During the past week I have completed a number of school tours with prospective MMPS families. It is a wonderful experience to show these families through our school and allow them to see the diverse range of activities and learning experiences that happen on a daily basis at MMPS. These families made many positive comments about what they observed during their tour students’ ability to articulate what they were learning.

This week the annual Parent Opinion Survey will be distributed to some of our families. Parents are randomly selected to participate and we use the information collected from the survey results to support future planning and improvement. Families in receipt of the surveys are requested to return their completed surveys by Friday 1st August.

Winners of the 2014 Traffic Safety Education Awards, which celebrate the outstanding achievements of traffic safety educators in schools and early childhood settings across Victoria, have been announced. The awards acknowledge the excellent traffic safety education programs that allow children and young people to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours that support safety and build social and emotional skills. Traffic safety education incorporates everyday learning experiences that shape appropriate behaviour and prepare students to become safe and independent road and transport users. The awards were jointly hosted by the Department and the Victorian Association of Traffic Safety Education Teachers, and supported by the TAC, VicRoads, Victoria Police, Public Transport Victoria, the RACV and other key road safety agencies and organisations. Mount Martha Primary School was the 2014 winner of the category “Kids on the Move”. Congratulations to members of the Travel Smart Committee, students, staff and parents for your commitment to ensuring our students can travel with increasing safety on our roads.

Tomorrow our staff and Year 6 students will participate in a new initiative organise by the Kids Matter team. Each student in Year 6 has been allocated a staff member that they can build a closer connection with. The concept is for staff to touch base with their Year 6 buddy on a regular basis, and also for the Year 6 students to show some responsibility in approaching their ‘staff buddy’. We are looking forward to providing our Year 6 students with a special morning tea in the staff centre. Over this semester staff are planning a variety of activities to build a rapport with their buddies and support them in their last year at MMPS.

Some families this week have received information about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability. Parents/Guardians of those student identified have been supplied with a consent form. However, if you decide you do not wish information about your child to be included in the Data Collection, you can opt-out by signing and returning the opt-out consent form. This Data Collection is taking place in government, Catholic and Independent schools across Australia, and will provide valuable information about supports required for a broad group of students. This will enable Australian and State governments to better target support and resources in schools. Data Collection is not limited to students with diagnosed disabilities. It uses a very broad definition of disability, taken from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, which describe a broad range of health and learning conditions for which schools are required to provide ‘reasonable adjustments’ to support students to participate on the same basis as other students. More information is available on DEECD website at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/needs/Pages/nccd.aspx or you can contact me if you have any further questions.

Karen Walker, Principal.

**2015 PREP ENROLMENT**

For families who have a sibling/s due to commence school in Prep next year please complete an enrolment form to secure a place if you haven’t already done so. Enrolment forms are available at the school office. For parents who have received a letter to confirm placement for 2015 further information regarding Story Time and Prep Transition will be coming to you via email next week.

**COMING EVENTS**

**JULY**

- Tues 15th - 19th Aug  
  Prep Swimming at Orbit Swim Centre
- Thurs 17th - 18th Sept  
  Yr 4 Footsteps Dance Company Incursion
- Wednesday 30th  
  Yr 1 Commonwealth Game Day
- Yr 2 Richard Galbraith Cartoon Workshop
- Thurs 31st - 28th Aug  
  Yr 1 Swimming at Kings Swim Centre
- PTA Hot Chocolate Day

**AUGUST**

- Friday 1st  
  Prep Walk to Mt Martha Shops
- Monday 4th  
  Whole school assembly in the Gym at 9.10am
- Wednesday 6th  
  Whole School Jog-a-thon
- Friday 8th  
  Yr 5 Billy Tea Bush Band (during class time)
- Wednesday 20th  
  Yr 4 Visit to Mornington Secondary College for their production of ‘Fame’.
- Thurs 21st - 11th Sept  
  Yr 6 Bright Sparks Program

**SEPTEMBER**

- Mon 8th - Wed 10th  
  Yr 5 Camp to Sovereign Hill Ballarat

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday 14th August  
6.45pm in Staff Centre  
All welcome
TravelSmart Notice

How much fun was it walking to school in the fog! What a great adventure for kids to experience! Wrap them up & travel to school the healthy way!

Hoping we are all remembering.....

TRAVELSMART TUESDAYS! Travel to school other ways than driving, or drive part way and walk the rest. There are many many places to park away from the school and enjoy a walk with kids, great time to chat and a great way to start the day. Try Mt Martha House, Kinross Street shops, Dorset Road, Orana Drive, Walara Drive, Ramsay Court or find a spot that suits you and ParknStride.

If this day does not suit your family choose another day and make that your ‘every week’ walk to school day. It is this incidental activity which children are severely lacking in their lives, make a difference to your child's health, your own health and the environment. The TravelSmart leaders will be carrying out regular ‘hands up’ surveys to discover which class will be the best ‘Walk to School’ class for the term.

