



PRINCIPAL REPORT

It was great to see our Year 3 – 6 students participating in the school swimming carnival last week. The focus for all our sporting activities is on students having fun and achieving their personal best. We also congratulate the award winners, and thank Stef, the staff and parents who assisted on the day.

A quick reminder for students to be arrive on time (between 8.45-9am) each day. Please ensure your child does not arrive before 8.45am as there is no supervision before that time.

Hats are still required at break times as per the SunSmart Policy until the end of April.

The school has received an updated School Operations Guide which highlights the continuation of the COVIDSafe guidelines.

Please note that school visitors and volunteers must continue to adhere to COVIDSafe requirements – including vaccination, physical distancing, wearing face masks when inside school buildings, cough etiquette, and good hand hygiene. Face masks for Year 3 – 6 students are still required when indoors and continue to be strongly recommended for Foundation – Year 2 students.

Families will have received another box of the Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) kits in the recent days. We ask that RATs are completed on Mondays and Thursdays before students come to school. Remember you only need to report the RAT result if it is COVID-positive.

Next week we will be starting Foundation 2023 Tours for prospective families joining MPPS. If any siblings will be attending the school in 2023, please complete an enrolment form as soon as possible. These will be available from Monday and can be collected from Amy in the school office.

Thank you to all our families who accessed the Information Night Presentations and Handbooks. These are available on the Parent Download section of the school website at: www.mpp.vic.edu.au/our-school/community/ (password: mpps). If you have any further questions regarding your child, their learning or the curriculum program do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Moonee Vale Instrumental Music Program (MVIMP) for Year 3-6 students
Due to the current and continuing COVIDSafe guidelines in place, MVIMP has been suspended for the rest of term one. Details regarding starting in term two will be shared in due course.

Assembly Video

The assembly video which includes the 5/6C class presentation, student learning and ROCC Star awards is available for viewing on the Student Representative Council (SRC) blog: <https://sites.mpp.vic.edu.au/src/>. Remember to access this you will need to log in using your child's Office 365 log in and password. All families will have received an email from the school with their log-in details. If families need this information again, please chat with your child's teacher or call the school office.

87 Wilson Street
Moonee Ponds 3039

moonee.ponds.ps@education.vic.gov.au

www.mpp.vic.edu.au

<https://mpp-vic.compass.education/>

Out of Hours School Care:

OSHClub: 0448 043 164

MPPS Program

1300 397 735

Customer Service & Billing

Email:

mooneeponds@oshclub.com.au

www.oshclub.com.au

2022 Term Dates:

Term 1 - 1st Feb to 8th Apr

Term 2 - 26th Apr to 24th Jun

Term 3 - 11th Jul to 16th Sep

Term 4 - 3rd Oct to 20th Dec

Dates to Note:

March

14th - Labour Day Public Holiday

23rd - School Council AGM

25th - Whole School Photo

28th - EDPSSA Tennis

April

26th - Student Free Curriculum Day

May

11th - Prep to Year 2 School Photos

18th - Years 3 to 6 School Photos

22nd - Working Bee

July

11th - Student Free Curriculum Day

August

14th - Working Bee

15th-19th - Year 5/6 Camp

17th-19th - Year 3/4 Camp

November

14th - Student Free Curriculum Day

Parent's Association Meetings

2022 - 10th March (AGM)

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)

Swimming Sports

Congratulations and good luck to the 33 students that are representing the school at the District Swimming carnival today (2nd March). Results of our school swimming carnival (held on Wednesday 23rd February) are also included in this newsletter.

School Council

We received seven nominations for the five parent positions available for School Council and therefore will go to an election in this category. Details of the election processes including information about each candidate will be shared via the Compass Newsfeed on Wednesday 9th March

Congratulations to Taylor Reid who was the successful nominee in the School Employee category.

Parents Association - Membership and AGM

Another reminder that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on March 10th at 7pm via Webex. The normal March meeting will occur after the AGM.

