SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

In 2015 we have five Parent Member vacancies and two DEECD Employee vacancies for the two year term of office.

The role of School Council as outlined in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 is to set the long term future for the school while maintaining an overview of the school’s operation. The Principal is responsible for the management of the school and acts as the Executive Officer of Council.

School Council Responsibilities can include:

- Contributing to the development of the School Strategic Plan
- Approving the annual budget
- Working with the school to develop, review and update policies
- Representing the views of the school community
- Arranging for things required for the running of the school
- Raising money for the school needs
- Making sure the school grounds and buildings are maintained
- Creating interest in the school within the community

The timeline for the nomination process is as follows:

- Nomination forms will be available from the Office Friday 13th February
- Completed nomination forms are to be returned to the Office and receipted
- Nominations close at 4.00pm on Friday 20th February
- A list of candidates and nominators will be posted on the School’s Office door by Friday 20th of February
- If an election is required, ballots will be distributed on or before Wednesday 25th February
- If an election is required ballots will close at 4.00pm on Thursday 5th March

Any questions can be directed to School Council Secretary Sandra Monaghan via the school office.

GRADE 5/6 INFORMATION EVENING

Last night the 5/6 Team lead by Ryan Vermeulen, ran a very successfully attended Information Evening. We’d like to thank the 5/6 team along with Bree White who represented the Specialist Team for their preparation, presentation and commitment to the teaching and learning offered to our students in this area of the school. Please find a PDF version of the presentation on the ‘Newsletter’ page of our website.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

If you haven’t could you ensure you have sent your child’s ‘2015 Permissions Form’ to school. On the last page of the notice there is a brief online form we ask all families to complete. If you haven’t done so already here is the link- http://tinyurl.com/ktrp6ya
COMMUNICATION

At MPW we value effective, two-way communication between home and school. We do this in a number of ways, the school’s newsletter is one. At this stage it goes out each week on a Wednesday. If you haven’t already could you subscribe to receive an email alert. The link can be found on the front page of our website [http://mooneewestps.vic.edu.au/](http://mooneewestps.vic.edu.au/) on the right hand side under the heading ‘NEWSLETTER’ – Subscribe to Newsletter. As well MPW has Facebook - [https://www.facebook.com/MPWPSOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/MPWPSOfficial) and Twitter accounts - [https://twitter.com/MPWPSOfficial](https://twitter.com/MPWPSOfficial). If you’re not already we’d like you to ‘Like’ and ‘Follow’ us. Our school’s website has a range of information including a calendar which list events relevant to students and families, an A-Z outlining various aspects of school life at Moonee Ponds West, a link to the notices sent home and more. If there is information you would like to see added please email symons.randal.j@edumail.vic.gov.au with these. At school we have a tv in the reception area which among others highlights events and information relevant to the 2015 school year. On the playground side of the Administration Building is a notice board. Rather than having notices placed all around the school this is the central place for additional communication.

Over the coming months communication processes will be reviewed. At the end of 2014 we completed a School Self Evaluation which incorporated sessions with parents facilitated by an external consultant. As a result we have various forms of data to direct this work. We look forward to involving all members of our community with this improvement strategy.

One mechanism which we’re very pleased to announce is a soon to be released app to assist in sending out reminder notifications. It is called ‘Update-ed’ and will be available for both iPhone and android smart phones. The app has been developed by the Sponsor Ed company who produce our school’s website. Along with the app will come a significant update to our website. Again we look forward to these improvements.

SUN SMART

The weather is certainly putting on a good show reminding us what summer is all about! If you can see skin, UV can reach it.

From September to the end of April, all students and staff:

- Wear cool, loose fitting clothing that covers as much skin as possible
- Wear a sun protective hat for all outdoor activities
- Apply SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum sunscreen during the day
- Have access to shady play spaces

Teachers at school are not expected to apply sunscreen to students however we remind children to apply sunscreen before they go outside. Regular use of sunscreen has been shown to reduce the incidence of melanoma and squamous cell carcinoma, both in the short and long term. We have a supply of sunscreen in the classrooms and at specialist classes. If you are bringing sunscreen from home choose SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen. Make sure it is within its use-by date and is stored below 30 degrees. It is best to apply a generous amount of sunscreen to exposed skin around 20 minutes before going outdoors. Sunscreen should be reapplied every two hours even if the stated level of water resistance

Enjoy the week,
Jeff, Fiona and Randal
MOONEE PONDS WEST STUDENTS LISTED ON THE WW1 HONOURS BOARD

As information comes to hand throughout the year, from time to time we will be including in the newsletter biographical details and notes about the former students who served in World War 1 and who are listed on the school honour board. Thank you to Anna Schultz for this contribution.

