



Read the MPPS newsletter to stay up to date with the latest information, upcoming events and celebrations of learning.

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Moonee Ponds 3039  
moonee.ponds.ps@education.vic.gov.au  
[www.mpp.vic.edu.au](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au)  
<https://mpp-vic.compass.education/>

**Out of Hours School Care:**  
TeamKids: 1300 035 000  
Email: [info@teamkids.com.au](mailto:info@teamkids.com.au)  
[www.teamkids.com.au](http://www.teamkids.com.au)

**2024 Term Dates:**

Term 1 - 31 Jan-28 Mar  
Term 2 - 16 Apr-28 June  
Term 3 - 15 Jul - 20 Sept  
Term 4 - 7 Oct - 20 Dec

**Dates to Note:**

27 Mar - 3/4 Immigration Museum  
27 Mar - School Council AGM  
28 Mar - End of Term 2.20pm  
25 Apr - Anzac Day  
10 May—Mother's day

**Curriculum Days:**

15 Apr - Student free Curriculum day  
4 Nov - Student free Curriculum day

**Camps:**

3-5 June - Year 5/6 Camp  
14-16 Aug - Year 3/4 Camp

**Parent's Association Meetings**

9 May - 7.30pm  
13 June - 7.30pm

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



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE OF THE KULIN NATION AS THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND WHICH IS MOONEE PONDS PRIMARY SCHOOL. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO ELDERS PAST AND PRESENT AND TO THE ONGOING LIVING CULTURES OF FIRST PEOPLES.



## PRINCIPAL REPORT

It has been a busy term to start 2024! It is amazing to see how much we can fit into a nine-week term. As the term comes to a close, we wish everyone a happy Easter and restful holiday period.

**Tomorrow is the last day of term one. Students will be dismissed at 2.20pm.**

**The first day back for students for term two is Tuesday 16 April.**

On Monday 15 April we are holding a Student Free Curriculum Day where staff will be learning about teaching Mathematics which will include updates to the new mathematics curriculum for 2025. On this Monday TeamKids will be providing care if families need it.

**Tomorrow we will hold our assembly at 9am in the Sports and Performance Centre.** Well done to 5/ 6 B for their performance last week about democracy.

We also have our Parents Association (PA) End of Term Pizza Lunch tomorrow.

Thankyou also to our PA for hosting the trivia night on Friday 16 March. It was a fun night out for the 100 parents, carers, friends and staff who attended. Special thanks to the PA leadership team for organising the event.

Congratulations to all our runners and walkers who participated in the annual school cross country last Thursday. Thank you to Matt Feeley for organising the event and all our staff and parent/carer helpers for your assistance also. The results will be shared at tomorrow's assembly

It was heart-warming to see our students support Harmony Day! All students participated in multi age activities to celebrate our multicultural school. All classes published photos and shared their learning through Seesaw. Check out the Seesaw app to see the great photos and fantastic learning about celebrating our diverse community! <https://app.seesaw.me/>

The NAPLAN testing period has finished, and we thank all our year 3 and 5 students for completing the tests. All of students have completed the test and the data will be shared with families later in the year. A few weeks ago, I attended the Western Region Principal's Forum. One



**COMPASS**

For attendance, excursions, camps, bookings, school payments, emails and school communication via the newsfeed.



**SEESAW**

Stay connected to your child's learning at school. See photos and videos of school learning experiences and talk to your child about this!



**SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Access School policies, procedures and resources for families. This includes the newsletter and parent downloads.

## PRINCIPAL REPORT - CONT.

of the foci for this terms meeting was student attendance. While our school attendance data is tracking well, it will be a continual focus for our school and region. In the next few weeks, we will be following up with families who have large numbers of non-attendance. We also have some students who have unexplained absences. As per the Department of Education Attendance Guidelines (and our school policy) if your child/ren is absent it is the parent/carer responsibility to provide a reason for each occasion. You can do this by adding an 'attendance note' via Compass, emailing the school (teacher and school email addresses) or even by calling the school and following the prompts to leave a message on the school voicemail system.

If you notice any challenges with unexplained absences on Compass please contact Jenny in the school office to resolve.

To support the reduction of student absences, we ask that families are mindful of booking appointments and/or holidays during the school term.

Below is a table displaying the impact that large absences can have on students' progress.

