Welcome Back - Welcome Back everyone for the start of Term 2. I hope everyone had a restful holiday and enjoyed the chance to catch up with family and friends. The students have quickly settled in to their learning program and routines for what will be another busy term. Welcome to our new students Jake in Year 3, Harris in Year 4 and Amy in Year 6 who commenced with us this term. We wish Jake, Harris and Amy and their families a happy and rewarding time at Mount Martha Primary School.

This term we have some terrific events planned. Some highlights include camp for our Year 4 students, the Summer Lightning Premiership for senior students and, as usual, excursions and incursions to complement and enrich our learning programs. Even though it is relatively early in the school year, Year 6 to Year 7 transition information will be distributed to parents in the very near future with decisions made about secondary school for 2017. NAPLAN is scheduled for the 10th, 11th and 12th of May for students in Years 3 and 5 with more information to be provided to parents as it becomes available. This term is also one where Semester One reports are prepared and distributed to parents and students reflect on and present their learning at our student led conferences. Please note the dates of our upcoming events as it is easy to miss something in a busy term. Please ensure also that permission notes and payments, if required, are made by the due date as it really assists with the organisation and smooth running of these events.

Building and maintenance Works - the holidays always provide us with the opportunity to carry out works to improve and maintain our facilities. These works included the Prep and Year One classrooms receiving a colourful coat of paint, some further finishing of building works on the Year 5 rooms, topping up of soft fall mulch in all the playground areas, landscaping at the end of the Melrose building and tidying up the long jump pit near the oval. This term we have commenced replacement of some of our older interactive whiteboards with LCD screens in classrooms. The LCD screens offer superior resolution, reduced running costs and interactivity is gained by connection to a device such as a notebook or ipad.

School Crossings - Our school crossing supervisors do a terrific job assisting members of the school community to cross our busy streets. Waiting behind the yellow line until the whistle sounds, walking across the crossing and ensuring that preschool children are closely supervised are a few ways to ensure a safe crossing. Remember also that adults are significant role models. Parents using the crossings when flags are displayed is another helpful strategy to promote safe crossings. Thank you for your assistance.

Update Contact Details - start of term is always an opportunity to update the school if any contact details have changed. Accurate telephone numbers, email addresses and emergency contacts are important to assist quick contact in the event of injury or illness or to notify of a school event. A reminder if you haven’t already done so to download the Skool Bag app via the links on the school web page as another means of communication.

Hats - a reminder that hats are required to be worn until the end of April as part of the Sun Smart policy. Again thanks for the assistance with this.

Looking forward to a fantastic Term 2.

Kind regards

Martin Page
What’s Happening in Term 2?

Term 2 is shaping up to be another busy term in English. Teachers and students will continue to work together on our Big Write and VCOP focus, with more Big Write sessions, talk homework and a focus on using great openers and connectives to improve written pieces. Students will be learning more about how to write a persuasive piece, learning about how to put forward arguments and points of view in a compelling and interesting manner. We will sample some of these during the term. Home reading continues to be a major expectation, with the Read More in May project and Families Are Readers (FAR) initiative keeping us all engaged with some great literature! Stay tuned for some more information in the next newsletter.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be here once again in May, with their themed display all about Monsters!

Have you heard about CAFÉ Reading? You may have seen displays in classrooms and wondered if we are having loads of coffee breaks!

CAFÉ is an acronym for 4 the four key components of successful reading: Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency, and Expanding Vocabulary.

How does it work?

The CAFE Menu breaks each component - comprehension, accuracy, fluency, and expanding vocabulary – into significant strategies that support each goal. Posted on the classroom wall and built throughout the year, it serves as a visual reminder of whole-class instruction as well as individual student goals. Here are some examples of the strategies.

Julie Moncrieff, Literacy Co-ordinator.
Environment News.


We hold Gold for Green Day every year to raise awareness of how we can make a difference by changing our actions in relation to the environment.

Here is a little background information:

Our Prep Forest is in its seventh year and it’s hard to imagine the oval bank just covered in grass as it was in 2010. We won a State Schools Garden Award for the best Biodiversity Garden with this project in 2015. Our prize voucher will be used to purchase many of the plants for this year’s activities.

