



Mt. Martha Primary School

Mt Martha Primary
Principal
Mr Martin Page

Assistant Principals
Mr Hugh O'Brien
Mrs Karen Walker

**Mt Martha Primary
Contact Details**
37-55 Glenisla Dve
Mt Martha Vic 3934

Reception
5974 2800

Fax
5974 3634

Absentee Reporting
Lodge via Compass parent portal

Website
www.mtmarthaps.vic.edu.au

Email
mount.martha.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Office Hours
8.30am - 4.15pm
Monday - Friday

**OSHCP - Out of School Hours Care
Program**
0407 438 858
Coordinator - Gillian Reid



PSW Mornington Uniform Shop
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Saturdays 10am - 1pm
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Mornington Vic 3931
03 9768 0346
1800 337 396
Online Ordering:
www.psw.com.au

BANKSIA BULLETIN - Thursday 18 March 2021

Mt Martha Primary School strives to empower students to be active learners who make a positive impact in a changing world.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents/Carers

School Council Update - Following our AGM last week, we welcomed new and returning School Councillors. Pia Smillie was elected as our School Council President, Jeanette Phillips is Vice President and Damian Van Raay is Treasurer. Sarah Portanier, Simon Gennari, Luke Woods, Elle Baker and Jane Doye are retiring as members from School Council. I would like to thank Sarah, Simon, Luke, Elle and Jane for their time, involvement, ideas, consideration and overall contribution as school councillors.

Our 2021 School Council is as follows: Pia Smillie, Jeanette Phillips, Damian Van Raay, Kirsty Effiong, Kerry Dent, Joanna Karagiannis, Hugh O'Brien, Karen Walker, Ross Hamaline, Jerry Gaiser and myself.

Ride2School Day - tomorrow Friday 19th March is National Ride2School Day. There is some important additional information in the newsletter. As well as our students and families who would usually walk, ride, scoot or skate to school, Ride2 School Day gives another opportunity to try an alternative to the car. A reminder that "Park and Stride" operates from Mount Martha House and the Kinross shops (Walara Drive).

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence- tomorrow is also the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. The students will be participating in additional classroom activities on this vital area. More important information for parents is included in the newsletter.

Year 6 Camp - Good Luck to our Year 6 students, teachers and parent helpers who are attending the urban camp in the CBD next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Following an early start from school on Monday, they are sure to enjoy the range of activities and experiences on offer for the 3 days. It will be so different from the usual Mount Martha environment.

Welcome Mrs Smith - Welcome Mrs Kirsten Smith from Benton Junior College who is attending Mount Martha Primary School for 6 weeks as part of a DET Principal Preparation Program. As well as building leadership skills and capacity it enables participants to gain experience different schools. Welcome Kirsten!

COVID-19 - A reminder that more information about coronavirus (COVID-19) as it pertains to schools can be found on the Department's website, which will continue to be updated:
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/departments/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

Lost Property - A reminder to check the Lost Property area near the Art Room. Lost Property has many items that we would love to reunite with their owners! If your child has misplaced a jumper or another item there is a good chance it will be in lost property. Thank you.

End of Term One - A reminder **Thursday 1st April** is the last day of Term One with Friday 2nd April being Good Friday. Please note the earlier dismissal time of 2.30pm. Term 2 commences on **Monday 19th April**.

Kind regards

Martin Page

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

UPDATED COVID INFORMATION

Updated COVID Information -

A reminder to all parents of updated COVID-19 measures:

- Face masks are now recommended, but not mandatory, for use by staff, students and visitors when physical distancing of 1.5 metres cannot be maintained.
- Parents are allowed on site however social distancing (1.5 metre distance) between adults remains a **key** control measure and **must** continue to be practiced including when dropping off or picking up students.
- Unwell students should **not** be sent to school or remain at school if symptoms (even mild symptoms) appear during the day or they become unwell. Parents will be contacted to collect unwell students who will be supervised while isolated from other students. Parents should follow the latest DHHS and medical practitioner advice as to testing and quarantining.
- The school will continue to practise strict hygiene protocols and enhanced school cleaning procedures are also in place.
- Drinking fountains are available but students may choose to bring their own named water bottle.
- If visitors/parents/carers intend to spend longer than 15 minutes on site then they are required to sign in at the Office.
- Density limits do not apply in classrooms and other spaces students use. A density limit of 1 person to 2 square metres does apply to any spaces and activities being attended by staff, parents/carers and other visitors and then applies to all persons in the space including students, staff and visitors.
- Each family should regularly check the list of public exposure sites in Victoria (where a person with COVID-19 has attended), and if anyone in the family has attended a site at the times listed, follow the instructions given.

