Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) Update

Professional Learning Teams are finalising their action plans for their scope of work for 2014. The AIP is a very important working document that supports and guides us as a staff and school with the Key Improvement Strategies within our Strategic Plan. Included in this plan are aspirational targets set against our Strategic Plan for student achievement data in Teacher Judgements, NAPLAN, English Online Interview and also targets within our Student, Staff and Parent Opinion Surveys. Regular updates on this process will be supplied through the school newsletter. For more information contact Assistant Principal Helen Thomas.

6 Traits of Writing

At assembly on Monday morning we spoke about the 6 Traits of Writing which are a key component of our whole school writing program. Over the past few years we have been very fortunate to have Terri Campbell, a very well-known literacy consultant working in our school with our teams modelling in classrooms and working with teachers and students to improve our teaching of writing. Her focus has been the 6 Traits of Writing based on the work of Vicki Spandel. Terri will be conducting a parent session on Thursday 20th March at 7.00-8.30pm. Terri is a very engaging speaker and has a wealth of knowledge and expertise, having worked in schools all over Australia and internationally. At the session she will present information about the 6 Traits, how they are used in our school and how families can assist with the language and learning of the 6 Traits at home. There will more information and details about the night published though the newsletter and a letter home however we are hoping you will be able to attend so please keep the date free.

The Writing Traits:

- Are the fundamental features of what makes writing work.
- Are supported by thorough research and are well documented.
- Provide clarity to discussions around writing.
- Have been used by schools and other organization around the world for decades.
- Relevant to students of all ages.

The Traits:

Ideas: What it means: Clear and makes sense, topic is a manageable size, stays focused; ideas are relevant to task / content and has a fresh, original perspective.

Organization: What it means: Follows a structure, easy to follow [like a road map], all pieces serve a purpose, demonstrates a knowledge of how text is structured.
Voice: What it means: Sounds like a person wrote it, not a committee, sounds like this particular writer, brings a topic to life, individual – sounds like this writer and no other, makes me respond – I laugh, smile, cry, wince, get the chills, shows energy, life, spontaneity, confidence.

Word choice: What it means: Memorable moments – just right words, words and phrases I wish I’d thought of myself, creates word pictures, word is accurate, precise and enlightening, strong verbs, simple language used well, uses language to inform or entertain – not to impress.

Sentence Fluency: What it means: Carefully crafted sentences, variety of sentence length, structure, consistency in tense.

Conventions & layout: What it means: Looks, clean, edited, polished – free of distracting errors, conventions support the meaning of the text and uses graphics to support the text.

Bike Safety
A reminder to all students and families that bikes and scooters are not to be ridden inside the school grounds for the safety of all community members. Students should walk their bike from access points/gates on Lennox, Eglinton and Athol Streets. For easy access to the bike storage area the gate on Lennox Street is the closest to where they are stored so we would to encourage students to use this one.

Heelys
There have been a number of accidents as a result of students wearing Heelys. From an OH&S perspective these are not to be worn at school. If you Google search you’ll see a number of articles written about paediatric injuries from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. www.rospa.com.

Community Partnerships
Thank-you to the parent/carers who have completed our Community Partnerships form. This provides an opportunity for all members of the MPW community to let us know about the involvement you are able to offer this year in to maximise our student’s learning. The form take about 3 minutes to complete and the link is http://tinyurl.com/m9bc6fy.

Communication
Apart from the newsletter we have a number of communication tools at MPW. One is our Facebook page. At present we have 203 people who ‘like’ us. The link is https://www.facebook.com/Mpwpwps

On the outside of the administration building we have a noticeboard. If you have information you would like shared with the community please see the office for this to be added.

Our website is our main form of communication. Our aim is to make the content as relevant as possible to our community. There are copies of all newsletters, notices and forms which are sent home, information about our units of work, our website calendar and more www.mooneewestps.vic.edu.au.

If you have any suggestions for improvement please let us know by emailing the school at moonee.ponds.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

In the foyer we have our display television. This includes photos of our staff and information about the various programs operating at Moonee Ponds West. As well each classroom has one or two Class Representatives. The Class Reps are a link between the teachers and parents. Their first role is to formulate class ‘Friendship’ lists. We thank all families who have sent these back. If you haven’t could you do so as soon as you are able? Classes have begun organising various catch up events for their rooms. The ‘Friendship’ list is the vehicle used to communicate these events. Yesterday we had a Class Reps morning tea. It was wonderful to meet our reps for 2014 and to talk about the various activities people have planned.

Have a good week

Jenny, Helen & Randal
In Room 16 we have been playing a game called ‘Would You Rather?’

We have been using persuasive language to give our reasons and examples of what we would ‘rather’.

We think that this would be a terrific game for families of Moonee Ponds West to play at home!

Here are some starters for you...

- Would you rather have toes for fingers or fingers for toes?
- Would you rather eat only raw carrots for a year or never eat chocolate again?
- Would you rather have wings or be able to breathe underwater?
- Would you rather have purple skin or blue teeth?
- Would you rather have a pet spider or thirty pet dogs?
- Would you rather make twenty mistakes every day for a year or never make a mistake again?
- Would you rather have 23 brothers or no siblings at all?

Melanie Beissel

Class 3/4A Teacher
Parents and guardians,

We would like to inform you that our school subscribes to Mathletics. As well as using Mathletics during school hours to supplement the classroom Mathematics program, your child has access to the program out of school hours.

Mathletics is a tool that helps your child revise, consolidate and learn new concepts in Mathematics. Please ask your child and/or your child’s teacher for the Username and Password for your child to access the program from home.

Mathletics can be accessed on a computer or an iPad. The company is continuing to update the content that is available on iPads. Mathletics is adaptive so your child can attempt the same concept a number of times. Also be aware that there is a problem solving section that provides opportunities for your child to apply the skills they have acquired.

