WELCOME BACK
We would like to extend a warm welcome back to the community after the Term 3 holidays. We do hope you had a restful break and are looking forward to the wonderful term ahead. In the last week of term the three teaching teams had their planning days so there are many great learning opportunities in store for our students.

CURRICULUM DAY
A reminder that the 3rd November is a Curriculum Day. For the staff this will be a report writing day. Please note that Camp Australia will be operating a Curriculum Day program. Please see or contact the people at Camp Australia to reserve a place.

ENROLMENT PLANS AND CLASS PLACEMENT FOR 2015
The demand for places at Moonee Ponds West continues to be high. If you are leaving the school during Term 4 or at the end of 2014 please let the office know at your earliest convenience. This will greatly assist our forward planning and also the transition of those students leaving at the end of the year into their new schools.

If you have some information that your child’s teacher is unaware of that may assist with your child’s class placement please put your comments in writing and forward them to Jeff Lyon by Friday 31st October. This request will then be registered for consideration.

VICTORIAN STATE SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR
The Channel 7 broadcast of the event will be on Sunday 19th October at 3 p.m. We were very fortunate to be positioned in the front section of the Mass Choir so we are hoping to be very visible in the television broadcast.

JAPAN TOUR
Yesterday the students in Grade 4 and 5 took home a reminder notice with regards to the Japan Tour for 2015. The application forms are due back on the 24th October. Please note that it is not essential that the passport section of the application be completed. If you require an additional form or have any questions please email me at symons.randal.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP'S MEETING
A reminder that our next meeting is this Thursday 9th October at 7.00 p.m. in the Principal's Office.

Notices Sent Home
- Soundhouse Guitar & Sap Concert Notice - Participating students only
STUDENTS LEARN BEST IN SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS
The health and wellbeing of your child is an important part of their education. When schools and families work together, students feel safer, they’re likely to stay in school longer and they achieve better results. Like you, our schools treat the health and wellbeing of every child as a priority. There are a number of programs you can learn more about below that help your child feel safe, supported and positive. There are also tools to help your child build the skills to be ready for whatever the future holds.

**Bully Stoppers**
The Bully Stoppers program was developed in collaboration with some of Australia’s leading anti-bullying and cyber safety experts to develop information, resources and tools to help parents, teachers and students prevent or manage a bullying situation. If you want to learn more about how you can help tackle bullying, this is a great tool to use.

**eSmart**
Bullying is something that can happen just as easily outside of school as it can inside of it. The eSmart cyber safety partnership with the Alannah and Madeline Foundation has seen more than 1,800 schools undertake training to help their students stay safe online. You can learn more about this program, and even how to get your school involved.

**Every Day Counts**
It’s so important for your child’s education that they attend school every day. The Every Day Counts resource gives you advice on how to ensure that your child attends school as often as possible and won’t fall behind if they need to miss days.

**SAFEMinds: Schools and Families Enhancing Minds**
Kids need to feel mentally healthy in order to learn, and it’s up to their schools and parents to look out for the signs that suggest they might be having difficulty. SAFEMinds is a program that’s been developed in collaboration with headspace, Australia’s National Youth Mental Health Foundation. It provides training to parents and teachers on how to recognise the signs that a young person is experiencing mental health issues such as anxiety or depression, and how and when to intervene.

**Primary Welfare Officer Initiative**
The welfare of all kids is a primary focus for Victorian schools. That’s why there are more than 400 Primary Welfare Officers working in primary schools across the state, helping schools to be well-informed and ensuring that student welfare remains a top priority.

**Student Engagement and Inclusion Guidance**
Positive reinforcement is the best way to teach kids great habits and help them learn how to make good decisions for themselves as they get older. The Student Engagement and Inclusion Guidance program gives schools new advice and resources to help them promote and reward positive behaviour, rather than focus on punishing negative behaviour.

**TERM 3 CHESS AWARDS**
The Term 3 winners of the Chess Tournament are as follows;
1st Place - Michael C: Best and Fairest player (trophy)
2nd Place - Tom M: Silver Grasshopper
3rd Place - Patrick S: Bronze Grasshopper

Well done to these boys and all those students that participated in Chess in Term 3. An application form to play chess in Term 4 is in the community section of this newsletter.

