Principal’s Report

School Self-Evaluation

Next term our school will undertake a Peer Review. In preparation for the review with our external reviewer and panel, our staff have been working on the School Self Evaluation (SSE) process. Families and students have also had input into the SSE through consultation sessions. On Monday night our SSE Report and data were shared with the Education Subcommittee of School Council.

Thank you to the staff and community members who attended and for their feedback and input into the discussion. This will be presented to our council at an extraordinary meeting on Monday 15th September at 7.30 p.m.

The consultation report is currently being finalised by our external facilitator and will be presented back to the leadership team and then School Council. This will then be forwarded to our reviewer together with the SSE report, data and the Terms of Reference document. The Terms of Reference document will guide the discussion on the review day. As a result of the SSE, Peer Review and consultation with our stake holders our next Strategic Plan will be drafted in Term 4 2014.

Thank you to all the staff for their involvement in this important process over Term 3. Particularly, to the leaders of the Professional Learning Teams and Specialists; Vicki, Mandy, Michelle, Randal, Sue and Diana for leading their teams throughout this process. Thank you to Kim who lead the staff session and to both Kim and Justine who wrote aspects of the report and for proofreading the final documents. It is a great report and celebrates the wonderful achievements our school has made over the course of the Strategic Plan 2011-2014. The report also highlights areas for future focus and improvement.

Victorian State Schools Spectacular

Only 3 sleeps to the big event...

This Saturday 13th September 2014, our Senior Choir will be involved in the Victorian State Schools Spectacular.

This event is one of the largest performing arts events in Australia. The choir have been rehearsing for many weeks under the guidance of our choir leader Kate Ridgway.

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Principal’s Report Continued

VSSS event is a professionally staged production performed at Hisense Arena to an audience of over 10,000 people. The Spectacular includes a cast of almost 3000 Victorian government school students, working towards a common goal in a collaborative, competition-free environment. Its dual aim is to provide an invaluable performing arts opportunity to Victoria’s government school students and to showcase the enormous talent that exists in our schools. This all comes together in a 2-3 hour scripted show that celebrates a diversity of performance mediums, including choir, dance, vocal, drama, and orchestra. We will attend two full day Dress Rehearsals on Thursday and Friday.

Thank you to Kate Ridgway and Melissa Lofts (parent of Miah) for their enormous work and commitment in preparing the students. Thank you to the staff (Chris, Ben, Emma and Sue) that have assisted by attending rehearsals and supervising the choir back at school.

The performances are at 1 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. General Admission Tickets are still available through Ticketek Adult - $40, Concession - $30 and Child Under 15 - $20.

Parenting Ideas Website
We are school members of the Michael Grose Parenting Ideas website; the website has great information for families and schools about positive parenting and child development.
Michael is the author of 8 parenting books, including his new release Thriving! (which is in our school ‘parent’ library) and the best-selling Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change it. Another text in our library worth reading is titled Working parents, it focuses on how can you raise kids well if you are a busy working parent?

Michael has popular parenting columns in newspapers and magazines across Australia; he also has a segment on ABC Radio. Michael has an education background, and holds a Master of Educational Studies with research into what makes healthy families tick. Go to;

5/6 Camp Nillahcootie
Last Friday, the first camping group arrived back happy and safe but a little weary. This week our second group of 5/6 campers from Rooms 13, 14 and 18 departed and the report from camp is it has been a bit wet this week.

Thank you to the grade teachers and other staff from various levels together with pre-service teachers for attending last week and this week. We appreciate their commitment and time to support the MPW camp program.

Enjoy the rest of week,
Jeff and Helen

Music: Count Us In - Thursday 30th October @ 12.30 p.m.

Music: Count Us In is about celebrating the benefits of music education in Australian schools.

Decades of research shows that learning music can help students’ self-confidence, self-discipline and teamwork. It can help students engage in school, can improve school attendance and can even help students make healthy life choices. There are also strong links between music learning and academic skills in literacy and numeracy. Research shows that music is unique in its flow-on benefits to students who learn it.

So what are we waiting for ..... Let's get singing!!!!!

"Let me paint you a song if you promise to sing along"
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 pink.

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.

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.

Drivers can still drop off and pick up students by moving forward within the queue of vehicles. This will improve both the functionality of these zones and more importantly the safety of all students.

Student Banking

The last day for all student banking is this Thursday 11th September.

No student banking will be processed during the last week of Term 3. Student Banking will commence in Term 4 on Thursday 9th October.

Students receive a rewards form from the school office to complete, once they have made 10 consecutive deposits.

Although tokens are given each week as an incentive to the students, please note that we refer to the Commonwealth Bank student deposit statement to advise students when they can redeem their 10 tokens for 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.

As instructed by the bank, tokens cannot be ‘saved’ for use for the following school year.
Parents/Guardians/Students

To comply with SunSmart guidelines, sun protection including approved sunhats are to be used from ‘September to the end of April’.

Following DEECD guidelines all students are now required to wear a sun hat when outside. If students do not have the appropriate hat (baseball caps are not permitted) they will be kept indoors or required to play under shaded areas during recess, lunch, PE and sport events.

