



Montmorency Primary School Newsletter

Issue 2: 18 February 2014

Open letter from the School Council

Scott Davis, Natalie Duffy, Anna Farago, Victoria Harris, Michael Mark

Current parent members of the School Council would like to acknowledge the contributions of our most recent President - Felicity Gordon, who served on Council for three years; two as President. Her tireless efforts, both on the ground and on the roof, (literally), have come to epitomize what represents an involved parent at MPS. Whether waterproofing the Castle's leaking corrugated tin, providing good governance for council, leading efforts to construct a frog bog, or her unwavering support of the school's mission to enrich every child's with our tenets of respect, safety, friendship and learning, she is second to none.

Many of us are at Montmorency Primary School today are here because of Felicity, and her enthusiasm for positive educational outcomes. Seeing her at practically every school event, from Working Bees and information nights, to council meetings of every description, she led by example, always heaping praise on others, always encouraging. Her friendly face greeted the public at official and unofficial events, from conversing with politicians, to pulling weeds with volunteers. Her ability to inspire students, parents and staff will be sorely missed - we wish her and her family well in their new schools!

Principal's Report

Michael Otway | Principal

On behalf of myself as Principal and the Staff of Montmorency Primary School I would like to endorse the remarks of Council and add to them. Felicity has been a wonderful "Critical Friend" to have around. She won the respect of staff, involving herself in constructing and enacting the unique educational environment we enjoy at Montmorency Primary school. Felicity worked on collaborative art projects and environmental projects within our classes. She organised kinder visits where the children would bake scones and come away with a special seedling. Felicity always displayed high level theoretical knowledge and integrity but her most endearing quality was the ability to work alongside everyone and keep the positive energy flowing. I've lost count of the number of times I have seen her come in and work on projects within the school in her own time and on her own initiative. Major projects included the setting up of Farmers Markets including the BBQ and Cake Stall, our extraordinary Whole-School Pop up environment day, the Frog Bog and driving our Environmental and Sustainability Committee – there are too many to mention. Felicity obtained grants for our Stephanie Alexander program and a \$10,000 grant for a soon-to be-enacted energy efficiency upgrade. Felicity would always act as she expected others to act. Her attendance at Farmers Markets, Information Nights, welcoming Morning Teas was always complemented by her own baking and involvement. Felicity brought a level of professionalism to School Council, complemented by a selfless generosity, warmth and wisdom. With her eldest now at Macleod College we wish her all the best in her relocation to nearby Watsonia Primary.

Diary dates

-
- Wednesday 19 Feb**
Swimming Carnival, Northcote
-
- Saturday 22 Feb: 9am – 1pm**
Farmers market
-
- Wednesday 26 Feb: from 1pm**
Touch base interviews grades 1-6
-
- Tuesday 4 Mar**
Division Swimming
-
- Thurs 6 Mar**
Grade 5/6 leadership program
-
- Monday 10 March**
Labour Day, no school
-
- Tuesday 18 March**
School Council AGM
-
- Sat 22 March: 9am – 1pm**
MPS Farmers Market
-
- Mon 24 - Wed 26 March**
Grade 5/6 Camp
-
- Thurs 3 April**
Easter Parade
Last day of term, 2:30 pm dismissal
-
- Fri 4 April**
Pupil free Curriculum Day
No student attendance please

School Council Elections

A list of nominated candidates will be posted next Wednesday, February 20 Feb. I can tell you we have multiple nominations so there will be an election. Further details of this will be distributed with statements from the nominees. If you have been nominated, a form will be sent to you on Wednesday to allow you to prepare a statement for our parent population.

Speeding and Children – a dangerous mix

Parents have expressed concern about excessive speed in the Were St/ Rattray Rd carparks behind the shops. The entrances and exits to Rattray Rd are narrow and many families walk their children in this area. We encourage you to park and drop off, modelling the safe behaviours that you would expect of others where your children are concerned. Similarly, the speed limit within school grounds is 5 km/hr.