Enjoy the rest of week

Jeff, Helen and Randal
EDUCATION WEEKLY NEWS

**MUSIC: COUNT US IN 2014**

Thursday 30th October @ 12.30pm

MPW will join over 500,000 students, teachers and parents from schools all over Australia to sing the same song, on the same day, at the same time. For more information about this great event and to listen to this year’s song, head to the MPW website or go to: [www.musiccountusin.org.au](http://www.musiccountusin.org.au)

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**Family Payments – Reminder**

Towards the end of last term a reminder letter was sent out to families with outstanding charges to finalize their school levies payments.

Payment would be appreciated and is **required as soon as possible**. The preferred method of payment is via **BPay** and the letter contains your family details and a **unique payment code**. Otherwise payments and contributions can be made in person or over the phone by cash, cheque or debit/credit card at the school’s office or by telephone 9370 6875.

Please contact the Business Manager Sandra Monaghan in the General Office if you believe that the statement is incorrect. Should meeting these requests present concerns, you are most welcome to discuss the matter in confidence with the Acting Principal Jeff Lyon.

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**Cadbury Chocolate Box Payment Is Due**

Thank you to those families who have already returned the chocolate drive fundraising payment and also to those families who donated in lieu of selling a chocolate box.

**All outstanding chocolate money is now due and is to be handed into the school office.**

Please note that the school cannot accept any unsold chocolates due to health regulations.

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**Student Banking News**

Student Banking will commence in **Term 4 on Thursday 9th October**.

Please ensure that the bank deposit slips are filled out correctly, in legible writing and with an ink pen. When receiving a letter to redeem an award, we advise students to redeem their reward immediately as items do change and sell out.

The following items are available in Term 4 - dollarmites moneybox, swimming bag, projector cup and sea streamers.

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**Hall News**

Thank you to those families who donate resources to the Hall Program. Donations of tissues, art, craft and construction (card board boxes) materials, as well as old computers and radios etc. are much appreciated.

Tinkering is back and the students are excited to be exploring and investigating.

The Hall Program is seeking donations of small pieces of wood and parents who may have skills in the area of wood work.

Please come in and see Jess if you would like to volunteer some time.
School Drop Off And Pick Up Zone Changes
City of Moonee Valley Council has placed new signage and line markings around the school drop off and pick up zones in both Athol and Eglington Streets. In order to be more visible the bays will now be marked green.

This will take effect from Monday 6th October, which is the start of Term 4.

We ask that parents/guardians and students be aware of these changes, and the above notices which Have been placed on the school gates.

These changes mean that drivers will NO LONGER be able to leave their vehicle to drop off students from the designated drop off and pick up zones.

Walk to School in October
Moonee Ponds West has signed up for the VicHealth Walk to School 2014, a month-long activity that encourages children to walk to and from school every day in October.

Walk to School encourages children to make walking part of their daily routine to improve fitness, friendships, the environment and their confidence.

Children can keep track of their walks, with the help of a parent or teacher, using the Walk to School website and app. Children can play an interactive game on the app and earn items for an imaginary Walk to School journey with each walk they complete. The app is available for free from the App Store and Google Play.

Walk to School is free, it’s fun and there are fantastic prizes for families and schools up for grabs. Ask your child’s teacher for an information sheet and consent form, or register your child at www.walktoschool.vic.gov.au.
Modern Spelling Strategies
Children can attain a real understanding about spelling and can apply what they have learned if they are guided in a process of inquiry and discovery. It is not useful for anyone when assessments such as a letter grade or numerical score are given or when a child is said to be a “good” or “poor” speller without being more specific.

Teachers look at their students spelling habits and attitudes, and at their use of phonic, visual, and meaning-based strategies to make their teaching more purposeful. Students are engaged in daily, sustained reading and writing experiences to support this process. The classroom and the home environment and the resources available for reading and writing affect children’s literacy development, including their learning about spelling. Models of different kinds of writing should be shown and read to your child. Children need to be exposed to a rich diversity of the forms and functions of language and you can encourage them to both read and write charts, signs, posters, directions, lists, messages and labels.

