



# Montmorency Primary School Newsletter

Issue 7: 13 May 2014

## Principal's Report

Michael Otway | Principal

### Every Day Counts and .....being on time is important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. Some children miss three weeks a year due to family holidays and other factors. If repeated annually that's half a year of school by the end of Year 6.

Even coming to school late adds up. Most importantly, the timetable for the day and special happenings are often discussed first thing so coming in late can be very unsettling for a child.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher to find out what work your child needs to keep up.
- Develop an "absence learning plan" with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible and always send an explanation.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

### Enrolments for 2015- It's all happening!

Just to remind you all that we are currently accepting enrolments for 2015. **Finally** our buildings will match the wonderful educational heart we have created within our school. No doubt families in our area will be looking to take advantage of our wonderful staff and beautiful grounds. We need your support and publicity to let people know that we are aiming to create reasonable sized groups within these new spaces. Foundation groups will be capped at 20 and any "drift in" will be monitored to ensure that staff student ratios (currently 1:9 excluding Student teachers and parent volunteers) are as good as we can make them.

We are already making plans for 2015 based on enrolment numbers so if you know of anyone who is intending to enrol their child, but has not yet done so, please remind them to pick up a form from the office! Please ensure that you fill out an enrolment form if your child is entering Foundation (Prep), even if you have another child at the school.

### Visitor Sign in – Working With Children Check

You will notice the sign at the front gate which advises all visitors to our grounds to report to the General Office. We need to ensure that all volunteers and visitors are signed in, and

## Diary dates

- 
- Tues 13 May: 10 am**  
P&F meeting  
Max's Burger Bar
- 
- 13 – 15 May**  
NAPLAN tests
- 
- 19 – 24 May**  
Education Week
- 
- Tues 20 May: 2 – 3.30 pm**  
Australia's Biggest Afternoon  
Tea & Pop up cafe
- 
- Wed 21 May**  
School open morning 9-10.30  
School tours, 10.30 am & 1pm  
School info sessions 11am, 7pm
- 
- Thursday 22 May**  
Division Cross Country Event at  
Eltham Lower Park on
- 
- Saturday 24 May: 8am-1pm**  
Farmers' Market. Hosted by  
Grade 3
- 
- Wednesday 4 June: 2.45pm**  
Mini Market
- 
- Thursday 5 June**  
World Environment Day
- 
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> June**  
Fire Brigade for Foundation  
9.30
- 
- Wednesday 11 June**  
Division Cross Country
- 
- Thursday 12 June**  
Athletics carnival
- 

**Montmorency Primary School**

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[www.facebook.com/MontyPS](https://www.facebook.com/MontyPS)

## Principal's Report cont.

wearing lanyards, to identify them as "approved" visitors. All volunteers need to have a Working With Children Check" and we need to have this registered at the office. Whilst we are a friendly and welcoming school this is done to ensure the safety of children. Sometimes different family members or friends may be delegated to collect or deliver your children. Please let us know in advance. This helps to prepare children and teachers and builds our knowledge of our wonderful community.

## Physical Education & Interschool Sports

Donna Barclay | PE Teacher

### Cross Country / Fun run

Well done to every child in the school who came and ran or walked in the Cross Country / Fun Run. You should all be so very proud of yourselves for taking on and completing the challenge. It is always a great thing to try new and challenging things as sometimes you might find out it's not as difficult as you thought.

The Foundation classes had great fun cheering on the Grade 1's as they raced around the oval. Then we set the classes off in the house groups, it was as if a rainbow had been unleashed across the oval. It was great to see children running with their friends, siblings and parents. Thanks to all the people who came to support their children in their efforts, it was great to see so much encouragement and cheering. I think all the children completed 4 laps which was a fantastic effort.



Then it was time to head down to the creek. The grade 2-6 students put in a fantastic effort running around the course, watched on by staff and parents (thanks parents). The highlight for many was the crossing of the bridges, seeing and smelling the bush and the fresh air and experiencing a scenic place to run. We think that it will be the venue in future years.