If your child misses	that equals	or	From Kindy-Yr12 that adds up to	Which is the equivalent of attending until:
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	1 month per year	nearly 1 ½ years	part-way through year 11
1 day per week	40 days per year	2 months per year	over 2 ½ years	part-way through year 10
2 days per week	80 days per year	4 months per year	over 5 years	the end of year 7
3 days per week	120 days per year	6 months per year	nearly 8 years	the end of year 4

Thankyou for a wonderful term of learning. Have a safe and happy holidays.

Regards,

Matthew Bott



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**EVERY DAY COUNTS**

## **SAME-DAY NOTIFICATION OF UNEXPLAINED STUDENT ABSENCES**

### **FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS/CARERS**

If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify their school as soon as possible **on the day of absence** using one of the following methods:

1. **Online:** log the absence directly using your school's IT platform (Compass- <https://mpp-vic.compass.education>).
2. **Telephone:** the school office and let the staff know your child's name, class, date of absences and reason.
3. **Email:** the school ([moonee.ponds.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:moonee.ponds.ps@education.vic.gov.au)) and provide the staff with your child's name, class, date of absences and reason.

Notifying the school of your child's absence either prior to, or on the day that they will be away, helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and will fulfil your legal responsibility.

#### **Why do I need to notify the school if my child is absent?**

Schools need to know when and why a child is absent and you need to know if your child isn't at school.

From the end of Term 2 2018, all Victorian government schools are required to contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the same day of an unexplained student absence. If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

This system also promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, they learn new things every day – missing school puts them behind.

#### **What is your responsibility?**

You are legally required to ensure your child attends school every day or you must provide an explanation for their absence. You should let the school know in advance of any upcoming absences or let them know in the morning if your child won't be at school. In order for schools to implement the same day notification requirement, it's essential that you provide the school with your most up-to-date contact details.

Generally one notification will be sent per family. Should there be circumstances that require both parents and carers to be notified, please contact the school to make the necessary arrangements.

#### **What is the school's responsibility?**

The school must notify you of an unexplained absence in relation to your child as soon as practicable on the same day. Schools will let you know either by your school's online communications (Compass) via SMS and/or email.

#### **Where can I learn more about the process for managing student absences?**

Ask your school for a copy of the *Attendance Policy* (<http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/school-policies/>) which outlines the school's processes and procedures for monitoring, recording and following-up of student absences.



# MPPS Parents Association Newsletter



Dear Parents & Carers – Welcome to Term 1. We hope you and your children have had a successful start to the School Year!

## Trivia Night

Thank you to everyone in the School Community who made the recent Trivia Night a big success. With over 110 people attending and hundreds of raffle tickets sold, it was a wonderful evening of fun and action! We are very grateful for all of your support!



The Winning Team:  
The Trivia  
Newton-Johners

SPC looking great  
and ready to go!



Action from the  
night!

## Term 1

### Term 1 Dates

Thursday - 28 March  
End of Term Lunch

Next PA Meeting  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

If you would like to be a member of the PA or continue your membership in 2024, you will need to register for 2024.

### SIGN UP

CAN YOU VOLUNTEER  
SOME TIME?

The Parents Association **only** runs with the help of Volunteers. More Info.

SCAN THE QR CODE



CLICK THE LINK  
[www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/parent-association/](http://www.mpp.vic.edu.au/school-council/parent-association/)  
Parents Association  
Registration Structure 2024

# MPPS Parents Association Newsletter



Thank you to all the local businesses and families who donated to our raffle. Your contributions are sincerely appreciated.

## School Families:

- Paint and Pop for the Photo Booth
- A Beautiful Day for the Balloon Garland
- KwikKopy Moonee Ponds for printing Flyers
- Devereux Family for their Raffle Donation
- Lee Family for the Donation of Beverages

## Local Businesses:

- Hall's Taekwondo Brunswick
- Upstate Pilates
- Simply Radiant Skin and Body Clinic Essendon
- What's A Name Embroidery
- Moonee Ponds Clocktower Centre
- Rise Pilates
- Quest Moonee Ponds
- Dartagnan Homewares
- Evado Studios Essendon
- The Cupcake Queens
- Grill'd Moonee Ponds
- Poynton's Nursery
- Subway Moonee Ponds
- Postmistress
- Mt Alexander Hotel
- Tony's Pies Essendon
- Miss Penny Cakes
- Funderdome Highpoint
- Melbourne Stars

Thank you – our events cannot run without your support!

