Principal Report

Our smooth start to the school year continues. Year 3’s enjoyed their excursion to historical places in Mornington on Monday. Year 4 commenced their Dance program on Tuesday. Next week we have Swimming Sports for our Year 5 and 6 students on Tuesday 23rd February and Year 3 and 4 students on Wednesday 24th February. The sports are at Mornington Secondary College and promise to be a fun-filled day. Please consider parking at Bunnings, and walking over to the aquatic centre to assist with decreasing traffic congestion. Our beach program has concluded for another year and once again provided activities to educate our students on safe and enjoyable beach usage. A huge “Thank you” to the Mount Martha Life Saving Club, our parent helpers, class teachers and Mr Sweatman.

School Council Election - As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, nominations for the 4 parent member and 2 DET employee member vacancies for School Council close at 4pm on Monday 22nd February. Nomination forms are available from the Office.

Meet The Teacher - It was great to see so many parents taking the opportunity to share information with the teachers at the Meet The Teacher evening on Wednesday and Thursday last week. Establishing new relationships with class teachers and open lines of communication is important in the learning partnership we enjoy with students, parents, teachers and other school staff.

Curriculum Information Evenings - Next week we will be holding our Curriculum Information Nights. These sessions provide an opportunity to hear about the curriculum, programs and teaching practices at each year level. Days and times are listed in “Coming Events”. Hope to see you there.

Whole of School Photos - some advance notice that school photos will be taken on Thursday 3rd March. Order form packs will be sent home on Friday 26th February.

Insurance - Parents are reminded that the Department of Education and Training does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. Commercial insurers have insurance policies for purchase should parents wish to explore that option.

The Department also does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. It is always a good idea to remind students of the need to be extra careful when bringing toys, sporting equipment or those special “Show and Tell” items to school.

First Assembly - Our first whole school assembly is scheduled for next Thursday 25th February starting at 9.10am. Hope to see you there.

Kind regards,

Martin Page.
Curriculum Information Nights

The positive partnership between home and school is a vital link in a child’s education. In Term 1 our teachers like to provide the opportunity for parents to come along to a Curriculum Information session.

The information disseminated at these sessions can provide you with a valuable insight into the engaging learning and teaching programs that operate throughout the school and consequently how we can work together to best facilitate optimal learning experiences for your child.

Please be advised of the following dates and times for the MMPS Curriculum Information Nights. Each session runs for 40 minutes. We hope to see you there.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday 23 February</th>
<th>Wednesday 24 February</th>
<th>Thursday 25 February</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep (6.30 – 7.10pm)</td>
<td>Year 1 (5.30 – 6.10pm)</td>
<td>Year 5 (6.30 – 7.10pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2 (7.20 – 8.00pm)</td>
<td>Year 3 (6.20 – 7.00pm)</td>
<td>Year 6 (7.20 – 8.00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4 (7.10 – 7.50pm)</td>
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### FOUR KEY WAYS TO PROMOTE NUMERACY IN THE HOME

**BE SUPPORTIVE**
- Encourage a positive attitude towards learning.
- Keep it real that you see your child’s most important role model.
- Spend as much time helping your child with mathematics as you do reading, writing or sports.
- Keep positive about mathematical mistakes.

**LISTEN**
- Listen to the way in which your child sees the world.
- Discuss your child’s methods of solving problems and if an error has occurred reflect on them without saying it is wrong.
- Notice the way your child values a problem and share with them the way you may have solved the same problem.
- Assist your child with their understanding rather than telling them the answer.
- There is no right or wrong way to solve a problem if the process is logical and thoughtful.

**PLAY**
- Through play children will develop an enjoyment for mathematics.
- Children develop numeracy, logic skills and number sense through play.
- Share mathematical ideas and games. For example: Matchsticks, Glasses, Ludo, Hockey, Yums, Uno, Snakes and Ladders. Guest Who etc. Or play: Old Gunny, Go-Fish, Rock 100, Spoons or Snap.
- Take time together to play in the sand pit, complete puzzles, draw, create with play dough, construct paper shapes and build with Legos.

**THE EVERYDAY**
- Think about the everyday activities that you do that involve mathematics. Highlight the mathematics in these tasks with your child. These simple everyday tasks may take place in the kitchen, bathroom, in the garage or on your journey to school. Some examples are below:
- **COUNT**
  - Anything – peppas, pasta
  - Fruits and vegetables
  - By 5’s, 10’s, 100’s. Once you’ve mastered that try trickier numbers: 41, 63, 125 etc.
- **MEASURE**
  - Anything – you can use formal measurement (e.g. measuring tapes) or informal.
  - Informal measurement – how many steps, how many blocks, which is the heaviest item, which is the smallest or biggest?