A huge thanks to the Parents and Friends for their help with setting up and running the event. Especially Natalie Duffy and Suzi Smith.

Results. Blue house was the overall winner on the day in a close competition. Place getters, first to fourth were:

7 year olds:	G: Isabelle, Molly, Shola, Miya	B: Tibaud, Timothy, Alex, Dominic,
8 year olds:	G: Erin, Cleo, Memo, Gaia	B: Rhys, Tom, Elijah, Joshua
9 year olds:	G: Angel, Chelsea, Evie H, Hayley	B : Emile, Elias, Harrison, Jake
10 year olds:	G: Hannah, Allannah, Amy, Carlie	B: Liam, Max K, Lochie, Max H
11 year olds:	G Tamika, Zara, Zoe, Sofia	B: Darcy, James, Tom, Zayne
12 year olds:	G Sarah, Harriet, Olivia, Cheyanna	B: Jordan, Jye, Jarrah, Ethan
13 year olds:		B: Rory

Many of the children are now going on to race at the Division Cross Country Event at Eltham Lower Park on 22 May. Good Luck Team. Over the next few weeks we will be training for the athletics carnival on 12 June. Details to follow.

# School Council Update

We plan to give some brief highlights out of the school council meetings on a regular basis. For those wanting more information, full copies of minutes are available. Alternatively, please contact any of the council members.

1. New policies on 'Green Procurement' and 'Sustainability' were ratified – thank you Christine Turner for the great work on these!
2. We would like to announce that Simon Clarkson has accepted nomination as our School Council President
3. The Council recommends Japanese to be included as a specialist subject for MPS from 2015, starting initially with Foundation classes. This is based on a Position Paper tabled at council by Anna Farago and in line with Department Legislation. We are seeking feedback from the school community on this proposal by the end of May. Please either email me on [simondbclarkson@icloud.com](mailto:simondbclarkson@icloud.com) or contact me in writing via the school office. We will review all feedback in the June meeting and let you know the outcome in the next newsletter.

## Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

Suzie Wilton | Jasmine Lechte | Darryl Deller | Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden

### Kitchen

Hello again! The kitchen is buzzing as we get back into the swing of classes this term. This week we have been making Warrigal Greens Pizza, some Orange & Rosemary Shortbread as well as a very popular Cauliflower Soup.

We had an amazing Mini Market last Wednesday – a big thanks to Dylan, Zara, Kara and Zoe from 4/5 who were excellent sales people!

### Mini Markets are back!

Mini Markets will be held on the first Wednesday of each month and our next Mini Market will be on **Wednesday 4 June** from **2.45pm** onwards! Look forward to some tasty, home baked treats as well as some amazing preserves, the Cumquat Jam is particularly lovely! (Thanks to Alannah and her family for the cumquats!).

### Extra Produce

We are glad to accept any extra produce that you can't use at home – be it fruit or veggies, we will figure out creative ways to use it in the kitchen or for fundraising! We are especially on the lookout for **lemons, cumquats** and **quinces**



### Garden

All of the Gardening classes have been very hard at work and doing a great job helping to get the garden looking great again! The first week of classes saw the Foundation and Grade 1/2A learning about the seasons and drawing some beautiful plants and flowers to add to our books. Grade 4/5 helped to mulch the rest of the garden and did a great job, getting it done very quickly!

Last week, the 5/6 class labeled all of the herbs in the Labyrinth Garden so we can all find what we are looking for. Their class and also the Grade 3 children planted loads of seedlings so we will have plenty of food for the kitchen in no time!! Grade 1/2B potted up lots of things for the Mother's Day sale on Thursday.... please don't forget to water them!!

If anybody is able to come and volunteer their time, please feel free to come and see me on Wednesday afternoon, after classes. I am also there often on Thursday mornings at the moment. We have achieved so much together already, but there are always more things to do in the garden.