To those cars passing people walking to school SLOW DOWN and remember this is Mt Martha where often there are no footpaths and it is necessary for people to walk on sides of the roads. Please pass these people at the same speed you would drive past your own children.

So rug up when walking and enjoy the crisp air!

TravelSmart Committee.

Students not returning to MMPS in 2015.

So that we can begin planning for next year we ask for parents to contact the school office if your child/ren will not be returning to MMPS next year. Thank you, (this does not include current Year 6 students)

An Invitation to join the KIT Program 2014 (suitable for all ages)

KIT stands for Kids In Transition and is a program for children who have experienced parent separation or divorce. The program will be conducted by one of our DEECD counsellors, Valerie Coles. The group will meet for 45 minutes once a week for a period of approximately 8 weeks in Term 3.

The KIT program gives the children an opportunity to talk in a confidential and trusting environment about their feelings in relation to their parents separation. This year we have a limit of 8 students for this program.

If you would like your child/children to participate or would like information about the course please call Hugh O’Brien on 59742800.

RSVP Wednesday 30 July, by completing the slip below and returning to the school office. You will be contacted regarding the commencement date of the course.

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KIT Program (Kids In Transition) RSVP By Wednesday July 30.

I would like my child/children to participate in the Kids in Transition Program

Name of parent: ........................................................................................................
Telephone contact: ................................................................................................
Name of Child/Children: ..................................................Class: ...........
Parent/Guardian’s signature: .....................................................................................
Welcome to a regular section of the Banksia Bulletin dedicated to keeping you up to date with what is happening in Literacy both at MMPS and in our wider community. We will include student’s work, information about upcoming events, interesting articles and parent information about current Literacy practises.

Celebrating Literacy and Numeracy at MMPS

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 18th August. A number of activities have been organised and families are encouraged to check the Banksia Bulletin and Class 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 28th August when each class will share the same book as other students all over Australia. The book selected for Read for Australia in 2014 is “Sunday Chutney” by Aaron Blabey, which was shortlisted for the 2009 CBCA Book of The Year. It explores many themes such as friendship, self-reliance and the importance of family. This inspiring story will appeal to all ages and the themes will take students in many directions.

The Numeracy activity is all about drinking water! Some of the questions that may be posed during class activities are:

• What is the major source of drinking water in our school?
• How many water bottles does our class have today?
• How many of each type and capacity?
• Is there any water other than in water bottles in our classroom?

Excluding water bottles, how many metres away is the nearest drinking water from our classroom doorway?

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 will continue to 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 20th 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.

Mornington Peninsula Regional Library presents:

Lynley Dodd: A Retrospective


This exhibition showcases 59 original sketches and drawings from Dodd's popular children’s books, including the Hairy Maclary series, the Schnitzel Von Krumm series, Slinky Malinki and Scarface Claw. This is the first exhibition to celebrate the works of the famous writer and illustrator and Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery is the only Victorian venue to host this magical exhibition.

Julie Moncrieff, Literacy Coordinator.

SPORTS NEWS

WINTER/COLD DAYS

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.

WHOLE SCHOOL JOG-A-THON

On Wednesday 6th August, 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 in all areas of the school. Everyone will receive a tally card on 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 on Tuesday and hopefully everyone has started collecting 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 basketballs, skipping ropes, vortex howlers, bocce set, AFL footballs, netballs plus a lot more. These will be drawn at an Assembly later this term.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Disability Respite & Recreation Expo 2014. For parents & Carers living in the South Division. Wednesday 13th August 10am - 2pm Peninsula Community Theatre, Cnr Nepean Hwy & Wilsons Rd Mornington. Mel Ref: 145 E2. This is a FREE EVENT. For more information contact the MOIRA Expo Coordinator 03 8552 2222 or Email: respiteexpo@moira.org.au
Proudly supported by MOIRA, Centrelink, Mornington Peninsula Shire & Department of Human Services.

“Parenting Teens” - A facilitated discussion group for parents of teenagers to share a cuppa, as well as tips, tools and strategies for parenting….You choose the topics! When: Mondays fortnightly from 14th July. Where: Seawinds Community Hub, Allambi Ave Rosebud West. Time: 9.30am - 11.30am, Morning tea provided! Cost FREE! Bookings essential. Facilitator: Sue Weatherill 0447 500 380 or susan.weatherill@anglicarevic.org.au

MISSING UNIFORMS

All our sporting activities require uniforms and equipment. We had students attend the cross country and Winter sports without a uniform. Can everyone who has represented our school in summer sport, cross country, swimming or selection trials - please check if you have any uniform items and return them to school ASAP. Thank you.

