



Montmorency Primary School

Newsletter

Issue 2: 19 February 2015

Principal's Report

Michael Otway | Principal

PUPIL FREE REPORTING DAY

A reminder for **Grade 1-6**, Wednesday 25 February will be a **reporting day** with children **not at school**. Interviews will be conducted from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm that day. Please return your appointment slips as soon as possible so interview times can be allocated. **Camp Australia will be offering all day care on this day**. As places are limited, please make an online booking to secure a place for your child/ren. Visit www.campastralia.com.au.

Information Evenings – Don't forget to keep in touch regularly.

It has been really pleasing to see Parents attending the Parent Helper, Information and Cyber-Safety sessions held recently. Remember, as a small school, we are able to make times to keep in touch regularly apart from the formal occasions. Please contact your child's teacher should you wish to arrange a mutually suitable time.

School Council Elections

We received 6 nominations for council for 6 vacancies. I am pleased to announce that Penelope Aitken, Simon Clarkson, Victoria Harris, Vanessa Jasper, Adrian Miles and Michael Smith have thus been elected unopposed! The current Council remains in office for the coming meeting and until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting on 24 March. The new Council meets immediately afterwards to elect office bearers and conduct its first meeting.

Religious Instruction (SRI)

Apologies for the error in the "Bulk Permission" forms. SRI is now an opt-in choice. Parents have to positively choose to be part of the program. We may have a qualified instruction for Foundation classes but this will not be on offer until early in Term 2. As qualified instructors become available we will send the new opt-in forms to parents of the Grade levels involved.

Building Update

The date for our Admin Building is Friday March 6th. Some new line markings will be done this weekend and there will soon be a painted path on the Asphalt. The spotted gum floor for the Multi-purpose room arrived today – they are aiming for two weeks to let the wood acclimatise, lay the floor, let it settle and then seal it.

Working With Children Check

In accordance with the *Working with Children Act 2005*, the school asks that all adults who engage in volunteer work within our school have undergone a Working With Children (WWC) Check. The WWC Check is a minimum checking standard for those who work with children, either on a paid or voluntary basis.

Diary dates

Tuesday 24 February

- Fair Resources Donation Day

Wednesday 25 February

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

Thursday 5 March

- Crazy Hair Day
- Toy and chocolate donation day

Monday 9 March

- Labour Day Holiday

Wednesday 11 March

- Grade 3/4 camp
- Op Shop drop-off day

Thursday 12 March

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

Thursday 19 March

- Op Shop drop-off day

Friday 20 March

- Op Shop drop-off day

Saturday 21 March

- Monty Community Fair

Friday 27 March

- Curriculum Day – no students at school

Monday 30 March

- School holidays commence

Principal's Report, continued

There are no fees for a Volunteer WWC Check. To apply for a WWC Check, you need to complete an online application form available at <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>. You then need to lodge your application, complete with a passport-size photo, at Australia Post.

Before commencing a volunteer role within the school, please bring your WWC Card to the office so that a copy can be kept on file. We thank you for supporting our efforts to make Montmorency Primary School a safe learning environment.

Out of School Hours Care

The school's Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) program is now run by **Camp Australia**. Before using the program, your child must be registered via the website – www.campastralia.com.au. We have been advised by the coordinator, Emma Ryan, that the program is nearing capacity and priority will be given to children who are registered. We are looking into licensing an additional room in order to extend the program.

If you experience any difficulties with the online registration process, please call the **HOTLINE** on **1300 105 343**. Please note that all bookings need to be made online or via the hotline, and that booking cancellations with less than 7 days' notice will incur the usual session charge.

Parents & Friends

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

How quickly these February days are passing by! The students are settled, the new building is almost ready and our Community Fair is excitingly not far away. The Welcome BBQ/Pizza Night seems a distant memory now. Thank you to everyone who came to meet and mingle and to all those who helped make it happen. A special thank you to Tony and Chris from Monty Fresh in Were Street for donating the watermelons.

What's Coming Up?

