



Montmorency Primary School Newsletter

Issue 8: 27 May 2014

Principal's Report

Michael Otway | Principal

Religious Education Update

The Victorian Minister of Education has announced a Ministerial Direction about Special religious instruction (SRI) in government schools intending to clarify DEECD policy. Unlike the previous departmental advice to school principals, it has the force of law and comes into effect on 14 July.

Regarding the school's power of discretion to offer SRI, it states '*If a principal receives notification from an accredited and approved instructor that the instructor is available to deliver SRI at the school, the principal **must** offer parents of children enrolled at the school the opportunity for their children to be provided with SRI.*' Notice the word "must". We may only dismiss such a proposition if it is without adequate resources, such as suitable space or supervising staff.

A school offering SRI must obtain written advice from all the school parents about their choice, using the Department's form, each year so we will need to send updated forms out as instructors become available. A MAJOR CHANGE is that SRI now becomes an "opt in" system. Parents must state positively that they wish their children to attend. This differs from earlier practice where children were deemed to have opted in unless we received written confirmation that parents wished their child to "opt out".

Parents must be provided with an overview of the program to be taught and the whole program must be made available on the internet

SRI instructors are officially required to promote freedom of religion and forbidden to offer inducements to convert to a particular religion. Teachers who supervise the SRI classes are made responsible for reporting any inappropriate conduct by the instructor.

The situation at present is that we only have one instructor presenting at Foundation Level. Tina is only available for a limited time and so is unable to service our colour groups. Children at Foundation level will receive new forms this week. Should further instructors approach the school, new forms will be sent out to prospective classes.

VCOP – it is all about setting high expectations

Congratulations to Christine Turner for presenting at Network level regarding the VCOP program introduced into our school last year. Christine and Margarita have also presented to staff and you will see this exciting approach to language embedding itself around the school thanks to their efforts.

Thanks to **your** fundraising efforts and payment of fees we have expanded our teaching resources dramatically as we have grown.

Diary dates

- **Monday 26 – Tuesday 27 June**
Grade 3/4 camp
- **Tuesday 27 May: 3.45 pm**
Education Subcommittee meeting
- **Wednesday 4 June: 2.45pm**
Mini Market
- **Thursday 5 June**
World Environment Day
Grade 6 Celebration Trees
- **Monday 9 June**
Queens Birthday Holiday
- **Tuesday 10 & 17 June: 9.30 am**
Fire Brigade for Foundation
- **Wednesday 11 June**
Division Cross Country
Gr1-2 Bundoora Farm Excursion
- **Thursday 12 June**
Athletics Carnival
- **Friday 13 June: 6-9 pm**
Montmorency Community
Group, Community Dinner
Cherry Red Cafe
- **Saturday 28 June**
Farmers Market
Grade 1/2 A in charge
- **Saturday 23 August: 7pm**
School Trivia Quiz – Parent
Event Petrie Park

Needed

Old bathtubs for the SA Kitchen Garden program to make rice paddy gardens

Principal's Report cont.

The introduction of Whole-School Mathematics programs, Reading Materials and schemes, Soundwaves and VCOP is part of our resourcing which enables us, as a Professional Learning Team of teachers, effectively using feedback from testing, to improve teaching and connection to students. Quality educational innovation is exciting work and is a terrific driver of student learning. It is work that continues within classrooms, as part of our daily teaching, and benefits students at all levels of the school. The adoption of systematic, high-reliability teaching practices, such as VCOP, is critical to ensure we apply strategies in teaching which enable the students to monitor their own progress and set goals for their learning.

We are so fortunate to have a talented staff team within the school and their work is a perfect example of staff driving school improvement. It demonstrates the enormous benefits of staff as reflective practitioners. Assistant Principal, Janene Worsam and Margarita Strateas were also able to attend Christine's presentation demonstrating firstly, the professionalism and commitment of Christine to prepare, present and contribute to Network knowledge and, secondly, of our staff to support a colleague and attend such an important occasion in their own time after school.

Parents & Friends

Natalie Duffy | Parents & Friends Coordinator E: ndu39182@bigpond.net.au M: 0422 016 171

What's Coming Up?

Save the date for these upcoming events. If you would like to join the small group coordinating the Trivia Quiz please contact Suzi Smith (E: Michael_suzi@optusnet.com.au).

