School Vision

Inspiring a passion for learning and personal excellence, whilst preparing students to become globally responsible citizens.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Friday 5th  House Swimming payment due

Wednesday 10th  House Swimming—Mods 3 & 4

Wednesday 10th  Water safety payment due

Thursday 11th  Closing date for School Council nominations

Friday 12th  School Photos

Wednesday 17th  Drama Classes with Kelly Nash will commence. Forms available in office.

17th—19th  Water safety programme Mod 4 at Mills Beach

Friday 19th  Mod 2 Dental Hygiene talk

Monday 29th  First School Council Meeting 5.30pm

MARCH

Monday 14th  Labour Day holiday

Monday 21st  School Council meeting 5.30pm

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome Back & Welcome

Welcome back to all our students, teachers and parents. Welcome also to all our new families and students.

What a fabulous first day we had last week! There is always a great sense of excitement on the first day of the school year. This is particularly so with our Prep students who begin the next phase in their lives: a Primary School Education at MPS! There were plenty of smiles all round from parents and students. A warm welcome to all.
Recent Bomb Threats
As you would all be aware, the daily news has been reporting bomb threats made to various schools on the Mornington Peninsula and throughout the state. So far, MPS has avoided such threats and we hope to continue to do so.

All state schools have comprehensive ‘Emergency Management Plans’ in place to deal with this sort of situation and many others.

When schools receive a bomb threat, all students, staff and visitors are initially evacuated ‘off-site’. One of the difficulties schools face is contacting parents, after the evacuation, to advise them of the situation and to wait for further information regarding the pick-up of students, should this be necessary.

Modern technology can help us overcome this situation. MPS currently uses the app called ‘tiqibiz’ to communicate with parents. Many parents already receive newsletters and other information via this app on their smart phones, tablets and computers.

Should an emergency situation occur, we will utilise this method of communication to immediately provide information to our school community.

Whilst many of our parents are already ‘connected’, we would like all our parents to have this method of communication available to them. It’s easy to do and instructions are provided in this newsletter.

The safety and wellbeing of our students is always our top priority.

Enrolments, Classes and Staffing
Welcome back to Mr Nye Williams who returns to MPS after a brief absence. Mr Williams’ considerable skills and experience will greatly add to our endeavours at MPS.

We are very fortunate at MPS to have such a dedicated and skilled group of teachers and support staff working with our students and providing many opportunities for them.

Our leadership structures in 2016 are as follows:
Principal Team:
♦ Silvio Vitale (Principal)
♦ Tina Vallance & Susan Mattingley (Assistant Principals)

Module Leadership:
♦ Prep Team Leader (Preps & STAR) - Ms Jen Thom
♦ Junior Team Leader (Grades 1/2) - Ms Tina Vallance
♦ Middle Team Leader (Grades 3/4) - Mrs Kellie Salmon
♦ Senior Team Leader (Grades 5/6) - Mrs Susan Mattingley

The preliminary enrolment figure is 464 students. This is marginally higher than last year. However, our ‘official’ enrolment for funding purposes is determined by the number of students on the last day of February each year. With 19 classes in place, this gives us an average class size of 24.4. This is well below the funded class average of 1:26. However, as mentioned in the newsletter last year, our senior classes will be around the 30 students mark this year.

We are certainly conscious of the enormous responsibility we undertake as educators in helping to shape the future generation of students. In partnership with parents and the wider community, we are all working together to achieve the same goal.

I take the opportunity to thank our school community for the enormous support we continue to receive. We really value the trust you place in us to make decisions that are in the best interests of all our students. I invite you to contact me at any time to discuss your child’s progress or other broader school issues.

SC Elections 2016
Nominations are being called for School Council Elections (Refer to Schedule 4 notice at the back of this newsletter).

