Farewell

As I gather my thoughts for my final newsletter message I am overcome by a feeling of immense gratitude for my career to have been focussed on young people and their families. It has been a great pleasure working with the dedicated staff and local community and an absolute privilege to have shared the educational journeys of our students. I look forward to following the future achievements of Mount Martha Primary School.

Best wishes to School Council with the selection of a new Principal. I wish everyone well and hope that good luck is always with you.

Thank you and farewell. . . .

Judy

OUR LITTLE FREE LIBRARY IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Last Monday in between rain showers we were able to officially open our LFL. June Rance, our first school Librarian and her school dog “Buffy” cut the ribbon and placed the first books inside. We hope that lots of families have been able to borrow books to share. Thank you to all who have been involved in this project, in particular Bek Pryor, Simon Way and Karen Setches. Please remember that book donations are also accepted at the school office.

Our Little Free Library

Next term Mrs Julie Christie will be away the first three weeks. During her absence Mrs Hazel Robertson will replace Mrs Christie in the Art Room. Mrs Karen Allison will also be away next term travelling overseas and Ms Nicole Van den Acker will be implementing the learning program in 1A.
**Student Led Conferences**

Congratulations students, parents and teachers. Following the distribution of the individual written student reports many parents have now met with teachers to participate in a conference led by their child. The children have presented pieces of their work, talked about the progress of their learning and what they need to focus on next. The teachers thank the parents for their assistance in making these conferences such an outstanding success. The students are well on the way to taking greater responsibility for their learning. If you have any further questions about your child’s progress please make an appointment to speak with the class teacher.

*Karen Walker, Assistant Principal.*

**Chicken Pox**

A few more cases of Chicken Pox have been reported within the School Community. Chicken Pox generally presents with a low-grade fever, lack of energy and a rash which then transforms into blisters. Children must be kept home from school until all blisters have dried. Please be aware that children who have been immunised against Chicken Pox may still contract a milder form of the disease. Please contact the school office if your child has a medically confirmed case of Chicken Pox.
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Our school is participating in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (Data Collection). 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. This in turn will help schools give students with disability the support they need.

The 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.

The Data Collection will take place during early Term 3. No personal or identifying information about any student will be included. Parents/Guardians of those student identified will be notified in writing early Term 3 and 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. More information about the Data Collection is available on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development 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, Assistant Principal.

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An Invitation to join the Prep KIT Program 2014

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 7 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 splitting up. 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 5974 2800.

RSVP Wednesday 23 July, by completing the slip below and returning to the school office. You will be contacted regarding the commencement date of the course.

☐  ........................................................................................................

KIT Program (Kids in Transition) Term 3

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: .........................................................................................
Gold for Green Day Thankyou.

A big thank you to everyone involved with Gold for Green Day. There were lots of smiles, amazing pledges and lots of plants put in the garden. Special thanks go to the following people.

Carol and Jenny from Bunnings, Mornington for assisting the Preps and their buddies in the Prep Forest. Thankyou to Bunnings for supplying over 100 plants and potting mix.

Jeff, Wayne and Mike from Mt Martha Lions Club who helped plant the Prep Forest.

Mrs Sally Giles for making the colourful bunting for the foyer.

The Gardiner family from the True Blue Nursery and The Urban Gardiner who donated over 500 plants and loads of expertise. Ray also worked like a Trojan at the working bee clearing the Melrose bank ready for replanting on Friday.

Family members who came and assisted with the many activities throughout the day. All the staff who worked so hard to make the day go smoothly for the children.

We managed to plant nearly 760 plants into gardens around the school, we upcycled nearly 100 gumboots with succulents, which have formed new balcony art on the Year Two buildings. Piles of mulch were moved and fun was had by all. Our children are incredibly conscious of the difference they can make for our environment.

Jenny Spiridis, Sustainability Leader.

Working Bee – June 14 2014

We held our second Working Bee for 2014 last Saturday and it was pleasing to see some new faces (plus some regulars!) attend the Working Bee. The weather was fantastic despite predictions that it was likely to rain. We had approximately 10 parents (plus children) and 6 of our staff helping on the day. Well done to those parents and a particularly big thank you to the 6 staff who came along and gave up their time to help keep our gardens looking great. All those who attended worked really hard and we managed to achieve a great deal in Area C (up near the Melrose building). We also erected the Little Community Library house at the front of the school in preparation for the official launch on Monday 16 June.

