



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

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
Online Ordering:
www.psw.com.au

BANKSIA BULLETIN - Thursday 28 October 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

Return to On Site Learning - On behalf of our school, I want to say a big thank you to all our students, parents and carers for your continued resilience and support throughout this year. I know remote and flexible learning has not always been easy but, through the team effort of students, parents and teachers, our students have continued to make valuable progress in their learning.

DET have announced that students and Year levels will return to onsite from Monday 1st November. The existing remote learning program will not continue. We will review upcoming activities to see what can be safely run, proceed with modifications or need to be cancelled.

I have provided some important information in this newsletter regarding the return to school to compliment the **"Transition to Onsite Parent and Carers Handbook"** that was compassed to parents on the 14th October. Please read.

Our thoughts are with the students and families at Year 2. Notification of a positive COVID case and subsequent contact tracing has required Year 2 students to be in quarantine. They are awaiting further advice from the Department of Health who are responsible for provision of more detailed health advice. Our school community really feels for all our Year 2 families at this challenging time. All our best wishes.

For Information - DET process if a confirmed positive COVID case is reported - COVID is widespread across metropolitan Melbourne and with reopening more cases are expected. Schools are not immune from this and many schools have or will be required to manage a positive COVID case. Please note that for consistency of communication and process across all schools, the school is required to follow all DET directives for actions, communication and timelines in this situation.

After receiving a report of a confirmed positive COVID case the school makes a report to DET. Further details are sought and provided to DET to assist their decision making. DET determine the required actions with the Regional Director issuing directives for the school to follow and approved communications for the school community. Despite everyone in school communities wanting information and action as soon as possible this process may take time as it can depend on the number of schools experiencing cases at the same time. Schools have to wait for DET directives.

It is likely that a positive COVID case at school will result in the school being closed while it is cleaned and contact tracing undertaken. Please note that school Principals cannot make the decision to close school. This is a decision of the Regional Director.

Principal Report continued overleaf

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

As contact tracing is undertaken it is possible that additional close contacts are found - this is why time is provided prior to community notifications. Provisional primary close contacts (PCC's) are identified and receive a notification that they are a provisional close contact and advice on quarantine arrangements. (Please note that for privacy reasons PCC's are not identified to other members of the school community.) The primary close contact is required to isolate. Families do not have to isolate unless the primary close contact or other family members have a positive test result. They then also become PCC's.

Department of Health then have responsibility for provision of advice and management as this is a health issue. As students under 12 years of age are not vaccinated the quarantine period is 14 days. Proof of a negative Day 13 COVID test is required for a return to school.

After families of PCC's have been notified communication is provided to the rest of the community regarding the timeline for re-opening.

All members of the school community should monitor for COVID symptoms and get tested as soon as symptoms are present. Isolation is required until results are known.

Please follow the COVID 19 prevention strategies as this is how we minimise the spread of COVID in our school and the community.

Fact Sheet - The Department of Health has developed a fact sheet for parents and carers, focusing on young people and COVID -19. It was included last week and is attached to the newsfeed today.

If you have any questions or concerns about COVID-19, you can contact the Department of Education and Training's COVID-19 phone line on 1800 338 663

Student Groupings 2022 - Reminder - A reminder that very shortly teachers will be considering class groupings for 2022. Teachers consider the placement of each child very carefully. 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 **tomorrow Friday 29th 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.

Parents are also reminded that once the process is underway now or when grades are announced in the last week of term it is extremely difficult to facilitate changes to 2022 class lists. To assist with class groupings, staffing and furniture needs please contact the office if your child is not returning to Mt Martha PS in 2022.

Lunch Orders - Lunch orders will be available on Friday 5th November and then resume the normal Friday service. The usual ordering process applies.

I hope you enjoy next week's Cup Day holiday on Tuesday!

Kind regards

Martin Page

RETURN TO SCHOOL MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

Some important points to note:

