



Mt. Martha Primary School

Mt Martha Primary School
Principal
Mrs Karen Walker

Assistant Principal
Mr Nick Orchard

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

Reception
5974 2800

Absentee Reporting
Lodge via Compass parent portal

Website
www.mtmarthaps.vic.edu.au

Email
mount.martha.ps@education.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
Tues - Friday 9am - 5pm
Saturdays 10am - 1pm
1/22 Watt Road,
Mornington Vic 3931
03 9768 0346
1800 337 396
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www.psw.com.au

Online Lunch Orders - Friday only
Go to www.bakerymade.com.au
(select lunch orders)
Late orders phone Jon 0400 082 035

BANKSIA BULLETIN - Thursday 19th October 2023

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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Assembly - Friday 27th October - Is our first Whole School Assembly for Term 4. It starts at **2.15pm**. Our assemblies are always a great way to share the talents of our students and hear about some of the school activities.

Prep 2024 Information Night - Thank you to the fabulous Prep Teaching Team and Administration staff for the organisation and running of the evening. We have a series of activities for Parents of our 2024 prep students. The session provided parents/carers with an insight into how they can support their child's transition into school. A highlight of the evening was certainly the fashion parade of the school uniform by some of this year's prep students Eliza, Maxie, Pippa, Ben, Indi, and Ethan. We were very proud of them having the confidence to show the 2024 parents the range of options of our uniform. Thank you also to Liana Cope and Rebecca Tyler from the SEC for coming along to speak about the important role they play in our school community.

Working Bee and Referendum BBQ - A huge thank you to all of families that assisted with the Working Bee and BBQ. Despite the wet weather, lots of tidying was done of the gardens around the school. We also appreciate the assistance of all those who helped to raised valuable funds for the school from the BBQ. Special thanks to Mrs Jenny Spiridis who has done amazing work over the years in our grounds. Also, to Year Six student Ella who assisted with the Working Bee, the morning tea and then spent the remainder of her day working at the Referendum BBQ. I am sure her excellent spruiking and customer service assisted in selling many more drinks, sausages and Zooper Doopers.

Policies - The following policies/documents were updated endorsed at the October School Council meeting. These are all available on the school website. [MMPS Website Policy Page.](#)

- Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety Policy
- Mount Martha Primary School Marrung Action Plan 2023 - 2025
- Working with Children Clearance Register

World Teacher Day - The Department of Education is encouraging schools to celebrate World Teachers' Day, held in Australia on Friday 27 October 2023. While the day is held internationally on 5 October, in many parts of Australia this usually falls during the school holidays, so we celebrate a little later. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) established World Teachers' Day in 1994 to recognise the role of teachers in society. This year, UNESCO is putting the teacher shortage at the top of the global agenda with the theme 'The teachers we need for the education we want: the global imperative to reverse the teacher shortage'.

It is a chance to recognise and celebrate the teachers who are making, or have made, an impact in our lives. Whether you're a current student, have children in school, or have been out of school for many years, World Teachers' Day is a chance to say, 'thank you'. You can get involved by sending a message of thanks to a teacher who is making, or has made, an impact on your life. Head to the department's [World Teachers Day webpage](#) for resources to help you celebrate World Teachers' Day 2023, including 'Thank You' card templates.



Continued

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



The Mount Martha Primary School community acknowledges & pays respect to the Boon Wurrung/Bunurong people of the Kulin nation, the traditional custodians of these lands & waters.



PRINCIPAL REPORT continued

Supports for students - All students, regardless of age and background, will have heard and probably participated in commentary about the Referendum in the media, at home and within their communities, and some may need additional support during this time. [This resource](#) provides further information about supporting students, especially Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

School term dates for 2026 - There have been changes to Victorian school term dates for 2026. Following the announcement that the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Victoria will not proceed, the original 2026 school term dates have been reinstated.

The 2026 Victorian school term dates are:

- Term 1: Tuesday 27 January to Thursday 2 April 2026
- Term 2: Monday 20 April to Friday 26 June 2026
- Term 3: Monday 13 July to Friday 18 September 2026
- Term 4: Monday 5 October to Friday 18 December 2026.

For the list of school term dates until the end of 2030, refer to [School term dates and holidays in Victoria](#).