Tuesday 24 February	Fair Donation Day
Friday 27 February	Class Rep meeting 9:15am (Espresso 3094 – Were St, Monty)
Saturday 28 February	Farmers Market (Grade 5 / 6 to host)
Thursday 5 March	Crazy Hair Day (Toy & Chocolate Fair donations)
Saturday 21 March	Monty Community Fair
Saturday 28 March	Farmers Market (Foundation K to host)

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

The next Monty Farmers Market will be hosted by grade 5/6 on Saturday 28 February. Come along and support the school stall by either baking a cake for grade 5/6 to sell or buying a sausage or two. The funds raised are directed into our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program.

Birthday Books to Love our Library

Thank you to the families who have donated a Birthday Book already. 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. A reminder that Eltham Bookshop will donate a book to our school for each Birthday Book purchased from their shop.

Book Club – Orders due now

Scholastic Book Club offers discounted books to families with some books priced at \$1.00-2.00. Monty Primary receives 20% in Scholastic Rewards on all Book Club orders to help us obtain free books and additional learning resources. Book Club catalogues have just been received and can be collected from the office. Times are tight with this first order due Friday 20 February, so please be quick in returning your order to your teacher. A new convenient online order option is available for parents. Visit www.scholastic.com.au/loop or download from the APP store. Monty will still receive Scholastic Rewards for your online orders when you nominate Montmorency Primary School and books will still be delivered to the school for distribution by teachers.

Parents and Friends, continued

P&F Class Representatives

Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to be Class Reps. A kick off meeting will be held next Friday 20 February 9:15 at Espresso 3094. 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.

Community Engagement

For those interested the Monty Community Group is holding a Passata Workshop, Saturday 14 March in our school's kitchen. Passata making is a great Italian tradition of preserving tomatoes as a simple sauce. The session costs \$5 per person and will run from 10am to 1pm. To book email montymoves@gmail.com or call Julie on 0438 115 853.

Community Fair – 21 March 2015

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

4 weeks to go!

With just over a month to go, excitement about the Fair is building!

Raffle

The raffle was launched at assembly and a book of raffle tickets went home with each child. Sell a whole book of raffle tickets and YOU go into the Sellers Raffle to win a family pass to Luna Park. Please return sold ticket butts and money to the RED box at the office. Extra books are also available from the office.

Volunteers to help on the day

With the school running over 20 stalls at the Fair, we need all families to help for 2 hours on the day. There are Coordinators organising all aspects of each stall – we just need you to help run it. Please put your name on the roster available in your child's classroom (or feel free to put your name on a specific stall if that is where you really want to help out). Timeslots are 7-9am (for heavy lifting setup), 8-10am for stall setup, 10 – 12 & 12 – 2 for running the stall, 2-4 to finish up the stall and pack up.

Special Donation Days

To reduce running costs we are asking for donations of resources, toys & chocolates. Donation Days are:

- General Resources – Tues 24th Feb – see the notice sent home this week for details.
- Crazy Hair Day/Toy & Chocolate donation day – Thurs 5th March – donate a new toy or bag of wrapped chocolates for use as a Side-Show game prize and come with Crazy Hair.

Website updated – to find out what rides, games, free activities, food, produce and live music will be at the Fair, check out the school website.

SAKG Program

Keryn Johnson | SAKG Coordinator

INFORM, EDUCATE AND INSPIRE

FROM THE STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN TEAM



Welcome to the very first Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden news for the year. This year we aim to **inform, educate and inspire** you with all aspects that may come out of our absolutely WONDERFUL kitchen and garden program that we're so lucky to have here at Montmorency Primary School. Every newsletter we'll **inform** you of what's been happening in the kitchen and garden classes. We'll then **educate** you about a new plant or recipe. Then, finally, we may even **inspire** you to try growing the plant at home or even cooking one of our recipes. So, grab a cuppa and sit back and enjoy reading our little column each newsletter.

SAKG Program, continued

Coordinator's News

For those of you who don't know me, I am Keryn Johnson (Foundation Red) and I am proudly the 2015 SAKG Coordinator. My aim is to help the gorgeous Jasmine and Suzi any way I can so they can concentrate on delivering their wonderful programs to our delightful and lucky students. I also want to see a real connection between the kitchen/garden and the classroom. Please do not hesitate to see me at any stage about the SAKG Program.

Last week the kitchen and garden were abuzz with excitement as our first classes for the year were launched! The smiles on both the children and the volunteers faces were evidence of how loved this program is; not to mention the delicious smells coming from the kitchen and all that yummy organic produce being harvested and cared for! I can't wait to see how the year will progress.

