Principal’s Report

Morwell Fires

It’s been a very eventful week to say the least with the fires around Morwell. Our school has been somewhat of an oasis with very much a ‘business as usual’ approach, which for most is the best approach. Just to allay any fears or concerns that parents or children may have, our school has well-structured processes in regard to emergency situations. We have formal plans for an array of foreseeable emergency situations with staff trained in ensuring the safety of students. Indeed in most situations the safest place to be is Morwell Park Primary School!!!

We continuously monitor situations and are well linked to the various emergency services, our school is very safe.

Whilst I’m unaware of any students being directly impacted by fire at their home, some children may have heightened anxiety. Should you or your child be feeling the need for support there are reading materials available from the school office which may direct you toward further support.

School Council – Call for Nominations

Nominations for School Council close on Monday February 17. If you would like to be on school council nomination forms are available from the school office.

Family BBQ and Games Night

A reminder that on Thursday February 20 we will be having a family BBQ and games night from 6pm to approximately 7(ish)pm. This will give children an opportunity to show their parents/family members their classroom, introduce their teacher then participate in a number of different games and activities. A free sausage sizzle will be available including drinks and icy poles. The evening will be quite informal and will provide a chance for parents to meet teachers and join in games with their children.

Parents and children are asked to arrive at their child’s classroom at 6.00pm where they will be able to meet their child’s teacher, have a sausage, drink and icy pole and then at approximately 6.20pm teachers will be hosting different games around the school and children along with their parents will be able to participate in a game of their choosing and yes we’d love parents to join in too. The games will be for approximately 40 minutes with the evening concluding around 7.00pm.

Use of School Crossings

Quite simply – please cross Vary St at the designated school crossing. It is very frustrating when parents with children set a poor example and walk between cars when crossing Vary St to go to the Milk Bar or nearby cars.

I’m not questioning whether parents can get across without being run over, I’m questioning what children see and their subsequent regard for safety and the reality that children by the virtue of being children cannot judge traffic flow well. Please allow the extra two minutes of your day to cross safely at the school crossing.

Chris Joustra, Principal.
STUDENT AWARDS THIS WEEK

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

PREPS
- Anthony W, Malakai G, & Phoenix D

1E
- Damien B

1G
- Aurora H

1M
- Daniella E P

2/3D
- Natasha V

2/3L
- Kyle D

2/3M
- Tamsyn M

2/3V
- Josh B

2/3W
- Charity E

4/5F
- Shanell G

4/5L
- Billy V

4/5 S
- Brodie J

6 A
- Khamis M

6 B
- Ryan B

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD
Jachery G, 1G

AWARD — Getting Along
Ayla S, 1M

YOU CAN DO IT!

TIPS FOR BUSY STUDENTS

Making and keeping friends.
- The more often you practise saying no to peer group pressure, the easier it will become.
- One of the most important things to have at school is good friends.
- Only nerds gossip, spread rumours or are critical of others.
- If you are always bored when you hang out with your friends then it’s time you made some new ones.
- Keep your friends’ secrets. Remember that it’s not a secret if you tell someone.

TIPS FOR BUSY PARENTS

- To use power effectively, make sure that your family sees you using it fairly and reasonably.
- Limit your use of threats and punishments.
- Set limits for your younger children and allow your older children an increase in freedom and decision making.
- Give your children the freedom to express their feelings and thoughts by listening without offering advice.
- Before your child will change, you must change.

SCHOOL HATS are currently NOT available at the office, but may be purchased from LOWES at Mid Valley, Morwell.

EMA
Applications close Friday 28th Feb.
Forms are available at the office.
Thank you.
Respiratory experts talk to parents about asthma

Ever wondered what the experts would say about a cure for asthma? Or how to get your teenager to take their medication?

If you want to find out the answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about children and asthma, watch The Asthma Foundation’s new video series available from http://forum.asthma.org.au/

For more information, please contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 278 462 or www.asthma.org.au

Tennis Victoria’s Mums’ Program

Only $35 for five weeks of group tennis coaching*

Tennis Victoria’s Mums’ Program is run by a Tennis Australia qualified coach which means that you will be in good hands to develop your tennis skills. In addition, save time and money on childcare by enrolling your child(ren) in the Tiny Tots program** for just $15 for the same five weeks. Open to beginners and those who would like to resume playing tennis, the Mum’s Program allows you to take some time out for yourself and get fit and active whilst socialising with other mums in your area.

