**Principal’s Report**

### Music Incursion

Today we had our whole school music incursions with Steve Shultz. During the sessions the students used a range of instruments to take part in the Big Samba. The program was based on Brazilian Carnival street music. We thank the parents who attended and Bree for making the gym available. We look forward to presenting our second music incursion on **Monday the 1st June** with Bernard Mangakahia: Mana – The Spirit of Polynesia.

### Curriculum Day

Yesterday was our school’s second Curriculum Day for the year. During the day all staff took part in the Asthma training. You may be aware that our school is an accredited Asthma Friendly School. During the day various Professional Learning Teams outlined the goals and targets for their areas for the new School Strategic Plan. We also accessed our new school reporting program with a brief training session on its features. The last hour of the day enabled staff to complete the final ‘handover’ session. This gave time for staff members to meet with student’s teachers from last year so as to complete the profile of each student.

There were some children who arrived at school yesterday expecting a normal school day. A reminder that Curriculum Days are advertised in the newsletter as well as through our website. While you’re speaking with other families could you ask if they have subscribed to receive a newsletter reminder to ensure our community is well informed.

### Education Sub-Committee

A reminder that an extraordinary meeting of the Education Sub-committee will take place this coming Monday, March 16th at 7:00 PM to discuss in detail the new School Strategic Plan.

### The History of Education in Victoria

A free exhibition exploring the history of education in Victoria has opened at the Old Treasury Building Museum.

The exhibition features photos, videos, text books and memorabilia of Victorian schools from the late 1800s to the present time and looks at school life before and after the 1872 Education Act.

The Act made education free, secular and compulsory which was a first in the world and a first of its kind. More than 600 schools were built across Victoria within five years of the implementation of the Act.

*Principal’s Report continues over page...*
The exhibition also looks at the role of Aboriginal schools, migrant education, women in education, teaching in the bush and the contribution schools made to World War I. A total of 753 teachers enlisted in World War I and 146 died. During that time Victorian Director of Education Frank Tate established the War Relief Fund which raised 410,000 pounds to comfort soldiers, nurses, and support widows and orphans. Students raised the money through various activities including selling rabbit skins, selling leeches to hospitals, and growing and selling vegetables. The exhibition runs from March until September 2015.

Enjoy the rest of the week.
Jeff, Fiona and Randal

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### Class Representatives for 2015

A reminder of the morning tea on the 13th March (Friday) at 9.00 a.m. to meet each Class Rep and to outline our work for the year. Parent Rep’s are listed on the right hand side. One of the first tasks of each rep is to compile and distribute a Friendship List.

If you haven’t done so already could you RSVP to Symons.randal.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

### Movie Night

Please note that the Movie Night will now take place on the 17th April, 2015.

### Community Partnerships Form

Thanks to the 75 families who have completed the online form. If you haven’t yet we ask that you do so by the end of this week. The address is [http://tinyurl.com/ktrp6ya](http://tinyurl.com/ktrp6ya) and it should take about 5-10 minutes to complete. At the end of the week the form will close.
PARENT HELPER’S PROGRAMME
As part of our commitment to best practice the school will conduct a Parent Helpers Program. This program will be conducted over three sessions and will have focus on how you can best assist the classroom teacher. Michelle Bové, Leading Teacher English will conduct these sessions in the Community room.

An outline of the program involves:
Thursday 12th March 9.00 - 10.00am
Session 1. Overview of Curriculum & Reading

Thursday 19th March 9.00 - 10.00am
Session 2. Writing

Thursday 26th March 9.00 - 10.00am
Session 3. Spelling & Speaking and Listening

To facilitate planning for these sessions, please complete and return the attendance slip below, to the office, by Friday 6th March. Please note places are limited.

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Classroom Helpers Training Session
Please return slip to the office by Friday 6th March, 2015

Name of adult/s attending ________________________________
Grade that your child/ren is/are in _______________________
Name of child: _________________________________________
Room Number: _______________________________
**SOUNDBOUSH**

There will be a Soundhouse Singing performance at assembly on *Monday the 16th of March.*
We will be showcasing some of the older SAP students as well as doing a group performance, featuring our Guitar teacher Pat! We invite you all to come along and listen to our fabulous performers!

**LIBRARY—HELP NEEDED**

Our library here at Moonee Ponds is looking for helpers! We would be very grateful if anyone can spare some time to help keep our library in its best condition.
If anyone is free to help us re-shelve or cover books please pop into the library any time and see Michele. Your support would be very much appreciated.

