Monash School Newsletter

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www.monashps.act.edu.au

NEWSLETTER NO: 8 – 6 June 2014

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 9 June</td>
<td>Queen’s birthday holiday</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 10 June</td>
<td>Breakfast Club 8.15 am Sullivan Shield</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 11 June</td>
<td>James Hird AFL (boys) SRC Meeting</td>
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<td>Friday, 13 June</td>
<td>Breakfast Club 8.15 am</td>
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<td>Monday, 16 June</td>
<td>Breakfast Club 8.15 am ICAS Writing</td>
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<td>P &amp; C Meeting 7.00 pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 17 June</td>
<td>Breakfast Club 8.15 am ICAS Spelling</td>
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<td>Thursday, 19 June</td>
<td>Monash Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Friday, 20 June</td>
<td>Breakfast Club 8.15 am Assembly Year 1 / 2 9.15 am</td>
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<td>Monday, 23 June</td>
<td>Breakfast Club 8.15 am</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 24 June</td>
<td>Breakfast Club 8.15 am</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 25 June</td>
<td>Kinder Health Screening</td>
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<td>Second Hand Clothing Pool</td>
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<td>SRC Meeting</td>
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<td>Thursday, 26 June</td>
<td>Kinder Health Screening</td>
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<td>Friday, 27 June</td>
<td>Breakfast Club 8.15 am</td>
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<td>Reports home to parents</td>
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<td>Father/Son Movie Night at the Community Hub – 6.00 pm</td>
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<td>Friday, 4 July</td>
<td>End of Term</td>
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Notes Going Home This Week

Year 3 and 4 Camp Behaviour Expections information
Canteen Athletics Carnival – sausage sizzle

Principal’s Message

Dear Parents and Carers

Today we were treated to yet another wonderful assembly. Our 3 / 4 students produced a very entertaining item showcasing the value of respect which is an important part of our school culture here at Monash School. Congratulations also to all students who received awards today.

I would like to thank all parents/carers who have taken the time to complete surveys in recent weeks enabling us to gain valuable feedback on our school social skills programme and also on ways we can better support parents as partners in the education of their children. The results of these surveys are currently being collated and outcomes will be shared publicly in the coming weeks.
In recent times, we have changed the inquiry based learning model in the junior section of the school to allow us to ensure greater accountability to the Australian Curriculum. I draw your attention to an overview provided by Andrew Buesnel in this edition of the newsletter which explains these changes in more detail. I would like to remind parents/carers of students in Years 3 / 4 and Years 5 / 6 that students will have the opportunity to participate in overnight camps in Terms 3 and 4 respectively. In recent weeks expression of interest forms have been sent home with students providing parents/carers with the opportunity to confirm their children’s place in these activities. Please remember that the final return date for these forms is 12 June 2014. These camps are an optional extra curricula activity. Full supervision will be provided at school for students who do not attend the camps.

A reminder that our school athletics carnival will be held at Calwell Oval on Thursday, 19 June 2014. Please return all entry notes are returned along with the $10 payment which covers the cost of bus and oval hire. These notes are also due back on 12 June.

On Wednesday of this week, approximately 20 of our 5 / 6 students participated in the Vikings Gala Rugby Day at Erindale Oval. Congratulations to these students for the manner they represented the school both on and off the field. In an outstanding effort they finished third overall.

I would like to draw your attention to a new feature of our newsletter, a fortnightly article by our PE teacher, Mr D, providing an overview of the PE and sport programme in the school each fortnight. Physical activity and wellbeing is strongly promoted at Monash and I would like to encourage parents/carers to discuss with their children the activities that they are participating in with both Mr D and their home group teacher. Finally, I would like to wish all families a very happy long weekend and we look forward to seeing the children back on Tuesday, 10 June as we commence Week 7.

Have a great weekend everybody.

Shane Carpenter
Principal

Inquiry Based Learning in our Junior School

Students in 1/2 have transitioned from the Walker Learning Approach to an inquiry based model for learning.

This fits our whole school approach to providing students with age approach learning experiences as they move through their preschool and primary school years. In preschool our play based learning approach allows students to explore their interests and as they transition into primary school they are supported again through play based learning as we deliver the curriculum through the Walker Approach in kindergarten. When children reach 1/2 they are scaffolded through a range of choices that fulfil obligations to deliver, assess and report against the National Curriculum. This inquiry approach means that children have a range of choices in their learning around specific learning areas including literacy, numeracy, science and technology, drama and creative play, history and geography and information technology. The structures around this model for learning mean that each child is exposed to and enjoys experiences and choice in all of the listed subject areas within their homegroup.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this change, please do not hesitate to contact the school and organise a meeting.