The HUGEST of thanks must go to all our volunteers – some brand new and others experienced. The SAKG Program is one that relies fully on our WONDERFUL volunteers for its smooth running. If any parents/caregivers or someone you know would like to volunteer, please get them to contact myself, Jasmine, Suzi or the school directly. We are always in need of and are extremely grateful for any extra volunteers. (Please note that the four Foundation classes do not start until 3rd March). Jasmine is also interested in having some much appreciated volunteers come along on a Thursday to help with general garden maintenance. Whilst you won't be helping the children directly with their classes you will be helping in all the other areas that the garden needs to be able to produce the delicious and plentiful crop for our budding chefs. It will also be a great opportunity to learn from the experienced Jasmine. Remember, you do not need to be, nor do we expect you to be, a green thumb or a My Kitchen Rules Contestant in the making to join our team of wonderful volunteers. All that is needed is a willingness to work alongside the talented Jasmine or Suzi and of course, with our gorgeous children.

Kitchen News

Our first class back involved a discussion about kitchen safety with a demonstration about how to use the knives as well as the stoves. We then split off into groups and the kids used their knife skills to prepare a different ingredient for Rice Paper Rolls. We then gathered around the big middle table and rolled them up all together and shared them for lunch! We used Vietnamese Mint and Cucumbers from the garden as well as beautiful eggs from our chickens. From next week on we will be back to having full, 5 part menus with fresh salads, snacks and sweet treats! Looking forward to it!

Garden News

As much as it is so tempting not to eat our yummy produce from the garden; especially when there are bright red juicy strawberries doing all but calling out 'eat me' as their sweet scent wafts through the air, but please refrain from doing so. The produce is planted specifically to be used in our program and we want the children to be in the habit of *only* eating the produce when they are under the guidance of Jasmine or Suzi. It definitely isn't an after school snack! Sorry about that.

REQUEST FOR DONATIONS

Chopping Boards: If anyone has got a spare chopping board at home, that would love to be chopped on by very eager children each week or could possibly donate one to the program, we would be very grateful. We are hoping to get about 5 – 6 new plastic or wooden chopping boards (no glass ones please). Please leave at the office, in Keryn's room (Foundation Red – room 3) or in the kitchen.

Until next time,

Happy cooking and gardening,

The SAKG Team

Nude Food Day

Margarita Strateas | Environment Committee and Grade 1/2 Teacher

Congratulations to this fortnight's Nude Food Day Champions!

Week 2: Grade 3/4K

Week 3: Grade 6



ARTICLE 1, 2015 - Being Involved and No Devices after Bedtime

Welcome to our first cyber safety 'Web Wise Kids' article for 2015. This article continues those that I wrote when I was the cyber safety coordinator in 2013. New parents, or those wanting a recap, may wish to access the prior articles via our school's website. Some of the prior topics have been:

- Our school's journey to becoming an 'eSmart' school
- What it means to be a 'positive digital citizen'
- iTunes and why not to have it linked to your credit card
- iTunes and setting parental controls and restrictions on inappropriate content
- 'Kik' and why your child *shouldn't* have it

To access these and any other articles, simply type in 'Cyber Safety' in the top search bar of our homepage and it will take you directly to our Cyber Safety Page where you'll not only find these prior articles, but also find links for parents and children along with three short video clips demonstrating the importance of being 'Web Wise' (Cyber Safe).

