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PRINCIPAL REPORT

Welcome back to all families. It is wonderful to see our students settled and engaged in learning. Our Whole School Athletics day is scheduled for next Wednesday 28th April. We welcome any parents and carers who are able to help out on the day. Good luck to our Year 5/6 students on their first week of interschool winter sports on Friday 30th April. Part of our school mission is to support students to become active and inspired citizens. It is terrific to see the students living our values of respect, optimism, care and collaboration in the way they engage with and contribute across the school and the wider community.

On Monday during our Curriculum Day our staff spent the day continuing our Strategic Plan focus on developing best practice in the teaching and learning of reading. Our Learning Specialist Nicole Macrae along with our Literacy Coach Helen Harris led the day. The day included professional learning around our literacy instructional model (the way we teach reading) as well as time in our Professional Learning Community teams looking at our student data and working on our lesson and unit planners. The day was filled with rich discussion, reflective questioning and a clear focus on ensuring the best outcomes for our students.

Harmony Day was celebrated 26th March, just before the holidays. It was a great opportunity for the school to celebrate inclusion as well as a time for classes to work with students across the year levels.

Congratulations again to Matt Bott who has welcomed baby Jackson Robert to the family. Mum and baby both well. We wish Matt and his family the very best during this exciting and exhausting time.

MVRC Feedback – updated Master-Plan

Moonee Valley City Council (MVCC) has requested feedback on the Moonee Valley Race Course (MVRC) master-plan which includes the new grandstand being relocated to Wilson St (across from the MPPS library). One aspect that we would like to bring to the attention of MPPS families is that the sporting fields (soccer, netball etc) and community facilities that were included in the earlier plans and discussions with MVRC as part of the in-field of the race track for community use are no longer included in the current master plan published by MVRC.

In all our discussions with MVRC and MVCC since the development was first shared with the community in 2011, we have continued to advocate for the safety of our students, families and staff. The feedback provided by our families and local residents has also supported the needs of our community including our school.

To provide feedback visit the MVCC website at: <https://yoursay.mvcc.vic.gov.au/mvrcmasterplan>. Feedback was initially due by the 22nd April, 2021 (tomorrow). The closing date has been extended but we are unsure how long this period now is – so would recommend that this is done as soon as possible. We appreciate and thank you for providing feedback if you can find the time.

Staffing update

With the start of term 2 we are also welcoming some new staff to our MPPS community. Zoe Pirotta will be teaching 3/4A on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays now that Jess Zach has commenced her maternity leave. We also welcome Daniel Burke who has joined our Education Support Staff (ESS) team and will be supporting Candice and the students in 5/6B. Continued next page...

2021 Term Dates:

Term 1 - 29th Jan to 1st April

Term 2 - 19th April to 25th June

Term 3 - 12th July to 17th Sept

Term 4 - 4th Oct to 17th Dec

Dates to Note:

April

28th - School Athletics Sports

May

7th - Mother's Day Stall

10th to 21st - NAPLAN

26th - School Council Meeting

Parent's Association Meetings

2021 - 13th May

Access the latest school newsletter through the Compass Newsfeed or through the School Website at: <http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/>

PRINCIPAL REPORT (continued)

Maegan will be teaching in 3/4B for the start of term 2 now that David Kiddle has taken on a Leading Teacher role working in the North West Region. We are currently in the process of appointing a new teacher to the class for the remainder of this year. We also look forward to welcoming Leigh Richardson back as she works in some classes on Tuesdays. We will continue to support all our students to ensure a smooth and supportive transition.

Sun Smart

Although the weather is beginning to turn colder, it is important for us all to remain wary of the sun and the UV rays. **Remember students need to be wearing a hat during recess and lunch until the end of April.** We have a school sun smart policy which can be found at www.mpp.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/MPPS-SunSmart-policy-2019.pdf. Please ensure you read through this document and ensure students have hats and sunscreen available when outdoors. Staff are on duty reminding students to be sun smart particularly at our school sports events; however, I encourage parents to discuss this with your child beforehand as well to build their independence and sense of responsibility.

School Council Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our School Council met in the last week of term one for the AGM. At this meeting the office bearers for School Council were finalised. I would like to thank them for accepting their nomination and congratulate the following office bearers:

President- Scott Siega

Vice President- Paul Italia

Treasurer- Paul Pafumi

We also have two Parent Association committee member positions that are yet to be filled. If anyone is interested please do not hesitate to contact me, Matt Bott or Sally Deakin (Parents Association President).