## The PA Team

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## Term 1

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**Next PA Meeting**  
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Parents Association

Registration Structure 2024

# TERM 2 LUNCHTIME CLUB BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!



## Extra-Curricular Activities at Moonee Ponds Primary

ENROL  
ONLINE  
NOW!

### CODING

- ✓ Mon, 1:30 - 2:20 pm
- ✓ Starts on 22 Apr
- ✓ \$195 for 8 sessions
- ✓ For Years 3-6
- ✓ Room: Library
- ✓ Devices: BYOD

While many jobs of the future are yet to be even imagined the future of work undoubtedly points in the direction of the technology space. This coding course using the Scratch application will introduce students to the world of coding in a fun and engaging way. Experienced coaches will guide students through a series of hands-on lessons with real world applications.

### SOCCER

- ✓ Mon, 1:30 - 2:20 pm
- ✓ Starts on 22 Apr
- ✓ \$175 for 8 sessions
- ✓ For Years 1-2
- ✓ Room: Gym
- ✓ To Bring: hat and water bottle

Why try out one of the fast growing sports in Australia? Football or soccer is truly a world sport loved by fans all over the globe. Coaches will take the time to introduce students to the sport or provide drills and skills to improve established players, all in a supportive environment.

TRIALS  
AVAILABLE!  
PLEASE CALL TO  
BOOK ONE IN



Scan or click the QR code  
to enrol online!

Kids  
Unlimited

✉ info@kidsunlimited.com.au  
🌐 www.kidsunlimited.com.au  
☎ 1300 424 377

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Circular economy



## Green Team report

We had two Green Team meetings in this month. We had a lot fun in these Green Team meetings.

On the first Green Team we met all the newly elected representatives from all classes and everyone was excited to meet each other. We also talked about what Green Team does and we discussed about Green Team and explained to all the representatives about what Green Team is hoping to do in this academic year. All Green Team representatives made posters for their class explaining about Green Team activities to the rest of the class.

On the second meeting we talked about starting composting across the school. Right now, the compost goes to the local Moonee Pond council but later on it will be able to use it for the school garden as well. We also discussed about what goes into the compost bins and what doesn't. So, we made a poster explaining about what goes into the compost bin so everyone knows what go in and out of the compost bin. We explained the process of making the compost to all representatives.

It's been a great start to the year. Look out for information about how you can help the environment by collecting recyclable items that we will use to make things in STEM next term!

**From your Green Team**



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# STEM in Term 2

In Term 2, kids at MPPS will be designing and making vehicles.

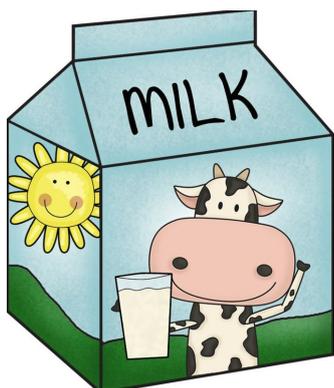
We think it will be great to use recycled materials for our creations- that way we help to keep our planet clean and green.

YOU CAN HELP by collecting and cleaning any of the materials in the table below.

Collect them over the holidays and bring them into school to give to your class Green Team rep at the start of Term 2.

MAKE SURE YOU CLEAN AND DRY ALL MATERIALS THOROUGHLY BEFORE YOU BRING THEM TO SCHOOL!

Year Level	Prep	1/2	3/4	5/6
<b>Project</b>	'Rubber Duck Space Agency' (bottle rockets)	Rubber Band Powered Boats	Rubber Band powered Planes	Rubber Band powered Cars
<b>Inspiration Image</b>				
<b>Resources requested (all materials listed will also be used by other year levels.)</b>	Plastic PET bottles (water, fizzy drink)	Milk bottles Milk Cartons Margarine containers Straws Small plastic bottles Plastic cutlery Egg cartons	Styrofoam packaging	Shoe Boxes Jar lids CDs Yoghurt containers Paper cups corks



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INSIGHTS

happy families. 

# Defusing Explosive Children

In 1998, Dr. Ross Greene wrote a bestselling book titled *The Explosive Child*. I interviewed him on The Happy Families podcast, and our discussions became some of our most listened-to conversations.

His philosophy: "Kids do well if they can."

In my words: Competence. A challenging situation presents itself. Capable kids navigate it, often with confidence. If they're not quite there but believe they can do it, they'll go for it. But if they're incompetent, they pull back. Feeling incompetent can lead to withdrawal or explosions. And they don't do well... *because they can't!*

Greene describes incompetence in a gentler way: *lagging skills*.