Victor Graham

Last year when we were putting an attic into our Edwardian house in Athol Street, we found a small piece of wood nailed to one of the rafters. In a child’s hand it reads “This house was built in May 1912. Victor Graham”. Evidently it had sat there untouched for a hundred years. I’ve done a little bit of research and I now know that this Victor Graham was at that time a student at Moonee Ponds West prior to he and his brother, Henry, enlisting and going to WW1. Victor and Henry are named on the MPW Honour Board in the Hall area. He served on the western front in France, notably at Pozieres and then he was captured and was a POW in Germany for a couple of years before returning home. What is particularly interesting about Victor is that he wrote a diary and it is now held in the State Library of Victoria (cf. below).

Synopsis: voyage from Alexandria to Marseilles on the Oriana; life in camp at Etaples; a zeppelin raid on 25 Apr. 1916; digging cable trenches at Neuve Eglise; an illicit visit to Baileul, June 1916; assisting artillery men at Plecy St., Pozienle and Armentieres; desolation of Pozieres; battle of Sausage Gully and work as a stretcher bearer; address by General Sir William Birdwood; march to Albert and encounter with George V and Prince of Wales; encounter with German prisoners of war in the Chalk Pit; attack on Mouquet Farme and capture by Germans, 26 Aug. 1916. Also, a poem titled Mouquet Farme, and a prose piece titled Tribute to the Chalk Pit, written from the Pit’s perspective and describing its role in the war.

Biographical note: Victor Graham, a motor mechanic of Moonee Ponds, Vic., enlisted on 10 July 1915 (no. 3817) as a private with the 21st Battalion; and was repatriated to Australia on 28 Mar. 1919.

Curriculum Days 2015

- Wednesday 28th January - (Teachers staff return)
- Tuesday 10th March
- Friday 22nd May
- Monday 2nd November

Term Dates 2015

- Term One  29th January—Friday 27th March
- Term Two  13th April—Friday 26th June
- Term Three  13th July—Friday 18th September
- Term Four  5th October—Friday 18th December

LIBRARY NEWS

A session dedicated to book borrowing occurs every week and is 30 minutes in duration.
The Library encourages and supports the use of library bags.
Book bags help to protect books and prevents losing and misplacing books.

FAMILY ACCOUNTS

Every family will receive a statement of account and fee levy form on Thursday 12th of February. Our preferred method of payment is by Bpay. On your account it will have your unique family reference. Please quote that on payment. Please notify the Office by email on moonee.ponds.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au if you are paying voluntary contributions so that your payment can be allocated accordingly. Alternatively it will be allocated by the School. If you have questions at all regarding your fees or account please contact Sandra Monaghan in the Office.
Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is something that many of you will have heard of but there may be others who have not. It is a severe life threatening allergic reaction and up to two percent of the population have it. The most common causes in young children are allergies to eggs, nuts, cows milk, bee or other insect stings and some drugs. A reaction can develop within minutes of exposure to the allergen and will include one or more of the following symptoms: hives or welts, a tingling feeling around the mouth, abdominal pain, vomiting and/or diarrhoea, facial swelling, cough or wheeze, difficulty swallowing or breathing, loss of consciousness or collapse. It is obvious that we need to be proactive in the steps we take in preventing a possible reaction and that we realise that we all share some responsibility for this. We have students at our school who have an anaphylactic reaction to various items. Whilst nuts, for example can bring on a reaction, so too can anything that contains a nut oil and in some instances, the anaphylactic child may only be near the allergen or touch the hand of someone who has just eaten a peanut butter sandwich.

How have we managed this and what practices are in place to minimise the risks?

- Food sharing between students - as in I’ll swap your sandwich for mine, is a definite no.
- The students will eat play lunch and lunch inside, with the exception being fresh fruit.

