Term 1 Week 4 2013

Dear Families and Friends of Morisset PS

**Stranger Danger**
Due to our concern about the safety of all students we are continually reinforcing the message of stranger danger in our classes and are now locking all gates to the school after 9 o’clock, except the main office entry gate which is clearly marked at the front of the school. These gates will be unlocked at the end of the school day. It would be greatly appreciated if you would reinforce our message of “keeping safe” to your child. Thank you.

**Can you believe it is Week 4 already!**
Our students are well into the term of learning and I have seen some amazing work from students who are having a “red hot go“ and are producing Quality 5 work! Last week all students were given a class term letter to inform parents what learning opportunities and systems are happening in the class. It is important that staff and parents have open communication. If you know that something may be stressing or upsetting your child or something out of school maybe impacting on your child’s behaviour or attitude at school please let the class teacher know.

**Notes Folder**
Last week we supplied each student with a red plastic notes folder. Please remind your child to bring back the notes folder. These are to be kept in the classrooms ready for when notes /newsletters are handed out. We aim to hand out all notes Wednesday’s with the newsletter, but at times it may be necessary to hand a note out on another day.

**Song Room-Drumming lessons**
The feedback from students and staff was that the drumming lessons were fantastic. If you do not want your child photographed or filmed during this program you will need to see me this week as the program has already commenced.

**Teacher’s Corner**
This week Amanda Bartlett’s topic is on Drumming. Thank you Amanda!
Gentle Reminders

- **Current contact details**
  On the Friday 22nd February any child who has returned their completed contact detail form to the office will go into the draw to win a canteen lunch for all school students in their family, as well as having the family’s 2013 school contribution fees paid by the school.

- **School Contribution Fees**
  All families that pay the voluntary contribution fees before the end of term will go into a draw for a $50 Coles Voucher drawn on the 26th March, just before Easter.

- **BFF at Morisset**
  I am really looking forward to Tuesday 12th March between 9-10am when parents and relatives are invited into the classrooms to share Book Fair Fun (BFF) with their child. This is a time where you will be able to see and be part of your child’s reading program. To meet the parents and say thank you for coming and there will be a morning tea in the library.

- **3 Way Conferences**

- **Canteen**
  Thank you to those parents who have returned the ‘working in the canteen slips’. You will be notified soon about any Canteen workshops that will take place. It is not too late to indicate your interest in helping out.

  **Thought of the week.**
  "Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down." Oprah Winfrey

  Make the most of the awesome moments!
  Kathryn Duncan
  Principal

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**MUSIC NEWS**

Our ukulele group is now meeting Thursday’s at recess to avoid clashes with other activities. Anyone who is interested in learning the ukulele is welcome to join in the fun. The lessons are free, all you need to join is a ukulele and a smile.

Guitar group is off and running for the year with lots of interested beginning, intermediate and advanced students joining in the fun. We have three guitars left for hire so if you are interested please pick up a form in the foyer. Guitar lessons are free to anyone who is willing to work hard and improve their skills. If you would like to join in, please bring your guitar to Miss Webeck’s room every Tuesday at recess.

**JUNIOR COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Junior council elections will be held next Monday afternoon. Nominations are open to any child in Year 3 or Year 4. Children are required to present a speech to their peers as a part of the election process. Speeches should include information about the child and what they propose to do as a part of Junior Council. Children wishing to participate in the election process must give their name to Miss Webeck by this Friday. Councillors will be presented with their badges at next week’s assembly.

