Firstly I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas. 2018 has again been a busy, hectic but fantastic year for all our students, parents and teachers and we look forward to working with you again in the New Year. There will be an assembly on Friday 21st December in the SPC at 1pm and students will be dismissed at 1.20pm.

Year Six Graduation

On Monday night the school held a graduation for our outgoing Year Six students. It was a fantastic night hosted superbly by our school captains – Alexia and Zedakai. They have continued to do an amazing job with their public speaking roles this year. Details of all the award winners are included later in this newsletter. Thank you to the Year 6 teachers: Libby, Caitlyn and Antony for their organisation. Thank-you also to the Year 5 parents who assisted with the supper and setting/packing up of the Sports and Performance Centre. On behalf of all the MPPS community we wish our year six students the very best as they move on to secondary school next year. We hope their future is a bright one!

Staffing - update

Andrea Gale will be taking on a Leading Teacher role at Fountain Gate Secondary College in 2019 and will be leaving MPPS. Amazingly Andrea has been on the staff here for 34 years. We will miss her wealth of knowledge in the Literacy area and wish her well in her new leadership role. Our final teaching position vacancy was filled last Friday and the students met Stefania Lipoma (teaching Yr. 5/6) on Monday. We also welcome Olga Tilkeridis who will be replacing Kim Smith in the Library Technician role.

First day of 2019

The first day back for all students in 2019 is Thursday 31st January at 9am. The prep/foundation students will begin on Friday 1st February but will start at 9.15am. All the teachers will be back at school on Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th January, which are both student free curriculum days.
School Review Report

This report includes a brief outline of the process and findings. As per DET requirements a more comprehensive version has been shared with staff and school council to ensure the next four year plan authentically reflects the needs of our students and aligns with the vision of our school.

100 Year Celebration
Save the date for Sunday 3rd of March to help us celebrate the school turning 100 years. Flyers are around the school and will be shared shortly with the school community. The day will be an opportunity for all past families and staff to come and see the school. The classrooms will be open and will showcase the last 10 decades with photos and information. There will also be food, free rides and entertainment. Please spread the word.

Final Staffing Arrangements
Below are the class teachers and classrooms for 2019. Students have now met their 2019 classmates and teacher. All students completed an information sheet about their new class and brought this home on Monday 17th December after their final move-up session. It has been great students excited about the year ahead!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation</th>
<th>5/6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Hargreaves- Rm 1</td>
<td>Libby Haigh- Rm 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanie Woods- Rm 2</td>
<td>Chris Mizis Rm 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leigh Richardson (Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri) / Christine Caminiti (Wed) - Rm 4</td>
<td>(Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri) / Nancy Berardone (Wed) - Rm 22</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stef Lipoma—Rm 21</td>
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<td>1/2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Antony Brock- Rm 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Maegan St Lawrence - Rm 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holly Coleman- Rm 13</td>
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<td>Jenny Clark- Rm 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mae Risson- Rm 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Burke (and Jess Buerckner for weeks 2, 3 &amp; 4 in Term 1) - Rm 17</td>
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<td>3/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Candice Ryan- Rm 6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Macrae- Rm 7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>David Kiddle- Rm 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lee Pregnell- Rm 18</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Nicole Macrae (Literacy) and Dave Kiddle (Numeracy) will continue next year to support and teachers with coaching focussing on improving our teaching. There will be a teacher working in their rooms to support the class during this coaching time. This will be confirmed at the start of next year. Chris Mizis as the school’s new Learning Specialist will be coaching staff around our instructional teaching model and feedback to ensure our students are best supported in their learning.

Matt Bott
Principal

Have a safe and happy holiday

Respect  Optimism  Care  Collaboration
On behalf of the year 6 students and teachers we would like to thank all year 5 parent helpers for their work on this year’s graduation. Thank you to our wonderful team of volunteers, Karyn Di Florio, Kate Fraser, Karin Power, Marianne Rothschild, Alex Kargopoltshev and Kerrie O’Brien. An enormous amount of work was also done by Melissa Darlington and Tracey Talko, who spent much time taking outstanding photos which Melissa then collated to make the amazing Photo Book that each student received as a graduation gift.

A big thank you also goes to Caitlyn Barclay for her creative work on the student’s dance performance, a treat which brought a smile to all present.