Details regarding the PA Leadership positions were shared via the Compass newsfeed last Friday. We invite all parents/carers to read through this information and take this opportunity to nominate for a role or join PA.

To be an active member of the PA you must join up each year. As per the new DET Constitution parents/carers are asked to join by completing enrolment via the online survey. You can access this through the school website (www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/parent-association/) or by clicking on this link:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=N7Ns2Ycaz0S2mzzsM0pMH1XmxPczaFIav5mnVvbNmkJUMidJMVRINK1DNEIZQjA2UIhEQkEwMVIPOS4u)

[id=N7Ns2Ycaz0S2mzzsM0pMH1XmxPczaFIav5mnVvbNmkJUMidJMVRINK1DNEIZQjA2UIhEQkEwMVIPOS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=N7Ns2Ycaz0S2mzzsM0pMH1XmxPczaFIav5mnVvbNmkJUMidJMVRINK1DNEIZQjA2UIhEQkEwMVIPOS4u).

This process must be completed before you attend any meetings. By becoming a member you will receive email correspondence for PA matters.

Live For Lily Fundraiser

This year we are again asking MPPS families to support a local fundraiser that has touched the hearts of past and present MPPS students and friends and families of the school.

The Live for Lily Foundation (<https://liveforlily.org.au/>) was set up in memory of Lily Hester who lost her battle with cancer in 2014, aged 9. Live for Lily raises awareness and funds that will go directly towards research that is dedicated to finding a cure for childhood cancers. It is a not-for-profit foundation that is committed to ensuring that we will see an end to childhood cancer.

Lily was best friends with a past MPPS student, I have also known the Hester family for 20 years. Unfortunately, Lily's mother Sianne passed away from cancer also in 2006 not long after the foundation was formed. Lily's father Aaron is a teacher at the neighbouring Maribyrnong College. Many schools like ours in the area have got behind Lily's old school St Therese's (in Essendon) to support the foundation in raising funds for the Children's Cancer Institute (www.zerochildhoodcancer.org.au).

The Live for Lily Foundation run two fundraisers each year. A Ball and a Bike Ride. I have completed most of the rides over the past five years and this year 30 cyclists will take on a massive challenge to ride over 1150kms from Melbourne to the Barossa (South Australia). With a fundraising target of \$200 000, the ride will raise much needed funds for the Children's Cancer Institute to support the fight to end childhood cancer.

While in previous years we have held a school fundraiser, this year we are simply asking families to donate if you can at: <https://liveforlily.org.au/campaigns/matt-bott/>. Please note all donations are tax deductible.

Many thanks,

Matthew Bott
Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL - FEBRUARY UPDATE

The first MPPS School Council meeting for 2022 was held on February 23rd – it was conducted again in the now familiar online place of Webex, and we're hopeful we will return to on-site meetings at the school soon.

Correspondence

A number of DET communications were reviewed by council, these updates included the extension COVIDsafe measures for Term 1, process for the upcoming School Council elections, assessment and development of the 2022 Annual Implementation Plan draft which will be ready for approval at the March meeting, preparation of the February student enrolment census, and cleaning and ongoing maintenance of air purifiers in schools – MPPS received all ours in December and currently have 17 in all classrooms and staff areas.

Principal's Report

The report included a summary from Matt on the recent Curriculum Days – including an outline on the key topics held this year with teaching staff. They were again very productive and provide the opportunity for teaching staff to set goals, better understand the student data and get to know the students before the start of another busy school year.

Matt highlighted that all year level handbooks and information nights were shared virtually this year and welcomed feedback on the option to continue sharing this way in future years. He also confirmed that MPPS student numbers are consistent with previous years.

This is our school review year with DET. Matt confirmed the process will commence in March. He also covered the upcoming School Council elections and thanked Jenny Senkaya for her services to council as she will be stepping down.