As a school, our goal is to help parents and children to become positive digital citizens. These 'Web wise Kids' articles are one aspect of that. Other ways we educate about Cyber Safety is through our curriculum - especially at the start of the year with the whole school participating in our 'Start-up Program', which covers cyber safety – and parent and student information sessions (similar to the one we held on Thursday night). Thursday's night session was presented by a Senior Detective, Rhonda and a senior ICT teacher from Concord, Pam. Both Rhonda and Pam presented a wealth of information on how to help keep ourselves and our children safe online. For those who couldn't make it, I have attached Rhonda and Pam's handout to the end of this article. But, the main thing I got from their presentation is that you need to be alert and ***be a part of everything*** your child does online. This doesn't mean spying sneakily, (that will only break down the lines of trust/communication), but having open conversations with them from a **VERY YOUNG AGE**. Be interested/involved in what they are doing and ask questions. Much emphasis was placed upon this; especially in the light of any cyber bullying (being the victim or the perpetrator). Cyber bullying's affects are far reaching and often, once a victim, the consequences are harrowing and things quickly spiral downhill out of control. The best defence against it is EDUCATION. Educate your child not to type anything that they wouldn't tell the person face-to-face or, as I always tell my own children, respond as if an adult/teacher/parent were watching. Also teach them that if anything is written/appears about them that they don't like then they should go straight to a trusted adult. As a trusted adult, you should always save a copy of what appeared, as it may be needed as evidence (but save out of sight of the victim to avoid constant reminders) and definitely contact the school/police. The child will then need to have a lot of reassurance, conversations and maybe even counselling to allow them to feel good about themselves again.

Another point that Rhonda and Pam strongly emphasised is to **not allow your child to have any access to the internet after bedtime**. (Rhonda actually mentioned that a lot of cyber bullying can happen at night as well as the child missing out on important sleep). This means simply removing all of the devices from the bedroom of an evening and not allowing the child back on them until you tell them or you have an agreed time worked out – e.g., after 8.00am, after parents are up in the morning, etc. The earlier that this rule is in place the better; especially as it's often hard to introduce new routines/rules once children have gotten used to things being a certain way.

These are just two aspects of what Rhonda and Pam presented with the common goal of keeping us and our children safe online. I will expand on more of the presentation in further articles. In the meantime build the understanding about having no devices in the bedroom after bedtime and start finding out more about what your child does online, do they talk to anyone and if so who, etc. Questions, questions, questions, talk, talk, talk...

Yours in digital citizenship,

Keryn Johnson

Cyber Safety Coordinator



Student of the Week

Term 1, Week 3

Foundation K - Sarah Kechayas

Tyesha Barker – For being such an awesome role model and helper to all of her new friends. Well done Tye!

Foundation W – Janene Worsam

Jace Hamilton – For making a terrific start to the school year. You are always listening and doing the right thing. Well done Jace!

1/2A Anna Hayes

Lovisa Rahm – For always trying her hardest in class and being such a fantastic friend and helper.

1/2M Margarita Strateas

Indigo Shanahan – For a brilliant start to the year! We are so excited to have you in 1/2M and have loved getting to know you.

3/4T Nicky Gardner

Jake Smith - For being a terrific student in all areas. You're a star!

3/4W Kevin Wilcockson

Emile Loewenguth – For showing the true value of Friendship by including a new class member in a game of bat tennis.

5/6S Sandie Symes

Mark Crosbee – For demonstrating an excellent start to Grade 5 by always being an organized and tuned-in learner who readily assists others – an always with a smile on his face.

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**.

✂.....

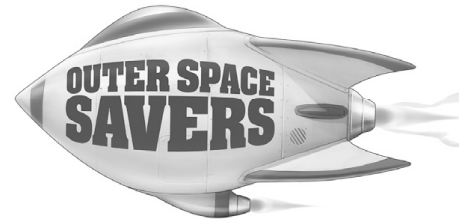
Please send the school newsletter to the following address(es):

Email 1: Email 2:

Parent Name(s):

Oldest child's name: Grade:

School Banking 2015 is ready for launch.



For over 80 years, the School Banking program has been teaching Australian children lifelong money skills. This year, your child is invited to join the Dollarmites on an intergalactic mission to Planet Savings.

Information on how students can get on board with School Banking, including a Savings Tracker and a rewards redemption card, is available from your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Your school has received parent packs that include all the information you need to get on board. If you haven't received a parent pack yet, please ask your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Rewarding good savings habits with eight new items in 2015

The School Banking program encourages good savings habits by rewarding students with awesome reward items. For every 10 deposits made through the program, they can redeem a reward from our Outer Space Savers range, including ET DVDs, Planet Handballs, Invisible Ink Martian Pens, Intergalactic Rockets, Glow-in-the-Dark Solar Systems, Cosmic Light Beam Torches, Outer Space Savers Money Boxes and Lunar Light Bands.

