### Principal Report

**Food Allergies** - many of our students can potentially have allergic reactions to particular foods/substances. These students require an individual "case by case" plan to assist in the management of their allergies at school. Lorraine, our First Aid Officer works with parents to ensure we have up to date plans. Minimising exposure to the allergen may be a key feature of these plans with teachers initiating a range of strategies, e.g. increased monitoring during eating times or specific cleaning strategies. Parents may also be requested to support our care for these children by refraining from sending particular foods to school where a student in a class has an identified allergy. Thank you for your assistance and support in this important strategy.

**Student Photographs** - a reminder that, in the interests of privacy, photographs taken of students at school events and activities requires parental permission prior to publication. For example, photography of groups of students participating in a school activity should not be posted on social media without the permission of the parent of each child in the photo. This includes publication on any social media platform. The school seeks ongoing parental permission for school use of photographs/images through enrolment forms. Please notify the school in writing of any changes to this. School permission does not cover parent publication. Thank you.

**School Council Election** - At the close of nominations last week three nominations were received for the four vacancies for parent representative on School Council therefore no ballot was required. Bronwen Hocking, Trudy Mason and Alanna Allain were successful in the Parent category vacancies and Justin Whelan and Karen Walker the DET employee vacancies. The next School Council meeting on Thursday 10th March is our AGM providing an opportunity to thank retiring members, co opt for Community Members and other vacancies and welcome our new members to School Council. Kirsty Agg, Delia Tobin, Sam Abbas and Ben Veyes are retiring as Parent members from School Council. I would like to thank Kirsty, Delia, Sam and Ben for their time, involvement, ideas, consideration and overall contribution as school councillors. An additional thank you to Kirsty and Ben who have served as School Council President and Delia who has served as Treasurer.

**Swimming Sports** - following our successful school swimming sports last week our Mount Martha Primary School swimming team will compete at the District Sports tomorrow. Best of Luck!

Kind regards

Martin Page

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### COMING EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>MARCH</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday 1st - 22nd March</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4 Dance program continues</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 4th</strong></td>
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<td>District Swimming at Pines Forest Pool.</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 8th</strong></td>
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<td>Yr 4 Dance program</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 9th</strong></td>
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<td>Division Swimming</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 11th</strong></td>
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<td>Prep Pet Education Incursion</td>
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<td><strong>Monday 14th</strong></td>
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<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 15th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 4 Dance program</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 16th – Fri 18th</strong></td>
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<td>Year 6 Urban Camp</td>
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<td>2A, 2D &amp; 2E Excursion to Immigration Museum</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 17th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2B &amp; 2C Excursion to Immigration Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 23rd</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Whole School Assembly 9.10am</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 24th</strong></td>
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<td>Last day Term 1. Students dismissed at 2.30pm</td>
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<th>APRIL</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 11th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 29th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6 Summer Lightning Premiership (SLP)</td>
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<th>MAY</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday 3rd</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Whole School Assembly 9.10am in Gym</td>
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<th>NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING</th>
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<td>Thursday March 10th at 6.45pm in the Staff Centre</td>
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All classes have now begun to incorporate the elements of our whole school writing program into their daily Literacy sessions. VCOP is an acronym for four very important components of writing. Ros Wilson, the UK educator who researched and began the VCOP and Big Write initiatives, found that these four components were regularly done well by very good writers, and poorly by those students who struggle to write. This term, we are reviewing the skills and knowledge obtained by the students from last year and building on them. In this edition of The Literacy Loop, we will look at how children can improve their oral and written vocabulary.

V - is for vocabulary (ambitious WOW words) and children are encouraged to widen their use of language to make their writing richer and more engaging for the reader. In the classroom new and expressive words are shared, displayed and celebrated. Children are constantly playing “detective” to locate words they might find during shared and independent reading, discussions and writing. Children need to practice using WOW words orally before they will begin to write them.

**How can we work to improve our children’s use of vocabulary?**

- **Be a good listener!** Children want your attention, so active and attentive listening will promote oral language use.

- **Talk! Talk! Talk!** Encourage your children to talk by asking questions that require more than a “yes” or “no” answer. Prompt them to talk about feelings, ideas, opinions, emotions and describe things.

- **Read to them and get them reading!** Children who read more tend to have better vocabularies. Show how authors use words to effect and become “word conscious”.

- **Relate new words to known words and look at them in “families”**. Even learning new words that are linked by a common theme assists children to recall them when needed, just like very young children learn the names for farm animals.