**FURTHER READING**
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Pages 28 ‘Lacrosse and Maths Tips to Help Your Child’
- NAPLAN Numeracy Mathematics booklet
SPORT NEWS

BEACH PROGRAM

What an amazing start to the year for all the Year 3 - 6 students who participated in the Water Safety program at Mt Martha Beach. Students had a positive attitude during the Beach Program and of course the weather was absolutely magnificent too! (Majority of the time)

The Year 3 & 4 students learnt a variety of survival skills and increased their knowledge of the local beach environment. Understanding the correct techniques for using rescue tubes and nipper boards were other important skills the children learnt. The children also practised running and dolphin diving in shallow water and acquired some useful skills when using a lifejacket.

The Year 5 & 6 students were involved in more complex nipper board and surf ski activities that made them aware of the different skills and survival techniques required in a water environment. A CPR session allowed the students to understand the importance of safety at the beach and all students learnt the proper procedure for assisting a person in need of help using the DRSABCD protocol. To conclude their program, the students participated in a mini “Carnival” involving small teams competing in running, surf skis, boards, a swim and a fun snorkel task. To the tune of “Eye of the Tiger” the teams participated enthusiastically in the carnival utilising all the skills they had learnt during the Beach Program sessions. Well done to all our students!

The carnival winning Teams:

Yr 6: Team 5: Joshua R, Hamish M, Ky, Tal, Billy, Liana, Chloe, Jazmin & Amelie
Yr 5: Team 5: Charlie C, Jemma, Niamh, Charlie T, Jocelyn, Matthew, Charlotte, Brian & Maddie W

Our Year 5 students also had a morning session competing in large groups in relay races, rock/paper/scissors activity and of course the grand spectacle of our Flags Tournament. With 100 students sitting around the Flag Arena, we witnessed some almighty lunges to gain a flag, and of course a few false starts. Congratulations to the following students for their efforts:

GIRLS: 1st – Jessica 2nd – Bridie 3rd – Erica
BOYS: 1st – Lenny 2nd – Hugh 3rd – Luca

The Beach Program cannot be conducted successfully without the support of parents who assisted with the walk from school, running beach activities, taking small groups for a walk session, judging some beach art creations and of course walking back to school. Thank you!

HUGE thank you to all of the class teachers and student teachers that assisted with activities and made sure that all students were safe and had a great time. As well as turning the occasional sausages too!

SWIMMING SPORTS

Next week is our School Swimming Sports at Mornington Secondary College. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours to the event and support their team to see who will be crowned House Swimming Champions for 2016.

On the day of both events, I will need some assistance from parents to act as finishing judges. Please consider this request and make sure you see me pool side on the day. Your help would be much appreciated.

Dates are: Year 5/6: Tuesday 23rd Feb Year 3/4: Wednesday 24th Feb

Parents: Mornington Secondary College has requested that if you are intending to attend this event at their pool, could you please park your car at Bunnings and walk across to the pool. Thank you.

Border - Green  Curry - Blue  Flintoff - Red  Gardner – Yellow

JOGGING CLUB

Jogging Club will start Tuesday 1st March. Every student has either the same card they used in previous years or a new card ready for 2016. Prep students will be taken around the track during a PE lesson so they become familiar with the route that needs to be followed. The track is as follows:

Start at Basketball courts near prep playground, run around all 3 basketball courts and head down the ramp towards the oval. Running around the oval on red track, continuing up past the gym on path past prep playground and down to get cards marked off.

Certificates for milestones in Jogging Club will be presented at year level assemblies. Let's make a huge effort to see more students jogging the track this year!!
School Sport Victoria Team Online Registration Process.

12 Years and Under

Registration to trial for AFL, Netball, Soccer and Basketball for state teams has traditionally started with nominations through their school to attend district trials.

School Sport Victoria (SSV) have advised that this process has now changed to an online registration process. District trials will no longer be held.

The SSV website [www.ssv.vic.edu.au](http://www.ssv.vic.edu.au) provides important information and a video on the process as well as application forms and must be visited.