A big thanks to Jenny Spiridis for her hard work and persistence in making our grounds a fantastic place for our children to play. Our next “Bee” will be in Term 3 and it would be great if a more parents could make it too that event and help out. It really is good fun and a great chance to meet other parents and assist in maintaining our beautiful gardens.

Thanks to Ray Gardiner, Kirrally’s (4C) dad, for donating 500 plants for our Gold for Green Day and for his advice and expertise on Saturday morning at the Working Bee.

Hugh O’Brien
Facilities Coordinator
Term 2 Events –

Wow what a busy few weeks it has been.

What a night for the Prep, 1, 2 and 3 Movie Night - it was a massive task processing the 380 kids which meant there was a rather large queue so thank you for your patience and thanks to our lovely volunteers, the rest of the night went smoothly. Thank you to the wonderful PTA team and also the MMPS parents who volunteered to help with this event. A big thank you to the staff who stayed to make this event possible. Also once again a huge thank you to Lorraine and the office girls who help with all the behind the scenes stuff.

The Scout Raffle Ticket Books - The raffle ticket books have started coming back which is greatly appreciated. Remember the school earns $1.50 from each ticket sold which is a fabulous fundraiser for the school. All ticket books must be returned to the school by Friday 8th August, regardless of whether tickets have been sold or not.

Term 3

Reminder!

Dads/Mums - the flyer is going out this week for the Inaugural Annual Parents Movie Night to be held on Friday 8 August. It should be a great night with the cult classic Monty Python's 'LIFE OF BRIAN'. Get your slips returned promptly and you could be 1 of the 100 fortunate enough to attend a fun night of social hilarity.

It’s hard to believe we are halfway through the school year. We wish everyone a wonderful term break and safe travels now that Winter is truly here. Thanks so much for supporting our events, without you we wouldn’t enjoy the rewards that come with a successful event.

Jane Mogenson, PTA President.

Reminder to all parents / carers to observe parking restrictions around the school.

Please note the carpark on Melrose Drive is reserved for staff.

The top end of Melrose Drive is not a pick up or drop off area.

Parents should not park in the Staff car park on Glenisla Drive. This is reserved for staff only.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

CAMP AUSTRALIA - Choose your fun these holidays! When: Come for a day, everyday or anything in between. Where: At Mt Martha Primary School - RSVP: www.campaustralia.com.au/holidayclubs or call us on 1300 105 343.

Point Nepean National Park Free Winter School Holiday Fun! Ocean Winter Games 1st, 3rd, 8th & 10th July at 10am - 11.15am. Military Mysteries 1st, 3rd, 8th & 10th July at 1.30pm - 2.45pm. There's also Fort Nepean & Quarantine Station self-guided kids discovery trail. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Bookings are essential - www.juniorrangers.com.au Bookings open June 23.

Anglicare in partnership with Ozchild - Rosebud Kinship Carers Support Group. When: 10am - 12pm. Where: Seawinds Community Hub 11a Allambi Ave, Rosebud West (Next to Eastbourne Primary School). "Come and share the highs and lows of being a Kinship Carer". Support group dates for 2014 Wednesday July 23, August 20, September 17, October 22, November 29 and December 10. For more information contact either Sue Weatherill, Parent Engagement, Transition & Support, Anglicare Victoria, Ph: 0447 500 380 or Sue Gale, Information & Advice Ozchild Ph 9212 5600.

Mornington Blue Light Disco, Friday 4th July 6pm - 8pm. Cruz Club Grand Hotel Main St Mornington. $5 entry includes 2 free drinks & entry into the prize draw. No pass-outs, Drug free, Alcohol free. The disco is supervised by members of Victoria Police, with assistance from Mornington C.F.A, Lions Club other volunteers and members of the Victoria Police Youth Corps from Mornington Secondary College.

The Briars Junior Ranger Program “Funtastic Fungi Frolic” - Bookings & pre-payment essential. Contact 5974 3686 or the.briars@mornpen.vic.gov.au

The Briars - Spotlight Walks in the Wildlife Sanctuary - Bookings & pre-payment essential. Contact 5974 3686 or the.briars@mornpen.vic.gov.au

CONTACTS

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Mount Martha 3934
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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 2014
TERM 1 30th January to 4th April
TERM 2 22nd April to 27th June
TERM 3 14th July to 19th September
TERM 4 6th October to 19th December

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