Thank You

Good luck to Heather from Room 16 who will be taking on the *Walk in Her Shoes Challenge* from *16th March—22nd March.*
Heather will be aiming to walk 25km over one week to raise money to support women and girls in the third world who have to travel long distances every day to access life’s essentials such as water, food and healthcare.

The money raised will give them the opportunity to get an education and earn an income—and escape the devastating cycle of poverty.

If you would like to sponsor Heather or register to take part in the Challenge yourself, please visit [www.carewihs.org.au](http://www.carewihs.org.au)

Good luck and well done Heather!
**MOVIE NIGHT**

We will be holding our annual Movie Night on **Friday 17th of April at 6.30pm.**

The movie this year is **The Lego Movie!**

Tickets are $30 per family (2 adults and unlimited children) or $10 per adult and $7 per child.

Doors will open at 5.30 so come early to get your food and drinks! There will be a sausage sizzle, drinks and sweets stand.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help out with the lolly/sausage stands or to serve drinks (RSA certificate required for serving of alcohol), please contact Sandra in the office.

*Everything is awesome!*

**WALKING SCHOOL BUS STARTING AT MOONEE PONDS WEST**

**New route - Learmonth Street route**

Starting point: Top of Learmonth Street (Holmes Road end).
Walk down Learmonth St to Winchester St and cross at the T-intersection.
Turn left at Laura Street and walk down the hill to Eglinton Street.
Cross Eglinton St at the roundabout.
Walk down Eglinton St (on the left hand side) to MPW.

****Bus can pick up children along the way*****

Route will commence Monday 13 April 2015 (first day back after school holidays)

Will operate Monday and Tuesday mornings to begin with departing at 8.30am

We have one volunteer and need at least one more to start the route.

**To be a volunteer... what do I need to do?**
1. Attend a one off induction session with Moonee Valley City Council (approx. 45 minutes)
2. Hold a Working with Children Check
3. Walk the students to school, as part of a roster.

If you are available one of those mornings or both and interested becoming a volunteer or interested in having your child walk on the route please:

Come and have a chat to Lisa from Moonee Valley City Council on Monday 16 March at 8.45am in the general office area or contact Lisa on 9243 8762 or lbagnati@mvcc.vic.gov.au. Lisa will also be briefly speaking at Assembly that morning to the children.

Or if you have a different route in mind – we can start more than one route.

**Lets get the Walking School Bus up and running at Moonee Ponds West.**
COMMUNITY NEWS

Marby Lions are Ready for Season 2015

The MLFC has been working hard to build a strong community presence over the past 8 years focused on building, character, respect and fair play. We are pleased to announce the club's very close to reaching our milestone target of players to field a full compliment of teams. If you are looking for an environment based on strong family values which encourages the development of children to become strong community citizens then the MLFC should be your destination from now and beyond.

All players and families who wish to continue the journey with the club should come down to training on a Monday and Friday at 5:45pm at Marby Park or go online - www.marby-lions.com and register.

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Marching into Footy Club
On The Brandon Park Old Park Rd, Moorabbin Park
www.marby-lions.com

WANTED

Baby to Observe

Hello! I am a social worker currently working with mothers and babies and studying a Masters of Infant Mental Health at Melbourne University. As part of my study I need to complete an 'infant observation'. This involves observing a baby within a natural family for one hour once a week for the academic year (around 8 months). As an observer I would not play the role of an 'expert' but would be trying to see how that normal baby develops and grows in the context of their family relationships. You would not need to do anything out of the ordinary with your baby, but just do as you normally would while I am there.

If you are expecting a baby around March/April and you think you and your family could help me with this project please contact the number below and we can talk more about it.

Because this is a voluntary arrangement, you can of course discontinue at any time should you wish to do so.

Thank You,
Melanie

You are invited to
Gilmore College For Girls
90th Celebration
1925 - 2015

To celebrate this milestone we are putting together a showcase of some of the history and culture that typifies the education outcomes achieved by the school over the last 90 years. There will be an array of performances from past and present students along with art works and interesting historical items.

We welcome all past, present and future students, former and current staff members, and general public to come and help celebrate the best of girls education in the west.

March 28
Gilmore College For Girls
208 Barbury Street, Footscray

Phone: (03) 9987 3888
Register Online:
www.gilmorecollegeforgirls.eventbrite.com.au

Hosting Is Fun!

Students Arriving In July

Call Us On
1300 884 733

OR Email sylvia.sally@wep.org.au

www.wep.org.au

Mount Alexander College

OPEN DAY

19 April 11am - 1pm

Principal's Address 11am

Tours every Wednesday 9am

ph: 9376 1622

www.mountalexandercollege.vic.edu.au