Dear Parents and Friends of Morisset PS

IMPORTANT - PARENTS WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO KEEP OUR STUDENTS SAFE!

This week we have had an incident that fortunately didn’t have a fatal result. It was a timely reminder for us all in regards to road safety around a school. Yesterday all classes revisited the correct place and way to cross our busy school road. Thank you to the parents that supported the school and reinforced the message we are trying to get across to keep our students safe by escorting them across the designated school crossing. I know it is out of the way for most parents when they park at the other end of the school where parking is available, but we do have a designated school crossing area that we must use. This has been an issue for many years and again we are looking into parking, school crossing, drop and pick up areas etc. in consultation with the RTA and Council. There will be a Ranger visiting but I do not have a time or date for this. To support this new process for parents I will be out on the footpath each afternoon if anyone needs help or has a query, please come and talk to me.

Congratulations

Thank you Mrs Clapham for sending Holly up to see me. She has shown great improvement in getting all her work finished. How confident is this young lady!

Well done to 5/6 W, 2B, 1K, K1CA and 3N for your great behaviour on the playground over the last week. These classes have demonstrated what getting along, confidence in making the right choices and resilience looks like at lunchtime and recess.

3 Way conferences

By now parents should have received their 3 way conference notes to ask you to support your child in a 3 way conference. A 3-way conference is a conversation between students, parents and the classroom teacher focusing on identifying and negotiating learning goals that your child will work towards achieving.

Benefits of three way conferences are to:

- Strengthen communication channels with teachers and parents about their children’s learning and progress.
- Enhance a child’s self esteem and confidence by allowing them to share their learning opportunities in positive and supportive environment.
- Encourage children to be involved in self assessment and take responsibility for their own learning.
- Increase parents understanding of learning and assessment of their child.
- Allow parents to participate in partnership in regards to their child’s learning and education.
- Set achievable learning goals for your child.
- Allow teachers the opportunity to help a child develop the confidence to share their work and understanding effectively with their parents.
- Provide an opportunity for teachers, students and parents to acknowledge a student’s progress and achievement.
- Please return your notes so teachers can organise conference times. If you cannot make these times all teachers are happy to negotiate a more suitable time to support your child.
Spelling Mastery
All classes 1-6 have started using the new program Spelling Mastery. Groups have been formed to support the students' needs. The feedback so far has been good. Students are enjoying using their own workbooks. A note was sent out on Monday with more information about the program and a tear off payment slip attached.

School Photos
Due to the supply shortage of sport shirts in the Uniform shop, students are required to wear the red school shirt for the photos this year and NOT the Sports Uniform, as previously advised. Students, your support in coming to school in full school uniform i.e. black shoes, red shirt, black shorts/skorts is greatly appreciated as it reflects a unified and proud image of Morisset Public School.

Drumming
I was very impressed by comment from students in 5/6G about our drumming program. Kacie said it is a fabulous way to learn about other cultures. Kieran said that he loves learning about the different rhythms. Abbey said she thinks it great how you learn about drums and where they are from. Kyesha said she enjoys watching Mr Groves being loud with the drums and having fun with them.

Piano to Give Away
After cleaning out the store rooms Mrs Duncan has found an extra piano and would love to give it away to someone who would love to learn or is learning to play and needs a piano. Please see the school office if you are interested.

Make the most of all the awesome moments.

Kathy Duncan
Principal

BOOK CLUB
Book Club orders are due in by Monday 17th March.
Thank you.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
The school athletics carnival will be held on Friday 28th March at Wangi Oval, Wangi Wangi. The cost is $5 per student and is to be paid no later than Wednesday 26th March.

All students MUST catch the bus to the carnival but may go home with parents at the end of the day.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
This year our cross country will be held next Monday 10th March. Students will need to wear their house colours for the day. Kinder to Year 2 will run their races from 12.30pm till 1.35pm. After recess at 2pm Years 3-6 will run their races. Parents are welcome to come along to watch and cheer on the students.
DRUMMING

Students participate in high energy workshops learning about African Drumming and Cultural awareness. Students display complete engagement in the program, demonstrating co-ordination, refine motor-skills, articulation of music terminology whilst gaining a foundation of music/percussion, ensuring positive performance outcomes.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Don’t forget that school photos will be taken next Wednesday 12th March. Please send in your children’s photo envelope either before or on the day of the photos. Family photo envelopes are available at the school office if you would like a family photo of school aged siblings.