School sunhats can be purchased from the school office on the following days - Tuesday and Thursday. An order can be dropped off on the other school days.

- Slouch Hat (Wide brimmed with a chin strap) $10
- Bucket Hat (Pull down no chin strap) $10

Both style of sunhats come in the following sizes: Small, Medium, Large.
**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](http://www.walktoschool.vic.gov.au).

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**MVIMP Concert**

There will be a Moonee Ponds West MVIMP concert held on...

**Thursday 18th September**

at 7.00 p.m. in the MPW Gym

All students who participate in the MVIMP Program will perform on the night, which will conclude with a set by the fabulous Moonee Ponds West Band!

**All families are welcome to come along and enjoy the evening.**

We hope to see you there!

*Performers will need to arrive between 6.30 p.m. - 6.45 p.m. and head towards the staffroom to set up and get ready. Good luck!*

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**Best Dressed Egg**

To celebrate the MPW Show Day on Wednesday 17th September, the Junior School Council (JSC) is running a competition for the **Best Dressed Egg**.

If you would like to enter the competition, please bring your decorated egg to the gym on Show Day. Please make sure that your egg is hard boiled.

**Make sure your name and room number is on your egg!**

Eggs will be judged by our JSC representatives and winners will be announced at assembly.

Have fun!
Why do children need to spell?
The overall goals in spelling should be for children to understand that the primary purpose for learning about spelling is so that:

- others can read their writing
- know that their writing is valued regardless of the stage of development of their spelling
- develop an interest in words and spelling and want to do their best
- learn how to apply spelling strategies that will help them to write or learn any word
- learn specific words that they use frequently and so become able to correctly spell these word automatically
- know how to use a variety of resources to help with spelling

Children must be given many opportunities to write for various purposes and audiences and in different genres. This gives them the chance to try out unknown words, figuring out ways to spell them and how to use various resources for finding words and checking spelling and to practice new spelling strategies that they have learned. If the type of writing is limited then the range of learning is also limited.

When children are encouraged to do a variety of types of writing – letters or postcards, stories, non fiction pieces about things they know or want to learn about, instructions, signs or messages - they learn much more about all aspects of writing, including spelling. To enable this to happen, different kinds of writing paper and tools need to be available so that children may choose the material to suit the purpose of their writing.

**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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**Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014**

Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014 will close this Friday 12th September 2014. No data can be entered online after this date.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to all the students who have completed the challenge however there are still some students that need to complete by this Friday.

In order for a student to receive the Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge certificate they will need to complete reading the required number of books and have them listed and verified online. It would be much appreciated if parents could please encourage and assist their child to complete this process ASAP.

Parents please check that all details entered online are correct, especially the spelling of your child’s first name and surname that will go on the certificate. If any details are incorrect, you can go online to make the amendments or come see me at the school library.

Thank you.

Claudia Stolfo
Library Co-ordinator
3D Shapes
Last Wednesday Room 20 made 3D shapes that our teacher Lisa gave us. We made them from paper which had nets printed on them. We made cubes, cuboids, triangular-based pyramids, pentagonal and triangular prisms, cylinders, dodecahedra and even an icosahedron!

It was an interesting and fun activity, but some shapes were hard. We have also measured angles in athletes’ bodies and made beautiful tessellated patterns.

Sports Science
For our topic on Sports Science, we have all set personal goals to achieve, such as to hold a plank for longer than 4 minutes, improve our accuracy in shooting basketballs or to run 50m sprints in under 10 seconds.

We go out twice a week to train and we are all improving!
Are You Looking For A Nanny?

My name is Ryan. I am 22 years old and currently living in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I would like to be a Nanny starting around the beginning of October for about 6 months to 1 year. I have been a babysitter and nanny since I was very young. I have always enjoyed being with kids, and this began when I started taking care of my little sister Maggie, who is now almost 14 years old.

I have experience working with all different ages of kids. While attending University, I studied abroad in Ireland and worked in a schoolhouse teaching kids from grade 7 to grade 12. I also have experience with kids of much younger ages. I lived and worked in the Dominican Republic with nutrient-deficient children between the ages of 6 all the way down to newborns. During this service project, I lived in the same house with these children, and I loved the relationship built by being there at all hours of the day. I also have coached boys and girls in youth soccer teams and worked as a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

I love to travel, play sports, go to movies, cook and listen to music. I love meeting new people and learning about new cultures. I have family in Australia (I have a cousin who attends your school, Moonee Ponds West) and have visited about 6 times before. Australia is one of my favourite places in the world.

I would be happy to cook and I have no problem doing some housework, e.g., tidying children’s toys, cleaning up after meals, etc. I have my driver’s license and will seek an international license that would allow me to drive if needed.

I want to be a Nanny because I love children and meeting new people. An additional benefit would be no longer being a visitor, but immersing myself in a new culture. I’m looking forward to this experience and being part of a family.

Should you have any queries or require further information please email me on ryan.tobin@aquinas.edu