2020 Annual Report to the School Community

Our annual report has been approved by School Council and is available for families to view on the website <http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/strategic/>

The annual report informs the school community of what has been achieved and how the school is performing. This is a great opportunity for us to reflect as a school and ensure we are planning accordingly for the future. If anyone has any queries or questions regarding this document, please contact me.

Attitudes to School Survey (Year 4/5/6)

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The Attitudes to School survey is an annual survey for Years 4 to 12 students offered by the Department of Education and Training. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Students will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, bullying and life in general. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's experience at school.

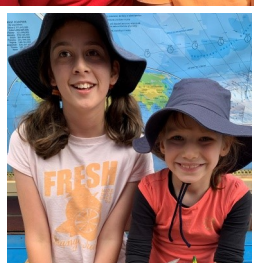
Students in Year 4, 5 and 6 will participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year the Attitudes to School survey will be conducted at our school over the period Monday 3rd May to Friday 14th May 2021. The survey only takes 20-30 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time. Parents and Carers of students in Year 4-6 will receive further information about the Attitudes to School Survey via Compass.

Foundation enrolment

Our school tours are in full swing and enrolment forms are coming in. I encourage all current families with children ready to start Foundation next year to please get a form and hand it in to the office before the end of May to ensure that we hold a place for your child.

Rebecca McMahon

Acting Principal





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Mindfulness

Lunchtime Club

I have previously run mindfulness lunchtime club for the Year 5/6s but for Term 2, **I want to extend the invitation to the Years 1-6s.** It is a **20-minute** lunchtime club in the **library** at the start of lunchtime on **Mondays** for **Term 2.**



A quick mindfulness exercise for right now:

Notice 5 things you can see

4 things you can feel

3 things you can hear

2 things you can smell

1 thing you can taste

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

House Athletics Carnival

On Wednesday 28th April we will be having our whole school athletics carnival. Students have been practising their skills in preparation for this day. It would be great to have parent volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Years 3-6 events please email Stefanie on Stefanie-Marie.Modesti@education.vic.gov.au.

If you are interested in helping out with the Foundation – Year 2 events can you please email Jennifer.Clark3@education.vic.gov.au or Mae.Risson@education.vic.gov.au.

You can also sign up at the office or outside the Foundation classrooms.



Regional Swimming

Congratulations to Hannah Ristig and Leo Pruden who competed at the regional swimming event on Tuesday 30th March.



District Tennis

Congratulations to Sascha Nelson and Isabella Johnstone who competed at the district tennis competition. Sascha will be representing Moonee Ponds PS at the divisional level.



Cross Country

Well done to all students who participated and competed at our House Cross country event on Wednesday 31st March. A big thank you to all of our parent helpers.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS



Cross Country Report By Toby Whyte

On 31/3/21, MPPS held this year's school Cross Country Event. The Cross country is an event where the 5,6 and 7-year-old run 1km, the 8,9 and 10-year-olds run 2km and the 11,12 and 13-year-olds run a lap of Ormond park and then proceed to the bike track to continue on for the rest of the race. It is all about having fun and participating and representing your house. It starts at Ormond park for the 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13-year-olds. The race finishes at fanny Reserve. When it occurred this year it was not rainy, cold or boiling hot, it was the most brilliant weather possible for the Cross Country. Only people in the 8,9,10-year-old and the 11,12- and 13-year-old groups can qualify for Districts. Districts is a competition where certain people face other schools in that event. If a school gets students who do well enough in Districts they go to Divisional then Regionals and then State and then the World championship.

Cross Country Champions 2021

House	Boy Overall Winner	Girl Overall Winner
Banks	Sascha Nelson	Hannah Ristig
Chisholm	Zac Megalla	Avery Hutchison
Macarthur	George Holderhead	Chloe Italia
Lawson	Oliver Davern	Tessa Anderson

GRADE P-2 WINNERS	Macarthur
AGE GROUP 8/9/10	Banks
AGE GROUP 11/12/13	Banks
OVERALL WINNERS	Banks
BEST OVERALL GIRL WINNER	Hannah Ristig
BEST OVERALL BOY WINNER	Zac Megalla

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MPPS PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Term 2 – Newsletter 1

First things first...



Great work team:

Kate Mikkelsen (Team Leader)
Mary Burlak
Nicole McGhie
Hala Salem
Amy Nelson
Christia Romero

Kelly Hogan
Casey Smith
Claudia Lam
Louise Smith
Angela Grozos
Phoebe Armitage

Melanie Platt
Daniella Stow
Katie Kapetanios
Deb Hsien
Alison Matthews
Gill Ward

We also couldn't have done it without the support of the MPPS parents, carers and student community. Thank you for putting in your orders, and for supporting our first big fundraising event for 2021. Once we know the final amount raised will let you know, and this will be an important contribution towards our fundraising goal for 2021.

