SCHOOL CALENDAR

February

8-12  Grade 5/6 Camp - Alexandra
Mon 29  School Photo Day

March

Tues 1  Grade 5 Transition at Lilydale Heights
Fri 4   Fun Run
Tues 8  Grade 3/4 Endangered Species Incursion
Mon 14  LABOUR DAY
Fri 18  Twilight Fair
Tues 22 House Athletics Carnival
Thurs 24 End of Term 1 - 2.30pm Finish

Other

Recess: 11.00am to 11.30am
Lunch hour: 1.30pm to 2.30pm
Uniform Shop: Wednesdays, 2.45pm to 3.30pm

2016 Term Dates
Term 1 - 27 Jan (teachers only) to 24 March
Term 2 - 11 April to 24 June
Term 3 - 11 July to 16 September
Term 4 - 3 October to 20 December

Canteen Lunch orders to be in by 9am Wednesday and Friday

REMINDER: All newsletter items must be in by Friday night in order to ensure they are included in the following week’s newsletter.

Message from the Principal

Hi Everyone,

Welcome back to the 2016 school year. I hope you had a terrific time over the vacation to relax and spend some time with your kids, family and friends. All of the staff have had a refreshing break and have come back refreshed and ready for an exciting year.

At our last assembly our 2016 student leaders were announced. I am pleased to introduce them to you.

Captains:  Charlotte Green, Jye Peacock
Vice: Jamie Speight, Campbell Eastwood

House:
Heinze: Declan Champion, Anastasia Slattery
Melba: Koby Benner, Laney Jones
Emery: Jackson Alexander, Jemima Wilson
Crelin: Reece Johnson, Tayja Maki

Junior School Council:
Talia Jacobs, Brendan Baldock

You Can Do It: (values program) Maddy Barker, Ella Stephens, Cooper Wilkinson, Tom Terry

Make A Difference team: Theo Mellor, Norris Yab, Will Brown, Olivia Edwards, Rosalee Crowder, Emily Mika, Grace Pearce, Chantal Whitling

We all look forward to working with these children and wish them well as they perform their roles.

Are we Up to Date?

Mrs Johnson is busily updating our medical records. Your child may now have their own asthma plan or require an epipen. Do we know about this? Please ensure that if your child’s medical needs have changed over the vacation that the school has current information on how to support them.

Photo date MONDAY FEB 29

Our school photos will be taken on Monday February 29. For families new to the school, the procedure is that a pack detailing the options available will come home shortly before the Feb 29. Please read the instructions carefully to ensure you get the package you desire.

PARENT CLUB MEETING

The group will be meeting next Tuesday Feb 9 in the small room beside the basketball courts. This is a toddler friendly group and you are most welcome to attend. Further details are contained in the Parent Club page later in the newsletter. Become an active member in 2016.

Neil Pollard
Thank you Rachel Fichtner and Sandra Rowe for your help in the canteen on Friday. Our first day back went smoothly and it was good to see most orders had the correct prices. Please ensure you only use the new updated menu!

This week’s helpers are Annette Murphy for Wednesday 3rd February and Kate Critchley, Kate Stephen and Emily Lee for Friday 5th.

A big welcome hello to all the new preps! We look forward to meeting you all soon when visiting the canteen to buy yourself a treat.

Thank you to all the mums who have already volunteered their time to help out in the canteen. A roster for the year will be drawn up soon so if you would like to be on the canteen team please complete the form below and hand into the office asap. If you are unsure there is the option of “try before you buy” by ticking the trial box 😊

Alison

I would like to help in the Canteen:

Name:
..........................................................................................................................

Ph. No.:
..........................................................................................................................

Friends I’d like to be with:
..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................

Please tick which day you’d prefer or both if you don’t mind either.

☐  Wednesday (all day)
☐  Friday (all day)  ☐  Friday 9am-12.30pm
☐  Trial (I would like to try before committing)
Hi everyone and welcome back to another exciting year in P.E. and Sport! I hope you have all had a wonderful break and are well rested.

Please check this sport page ‘Sport Shorts’ each week to keep up to date with the latest news in P.E. and Sport. I will write about the upcoming dates and events here and also seek nominations for different sporting opportunities as well as assistance.

**BEFORE SCHOOL SWIMMING TRAINING**
This Wednesday morning we begin the Before School Swimming Program. The squad (including students from Grade 3-6) will participate in six lessons on Wednesday and Friday mornings 7:15am – 8am at Kilsyth Centenary Pool.
The focus is on participation, stroke development, entries, finishes and of course fun. Students will have the opportunity to then participate in the Inter-school District Swimming Trial on Monday February 22nd.

**FREE BASKETBALL CLINICS**
We have been lucky to receive a grant as part of the government initiative ‘Sporting Schools’. Through this funding we are offering Grade 2 boys basketball clinics on Wednesday lunchtimes and Grade 1 & 2 Girls after school on Wednesdays. Students in this age group / gender received a nomination form last Friday. As each group is limited to 20 students, the first forms returned will be accepted into this program. If we receive more than 20 students we will look at having a second group in Term 2 or splitting the groups. It does not matter if your child is currently playing basketball or has never played basketball!

In next week’s ‘Sport Shorts’ page I will provide a list of important dates for the year. Please lock these into your diaries – assistance is always appreciated.