For more information about schools and coronavirus (COVID-19) please access the Department's website, which will continue to be updated: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

TERM 1 - PLANNING WEEK AT MOUNT MARTHA PRIMARY



During the week March 22 - 26 our staff will participate in Planning meetings in preparation for Term 2. During Planning Week our usual timetable for Specialists Programs is suspended. Students still enjoy a Specialist program that week but these sessions all occur on one day of the week (see below) rather than being timetabled throughout the week.

Please take note of which day your child/ren have their Planning Day as this may require you to consider the proper footwear for Physical Education. Not all classes do every Specialist class as a number of Casual Relief Teacher (CRT) are used to support Planning days as well.

Mon 22 Mar - Years 3 & 4 (8 classes)

Tuesday 23 Mar - Prep (5 classes)

Wed 24 Mar - Yr 1 and Yr 2 (7 classes)

Thursday 25 Mar - Specialists

Friday 26 Mar - Year 5 & 6 (8 classes)

Hoping this information proves to be useful in selecting footwear on these particular days. Thanks for your cooperation.

Be You Team

SCHOOL NOTICES

Dates to Remember Coming Events

MARCH

Friday 19th
National Ride2School Day

Monday 22nd - Wednesday 24th

Year 6 CYC City Camp

Students to arrive at school at 7.15am for an 7.45am departure.

Students return to MMPS on Wednesday at approximately 3.30pm parents will receive an SMS once buses are on route.

Monday 22nd - Friday 26th

PLANNING WEEK

Mon 22 Mar - Years 3 & 4

Tuesday 23 Mar - Prep

Wed 24 Mar - Years 1 & 2

Thursday 25 Mar - Specialists

Friday 26 Mar - Years 5 & 6

Tuesday 23rd

Years 1 & 2 Kingswim Program

11.30am: 1B & 1D, 12.00pm: 1A & 1C, 12.30pm: 2A & 2B, 1.00pm: 2C

Friday 26th

**SRC Fundraiser - CRAZY HAIR DAY
GOLD COIN DONATION**

After school sausage sizzle on oval \$2.50 & \$1.00 drinks

Tuesday 30th

**SEC AGM 7pm in Staff Centre
All Welcome**

4A & 4B Beach Program

9.00am - 2.30pm

Mount Martha Lifesaving Club

APRIL

Thursday 1st

Final day of Term 1 early dismissal 2.30pm

COMPASS EVENT PAYMENT/CONSENT CALENDAR



Parents are reminded to log into the Compass Parent Portal to consent and/or pay by the due date.

Please let the office know if your child will be away and/or will not be attending the event. Thank you.

EVENTS 2021	COST	CLOSING DATE
<div style="border: 2px solid yellow; border-radius: 50%; padding: 20px; background-color: #90ee90;"> <p>MORE 2021 EVENTS TO COME</p> </div>		

TERM DATES: 2021

Term 1 29th January to 1st April

Term 2 19th April to 25th June

Term 3 12th July to 17th September

Term 4 4th October to 17th December

TERM DATES: 2022

Term 1 28th January to 8th April
Students commence 1st February 2022
(Yrs1-6) & (Prep Interviews 1-3 February)

Term 2 26th April to 24th June

Term 3 11th July to 16th September

Term 4 3rd October to 20th December

SEC Annual General Meeting and March Meeting

We would like to invite you to the Social Events Committee (formerly PTA) Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 30 March at 7.00pm in the Staff Centre. The March meeting will be held immediately following the AGM.

We would love to see you on Tuesday 30 March and look forward to providing the MMPS Community with fun and exciting events throughout 2021.

THE MMPS SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

WHY JOIN THE SEC?



SKILLS

Learn new skills such as event management, social media, fundraising, rostering, budgeting and managing volunteers.



INVOLVEMENT

Become involved in your school community! Remember, your children are here for 7+ years!



FRIENDSHIP

Meet like minded people and make new friends!



HAVE FUN

What's better than helping children choose gifts for a loved one, or organise a disco! Happy kids = happy parents!



GIVE BACK

Volunteering gives you a sense of purpose and a feeling of fulfillment. Volunteering makes you happy!



BE A ROLE MODEL

Lead by example! Show your children their school is important to you, and so is helping others.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Friday 19 March 2021



**are excited to be celebrating National Ride2School Day
on Friday 19 March 2021.**

National Ride2School Day is the perfect opportunity to kick-start new healthy habits and promote the many benefits of active travel.