1. A critical measure in control of COVID-19 in schools is that unwell students should not be sent to school or remain at school if 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.
2. Face masks must be worn by students in Years 3 to 6 when indoors at school and recommended for students in Prep to Year 2.
3. The school day will commence at 9am as usual with students usually arriving at different times from about 8.30am. Please follow the "Kiss and Go" rules. This staggered arrival allows for a flow of students entering and easier physical distancing. **At the end of the day, students in Prep to Year 1 will finish at 3.30pm. Year 2 will also finish at 3.30pm when back onsite. Years 3 to Year 6 will finish school at 3.20pm.** A slightly earlier finish will allow an improved flow of students off site while still allowing siblings to meet if required for the walk home.
4. Siblings should have a pre-arranged and clearly understood outside meeting place if travelling home together.
5. Once a year level has returned, all students will be expected to attend school as normal. This means if a parent/carer chooses to keep their child/children home after their year level has returned to on-site schooling, the remote learning program does not continue. This does not apply to children who need to be absent for health, medical reasons or exceptional circumstances. For those families, please contact us so we can make an appropriate plan.
6. Students may choose to bring their own named water bottle. Drinking bottles can be refilled from taps during the day. Food is not to be shared.
7. A rigorous approach will be used by teachers to ensure all students wash/sanitise their hands each time upon entry and exit of rooms, before and after eating, after using the toilet and after coughing or sneezing. Students will be reminded of the need to cough or sneeze into their elbow and use tissues. All classrooms have handwashing and/or sanitiser available, tissues and antiseptic wipes. Parents may choose to supply their own child with sanitiser and tissues. Increased ventilation strategies are applied.
8. Enhanced cleaning of the school particularly including high touch points and toilets will be undertaken.
9. The Chief Health Officer has highlighted the importance of social distancing between adults as a key control measure and must continue to be practiced. Social distancing is not required amongst students onsite. Parents are encouraged to only be onsite for essential business. Parents must not enter classrooms or corridors. Communication with teachers will continue to be via gmail and telephone. The Office is open but social distancing is required. Early pick ups or late arrivals will be organised from the Office. Parents must not congregate at the school gates and must practice social distancing. Parents are encouraged to wait offsite at drop off and pick up. We recognise that in the initial days of returning to school some students, particularly Preps, may require a parent to walk them in to school or a pick up but over time we should all be working to minimise this.
10. Essential visitors to school grounds must comply with density limits, face mask requirements, QR code/Compass Kiosk/ manual check ins and practise respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene.
11. We have also made changes to the way our staff work and have breaks to ensure social distancing as well.
12. Designated play equipment and areas already exist for our students and oval use is timetabled. This together with a large play area will mean that recess and lunchtimes will remain at their usual times. Close contacts are also now defined as accumulated close contact of greater than 2 hours.
13. To return to our normal teaching program borrowed computer equipment must be returned. Loaned equipment can be returned between 2pm and 4pm on Friday 29th October and from 8.30am on Monday 1st November. Year 2 students may keep their laptop until out of quarantine.
14. If a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19 the school will contact the Department of Education and Training who will direct the school in the next steps. It is likely the school will be shut to allow time for contact tracing and cleaning. Schools are required to follow the direction of DET in for action required, communication and timelines.

RETURN TO SCHOOL MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER continued

More information about the return to school and coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the Department's website, which will continue to be updated:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

The COVID Hotlines remain another important source of information:

Dept of Health- 1800 1800 675 398

DET- 1800 338 663

(available 8:30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, and 10am-3pm Saturday to Sunday, excluding public holidays).

SCHOOL NOTICES

Dates to Remember Coming Events



OCTOBER

Friday 29th

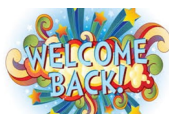
Years 1, 5 & 6 students return to face to face learning at school



NOVEMBER

Monday 1st November

**YEARS PREP, YEAR 1, 3, 4, 5, 6
RETURN TODAY**



Tuesday 2nd November

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

students DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL TODAY

Thursday 11th

**School Council Meeting via Webex
6.45pm**

Friday 12th November

SEC Choc Top Day

Pre-orders ONLY

FREE DRESS DAY



COMPASS EVENT PAYMENT/CONSENT CALENDAR



With restrictions permitting, the below Events will be published to Compass once confirmed.

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.

SCHEDULED EVENTS (TO BE CONFIRMED)	PROPOSED DATE	COST
Year 6 PARC Swimming	cancelled	\$NIL
Year 3 Somers Camp (TBC)	10—12 Nov	\$230
Year 3 Professor Bunsen	19th Nov	\$12
Years 5 & 6 Swim Sports Years 3 & 4 Swim Sports	30th Nov 1st Dec	\$6
Prep Enchanted Garden	8th Dec	\$28
Year 2 Reptile Encounters	8th Dec	\$15
Year 3 Moonlit Sanctuary	10th Dec	\$21
Year 6 Gumbuya World	15th Dec	TBC
Year 1 Dinosaur World	15th Dec	\$28
Year 4 South Beach Lunch	15th Dec	\$10
Year 5 Sausage Sizzle	15th Dec	\$2
Year 3 Max The Magician	16th Dec	\$3

TERM DATES: 2021

Term 4 4th October to 17th December

TERM DATES: 2022

Term 1 28th January to 8th April
Students in Years 1-6 commence
1st February 2022
(Prep Interviews 1-3 February
to be confirmed)

Term 2 26th April to 24th June

Term 3 11th July to 16th September

Hot Chocolate Day Has Changed To...