Another key person to thank is Deb Curran who came on the night to photograph students in the ceremony, and with family and friends afterwards. To make your order – visit the site below

2. In the Gallery Menu select MPPS Graduation
3. Access code – HighHopes (case sensitive)

We would also like to recognise the efforts of Hamish Cutler and Mariana Galanopoulos, our 2019 school captains for their effort on the night. Finally we are all proud of the stellar performance of this year’s school captains, Zedekai Di Florio-Pulis and Alexia Kyriacou, who as the Masters of Ceremonies keep the night rolling. As we have come to expect from them, they were prepared, focused, relaxed and completely in command of the situation.

Through our 5/6 SEPEP sport program we have been educating our students on the role behind the scenes support people play in sporting events. Our year 6s understand the role played by those who helped make their big night such a success. They wish to pass on their appreciation for all who contributed to their primary school journey.

The following awards were handed out on the night:

Specialist Awards (chosen by the specialist and foundation teachers):
- PE – Bridget Mihulka
- Visual Arts – Flynn Alphey
- Performing Arts – Sharnequa Atherton
- Italian – Aaliyah Malik
- Buddies – Eloise Johnstone
- Valedictorian – Finian Vitale

Achievement Awards):
- Excellence (5/6A) – Sofia Martinez-Scidone
- Excellence (5/6B) – Ambrose Carroll
- Excellence (5/6C) – Estella Richardson

- Academic Achievement (5/6A) – Zedekai Di Florio-Pulis
- Academic Achievement (5/6B) – Ethan Haigh
- Academic Achievement (5/6C) – Hamish Talko
- Dux – Bridget Mihulka

The final award was the Principal’s Award which is given to a student who, through their ongoing contributions to the broader school community, continually personifies our school values. This year’s recipient is Aaliyah Malik.

Congratulations to all our graduating year six students.
Finally for some families the year 6 graduation marks the end of their family’s time at MPPS. We wish the following families well for the future:

Alphey Family
Brading Family
Gikas Family
Mitchell Family
Nott Family
Atherton Family
Carroll Family
Chuah Family
Cunliffe Family
Haigh Family
Kroger Family
Mittrakas Family
Kyriacou Family
Richardson Family
Siaflis Family
Vitale Family

Families in other year levels who are also leaving, we wish them all the best:

Hogan Family
Ghobrial Family
Barnard Family
Gulam Family
Ay Family
Griggs Family
Mohamed Family
Eltze Family
As the school year comes to an end, the School Council would like to take the opportunity to thank the broader school community for their support to the school during the year.

The school is supported by many parents/carers through voluntary activities across a range of areas. Support is broad and diverse – from assisting with reading, attending working bees, running the walking bus programme, collecting lunches, marshalling at sporting events, washing sports clothes, assisting with excursion and camps, preparing outfits for concerts, sourcing equipment to donate to the school, applying for grants and many other initiatives. Parents/carers are also involved in more formal supporting positions such as in the Parents’ Association (fundraising and social activities) and the School Council (school governance in conjunction with departmental staff).

The broad range of volunteers often go unheralded and do so for the benefit of the broader school community.

We would also like to thank the teaching and support staff for all their hard work and dedication to our children throughout the year. They do a fantastic job!

Finally, to the grade 6 students now graduating, we wish them all the best for the future and their entry to secondary school.

Best wishes for the Christmas period and the new year to all our families, staff and students.

MPPS School Council

FROM THE SCHOOL COUNCILLORS
The final week of OSHClub for 2018 has arrived and everyone has been super excited talking about all their holiday and Christmas plans. We have continued with lots of Christmas craft this week making cards for our friends, family and teachers.

The train set was a huge hit this week with each day bringing bigger and more complex tracks being built. The children have been using their fantastic communication skills to work together as a team and create these exciting mini worlds.

Some of the children have been helping out with the chickens here at OSHClub, feeding them, ensuring they have enough water and just enjoying their company. We will be spending a lot more time out in the garden over the vacation program as we work to fix up and get our vegetable beds thriving again.

**Vacation Care**

Please ensure you have booked your chosen days as spaces are limited.

OSHClub do not provide meals during vacation care so please ensure your children bring enough food for the duration of the day. (Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea) Please also remember we are a NUT FREE service and have children with anaphylaxis attend so to ensure the safety of all children please do not bring any food containing nuts.

If your children are attending excursion days please ensure you check the vacation care flyer for arrival times as we will need to ensure we leave promptly on time.

**Pupil free days**

A few of you have spoken to me regarding the pupil free days before the start of term one. (29th and 30th January). I have received the following message regarding these days.