At home it is useful to have a writing area where access to lined and unlined paper of various sizes, shapes and colours, pens, pencil and markers; art materials; staplers, rulers, scissors, envelopes, date stamp, hole puncher and book-binding materials is readily available. For older children you might like to include newspapers, scrabble, boggle and commercial word games.

As a society, we value good spelling but the teaching of spelling should not be treated in such a way that students’ reluctance to make spelling mistakes turns into a fear of writing. There needs to be a sensible balance between children feeling free to write their ideas and being concerned with correct spelling. The spelling words assigned to children need to be relevant to their writing needs and help them develop an interest in language.

_Taken from Di Snowball and Faye Bolton, ‘Spelling K-8 Planning & Teaching.’_

**Spelling**
- Look up the word in class lists, dictionaries or other resources
- Ask someone how to spell the word
- See if you know how to spell a similar word
- Look, Say, Look Again & Spell, Cover, Write and Check the word

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**Soundhouse Concert Changes**
The date for the Keyboard concert has been changed to Tuesday 25\(^{\text{th}}\) November.
There has been no change to the SAP and Guitar concert which will be on Wednesday 22\(^{\text{nd}}\) October.

Both of the concerts will be held at MPW in the Performance Space commencing at 7.00 p.m.

A letter will be sent home later this week to those students participating in the Soundhouse concerts.

Sue O’Brien
COMMUNITY NEWS

OUT OF THE BLUE

HELP YOURSELF!
DON'T INVITE CRIME

Helping people protect themselves against crime.

MANY CRIMES ARE PREVENTABLE

The community is being asked to "Help Yourself" when it comes to high volume crime prevention as part of a joint campaign between Victoria Police and Department of Justice.

On average, Victorians fall victim to more than 45,000 cases of theft from motor vehicle and close to 30,000 residential burglaries each year.

Interestingly, a large percentage of these don't involve forced entry.

For more tips on safety visit the campaign website at helpyourself.vic.gov.au or on the internet.

Or visit Police vic.gov.au and search residentat security or motor vehicle safely.

Did you know its an offence to...

Leave your vehicle unlocked when you are not in attendance.

You may receive a fine of $108 or worse, a list of may what you can.

In nearly 20% of residential burglaries, entry was through unlocked doors and windows.

In more than 50% of thefts from cars, there was no sign of forced entry.

There are simple things you can do to help prevent crime and stay safe in your community.

- Make sure that doors and windows are locked.
- Don't leave your valuables on display to your house and remove them when leaving your car.
- Police are targeting thieves in your area, but we also need you to play a part and Help Yourself.

ISSUE 8 - OCTOBER 2014
MOONEE VALLEY
COMMUNITY NEWS

Chess Coaching

Come along to the 1st lesson for free!

Where: Performance Arts Room
When: Tuesday’s lunchtime
14th October – 9th December 2014
Cost: $85 (per child) or $65 for the 2nd Sibling
Benefits: Strategic thinking, improved self esteem, attention span in class, lateral thinking, team work and analytical skills.

We cater for all skill levels! Each week different lessons are taught & games are played. At the end of the term a trophy is awarded to the “Best & Fairest” player, a silver badge to 2nd place and a bronze badge to 3rd place.

To enrol your child please make a payment of $85 by Friday 17th October.

For more info contact Phil Hooton on mobile number 0421 901 530

Please pay online or forward payment/form inside an Envelope Marked “Chess Coaching” to Phil at chess club or school office.

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Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
Grade: __________ Phone: __________
School: __________ Email: __________
Payment Due: Friday 17th October

CHEQUE: made payable to “Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd”
EFT: Account Name: Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd
BANK: CBA BSB: 063201 ACC #: 1004 9289

$85.00 Please Tick Payment Method

CHEQUE: [ ]
EFT: [ ]
CASH: [ ]

(please put school initials & child’s name on your transaction)