- **Show and Tell**—when you go anywhere, encourage your child to collect things to bring home to show family members, and to bring to school to share with classmates. Encourage descriptive language, questioning and extension of vocabulary that is specific to the item.

- **Subscribe to programs that generate the “Word of the Day” or challenge your children to come up with their own from dictionaries or a thesaurus.**

- **Play word games such as Taboo, Scrabble, Upwords, etc.** There are some terrific ipad games that involve finding synonyms, using descriptive language and finding words from clues. Try “What’s the word?” and “Word Stack”.

- **Show and Tell**—when you go anywhere, encourage your child to collect things to bring home to show family members, and to bring to school to share with classmates. Encourage descriptive language, questioning and extension of vocabulary that is specific to the item.

- **Use the correct terminology for things when speaking to children. Correct mistakes with care and praise attempts to use ambitious words.**
School Holiday Program

Easter School Holidays - Moonlit Sanctuary Junior Ranger Program

Kids enjoy environmental activities, animal encounters and native animal care.

Day includes: interactions with dingo, python, off-limits animals, feeding animals & food prep, animal enrichment activities, fun and games for ages 7-14 years.

Easter school holiday dates:

  Week 1: Tuesday 29th March to Friday 1st April 10am – 4pm
  Week 2: Monday 4th to Friday 8th April 10am – 4pm

Cost: $65.00 per day, or $175 for 3 days (pro rata for additional days). Maximum 16 children per day.

Bookings essential as spaces are limited!

Dress for the weather and wear closed-toe shoes, long pants and remember your hat or raincoat. BYO lunch or purchase at the café.

Moonlit Sanctuary

550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale
Phone 5978 7935
Open daily between 10am and 5pm

Would $500 assist you with education costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings dollar for dollar, up to $500, for education costs including school uniforms and text books, laptops, sports equipment and music tuition!

To be eligible you must:

- have a Centrelink Health Care or a Pensioner Concession Card
- have a child at school or starting next year
- have some form of household income, for example, you or your partner may have casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal employment.

For more information, please contact Kelly Clem your local Saver Plus worker on 8781 5937 or kclem@bsl.org.au

Saver Plus is an initiative of Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

NETBALL PLAYERS WANTED

For further information call Nicole van den Acker, MMNC President.

PH: 0417 860 288
Social networking tips for parents

Social networking is a great way to keep in touch with friends and family as well as meeting new people with similar interests and hobbies.

Here are some tips to follow when you feel your child is ready to begin engaging with social networking sites like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter:

- If you haven’t already got an account, set one up so that you can understand what your child can and can’t do as well as learning how to adjust the privacy settings. You can use fake information if you aren’t comfortable using your own.

- Make sure your child is old enough to use the site. Sites like Facebook and Instagram require users to be 13 years or older.

- Tell your child to keep their passwords a secret otherwise other people may log on and pretend to be them. It is important that you know your children’s password however.

- Advise your child to set their account to private so that they will only interact with people they know in real life and aren’t approached by strangers.

- Encourage your child to think carefully before they post any information online. Things they post on social networking can have an impact on them even after they delete it and long into the future.

- Help your children to set up their location services on their device so that they aren’t broadcasting their location to strangers.

- Remind children to be careful when making new friends online as some people may not be who they say they are and ensure your children never arrange to meet an online friend unless accompanied by a trusted adult.

- Make sure you know how to report inappropriate content on social networking sites and show your child what they should do if they come across anything inappropriate.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY
FRIDAY MARCH 4
2016

Join more than 350,000 students across the nation, who will ride, walk, scoot and skate to school!

For more information, visit ride2school.com.au
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 4-16yrs
Adults Cardio program Mon-Fri 9.30am

Extensive Holiday program running Easter holidays
slingard8@bigpond.com or call Stirling 0411 082 723

Dr Peter Scott Orthodontist
Children & Adult Specialist Orthodontist
Creating Beautiful Smiles
13 Beach St, Frankston 3199
PH: 9783 4511

EMMA KAMAN SCHOOL OF DANCE
Classes held at MMPS Gym & Mt Martha House.
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.

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

OSHCP: 0407 438 858
Uniform Shop: 1800 337 396
Tuesdays: 8.45am – 9.45am
Thursdays: 3.00pm – 4.00pm
Cash, credit card & EFTPOS facilities.
Sorry, no cheques accepted

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.