Wednesday	Move Day for the rest of the Term.	
Thursday 5 June	World Environment Day	Grade 6 Celebration Tree to be planted
Saturday 23 August	School Trivia Quiz	Parent Event 7pm Petrie Park
Saturday 29 November	Election Day	Voting & Market/Car Boot Sale at Monty Primary School

Monty on the Move

There is no doubt that Monty is on the Move, especially after the Frog Bog relocation activity at Saturday's Farmers Market coordinated by Penelope Aitken. Thank you Penelope, Mr Deller and the team of dedicated parents and students who helped rescue plants that would otherwise be bulldozed.

Thank you to the families who have offered to help pack up and prepare for the move to our new classrooms. There is still much to do and we would love some helpers for the tasks below. Please contact Natalie Duffy if you can help.

Monday	10:00-11:00am 12:00-1:00pm 1:00-3:30pm 1:00-3:20pm	Foundation K – table frame cleaning Foundation S – table frame cleaning Grade 4/5 – table frame cleaning Grade 5/6 – table frame cleaning
Tuesday	9:00-9:50am 1:00pm-2:30pm	Grade 3 – table frame cleaning Grade 1 / 2 - table frame cleaning
Wednesday MOVE DAY	9:00 onwards	Pack up Foyer Pack up Library Move Sports Equipment Move Uniform Shop Move Office Archive Boxes Frog Bog
Thursday	9:20-10:10am 12:00-1pm 1:00-2pm 2:40-3:30pm	Grade 3 – table frame cleaning Foundation K – table cleaning Foundation S – table cleaning Grade 3 – table frame cleaning
Friday	1:00-2:30pm 2:30-3.30pm	Grade 1 – table frame cleaning Grade 2 – table frame cleaning

Farmers Market:

Well done Grade 3 on a fabulous Farmers Market. The vibe was energetic and our school was bathed in sunshine. Thank you to the families who assisted on the day and to those who attended. The Farmers Market is an avenue to showcase our school's community spirit and helped to influence a new enrolment on the weekend.

The next market is on during the holidays, Saturday 28 June and will be hosted by Miss Margarita's by Grade 1/2A. Please contact Pauline Cassidy (M: 0498 777 022 or pauline.cassidy@hotmail.com) or Julie Bradford (E: bradford.julie.j@edumail.vic.gov.au) if you can help out.

Australia's Biggest "Afternoon" Tea at Monty

Our school raised \$717.05 for the Cancer Council and had a really exciting afternoon meeting and eating Monty our very hungry cupcake caterpillar. Students, teachers and parents raised cupcakes and green apples to celebrate. The Cancer Council have indicated that our donation will help fund ground-breaking research into new and better ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer. Online donations can still be made by visiting <http://vic.cancerCouncilfundraising.org.au/montypsmorningtea>

A special thank you to Ingrid Whitcombe, our very talented mum and part-time school banker for her cupcake bouquet masterpiece which was raffled and won by the Richardson family (Foundation Blue). Thank you to the bakers of our 250 cupcakes.

Cross Country Fun Run – Update

The school will benefit from a \$3,000 cash injection to be used towards sports equipment and a defibrillator as a result of the Fun Run. Prizes will be ordered this week and should arrive before the end of Term.

Business and Community Friends of Monty PS

A reminder to families of the businesses and organisations who have offers that support our school community.

1. Max's Burger Bar - a reminder that Wednesday is Monty School Night. 10% of your dinner purchases will be donated by Max's Burger Bar as cash back to the school.
2. Eltham Bookshop - besides donating a free book to the Monty school library for every "Birthday Book" purchased in store, Eltham Bookshop have some fantastic author events, like the Strawberry Flavoured Tea with Sally Rippin 15 June.
3. At Foodworks, parents, carers and teachers can nominate to send their shopping points to MPS and raise money for the school.
4. The Monty Community Group is starting up a monthly Community Dinner at the Cherry Red Cafe. The first dinner will be on Friday 13 June (see attached the flyer). The dinner is intended for:
 - Newcomers to the area to feel welcome
 - Volunteers and committee members to network
 - Groups to spread awareness of what they do and provide information about their causes.