Protecting against mosquito - borne diseases - The Department of Education has requested this information be shared with our school community. Victoria's mosquito season started this month and will extend to late April 2024. Warm and wet weather can result in greater numbers of mosquitoes and increased risk of illnesses from mosquito bites. While the overall risk is low, some mosquitoes carry diseases that make people sick.

The best protection against mosquito-borne illness is to avoid mosquito bites.

Families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- covering up as much as possible with long, loose-fitting, light-coloured clothing
- applying insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on exposed skin when leaving home.
- limiting outdoor activity if lots of mosquitoes are active.

To reduce the risk of illness linked to mosquitos, such as [Buruli ulcer](#), promptly wash any new scratches or cuts with soap and clean water and apply a topical antiseptic and dressing.

Families with any health concerns should see their doctor or phone [NURSE-ON-CALL](#): 1300 606 024 (available 24 hours).

[Free Japanese encephalitis vaccines](#)

Japanese encephalitis virus is spread to humans through bites from infected mosquitoes and can cause a rare but potentially serious infection of the brain.

Free Japanese encephalitis vaccines are available to protect Victorians at higher risk of the virus.

The Victorian Department of Health encourages eligible people who live or work in high-risk local government areas to get vaccinated ahead of summer, which brings an increased mosquito presence.

For more information, including what is considered a high risk area and eligibility for a free vaccine, refer to the Department of Health's [Japanese encephalitis webpage](#).

[Find out more.](#)

For more information on protecting against mosquito-borne diseases, families can refer to the following Better Health Channel pages:

- [Mosquitoes can carry diseases](#)
- [Protect yourself from mosquito-borne disease](#), including a handy checklist to help reduce mosquito breeding sites at home and resources translated into other languages.
- [Japanese encephalitis](#)
- [Buruli ulcer](#).

PRINCIPAL REPORT continued

Recap of Previous Newsletter Articles

Smile Squad- Smile Squad is a Victorian Government program that provides free dental care to all Victorian government primary and secondary school students. Smile Squad offers free oral health packs, free annual oral health examinations and free follow-up treatment for all students attending Victorian Government schools. Smile Squad will be available to all students for free, even if they do not have a healthcare card or Medicare card, or if they are ineligible for the Commonwealth Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS). There are no out-of-pocket expenses for families. We have been allocated access to this program this term from 23rd October. Below is links to the consent form via a link or QR code. If parents could complete the consent form by **22nd October** it will assist the service in knowing how many anticipated patients, they will see at our school.

How to access free dental care

Sign up to Smile Squad at: [Smile Squad enrolment](#) OR use the below QR code:



Student Groupings- Planning for 2024 - It is approaching the time of the year when the teachers begin to consider class groupings for the next year. Certain information is helpful in this process and parents, who believe that exceptional educational circumstances exist for their child/ren that should be considered in placement for next year, need to forward the information in writing to the principal by **Friday 27th October**. Whilst parents are assured that this information will be considered, no guarantee for individuals is possible as the decisions made are the best for all students collectively. To assist with class groupings, staffing and furniture needs please contact the office if your child is not returning to Mt Martha PS in 2024. Thank you for assisting our planning in this way.

Leaving Mount Martha Primary School in 2024 - A reminder to please let the Office know if you are leaving Mount Martha Primary School next year as soon as possible. Teachers will soon be commencing the task of allocating students to classes for next year and as we finalise our options for grade structures for 2024. Thank you.

Free Tutor Service - A new service is being run by the Lions Club of Dromana that provides free tutoring to primary school children on the Mornington Peninsula. This service is aimed at giving children who have fallen behind in recent times, a bit of a boost so they have a chance to fulfill their potential. It is focusing on students from years 4-6. The concept revolves around the fact that on the Peninsula there are many retired teachers who would love to be able to help their community in some way, and at the same time there are many children who could benefit from their experience. The flyer with further details is in the newsletter.