We have been informed of some upcoming Pupil Free Days at Moonee Ponds OSHClub on Tuesday 29th & Wednesday 30th of January 2019, which will run if we receive a minimum of 15 bookings for each day.

Please book prior to 5pm 22nd January 2019 to register your interest. We will advise on this day if we have enough bookings to proceed.

We would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and New Year and hope you all have a lovely time however you may be celebrating.

We look forward to welcoming you back in 2019.

Osh Club Team
OSH Club
Before & After School Care

Respect  Optimism  Care  Collaboration
Moonee Ponds Primary School
Celebrating 100 Years
1919 - 2019

SUNDAY
3rd March
2019

Moonee Ponds Primary School
100th Birthday Celebration
Time: 10am - 2pm
87 Wilson Street, Moonee Ponds

For more information:
W: www.mpp.vic.edu.au
Facebook ‘Moonee Ponds Central School’
P: 03 9375 2511
E: moonee.ponds.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Vic Cric Soccer
SUMMER SCORCHER CLINICS 2018

- Fun clinics in a safe and non-competitive environment
- Boys and Girls at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels
- Ages 4 - 12
- 55 minute tuition throughout the school term
- FEE: $110 per child, including a gift!
- Certificates are awarded to all players upon completion and trophy is presented to those who have completed 4 or 8 seasons of the same sport

TERM ONE CLINICS BEGIN ON SATURDAY 9th FEBRUARY

Saturday morning clinics run during the school term and involve 55 minutes of personalised tuition. There is an age and skill appropriate curriculum focus on the fundamentals of the games, as well as an encouragement of social interaction to build skill levels and grow self-esteem. Soccer will be offered at the Strathmore venue for Summer 2018. We ensure an approximate rate of one coach to ten players to allow each participant individual skills development.

SESSION TIMES
SOCcer will be running from Saturday 9th February 2019
8:30am - 9:30am

METHOD OF PAYMENT
Pre-pay CHEQUE $110 (to secure your place)
Please mail with completed application form to:
VIC CRIC, 28 SPENCER ST ESSENDON, 3040,
OR
Payment on first day of clinic,
FEB 9th 2019, CHEQUE/CASH $110
Please note, registration and payment must be completed before commencement of clinic.

TOTAL AMOUNT $__________________________
Please make all cheques payable to Vic Cric

Participant/s information:
Name(s): __________________________
DOB:______________ Clinics previously completed: ________
Parent/Guardian Name/s: __________________________
Phone: ___________ School: __________________________
Email: __________________________

I do ________________ do not ________________ give permission for my child to be photographed and for photos to appear on Vic Cric Social Media,
Parent/Guardian Signature: __________________________

Family discounts apply as well as combination discounts for 2 disciplines. Ask Vic CRIC team for more information. Disclaimer: Children play at their own risk. Vic Cric Pty Ltd accepts no liability.

LOYALTY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE!
My wife is a formidable person.

One Christmas, annoyed by the lack of
grateful\textcolor{red}{\textit{ness}} shown by some of her young relatives
when gifts were distributed, she put a cunning
plan in action.

The following year, instead of toys, games
and assorted gifts that were ungratefully
received and promptly forgotten, each of her
young relatives was given a card, thanking
them for their generous donation of a goat, a
well, or a vegetable plot to a family in need in a
developing country. A seismic shift for many of
these children!

Some years later, said children know exactly
what to expect from their senior relative –
the only surprise will be the nature of their
donation. Chicken or goat? Hoe or bag of seeds?

They also know that they should thank their
senior relative for their gift, and be grateful
that somewhere in another part of the world
someone is benefiting from their generosity.
Some children may take more convincing than
others, but so be it. They don’t miss out on
much!

A challenging time

It can be tricky for parents during the end
of year festive and holiday season to guide
children down a giving, let alone spiritual path.
So much attention is placed on receiving that it
can be difficult to develop a sense of ‘other’ in
children. It helps to be proactive and put rituals
of generosity in place, which will inevitably
become part of your family’s traditions.

Here are some ideas to get you thinking:

\textbf{1. Develop an action of gratitude}
Discuss with children the people who have
been helpful, kind or gone out of their way for
them during the year. Then they can make a
note, make a gift or cook something that they
can give to those people to say thank you. Make
it personal and make it physical.