Anna-Lee Webeck  Class Teacher
**Assembly Awards**

**Term 1 Week 2**

**KB Student of the Week:**
- Matilda Scott
  - Merit Award
- Jaxon Oxenbridge
- Phoenix Hovenden
**KG Student of the Week:**
- Cody McGrath
  - Merit Award
- Lili Serone
- Maddison Serone
**1K Student of the Week:**
- Krystal Lienau
  - Merit Award
- Latisha Bamborough
- Ryan Nicholas-Hughes
**1/2J Student of the Week:**
- Jack Scanlon
  - Merit Award
- Shawn Hill
- Isaiah Gray
**2B Student of the Week:**
- Ryan Craft
  - Merit Award
- Brendan Carey
- Jayden Butler
**2/3N Student of the Week:**
- Mackenzie Vider
  - Merit Award
- Aiden Williams
- Sophie Reay
**3/4W Student of the Week:**
- Tahnee Coulter
  - Merit Award
- Cory Dean
- Jayden Austin
**4/5L Student of the Week:**
- Charlee Evans
  - Merit Award
- Kyle Wilkes
- Cai Dicandilo
**5/6G Student of the Week:**
- Holly Saunders
  - Merit Award
- Tom Edwards
- Jason Banning
**5/6K Student of the Week:**
- Lindsay Millane
  - Merit Award
- Katelyn Penman
- Guy Jarasius

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**School Banking**

School Banking is up and running, students wishing to deposit their hard earned savings please drop off your bank book to the school office.

Students who do not have a bank book you may drop into the Commonwealth Bank with your birth certificate and set up an account.

Regards
Donna Coulter

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**Canteen News**

Canteen will be open for breakfast and lunch on Mondays and Wednesdays, recess needs to be ordered in the morning for these days.

Open Fridays for breakfast, lunch and recess.

Thank you. Lisa

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**2012 School Musical**

“The Awesome 80’s”

**DVD’S**

Now available for purchase from the school office.

$12 each

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**P&C News**

Important date change for the next P&C Meeting!

The next date for the P & C meeting will announced shortly.

**Mufti Day**

A Mufti day will be held on Friday 8th March for the students to bring in donations for our Easter Raffle.

Easter Raffle Tickets will be sent home on Wednesday 13th March and the Raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 27th March.

**Jacket Orders**

Thank you to everyone who has already sent in their order form for the jackets. If you still need to send in your order, please have it in by Wednesday 6th March.

Have a great week
Rebecca Harridge
P & C President
**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**LAKERS BASEBALL CLUB (Lake Macquarie area)** - Registration Days Friday 15th Feb 4.30-6pm and Sunday 24th Feb 10am-2pm (BBQ and drinks after) Pendlebury Oval, Bolton Point. Girls, boys, men, women-ages 5 and up. More info Ph: Chris 0408 015 897 email:info@lakersbaseballclub.com or www.lakersbaseballclub.com

**BAY TENNIS ACADEMY BONNELLS BAY** - Group tennis lessons at Bay Hotel courts Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings by qualified coach Bill Griffiths. All standards catered for, beginners welcome. Junior competition Tuesday afternoons and ‘hot shots’ half hour lesson for 4-6 year olds. Info and bookings Ph: Bill 0402 274 646.

**UNDERSTANDING AUTISM SPECTRUM CONDITION** - One day seminar - Autism Spectrum Condition - A different way of thinking. Learning and managing emotions. Friday 8th March Asquith Leagues Club Waitara 9am-4pm. Presented by Dr. Tony Attwood and Dr Michelle Garnett. Dr Attwood is well known for is extensive knowledge of Asperger Syndrome. To Register www.suelarkey.com.au.

**SOUTHERN LAKES UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB—ADVANCED SKILLS CLINIC** - Coaches: Adam Kwasnik (Boys only) and Lauren Cotlthorpe (Girls only). Starting 11th March will run for 15 weeks COST: $200 Southern Lakes Registered players, $220 Other club registered players, $40 strip. Register at Douglass St Oval 23rd Feb 10am-12pm; 2nd March 10am-12pm or online: www.southernlakesunitedfc.org.au

**PLAY GIRLS ONLY UNDER 6 SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL**—For girls turning 5 or 6 yrs old this year, make up a team of girls only or come by yourself and join a team. All entry level (under 6’s & 7’s) receive a free ball and shin pads. Contact: Macquarie Football Ph: 4953 0800 or www.macquariefootball.com.au

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**NSW BINLESS PLAYGROUND DAY**

The Pacific Garbage Patch ([http://vimeo.com/11704000](http://vimeo.com/11704000)) is one of many garbage patches in the oceans of the world. It is the largest and has an area estimated to be twice the size of France. Litter that starts its journey in the playground will travel to local creeks, then to major rivers/lakes and will eventually make it to the oceans and become Marine Debris. Estimates suggest over a million seabirds may die each year and up to 100,000 marine mammals and turtles as a direct result of Marine Debris.