This event is affiliated with Planet Ark’s Schools Tree Day. Schools are allowed to hold events on any day in the year. Our results are recorded and count towards the national tally.

Each Year Level is involved in various environmental projects.

Some of this year’s include the Prep Forest planting; a Snow Gum Avenue; Mini Gardens and recycled material creations.

Donations and Assistance Needed:

- Succulents to plant, small cuttings would be ideal.
- Old teapots (no lid required) at least 25.
- Small bowls e.g. Asian food bowls, 120 required to make mini gardens.
- Gum nuts and other small seed pods.
- Small pebbles to decorate mini gardens.
- Volunteers on the day to assist each class
- Large pieces of cardboard (can be flattened boxes). The bigger the better.

Please drop any of these things off at the office or Jenny Spiridis’ classroom as soon as possible.

Your child’s classroom teacher may ask for extra assistance closer to the event.

Gardening Group.

Every Thursday lunchtime, weather permitting we run a gardening group from 1-1.30pm. It would be great to have some adult assistance to help with gardening jobs such as barrowing mulch, pruning, planting etc. Please sign in at the office and meet us at the green shed.

Thanks

Jenny Spiridis.
SPORTS NEWS

SUMMER LIGHTNING PREMIERSHIP

Our senior school teams will be competing in the Summer Lightning Premiership on Friday 29th April at various venues in Mornington. This is our first big completion as sporting teams and we will need parent support with all our teams. If you are free to assist with any of our sports, can you please let your child’s classroom teacher know. The sports and venues are as followed:

- Basketball @ Mornington Secondary College
- Teeball @ Wilson Rd Reserve
- Lawn Bowls @ Mornington Civic Bowls – Dunns Rd
- Rounnder’s @ Benton Jnr College
- Kanga 8’s @ Dallas Brooks Soccer pitches – Mornington

All sports start at 9:30 and finish at 2. Good Luck to all our teams

WHOLE SCHOOL HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

On Wednesday 4th May, we are holding our School Cross Country at School. Students will be running in their age group race (their age is determined by what age they are on 31st December 2016).

We will be holding 2 different events.

1) Competitors are to complete the set amount of km/laps for their age group. Top 10 from this race will represent our school at District level.

2) This race is a modified race which allows students to complete the amount of laps they are capable of. This is a non-competitive race and will cater for students who find it difficult and wish to walk the track.

ALL COMPETITORS WILL RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th><em>1 lap -1km</em></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td><em>1 lap – 1km</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>8yr old</td>
<td><em>1 lap – 1km</em></td>
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<td>9/10yr old</td>
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<td>11yr old</td>
<td><em>3 laps – 3km</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/13 yr old</td>
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The track route: Start far end of oval on running track, running around the track, out back gate and down Melrose drive, along Normanby onto Glenisla Drive. Up the hill and into the staff car park back onto the oval to finish or start 2nd or 3rd lap.

Parents are encouraged to attend and support children as well as offer assistance with certificates and marshaling. The sports leaders will act as hares for each race so the children have something to follow.

Cameron Sweatman, PE teacher.
Mt Martha Primary School PTA

Wish to invite you to

Parents’ Movie Night

At

Mornington Cinema

Thursday 21st April at 7:30pm

Ticket includes: Movie, Drinks & Nibbles on arrival

(Wheelchair access available)

Cost: $20 per person

(RETURN SLIP to school with payment by Friday 15th April)

Parents’ Movie Night

NAME:________________________________________________

NUMBER OF TICKETS: ___________                      CONTACT No: _______________

(Cost $20 per person)

CHILD’S NAME: ________________________       CLASS: ___________
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Classes held at MMPS Gym & Mt Martha House.
Contact Emma on 0419 173 406
emmakaman@gmail.com
www.emmakamandance.com.au
THANK YOU

On behalf of myself, Sam and our families we would like to thank the whole Mt. Martha Primary School community and in particular Mr Martin Page, Mr Steph Otte, Sam’s prep class OD and 1D for all the prayers, love, support, cards and gifts we have received during this difficult time with the loss of our beautiful wife and mum, Dee. Your support, compassion and understanding has given us strength to walk this difficult road knowing that we are not alone.

Thank you
Steuart and Sam Rorke