Staff 2014

Principal:	Michael Otway	
Acting Assistant Principal:	Janene Worsam (Curriculum, Welfare)	
Foundation 00G (Green)	Linda Carter	Aide: Kay Rowland
Foundation 00R (Red)	Anna Hayes	Aide: Michelle Barber
Foundation 00B (Blue)	Sarah Kechayas	Aide: Leeanne Nicholson
Foundation 00S:	Sandie Symes	
Foundation 00K:	Keryn Johnston	Aide: Michelle Garvan
Grade 1/2 B:	Christine Turner	Aide: Colleen Bramall
Grade 1/2 A:	Margarita Strateas	Aide: Sharon Hayes
Grade 3 A:	Darryl Deller	Aide: Colleen Bramall
Grade 4/5 A:	Kevin Wilcockson	Aide: Arieta Kuttner
Grade 5/6 A:	Janene Worsam, Rebekah Rentos (0.4)	Aides: Sandy Faulkner(0.6) Michelle Parrott Meredith Lehman(0.2)
Visual Arts / Gr P-3 Music:	Cori Nelson	Stephanie Alexander Coordinator
Physical Education	Donna Barclay	/ Kitchen Specialist Suzie Wilton
CRT / Music Gr4-6:	Michael Otway	Stephanie Alexander Coordinator
Office Manager:	Julie Bradford	/ Garden Specialist TBA
School Chaplain:	Beverley Hardi	Speech Therapist: Anna Drake
OHSC Program Coordinator:	Donna Barclay	Information Technician: Matt Atkins
Educational Psychologist:	Vaughan Losewitz.	SSSO Support Officers on site: Therese Kenneally Denise Young

Physical Education

Donna Barclay | PE Teacher

Interschool Sport

Well done to our teams who all started off the year with wins in Cricket (by one run) and mixed and girl's volleyball over Briar Hill on Friday. Bat tennis didn't have any opposition so had practice matches and will get to test out their skills against Sherbourne this week.

Swimming

Well done to all who tried out for the Swimming team- it was good to see people giving it a go. Good luck to those who have made the team and head to Northcote this Wednesday for the Swim Meet. Notes have gone home to all students outlining the PE program for the year and the expectations of children participating. Notes have also gone home to the seniors about trials for state teams, in case any children are interested in trying out.

Arts

Cori Nelson | Visual & Performing Arts

We are off to a great start for the year in Visual Arts with students creating a variety of artworks in drawing, using different tools and techniques. In Performing Arts all grades played boomwhackers in their first week. These are the ever-popular colourful, tuned plastic percussion tubes which present a wide variety of fun performance possibilities. We are looking forward to an exciting year in MPS arts!

MPS Website

Cori Nelson | Website Design and Management

Don't forget to check out the MPS website at www.montmorencyyps.vic.edu.au. I am in the process of updating all pages for 2014 and will be posting student work and school event information throughout the year, so check back often! The *Diary Dates* page on the website lists all the upcoming school activities for the current term. The website pages, as well as our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/MontyPS - are a great way to keep in touch with what's happening at school and are excellent resources regarding MPS policies and programs.

Out of Hours Care Room

Donna Barclay | OSHC Coordinator

Our program has said farewell to Jayden Shea who has been with us for many years as an assistant. He has left us to go and work fulltime with the Western Bulldogs as their property manager. We wish him all the best and thank him for the many hours he has put into the program over the years.

The program is looking for a few things and all donations are gratefully accepted:

- front covers of birthday, Christmas or any other celebration cards they no longer want, . We use them for many art projects throughout the year.
- for empty and clean glass jars, around the 750ml size - such as the maccona coffee jars or the like for something we are making in the coming months.
- x-box games suitable for children.

Student of the Week

Term 1, Week 2 : 3–7 February 2014

OOS Sandie Symes

Tom Winney: For settling in so well in his first week and for being an excellent helper at packing up time.

OOK Keryn Johnston

Poppy Gillottie: For being a fabulous friend to everyone in Foundation K and for making our room and floor sparkle too. You are the cleaning queen!

1/2A Margarita Strateas

Chase Gibbs: For producing outstanding work in his writing and achieving his personal best this week. Well done!

1/2B Christine Turner

Jarrold Byrne: For displaying fantastic leadership qualities and being a great role model and friend to his classmates. Well done!

3A Darryl Deller

Emile Loewenguth: For completing all work to an excellent standard and for showing a great level of responsibility. Well done!

4/5A Kevin Wilcockson

Tommy Reilly-Neesham: For trying new foods during cooking and for also being an excellent group member.

5/6A Janene Worsam /Rebekah Rentos

Jye Leggett: For showing impressive organisational skills. An outstanding start to Grade 6 – well done!

