



87 Wilson Street  
Moonee Ponds 3039  
[moonee.ponds.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:moonee.ponds.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
[www.mpp.vic.edu.au](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au)

**Out of Hours School Care:**  
**0459 988 001**

[www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au](http://www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au)

### 2017 Term Dates:

Term 1: Jan 31st(students)-Mar.31st  
Term 2: April 18th —June 30th  
Term 3: July 17th—September 22nd  
Term 4: October 9th—December 22nd

### Dates to Note:

Feb 20-24th 2017: Year 5/ 6 Camp  
Feb 28th—Parent/Teacher Exchange  
Aug 22nd-25th MVIMP Camp  
Aug 28th-Sept 8th Swimming F-Yr. 4  
Sep 18-20th—Year 3/4 Camp

### Parent's Association Meetings

**7.30pm in SPC**

March 9th—AGM (7pm start)

May 11th

June 8th

August 10th

September 14th

October 12th

November 9th

December 14th

Download our FREE Moonee Ponds Primary  
School App now!

or

Register to receive the newsletter via :

<http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/>

**Limited hard copies of newsletter  
available at the office and OHSC**

## PRINCIPAL REPORT

This week our Year 5/6 students and staff are enjoying some nice weather and fun activities down to Cape Bridgewater. They arrived safe and yesterday they spent the day snorkelling, which by all reports was amazing fun. They are due to arrive back on Friday at approx. 3pm.

### Hot Rod- Classic and Custom Show and Shine Car show

Our inaugural car show was a great day; despite being cold and rainy we still had many people come out and support the Parents association while checking out the amazing cars and bikes. The kids-zone and food stalls were also a great success. A massive thank you to Linda DiFlorio-Pulis and her team for their hard work in organising and running this event.

### School Council

A reminder that nominations for school councillors close today at 4pm.

The election timeline/process:

15<sup>th</sup> Feb: Nominations open

22<sup>nd</sup> Feb: Nominations close

If an election is required:

1<sup>st</sup> Mar: Ballot will be declared

8<sup>th</sup> Mar: Voting will close at 4 p.m.

9<sup>th</sup> Mar: Elected parents/ DET representative notified

15<sup>th</sup> Mar: Election results published in newsletter

29<sup>th</sup> Mar: New Council attends the Annual General Meeting

Nominations for election to the MPPS School Council were officially called on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 and will close on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 4pm. **Nomination forms will be available at the front office.** Please see last week's newsletter for more details: [www.mpp.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/February-15th-2017.pdf](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/February-15th-2017.pdf)

### Parent- Teacher Exchange

Our parent teacher exchange will be held next week on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, full details were sent home last week. This 10 minute session is the best opportunity for you to inform your child's teacher about their learning style, strengths or weaknesses and a great opportunity to meet the teacher and discuss the year ahead. Bookings can be made on the school website: [www.mpp.vic.edu.au](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au) or [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) using the code: q5d2w

## PRINCIPAL REPORT (cont.)

### Family Handbook

The 2017 Family Handbook is now available on the school website (parent download section, password is: mpps). This document fully explains everything about the school, including programs, curriculum, processes and other relevant parent information. Most families will have received this when they enrolled but I encourage everyone to check out our latest edition.

### Live for Lily Fundraiser- Friday March 10<sup>th</sup>

The school will be running a fundraiser for the Live for Lily Foundation on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March (<http://liveforlily.org.au/>). The Live for Lily Foundation was formed in January 2016 and named after nine year old Lily Hester, a local girl, who passed away from an incurable form of liver cancer in August 2014. Lily was a friend to some of our past students and her family known by families of the Moon-ee Ponds Primary School community including me. The hope of the foundation is to find a cure for childhood cancer so no child or parent has to endure this grief. Heartbreakingly, three children pass away each week in Australia, a fact the Live for Lily Foundation is committed to see change through research funding into cancer prevention, treatment and awareness. Many other families in the MPPS community have also been touched by this horrible disease. It will be a pink themed day with more information regarding the day's activities forthcoming in coming newsletters.

### Drop off zone

With many new parents at the school I encourage you to please ensure you read the information regarding its rules. Included in this newsletter is the flyer from the council regarding this. The drop off zone is installed, monitored and policed by the Moonee Valley City Council (MVCC), not the school. They are regularly patrolling to ensure everyone is safe around the school and the rules are followed. Please note Bec and I are regularly out there too, this is to monitor the students and reminding parents of the rules if needed.