In consultation with MPPS school leadership, a very exciting big-ticket item is in the planning stages. Our fundraising efforts this year aim to make it happen. We can't wait to share the plans with you very soon, so please stay tuned.

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MPPS PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Term 2 – Newsletter 1

The events below are coming up in Term 2 - we would love your help to make them a huge success!

Mother's Day Stall
Friday 7th May

Pie Drive
Wednesday 2nd June

School Disco
Friday 18th June

End of Term Lunch
Friday 25th June

Mother's Day Stall

The Parents Association will be hosting a Mother's Day Stall on **Friday 7th of May**. This is a lovely opportunity for our children to do some secret shopping for the special people in their lives. There will be plenty to choose from, including soaps, honey, coffee, plants for the garden and a variety of bits and bobs. Prices range from \$1 through to \$10. Please ensure you send along a shopping bag and some gold coins.

We require some helpers! We need four Dads/Stepdads/Granddads to volunteer to 'man' the stall. If you have time, please get in touch as we cannot run these events without our amazing volunteers. Just drop an email to mppsparentsassociation@gmail.com

We are very much looking forward to a wonderful Term 2 with lots of collaboration across our school community! With thanks, Astrid and the MPPS Parents Association team.

REMINDER! Are you signed up to the MPPS Parents Association for 2021?

It's free to join, you just need to register annually then all the agenda and meeting notes will be sent out to you.

Head to the school website to complete the registration form [here](#).

<http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/parent-association/>

Moonee Ponds Primary School Mother's Day Luncheon.

14th | FRIDAY
MAY

SAVE
THE
DATE



Venue: GOURMET KITCHEN

Time: 12pm till 2.30m

Cost: \$50.00 PER PERSON

BOOKING DETAILS COMING SOON!

Tickets will be limited.

A colorful poster for a Mother's Day Stall. The background is a light beige color. At the top, there are stylized floral decorations in pink, orange, and yellow. The text "MOTHER'S DAY STALL" is written in large, bold, blue capital letters. Below it, "Friday 7th May" is written in orange. The main text is in a blue, slightly informal font. At the bottom, there are more stylized floral decorations in pink, orange, and yellow.

**MOTHER'S
DAY STALL**

Friday 7th May

The Parents Association will be holding a stall for all the students to come and do some secret shopping. Each class will have an opportunity to attend the stall. Prices start at \$1.00 up to \$10.00. There will be soaps, plants, honey, coffee and other lovely bits and bobs to choose from.

All proceeds will go back into the school.



Chess-Ed.

Chess Education
Manager: Nick Speck
Email: info@chesseducation.com.au

ABN: 45 801 319 770
Tele: 0402 339 600
Website: www.chesseducation.com.au

Moonee Ponds Primary School Chess Club – Term 2, 2021

Chess is one of the most powerful educational tools available to strengthen a child's mind. Most 6–7-year-olds can follow the basic rules and some children as young as 4 or 5 can play. Whatever a child's age, chess can enhance concentration, patience, and perseverance, as well as develop creativity, intuition, and memory. Most importantly, children can develop the ability to analyse and deduce from a set of general principles, to make tough decisions and to solve problems flexibly.

The coaches, David Beaumont and Phil Dragic are experienced chess teachers and two of Victoria's leading chess players.

The chess classes will take the children through a structured chess course with the dual aim of achieving the maximal educational benefits the game offers and providing an enjoyable learning environment.

**** ENROLMENT PROCEDURE ****

You may now register and pay for your classes online at www.chesseducation.com.au

Using an email address, you can create an account to book and pay for your classes. Once you register with your email address you will be sent a confirmation email – when you click on this you will be taken back to the website where you can enter some basic details allowing you to book in for the chess classes. Make sure you select Moonee Ponds PS as your school. You will also be able to download the puzzle sheets each week from the website and a copy of the Introduction to Chess booklet is also available for download from your account.

When selecting your child's level just select the one you think is appropriate. As a general guide: -

Learners: just starting out and needs to learn the rules

Beginners: knows the rules and is ready for the basic strategies

Intermediate: knows how to perform most basic checkmates and keep control of their pieces

Advanced: ready for tournament play

We use these levels to give us a general idea of your child's chess ability and it also helps us when placing the children in different groups.