The School Council is a legally constituted body under Parliamentary legislation. As the governing body of the school, it oversees financial matters and policy development within Department of Education and Training (DET) guidelines and acts to support the
endeavours of our school community. Serving on School Council gives an insight into the function of the school and where we sit in the ‘big picture’ of education. Experience is not a necessary prerequisite for involvement - an interest and a desire to contribute is all it takes.

The configuration of the MPS School Council consists of:

- Eight Parent Category members
- Four Department of Education & Training (DET) employee members, including the principal.
- One Community member – co-opted by SC for their particular skills, interests or experiences.

Each year approximately half of school council positions become vacant. This year, four ‘parent’ and two ‘DET employee’ category positions are subject to an election. The timeline for the election is listed below with the incoming School Council to be fully constituted and operational as from the declaration of the poll.

The following timeline is to be implemented for the conduct of the 2016 School Council elections:

- **Thursday 4th February** – Notice of Election & call for nominations.
- **Thursday 11th February** – Closing date for nominations.
- **Monday 15th February** – Date by which the list of candidates and nominations posted.
- **Thursday 18th February** – Date by which ballot papers distributed.
- **Thursday 25th February** – Close of ballot (4pm), Counting of ballot (6pm) and declaration of poll.
- **Monday 29th February** – Induction, co-option of community member & first School Council meeting for 2016
- **Monday 21st March** – second School Council Meeting for 2016

Starting time for School Council Meetings is 5.30pm until 7.30pm

The School Council meets for a minimum of eight meetings per year. SC members are also required to attend sub-committee meetings—also around eight per year depending on the circumstances.

I am aware that many parents contribute to making MPS a great school in a variety of ways. One of these is involvement on School Council. Please consider your contribution to MPS via School Council.

**Working with Children Check**

A reminder that all parent helpers require a ‘working with children’ check to assist in classrooms and other activities. Obtaining a WWC check is simple. Please refer to information in this newsletter on how to obtain your WWC check.

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**Silvio Vitale**
Principal

**Mornington Primary School**
*A great place to educate!*

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**STUDENT WELLBEING**

Welcome to all new and returning MPS families

The start of a new school year is often a very exciting time. Children have the opportunity to reaquaint with old friends and form new friendships. Here at Mornington Primary School we encourage whole school attendance and are fortunate to have the support of Mornington Officeworks who for the last couple of years have donated some awesome prizes to students who have not missed a day for a whole term and or year. The number of children who have not missed a day for the entire year has increased substantially over the last couple of years. Last year 22 students did not miss a single day and were rewarded with an Officeworks bag containing prizes purchased from MPS and donated from Officeworks.

At MPS we want every child to feel positive about coming to school. If for any reason your child does not want to come to school or is anxious please feel free to make a time to speak to me.

Cath Sheridan
Student Wellbeing and Support
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE – PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAM

One of the ways in which the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) promotes learning and the idea of being internationally minded is through something called the Learner Profile. The Learner Profile provides a long term vision of education. It is a set of ideals that can inspire, motivate and focus the work of schools, students and teachers, uniting them in a common purpose. The Learner Profile is a profile of the whole person as a lifelong learner. The ten attributes of the Learner Profile are something which all children will be learning about through their Units of Inquiry, specialist classes and other areas of the curriculum. Each classroom has a Learner Profile display and each Unit of Inquiry includes one or two elements of the Learner Profile whichMods are focusing on. Our weekly “Shooting Star” assembly awards are also based on the Learner Profile. You might like to display the Learner Profile at home (maybe on your fridge or a notice board) so that you can refer to them when talking to your children about their learning. If you would like a poster of the Learner Profile to display at home, please call in to the office to collect one.