Finance

All key financial reports for the year ended 31 December 2021 were tabled including Balance Sheet, Operating Statements, Cash Receipts and Payments Summary. All these reports were accepted and ratified by council.

Parents Association

The Parents Association have completed a review of 2021 fundraising, including how events such as the disco, pie drive and end of term lunch went ahead to support our community engagement. Upcoming events include Icy Poles sales, Bush Dance and end of term lunches. PA membership have sent out information to encourage more members this year and have the aim to raise funds for the planned playground upgrade.

OHSC – School Care Program

New Partnership Manager from Osh Club has been announced – Sarah Kosinski. There were lower numbers in the program for the January school holidays, however, student numbers are growing this term as COVID restrictions are easing.

Facilities Committee

The committee review included that all key gutters and pit cleans were completed in the January holidays and the SPC roof repairs were also finalised in December. Tree works have recently been completed from a tree audit and include preparation for upcoming new fence works. There was also discussion on proposed fence suppliers, costings and ensuring suitable accessibility for the school community with the new fence.

General Business

The latest phase of the exciting new Capital Works project was reviewed- including the next steps for the Design Development Stage. This will incorporate an upcoming whole of school community feedback process with a final sign off planned for end of March. The next School Council Meeting will be held on March 23rd – this includes the AGM.

On behalf of School Council we wish all students and families another productive & rewarding year at MPPS in 2022.

Chris Rundle – MPPS Council Member

REMINDERS

Bikes

Students may ride bikes and scooters only to school. A bike shed is provided and is locked from 9.00 – 3.20 pm each day. The school and DET take no responsibility for bikes/ scooters left in the bike shed outside of these times. If they need to be held in this area outside these times we recommend using a bike lock. Rollerblades and skateboards are not permitted. Insurance of bikes and scooters is the responsibility of parents. We strongly encourage insurance in the light of a number of schools reporting thefts. Helmets are compulsory by law of the State of Victoria. Children will not be permitted to ride bikes if they do not have helmets. Bikes and scooters must not be ridden in the school or on pedestrian crossings to ensure safety. Riding bikes/scooters in the school yard before and after school is not permitted for safety reasons.

Sun Smart

With the hot weather and summer conditions, it is important for us all to be wary of the sun and the UV rays. 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.



MPPS SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2022

On Thursday 24th February 2022, Moonee Ponds PS had their Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival. It was great to see lots of happy and excited faces in what was to be a fun day with friends competing in house teams.

Students demonstrated great sportsmanship and encouraged each other to “have a go” and “try their best”. House and Vice Captains put together great chants with Macarthur winning the points.

A big thank you to all the parent helpers and teachers for helping make the day successful. We wish our students competing at district swimming on Wednesday 2nd March all the best.

These were the final results:

AGE GROUP 8/9/10		Chisholm
AGE GROUP 11/12/13		Banks
OVERALL WINNERS		Banks
BEST OVERALL GIRL WINNER		Hannah Ristig
BEST OVERALL BOY WINNER		Jack Fenwick
House	Girl Overall Winner	Boy Overall Winner
BANKS	Hannah Ristig	Jack Fenwick
CHISHOLM	Cassie Biscocho	Wilkins Yu
MACARTHUR	Jemima McClelland	Joel Italia
LAWSON	Ava Bourne	Xavier Terbogt



Swimming Carnival

3-6



Respect Optimism Care Collaboration

BRAND NEW CLUBS AT OSH!

SCIECE SQUAD
THURSDAY

FIT KIDZ
FRIDAY

WASTE WARRIORS

MONDAY

BAKE OFF
WEDNESDAY

**ART
MASTERS**
TUESDAY

**JOIN US EACH WEEKDAY FOR NEW
EXCITING CLUBS AND ACTIVITES TO TRY!**

**FROM MAKING OUR OWN BUTTER, TO
LEARNING HOW TO PAINT LIKE ARTISTS,
MAKING GIGANTIC BUBBLES, LEARNING NEW
SPORTS**

MPPS PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Term 1 – Newsletter 2



QUICK QUESTION... HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO JOIN THE PA FOR 2022?