Andrew Buesnel
Deputy Principal
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data project collects data from schools about the number of students who require adjustments to participate in education. It will present a national picture of the supports schools provide students. From 2015, this information will be collected in every school across Australian, every year. The purpose of the process is to help governments to target support and resources in schools to help all students reach their potential.

During term 2 2014 all ACT Public Schools will be taking part in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD). Schools will identify students who need adjustments and are identified as meeting a broad definition of disability. This definition is based on the Disability Standards for Education 2005 which is an inclusive definition of what constitutes a disability and does not require a medical or professional diagnosis. If your child currently requires some additional support at school they may be included in the data collection. Examples of the sorts of adjustments and supports a school may provide include:

- Small group literacy and numeracy sessions
- Study lines
- Additional time to complete tasks

A letter will be sent home to families of students that have been identified as requiring adjustments and supports. This letter will outline the process and ask for your permission to include your child in the data collection. No names or personal information is collected as part of the collection process and students.


Lockers For Free

We have a number of lockers – bank of 12 – for free If you are interested, please see the front office.

Homework Club

We are pleased to announce another new Monash initiative to further support our links between home and school. Starting this week we are now offering a Homework Club at lunchtime on Fridays. Students of all year levels are welcome to join Mrs Bacon in the Literacy/Numeracy room for one on one tutoring. This is a perfect opportunity for the children to consolidate concepts or utilise their time to complete their homework in school time to free up weekends. If you have any questions regarding Homework Club please contact Mrs Bacon.

Parent Tutoring at Monash School

As part of our Parents as Partners Program here at Monash School we are excited to launch our Parent Tutoring initiative. At Monash we are committed to strengthening the bonds between learning at school and home. We highly value the role parents play at home as tutors for their child/ren’s learning. To provide consistency of language and a shared strategy approach to the teaching of Literacy and Numeracy, both at home and school we are pleased to announce our new tutoring program. A drop in clinic is available on Wednesday mornings from 8.30 am - 9.30 am and on Thursday afternoons from 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm where parents and carers can drop into our Literacy and Numeracy Resource Room between these times to consult with a member of the Literacy and Numeracy team. Appointments are also available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9.00 am and 3.00 pm. These appointments can be made through the front office.
Enrolling in an ACT Public School

New arrangements for 2014 and 2015

The ACT Education and Training Directorate has updated the enrolment and transfer arrangements for all ACT public schools.

All new student enrolment applications for 2015 open from 28 April 2014 (day 1 term 2). If you are enrolling your child to start school in 2014 or if your child is transferring to an ACT public school at any stage you will need to use the same online form.

To make this process easier for those wishing to enrol or transfer, please use the online enrolment/transfer form and Parent/carer guide to enrolment/transfer for ACT public schools located on the ‘Enrolling in an ACT Public School’ section of the Education and Training Directorate website www.det.act.gov.au

Mr D’s PE

Kindergarten
We have taken KC and KM through some spatial awareness sessions this term. Using our scooter boards and many different animals we have learned about how we each have our own space and through our senses we organise how we move with other people around us. We have used traffic and how it works with lights and round abouts and stop signs to help us get an idea of rules and why we have them. We are now moving into catching and throwing. So if you have some time or your children have big brothers or sisters get them to practise their throwing and catching at home.

1/2 Unit
The 1 and 2 children have been working on dodging this term. We have used oz tag flags for them to work on how to use dodging to help them for future sports. So they use their spatial awareness and dodging together in the games we are doing with them. We have them put on their oz tag belts with two flags. We explain the rules so that everyone knows how to use the flags and to be safe. We then have one team in a big circle chase the other team and try and get their flags. After that game is over we have the other team go and take the flags off the other team. So the children over a few sessions understand how dodging will help them in many sports. We now are introducing footballs to take the lessons a little bit further.

3/4 Unit and 5/6 Unit
We have worked on throwing, catching, dodging with the 3/4 and 5/6 children. Recently we have played some activities with the students that allow them to display these fundamental movement skills in a game situation. We have played Buroinjin, Capture the Flag and recently dodge ball. These games are very good at using those skills and are easy to stop and demonstrate how to throw, catch and dodge.

For those that don’t know Buroinjin is an Indigenous sports game which involves throwing, catching, running and dodging. Ask your child about it. It is a fantastic game which involves everyone in learning fundamental movement skills.