WINTER LIGHTNING PREMIERSHIP

Late last term our school sporting teams went off to play in the Winter Lightning Premiership. This competition was against 8 local primary schools at various venues around Mornington. Below are the reports from all the sports:

**Teeball:** On the Lightning Premiership day, we won all of our games, except for one. All the teams were told that the winning team was the one who had the most ‘home runs’. Then the announcement came that Mt Martha had won the premiership! We were so surprised and happy. A big thank to Ms Gadsby for all her coaching and Mr Shaw for helping us on the day. *Reuben*

It was a cold day, but we still a lot of fun for all the schools to get together and play Teeball. We would like to thank Ms Gadsby and Mr Shaw for coaching us and coming along on the day. Everyone did a great job and we ended up coming second. *YAY! Ella and Hannah*

**AFL:** It was a good time for the boys to finish off the fun filled term playing footy together as we head to secondary school next year. Mt Martha were undefeated going into the grand final, however we were beaten by a great running and more skillful Osborne team. We gave it our all, had a great time and played footy how it was supposed to be played. Many thanks to the Mt Martha parents who looked after and watched us play, Mr Sweatman and Mr Whelan. *Jack and Jackson*

**Soccer:** The Winter Lightning Premiership was a brilliant competition to play in. It was a cold, muddy day at Dallas Brooks Oval and there were competitors everywhere. After a few winning games we had made it into the grand final. We played St Macartan’s; it was a hard, tough game but we kept persisting and started to score goals. Michael ended up with a hat-trick! The end score was 4-1 when the whistle went and we were so happy. We all said to each other “We’re going to Division!” *Tylar and Calum*

It was a cold miserable day at Dallas Brooks Oval but it was an honour to be there to represent Mt Martha Primary School as the girls soccer team. The first game was short and we lost by two goals, the second game we drew, the third was tough we lost by one goal, but in the fourth game we ‘stole’ the win! Although we came third our team work was fantastic, I’d do it all again in a flash! *Miah and Holly*

**Netball:** Mt Martha primary selected two strong teams to compete against other schools in netball. It was a great experience for everyone who attended. Mt Martha’s A team came runners up on the day. No matter what position both teams finished, everyone was very proud of their efforts because our team work was outstanding. *Izzy, Milla and Gracie*

**Volleyball:** The girls were off to an outstanding start and were digging and spiking the ball over the top of the net. Our last match before the final was tense. It was so close the whole way through. After three sets we ended up winning, which was fantastic. Osborne’s sport’s teacher announced who was in the finals, “Mt Martha girls versus St.Mac’s girls.” Unfortunately, we came runners up. St Mac’s deserved the win! Thank you very much for coaching us Mr Nickeas! We really appreciate it. *Chloe S*

We caught the bus to Osborne Primary School to play volleyball. Their PE teacher reminded us how to serve the ball and the rules of the game. He wished us all good luck and told us who we were playing first. Unfortunately, we lost all of our games. But we still all had fun and would like to thank Mr Nickeas for coaching us. *Matt J, Travis C and Alex M*

Cameron Sweatman, Physical Education Teacher.
Parents' and Teachers' Association Noticeboard

Term 3 Events –

**Hot Chocolate Day** - It's great to see the slips are coming in for Hot Chocolate Day. Don't forget it's next Thursday so get your slips in by 4.00pm tomorrow.

**Dads/Mums** - Don't forget to get your slips returned by Friday 1 August to enjoy the Inaugural Parents Movie Night. It should be a great night out and an opportunity to meet some new people, as well as enjoying a good laugh with the cult classic Monty Python's 'LIFE OF BRIAN'. Please complete the slip at bottom of this page.

**The Scout Raffle Ticket Books** - Thanks so much for returning the raffle tickets which are a fabulous fundraising opportunity for MMPS (we receive $1.50 of every $2.00 collected). Families have the opportunity to win some fantastic prizes whilst supporting our school and the Scout organisation. So if you haven't done so, please return the tickets by Friday 8th August. PLEASE ENSURE ALL TICKETS ARE RETURNED WHETHER SOLD OR NOT.

Our next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 6 August, 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, Footy Day and the Father's Day Breakfast. We are in great need of the support of some new parents, so if you have any questions you need answered, do not hesitate to call Jane Mogensen on 0418 373 143, otherwise we look forward to seeing you on the night.

Jane Mogenson
PTA President

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**MMPS PTA Movie Night - Monty Python’s “Life of Brian”**

MMPS PTA presents Monty Python's "Life of Brian", tickets are $20 per adult and includes pre-movie drinks and snacks commencing at 7:30pm on Friday 8th August with the movie starting at 8pm. This is a great fundraising opportunity for the school and is limited to the first 100 respondents.

Please fill out the below section along with your payment as soon as possible to secure your ticket.

Name: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Number of tickets required ($20 each): …………………………………………………………………………….

Child’s name & class: ………………………………………………………………………………………………….
Our school purpose is to ensure a high quality and engaging learning program that builds on the capability of every student.