MAKE SURE YOU DO! Please feel welcome to get involved.

The Parents Association is off to an ambitious start for 2022, we are hosting the School's first ever 'BUSH DANCE'! I will admit people have asked "What's a Bush Dance, what do you do?". Well families we are going to be *dancing the night away*.

As the sun goes down, I am hoping many of you will join us at the school oval on Saturday 19th March for a BBQ and a chance to listen to the 'Brumbies Bush Band'. Steve and his band of musicians will be playing all evening and with a professional caller to guide you on what to do – it will be a fun evening of kicking your heels up!

Practice before you come the following moves 'heel and toe' and a 'dose e doe'.

***Tickets going on sale first week of March ***Dress to impress! There will be prizes!

We are running a Mega Raffle alongside the Bush Dance! Tickets will go home with kids first week of March. Buy Up – ALL proceeds go towards the 3-6 play equipment.

The PA team is preparing is also preparing for the End of Term Lunch, a fun way to end the term and will go ahead on Friday 8th April. Please volunteer if you can.

BOTH events are run and supported by volunteers. The PA cannot do this without the larger school involvement. If you would like to be involved in anyway, big or small please get in touch. Sign up to be a member of the PA at www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/parent-association/, drop the team an email (mppsparentsassociation@gmail.com), join the Facebook page or approach a member in the schoolyard.

The Parents Association Annual General Meeting is going ahead on Thursday 10th March at 7pm. As we start a new year of adventures, opportunities and fun activities please make time to come along, get involved and have a say. It's important.



Sally, Karyn, Kate, Phoebe and Astrid.



MPPS 2022 Bush Dance

Saturday 19th March Gates open at 3:30pm for 4pm start

Event to be held on the oval for MPPS families only
Tickets: \$20 per adult, kids free - via compass next week
Food and drinks for sale: BBQ and Licensed Bar (card only)

Icy poles for sale from 6-6:30 (50c cash only)

Prizes for best dressed
Bring a picnic rug and wear your comfy dancing shoes for a fun filled twilight event

ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TOWARDS THE SENIOR PLAY EQUIPMENT



Moonee Ponds Primary School
Parents Association

**ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING**

Thursday 10th March, 2022
7:00pm (followed by the monthly PA
meeting from 7.30pm)

Online attendance via Webex
<https://educvic.webex.com/meet/bott.matthew.j>

We invite you to be a registered member of the PA. You need to register before attending any meetings and membership must be renewed annually. This is done through the school website <http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/parent-association/> or by clicking on this link [2022 Parents Association Registration Form \(Page 1 of 2\) \(office.com\)](#).

We look forward to your attendance.

Respect Optimism Care Collaboration

INSIGHTS

How to help your child be a good friend



Winnie the Pooh once said that “a day without a friend is like a pot without a single drop of honey left inside,” and my bet is that when he said this, that he wasn’t talking about any friend, he was talking about a *good* friend.

Being a good friend and knowing what a good friend entails is an integral component of friendship. Research says that kids start making meaningful friendships from around the age of four and from that point onwards, friendships will contribute to their wellbeing, learning, confidence and mental health.

But understanding what a good friend is can be tricky, so here are some strategies you can use to help explain what being a good friend means to your child and how they can be one.

Defining what it means to be a good friend

While most adults know instinctively what a good friend is, explaining this to kids can be difficult, says Reach Out’s Online Community Coordinator Janine Nelson.

Pinpointing some of those elements of what being a good friend means can be a great way to start.

For example, “being a good friend means including concepts of respect, loyalty, providing support and having fun together“, Nelson explains.

“Good friends typically display behaviours such as being trustworthy, someone who is around for the hard times not just the good times, and someone you can laugh with. Good friends respect your boundaries, and make you feel comfortable being yourself.”