We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home and give riding, walking, scooting or skating to school a go.

It's sure to be a fantastic day and we look forward to seeing you there!

SRC FUNDRAISER - CRAZY HAIR DAY & AFTER SCHOOL SAUSAGE SIZZLE



SRC Fundraiser - Friday 26th March

On Friday 26th March, our Student Representative Council is holding a Crazy Hair Day fundraiser and sausage sizzle. We are raising money for OzChild, one of Australia's longest-serving charities for children, young people and families in Australia. OzChild are focused on providing support for children in foster and kinship care and keeping families together where possible. Today OzChild employs over 700 staff, carers and volunteers in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and the ACT, delivering 23 programs and services to over 10,000 children, young people and family members each year.

We are asking our school community to go HAIR-CRAZY in support of OzChild and bring a gold coin donation. After school, the SRC will be holding their sausage sizzle on the oval. A sausage in bread will be \$2.50 and icy poles will be \$1.00. Gluten free and vegetarians will be catered for.

At MMPS, we believe that every child has the right to feel safe, happy and loved and we feel passionate about the work that OzChild does for our community. We look forward to your support of this important event.

Thank you
SRC



COMPASS ATTENDANCE NEWS



A friendly reminder to enter your child's absence via the Compass parent portal. This may be entered on the day of the absence or prior, eg a medical appointment or family holiday by simply changing the date at the bottom of the screen.

Thank you for keeping our attendance records up to date.

Administration Team

Attendance: Entering an Attendance Note

1 From the Compass home screen (or from your student's profile), click the **Add Attendance Note** item.

2 From the pop-up window

- Select the reason
- Enter a brief description of the absence
- Select the start and finish time
- Click the 'Save' button

Where possible, attendance notes should be entered prior to the absence/lateness occurring.

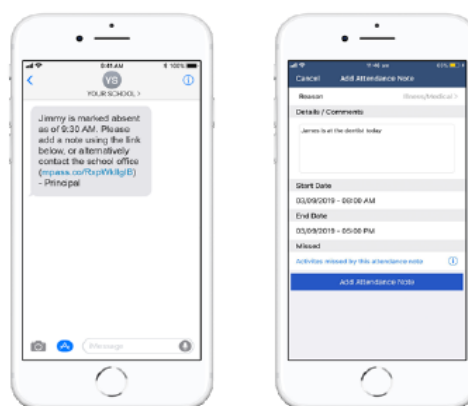
What is an Attendance Note?
An Attendance Note is used to explain when your child is absent or late for school.

Welcome to Compass

Attendance: SMS Link

If your child is marked as absent without prior approval you will receive a message containing a link. When you follow the link, you will have the opportunity to explain the absence.

The link will expire after you have clicked it, meaning that it cannot be used to explain unapproved absences in the future. Instead, you will receive another message containing a new link, allowing you to repeat the process.



A guide for parents & families

7

GARDENING GROUP NEWS

Busy Day at Gardening Group

So many people came to help at Gardening Group last Thursday.

Gardening Group is for anyone who would like to join us. Children just have to come to the Green Shed at the start of lunchtime on Thursday.

We have a very willing group of Year 6 leaders this year.

We meet at the Green Shed every Thursday (weather permitting) at 1.pm.