The 5/6 children have played a Buroinjin competition at lunchtime during first term there were four teams of 12 students in a team. Then last week we took three teams with 36 students to a Buroinjin competition at Calwell where there were 14 teams. Two Monash Teams finished on top of the two pools and in the end we finished 1st, 3rd and 9th.

Thanks to Mrs Yates who supplied some wonderful photos of the day.

Mr D (Mr Dufelmeier)
Sports Teacher
Preschool Unit News

Joeys and Koalas

Children in the Joey and Koala groups are rugging up for the cold weather and still enjoying outside activities as much as ever. Activities have included water painting, dolls and prams, gardening, swinging inside the big barrel, making stop/go signs and enjoying a visit from some puppies. Inside activities have included roller-painting, a vet hospital in Home Corner, ruling lines with rulers, tracing our names and copying words that begin with the same letter as our names. We’ve been making fairy, mermaid and princess homes in box construction.

We have been exploring 1:1 correspondence and playing lots of action games to support development in this area. We have also been learning how to blow our noses and cough into our sleeve to minimise the spread of germs in our classes.

‘Jimmy Joey’ and ‘Kelly Koala’ continue to visit the children’s homes and we remind parents to please send the backpacks in after one night so other children can get a turn without having to wait too long.

Children have been asked to bring in a baby photo so we can play a guess the baby game. There are some families expecting babies in our groups at the moment so it’s a hot topic!

Possums and Echidnas

This fortnight the Possums and Echidnas have been learning about opposites, how to be a good friend and different homes. We have been very impressed at their knowledge and understanding of different opposites and each child can confidently state a pair of opposites without assistance. During afternoon sessions we have been singing songs and playing games that help us be good friends. The children have enjoyed seeing who their peers pick as their friends and it has built up the children’s confidence and their self-esteem.

We thank the families who have taken and brought in photos of their homes. The children have loved talking about their homes and we have discussed the similarities and differences of each home. Our home corner looks great with the photos on the board and it is a common area for the children to gather. We would love for the families to continue bringing in photos of their homes and if printing is difficult please email Amelia and she will print them off (amelia.doering@ed.act.edu.au).

Each fortnight the children have a task to read a book that Amelia choses. It is called “Amelia’s book of the fortnight”. Each newsletter will have a brief description of the book so families can ask their children what it is about and most importantly if they have read it. 😊 Next fortnight’s book is called “There is a Monster under my bed who farts”. It is about a boy who explains to the reader that everywhere he goes there is a Monster who follows him and farts. The person who is farting however is actually the boy which the reader has to figure out.

Bimbi Unit News (Kinder)

It has been another busy two weeks in Kindergarten. We said good bye to the chicks at the end of Week 4. We loved watching the chicks hatch and grow and had discussions about what they need to live. They have gone to good homes and we will hopefully have them back to visit soon!

During Literacy groups students have been continuing to practise their letter sound knowledge in their journal writing, and have begun handwriting lessons, during these lessons our specific focus is on correct letter formation. We are also making a big effort to use finger spaces in between words.
In Maths groups we have been playing a lot of hands on games to practise the subtraction method. This week we have been learning about length by measuring things around the classroom, comparing heights and using measuring language such as short, shorter, long and longer.

In Science we finished our unit on our five senses by using all of our senses to describe what popcorn looks, sounds, feels, smells and tastes like. It was a lot of fun and delicious! This week we have begun our new Science unit on materials and their properties. On Wednesday we brought in a toy and sorted them based on what they were made of. We used our senses to make comparisons between properties of materials and will be continuing to discuss why we use certain materials.

We have enjoyed participating in the Netball clinics and have learnt some new skills. We will continue to learn more netball skills with our teachers. We have also started learning about germs and how easily they can spread. We have brainstormed ways to stop spreading germs and making healthy choices.

**Yerra Unit News (1 / 2)**

Yerra Unit has been working as hard as usual. Students are continuing to work on narrative writing and are excited to share their imaginative ideas. In Maths, students have been getting some hands-on experience measuring length and finding 2D and 3D shapes in and outside the classroom.

As the weather gets colder and students are wearing more layers of clothing to school, the Yerra Unit Lost Property is getting bigger and bigger! If you could make sure all clothing that comes to school is labelled, we can help return any jumpers or beanies that go missing. As it is now Winter, students no longer have to wear their hats at lunch and recess.

Our focus You Can Do It value for the last two weeks has been Organisation. Looking after our belongings and our environment is a big part of being organised, and students have been demonstrating this value by picking up rubbish around the playground to keep the school looking tidy. It is wonderful to see students showing initiative to tidy up even in their break times!