At the moment the following payment options are available online:

Pay Cash: if you select this option your class is booked and you can leave the payment in an envelope at the school office with your details on it (especially your order number) and you'll receive a receipt via email once we've collected and processed your payment

Paypal: you can use your paypal account or a credit card to make your payment – a receipt will automatically be emailed to you if you chose this option

Pay by Direct Deposit: this option provides you with details to do a Direct Bank Transfer. It is very important you put the correct reference number in when making your Bank Transfer. Once the transfer has come through (this may take a few days sometimes) we will confirm it and a receipt will be sent to your email.

Note the website has a feature for putting in pro-rata payments. If you know of any classes you will be missing you can adjust your fee when booking by un-checking the box that says "This child will be attending all sessions this Term".

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- **When:** Thursday lunchtimes (1:30pm start), 9 classes in Term 2 on 29/4, 6/5, 13/5, 20/5, 27/5, 3/6, 10/6, 17/6 and 24/6.
 - **Where:** Library
 - **Cost:** \$81 per child (9 lessons - \$9 per class, includes GST).
 - **Enquiries:** to Nick Speck on 0402 339 600 or email at info@chesseducation.com.au
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INSIGHTS

Managing anxiety before it becomes a problem



The president of Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) recently highlighted the enormity of the anxiety problem that children are facing. A survey of primary schools across Australia conducted by the APPA showed that 80% of school leaders regard anxiety as a significant issue for children.

Research shows that childhood anxiety left unmanaged will almost certainly re emerge, highlighting the importance of early detection and management of anxiety. Parents, as first responders, play an important role by minimising the impact of stressful moments before they lead to full-blown anxiety. Here's how they can help.

Recognise anxiety triggers

Recognising the events that trigger anxiety is the first step in helping a child to manage their stress. Rapid or unpredictable change, new social situations, unfamiliar events and difficult experiences are the most common anxiety stressors for kids.

Know how it shows

Stress and anxiety show in many ways however most children display anxiety behaviours that are unique to them. Typically, anxiety shows through physical signs such as chest pains, nausea and headaches. Anxiety can be observed through behavioural clues such as avoidance of activities, aggression, concentration difficulties and constant fiddling and movement. Worrying, overthinking and catastrophising are also common in children who experience anxiety. Knowing how anxiety shows in your child will alert you to respond appropriately with support and understanding.

Give kids tools to manage their states

Once anxiety is experienced it never truly disappears. It's always there in the background. Anxiety needs managing so kids can get on with their lives rather than become overwhelmed by stress and worry. Providing children with tools to manage their thinking, emotional and physical states prevents anxiety from becoming debilitating. Management tools such as deep breathing, mindfulness and exercise as well as techniques to help kids distance themselves from their anxiety-inducing thoughts help them minimise the impact of stress.

Help them understand how anxiety works

Children who understand what happens in their brains and bodies when they are stressed are better able to manage their anxious states. Providing children with a thorough knowledge of how anxiety works and how it shows empowers them to push their worries into the background while they get on with their lives. Managing anxiety takes practice, but it's absolutely essential if children are to flourish rather than become overwhelmed by stress and worry.

parenting*ideas

In closing

Stress and anxiety have accelerated with the impact of the pandemic. The growing rate of anxiety is no one's fault, however it does mean that parents need to become more knowledgeable about how anxiety works, how it shows and how you can help your children.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.