Healthy Harold and the team at Life Education add that “generally, being a good friend involves loyalty, empathy and trust. A good friend would listen, be an upstander instead of a bystander, be forgiving, be patient, and respect your opinion. They are empathetic, and able to put themselves in your situation.”

What a good friend is can vary and change

It is also critical for kids to know that a good friend can be different for different people and that what we view as a good friend can change over time and as we grow.

“As kids grow older, it’s important to help them understand that there are many different types of friends and that these relationships can change over time,” says Nelson.

Helping your kids understand that this is normal and that it doesn’t equate to failure, while also supporting them through these changes is important.

parenting * ideas

Teach your child friendship values.

Life Education says that helping your kids understand what specific values are associated with friendship is key to understanding what a good friend looks like and how to be one.

“Friendship values include being a loyal friend, accepting differences in a friend, standing up for a friend, being kind and supportive to a friend and including a friend in games,” they explain.

Teach and model the social skills that underpin successful friendships

While knowledge and values are a key underpinning, consolidating these with skills is the next step.

Life Education suggest you “explain to your child that just as they can get better at swimming by practising, they can also get better at making and keeping friends by practising social skills such as smiling and greeting classmates, sharing, cooperating, negotiating, being positive, having an interesting conversation, playing games well (e.g., being a good winner and loser).”

Praise the good stuff

Provide positive feedback when you observe your child using social skills or values that have the potential to contribute to the development of their friendships. This will help reinforce the values that make a good friend.

Empower them to find their own solutions

Don't always try to fix every problem that arises, be present and support the children as they try to find a resolution. Create an environment where no questions are off limits so that nothing is too uncomfortable to discuss.

Friendships in adolescence are different

As your kids grow into teens, friendships often take on a different significance and influence. Reach Out advises some additional strategies for parents with pre-teens and teenagers to use to help support them being a good friend. Work with your teen to set expectations around how they should treat their friends. A reminder of the values of a good friend and the skills that a good friend utilises can be helpful.

Be supportive if your teen comes to you about an issue with one of their friends without necessarily always trying to solve the problem. Listen openly and non-judgmentally without jumping into solution mode can be helpful. Model the behaviours of being a good friend. For example, you could get your teen involved if you are cooking a meal to support a friend and use the opportunity to talk about why that is important to you.

In closing

Helping your child understand the distinction between being a friend and being a good friend is important but supporting them to become one can be a tricky process. It can vary depending on you, your child/ren, the friendships and over time. Experiment with different strategies and techniques and see what works best for you and your child/ren.



Shona Hendley

Shona Hendley is a freelance writer and a former secondary school teacher. Her work appears in Kidspot, ABC Everyday, The Guardian, Body + Soul, and News.com.au amongst others. Shona currently lives in regional Victoria with her family, including husband, two daughters, two cats, and three super cheeky goats. You can follow her on [Instagram](#).



Learning Star Awards



LEARNING Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Risson	Adalyn Fok	For attempting all tasks with a positive attitude and trying her best. Well done!
Foundation B Nicola Scott	Thomas Hinvest	For always being enthusiastic about his learning tasks and trying his best! Well done Thomas!
1/2 A Taylor Reid	Bailey Creed	For always giving his best effort in his learning.
1/2 B Antony Brock	Alison Huntington	For being proud to always do your very best work and loving your learning!
1/2 C Shannon Radford	Gabriella Biscocho	For always being focused on her learning and giving everything her best effort. Well done Gabriella!
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Leo Carter	For approaching personal writing with such passion and joy this year, and working consistently to complete your draft of The Jet-pack in the Sky.
1/2 E Libby Haigh	Aimee Deprisco	For a fantastic work ethic in Maths - concentrating and doing her best work.
3/4 A Georgia Marks/Nicole Macrae	Spencer Hutchison	For working so well in your writing, and coming up with an exciting (and hilarious) story!
3/4 B Chris Mizis	Ginny Reid	For challenging herself when working through problem solving activities in maths.
3/4 C Paul Luu	Thomas Keenan	For demonstrating focus when working independently. It is great to see you try your best during learning time, Thomas.
3/4 D Lee Pregnell	Harriet McClelland	For her application during all aspects of classroom learning.
5/6 A Stephanie Thompson	Oliver McRae	For applying great effort to all learning areas and asking lots of great questions to extend your learning. Well done Oliver!
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Kyla Rigby	For using strong word choice in her narrative. Well done!
5/6 C Holly Coleman	Alana Burlak	For having a go at challenging maths problems. Well done!
5/6 D Ryan Lynch	Vivien Power	For pushing herself and aspiring to be her best.
Arts Christine Caminiti	Lucie Arnott	For making a fantastic Steam Punk sample which showed a lot of texture. Well done!
Italian (LOTE) Nancy Berardone	Adalyn Fok	For great listening during Italian lessons. Ottimo!
PE Stef Modesti	John Giannarakis	For demonstrating an improvement in his listening skills during PE.