Jenny Spiridis

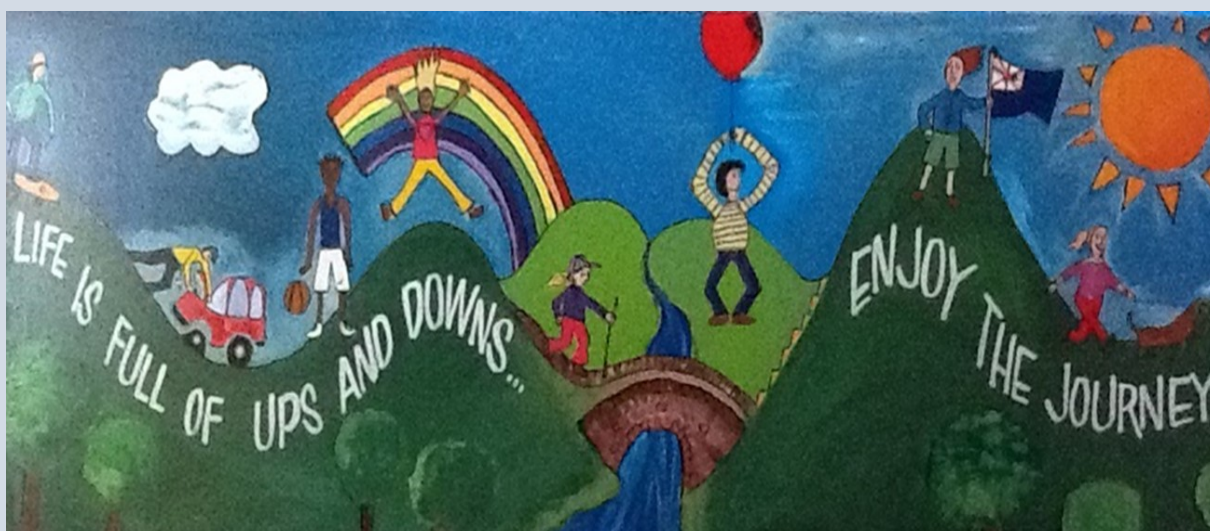
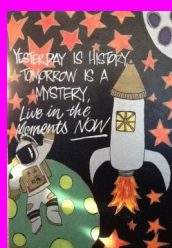
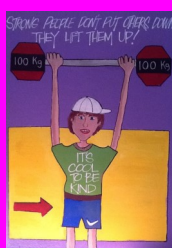
Year 5 Classroom Teacher

MMPS 'Affirmation Boards'

In the Art room.....

Over the last couple of years the senior students have been involved in painting some colorful, positive affirmation boards. The inspiration for this project came from an initiative brought to our attention by a Prep parent back in 2019.

“The School Toilet Project” - At MMPS we accepted the challenge to make our toilets more colorful and at the same time inspiring students with powerful positive messages....





**National Day
of Action** against
Bullying and Violence

Friday 19 March 2021
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

Mt Martha Primary School is taking a stand against bullying and violence again in 2021. We have registered to take part in The National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence this Friday, March 19th.

Dear parents,

At our school we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone.

Sometimes, it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do when their child talks to them about bullying. You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. After they've told you their story, ask questions to get more details if you need to: who, what, where, when. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child's experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.

**If your child talks to
you about bullying:**

1. **Listen** calmly and get the full story.
2. **Reassure** your child that they are not to blame.
3. **Ask** your child what they want to do about it and how you can help.
4. **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies.
5. **Contact** the school.
6. **Check in** regularly with your child.



2. **Reassure** your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like, 'That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that.' or 'I'm so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that's not fair at all'.
3. **Ask** your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect your child, helping them to find their own solution is a better option. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.
4. **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas for different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.
5. **Contact** the school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help. Make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher and, if you need to, ask to talk with the principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child's safety.
6. **Check in regularly** with your child. Keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.

Read the accompanying tip sheet in this week's newsletter with your children.

Follow these links: [parent guide to bullying and online drama](#) and [free parent webinars](#) for more information about cyberbullying.

Thanks for your support in making Mt Martha Primary a great school for everyone.

For primary school students



Bullying is NEVER OK!

Tips for primary school students who experience bullying

Bullying is when a person, or a group of people, tries to upset or hurt you. Bullying can make you feel very sad, scared or upset. Bullying can happen anywhere — in person or online. When it happens online it is often called cyberbullying.

Bullying in person or online might look or feel like someone is:

- repeatedly saying mean words to your face, teasing you, hurting your body or damaging your things
- hurting your feelings through mean online posts, comments or messages
- spreading lies about you
- leaving you out or ignoring you
- sharing something online that will make you feel bad, like a photo or video that you don't want anyone to see
- threatening to do any of the things on this list.

No one deserves to be bullied or hurt. You can choose to:

- treat others how you would like to be treated — with kindness and respect
- include others in games and chats
- only share something about others if they say it's okay.