Warm regards

Karen Walker

SCHOOL NOTICES

Dates to Remember Coming Events



OCTOBER

Friday 20th

2024 Preps Storytime in Staff Centre
9.30am - 10.30am
(bookings essential)



Division Softball

9.30am - 2.30pm
CB Wilson Reserve, Wilsons Rd, Mornington
Private Transport

Monday 23rd

Nude Food bring fresh, healthy, rubbish
free lunches to our school



Tuesday 24th

Nude Food bring fresh, healthy, rubbish
free lunches to our school



Prep Pevan and Sarah Tour

11.00am - 2.00pm
Frankston Arts Centre

Wednesday 25th

Nude Food bring fresh, healthy, rubbish
free lunches to our school



2024 Preps Storytime in Staff Centre
2.15pm - 3.15pm
(bookings essential)



Thursday 26th

Year 4 Bike Education
MMPS

Friday 27th

2024 Preps Storytime in Staff Centre
9.30am - 10.30am
(bookings essential)



Whole School Assembly

2.15pm - 3.15pm
In Gym



Monday 30th - Wednesday 1st November

Year 3 Camp Somers
Departs MMPS 8.15am Monday 30th October
Returns MMPS 11.00am Wednesday 1st November.
Children maybe collected at this time, otherwise they
will be dismissed at 3.30pm

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.

2023 EVENTS	COST	CLOSING DATE
2024 Year 6 Rugby Top	\$75	25/10/2023
Year 1 Osborne Primary Pen Pals	\$9.00	21/11/2023
Choc Tops Compass Course Confirmation and payment	\$3.50	24/11/2023
2024 Curriculum Contributions & Agreements	Refer Compass	30/11/2023
Year 6 Gumbuya World	\$50	1/12/2023
Year 5 End of Year Celebration	Nil	1/12/2023
2024 Student Supply Orders direct to Paperchase	Refer Compass	3/12/2023

TERM DATES: 2023

Term 4 2nd October to 20th December

STUDENT FREE DAYS: 2023

Term 4 Monday 20th November



TERM DATES: 2024

Term 1 29th January to 28th March

Year 1 - 6 students commence

Wednesday 31st January

9.00am - 3.30pm

Prep Interviews

Wednesday 31st January, Thursday 1st February
or Friday 2nd February

Preps Start Part Time - Monday 5th February
9.30am - 2.15pm

Preps Start Full Time - Tuesday 12th March
9.00am - 3.30pm

Term 2 15th April to 28th June

Term 3 15th July to 20th September

Term 4 7th October to 20th December



LIONS CLUB OF
DROMANA

FREE TUTORING! YEAR 4 TO YEAR 6

*For **Year 4 to Year 6 children** who have fallen behind
and whose families cannot afford private tutoring.*

All tutoring is performed by retired teachers or teacher aides

One or two sessions per week

One hour per session (or shorter where appropriate)

4:00–5:00pm or 5:00–6:00pm weekdays

Conducted at Dromana Community House

Literacy, numeracy, science and more

8 session blocks on a need basis, first come first served

All sessions supervised by a Lions Club member in addition to the tutor

*This free service is provided by the generous volunteer support of
retired teachers and funded by The Lions Club of Dromana as part
of our mission to build a stronger community. It is made possible by
Dromana Community House where tutoring takes place.*

**CONTACT US NOW ON:
0433 318 462**

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

Student Wellbeing - In recent terms, MMPS has collaborated among Teachers, Principal Class, Educational Support Staff, and students to define behavior expectations. This collaboration has yielded the 'Classroom Behavior Agreement' and 'Yard Behavior Agreement,' which have been carefully honed through feedback from students, teachers, and parents. These agreements aim to enhance the understanding of our school values: Respect, Integrity, Collaboration, and Knowledge.

These agreements are just one facet of MMPS's comprehensive approach to managing and teaching positive behavior. Our approaches work together to enhance:

Student Well-being: Our strategies prioritize the overall well-being of our students, encompassing their academic, emotional, social, and moral development to encourage responsible and considerate choices.

Consistency and Clarity: The Behavior Agreements establish clear expectations for behavior and consequences, ensuring a shared understanding of the rules among all members of our school community.

Positive Reinforcement: Various other strategies emphasize positive reinforcement for good behavior, providing opportunities for students to learn from their mistakes.

Parent and Community Involvement: We believe that the success of these strategies hinges on the partnership between the school, parents, and the broader community. We invite your active participation and feedback as we implement these approaches.