CHOC TOP

& FREE DRESS DAY!!

FRIDAY 12TH NOV

As the weather warms up
the chocolate cools down.
And to make Hot Chocolate
we need parents around.

As parents can't stay
let's **dress in favourite spring colours**
and have
CHOC TOP DAY!

IF YOU ORDERED A HOT CHOC,
YOU DON'T NEED TO DO A THING

IF YOU DIDN'T ORDER A HOT CHOCOLATE
AND WOULD NOW LIKE TO ORDER A CHOC
TOP, PLEASE GO TO COMPASS COURSE
CONFIRMATIONS

Things to know

Vanilla Choc Tops are supplied by the Choc Top Ice Cream
Co and contain dairy, soy & gluten.

A Yoconut choc coated vanilla coconut ice cream will be
the dairy, soy & gluten free option.

SEE EMAIL FOR MORE DETAILS

ORDERS CLOSE MONDAY 8TH NOV

BE YOU NEWS



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we look forward to our transition back to onsite learning, supporting student mental health and wellbeing remains a major priority for Term Four. We understand that all students will need time and assistance to readjust to being back at school, and we will monitor their progress closely to ensure they are feeling safe and supported.

Our Social and Emotional Learning program - **You Can Do It** – will continue to provide students with the opportunities to build their coping skills and resilience, as well as teaching mindfulness, gratitude, having a calm brain, positive self-talk and a growth mindset.

The **Protective Behaviours Program** will continue to support students in developing the awareness, knowledge and strategies to help keep themselves safe in a range of situations

The following link was forwarded from **Be You** to assist parents with supporting students in the transition back to school.

[Back to school anxiety during COVID](#)

These links also provide helpful information and may assist in answering any questions or concerns that you have:

Will my child bounce back from the Coronavirus crisis?

<https://childmind.org/article/coping-with-social-anxiety-during-social-distancing/>

Coping with Social Anxiety During Social Distancing.

<https://childmind.org/article/coping-with-social-anxiety-during-social-distancing/>

The Beyond Blue Healthy Families website also provides a great range of resources for supporting children through challenging times such as these.

<https://healthyfamilies.beyondblue.org.au/>

Please take the time to explore the information through these links, in preparation for our return to school.

We are all looking forward to being back in the classroom with our students and hope all goes to plan for our return. Thank you for your incredible support during the remote learning period. Whilst your children may not always appreciate your help, we certainly do!

Kind regards,

Karen Hodgkins and the Be You Team.



**MT MARTHA
BASKETBALL**

**SUMMER
SEASON**
STARTING
TERM 4*

ATTENTION

**Is your daughter or son interested in playing basketball?
OR COULD THEY BE?**

Basketball improves the overall behavior and performance of young children, teaches them teamwork and persistence and also brings the community together. And it is so much FUN!

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR
PLAYERS**

ALL AGES WELCOME

BUT SPECIFICALLY

GIRLS BORN

2011 / 2012 / 2013 / 2014

2015 / 2016 / 2017

BUT SPECIFICALLY

BOYS BORN

2015 / 2016 / 2017

Please email mountmarthabasketball@gmail.com to express your interest

* COVID RESTRICTIONS PENDING



Nippers starts Sun 28th Nov 10-12

To register head to:
morningtonlsc.com.au



Mornington LSC is a fun family club that offers the U6 - U13 age groups in the nippers program.

Nippers helps develop surf awareness in a safe positive environment.

Our nippers participate in swimming, running on the sand, board paddling and wading while learning through fun activities and play.

MLSC is holding their Open Day 'Online' this year.

This session will be a great opportunity to see what nippers is all about; and find answers to your questions about nipper sessions, fees, uniform, training, carnivals and how you can get involved as a family.

Find out about our wonderful Starfish Nippers program with dedicated coaches who will adapt the program to suit your child's needs.

Please register your details to join our virtual-open-day which will be held on Thursday 4th Nov @ 8pm

to:

nippercaptain@morningtonlsc.com.au

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- Hot Shots Holiday Clinics
- School age groups 3.45 & 4.30pm
- Kinder classes 10.30am weekdays
- Cardio Tennis most days 9.30am

0411 082 723
slingard8@bigpond.com

What are the benefits of teaching kids yoga, mindfulness and meditation?

- Relieves stress and anxiety
- Relaxes and regulates emotions
- Greater awareness and creativity
- Improves concentration
- Increases productivity
- Better health and sleep

Book now for Term 3
www.pinkbuddha.com.au

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*T&C's apply

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