Developed in partnership
www.esafety.gov.au | www.bullyingnoway.gov.au



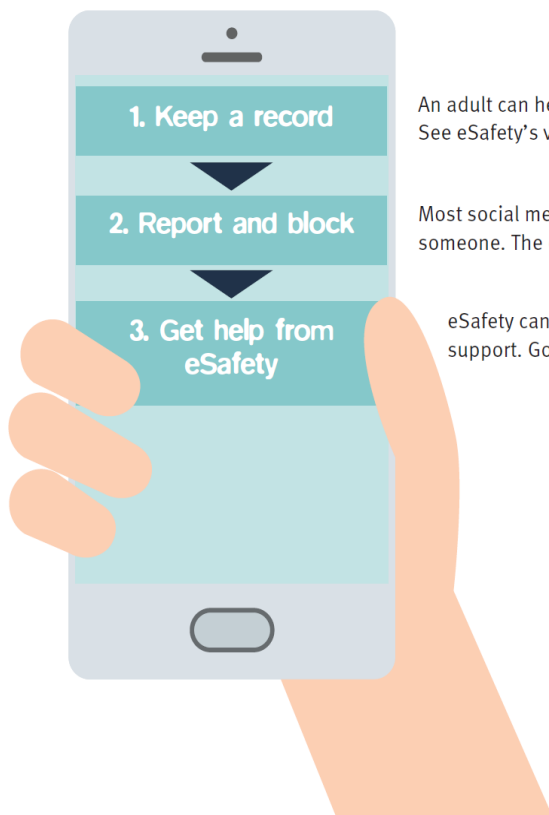
You have the right to feel safe and be safe. Here are some ideas about what you can do if someone is bullying you:

- If they are doing it to your face, tell them to stop and then walk away.
- Find somewhere safe and get help from a friend or trusted adult.
- Don't respond if they are doing it to you online.
- Protect yourself online by unfriending them or using privacy settings to block them.

It's okay to ask for help if you are being bullied or see it happening to someone else. You can speak to:

- **a trusted adult** — this could be a parent or carer, an adult friend, or an aunty or uncle who will listen and help you
- **your teacher or principal** — you can talk to your teacher about the bullying and how to stop it
- **your friends** — they can listen to you and help you get support
- **Kids Helpline** — they have counsellors available at any time who will listen and help you work out what to do
- **the police** — if you are in immediate danger, call the police
- **the eSafety team** — you can report serious cyberbullying (see the steps below).

Reporting cyberbullying



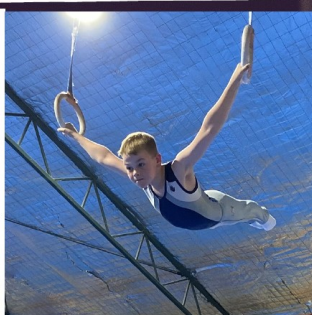
An adult can help you take screenshots or keep a record of the cyberbullying. See eSafety's videos on [how to take screen shots](#).

Most social media services, games and apps have a way to report and block someone. The [eSafety Guide](#) shows you how.

eSafety can help to remove serious cyberbullying content and get you support. Go to [eSafety kids](#) to learn more about how eSafety can help.

Important links

Bullying. No Way!	bullyingnoway.gov.au
eSafety kids	esafety.gov.au/kids
eSafety Guide	esafety.gov.au/esafety-guide
eSafety Report	esafety.gov.au/report
Kids Helpline	kidshelpline.com.au



Boys only
**COME
N
TRY**

SUNDAY 21ST MARCH

9:00 - 10:30AM: 5-7 YEAR OLD BOYS
11:00AM - 12:30PM: 8+ YEAR OLD BOYS
CIVIC RESERVE CENTRE: 350 DUNNS RD MORNINGTON

Free!

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Register online via the "come n try" link on
our website www.mycgymnastics.org.au



mycgymnastics

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM NEWS



Moonlit Sanctuary KEEPER CLUB

Go wild these school holidays!

If you have some junior wildlife lovers looking for fun over the holidays, check out our Keepers Club holiday program.

In a day full of fun hands-on activities, they will get up close to many animals including dingoes and pythons and learn how their keepers work to keep them happy and healthy.

Places are limited so book early and make your junior keeper's day!
For ages 7-14. Cost: \$90



moonlitsanctuary.com.au | t. 5978 7935 | e. bookings@moonlit-sanctuary.com



Moonlit Sanctuary
the best way to see Aussie animals

GO WILD THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AT MOONLIT SANCTUARY KEEPER CLUB

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

Day includes: interactions with dingo, python, off-limits animals, feeding animals and food prep, animal enrichment activities. Learn about our animals, their conservation and the environment. For ages 7-14 years.

Autumn 2021 School Holiday Dates:

Week One: Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th, Thursday 8th, Friday 9th April

Week Two: Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th, Thursday 15th, Friday 16th April

Cost: \$90.00 per day

Small groups of 16 children per day.

Bookings essential as spaces are limited

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

Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Park

550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale , Phone 5978 7935 www.moonlitsanctuary.com.au, Open daily between 10am and 5pm.
Keeper Club runs from 9am-2pm.



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