Some major points that I encourage parents to adhere to, include:

Drivers **MUST** remain in the vehicle at all times (this means **NOT** getting out of the car - say your good byes to your children before you get to school)

Students should always use the door on the foot path side (Students should also have their bag close by ready to hop out unassisted)

Do **NOT** undertake a U-turn in Bent St (please complete a lap around the school)

In the afternoons, please:

Do **NOT** wait in the zone if your child is not there! If your child is not waiting for you complete another lap of the school until they arrive waiting for you at the zone. Parents are encouraged to wait to leave your home a bit later (after 3.20pm) and inform your child/ren to come straight to the waiting area; this will help ensure your child is at the zone waiting to be picked up.

You cannot park in the Drop-Off Zone between 3-4pm (and 8-9.30am); during this time it is a no-standing area and you will be fined.

**Ensure you speak with your child to make sure they are waiting on the footpath ready to be picked up.**

Matt Bott  
Principal

## ART NEWS

Hello everyone!

My name is Christine and I will be teaching Visual and Performing Arts at MPPS this year.

In 2017, there will be newsletter entries that share some of the wonderful experiences that are happening within the Arts program and also upcoming events related to the Arts within the local community.

You can also keep up to date by following *The Arts at MPPS* blog. This will be a space for parents, guardians, grandparents, teachers and friends to see all of the fantastic things that the students are doing this year.

You can access the blog using this link:

<http://mppsarts.global2.vic.edu.au/>

Please feel free to drop by the art room for a chat or even just to say hello!

I am looking forward to a creative and exciting year in the Arts!

Cheers

Christine Caminiti



## DROMKEEN LIT FEST—MARCH 18TH,

Dear Families

The flyer from Dromkeen has been included in our newsletter because we have many students who are avid readers and would benefit greatly from a visit to this wonderful place. Dromkeen has for many years celebrated and supported children's literature and brought many authors, illustrators, students and educators together to learn from one another and enjoy reading and writing. There are usually exhibitions of children's book illustration art works and a beautiful garden with sculptures related to books.

**Books can take us anywhere.**

**LIT FEST**  
March 18, 2017

**Where:** Dromkeen Homestead  
1012 Gisborne-Kilmore Road  
Riddells Creek, Vic. 3431

**When:** Saturday March 18th 2017

Dromkeen is hosting this exciting event for families, teachers and children's book enthusiasts. Meet some of Australia's most talented authors, illustrators, storytellers, guest speakers and cartoonists including:

- Claire Saxby
- Mark Wilson
- Gabrielle Wang
- Mark McBride
- Bret Cardwell
- Glenda Millard
- Mark McBride
- Sue Flockhart

Enjoy a fabulous day of talks, discussions and readings from children's authors and illustrators; hands on workshops; viewing of original illustrations; author/illustrator book signing and sales, and a range of fantastic book related activities in Dromkeen's beautiful gardens.

Go to <http://www.dromkeen.com.au/litfest/>  
For more information and tickets

Proudly supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council

## PE NEWS—SWIMMING SPORTS DAY 2017

Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of February saw the students from Moonee Ponds Primary School participate in its annual Swimming Sports Day Carnival at Queens Park. From all accounts the day was a complete success with students from grades 1-6 getting involved and competing for their houses. It was great to see the level of sportsmanship expressed between all of the houses as it amplified the fun and competitive nature of the day. Well done to our all our house captains and teachers for the huge effort they put in to the day. Also a big thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time to help our swimming carnival run so successfully.

These were the final results.

GRADE 1/2		BANKS
AGE GROUP 8/9/10		MACARTHUR
AGE GROUP 11/12/13		CHISHOLM
OVERALL WINNERS		BANKS
BEST OVERALL GIRL WINNER		LILLY HOLTZ
BEST OVERALL BOY WINNER		JOSH HOLTZ
House	Girl Overall Winner	Boy Overall Winner
Banks	CHARLOTTE RISTIG	JAMES BARNARD
Chisholm	MIETTA VAMPATELLA	TY DAVIS
Macarthur	LILLY HOLTZ	JOSH HOLTZ
Lawson	ERIKA DIGNEY	OLIVER KAL



Respect Optimism Care Collaboration

# SWIMMING SPORTS DAY 2017



Respect Optimism Care Collaboration



**2017 UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES**

**NATIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 2- 6**

As in previous years, students in years 2 to 6 will have the opportunity to participate in a number of national competitions in 2017. The competitions will be held at school and students are invited to participate.