Chaplain's Chat

Beverley Hardi | School Chaplain **M** 0425 816 472

We are half-way through Term 2 and the time has flown by so quickly with many activities and events happening. One significant occasion was the Schools Open Day. This event fell on a day of beautiful weather along with a lovely atmosphere of Parents and friends greeting newcomers at the front entrance with a welcoming smile and friendly chat... offering homemade baking and a cuppa ...Who wouldn't want to bring their child to Monty PS? 😊

With all the events in the life of the School it is the people behind the scenes who make sure everything run smoothly. At Monty PS there is an incredible loyal group of mothers, fathers and grandparents who make up this crew of people. There is always a warm and friendly feel when you enter the doors of the school...

With the weather holding out so well for this season the children have been very active outdoors. The outdoor game *Boules* has been well attended especially with the younger students. I have witnessed the children interacting and playing exceptionally well with one another. They have shown team work, kindness, positive interactions and resilience...the makings of great leaders!

I believe this Term will be one to remember with all the many school activities and interaction amongst the school community.

...The mouth of a wise man is in his heart... (Benjamin Franklin)

Interschool Sports

Donna Barclay | PE Teacher

MPS v Briar Hill: Friday 9 May

Monty took on Briar Hill in the first of the winter sports.

- The girl's netball team, coached by Sandy (and normally Ms Worsam) and drew 6 all with Cheyanna getting the sports award for her efforts.
- They didn't have a boys netball team but they did have a footy team, so the boys had a bit of a friendly match at Monty. We hope next year to have a footy team as well.
- The Soccer team, coached by Mr K had a 3-1 win over Briar Hill, with the sports award going to Jarrah.

MPS v Sherbourne: Friday 16 May

- The soccer team had a great 7-0 win over Sherbourne. Congratulations also to Sofia and Xander who won the sports awards.
- In the netball girls- Sherbourne won 21 - 1 Sports Award- Sarah and the boys finally got to play, losing in a close match with netball mixed Sherbourne going down 8-6. Sports award Liam.

MPS v Monty South: Friday 23 May

- The girl's netball team had their first win 8-3 and Kara won the sports award.
- The boy's netball team went down 26- 6. The sports award goes to Blake.
- The soccer team continued their winning streak with a strongly contested 3-0 win with Tom earning the sports award.

Cross Country

On 22 May 26 students represented Montmorency at the Division Cross Country at the Lower Eltham Park.

For many it was their first time at the cross country and they tackled it with great enthusiasm and most still had a smile on their face as they ran past me not far from the end. It is a good sign for our future results if so many were prepared to have a go and do so in such good spirit. It was noted by people working on the marshalling table about the positive attitude in accepting their results (I think the 'get what you get and you don't get upset' message is working)

Many of the children exceeded their expectations. Many students from grade 3 ran in the age group above them for the experience as their age group isn't available at higher levels.

One of the best things is looking at the photos I took from where I stood about 700m from the finish and even those at the back of their group, were happy to smile, jog a little for a photo for their folks and when they got to the end were very positive about it all. I have put them onto the digital photo frame at the office, so if you have a moment, stop by and see them.

As a school, we came 6th out of the 7 schools competing. There were many great individual efforts, but special mentions go to Emile (5th) and Sarah (1st by a good 30 seconds) who will represent us at Bundoora on 11 June. Also special mentions to Darcy W and James, who were emergencies after coming 12 & 13th and Max K who came in 16th.

Well done to you all on a great attitude, for giving it a go and making Mr K, Sandy and myself proud to be able to say these are our students and look how great they are. Thanks too go to Anita (Imogen's Mum), Kim (Chelsea's mum) and James' Nan who came and helped out on the day.

Athletics Carnival: Thursday 12 June

We have started doing some of the running events that cannot be held on the day due to time constraints. So far, the house results are very close- at the completion of the 400/800m events, the results are Blue 66, Red 69, Green 67 and Yellow 70.

We will be looking for helpers on the day, so if anyone can help us it would be greatly appreciated. Please either email me or come see me.

Student of the Week

Term 2, Week 4 : 12 – 16 May 2014

00G Linda Carter

Nathaniel Ananiadis

For trying hard to ignore distractions and to listen carefully at mat time. Great listening Nate!

00X Sarah Kechayas

Jackson Lacey

For being an excellent role model by following instructions and always being ready to start work. Keep it up!