Key points include:

- Parents must consult with their Sport Teacher at the school to ensure their child has the skill level to trial and represent their school.
- It is imperative that teachers will decide on your child’s capability of representing their school at a state level **before** registering online.
- This discussion with the school Sport Teacher is necessary as all students MUST get the Sport Teacher/Coordinator and the Principal signature on their registration form prior to attending a trial.
- The Eventbrite ticket, application form signed by the Principal and Sport Teacher/Coordinator and proof of payment must be handed to the Division Trial Coordinator on the day of the trial.
- Applicants will be notified of arrangements for the Division trial once registrations have closed.

**Note:** Registration for Division trails close on Wednesday March 16, 2016.

Mr Sweatman

PE Teacher
Student Conveyance Allowance Application Private Car Travel

Students attending a Primary or Secondary School
An application on behalf of a student may be submitted if the student is:

- a Victorian resident
- school aged and enrolled (3) three or more days per week at a school; and
- attending a school/campus located outside the Melbourne metropolitan conveyance boundary

A student who meets the above requirements may be eligible if they:

- attend their nearest or designated neighbourhood government school/campus appropriate to their year level, at which admission is permissible, or
- attend their nearest appropriate non-government school/campus appropriate to their year level, at which admission is permissible, and
- reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from the campus attended.

If approved the allowance payable is based on the one way distance to make the journey to and from school.

No allowance is payable if the journey to and from school could be made using a public transport service or contract school bus.

Before completing the form please read the information about the Conveyance Allowance Program at http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/finance/Pages/conveyance.aspx

APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AND NEED TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY TUESDAY 1ST MARCH, 2016

SCHOOL PHOTOS - THURSDAY 3 March 2016

CLASS & INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

Class and individual photographs of all students will be taken at school on Thursday 3 March.

ENVELOPES WITH CORRECT MONEY ARE TO BE RETURNED ON PHOTO DAY ONLY

PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN BEFORE THAT DAY

All children will receive an order form pack tomorrow Friday 26 February. Packs range in price from $25-$45. There are 8 options you can choose from depending on how many photos you require.

** Sorry - No change available at the school office **

Each student will be given their own order form pack specific to their class.

Each student must hand his / her own envelope to the photographer on the photo day.

If the envelope is not presented the photo pack will not be included in the main delivery to the school.

FAMILY PHOTOS

Parents who want their children to have a Family Photo, need to collect a Family Photo envelope from the office from Monday 29th February. The photographer will collect Family Photo envelopes on photo day and the children will be called to pose for those photos during either the morning or lunch recess.

Correct uniform with attention to detail please.
MUSIC NEWS

MMPS Choirs

Rehearsals for our Junior and Senior Choirs commenced this week with a large number of keen participants. Any other enthusiastic singers are still welcome to join us at the following times:

Senior Choir (Years 4 - 6) – Tuesdays at 1pm.

Junior Choir (Years 2 & 3) – Wednesday at 1pm.

Instrumental Program

Please note that all vacancies for piano and guitar lessons have been filled. Any students who wish to learn either of these instruments will be placed on a waiting list. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and parents will be notified if a place becomes available.

There are still places available for trumpet, flute, clarinet and saxophone. Instrumental forms are available from the office for interested students.

MMPS ENSEMBLES

Concert Band

All woodwind and brass students are strongly encouraged to be a part of our school’s Concert Band. This is a great opportunity for students to extend their skills and to learn to play in an ensemble. Rehearsals are run on a fortnightly basis on Thursdays from 9am - 10am.

Acoustic Orchestra

This new and exciting ensemble is open to guitarists, ukulele, keyboard/piano and percussion players from Years 3 - 6. Rehearsals will be held on Thursday mornings at 8.15am. Stay tuned for more information!

Please feel free to contact me at the school if you have any queries regarding the music program.

Regards,

Leanne Rault

Music Specialist Teacher
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to assist towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
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Our school purpose is to ensure a high quality and engaging learning program that builds on the capability of every student.

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Glenisla Dve
Mount Martha 3934
Phone: 5974 2800  Fax: 5974 3634
Absence Line 5973 7700 or visit the school website
E-mail: mount.martha.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.mtmarthaps.vic.edu.au
Office Hours 8.30am-4.15pm Monday - Friday

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SCHOOL TERMS 2016
TERM 1  29th January to 24th March 2016
TERM 2 11th April to 24th June 2016
TERM 3 11th July to 16th September 2016
TERM 4 3rd October to 20th December 2016

A friendly reminder to families and friends that Melrose Dve is reserved for STAFF PARKING. Please use Eco Park or Glenisla Dve.

Mt Martha Primary School strives to provide a safe environment for students, staff and visitors. Please alert the office to any hazards.

Our school purpose is to ensure a high quality and engaging learning program that builds on the capability of every student.