Term 1, Week 3 : 10 – 14 February 2014

OOS Sandie Symes

Marley Davis: For being a well-organised, efficient worker who is a friendly class member with a smiley face.

OOK Keryn Johnston

Hamish McDiarmid: For being an excellent role model for everyone in Foundation K by demonstrating how to be a GREAT friend. You are friendly and kind to all your classmates too. Well done!

1/2A Margarita Strateas

Miya Cassidy: For being a delightful member of our class, setting a good example for others and always having a go! Well done!

1/2B Christine Turner

Shola Magner: For always producing her best work and demonstrating excellent 'Whole Body Listening' skills. Well done!

3A Darryl Deller

Chelsea Ward: A fantastic start to the year. Always produces work of an excellent standard. Well done!

4/5A Kevin Wilcockson

Zoe Gleeson: For producing 5 Star Quality Work and completing all tasks set. Well done!

5/6A Janene Worsam /Rebekah Rentos

Max Kogler: For demonstrating excellent listening skills whilst conducting a scientific experiment. Well done

Parents & Friends

Natalie Duffy | Parents & Friends Coordinator

Parents & Friends had its first meeting last week. We have some great fundraising and socialising ideas for both the children and families. To get the best out of this small group of volunteers and to get everyone involved, we are looking to set up support and communication structures across all levels of the school.

Wanted – Class Representative

We **need a parent representative from each class** to play a small coordinator role for P&F for that class. This role could easily be shared between 2/3 people per class. As mentioned in previous notices, it involves setting up a class contact list, maybe coordinating a small social event (particularly for the younger classes where parents and children are just getting to know each other), rounding up helpers as required (for hotdog days or farmers markets).

We are developing a small handbook to help support this role. Class Reps are welcome to attend P&F meetings but it is not an essential part of the role. We will hold one Class Rep meeting at the start of each term as a social event and also to discuss what is happening for the term.

If you are interested in this role, please contact our Class Rep Coordinator - Pauline Cassidy at Pauline.cassidy@hotmail.com

Wanted – Farmers Market Setup Coordinator

Do you work but want to help out at school? Can you help out at school for a few hours on the fourth Saturday of each month? Then this could be the role for you!

The farmers market is run on the fourth Saturday of each month from 9am – 1pm. For continuity, we **need a volunteer to be the coordinator responsible for the setup and breakdown process at each market**, roughly 8.30 – 9.30 and then 12.30 – 1.30 (you would be welcome to stay for the intervening hours as well if you wanted too).

Classes would be rostered to provide helpers to run the BBQ and cake stalls, and to help set up and break down the school stalls. The Market Setup Coordinator will mean school equipment is used and maintained properly. It would be a great help if one person was the font of knowledge for doing this for the market.

The setup coordinator role involves:

- knowing where to find the BBQ, shade tents, and trestle tables
- guiding the provided helpers where and how to set it all up
- get the BBQ up and running
- at the end of the market, guide the helpers to ensure the BBQ is cleaned, shade tents dry and packed away, table and chairs packed away.

P&F will support this role by coordinating the ordering of food resources (bread, snags, sauce, napkins etc), ensuring there are plenty of helpers and asking for cake donations. **(We need a volunteer to do this small role once a month as well.)**

If you can help out one Saturday morning a month, or help coordinate the preparation part of the market, please contact Natalie Duffy.

The next **Farmers Market is next Saturday 22 February.**

Icy Pole Thursdays start this week

Please get your form and money into your teacher by Wed 19 Feb at the latest.

Coin Drive

Please send your clean empty 2L milk containers. We are collecting them for the Monty Coin Drive which is starting in March.

Welcome BBQ

Thank you to all the families who attended the Welcome BBQ on Friday 3 February and a big thank you to the student, teacher & parent helpers on the night. Congratulations to the Hamilton Family (David, Foundation K & Ben, Foundation Green) who won a family dinner at Max's Burger Bar (across the road) and to the 20 lucky students who won entry passes to Rarebears Indoor Play Centre at Eltham.

P&F is grateful to Simon McKay from Max's Burger Bar, Adam Zelif from Rarebears Indoor Play Centre for your prize donations and Fruit 2 Boot, St Helena for your generous watermelon donation.

School Cash Back

We are working with local businesses to arrange cash back bonus to Montmorency Primary School. By supporting these businesses you are fundraising for the school without any effort.