Regards Susan Mattingley IB PYP Co-ordinator

The Learner Profile

**Inquirers**  Students develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

**Knowledgeable**  Students explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

**Thinkers**  Students exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

**Communicators**  Students understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

**Principled**  Students act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

**Open-minded**  Students understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

**Caring**  Students show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

**Risk-takers**  Students approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

**Balanced**  Students understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

**Reflective**  Students give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

SCHOOL BANKING

Just a reminder that school banking is on Monday mornings.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

All parents are required to complete an enrolment form for each child for Before and After School Care for 2016. Forms can be collected from Janet and Sue, before or after school, or from the Office.
OFFICE NEWS

Shortly we will sending home enrolment and contact details which are currently on our data base. We ask that you check these details thoroughly and make any necessary changes so that our records can be kept up to date.

Hi Everyone welcome back to School. SCK Cooking school will be up and running again this Term. Classes will start from Monday the 15th of February. The cooking school will run for only 4 weeks because Alyssa will be away on Her Honey Moon for the last 2 weeks of Term. The classes run for 1 ½ hours starting at 4pm with a prompt pick up at 5.30.

Classes will be grouped in Grades 1-2-3 on Mondays and 4-5-6 on Wednesdays.

The classes will be in Grades 1-2-3 on Mondays and 4-5-6 on Wednesdays.

The students will learn all about Food safety, hygiene, safety in the kitchen, and will be instructed to make and take home their own culinary delights to share with their families and friends.

Classes are limited to 8 students and receipt of payment will guarantee students place in the class.

Cost per student is $88.00 for 4 classes this Term.

We know they will get great satisfaction from learning these skills and it helps to introduce new foods for the fussiest eaters. All students will have a menu book with all the recipes they cook to take home at the end of the course. For an information and enrolment form please email Alyssa alyssa@stircrazykids.com.au or pick one up from Alyssa at the canteen.

Alyssa got Married over the Summer Holidays to Thomas Peebles.

We had a lovely ceremony at home on a beautiful January day. Don’t forget to pop past and say congratulations.

We have a new Menu for Term 1 with a few changes to the Special Day Orders.

Mondays: Sushi is back for this term. Tuesdays; Egg and Bacon Rolls Wednesdays; Our famous Chicken Tender Wraps with Lettuce and Mayo. Thursdays; We kept Dim Sims as they are a favourite and Fridays will still be our Hot Dog Day.

Fee Free Fridays Don’t forget to register for On-line ordering at My School Tuck shop.

All Friday Orders will need to be placed on line to help us have all of the orders ready on time. It’s the possessing of the cash that takes a long time. We are covering the .33c fee for Friday orders so if you do a direct deposit it will not cost you any extra to place your Friday orders online and bags are included. Give it a go!!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ISSUE 1, 2016

Welcome everyone to our first issue of M.P.S. Scholastic Book Club. This year for each book club issue, there will only be one catalogue. This will include the complete range of books for students from Pre Prep to Year 8 plus all the extras on special and the amazing $1 bargains. The book club along with the book fair are our major fundraisers for our school libraries. All commission made from book sales is used to purchase books nominated by our students, teachers and families. (Nomination forms are available from the senior library), Orders can be made online or by completing the order form inside the catalogue and submitting payment (cash or cheque) to the school. Orders are due back by Friday the 12th February, though late orders are always accepted. For all book club enquiries please contact Anne Garlick, Library Resource Manager in person, by phone 0409181770 or by email garlick.anne.j@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Catalogues were distributed earlier this week with spare ones available from the school office and the senior library.
**SCIENCE CENTRE**
Firstly a big thank you to the following four students Jarid, Jordan, Narissa and Rex who did an outstanding job throughout the end of Term 3 and all of Term 4 by providing care and support for our menagerie whilst I was on sick leave. This year the school animals are available for viewing and petting each morning and Wednesday lunchtimes. Science club will be held Friday lunchtimes. Yesterday Bam Bam and Sheldon went for a run on the senior oval which they loved— green grass, fresh air, ahh the great outdoors! Our Hermit Crabs, Helena, Hermione, Ron and Harry, (plus 2 new crabs as yet unnamed ) have a brand new enclosure that has a rope sling and vine for climbing along, with extra bushes for hiding. Tiddles the Turtle has grown enormously and will shortly need a much bigger tank whilst our green tree frogs have a new water fountain. Sheldon, our blue tongue lizard, has moved into a much bigger home which gives him a better position to be looking at you looking at him! Unfortunately, over the holidays our bearded dragon Feisty Firey died. Firey had been a character since arriving eighteen months ago at Mornington Primary School. He loved chasing crickets over the floor and if you weren’t quick enough to put them out he would run at your feet and head but you. Finding hidey holes was his best trick - under the heater, inside the back of the fridge, curled up inside a towel, or in a box. A lot of time was spent looking for him and he will be sadly missed by us. We look forward to seeing you all soon.
Anne Garlick and Emma Melder