\textbf{2. Make a family commitment of giving}
Pick a cause that’s close to your family’s heart
and make a commitment to do something or
give something on a regular basis throughout
the coming year. One-off events can lose
meaning, whereas all-year volunteering or
giving has greater impact on both the giver and
the receiver.

\textbf{3. Involve kids in personal giving}
If gifts are shared as part of your tradition then
do your best to involve children in the giving
process. Discuss the choice of gifts: “So what do
you think your cousin would like?”. Even better,
get your kids to accompany you on a shopping
trip, if you dare. It would be a good learning
experience for them.

\textbf{4. Have a clean out}
Approaching the festive season provides a great
opportunity for kids to spring clean their toy,
clothes and technology cupboards. Not only
does this make room for the new, (and perhaps
unfairly lift their expectations), but it provides
the chance for children to pass on unwanted
items to siblings, friends or others who would
probably appreciate and use them more than
they would.

\textbf{5. Give them a social script}
Children usually operate on a script learnt
from their parents. If you want them to be
thankful for their gifts then give them the
lines they should use. Be prepared for some
gentle parental cajoling if in all the festive
excitement they forget to say thanks. And while
you’re at it, I suggest that you avert potential
embarrassment and give them some lines to
use when they open the inevitable weird
present, or receive a gift they already have, “I’ve
got two of those already!” is not the sound a
beaming and generous relative needs to hear!

The festive and holiday season offers many
social challenges for parents. In many ways,
the biggest challenge is to instil in your kids
some social graces and a generous spirit that
will withstand the unique challenges that the
festive season throws up. Good luck, be good
and be grateful!
Fostering healthy sibling relationships

If your kids constantly fight with each other, then don’t despair. All that emotional energy isn’t going to waste. According to a recent study, sibling fights teach kids important conflict resolution skills. In fact, parents who stop their children from arguing may well be depriving them of important learning opportunities. Researcher Laurie Kramer from the University of Illinois in the US found that kids who learned how to argue with their siblings had more advanced emotional development.

Anecdotally, it seems that sibling fighting is one of the biggest impediments to parents enjoying family life. Many parents tell me that if their children stopped bickering their lives would improve dramatically.

Many parents also worry that their children who fight with each other will not get along as adults. The evidence doesn’t support this view. The test for strong families is more about the willingness for kids to pull together when the chips are down than it is about than the frequency of squabbling.

Healthy families know how to fight well. When parents take an active approach to helping their children resolve their fights, they are teaching them a valuable life skill as well as reducing the incidence of fighting over the long term. Here are five practical strategies to use:

MODEL good conflict resolution skills
Kids wear ‘L’ plates when it comes to solving disputes. Some kids will yell, get abusive or even get physical when they are settling disputes. Show them better ways of sorting out problems by talking things through with your partner, compromising and apologising when you’ve said something upsetting to your partner or your children.

Help kids MANAGE their emotions
“Yep, it would make me mad too if someone said that to me.” Usually someone’s feelings get hurt when siblings argue, so make sure you recognise their emotions without taking sides. This focus on feelings helps kids develop emotional literacy and promotes empathy in siblings as well.

MONITOR sibling relationships
Keep your antenna up for signs of discord within sibling relationships. Kids can sort out some disputes themselves, but you may need to be ready to intervene and assist with peace-brokering, or at least to act as a safety net, when one child continually appears to be on the wrong end of a power imbalance.

MENTOR them to sort out disputes
Kids need the chance to sort their conflicts out themselves, but sometimes they need a little coaching. They often invite their parents to take sides, which is usually counterproductive. Rather than trying to sort out who started an argument, focus on possible solutions. Provide suggestions such as taking turns, giving way, bargaining, swapping or even walking away.

Encourage them to MAKE UP
Kids often get over disputes far quicker than adults. They can be squabbling one minute and cuddling up the next, so intervening gets tricky sometimes. However there are times when you need to encourage a child to mend bridges with an aggrieved sibling. This can mean a child has to swallow their pride, admit that they may be wrong, make an apology or make some sort of restitution such as doing a special favour. This type of restoration means kids must take responsibility for their behaviours and is a sign of growing maturity.

Children without siblings can learn conflict resolution skills by spending time with other peers and friends, and by having parents who are willing to argue with them without coming on too strong or laying down the law. Conflict and siblings tend to go together. They are natural bedfellows. While sibling squabbles can be annoying, they also offer parents great opportunities to help kids to handle conflict effectively, which is a great life skill.
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 online 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:


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/