



Montmorency Primary School

Newsletter

Issue 1: 5 February 2015

Principal's Report

Michael Otway | Principal

It has been a great start to the year – the children are really settled and are already working productively. There is a lot to communicate so please excuse the point form.

- **Welcome** to Manny Kechayas, (0.8 Physical Education and Senior Music) and Junko Nichols (0.2 Foundation Japanese). Welcome also to Nicole Gardner who is in for Christine Turner in Term One. Christine has been diagnosed with breast cancer and we wish her well as she sorts out treatment and recovery. Louise Williams is also on board as a supporting Teacher.
- **Our Grade 1/2 groups** are large but our highly capable classroom teachers are well-supported by additional staff. Lou Williams works in the classrooms when Foundation groups are at specialists and Kay Rowland and Colleen Bramall are also working with these groups as Education Support Officers. We will be able to commit funds towards extra teaching assistance in the Grade 1/2 area when our 2015 Budget is confirmed on Census Day, 27 February.
- We will have our **first contact interviews**, for **Grade 1-6**, on Wednesday 25 February. In line with local school practice, and with the aim of allowing an adequate time frame for these first contact interviews, this will be a **reporting day** with children **not at school**. **OSHC will be offered for the day**.
- **School Council Elections** need to be completed in time for our Annual General Meeting in late March. It is a short term and we have **six parent vacancies**. Further details will come out on Friday the 6 February.
- We have **surplus furniture** from our move. If anyone would like some steel cabinets for their garage please let us know.
- Our **Whole-School Information Evening** is on **Thursday 12 February at 7:00pm**. This will include a presentation on **CyberSafety** by Detective Rhonda Brown, senior sergeant (Melbourne Detectives Unit) and Pam Wright (eLearning Coach at Concord School).
- We have a **parent helper information** session this **Friday morning at 9:30am** where Janene Worsam, our **Leading Teacher** and **Second-in-Charge**, will give insight into ways to assist in the classroom.
- Don't forget our welcome **Barbeque this Friday Night, 6 February** where we hope to meet as many families as possible.
- **Camp Australia** has taken over our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC). Welcome to **Emma Ryan** as coordinator. **Bookings** can be made on line (www.campastralia.com.au). If you are experiencing **difficulty** ring the **HOTLINE** on **1300 105 343**

Diary dates

Friday 6 February

- Interschool Sports, Grades 4-6
- Parents and Friends welcome BBQ

Monday 9 February

- Parents and Friends and Fair meeting after assembly

Thursday 12 February

- Swimming Trials, Grades 4-6
- Whole school information evening and Cyber Safety presentation

Wednesday 18 February

- District Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 25 February

- First contact parent/teacher interviews (Grades 1-6)

Thursday 5 March

- Crazy Hair/Fair Donation Day

Monday 9 March

- Labour Day Holiday

Wednesday 11 March

- Grade 3/4 camp

Thursday 12 March

- Grade 3/4 camp
- Grade 6 GRIP Leadership Conference

Saturday 21 March

- Monty Community Fair

Principal's Report, continued...

- **Admin building** will most likely be ready in the first week of March. Soon you will see asphalt going in and this will necessitate a temporary entrance at the front of the school near the rotunda. The asphalt needs to settle for five days. Natalie Duffy (School Councillor) and I visited **Vicki Ward**, our **local member** yesterday to request that our contribution to the asbestos removal be restored to allow the landscaping it was originally intended for. Vicki was very astute and will explore solutions.
- In order to reduce our costs and our impact on the environment, we are moving to **electronic distribution** of the **Newsletter**. Please use the form at the end of this edition to **register** and/or **update** your **email address**.

*Lastly I am pleased to say that, with my contract originally ending in April this year, after an interesting process, I have been awarded a **new five year contract**. What a great time to be at Montmorency Primary!*

Parents & Friends

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

There is a lovely buzz around the school as we welcome in 2015 and enjoy the friendships that blossom at Monty Primary. It is great to see familiar faces and exciting to see lots of new ones. Students are ready to learn, teachers are raring to go and the Parents and Friends group is planning fun activities for everyone to make this another memorable year. Come along to our first P&F meeting after assembly on Monday to get involved.

On behalf of all families, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all the teachers and staff at Monty for all their preparation and kindness towards our children transitioning into their new learning journey.

What's Coming Up in 2015?

