



### IMPORTANT DATES

Mon-Fri, 25th Feb-1st March	Gr 5 & 6 Swimming in Schools Program.
Thursday, 29th February	Hot Cross Bun orders & money due back.
Friday, 1st March	<b>Preps start full time. Mon-Fri, 8.45-3.00</b>
Wednesday, 6th March	Gr 3-6 School Athletics. 9.00-2.30
Friday, 8th March	Gr 6 Memento orders & money due back.
Friday, 8th March	Delivery of Hot Cross Bun orders from gate behind gym from 2.00pm.
<b>Monday, 11th March</b>	<b>Labour Day Holiday. NO SCHOOL.</b>
Tuesday, 12th-15th March	Gr 1 & 2 Swimming in Schools Program.
Wed-Mon, 13th-25th March	NAPLAN. Gr 3 & 5
<b>Thursday, 28th March</b>	<b>Last day of Term One, children dismissed 1pm.</b>
<b>Friday, 29th March</b>	<b>Good Friday Public Holiday.</b>
<b>Monday, 15th April</b>	<b>First day of Term Two.</b>

### Principals Report

#### School Council

The Morwell Park Primary School Council is made up of parent, staff and community representatives and broadly speaking serves as the governing body of the school. Our school council meets 8 times during the school year (twice a term), in most cases 5 – 6pm on a Thursday.

This year we have five vacancies in the parent representative category, should we have more than five nominations an election will be held. Our current school councillors not up for re-election are Jessica Boys, Daniel Farrant and Damian Gilbert.

Retiring members are Teagan Lawrence, Brooke McGenniskin and Natalie Freeman.

Attached to the newsletter is information regarding school council. If you would like to discuss school council please contact Mr Joustra or any school council member. Nominations are open from Friday February 23 and will close next Friday March 1 at 4.00pm. Nomination forms are available from the office or by contacting via Seesaw. Attached to the newsletter is a call for nominations and an information sheet.

#### February & March Attendance Awards

Consistent attendance is a key to children doing better at school. Children who attend all week will receive a free icy pole on the following Monday.

#### Power Outage

Following Tuesday afternoon's storms our school was without power on Wednesday and Thursday. There was a rumour that the school was closed. If there was ever an emergency that warranted school closure we would notify families via Seesaw and our Facebook page. Interestingly a number of students who were without power at home told their teachers that they actually enjoyed having more time with their parents who weren't on devices!!!

#### Koorie Family Night

Next Wednesday a Koorie Family event will be held from 3-4 at Our Place. Catering is provided, it would be great to see our Koorie community come along.

#### Personal Goods At School

From time to time children bring personal goods to school, this may range from simple sporting equipment to various electronic games. The department of education does not have any insurance policy to cover the loss or damage of any personal goods and does not accept any responsibility for such goods. Please think carefully before allowing your child to bring any personal items to school.

***A reminder that mobile phones must be handed in at the start of the school day.***

*Chris Joustra*, Principal.



# WEEKLY AWARDS



**Prep**

**Gr 1**

**Gr 2**

**Gr 3**

**Gr 4**

**Gr 5**

**Gr 6**

ARTISTS AWARDS

PE AWARDS

MUSIC AWARDS

SCIENCE AWARDS

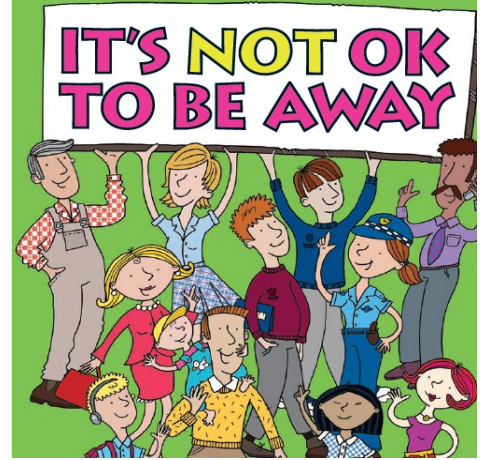
LIISA'S LEGEND OF THE WEEK

SCHOOL VALUE AWARDS.