All competitions are conducted by The University of New South Wales. If you are interested in the competitions but would like more information please visit the website: [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au) . Students may also complete practice tests via this website.

Competition details are listed below. If you would like your child to enter one or more competitions, please complete the form below and return it with payment in an envelope marked 'National Competitions' to your child's teacher no later than Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Date in 2017	Competitions for years 2-6	Cost
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Science	\$8.80
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Spelling	\$12.10
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Writing (Yr. 3- 6 only)	\$18.70
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> August	English	\$8.80
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	Maths	\$8.80



**REGISTRATION FORM FOR 2017 NATIONAL COMPETITIONS:**

*Return to your class teacher with payment no later than Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017.*

**(Prices per paper will increase by \$1 after this day (excluding GST).**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year Level (circle one):**

2   3   4   5   6

**Home group:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place a tick** in the first column for each competition your child wishes to enter.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date in 2017	Competitions for years 2-6	Cost
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday 30th May	Science	\$8.80
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday 14th June	Spelling	\$12.10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday 15th June	Writing (Yr. 3- 6 only)	\$18.70
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday 1st August	English	\$8.80
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday 15th August	Maths	\$8.80

PLEASE NOTE: Students will be presented with a certificate of participation at Assembly and recognised in the newsletter. **If you do not want their name and results published in the newsletter, please indicate below.**

**I do not** wish my child's name and results published in the newsletter.  
(please tick)

**PLEASE USE THE OPTIONS BELOW TO INDICATE YOUR METHOD OF PAYMENT:**

\$ _____  CASH <input type="checkbox"/>  CHEQUE <input type="checkbox"/>  BPAY <input type="checkbox"/>	(print clearly)		
	PLEASE CHARGE THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____ TO MY:		
	MASTERCARD <input type="checkbox"/> OR    VISA <input type="checkbox"/>		
	My full card number is: _____		
	Expiry date: _____		
Cardholder's Name: _____			
Signature of Cardholder: _____			

parenting \* ideas

# insights



## Moving beyond asking, "What did you do at school?"

By Michael Grose

Ever found yourself asking your child the same bland question about school?

"So, how was your day? What did you do at school today? What did you learn?"

If these are your default questions the chances are that you'll get a one or two word reply along the lines, "Fine!" "Good!" "Okay" "Nothing much."

These answers don't really tell you a lot. On the other hand, these types of questions don't ask a great deal.

So how can you move beyond the mundane when you talk with kids about their school days?

### Set the atmosphere

It helps to create the right atmosphere for conversations. A quick "How was your day?" as you pick a child up from after-school is a rapport-builder or mood checker, but little more.

If you drive you may learn a bit on the trip home, particularly if you keep the radio off and are able to keep some distance between kids and mobile devices. Alternatively, walking home together may loosen up your child's tongue and put them in the mood for talking.

### Give kids a chance

Most kids need some time and space to unwind before expecting them

to talk about their day, particularly if you are going to launch and ask them questions. This makes sense as most adults would feel annoyed if they were assaulted as soon as they walked in the door about their day, "How was your day? What did you do? Who did you see?" Ahh! Stop!

### Create conversations rather than ask questions

The dinner table makes a great place to talk, if all televisions are off, mobile devices are left behind and you take the time to make it more than a pit stop. One way to kick off a conversation is to ask kids if they'd like to hear about your day. From my experience kids are often interested in the most mundane things that go on in an adult's day so don't think you have to make it sound grander than what it is. This gives kids permission to talk about their own days; your story can stimulate conversations which provides openings for kids to ask questions and share a little or in some cases a lot about their own day at school.

### Interesting questions lead to interesting conversations

The questions you ask to prompt a conversation will often say a great deal about you and what you value. If you focus only on academic or learning questions then it indicates that's what you value.