Friday 6 February	Welcome BBQ & Pizza Night from 5:30pm in the playground
Monday 9 February	Whole School Assembly followed by P&F Meeting
Saturday 28 February	Farmers Market (Grade 5 / 6 to host)
Saturday 21 March	Monty Community Fair (Term 1 Focus)

Welcome Morning Tea – Monday 2 February 9am

Thank you to Grade 1-2 families for hosting the welcome morning tea for new families. Over 100 proud parents and grandparents mingled on the deck celebrating the magic of our Foundation students' first day of school.

Family BBQ & Pizza Night – Friday 6 February 5:30pm

We look forward to catching up again for a summer family BBQ & Pizza Night tomorrow. Mr K will have the BBQ sizzling and Grade 3-4 will also be treating us with "Monty made" pizzas from our school pizza oven. Any parents who would like to help prepare Pizzas please join Anna Farago and Michael Mark in the Kitchen on Friday from 10:00am onwards.

Farmers Market – Saturday 28 February 9:00am – 1:00pm. Hosted by Grade 5-6.

The Monty Farmers Market is a festive community market held in the school grounds on the 4th Saturday of each month from 9am to 1pm. The MPS Parents & Friends group run a school fundraising stall (BBQ, cakes & produce made by students). To share the load each market is hosted by a class. The funds raised are directed into our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program.

Birthday Books to Love our Library

Birthdays are an important celebration in the school community and we invite students to mark the occasion of their birthday by donating a new or in good condition book to their class. The Birthday Book will remain in the classroom to be shared and enjoyed with classmates on the day and for the remainder of the calendar year, and then relocated to the library each Christmas as a legacy gift.

Hip Hip Hooray to the students who shared some Birthday Book love towards our library last year. The prize draw will be made at an upcoming assembly along with a donation of books from Eltham Bookshop. Meera Govil from Eltham Bookshop will continue to generously donate a book to our school for each Birthday Book purchased from their shop. Eltham Bookshop is located at 970 Main Road, Eltham. Ph: 9439 8700

P&F Class Representatives

If you'd like to take on this communication role for your child's grade or share it with another person, please contact Vanessa Jasper M: 0439 438 647 | E: vjasper@live.com

The aim of the class rep is to help foster engagement, belonging and communication among parents and carers. There are so many fabulous ideas that come from parents. We are keen to embrace these so our school can thrive. Parent involvement is supportive, enjoyable and positive for everyone...especially our kids!

Community Fair – Focus for Term 1 (Saturday March 21)

The Community Fair will be the focus of our P&F activity in Term 1. Suzi Smith and many helpers are doing a great job in preparing for the fair. If there is one thing you can do to help the school this term, we'd love you to support the fete by attending and if you can help out in some way.

Community Fair – 21 March 2015

Suzi Smith | Community Fair Coordinator | michael_suzi@optusnet.com.au | M: 0419 434 559

There are just over 6 weeks until the school's 4th Community Fair - Yippee!!!

More like a festival than a school fete, the Fair is an event that invites the whole community into our fabulous school. There will be live music, delicious food, rides and inflatables, sideshow games and activities, a café for the adults as well as ones for kids, and much more..... Community groups will come and run activities for us and some will showcase their cause. There are raffles, spinning wheels, plants and produce for sale, and heaps of free activities for the kids. Whew!

The majority of these activities and stalls are organised and run by the school. There is a huge committee that has been planning and preparing for a few months now, but the Fair will not succeed unless the whole school gets involved on Fair Day. **THIS IS A CALL TO ACTION** for all families. Block out **Saturday 21 March** to come to the Fair. Come to play and, more importantly, **COME TO HELP**.

A notice will go home to all families next week letting you know how to get involved. From next week you will be able to sign up to your class helper roster, donate toys to be used as Sideshow game prizes, donate your quality 2nd hand goods to the Op Shop stall, and don't forget to sell your raffle tickets and go into the 'Sellers draw' and win a prize yourself.

In the meantime, we are looking for people who can help us with the following preparation activities:

- Grow seedlings,
- Make jams, chutney, preserves etc
- Hand-make items for sale at the Craft stall – anything you like to do
- Do you have an abundance of lemons, fruit, berries that we can use to make jam and preserves?

Finally, we are still looking for a few people to take on the Stall Coordinator roles for some of the sideshow games, and the 'Produce & Craft' stall. Most of the preparation work has already been done for these stalls, but we need coordinators to help plan the setup and logistics of the stall and be there to set the stall up on the day.

If you would like to get involved or can help with any of the above activities, please contact Suzi Smith.