Lagging skills are the missing pieces in a child's skill set, hindering their ability to meet the demands of the moment. These lagging skills are flexibility and adaptability, frustration tolerance, problem-solving, and emotion regulation.

## Let's break them down: Flexibility and Adaptability

A disrupted routine or inadequate time to prepare for a transition to a new activity (leaving the park, taking a bath, or switching off a screen) requires this skill. So does a change in plans. But it's a skill that takes time, practice, and support to develop. Its opposite: rigidity and tunnel vision.

## Frustration Tolerance

When the bottom drops out, expectations are unmet, or delayed gratification is required, frustration tolerance is what stops an emotional outburst. It's recognising things didn't work out according to my agenda, and then managing the frustration, expressing it appropriately, and thinking clearly.

High emotions = low intelligence. Frustration tolerance keeps emotions level and stable, and allows us (or our child) to sit in that emotion without acting rashly.

## Problem Solving

Unpredictability, randomness, and volatility are inescapable realities of most of our lives. Being flexible and adaptable and having frustration tolerance keep emotions stable and facilitate creative, broad thinking so we (and our kids) can solve problems effectively.

A parent's fundamental job, besides keeping their child safe, is to help them learn to solve problems. How do they resolve a problem with a sibling? How do they navigate a friendship challenge at school? What is the best way forward with an academic question?

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# Emotion Regulation

Frustration tolerance is a crucial component of a much larger challenge: emotion regulation, which means expressing and suppressing emotions appropriately.

Our words matter. They shape our perceptions and build the world we live in.

## Remember:

Your child isn't 'naughty.' They have some lagging skills that we can develop.

Your child isn't trying to ruin your life. Kids do well if they can.

Your child isn't an idiot or a pain. Your child doesn't have the competence to get it right... yet.

Even if they've done it right before. Even if they're laughing about it and you sense they're being malicious. Even if they're being disrespectful. Even if they're insisting that they 'can't'.

## When they're stuck:

1. Soften your eyes. Look upon them with compassion and kindness. Remember that kids do well if they can, so if they can't right now, there's something going on. Hungry? Angry? Lonely/ Disconnected? Tired? Stressed? Sick? Overstimulated?
2. Say what you see. If you can name it, you can tame it.
3. Ask if they want you with them or if they want space.
4. As emotions subside, explore their world and their challenges. Explain what you are looking for. And empower them through problem-solving. Support those skills of flexibility and adaptability, frustration tolerance, problem-solving, and emotion regulation.
5. Make a plan so they can try to do better next time.

Dr. Greene's 'Collaborative and Proactive Solutions' framework teaches parents to help children develop these skills (which often lag) in order to solve problems.



### AUTHOR

## Dr Justin Coulson

Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters and grandfather to 1 granddaughter. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel Nine's Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia's #1 podcast for parents and family: The Happy Families Podcast. He has written 9 books about families and parenting. For further details visit [happyfamilies.com.au](http://happyfamilies.com.au).

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# AUTUMN Holidays

Team  
Kids

BOOK TODAY  
teamkids.com.au  
1 300 035 000

BEST  
HOLIDAY  
PROGRAMS  
IN AUSTRALIA

Hi There,

We're so excited to let you know that bookings are now OPEN for our amazing Autumn Holidays Program!

**TeamKids have another amazing Autumn Holiday program planned!**

**Come along and experience the TeamKids difference:**

- Learn new skills and make new friends
- Qualified and REMARKABLE Educators
- Digital detox with our no screens policy
- Delicious and nutritious morning and afternoon snacks
- CCS-approved care

Head to <http://downloads.teamkids.com.au/moonee-ponds-promary.pdf>

To check out Moonee Ponds Primary School's program and secure your spot today!

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Team Kids



# Mad Hatter's Tea Party

**BOOK TODAY**

25 TH - 28 TH MAR

You're invited to a Mad Hatter's Tea Party at TeamKids! So, grab your wildest hat for tea time with a twist.