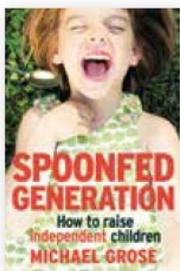
## parenting \* ideas

**Moving beyond asking, "What did you do at school?"**

It helps to take conversations and your questions in different directions to get a multi-faceted window into your child's school life but also an indication of your child's interests, social skills and welfare. Here are some examples of question starters that may prompt different responses from kids about their time at school:

- 1 Tell me what made you laugh today?
- 2 Who did you play with at recess today?
- 3 Did you do anything that was brave?
- 4 If I spoke to your teacher, what would she tell me about you?
- 5 What did your teacher talk about today?
- 6 Is there anyone in your class who needs to be in time out?
- 7 Where's the best place to hang out/play at school?
- 8 Tell me one good thing that happened to you today?
- 9 Who were you nice/kind/friendly to today?
- 10 Did anyone push your buttons today?
- 11 What did you do that you were proud of/happy with today?
- 12 What's something you learned with a friend today?
- 13 What's your teacher's most important rule?
- 14 If today was a musical instrument what would it be? Why?
- 15 If you were a teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?

Next time you ask a clichéd and dull question about your child's day stop yourself before you utter the words. Instead think outside the square and ask questions that may stimulate a response beyond "Fine" or "Nothing." And remember they may not feel like talking, which is fine too. Like adults, kids need to be in the right mood and the right environment if they are going to share a meaningful conversation about their day.



© Parenting Ideas 2017

**Special note:** I'm thrilled to announce that my latest book *Spoonfed Generation: How to raise independent children* is out. It's available at [parentingideas.com.au](http://parentingideas.com.au)



**Visit our website  
for more ideas and  
information to help you  
raise confident and  
resilient young people.**



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

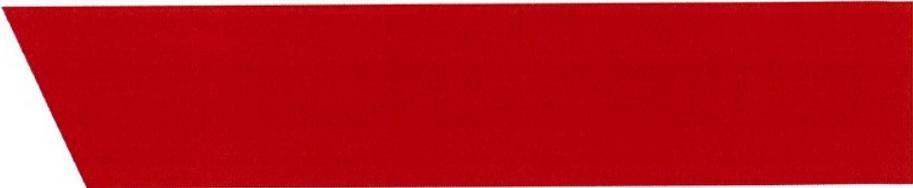
### HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

### MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)





**CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM**

School Name

School REF ID

**Parent/legal guardian details**

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

-  -  -  **OR**

Foster parent\* **OR**  Veterans affairs pensioner

\*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

**Student details**

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date    /    /   





Moonee Ponds Primary School  
respect • optimism • care • collaboration

# ALLOCATION FORM

## CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

APPLICANT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME GROUP \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to allocate my CSEF payment to the following:-

Camp \_\_\_\_\_

Sports events \_\_\_\_\_

Excursions \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not use your entire fund in the current year it will remain as credit on your statement until used.

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

# TERM 1, 2017 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
February 20 Year 5/6 Camp	February 21 Year 5/6 Camp	February 22 Year 5/6 Camp Newsletter School Council	February 23 Year 5/6 Camp	February 24 Year 5/6 Camp
February 27	February 28 Parent/Teacher Interviews	March 1 Newsletter	March 2 Tennis Trials	March 3
March 6 District Swimming Carnival	March 7 District Swimming Back up Day	March 8	March 9 PA Annual General Meeting 7.00-SPC	March 10 SRC Fundraiser 'Live4 Lily'
March 13 Labour Day Holiday	March 14	March 15 Newsletter	March 16 School Photos	March 17 Gala Day 5/6 Students
March 20	March 21	March 22 Foundation 1st Wednesday (full week)	March 23	March 24 Gala Day 5/6 Students
March 27	March 28	March 29 Newsletter School X Country School Council AGM	March 30 Italian Day	March 31 End of Term 2.20 pm Finish

## Newsletter

The newsletter will be published each week during February and then published fortnightly thereafter. The newsletter is the main source of communication from the school and I urge everyone to read it! It will be sent home in hard copy today for all families but will be published on line as of next week; this will help minimise our paper usage and protect the environment. Families will be able to access it on the school website, school smart phone application or by signing up to have it emailed to your inbox when published. **Sign up for the newsletter today!** <http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/> Limited copies will be available at the office or Out of School Hours Care.

How to access the school newsletter:

1. Visit the school website: <http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/>
2. Download the Moonee Ponds Primary School application from your relevant smart phone app store (search for: Moonee Ponds Primary School)
3. Sign up for it to be sent to your email address on the school website:  
<http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/>