Wednesday Night is School Night at Max's Burger Bar – any Monty Primary School family that has dinner at Max's on a Wednesday night will **receive free ice-creams for the kids plus 10% of the total bill will be donated back to our school.** Simply leave your receipt in the MPS Primary School box or bring it into Julie at the school office. Thanks again Simon McKay!
Max's Burger Bar, Cnr Were St & Rattray Rd, Montmorency Ph: 9435 2332

Foodworks Supermarket Montmorency – by shopping at Foodworks and nominating Montmorency Primary School at the checkout, **1% of your total receipt (excluding tobacco) will be converted into points for our school.** Foodworks will tally sales from Monty Primary School supporters every 4 times a year and give cash back to our school. This really is money for Jam. Thank you Lorenzo, Sue & Adrian!

Foodworks Supermarket 49-55 Were St, Montmorency Ph: 9435 1750.

Building & Grounds

Michael Mark | Buildings & Grounds Coordinator **M** 0411 476 224 **E:** michael_mark@hotmail.com

Like the Olympics, the Working Bee held on 16 Feb 2014, had its fair share of coaches, death-defying feats and controversy (not really), just good old-fashioned shovelling, wheelbarrowing and raking, whipper-snipping and lawn-mowing, with some branch cutting and rubbish pick-up thrown in for good measure! It was terrific to see some new faces, and some of the true faith, thank you! 'Middle Adventure' and 'Big Adventure' now have a much safer padded ground to land, or lie down on, as the case may be. This small cohort did the work of a mighty throng, and staved off the addition of a Working Bee levy to every parent's bill. Scheduling can be challenging for us all and it was great to see that even if a whole family was unable to attend, they sent an emissary! Meanwhile, please pick up any rubbish you see lying around and/or let Michael Otway know if and when you have some free time to help him cross off one of the never-ending small tasks on his 'list'.

The following are to be heartily congratulated for their efforts; Jed and his parents Alison and John + his brother Rory, Mia and her mother Glenda, Shola's dad Damien came as did Cleo's dad Adrian. Reece and his dad Neil turned up before baseball coaching duties, Dominica and Valentino's mum, Natalie, was on hand, David and Ben contributed their father Russell, Lovisa's father Christopher and brother Ludwig came along, Abby and Jake Smith brought standout Michael Smith, Janene Worsam and Michael Otway showed up on a Sunday! Sebastian brought his parents Steven and Nicky, Memo brought her mum Penelope and me! My apologies if I missed anyone. See you next time.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

Suzie Wilton & Darryl Deller | Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden, E: suzie.wilton@hotmail.com

Kitchen

Grades 3, 4/5 and 5/6 have now all completed their introductory lesson to the kitchen, demonstrated some very responsible knife skills and have shared pita pockets with hummus and salad. The hummus was so popular with lots of positive feedback so the recipe is included below for anybody who would like to make it at home!

Consent forms have been sent out this week regarding cooking classes and we would love to get these back ASAP – they include a section about any allergies and intolerances that we may need to know about in the kitchen.

Don't forget you are encouraged to bring an **apron** on your cooking day to protect your school uniform – we will be doing some fun, yet a bit messy, cooking coming up in the next few weeks (fresh egg pasta! Yum yum!)

Volunteers in the Kitchen

We would love some more volunteers in the kitchen – you are welcome to come for a morning session (9.00am – 11.15am) or afternoon session (11.45am – 2.00pm) or both! It is a wonderful, rewarding program to be involved in. Please contact Darryl Deller if you are interested.

Extra Produce

Do you or your neighbours have a lemon tree at home with more lemons than you can use, or a very productive rhubarb plant? We are glad to accept any extra produce that you can't use at home – be it citrus, fruit or veggies, we will figure out creative ways to use it in the kitchen or for fundraising!

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Hummus Dip

- Makes:** 1 big bowl to share
- 2 cans chickpeas
- ¼ cup lemon juice
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic
- 6 tablespoons tahini
- Paprika
- 6 sprigs parsley
- Salt and pepper

Method:

1. Drain chickpeas
2. Finely chop the garlic and juice the lemon. Finely chop parsley
3. Put the chickpeas, lemon juice, oil, garlic and 4 tablespoons of water into the food processor
4. Whizz up for a few minutes, stopping every now and then to scrape the sides down. Add the tahini and continue to process until smooth
5. Taste, season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with chopped parsley and paprika

Garden

As we are advertising for the new Garden Specialist we would be grateful to any of our garden volunteers who would be keen to do some general weeding, watering and maintenance on Wednesdays, or any other days, to keep our garden in good shape. Thank you!



Newsletters

Penelope Aitken | Newsletter Editor **M:** 0411 274 472 **E:** penelpe.aitken@gmail.com

Newsletters are sent out fortnightly during term time. If you have any notices or contributions for the next issue please email these to me by Sunday 2 March.

The MPS newsletter is supported by some advertising so if you have an event or activity to promote outside of school and that is suitable for children or families, please contact Julie in the front office for our current rates.

Also if you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, please fill in the form overleaf, return it to the front office and we'll put you on the list. **MPS is trying very hard to reduce paper so please consider this environmental option.** And don't forget that you can get extra copies emailed and to multiple addresses, even if you still want a hard copy.

✂.....

YES , I would like the MPS newsletter sent electronically to the following addresses:

Email 1:

Email 2:.....

Parent Name/s:.....

Oldest child's name:.....Grade:.....

Take me off the hard copy list please

Want to play netball in 2014?

Eltham Netball club is now taking registrations for the 2014 seasons.

Training is on either a Tuesday or Thursday afternoon at

St. Helena S.C in Wallowa Rd Eltham North.

Games are played on a Saturday commencing

15 March.

We cater for 9/u to open age, beginners to experienced players.

Email Julie on

info@elthamnetballclub.com.au for all information.

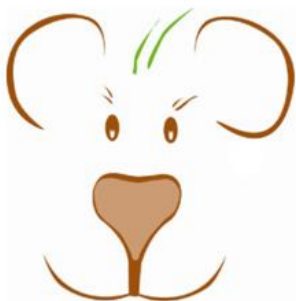
Midweek Birthday Special

Have a party in the months of
February and March

(Monday – Thursday with start times
Between 9.00am-3.30pm)

Only \$17.50* per child

***All normal party inclusions and conditions**



rarebears®

cafe party play



ELTHAM LEISURE CENTRE



eltham funrunwalk 2014

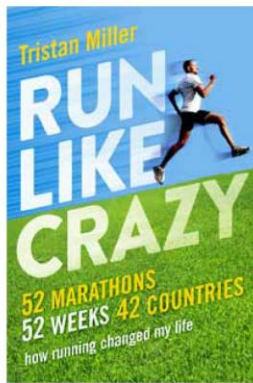
Run 10km or 5km
Walk 5km



— All runners are electronically timed —

Sunday 23 March, 9am start

Run like crazy or enjoy the walk with this years celebrity guest participants



Tristan Miller



The Biggest Loser's Pink and Green team

Register early and online at www.eltham.ymca.org.au and The Athletes Foot Greensborough will give you a \$50 gift voucher!

Race starts and finishes at Eltham Leisure Centre
40 Brougham St, Eltham 3095 Phone: 9439 2266

Thankyou to our major sponsors:



Spikezone

term 1 at Eltham High School

A new season of *Spikezone* will start here for primary aged children (grade 4, 5 and 6) on

Thursday 20 February 2014 at 4.10pm

This term we will be running a 'Spikezone' or mini volleyball competition in the Eltham High School Sports Stadium, Withers Way, Eltham each Thursday after school.

Features of the new competition.

1. The competition will run during semester one. 16 weeks with finals and trophies in the last week of term 2.
2. Teams of four to six . Each team can have more than six members but you can only have six on the court at one time.
3. Two twenty minute games each night.
4. Game fee of \$ 5 each Thursday night to be paid as you arrive.
5. \$ 5 registration to cover cost of trophies. \$ 10 paid the second week will cover rego and game fee. The first night is free.
6. Finals with trophies at the end of term two. Trophies for 1st ,2nd and 3rd, certificates for all participants and MVP trophies for each team.

Any players interested in entering the competition should organise a team from amongst their class mates, think up a cool name and get ready to play.

The first night of competition will be Thursday the 20th of February 2014. This night will be a free 'come and have a hit' night where teams can enter. Games will be played between 4.10 and 5.00p.m.

Any keen individuals who don't have a team can enter one on the first night.

I look forward to seeing you at Eltham High school sports stadium soon.

Greg Thomas
Volleyball coordinator
Eltham High school
9430 5150
thomas.gregory.h@edumail.vic.gov.au