LEARNING STAR AWARDS: 21/04/21



LEARNING Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Risson	Alison Huntington	For doing some excellent writing and drawing about Cross Country
Foundation B Alice Hargreaves	Elisa Borggreve	For her perseverance in writing!
Foundation C Nicola Scott	Aiden Cristiano	For working hard in his writing and listening to the sounds he can hear. Well done Aiden!
1/2 A Taylor Reid	Isla Burgess	For working through the writing process to complete a detailed recount about her trip to Luna Park.
1/2 B Antony Brock	Hayden Hogan	For the fantastic work you have been putting into your amazing recounts
1/2 C Shannon Radford	Paige Kreuzer	For always trying her best on all tasks and writing and publishing a great recount. Well done Paige!
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Nate Mikkelsen	For finishing a draft and publishing a recount about the Swimming Carnival. Well done!
3/4 A Jess Zach / Nicole Macrae	Ella Khabbaz	For working through the writing process to publish a narrative and share with the class
3/4 B David Kiddle	Toby Whyte	For applying his place knowledge to decimal numbers.
3/4 C Meredith Anderson	Isabelle Webb	For taking risks in her learning and challenging herself to always think about what is going to extend her even further!
3/4 D Lee Pregnell	Macie Clements-Kelly	For her great work consolidating her understandings around place value.
3/4 E Stef Lipoma	Ben Threlfall	For challenging his mathematical skills to real world problems.
5/6 A Libby Haigh	Cleo Gjurovski	For showing perseverance and determination when completing math tasks and challenging herself to master the next step.
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Eva Eleftherakis	For working hard and contributing her thinking during our Smart Words Lessons
5/6 C Holly Coleman	Hannah Ristig & Vivien Power	For working hard and collaboratively on their integrated project.
Arts Christine Caminiti	Joe Alves	for being focussed the entire term and making an interesting and detailed painting
Italian (LOTE) Nancy Berardone	Audrey Cutler	For consistently being a focused, dedicated and diligent learner in Italian classees. Ben fatto!
Physical Education Stef Modesti	Eamon Spilar	For working hard in PE to master triple jump

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ROCC STAR AWARDS: 21/04/21



ROCC Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Risson	Eva Giannarakis	For showing care by helping to pack up extra things and demonstrating respectful listening
Foundation B Alice Hargreaves	Rafael Maiotti	For being so helpful!
Foundation C Nicola Scott	Eliana Rizzas	For always helping others in the classroom without being asked! Well done Eli!
1/2 A Taylor Reid	Sara Khabbaz	For using her growth mindset to tackle challenges and for remaining optimistic when given feedback in the classroom this week.
1/2 B Antony Brock	Mabel Dicker	for always being helpful, kind and enthusiastic about your learning
1/2 C Shannon Radford	Eloise Bunton	For always showing respect to her class peers and having a growth mindset when attempting new things.
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Callie Milholland	For completing the Cross Country Run by being optimistic and showing a growth mindset, even though you were a little bit scared at first.
3/4 A Jess Zach / Nicole Macrae	Zoe Pham	For always being a helpful and friendly class member.
3/4 B David Kiddle	Jemima McClelland	For showing that she is a strong listener that can give thoughtful feedback to her peers.
3/4 C Meredith Anderson	Luca Belilovsky	For showing care for his fellow classmates by speaking up and ensuring school values were followed.
3/4 D Lee Pregnell	Eve Rundle	For the care she shows towards her fellow classmates, and support she regularly offers around the classroom.
3/4 E Stef Lipoma	Chris Borggreve	For being optimistic during the cross country run and completing the race with his best efforts.
5/6 A Libby Haigh	Gus Fraser	For being a great leader and role model as we introduce the Smart Words program.
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Ella Stewart	For her fantastic application and focus in the MAT program.
5/6 C Holly Coleman	Eamon Spilar	For being a fantastic role model to his 1/2 partner on Harmony Day.
Arts Christine Caminiti	Matthias Yu	for always showing care in his work and when cleaning up materials in visual arts class
Italian (LOTE) Nancy Berardone	Leon Michaelidis	For helping classmates with their learning and showing fantastic leadership qualities. Ben fatto!
Physical Education Stef Modesti	Mia Ristig	For the growth mindset you have demonstrated when learning new skills. Keep it up!

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TERM 2 2021 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
April 19 Curriculum Day Student Free Day	April 20 Start of Term 2	April 21 Newsletter	April 22	April 23
April 26	April 27	April 28 School Athletics Sports	April 29 Assembly	April 30 5/6 Winter Sport #1
May 3	May 4	May 5 Newsletter	May 6	May 7 5/6 Winter Sport #2 Mother's Day Stall
May 10 NAPLAN Week	May 11	May 12	May 13 Assembly Parents Association Meeting	May 14 5/6 Winter Sport #3
May 17 NAPLAN Week	May 18	May 19 Newsletter	May 20	May 21 5/6 Winter Sport #4
May 24	May 25	May 26 School Council Meeting	May 27 Assembly	May 28 5/6 Winter Sport #5
May 31	June 1	June 2 Newsletter	June 3	June 4 5/6 Winter Sport #6

Newsletter

The newsletter will be published for the first two weeks in February and then published fortnightly thereafter. The newsletter is the main source of communication from the school and I urge everyone to read it! The newsletter will be sent out to all families via Compass. Families will be able to access the newsletter via Compass and on the school website.

How to access the school newsletter:

1. View it on the COMPASS Newsfeed: <https://mpp-vic.compass.education/>
2. Visit the school website: <http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/newsletters/>