Our students have responded positively to the introduction of the new Behavior Agreements, with each year level receiving age-appropriate explanations. It's essential to note that these agreements serve as guidelines, and responses to specific behaviors may vary based on their severity and nature. For instance, incidents of physical violence will prompt the intervention of the principal class or behavior support staff.

We encourage you to acquaint yourself with the two behavior agreements and discuss them with your child when the opportunity arises. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the administrative staff at the school.

Jerry Gaiser

Social and Emotional Learning Specialist

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR AGREEMENT

KNOWLEDGE



INTEGRITY



COLLABORATION



RESPECT



- 1) Help with managing my behaviour
- 2) Time away from the group in my class time
- 3) Time inside during playtime to discuss my behaviour with my teacher
- 4) 15 Minute walk with a teacher during play
- 5) Time Out at lunch

YARD BEHAVIOUR AGREEMENT

KNOWLEDGE



INTEGRITY



COLLABORATION



RESPECT



- 1) Reminder of behaviour expectations
- 2) Cool Down Time—walk with a teacher
- 3) Removal from the yard.
 - Find a place to cool down.
- 4) Time Out with reflection

NUDE FOOD NEWS

Nude Food Day is back for 2023!

Nude Food Day, supported by *Nude Food Movers* and in partnership with *Nutrition Australia*, creates a globally recognised event in which we can all come together and show our support towards healthy eating and waste reduction.

Next week we are encouraging all students to bring fresh, healthy, rubbish free lunches to our school in support of this Nude Food event which, this year, will run from **Monday 23rd October to Wednesday 25th October**. There will be a prize for the class which has the highest percentage of wrapper free lunchboxes and we are also running a colouring/caption competition.

Having a Nude Food event is a chance for our students to realise what they can do for their health and the health of the planet and the students will be engaging in activities to support this message.

An event like this can give all of us at Mount Martha Primary School a taste of the benefits, ease and fun involved in packing a healthy, wrapper free lunch!

Thank you for your support.

From the Year 6 Nude Food Leaders



WORKING BEE NEWS



Last Saturday morning, after a morning of rain and wind, we were lucky to have some 'decent' weather for our Semester Two Working Bee. Many parents, teachers and students attended and worked tirelessly on a variety of jobs around the school.

We must thank: **Jenny Spiridis** for coordinating the whole event. This was Jenny's last Working Bee for MMPS and she has overseen these events for over twenty years. Thank you Jenny - if it wasn't for you, the school grounds would not look as beautiful as they currently do.

There were many other people we need to thank for their attendance. They were:

- The **Bullen** Family: Craig, Pip, Ellie and Georgia
- The **Collins** Family: Leischa, David, Sinclair and Saskia
- Louise **Peterson** and Sam **De Holland**
- The **Thomas** Family: Suzanne, Matthew, Hugo and Grady
- The **Pountney** Family: Tom, Felicity, Isabela, Ettie and Mauve
- The **Jackson** Family: Paul, Fiona, Connor and Campbell
- The **Lawrenson** Family: Victoria, Barnaby and Beatrix
- The **Murphy** Family: Clem, Karen, Ella, Iona and Lewis
- The **Crocker / Clingan** Family: Rachael and Arlo
- The **Reardon** Family: Marta, Luke, Indi and Jack
- The **Hoban** Family: Jessica, Sam, Ginko and Digby
- The **Johns** Family: Katrina, Justin, Patrick and Audrey
- The **Cope / Wakeling** Family: Liana, Lachlan, Macy and Owen
- The **Orchard** Family: Kate, Tess, Pippa, Evie and their Dad
- David Hobson
- Jenny Spiridis
- Karen Walker
- Lindie Hartwig
- Rhonda Edwards
- Michael Beirne
- Any anyone else who forgot to sign the register.