This term, Yerra Unit has also been participating in the Every Chance to Dance program. It is a great way to practise movement skills and coordination while having fun. Now we’re halfway through the term, students are becoming more confident and are making up dance moves of their own!

The next Assembly on Friday 20 June will be run by the 1/2 unit. We are hoping to better our awesome performance in first term with an even more amazing show. At the assembly we will be revealing the special project we have been working on and sharing what we have been learning about our You Can Do It value.

**Dulma Unit News (Year 3 / 4)**

It has been a busy couple of weeks in 3/4 Dulma! We have finished off our persuasive writing unit with the children producing texts on why respect should be added to the You Can Do It values! Next week, students will be working on Rostrum speeches. They will have the choice of 5 different topics with speeches going for 3 minutes. Students are encouraged to practice these at home.

We have finished the immersion stage of our arts based Independent Research Projects and will be moving onto research proposals. Students will research Indigenous Australia, Indonesia, Japan or China and will create an artefact based on drama, dance, music or art.
In Numeracy, Year 3 have been focusing on fractions and using a variety of manipulatives to assist in their understanding. Year 4 have been developing their multiplication and division strategies and using these to solve a variety of number equations.

Homework club will also be starting up on Fridays at lunch time if students have any questions or need any assistance with their homework.

Our camp at Birrigai will take place from Monday 28 July – Tuesday 29 July. Expression of interest notes are due back with a deposit of $50 by Thursday 12 June if you wish for your child to attend. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be putting together a list of things that students will need to bring along.

**Bural Unit News (Year 5 / 6)**

The last fortnight has been very busy in the 5/6 unit. We have been focusing on setting personal goals, values and cooperation with the students. We spent a whole day looking at these, using tools like Circle Time where all the students were involved and had the opportunity to contribute. We also played some games including the handshake game, newspaper mummies and building a bridge to focus on cooperation. We now have a Shout Out wall in the unit where teachers will be posting quality work samples from the students. We hope the students are encouraged to continue to produce quality work through this process. As we have been working on team work and cooperation we have implemented a rewards system in the unit where students will earn money to go towards unit rewards. We have a goal of reaching $10000 by the end of the term to have a whole unit party and games day. We also have smaller rewards to reach along the way including a onesies/mufti day and a movie session.

In writing groups we are focusing on Rostrum speeches. We have been looking at the topics and discussing possible ideas for the students to speak about. So far we are hearing some great ideas coming through. We will be holding class finals on the Tuesday of week 8 followed by the unit finals and on the Friday of week 8 (20th June) we will hold the school finals.

The year 5 students have been working on multiplication and now moving on to learning about division. We will be looking at word problems and converting between these and number sentences before moving on to looking at more formal algorithms. The year 6 students are moving on to multiplication through instant recall facts and more formal algorithms.

IRPs are well underway at the moment with students participating in workshops to learn the skills they need to complete their projects. Some of these workshops include – how to use and iPad to research, note taking, art and PowerPoint. The students have their own timetable and are learning how read it. A skill that will come in handy for high school. We are impressed with the topics some students have picked to focus on including: how women’s rights have changed over time, Indigenous art and how it tells a story, the Stolen Generation and migration just to list a few.

**Winyu Unit News**

As the Winter months are upon us we are experiencing a surge in ill children. Please remember to send in a note explaining your child’s absence if they are away, as it is a legal requirement to be collected for the roll. Winyu Unit would like to welcome Michelle and Marie to our team. They will be working with the students until the end of the Term. We hope they enjoy their time with us. The children have made them feel very welcome.

Winyu N is continuing to look at Time and the Calendar. In the physical sciences they will be looking at Transport and how forces are involved.

Winyu B continues to learn about Money. They have started a small unit on friends of ten. The children have been learning to use a tens frame and coloured counters to represent each friend of ten.
"Hub Happenings"

Breakfast club is in full swing with Vegemite and jam on toast being the favourite. Breakfast club is on Monday, Tuesday and Friday mornings from 8.15 am to 9.00 am weekly. I would really appreciate some volunteers to help prepare food and serve, please let me know if you are available to help.

Friday 27 June at 6.00 pm - Father and son/carer/grandparent movie night. Names are starting to come in please remember to leave your names at the front office or let me know if you plan on attending.

Tuesdays 9.30 am - 10.15 am - walking group
As the weather gets cooler we can look into pilates DVDs and indoor fitness.

Playgroup Fridays 9.30 am - 11.30 am
Please bring a piece of fruit to share for children's morning tea and a gold coin donation. Playgroup is also looking for donations of musical instruments.