OSHC

Emma Ryan | Camp Australia | T: 1300 105 343 | M: 0450 260 353 (during program hours only)

The school's Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program is now provided by Camp Australia. The OSHC program is coordinated by Emma Ryan with assistance from Casey, who is well-known to the children. Emma and Casey will be available to meet parents at the Family BBQ and Pizza Night on Friday 6 February and answer any questions they have about Camp Australia's online registration and booking system.

OSHC, continued...

If you are cleaning out your toy cupboards, Emma would welcome your donations of books and toys for the OSHC program. She would also be happy to receive old shirts which can be used as art smocks. Please deliver your donations to the OSCH program (in the Castle) before or after school, or to the school office during school hours.

Finally, please ensure that your child/ren keep a hat in their school bag to be worn for outside play during before and after-school care.

SAKG Program

Suzie Wilton & Jasmine Lechte | SAKG Kitchen and Garden Specialists

Volunteers Wanted

Hello everyone! Welcome back to school!! The garden is bursting with amazing produce that's begging to be harvested and cooked into some tasty treats. We can't wait to get started with classes again and would love some new volunteers in the garden and kitchen.

We are in desperate need of more support through volunteers, our program can't run without them! You don't need to be a green thumb or a master chef, just keen helpers to come enjoy spending time with our fantastic kids! Please contact Jasmine (0434 871 161) or Suzie (0419 132 584).

Nude Food Day

Margarita Strateas | Environment Committee and Grade 1/2 Teacher

Don't forget the first Nude Food Day of 2015 on Thursday the 5th of February! At Montmorency Primary School, educating children to make healthy decisions for their bodies and the environment is a vital aspect of our educational program. Nude Food Day combines both environmental awareness and nutritional health by building greater understanding of the effects that our food choices have on our bodies and the effects that rubbish/waste have on our environment.

Nude Food Day teaches children the importance of a nutritious and environmentally friendly lunch filled with fresh and nutritious food, eliminating all unnecessary wrapping.

What is Nude Food? Nude Food is simply food that is not wrapped in foil, plastic or commercial packaging.

To pack a Nude Food lunch or snack you will need:	Try to avoid:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cutlery from home, which is better than throwaway plastic cutlery• Plastic or metal drink bottles for refilling with water• Reusable containers for putting all of your food, snacks and drinks into• Lunch boxes that have lots of separate sections, which can be useful to avoid lost lids or containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zip lock or plastic bags, plastic wrap or aluminium foil• Tetra packed drinks, single serve yoghurts and cheese• Single use plastic forks and spoons• Pre-packaged food, like biscuits, snack bars and chips

Nude Food Day happens every Thursday. At the end of the day we collect and count the food wrappers from each class. The class with the lowest amount of wrappers are the Nude Food Day Champs for that week!

Newsletters – sign up for an electronic copy

Michelle Parrott | Newsletter Editor | E parrott.michelle.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

To contribute to our goal of becoming a sustainable school, we will be distributing the newsletter electronically from March. Newsletters will no longer be sent home in paper format, however a limited number of copies will be available from the school office for families without internet access. If you currently receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please provide your email address(es) using the form below and return it to the school office by **Friday 27 February**.

✂.....

Please send the school newsletter to the following address(es):

Email 1: Email 2:

Parent Name(s):

Oldest child's name: Grade:



Simple Tasty Food. exceptional Coffee.

No time to make school lunches? Have you run out of bread in the morning?

Now you can call the Werey Bear Café and we will deliver your child's lunch to the school office. We are happy to arrange anything from fruit, to the kids' favourite cheese and Vegemite sandwich, right up to full salad or sushi. To arrange a lunch order, call Rob on 0405 672 260.



SealPony Soccer is a developmental & participation program that introduces boys and girls aged between 5-10 to the game of football (soccer). It focuses on teaching the basic/intermediate skills.

* Fun games & activities * Great giveaways

For more information call Joe (0415-388-028)

E-mail:

jyamen@optusnet.com.au

Time:

Every Sunday Morning
8th of March 2015

Starting Date:

Saturday 10 am - 11 am

Registration Date:

28th of February 2015

Address:

James Street Reserve
Heidelberg Heights 3081

GREENHILLS MONTMORENCY BASEBALL CLUB IS RECRUITING FOR THE 2015 WINTER SEASON



Are you aged 6 to 16?

Have you ever wanted
to play baseball?

Now is the time
to give it a go!

PLAYER SIGN-UP DAY

Saturday March 14th 2015, 10am - 12noon

Malcolm Blair Reserve,
Karingal Drive, Greensborough

All skill levels welcome

Enquiries: Frank (Junior Co-Ordinator)
juniors@montybaseball.com.au or
0413 547 546



MONTY BASEBALL