I hope that everybody is enjoying the Gardening classes. We are just getting started and have lots of wonderful things to learn about! Thanks, Jasmine

# Parents & Friends

**Natalie Duffy** | Parents & Friends Coordinator | [ndu39182@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ndu39182@bigpond.net.au)

Firstly, I'd like to extend a very personal thank you to all the teachers at Monty for helping our kids treat mums, grandmothers and special ladies this Mother's Day. On behalf of all families thank you. It was delightful watching the kids' joy as cards and gifts made at school and purchased at the Mother's Day Stall were shared at home. I felt very special indeed.

Foundation teachers a special thank you for organising the Bunnings excursion so students could make a beautiful craft piece for mums. Donna Barclay and the OHSC team, thank you for the amazing jar of ingredients to make Mother's Day biscuits at home. Jasmine and Suzie, thank you for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen and Garden produce and pot plants made at school.

Last but not least, THANK YOU to the mums who helped set up and run the Mother's Day Stall. There was a lot of excitement and maths practice as students carefully selected their treasures.

Monty on the Move:

Every Wednesday is "Move Day" in preparation for the move to our new classrooms. Parents & Friends are invited to help out on a Wednesday to assist with move tasks. Last Wednesday Sherryn Hancock and Ingrid Whitcombe cleaned Foundation "Colours" table frames. Thank you! If you have time to spare please join us on a Wednesday after drop off at the office. There is quite a lot to do and your assistance in anyway is appreciated. Please let your teacher or the office know if you can help

## Suggestions & Feedback are welcome

Your family's enrolment at Monty automatically makes you part of our Parents & Friends team. Your opinions, ideas, suggestions and feedback are always welcome. Your comments can be emailed to Natalie Duffy E: [ndu39182@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ndu39182@bigpond.net.au) or your class rep any time if you can't make a meeting.

## Australia's Biggest "Afternoon" Tea at Monty: Tuesday 20 May, 2:00-3:30pm

Come, meet and eat "Monty" our very hungry cupcake caterpillar at Monty Primary School's Biggest Afternoon Tea on Tuesday 20 May. Whilst others might be raising their cup, we will be raising our cupcake.

Monty Primary School is showing our support for the Australian Cancer Council by holding an afternoon tea for students and families on Tuesday 20 May. Many in our school community are affected by this disease and one of the ways we can help to find a cure and improve experiences is to donate to the experts. Your donations made online through the Australian Cancer Council's "Australia's Biggest Morning Tea" website are tax deductible.

We are hoping that every student will buy a cupcake and raise their cupcake so we can measure how long Monty, our very hungry cupcake caterpillar will be. A pop up cafe will be operating for parents and friends who want to join in. Cupcakes will be on sale for \$2 or alternatively you can buy them online or make a family donation to our Biggest Afternoon Tea event. All \$2 cupcakes sold will receive a tax receipt from the Cancer Council. Visit the link below to reach our Montmorency Primary School page to donate or join our team or post a comment.

<http://vic.cancercouncilfundraising.org.au/montypsmorningtea>

To cater for those with allergies we will have some dairy free, egg free and gluten free cupcakes. Order forms and recipe requests will be sent home in the next week

If you can help make cupcakes from our SAKG recipe or help out on the day please let either Ingrid Whitcombe E: [pandarkin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:pandarkin@yahoo.com.au) know, or contact Natalie Duffy.

## Farmers Market

The next market on Saturday 24 May will be hosted by Grade 3. Please contact Vanessa Jasper – M: 0498 135 016 | E: [vjasper@live.com](mailto:vjasper@live.com) if you can help out.

## Cross Country Fun Run

Fundraising money is still being counted. Before we can send off the prize requests we need to receive the outstanding orders. Please return these by Friday to your teacher so your class rep can finalise class tallies.