You could win a family trip to Disneyland

In a School Banking first, students who make 25 or more School Banking deposits in 2015 will automatically receive one entry into the competition draw to win a family trip to California's Disneyland. The prize includes return airfares, five nights accommodation, transfers and three days park entry for up to two adults and two kids, plus AUD\$2,000 spending money.

For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Things to know before you Can: Conditions apply. Promotion starts 9.00am AEDT 27/1/15 and ends 11.59pm AEDT 18/12/15. Entry is open to all Youthsaver account holders aged 5–13 years who participate in CommBank's School Banking program. Entrants under 18 must have parent/guardian consent. The draw will take place at 12.30pm AEDT on 12/1/16 at the Promoter's office. The first valid entry drawn will win a family trip to California's Disneyland valued at \$22,245. The winner's name will be published in the public notices section of *The Australian* on 26/1/16. Promoter is Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124 of Level 2, 11 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Full terms and conditions available at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking NSW Permit No LTPS/14/09857; ACT Permit No TP14/04345; VIC Permit No 14/5966; SA Permit No T14/2327.



**GREENHILLS MONTMORENCY
BASEBALL CLUB**
IS RECRUITING FOR THE
2015 WINTER SEASON

PLAYER SIGN-UP DAY
Saturday March 14th 2015, 10am - 12noon

Are you aged 6 to 16?
Have you ever wanted
to play baseball?
Now is the time
to give it a go!

Malcolm Blair Reserve,
Karingal Drive, Greensborough
All skill levels welcome
Enquiries: Frank (Junior Co-Ordinator)
juniors@montybaseball.com.au or
0413 547 546

GM
MONTY BASEBALL



Banyule Calisthenics Club

Do you enjoy singing, dancing and acting?

Then this is for you.

Classes are held on a Monday, Tuesday and

Wednesday afternoon evening in Lower Plenty

Catering from the age of 3yrs to mature adults.

Contact banyulecalisthenicsclub@outlook.com or

visit our website www.banyulecalisthenicsclub.com.au

First two classes are **FREE!!!!**



Open Day

Saturday 28th February, 9am - 12pm

Meet our qualified staff

Fun activities for the kids

View our beautiful surrounds, large playground, all in a safe and secure environment

3yo and 4yo kinder groups available for 2016

(Anthony Beale Reserve)

66 Wahroonga Crescent, Greensborough

Ph: 9434 6089

AFL Super Rules for over 35's

Your local club the Diamond Valley Bears (www.dvsrfc.com) is looking for new players.

We have 4 teams - Over 35's, Over 40's, Over 45's and Over 50's.

We play 11 games a year, and only play every second week.

If you are interested in getting fit, having a kick, and enjoying a great club atmosphere

call James McIntyre on 0410 436 084 or email dvbearsfc@gmail.com.

FOR SALE
Second Hand School Uniform

Summer dress x 2 size 10-12
Bomber jacket x 2 size 10-12
Windcheater x 2 size 10-12

Plus other items

\$70 for the lot

Call Julie on 0410 535 269



Jetts Greensborough – supporting local schools

Jetts Fitness is an Australian founded franchise that began in 2007 and now has over 250 clubs throughout Australia, New Zealand and Europe. Jetts offer low membership rates and no lock-in contracts. The gym is staffed during the day and members attain access outside of these staffed hours by using an access pass.

Jetts Greensborough are offering a \$0 joining fee for mums during the month of February, giving them a saving of \$89. This offer can be extended to all family and friends as well. When you purchase an access pass for \$59, Jetts will donate 50% of this amount to your school.

This offer will run from 1 February to 28 February 2015. When you take up this offer, please remember to mention **Montmorency Primary School** so that both you and the school can benefit from your membership. Contact Jetts Greensborough on 9432 8509 or greensborough@jetts.com.au

ELTHAM CALISTHENIC COLLEGE

ESTABLISHED 40 YEARS



AGES 3+ YEARS
FIRST TWO LESSONS
FREE CLASSES
COMMENCE SAT
FEBRUARY 7TH

COACHES ARE LEVEL
ONE ACCREDITED, FIRST
AID TRAINED AND
WORKING WITH
CHILDRENS CHECK

FOR MORE
INFORMATION CALL
MICHELLE: 0412 152 970 OR
CAROLYN 0417599 623.

www.elthamcalistheniccollege.com.au