Principal’s Report

This year has been successful due to the support of many groups. We would like to acknowledge the following for their significant input:
Thank you to the School Council and the Sub-committees which support the work of the Strategic Plan, Annual Implementation Plan and the directions in teaching and learning we are taking as a school. The work of the Education committee and its working parties resulted in a number of achievements this year. The Policy Working Party presented a number of polices for ratification. The comprehensive Policy audit resulted in the Anaphylaxis and Allergy, Healthy Eating, Medication, Sunsmart and Addressing Concerns and Complaints Policies all being endorsed by School Council. The Community Links working party are working on building links within our community and beyond. Looking at ways to improve communication is a key component of their action plan. We thank the people who completed the recent survey on this area. The School Uniform Review working party has continued their work in reviewing our dress code. In November there were successful focus groups with staff and parents moderated by an independent facilitator. The work of this group will continue on in early 2014. Next year will be our review and planning year which will see the Self Evaluation working party conduct extensive consultation with our community reflecting on the progress and achievements of our school over the past few years. Thank you to the leaders and members of the various groups for their commitment and dedication to their work this year.

The Class Representatives have been a great support to the classroom teachers and families. They were particularly successful in running various social events in order to make families feel welcome. They also provided a link between the parents and the teachers.

In particular, we would like to thank all staff members for their work this year. They have provided wonderful learning opportunities for all the students. They should be congratulated for their planning, teaching and commitment to improving the learning for all students. We would like to make special mention of our office staff who have been consistent in the professional and expert way they have worked with all groups over the 2013 school year.
As Principal I would like to acknowledge the high level work of Assistant Principals Helen Thomas and Randal Symons, much appreciated.
The achievement of all students was recently celebrated through the Parent, Teacher, Child Conferences but it would be remiss of me not to congratulate and make mention of the fantastic work of the students this year. Well done! We thank all families for the strong partnership between home and school.
I wish you all the best for the holiday period and to our students in Year 6 and those families and students who are moving on from Moonee Ponds West a most successful future.

Principals Report continues over the page..
Principals Report continued….

We look forward to seeing you on the 29th January (30th for Preps), 2014 as we begin a new school year which has great learning planned.

Final Day & Assembly
The final assembly for the year will be on Friday 20th of December at 9.05 a.m. in the Gym. We look forward to seeing many families attending. The highlights of this assembly will be the Choir performance, a presentation highlighting the year and the Grade 6 celebration. Students will be dismissed from their rooms at 1.30pm. Students and families are requested to take all belongings home to allow summer cleaning to take place.

Leaving the School?
The demand for places at Moonee Ponds West continues to be high. If you are leaving the school at the end of 2013 or in the New Year please let the office know at your earliest convenience. This will greatly assist our forward planning and also the transition of students.

Happy Summer

Jenny, Helen and Randal

School Council Report

The December School Council meeting was held this week. School Council President Paul Girdler passed on his thanks to the entire Council making special mention of Vice President Carlene Wilson and Treasurer Rohan Hawker. Jenny Crowle reported that December sees Moonee Ponds West Primary School very well placed to move forward in 2014. From an operational perspective, student placement is complete and a small number of staff have been appointed. We welcome; leading teacher Michelle Bove, and classroom teacher Ben McKenna who bring wonderful skills to the work of continual improvement at MPW. We farewell Dianne Woodburn, Sheenagh Callahan, Nicole O’Brien & Rose Bruno and thank them for their contributions and wish them well in their future endeavours. Amelia Thorne will take leave during 2014 to work at Bulleen Heights Primary. Rika Klein will take family leave. Further information about staffing was contained in the school newsletter dated 11.12.2013. The predicted enrolment for 2014 is between 517-520. There will be 22 classes and 5 specialist areas. The Professional Learning Team Leaders are looking at the student learning data and with the support and direction of Helen Thomas working on the first draft of the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP). The AIP sets the plan for 2014. Planning for the 2014 curriculum days is underway. We are thrilled to continue our focused work around spelling with Dianne Snowball. Dianne will work alongside Terri Campbell and our school coaches to continue to drive improvement in the area of writing. Jenny passed on her thanks to the staff and School Council for their hard work and commitment to the very best education for the students at Moonee Ponds West and made special mention of School Council President Paul Girdler and Assistant Principal’s Helen Thomas & Randal Symons and the wonderful office team, Sandra Monaghan and Denise Beckett. Jenny concluded with a very clear focus in 2014 on student learning, wellbeing, transitions and community partnerships.

School Treasurer Rohan Hawker presented the Financial Reports to Council. The school is in a very solid financial position thanks to the support of families and the work of our Resources Subcommittee. The 2014 Indicative budget was discussed and endorsed.
LIBRARY NEWS...LIBRARY NEWS...LIBRARY NEWS....
A very big THANK YOU to all the parents and staff helpers who helped throughout the year in the library.

There are still many overdue library books, literature set books and classroom books that need to be returned. Could you PLEASE help your child/ren find any books that belong to MPW and return ASAP.
Thank you

Term Dates and Curriculum Days 2014
Term Dates
Term 1
29th January—4th April
Term 2
22nd April—27th June
Term 3
14th July—19th September
Term 4
6th October—19th December
Curriculum Days
Tuesday, 28th January
Tuesday, 11th March
Friday, 23rd May
Monday, 3rd November

Lost Property
Friday, 13th December
Has your child lost any property throughout the year?
We encourage all families to have a look for any missing belongings over in the lost property area. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity at the end of term.

MPW Christmas Raffle
Our Christmas Raffle drawn this Friday so please get your tickets and money into the office.
We have some great prizes up for grabs:

- A $300 Myer voucher
- A Cadbury hamper
- An iPod shuffle
- A coffee hamper donated by Bertoncello Coffee
- A pack of kids’ DVDs

If you would like more tickets, please ask at the office.
The raffle will be drawn at the final assembly, on Friday 20th December, and winners will be contacted by phone (if not present)

Thanks very much to the school community for your support with fundraising this year.

Merry Christmas from Michelle Currie, Karen Korff, Lawana Coulson, Kath White and Shirley Stephens.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Children’s interiors and concepts
284 union road moonee ponds 3039
t 93706677
e info@spindleberry.com.au
w www.spindelberry.com.au

EKGA HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Come and try our Holiday Program, for school aged children grade prep—6. With gymnastics everyday and lots of other fantastic activities and Incursions! Some of our upcoming themes are Circus Skills, Harry Potter Science, Traditional Chinese Lion Dancing, Puppet making and much more! For full details and booking forms see our website www.ekga.gymnastics.org.au

The story of the Princess and the Prince

Travel to Fairy Tale Land and meet all your favourite fairy tale characters!

Meet the Not-Quite-Beautiful-Enough Princess and the Not-Quite-Brave-or-Charming-Enough Prince and join them as they set out to prove themselves worthy of being real fairy tale characters!

A fun-filled play featuring a lot of well-known fairy tale characters and some very wicked witches. Children will be delighted by the characters, song and bright imaginative props featured in this play, as well as learn about confidence, self-belief and determination.

LA MAMA COURTHOUSE
349 DRUMMOND ST, CARLTON
2PM, 16 – 19 JANUARY (THUR - SUN)
BOOKINGS - 03 9347 5142 OR LAMAMA.COM.AU

Need a babysitter?
I am a past student of Moonee Ponds West Primary School. I have just completed my VCE and am available for babysitting during this busy time of the year. My contact details are:

Olivia du Vergier
0433 243 433

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