KIND:

GRITTY:

FOCUSED:



## ATTENDANCE AWARD

### Grade

## ***GR 6 MEMENTO POLO SHIRT***

*Order forms have been sent out this week.*

***PLEASE NOTE:*** *A new blue form has updated sizes on it.*

*Please complete the order form and return to school with money by **Friday 8th March.***

*Thank you.*

## **MISSEN LINK HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER**

Order forms and correct money are due back by **Thursday 29th February.**

Hot Cross buns can be collected from 2.00pm on Friday 8th March from the gate behind the gym .



# Attendance

## Icy Poles

When you come to school every day for a week during Term 1, you will get a **FREE ICY POLE** on the following Monday!!



MORWELL PARK  
PS.  
OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

Daily school attendance is important for all children to be able to succeed in their education. At Morwell Park Primary, we like to encourage and celebrate student attendance in ways that promote the habit of coming to school daily.

For our Awesome 2024 Prep students, we will be having a 100 days of school celebration and those students who have attended daily will have a chance to win some great prizes!

We are giving away 2 brand new bicycles and 2 brand new scooters!  
To have a chance to win, all they need to do is come to school!



### 1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but .....

If your child misses...	That equals ...	Which is ...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...	Which means the best your child might perform is...
1 Day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years	Equals to finishing in grade 11
1 Day per week	40 Days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years	Equals to finishing in grade 10
2 Days per week	80 Days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years	Equals to finishing in grade 7
3 Days per week	120 Days per year	24 weeks per year	Over 8 years	Equals to finishing in grade 4



# 2024 JUNIOR PRE-SEASON

## COME AND TRY

FORTUNA '60



SOCCER CLUB INC

### Pre - Season training has begun!

If your child is interested in playing soccer, and you would like to be apart of one of the most vibrant & family orientated clubs in the LVSL, Then bring them down to one of our training nights.

Please bring a water bottle, shin pads & sneakers or soccer boots.



### THURSDAY NIGHTS 5PM -6PM

- ✓ Lean & develop Skills
- ✓ Make new friends
- ✓ Great atmosphere
- ✓ All age and abilities welcome

#### MINI ROOS

U5's, U7's,  
U9's & U11's

#### JUNIORS

U13's, U15's  
& U17's

#### FORTUNA 60 SOCCER CLUB

Crinigan road sth reserve, Crinigan Rd Morwell

Join us on facebook  
for updates.

#### More Information

Contact our Junior Coordinator

0417 276 767    fortuna60jc@hotmail.com



## Appendix A

### Fact sheet 1: school council elections – information for parents

#### What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

#### Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

**A mandated elected parent member category** – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school providing that they are not engaged in work at the school.

**A mandated elected school employee member category** – members of this category make up no more than one-third of membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

**An optional community member category** – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have **nominee members**.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

**A mandated elected student member category, two positions.**

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

#### Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

#### Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role, however, in order to successfully perform their duties, councillors may need to gain some new skills and knowledge.

It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

#### Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

**act with honesty and integrity** – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty

**act in good faith in the best interests of the school** – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds

**act fairly and impartially** – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest

**use information appropriately** – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available

**exercise due care, diligence and skill** – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school

**use the position appropriately** – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage

**act in a financially responsible manner** – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions

**comply with relevant legislation and policies** – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law

**demonstrate leadership and stewardship** – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

#### Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

a. the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

#### How can you become involved?

By participating in, and voting in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

standing for election as a member of the school council

encouraging another person to stand for election.

#### What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations in Term 1 of each year. Council elections must be completed by 31 March, unless varied by the Minister for Education.

If you stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or, you can nominate yourself in the parent member category. You can only be nominated by another member of the same electorate that you are eligible for (e.g. a member of the parent electorate may only nominate another parent of that electorate)

Department employees with a child enrolled at a school where they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership at that school.

Return your completed nomination form to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand delivery.

Generally, if there are more nominations than vacancies a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

#### Remember

Consider standing for election to school council.

Ask the principal for instructions if you are not sure what to do.

Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.

Contact the principal if you are unsure about what is required at any stage of the election process.

## **FORM 2: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

(Formerly **Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nomination**)

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of

Morwell Park Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on:

23/02/2024

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on:

1/03/2024

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<b>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</b>	<b>TERM OF OFFICE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</b>
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2026	5
School employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2026	2

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Chris Joustra  
Principal