Program Registration

To register for the Mums’ Program (and the Tiny Tots Program**), please contact your nearest venue. Places are limited so please register early.

Churchill Tennis Club Manning Dr Churchill Sally Kirstine 0403 282 630 kirstine@net-tech.com.au

Trafalgar Tennis Club Contingent Street Trafalgar Sally Kirstine 0403 282 630 kirstine@net-tech.com.au

* This program is open to new participants only.

** Subject to coach availability and mums must be participating in the Mums’ Program for their child to participate in the Tiny Tots Program.

WANTED -- WOOL

This Term some children will be trying their hand in Weaving during Interactive Learning Sessions. Lots of colourful wool is needed for this activity.

If you have some spare balls of wool or bits of wool that are not needed, can you please send them to Mrs Lane in Room 14. It would be really appreciated.

Thanking you, Angie Lane.

REMINDER

WARATAH BAY CAMP

A reminder to all grade 6 children that there will be a tent inspection on Friday 14th February at 10.10am.

Students who are taking tents to camp will need to bring them to school TOMORROW.

Also final payments are due on Thursday 20th February. Thank you.

GARDEN NEWS—WANTED

As a lunchtime activity on Tuesday’s, Barb Wiegandt and myself will be growing succulents and making a display of these plants around the vegetable garden. If anyone is able to donate cuttings or whole plants please send them to school with your child. We are also after old pots, metal tins/cans or enamel pots or saucepans in which to plant them. Any donations gratefully received.

Thank you, Allan Johnson.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT FOSTERING CHILDREN OR YOUNG PEOPLE

Anglicare Victoria Gippsland is looking for couples or single people who can provide a safe and secure home for children aged 0-18 years needing care for weekends, emergency, short term and long term.

Our next Foster Carer training is being held on:

Saturday 15th February, 1st & 29th March 10.00am-4.00pm, 65 Church Street Morwell.

Bookings are essential. For further information and to receive an information package please contact the Carer Recruitment Team on 5133 9998 or email gippsland.carers@anglicarevic.org.au
MORWELL NETBALL ASSOCIATION

REGISTRATION NIGHT

Friday 14th March 2014
4.00pm until 6.00pm
Vary Street netball courts

Team registrations or individual entries will be accepted on the night for the following age groups:


Games are played on Saturday mornings with the season commencing on Saturday 29th March 2014.

The total cost for the season is $80.00 per player ($45 VNA & $35 MNA)

For further information or to obtain registration forms please contact

Katrina on 0423 127 911 or
Sandra 0407 882 401 or e-mail
morrwellnetball@hotmail.com.

CAINTEEN LUNCH ORDERS

At this stage we hope the canteen will be open for lunch orders Monday & Friday commencing 3rd March.
Deb Minster (past parent, current grandparent) will coordinate the canteen with the help of willing volunteers. If you can offer your time on a regular basis please complete your details below to enable the roster to be drawn up.

8.45 – 10.30 to write up and collate orders
10.30 – 1.30 to prepare lunches for delivery to the classroom.

Please indicate your preferred day/time, remembering that your offer to volunteer on the roster would be a regular commitment.

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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>8.45 – 10.30</td>
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Name ____________________________
Phone______________________
Eldest Child _______________________ Grade ______

BECOME A VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILY

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming volunteer host families. Choose a student from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands or South America and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home.

Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

Contact Sylvia Kelly on 1300 884 733 or online at www.wep.org.au.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY IS COMING

Wednesday 19th March is National Ride2School Day. Children across the country will be walking, riding, skating and scooting to school—any form of active transport is encouraged.
More details to follow.

The Otto Ford Swim Carnival was held yesterday at Morwell Leisure Centre.

We had 17 children competing in this event.

Morwell Park finished the day in 2nd place. Well done to all our students on their fantastic efforts and behaviour. Results for the day are as follows:

**Talia C** 3rd Freestyle, 3rd Backstroke, 3rd Breaststroke

**Jack C** 3rd Freestyle, 3rd Backstroke, 3rd Breaststroke

**Brodie McG** 3rd Freestyle, 3rd Backstroke

**Jai B** 1st Freestyle, 1st Backstroke

**Thomas L** 1st Freestyle, 1st Breaststroke

**Stephanie T** 3rd Backstroke

**Anthony C** 3rd Backstroke

**Relays** Girls 10 years 2nd, Girls 12 years 2nd, Boys 11Years 2nd & Boys 12 Years 2nd