ROCC Star Awards



ROCC Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Risson	Nicholas Day	For showing respect in the classroom by helping to keep it neat and tidy. Well done!
Foundation B Nicola Scott	Theodore Wu	For being a kind member of the class and packing up the classroom! Well done Theodore!
1/2 A Taylor Reid	Poppy Reid	For showing care and helping others in the classroom.
1/2 B Antony Brock	Michael Alves	For being a kind and inclusive friend and showing that you can be a wonderful helper to the Year 1 students.
1/2 C Shannon Radford	Elliot Reynolds	For being a kind and thoughtful friend and always making others feel included. Well done Elliot!
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Talia Parisi	For being so kind and thoughtful, and offering other kids help so willingly.
1/2 E Libby Haigh	Ishaan Sapkota	For showing respect and in care in keeping our learning space neat and tidy.
3/4 A Georgia Marks/Nicole Macrae	Matthew Italia	For having such lovely manners, and always offering to give a helping hand. Well done!
3/4 B Chris Mizis	Alannah Baker	For being a kind and caring class member, including others and making new friends.
3/4 C Paul Luu	Caitlyn Yeow	For being a caring member of the class, who is willing to help and support others. Well done, Caitlyn.
3/4 D Lee Pregnell	Xavier Terbogt	For his willingness to assist and support others in the classroom.
5/6 A Stephanie Thompson	Grace Salter	For being a caring and respectful member of our class. Your dedication to contributing to our classroom and wider community being a great place to be, is admirable.
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Toby Whyte	For being a positive role model in the classroom. Well done!
5/6 C Holly Coleman	Ben Threlfall	For showing respect for our classroom by helping to tidy up at the end of the day. Great work!
5/6 D Ryan Lynch	Teagan Pape	For demonstrating optimism in her learning and a positive attitude.
Arts Christine Caminiti	Violette Voss	For showing fantastic whole body listening skills and having fun in performing arts class!
Italian (LOTE) Nancy Berardone	Thomas Dargan	For having a positive attitude towards his Italian learning.
PE Stef Modesti	Emily Harry	For demonstrating ROCC during PE and ensuring her team mates are included.

TERM 1 2022 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
February 28	March 1	March 2 No School for Foundation EDPSSA Swim Sports Newsletter	March 3	March 4 Year 5/6 Gala Sports
March 7	March 8	March 9 No School for Foundation	March 10 Virtual Assembly Parents Association AGM & Meeting	March 11
March 14 Labour Day Public Holiday	March 15	March 16 No School for Foundation Newsletter	March 17	March 18
March 21	March 22	March 23 Foundation Commence Full Time School Council AGM	March 24 Virtual Assembly	March 25 Whole School Photo
March 28 EDPSSA Tennis (selected students)	March 29	March 30	March 31	April 1
April 4	April 5	April 6	April 7 School Cross Country	April 8 End of Term 1 2:20pm Finish

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/>