BOOK FAIR IS COMING!

Next week is the MPS book fair. The library will be open to parents, family & friends wishing to make purchases:

**Monday 10th**: 8 to 8.55am & during cross country Monday afternoon until 4pm.

**Tuesday 11th**: 8 to 8.55am & 3.05 to 4.30pm

Alternatively students will be given the opportunity to form a wish list that will be taken home. Parents & caregivers can send in their order & money in a sealed envelope on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Orders will be given to students on Friday 14th to take home. No books will be able to be purchased after this date.

Kirsty Johnson – Librarian

ORGANISATION

**TERM 1 WEEK 5**

1K - Emika Whitmore: "Packs up at the end of activities. Thank you."
1/2O - Adelle Clarke: "Always organised!"
2B - Amelia Barnett: "Organisation"
3N - Darcy Deaves: "Keeping 3N's room organised"
3/4KW - Jayden Butler: "Consistently organised and ready to do his work"
4/5D - Mikayla Morgan: "Coming to class ready to learn"
5/6G - Abbey Bennett: "Helping in the classroom"
5/6W - Jayden Mitchell: "Consistent organisation in the classroom"
FRIDAY’S ENVIRONMENT GROUPS

Last Friday our groups couldn't go ahead due to the rain. The previous time was our first for the year. We really enjoyed getting back into the gardens. The first group, juniors, helped me clean up our enviro/garden shed. It's looking great!

The second group (Years 2 and 3) cleaned up the old vegetable gardens in readiness for fertilising and replanting. They also restocked the bird feeder and watered the plants in the squirrel glider garden. It's looking great, and ready for the next plantings.

The senior group worked hard in the bush tucker garden, weeding, mulching and watering.

Brock dug some steps so we can better use the second tap, Ben Smith planted another macadamia tree and Bennye cleaned and refilled the birdbaths. Great work everyone! Next Friday we will include some new Year 1 children in our junior group and they will begin by planting seeds for our winter harvest.

Harry found some fallen Davidson Plums. We found them very bitter!

Bennye looked after the birdbaths.

Ben planted, mulched and watered a Macadamia tree.

BRONZE READING AWARDS

Megan Waters, Merkesha Whitmore, Cerys Hardy, Olivia Lienau

WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

The Wednesday Walking Group is continuing this year. Ladies meet at 9am for approximately 1 hour. All welcome

LITTLE ATHLETICS ACHIEVERS

Last weekend on Saturday and Sunday, Xander Patterson and Ben Ransom went to Mingara Regional Athletics Centre. The two boys were in many events, Ben was in the 70m sprint, 60m hurdles and high jump. He achieved 1st place in high jump by jumping 1.25m and received a Gold Medal.

Xander was in 60m hurdles, triple jump, long jump and high jump. He also won the high jump and gold by jumping 1.40m.

The boys will be representing the Region at the State Athletics Carnival at Sydney Olympic Park on March 21st to 23rd.

Well done and Good Luck at State!
DATES TO REMEMBER

2014

Term 1

MARCH

Week 6
Wed 5  Gymnastics
Thurs 6  Gymnastics

Week 7
Mon 10 to Fri 14
Mon 10  School Cross Country
Tues 11  Parent Workshop CALM.
1,2,3 Magic & Emotion
Wed 12  School Photos
(Full School Uniform
NOT Sports Uniform)
Wed 12  Gymnastics
Thurs 13  Gymnastics
Thurs 13  ASSEMBLY 5/6G
Fri 14  P&C Meeting 9.15am

Week 8
Tues 18  Parent Workshop CALM
1,2,3 Magic & Emotion
Wed 19  Gymnastics
Thurs 20  Gymnastics
Fri 21  Easter Prize donation day

Week 9
Wed 26  Gymnastics
Thurs 27  Gymnastics
Thurs 27  ASSEMBLY 5/6W
Fri 28  School Athletics Carnival
K-6 at Wangi Oval

APRIL

Week 10
Wed 2  Gymnastics
Thurs 3  Gymnastics

Week 11
Thurs 10  Easter Celebrations
P&C Raffle Drawn
Fri 11  ANZAC Day Ceremony
Last Day of Term 1

APRIL

Term 2
Tues 29  Students Return

P & C NEWS

Next P&C Meeting – Friday 14th March in the Multi-Purpose Room at 9.15am.