**CAMPS SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND**
If you hold a current Health Care or Concession Card you may be eligible for the CSEF. Forms are available from the school office. To allow time for processing we ask that parents return the forms with a copy of your card by Tuesday 23rd February.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**
School photos will be taken on Friday 12th February. Envelopes will be distributed early next week and should be returned ONLY on Friday 12th (photo day).

**SHOOTING STAR AWARDS**

**PTC** : Jack Searle for being principled and balanced by making a confident start to the year and being a wonderful role model in our class. What a great start to the year.

**JTC** : Jesse Hopkins for being caring and principled by helping a new student and showing him around the school.

**JTF** : Jayden Harris for demonstrating all attributes of the learner profile by contributing helpful ideas during positive classroom culture discussions.

**JTK** : Phoebe Steed for being principled and caring by including others in her games and for always using beautiful manners.

**JTM** : Brodie Kennan for being a thinker and communicator by setting good example at this table and encouraging others to do the right thing.

**JTS** : Lockie Keleher for being a communicator and caring by supporting the new students in our class and making them feel welcome.

**MTK** : Emma Unsworth for being a thinker and communicator by having a great start to the year and sharing her ideas.

**MTP** : Mia Searle for showing commitment by working hard to complete tasks for which she can be proud of.

**MTS and MTM** : Middle Teams Salmon and Melder for being open minded and risk takers by working together to form one awesome double class.

**MTW** : Oscar Hutchison for being caring towards others by including others in group work.

**STS** : Jorja Blackwell for being open minded and a risk taker by jumping straight into a new school with a fantastic attitude.

**STB** : Lachie Harrison for being a thinker and communicator by contributing to the development of our learning community so positively and enthusiastically.

**STF** : Harrison Gemmell for being a fantastic communicator by starting the new academic year having a positive attitude and sharing his vast amount of knowledge within class discussions. Excellent.

**STW** : Georgia Hinge for thinking and communicating by thinking deeply about the PCC central idea and expressing her thoughts.
Do You have Working with Children Check?
In 2015, all school volunteers will require a WWC check.

Here’s How to Get One -
To apply for a Working with Children (WWC) Check, you need to:

1. Fill in an online application form:
2. Get a passport size photo of yourself
3. Gather your proof of identity documents, and
4. Lodge your application at a participating Australia Post retail outlet, providing a photo and proof of your identity.

The application is free for volunteers; valid for 5 years and transferable between other volunteer organisations.

MESSAGE FROM MADAME CALDER
Bonjour tout le monde! Hello Everyone!
Quelle bonne rentrée !
What a wonderful start!
Smiles,
Madame Calder

French | Phonetic | English
---|---|---
Bonjour, comment ça va ? | Bon-joor, cum-mon sar var | Hello, how are you?
Comment étaient les vacances ? | Cum-mon ay-tay lay var-con-cir | How were the holidays?
Comment t’appelles-tu ? | Cum-mon tar-pel too ? | What is your name?
Je m’appelle Bob. Tu t’appelles Marie. | Jir mar-pel bob. Too tar-pel mar-ree | My name is Bob. Your name is Marie.
Schedule 4 – Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Mornington Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Thursday 11th February, 2016.

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Thursday 25th February, 2016

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Silvio Vitale
Primary