For now, if you have questions please don’t hesitate to come and ask (although I will be on Grade 6 camp next week).

**When does my child have P.E. and Sport?**
All students at Montrose Primary School have 1 hour of P.E. and 1 hour of Sport per week. To assist you to know when your child is required to wear runners I have listed the days each class has P.E. and Sport.

- **Prep (all classes)** – P.E. on Tuesdays, Sport (commencing Term 2) on Wednesday
- **1WA & 1R** – P.E. on Friday and Sport on Wednesday
- **1C** – P.E. on Thursday and Sport on Wednesday
- **1/2G, 2M, 2N, 2VW** – P.E. on Thursday and Sport on Friday
- **All Grade 3’s & 4’s** – P.E. on Wednesday and Sport on Friday
- **All Grade 5’s & 6’s** – P.E. on Monday and Sport on Friday

Please ensure your child is wearing runners on these days!

**Miss Knell**
Congratulations to Lachlan who has been named Green House Captain at Mooroolbark Secondary College.

If you know of any other previous students who have achieved leadership roles, let us know.

NEWS FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

Grade 6 polos and hoodies are due in soon.
Please pay any outstanding money at the school office.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Monday, February 8
Chinese New Year 2016

Year of the Monkey
Chinese New Year Celebrations, Melbourne

Box Hill Chinese New Year Festival 2016

Date: 6th of February 2016 to 7th of February 2016
Time: 1pm - 1am
Central Box Hill will be filled with food, music and a spectacular traditional parade during the 12 hour event running from 1pm-1am. Highlights include: Over 100 stalls, featuring various Asian culinary delights, Dragon / Lion Dance, Midnight Countdown and firecracker display, Amusement rides and games, Face painting and photo booths, AFL activities and giveaways, Chinese God of Fortune Parade.

Year of the Monkey Experience at Melbourne Zoo

Date: From Saturday 6th of February 2016 to Monday 29th of February 2016
Guided by our passionate and knowledgeable keepers, you will head into the Squirrel Monkeys exhibit for a chance to meet these amazing animals and pose for a photo together. Our professional photographers will be on hand to capture the moment and will provide you with a photo to cherish during the year of the monkey.

Package includes:
Entry to Melbourne Zoo
Squirrel Monkey Encounter
Photo from your experience
Chinese New Year monkey plush toy gift
Enjoy prosperity with our monkeys for Chinese New Year!
Chinese New Year Celebrations, Melbourne

Dragon’s Awakening Ceremony | Chinese New Year 2016 | China Town

Date: Sunday 14th of February 2016
Time: 10 AM - 10 PM
A Chinese dragon, lions, street performers and cultural activity will fill the streets of Chinatown on Chinese New Year Sunday.

Lunar New Year Fireworks at Crown

Fireworks
6 February at 9.45pm on the Crown Riverwalk

Zodiac Spectacular
21 January – 21 February

Hawkers’ Bazaar
5 – 7 February
Would you like to be part of the Parents Club?

We are having our first meeting of the year and would love to see you there.

Parents Club first meeting for 2016

**When:** Tuesday 9th Feb.

**Time:** Just after the 9am morning bell.

**Place:** Parents club room, near the drama room, look for the signs out!

Come along and find out about what the parents club is all about and what we do.

**Toddlers and babies welcome to our relaxed meetings.**

Come and enjoy a 'real coffee' - yes we have a coffee machine.

**Would be great to see you there!**

*Cilla Rees-Condon*

*President Parents Club*
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59T LOSE THIS NOTICE
2016
ENROL NOW
KEYBOARD LESSONS AT SCHOOL IN-SCHOOL TIME

YOUR CHILD DESERVES THIS CHANCE
THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY
Enrol NOW in .............
Piano ON KEYBOARD LESSONS
$16.50 HALF HOUR lesson

* Convenient – in school time
* Inexpensive
* Learn with Friends
* All equipment provided
* INDIVIDUAL tuition

ONE FREE LESSON IF YOU ENROL NOW
Phone 9761 9058
In School Music Lessons

NoiseCraft Studio

Stepping Stones  Keyboard  Drums  Guitar  Song Writing

In conjunction with qualified teachers and professional musicians, we have developed a two stage music tuition program that allows each child to follow an individualised lesson path that grows with them.

Stage 1: Stepping Stones  (Prep to Grade 2)

Children in early primary school years are introduced to instrumental music through our Stepping Stones program. This program gives children the opportunity to:

- Experiment with instruments including keyboard, guitar, percussion and singing.
- Develop the fine and gross motor skills needed to play an instrument.
- Learn fundamental music theory and notation.

As soon as a child is developmentally ready to progress to learning a dedicated instrument this program provides a smooth and supported transition to the child’s instrument of choice.

Stage 2: Instrumental Music Program

Our instrumental music programs provide children with an engaging experience based on individualized learning plans that includes learning to read music and recognize musical patterns as well as opportunities to play in bands and ensembles.

Children will learn music that is relevant to them, at a developmentally appropriate level in a supportive and fun environment that balances challenge and success.

To enrol ph 0418 596 008 or return this form to the school

☐ Guitar  ☐ Drums
☐ Songwriting  ☐ Keyboard
($18.50 per lesson)  2 per class

Child’s Name  Grade:  MPS

Parents Name:

Phone No.: