learnt how riverine stimulates the wetlands through the release of nutrients and they tested the water quality.

Wetlands like these are the conduits to channelling stormwater and clean the water of nutrients and pollutants before it finds its way to the bay. This is an incredibly important protection for our precious marine environment.

In the afternoon, we went on a Dolphin Monitoring Project, were we saw 3 dolphins darting around the pond and then walked along the pier and back at Mornington surveying and collecting litter. This was a reminder to all that the bay and at every step along the way, there are pressures from human impact. Every effort we make in our community to lessen that impact is fantastic!

Many thanks to Mitch, John and the crew at Melbourne Water for the amazing support you give every year and to the Mornington Peninsula Shire for arranging a tour of the program.

WINTER WHALES

Winter is our key and surrounding coastal waters have become a busy time for whale activity. Humpback and southern right whales are being seen regularly in our waters.

Hunted to the edge of extinction during the industrial whaling era, humpback and southern right whales are seeing a resurgence, though the latter still have a long way to go. The east coast population of humpback whales is expected to reach around 26,000 animals this season.

The news is not so good for the slow-to-recover southern right whale, with their southerAustralian numbers estimated to be between just 224 and 250.

The Dolphins Research Institute has joined with Wildlife Coast (Australia) and Killer Whale Australia to form the citizen science initiative, Two Bays Whale Project. We invite people and organisations to report sightings and contribute images of whale to a collaborative database. This forms the basis of an annual summary that is available to wildlife managers and other government organisations to assist with management decisions and conservation measures.

Data collected over the year can be used to compare sightings and monitor changes in behaviour. It gives an overall understanding of trends in numbers of animals visiting our waters.

Two Bays Whale Project

dolphinsresearch.org.au/sightings or facebook.com/twobayswa

Victoria's whale watching regulations present boats from approaching whales closer than 100 metres. For PWG (jetski and the like) the minimum distance is 100 metres. Serious penalties apply for breaches of this regulation.
Dollars for Dolphins

Dolphin Research Institute Fundraiser

Dolphin Stress Balls $2

The dolphins will be sold at a stall in Area C after school on

**Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th October**

All money raised will go towards helping the Dolphin Research Institute

Education and Research programs.

‘I sea I care’ Ambassadors

Hugh, Jemma, Mietta and Billy

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Walk to school month has started. Classrooms have their calendars and are ready to record. There will be certificates for those who walk even once during the month of October.

To receive a certificate all you need to do is walk to or from school once! If you live further away or in a tricky location try one of the two Park and Stride spots and walk the rest of the way (Walara Shops and Mt Martha House). You can walk, ride, skate or scoot during this time. If you choose to skate, scoot or ride please remember to wear the correct safety equipment.

At school students will be encouraged by their teacher to fill in the class calendar on a daily basis, recording the way they travel to and from school.

This is a great time to teach your child to walk to school. Find a route and make it a habit!
WORKING BEE at MMPS!

Prep, Yr 3 & Yr 4 parents - we are asking for your help at our Term 4 Working Bee!

Date: Saturday 22 October 2016
Time: 9am - 12pm.

If you can bring along useful tools like a wheelbarrow, spade, pitchfork (for mulch), shovel, gloves etc that would be very helpful. We do have some equipment but it would be helpful if you bring some too!

Thanks.

There will be a list of tasks to complete around the school.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Morning tea is provided.

Please complete this attached slip and return to the office so we can plan and organise the tasks on the day.

Yes, I am able to help out on Saturday October 22 at the school Working Bee.
My name is ________________________ and my child/ren’s names are _______________________________________________________________________

Please return to the office as soon as possible.
TravelSmart Film

We want your TravelSmart stories for a short film! Tell us why your journey to school should be featured in our school TravelSmart film.

If you get selected you will also be interviewed for the film. You might not be selected, but if you have some photographs of your trip that you would be happy for us to use, please send them to mount.martha.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au. Suitable photographs will be included in the film. These are required by Friday 21 October.

Simply fill in this form and return it to school by Monday 17 October. Filming will take place in the last week of October. You will be contacted if your child or children are selected to be a part of our Travelsmart film.

If we do a good job producing the film, the film might be used at a local government level on the VicHealth website if we are really good! So only apply to be part of the film if you are happy for any images and ideas to be shared with the world.

Good Luck!

Despi O'Connor, TravelSmart Coordinator

2016 TravelSmart Film

Family Name: ________________________________

Student Name: ________________________________ Class: ______

In 50 words or less tell us why your journey to school should be featured in the TravelSmart film.

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Contact name: ___________________________ Phone: __________________
STIRLING LINGARD TENNIS COACHING
MT MARTHA TENNIS CLUB

Tennis….fun for life! Coordination, fitness and fun
Tennis lessons from only $15 per week
Hot Shots program 4-18yrs
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Extensive Holiday program running Christmas/Summer
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PH: 9783 4511

EMMA KAMAN SCHOOL OF DANCE
Offering classes in Hip Hop, Tap, Musical Theatre,
Acrobatics, Jazz, Ballet and Contemporary.
Classes held at MMPS Gym, Mt Martha House and Orbit Gym.
Contact Emma on 0419 173 406
emmakaman@gmail.com
www.emmakamandance.com.au
Our school purpose is to ensure a high quality and engaging learning program that builds on the capability of every student.