Monash Primary Choir (staff/parents) at this stage I am just taking names before we start practice. I am happy to say we have 3 so far. Come join in the fun maybe we could have a song ready in time for the fete.

Monash Community Hub will launch its first magazine/brochure in the coming weeks and we are looking for local businesses that might be interested in advertising through this magazine. Please let me know if you are interested or know someone who might be.

Any donations of smocks and old shirts for paintings would be greatly appreciated.

Hub coordinator

Dirt to Dish Kitchen News

It’s been a really fun week in the kitchen this week (Of course any week where we are using chocolate as an ingredient is always popular!)

We have been making Chocolate, Coconut and Banana Bread this week – with lots of discussion around what an amazing fruit Bananas are. Did you know Bananas are actually classified as a berry?

They grow in hot, tropical climates like NT and Queensland and Australia is one of the most prolific banana growing countries in the world. Bananas are harvested every single day of the year.

Bananas are a great source of potassium, which helps our muscles to work properly as well as being a cheap, convenient and portable “super food”. Bananas are also a great pick me up if you are feeling tired.

If you have some bananas sitting in the fruit bowl at home that are a bit brown & soft, don’t throw them away, they are perfect for whipping up a batch of our banana bread? It’s quick, easy & can go in the freezer so you can take out a slice & pop it into your lunchbox for a morning/afternoon snack.

This recipe can easily be converted to dairy or gluten free as well.

Next week we are making a popular Japanese snack called Okinomiyake (or “as you like it” pancake). It will be a great way to use up our cabbage crop from the garden which is growing nicely!

This week’s Fridge Quote:

“My favourite exercise is a cross between a lunge and a crunch…it’s called LUNCH!”
Happy Cooking everyone.

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS AT MONASH SCHOOL

If you would like to volunteer your time at Monash School please be aware that you will need to obtain a Working With Vulnerable People Card. Information and application form can be picked up from the Front Office. The completed form can then be lodged at the Government Shopfront with the cost of the card being free for parent/carer volunteers. We encourage all our volunteers to sign up for a card.

Please remember to carry your Working With Vulnerable People Card with you if you are volunteering in the school.

Nut Allergies

As you may be aware Monash School has a number of students who are allergic to nut products and if they were to come in to contact with these products, they could have a life threatening reaction. We are asking our school community to avoid sending in products that contain nuts.

School Grounds

Please note that bicycles and scooters are not to be ridden within the school grounds or school corridors. Thank you.

School Rule

“At Monash Primary School we all try to keep ourselves and others safe and happy”

P & C NEWS

Canteen News

Athletics Carnival Sausage Sizzle Meal Deal Order Forms have been sent out. Orders may be made on flexischools.com.au and are to be placed by Monday 16 June. Apologies for the type on the form (should have been June not May).

Pasta Bolognese has been very popular during this cold weather. It’s a great healthy choice, made by us in canteen with no artificial additives or preservatives. It is Dairy free and Gluten Free is also available.

Canteen Roster - June

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<td>Diane</td>
<td>Fri 20th</td>
<td>Athletics*</td>
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If you have any questions or are available to help in canteen, please contact Veronica at canteen. Phone 6291 6357 monashpascanteen@outlook.com

Canteen sub-committee

The Canteen Sub-Committee will be holding a meeing on Tuesday 10 June 2014 from 11.50 pm - 1.00 pm in the Canteen. All parents/carers and staff are welcome. If you have an item that you would like placed on the agenda please email by close of business on Monday 9 June at monash_pandc@hotmail.com.

THE ENTERTAINMENT BOOK!

If you would like to keep your copy of the Entertainment Book, please enclose your payment in the envelope the book came in and return to the Front Office as soon as possible. The P & C receives $12 on each copy sold.
Any unwanted copies of the Entertainment Book must be returned in the envelope it came in to the Front Office immediately.

If you would like to order additional copies of the book, please see the Front Office.

Thank you for your support.

**School Uniforms**

School uniforms are available from Savvy School & Formal Wear, Shop 32, Homeworld, Soward Way, Tuggeranong. For any enquiries, please phone Savvy on 6293 4342. All Monash parents receive 10% off uniform purchases. Bomber jackets are unavailable at the moment – notification will be given when they become available.

**SCHOOL BANKING**

Why not join in the fun at your school!! School Banking has begun and will operate each Friday, except the last day of term. Please bring completed bank books to the Front Office.

The School, its staff and the Territory are not aware of, and make no representation as to, the truth or accuracy of the information provided in advertisements/community notices appearing in this publication. Readers should make their own enquiries in relation to the information.”