Athletics Carnival – Friday 28th March. The Canteen and BBQ will be running on the day. We will need helpers in the canteen and BBQ, if you have are able to assist please let me know.

Easter Raffle – Will be drawn on Thursday 10th April. The raffle tickets will be sent home soon. Easter prize donations day will be Friday 21st March. All donations will be gratefully received.

Canteen opening times

Mondays and Wednesdays: 8.30 – 12pm
Fridays: 8.30 – 2pm

Uniform Shop is open Friday mornings 8.30 – 9.30. If you can’t make it in at that time, please fill in a Uniform Order Form and leave at the office. The order will be filled and sent home with your child.

Rebecca Harridge
P&C President

Assembly Awards

Term 1

Week 5

1K Merit Award
♦ Isla Davis
♦ Otis Brace

1/2O Merit Award
♦ Tyler Stace
♦ Tahlia Wilson

2B Merit Award
♦ Samantha Wright
♦ Zoe Cuskelly

3N Merit Award
♦ Molly Robertson
♦ Kirra Todhunter

3/4KW Merit Award
♦ Jamie Gambrill
♦ Jarrett Whitmore

4/5D Merit Award
♦ Charlotte Hill
♦ Joshua Breeden

5/6G Merit Award
♦ Shara Small
♦ Ben Coleman

5/6W Merit Award
♦ Joel Bennett
♦ Kyle Wilkes
2014 INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S GAMES

Lake Macquarie is the first city in the southern hemisphere to host this prestigious event from 6-11 December. Lake Macquarie will welcome international and national visitors and we expect between 1500-2000 athletes, coaches and head delegates from 80 cities and representing 40 nations to attend the games, with between 3000-5000 International and National visitors to support their teams.

To find out more about the games visit the website: www.icglakemacquarie2014.com

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MILLION PAWS WALK - Sunday 18 May. Register now for a chance to WIN a pooch pamper hamper valued over $500. Check out the web site for walk locations and registration details: www.millionpawswalk.com.au

MORISSET NETBALL CLUB - Registration enquiries to - Fiona Knight 0400 224 962 or Lynelle Miller 0401 479 593

BAY TENNIS ACADEMY - Tennis coaching conducted at Bay Hotel Tennis Courts Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Junior comp held Tuesday evenings. All standards catered for, beginners welcome. Bookings and further info: Bill Griffiths (Qualified coach) 0402 274 646

LAKE MACQUARIE DOCKERS AFL CLUB - Registration info: Terri Kozlik 0409 458 725

SOUTHERN LAKES UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB (Soccer) – Registration info: www.southernlakesunitedfc.org.au

DORA CREEK WORKERS SOCIAL GOLF CLUB – are holding a charity day to raise money for the “John Hunter Children’s Hospital—Kids with Cancer Charity” on Sunday March 16th at Dora Creek Workers Club. A charity bowls game starts at 9am with a sausage sizzle after the game. A Children’s Fun/Disco will then start at 2pm ending at 4.30pm. Gold coin donation entry fee. Children will receive a free drink and a bag of lollies.

More info: Jeff Woodland 4973 4543

AN INVITATION TO PARENT/CARERS

Do you provide care and support to a Child/Young Person who is aged Pre-School to School Years with a Disability, Mental Illness or Chronic Condition? You are invited to attend our FREE Parent/Carer Information Sessions

Where: Club Macquarie, 458 Lake Road, Argenton
Time: 9.30am — 2.00pm
Cost: FREE — Morning Tea & Light Lunch Provided
RSVP: Thursday 24th April — For Catering Purposes
Ph: 4912 4896 or 1300 887 776 or Educare-Admin@nnehealth.nsw.gov.au

When: Wednesday 30th April 2014
• The Impact of being a Parent/Carer — HNE – Carer Education & Support Program – Hunter
• Building Parent Resilience — Jackie Currey, First Chance

When: Wednesday 7th May 2014
• Siblings — HNE – Carer Education & Support Program – Hunter
• National Disability Insurance Agency – Suzanne Pashnich
• Using Assisted Technology – Ben Connolly, Samartians

When: Wednesday 14th May 2014
• The Importance of Support Groups — Bronwyn Thoroughgood – Families Supporting Families
• Child Behaviour that Challenges Us – Craig Moore, Clinical Psychologist
• Anti-Discrimination Board of NSW

Respite may be available by contacting
Commonwealth Respite & Carers Centre on 1800 052 222