To draw attention to this issue the NSW Binless Playground Day will be held on Wednesday 6th March.

All staff and students (and community members) are encouraged to carry their food for the day in reusable containers to ensure they have nothing to throw away. The no rubbish challenge on the day includes not creating rubbish at home in the preparation of lunches. Participants are encouraged to bring re-usable containers or wrap all food in recyclable material (brown paper bags) if necessary and not use or take any snap lock single use plastic bags, aluminium foil or glad wrap, straws, juice boxes etc……...

There will be no bins on the playground so students will have to take any rubbish home again. Please support and encourage our students to reduce, re-use and recycle so they have a cleaner planet when they grow up.

Helen Waldon
Teacher/Librarian
The Song Room is a national not for profit organisation that provides free, tailored, long-term music and arts-based programs for children. Each year The Song Room delivers its programs to around 250 schools and communities and works with over 20,000 children every week. The Song Room vision is that all Australian children have the opportunity to participate in music and the arts to enhance their education, personal development and community involvement.

In 2013, Morisset Public School will be taught by Isabella Berrigan in the drumming component of The Song Room program. Isabella is a teaching artist for The Song Room and has been playing African drums since 2003. She has taught at various schools in the Hunter area and has worked in the Starlight room at the John Hunter Hospital. Every Friday, students in Years 2-6 will participate in a half-hour workshop developing their musical skills.

Research has proven drumming in a group helps children build self-control, self-esteem, respect, empathy and tolerance for others. Plus, it helps to channel excess energy and frustration in a creative and productive way. Furthermore, The Song Room is based upon strong international research that has demonstrated the significant benefits of arts-based programs for children including:

**Improved Learning Outcomes** - Concentration, literacy and numeracy, school engagement and retention.

**Enhanced Personal Development** – Self-esteem, confidence, self-directed learning, and attitudes to education.

**Enhanced Social Outcomes** - Communication, teamwork, classroom participation and cultural cohesion.

By Amanda Bartlett

“I would teach music, physics and philosophy; but most importantly music, for in the patterns of music and all the arts are the keys to learning.”

Plato, philosopher
HELPING IN THE CANTEEN AVAILIBILITY

Please complete the form below and return it to the school office if you are available to help in the canteen. The more volunteers we get the greater the possibility of the canteen being open more days. Thank you

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

Childs Name: .......................................................................................................................................... 

Phone Number: ........................................................................................................................................ 

Day/s Available for Canteen Duty: ........................................................................................................... 

☐ Tick if Interested in Canteen Workshop

AECG
Itji-Marru Local AECG
Cordially invites you to our
1st AECG MEETING 2013
Date: Tuesday 26th February 2013
Arrival: 10:20am

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE COMMUNITY, PARENTS/CAREGIVERS, PRIMARY & HIGH SCHOOLS & RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

The AECG is a community powered, voluntary organisation committed to empowering parents and students to ensure equality and improved outcomes within the Education System for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Students who identify as such.

The AECG is recognised as the central source of advice, acting on behalf of Aboriginal communities on issues pertaining to education and training. It falls under the umbrella of the State AECG and works with its regional counterparts.

As an active AECG we aim to provide a voice for Our Kids and Our Community and we have the power to make a positive difference in our kid’s education.

If you would like an item added to the agenda please RSVP the secretary as soon as possible to allow time for the agenda to be distributed.

Tea & coffee will be provided on arrival.

Please RSVP: Rodney Groves
Ph: 4973 1435 (Morisset Public School) or email: rodneygroves@det.nsw.edu.au
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For every home loan that Mortgage Choice in Morisset settles and this ad is mentioned, we will donate $50 to your school. Talk to us today and help raise funds for your school.

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