00R Anna Hayes

Michael Bonanni

For always listening to instructions and trying hard to do 'Whole Body Listening'. Well done!

OOS Sandie Symes

Mia Ryan

For showing improved concentration on tablework tasks and for really working hard on her take-home readers – you're a star!

OOK Keryn Johnston

Maccy Kay

For being an absolute Foundation K Champion! Everything is outstanding. You produce excellent work, are extremely well-mannered and are a great friend to all. Well done!

1/2A Margarita Strateas

Cleo Farago

For her wonderful narrative writing. Your descriptions of characters and setting makes us feel like we are in your story. Well done!

1/2B Christine Turner

Kurumi Laksmi

For always trying her best and displaying beautiful manners. Well done!

3A Darryl Deller

Jake Smith

Terrific work habits and for doing your best on the NAPLAN tests. Well done!

4/5A Kevin Wilcockson

James Charbel

For your excellent group work during Integrated Studies and for producing a fantastic 3D model of the Titanic. Well done!

5/6A Janene Worsam /Rebekah Rentos

Cheyanna Millington

For frequently offering her assistance in our Gardening Department and for displaying excellent initiative in doing this!

Term 2, Week 5 : 19 – 23 May 2014

00G Linda Carter

Malena Ananiadis

For always using friendly words and including other children in your work and play times. Well done!

00X Sarah Kechayas

Ned Hewett

For always being such a good friend to others and for doing such a great job of 'Whole Body Listening'.

00R Anna Hayes

Joel Mariani

For being such a good friend, using his friendly words and playing nicely outside. Well done!

OOS Sandie Symes

Hayley Ward

For always producing excellent work, being friendly and helpful and for conscientiously cleaning and tidying the classroom, without being asked!

OOK Keryn Johnston

Jaimee Le

For 'eggsellent' egg cracking skills. You cracked those eggs for our pancakes like a Masterchef. Well done!

1/2A Margarita Strateas

Kaitlyn Tancredi-Blair

For doing her best work during our 'Big Write' session. You worked hard and had a go! Keep it up!

1/2B Christine Turner

Erin Gentz

You have really been stepping up and showing us that you are very capable in all areas of your learning. You are a helpful friend to others and a valued member of the classroom. Awesome effort!

3A Darryl Deller

Claire Stewart

A quiet, conscientious student, always doing her best no matter what the task is. Well done!

4/5A Kevin Wilcockson

Zayne Branch

For entering and handing in your reading log and diary and for handing in your homework. Well done!

5/6A Janene Worsam /Rebekah Rentos

Blake Findlay-Sosic

For showing determination and excellent sportsmanship throughout the Inter school Sport game on Friday

Uniform Shop

Michelle Duke | Uniform Shop Coordinator

You may have already noticed that the school is preparing for the move into the new buildings. Volunteers have already begun by cleaning up tables and sorting through old files.

The Uniform Shop will soon be packed into boxes to allow easy moving of the cupboards that contain everything. Please check your uniform at home to see if you will need to place an order soon.

We currently have orders for 2 winter tunics for girls. This is not enough to meet our minimum order from the supplier. If you would like to order one of these please do so now so I can fulfill our existing orders as well as yours.

The Uniform shop will **not be open on Mondays from the 10 June** until we have our next location. Keep your eyes on our newsletter for further updates. Thank you for your patience during this time.

Physical Education

Donna Barclay | PE Teacher

In the process of moving we have noticed we are missing some PE tops. If you have any of these, can you please return them to the office (no questions asked and preferably washed).

A huge thanks too to the Smith Family who cleaned out the shed for us to be able to move everything into.

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 8 June. 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:.....