Nick Orchard (**Assistant Principal**)



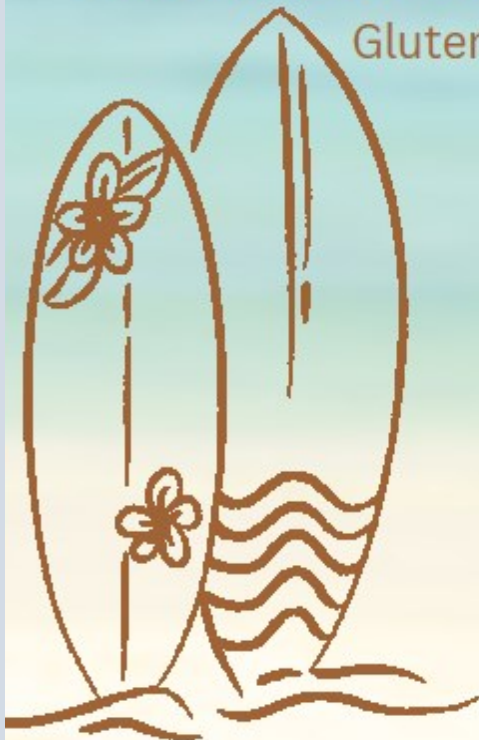
WELCOME
SUMMER

CHOC TOP DAY!

Friday, 24 November 2023

Order yours now on Compass - \$3.50 each

Gluten and dairy free options available



Note: Orders close Wednesday 22 November -
unfortunately **late orders will not be available.**



MT MARTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL



OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE PROGRAM



PUPIL FREE DAY



MONDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2023



COME IN AND JOIN US FOR OUR 'S' DAY!

**SPONGEBOB, SCRATCH ART, SAND ACTIVITIES, SHELL CREATIONS
AND MUCH MORE 😊**

COST: \$50.00 PER CHILD(LESS CCB%)



CONTACT: GILLIAN ON 0407 438858 FOR BOOKINGS

HOURS: 7.00AM TO 6.00PM

CHILDREN ARE TO BRING THEIR OWN MORNING TEA AND LUNCH



BREAKFAST AND AFTERNOON TEA ARE SUPPLIED

BOOKINGS CLOSE ON MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER AT 6.00PM!!!!

Japanese Day 2023

On Monday 9th October MMPS held another fantastic Japanese Day. For the 2nd straight year the sports carnival (undoukai) was won this year by the Red team ('Aka'あか) - 101 pts to 74. Our day began with a fun whole school assembly run by our cultural leaders, Lachie and Ella. All classes made some amazing arts & craft as well as completing some amazing Japanese-inspired sketches. We were lucky enough to eat some amazing sushi from Ika Sushi at Rosebud Plaza!

AKA WA YUSHO!



CHAMPIONS!

Thanks once again to Sweatman Sensei for his great help with assembly and sports activities. Arigatou to Beirne Sensei and Antoniou Sensei for assisting with assembly setup. Thanks also to the ES staff for preparation of sushi lunches and getting them to classes. And finally, thanks to all the Year 6 sports leaders for their help on the day and of course - the cultural leaders Lachie and Ella.

Nickeas Sensei
Japanese Teacher

AKA AKA AKA!

GANBARE!



SHIRO SHIRO SHIRO!



Please support IKA SUSHI @ ROSEBUD PLAZA - our yearly suppliers of our Sushi Lunches.

SCHOOL COLOUR RUN EXPLOSION



We're turning our event from bland to GRAND this year by adding an explosion of Colour. The more money we raise the more we can provide for the students through vital school projects, in particular **our play areas and sporting equipment.**

The Colour Explosion School Run4Fun will be held on: **Friday 17th November**

We do ask that students on the day wear a **plain white shirt** as the students will be covered in powder from head to toe. The day's focus is on fun and fitness with the added benefit of raising funds for our school.

Each year level will have approx. 10 minutes to tackle the obstacle course either once, twice or three times. The course will contain some obstacles that will provide light water mist to allow the powder to stick to everyone. There will be pool noodle obstacles, plus other "obstacles" to get over, under and through.

After the completion of each year level's allocated time everyone will have a chance to have a class photo in front of our color banner and soak up the fun had by other students and buddies.

Leaderboard:

Class that has most students registered/signed up

1st – 3A Gaiser

2nd 2A Proietti

3rd – 6D Giles

4th – 2D Knorr/Mason

Create a Student Profile at www.myprofilepage.com.au. If you have lost your booklet with all the information and prizes, no stress as you can still register and see all the prizes online.

Cameron Sweatman

PE Teacher

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Junior / Senior:

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