# LEARNING STAR awards



LEARNING Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Anders	Henry L	For counting accurately using a tens frame and trying his best in our Sounds Write lessons. Well done Henry!
Foundation B Nicola Scott	Eero V	For independently listening to the sounds he can hear in his words and completing a wonderful writing piece. Well done Eero!
1/2 A Chris Mizis	Felix B	For his effort and focus during maths lessons. Well Done Felix
1/2 B Antony Brock	Izzy P	For the way you always try hard, listen well and ask questions about your learning- Well done!
1/2 C Libby Haigh	Gabriel F	For showing great focus and determination when approaching all learning tasks. Well done, Gabriel!
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Olivia T	For including thoughtful details and personal opinions for each event in your recounts! Well done, Olivia!
3/4 A Lee Pregnell	Finn S	For his focus and effort in recent maths lessons. Well done Finn!
3/4 B Erin Mullin	Zane H	For excellent work on your Integrated Studies research project! It was great to see the effort you went to. Well done, Zane!
3/4 C Rebekah Stone	Henry W	For a wonderfully detailed response in your Integrated Studies research project. We can't wait to hear more Henry!
5/6 A Steph Thompson	Mabel A	For demonstrating a positive attitude to learning and always putting lots of effort in! Well done on a great start to Year 5 Mabel!
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Rosemary M	For thoughtfully crafting persuasive writing pieces, that considered tone and included effective word choice. Well done, Rosemary!
5/6 C Paul Luu	Audrey H	For showing a commitment to learning and striving for excellency. Well done on a fantastic start to 2024! Keep it up, Audrey!
Arts Christine Caminiti	Scarlett S FB	For her wonderful singing and learning of new songs in performing arts class. Fantastic work this term, Scarlett!
Italian Nancy Berardone	Crosby W 3/4C	For always being an interested, focused and attentive student. Keep it up, Crosby! Ottimo!
Physical Education Matt Feeley	Martina S FA	For displaying outstanding skill and effort when skipping, hopping and leaping in PE. Well done, Martina!

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# ROCC STAR AWARDS



ROCC Star...	Name	Reason
Foundation A Mae Anders	Hudson D	For being flexible when things change and participating in activities in a respectful way. Thanks Hudson!
Foundation B Nicola Scott	Scarlett	For always checking in with other students to make sure they are ok and if they would like to join in with her. Thanks Scarlett!
1/2 A Chris Mizis	Nicholas D	For his caring and kind nature, Nicholas is always willing to help others.
1/2 B Antony Brock	Louis B	For being an excellent role model to all the kids in our class- being kind, a great helper, and loving your learning. Well done!
1/2 C Libby Haigh	Hayden B	For consistently showing the school values throughout the day. Well done, Hayden!
1/2 D Jenny Clark	Jimmy T	For trying so hard and having a growth mindset in all areas of your learning! Well done, Jimmy!
3/4 A Lee Pregnell	Evangeline S	For always being there to help others. Your effort and support is also appreciated.
3/4 B Erin Mullin	Toni A	For being such a great role-model for younger students and always volunteering to help others out when needed.
3/4 C Rebekah Stone	Gabriella B	For showing great resilience and optimism when representing the school in swimming. We are all rooting for you Gabriella!
5/6 A Steph Thompson	Sollie K	For being a kind, caring and respectful peer during our Harmony Day activity with the 1/2s. Well done on being a great buddy Sollie!
5/6 B Candice Ryan	Sullivan M	For being a supporting member of 5/6B, always volunteering with set up and pack up for 5/6 sport. Well done, Sullivan!
5/6 C Paul Luu	Wilkins Yu	For demonstrating fantastic organisational skills and always being ready to learn. Keep it up, Wilkins!
Arts Christine Caminiti	Ishaan S 3/4 A	For making a great reduction print of a bird using complimentary colours. Well done!
Italian Nancy Berardone	Sezen K 1/2A	For making good choices to help with staying on task and following teacher instructions. Keep it up, Sezen! Ottimo!
Physical Education Matt Feeley	Katie C FA	For showing our school value of respect during all PE lessons. Well done, Katie!

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## TERM 1 2024 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
March 25 NAPLAN concludes	March 26	March 27 3/4 Immigration Excursion School Council AGM	March 28 End of Term 1 2.20pm dismissal	March 29 Good Friday

## TERM 2 2024 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
April 15 CURRICULUM DAY	April 16 Start Term 2	April 17	April 18	April 19
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25 ANZAC Day Public Holiday	April 26
April 29	April 30	May 1	May 2	May 3
May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9 Parents Assoc. Meeting	May 10 Mother's day Stall
May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17



### Newsletter

The newsletter will be published fortnightly all year. 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/>

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