Message from the Principal

Hi Everyone

Welcome back everyone! I hope the school holiday time gave you the opportunity to spend time with family and friends and allowed you the chance to recharge the batteries.

Over the break we had to take down a large tree beside the basketball courts as it developed a large split during the stormy weather following Christmas Day. Some painting of the main building was carried out and the orange lino is ‘no more’ as the hallway has now been completely carpeted.

Welcome back to Jodie in the office after her big family camping trip around Australia and Yvonne Pecher who has returned to grade 2 after the birth of her son.

As we have grown to 23 classes, parents will also notice some new faces around the school. We enjoyed the chance to introduce them further at assembly and on the Facebook page.

This year we have altered our timetable so that each specialist session will be 50 minutes long. This means our day will contain 6 sessions. To optimise our morning learning time, we will run three sessions before recess. The first break will be extended by 10 minutes to 40 minutes. Following that, two sessions will be run before lunch. The lunch break will also be 40 minutes. The sixth session of the day will be held after lunch. Teachers will still have brain food breaks around ten o’clock and water bottles are encouraged in the rooms. I would suggest a slightly more substantial snack… or half a sandwich and a piece of fruit at the first break. Teachers will focus on these changes with the children so that they can adapt to the altered times.

Neil Pollard

SCHOOL CALENDAR

February 2017

Fri 17  District Swimming Carnival
Mon 20  Classroom Helpers Info 3.30-4.30
Tues 21  Classroom Helpers Info 7pm-8pm
Mon 27  School Photos

March 2017

Mon 13  Labour Day - PUBLIC HOLIDAY
14-17  Grade 6 Camp - Anglesea
Wed 15  THRASS info sessions:
        3.30 - 5pm
        7pm - 8.30pm
Mon 20  House Athletics Carnival
Fri 24  Twilight Fair
Mon 27  Parent Teacher Interviews
Fri 31  Last Day of Term 1

April 2017

Tues 18  First Day of Term 2
Thur 27  House Cross Country

May 2017

9-11  NAPLAN Grade 3 & 5

Other

Morning Break: 11.30am to 12.10am
Afternoon Break: 1.50pm to 2.40pm
Uniform Shop: Wednesdays - 2.45pm to 3.30pm

2017 Term Dates

Term 1 - 31 Jan to 31 March
Term 2 - 18 April to 30 June
Term 3 - 17 July to 22 September
Term 4 - 9 October to 22 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.
Welcome back to school. The canteen is now in full swing and we are looking forward to an exciting year.

Last Friday was our first canteen service and for our first day back it was reasonably busy. Fresh sushi was extremely popular and the children were very excited to be able to purchase Anzacs again. I baked 160 Anzacs on Friday morning and these were all gone by the end of the day. I'd like to say thank you to the children who were all very patient and understanding when they found out that due to a freezer issue, Moosies weren't available at recess. We did our best to accommodate with other frozen items and we are hoping that all frozen items will be available again this Wednesday and Friday. Thanks to Kylie Shephard and Ann Allen (grandparent) for putting their hands up to help on our first canteen day.

With the departure of our 2016 Grade 6 children we also lost many long term canteen volunteers. At present we need another 15 volunteers to join our roster so that we can provide lunches and play time counter service for the children. Generally volunteers are rostered on 1-2 times a term from 9.15am - 3pm. On Wednesdays the canteen operates with myself and 1-2 volunteers and on Fridays I have a team of 3 volunteers join me. Each Friday team can accommodate 1 split shift and would suit those that can't help for a whole day but could assist 9am - 12noon or 12noon - 3pm.

If you would like to be a canteen volunteer on a Wednesday or Friday, or are happy to be added to a list of emergency fill in contacts, please complete the slip below and return to the office asap. Alternatively you can call me on 0428 380 432. We need to finalise our volunteer teams asap so that we can generate and circulate a roster.

NAME: _______________________________________

MOBILE NUMBER: _______________________________________

CHILD'S CLASS: _______________________________________

AVAILABILITY (please circle):  WED 9am-3pm / FRI 9am-12noon OR 12noon-3pm / EMERGENCY

Amanda 😊
Student accident insurance, ambulance cover arrangements and private property brought to schools

Main Points

- Schools are reminded that the Department DOES NOT provide personal accident insurance for students. Montrose PS has no whole-of-school policy - parents/guardians must purchase it themselves.

- Parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs; and

- Parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.

- Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property students and staff should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

- Principals should remind parents/guardians and staff that the Department DOES NOT hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Additional Information

- The Department cannot advise parents/guardians on whether to purchase a student accident policy or which policy to purchase. It is recommended that they seek assistance in this matter with their insurance broker or find a suitable personal accident insurer in the Yellow Pages or online.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. CSEF applications for 2017 open from term one 2017. Parents or legal guardians are required to submit a CSEF application form to the school office.

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending our school must hold a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card.

You can pick up an application form at the Office. It must be filled in and returned to the office by 10th March 2017.
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
PARENTS CLUB FIRST MEETING 2017
FRIDAY 10th FEBRUARY

Please join us in the morning after school drop off, have a coffee and find out more about the Parents Club.

Where: Library – in the main building
When: 9:05am for approx. 1 hour

Babies and Toddlers welcome to these relaxed meetings.

We hope to see you there!
ADVERTISING MATERIAL INCLUDED WITH NEWSLETTER
The Department of Education & Early Childhood Development does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development for accuracy of information contained in the advertisements to claims made by them.
Montrose After School Basketball

After school basketball will commence the week beginning 20th February 2017

We are searching for boys and girls interested in playing in teams from Grades 1-6. Beginners welcomed - it is a fun initiation into team sport.

All existing teams can commence training beginning next week, please contact Rebecca to confirm training days.

For all that expressed interest last year we will be registering two Grade 1 Boys teams and one Grade 1 Girls team. We will be in touch shortly regarding the placement of players, registration and uniform purchase.

We are desperately needing Grade 3 Boys and Grade 4 Boys to fill our teams

If you are interested please contact either; Nicky Thomas 0422 802 174 or Rebecca White 0404 015 369

Or via email rebecca@lifelived.com.au

We look forward to another fantastic season of after school basketball

GO MONTROSE!
DON’T LOSE THIS NOTICE
Term 1 2017
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
$17.00 per 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