# Out of Hours Care Room

**Donna Barclay** | OSHC Coordinator

We hope you enjoy making the biscuits with your child. The recipe came from the website [www.putitinajar.com/crafts/food-in-jars/](http://www.putitinajar.com/crafts/food-in-jars/). We hope they were delicious. The kids had lots of fun making up the mixture for you.

# Student of the Week

## Term 2, Week 2 : 2 – 6 May 2014

00G Linda Carter

### **Valentino Scaffidi**

For running further and further during the Cross Country, even when he was tired. Well done on a terrific run!

00X Sarah Kechayas

### **Marcus Tangey**

For approaching all of his table work with such enthusiasm. You are learning so much, so quickly. Top effort!

00R Anna Hayes

### **Zara Sculli**

For always trying so hard with her table work and for being such a good helper in class.

OOS Sandie Symes

### **Maeve Lappin**

For being such a beautiful friend to others and for reading her take home readers so confidently and fluently.

OOK Keryn Johnston

### **Miriam Kelleher**

For running like lightning on our Fun Run. You were super speedy. You are a good friend to everyone in Foundation K too. Well done!

1/2A Margarita Strateas

### **Timothy Katsaras**

For his wonderful version of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. You worked hard and were a writing superstar.

1/2B Christine Turner

### **Elijah El-Jarid**

For managing to build up the courage to do his 'Share and Learn' in front of the grade without any preparation and telling us about his new baby brother. You have made your teacher proud!

3A Darryl Deller

### **Jake Smith**

Terrific attitude always and excellent work habits. Great persuasive writing. Well done!

4/5A Kevin Wilcockson

### **Hannah Loughran**

For your creative ability and for always thinking of others before yourself.

5/6A Janene Worsam /Rebekah Rentos

### **Genevieve Shallard**

For outstanding effort both inside and outside of the classroom – an amazing Cross Country effort!

## Term 2, Week 3 : 9 – 13 May 2014

00G Linda Carter

### **Charlotta Apps**

For sharing her interest in new letters, finding some interesting words and trying hard to write these. Well done.

00X Sarah Kechayas

### **Talia Southey**

For being such a quiet achiever and always such a good listener. Keep up the great work!

00R Anna Hayes

### **Olivia Tancredi-Blair**

For trying so hard to learn her numbers and never giving up. Well done!

OOS Sandie Symes

### **Libby Kelly**

For being a wonderfully fluent reader who has developed excellent reading strategies.

OOK Keryn Johnston

### **Dominica Scaffidi**

For being a confident speaker in class and now being very good at taking her turn to listen and talk too. Well done

1/2A Margarita Strateas

### **Matilda Holmes**

For settling into the 1/2A class so quickly. We are so happy to have you in our class and love seeing your happy smiley face every day.

1/2B Christine Turner

### **Serenity Colvin**

For being a wonderful friend to others and looking after Noah in the yard when he was upset. Well done!

3A Darryl Deller

### **Imogen Anderson**

A terrific class member. Always tries her best and is showing increased confidence in her abilities. Well done!

4/5A Kevin Wilcockson

### **Zara El-Jarid**

For your consistent hard work, week in week out! You always give 100% effort, no matter what the task is. Well done!

5/6A Janene Worsam /Rebekah Rentos

### **Josh Charbel**

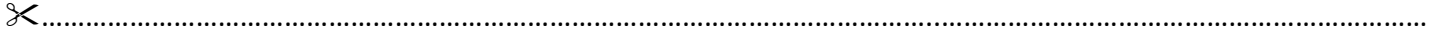
For showing terrific team spirit throughout the Interschool Sports Soccer match and leading the cheer squad!

# Newsletters

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

The MPS newsletter is sent out fortnightly. If you have any notices or contributions for the next issue please email these to me by Sunday 25 May. 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 slip below, 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 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:.....

Email 3:.....

Parent Name/s:.....

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

Take me off the hard copy list please

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