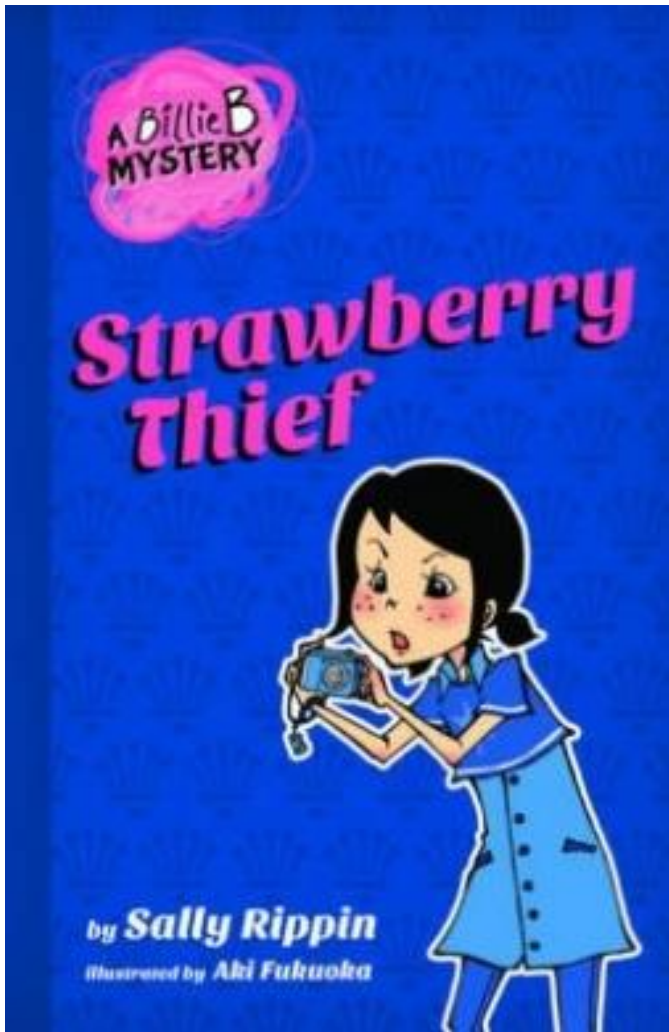
Email 3:.....

Parent Name/s:.....

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

Take me off the hard copy list please

Eltham Bookshop and author Sally Rippin are offering you a chance to star in her next book?



Have you ever wanted to talk to the author of a highly acclaimed children's novel?

Playground detectives 7-10 years old are invited to decode this message

LOOHCS RETFA KRAP EHT NI EM TEEM

and

join the legendary **Sally Rippin**

for a special afternoon at Eltham Bookshop.

When: Sunday 15 June, 3.00pm - 4.30pm

Venue: ELTHAMbookshop, 970 Main Road, Eltham

Cost: \$12.00 (one child and one adult) includes a signed copy of *The Strawberry Thief* or a \$10.00 gift voucher and strawberry flavoured afternoon tea

RSVP: Book super early on P: 9439 8700 or E: elthambookshop@bigpond.com

Sally Rippin was born in Darwin and grew up in South-East Asia. As a young adult she studied traditional Chinese painting for three years in Shanghai and Hangzhou, which inspired her first novel *Chenxi and the Foreigner*. Sally is the author of many books for children, including the popular *Billie B Brown* and *Hey Jack!* series, and the highly acclaimed children's novel *Angel Creek*.

Meera Govil | Australian Booksellers Association Bookseller of the Year | ELTHAMbookshop
P: 9439 8700 | A: 970 Main Road, Eltham



Monty Community Dinner

WHERE:

Cherry Red Café,
Were Street

WHEN:

Friday, 13th June

WHAT TIME:

6pm to 9pm

Bookings are essential so phone

Cherry Red Café on 9435 4291 to let them know the number of people coming and from which group. If its you & your neighbours, what is your street.



Welcome champagne & monty mocktails, 6pm sharp
Main courses around \$15 per person - vegan dish available
Desserts and coffee available at extra charge
\$5 entrance fee
BYO alcohol

The Monty Community Group is hosting our first-ever monthly community dinner for local residents as well as the local community groups and volunteers.

We are doing this because the Monty area has a fantastic community and we thought a Friday night catch up and bite to eat would be great fun. We especially want to support all the hardworking committees and volunteers. This will be a great chance to meet up and share a relaxed meal together.

In true Transition Town style, this is an experiment in the power of community so do come along with your friends, neighbours and colleagues.

We will have a **MONTY WELCOME** of champagne and Monty mocktails with nibbles; and we are working on having a guest local musician(s) and a guest local speaker as well.

Please join us – we'd love to see you on Friday 13th June



Have you heard? Monty Community Group is a 2014 Banyule Community Group winner!!

Want more info?
Call Barbara on 0406 588 417 montymoves@gmail.com