If you would like more information about Mathletics please speak to you child’s classroom teacher or Vicki McCormack (Room 15).

The Mathematics Professional Learning Team

BAKE SALE

To everyone who bought a sweet in the bake stall,

CONGRATULATIONS!

You just bought breakfast for people in Zimbabwe! (Zim-barb-we) We raised around $255 dollars! But we are still willing to take I.O.U’s. Team World Vision (the charity the money is going towards)

We would like to say a BIG THANK YOU!

Many people are starving but if we work together, the world is our oyster!

Harriet, Luce, Nora, Frankie, Grace & Kate
Transition News: Parents of Year 5 & 6 Students  
Rosehill Secondary College Open Day and Open Evening 2014

This year’s Open Day will offer a full day of classes for year 5 and 6 students. (Beginning at 9.15am and concluding at 2.30pm.) In the coming weeks Rosehill College will send more information.

The Open Day will take place on Tuesday 6th May and the Open Evening on Thursday 8th May.

Guided Tours began on Tuesday 18th February at 9.30am. Tours will continue at this time until Tuesday 20th May.

Could I take this opportunity to inform you of the S.T.E.P (Selective Talent Enhancement Program). The closing date for S.T.E.P. applications is Tuesday April 22nd and testing will be held on Tuesday 29th April. An information evening will be held on Wednesday 19th March at 7pm in the College Library.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

If you are the holder of a Health Care Card or Pension Card that is valid at the 29th January 2014, you are eligible to apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance.

Applications close on the 28th February.

Forms are available from the Office.

Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014

If you are interested in your child participating in The Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2014, you will need to collect the consent note from the library or download it from the website. Once signed and returned back, I will then register your child and provide them with all the required paperwork.

More details of the Challenge is available online at www.education.vic.gov.au/prc.

Please read and inform your child of the commitment, what is expected and the responsibility they will need to dedicate if participating in the challenge, as many students find this to be quite a demanding task!

The Challenge aims to promote a love of reading

It is not a competition, but a challenge to each student.

It is open for Preps to Year 12.
TWO WEEKS TO GO!
Get your tickets now as numbers are limited
(If the forecast is for wet weather, the movie will screen in the gym)

A few reminders:

- Please bring your ticket for entry
- BYO chair/s and picnic rug
- Sausage sizzle, snacks and drinks will be available. BBQ starts 6pm, movie starts 7.30pm
- Tickets will be available on the night if you want to bring extra guests.
- Prices are $30 family (2adults/2children), $10 adult, $7 child

We look forward to seeing you there!
Dear business owners within our community,

I invite you to take part in this wonderful opportunity to highlight your business to our school community.

Moonee Ponds West Primary School (MPWPS) are holding a ‘Movie Night’ screening ‘Despicable Me 2’ on Friday 28th February (please see flyer on page 6 of the newsletter). Prior to the commencement of the movie a PowerPoint presentation will be displayed showcasing various businesses within the local area and surrounding suburbs. **A donation of $50 is required to secure yourself an advertising page**, which the school community will appreciate and thank you personally through purchases at your business.

Your donation will assist the school in providing better resources to support the learning opportunities of children at MPWPS. We would also like to welcome you to purchase tickets to come along and meet your customers personally.

Further enquiries about this opportunity can be forwarded to mobile 0434 191 311 or alternatively via the school email at moonee.ponds.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au. Following payment an invoice will be sent to you.

Thank you for your support and I wish you a successful 2014.

Regards,

Kath White
Moonee Ponds West Primary School
Fundraising Committee Member
Mobile: 0434 191 311

PS: A letter from the Principal is available on request for authentication purposes.
SCHOOL CLOTHING
ORDER FORM 2014

Student Name ____________________________

ROOM NUMBER ____________________________

Parent Name ______________________________

Contact Details (For Orders Only) ________________

Winter Dress Order Form

The girls’ winter uniform is by order only. Please complete this order form with payment included and return it to the office by Friday 28th March.

<table>
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<th>ITEMS</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>QTY</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>COST</th>
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*Please note this item is by order only

Amount Enclosed $__________

Cash □ Cheque □ Credit Card □

Visa □ MasterCard □

Card Number ______ / ______ / ______ / ______

Expiry Date ______ / ______

Signature of cardholder ____________________________

Date ______ / ______ / ______
1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING
PARENTING COURSE

A three-session program for parents and carers
to help manage difficult behavior in children 2-12 years old
is being held at Strathmore Primary School, Lloyd Street, Strathmore
on Friday the 28th February, 7th March and 14th March 2014 at 9.30am-12pm

Learn:
✓ How to discipline without arguing, yelling or snacking
✓ How to sort behaviour
✓ How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
✓ Choosing your strategy, the three choices
✓ Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
✓ 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

Registration Fee?
The course is free to parents of children whom attend State Government schools in the Moonee Valley Network.
Register for this course by contacting Emelie Barringer or Gayle Weir, Psychologists (Student Support Services) on 9376 3876.

What people are saying?
What a relief to come across a program that preserves the dignity of the child, maintains the self control of both the parent and the child and is actually easy to remember when memory is the first thing to go!
I realized quickly that the 1-2-3 Magic can be a magnificent preventative measure that any parent can use to avoid raising a child, who later down the line, needs excessive discipline or grows out of control.

Who’s running it?
Emelie Barringer (Psychologist) and Gayle Weir (Psychologist) both have experience working in schools, providing services supporting children and their families.


For more information contact:
Emelie Barringer or Gayle Weir (Psychologists–Student Support Services) on 9376 3876

• An end to the arguing and yelling! • It saved our lives • Simple, sane, effective •

This course is being run by a Parentsshop® licensed practitioner. www.parentshop.com.au