We suggest that peanut butter and Nutella come off the list of foods that come from home to school.

Most children who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis no matter how young, know that they have this to deal with and life goes on normally for them. They will have been well “drilled” by their families and they know what they can and can’t have. Whilst this is true, our responsibility is to take every step we can in order to prevent an accidental reaction. If a student does have a reaction there is a window of time for us to give them a shot of adrenaline, via an Epipen. Our staff members have been trained in its administration.

As a school community, if we all understand and work together, we can ensure that our school is as safe as it can be for everyone.

This information has been sourced from Anaphylaxis – A Life Threatening Reaction. A publication of the Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne.
COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE TRIAL
FOOTBALL STAR ACADEMY @ MOONEE PONDS WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
Football Star Academy are offering all students at MPWPS a FREE TRIAL this Saturday 7th February between 9am-12noon.
To book your child’s FREE TRIAL, please call Coach Robbie on 0422 853 411.

SPECIAL OFFER - GIRLS ONLY CLINIC; TERM 1
To increase numbers in our Girls Only Clinic, we are offering a huge saving!
Book your daughter in for Term 1 for just $100 (usually $220!!).
Call Coach Robbie on 0422 853 411 with any questions and to make a booking.
www.footballstaracademy.com.au

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SOCCEROOS ON WINNING THE 2015 ASIAN CUP - WHAT A SUPER EFFORT!

SPECIALIZED CHESS COACHING
Moonee Ponds West Primary is in a position to offer chess lessons from Checkmate Chess Coaching. Each week different lessons are taught such as tactics, strategies, special moves, traps and openings that will help players improve their game. Children are then paired up in a fun tournament play off where they can put into practice their new skills and knowledge.
All skill levels are catered for!
Chess has many educational benefits such as improving concentration, problem solving, pattern visualization, analytical skills, memory recall, concentration & self esteem.
Most importantly it’s about having fun learning how to play the world’s most popular mind sport!
DAY: Tuesdays - lunchtime
DATES: 3rd February - 24th March
LOCATION: Performance Space
PRIZES: Awarded to top players (Trophy & badges)
COST: $85 eft or cheque $65 for 2nd Sibling
For more information contact: Phil Hooton on 0421 901 530
EFT DETAILS: Bank: Commonwealth Bank
Acc Name: Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd
BSB: 063201 Acc #: 1004 9289
***please put School initials & Child’s name on transaction***
CHEQUES: Made payable to: “Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd.”
Post to: 8 Aquilae Street Ocean Grove 3226
Please email section below to phil@lifecoaches.com.au by Tuesday 10th Feb.
Numbers are limited so FIFS!!

-----------------------------

PIANO LESSONS

- Local Moonee Ponds studio
- Friendly student concerts each term – Free of Charge
- 4 Years of teaching experience
- Beginners through advanced

Please call or email:
0439 516 054
nickslnay@gmail.com
Piano Teacher
Piano Lessons
Nick Slaney
BMus, MMus
Master of Music,
University of Melbourne
Working with Children Check

--------------------------------

School Name:
Child’s Full Name:
Phone:
Class:
Email Address:
$85 EFT: □ or $85 Cheque: □ Payment Due: 10/02/2014
Hula hooping disco
Design and create your own hula hoop in the first session and then get into the magical world of spinning and disco dancing with your new hoop. A creative and fun way to keep the kids active and inspired. Suitable for children aged 5 to 12 years. Bookings essential.

Location: Bowes Avenue Community Centre, Airport West
Dates: Monday, 9 February (includes hoop making), 16 February, 23 February, 2 March
Time: 4.45pm–5.45pm (4 sessions)
Cost: $16 for the program OR $5 per session (sibling(s) pay only half price)
Bookings: 8325 1890 or BowesAvCC@mvcc.vic.gov.au

Making carnival masks
Get crafty and design your own carnival mask that can be used for special occasions or just for fun! Using paper mache techniques, paint, glue and sparkly decorations, the kids will have a chance to express their individual creativity in two workshops. They will be able to take their amazing artwork home at the end of the second session. All materials provided by the Centre. Bookings essential.

Location: Bowes Avenue Community Centre, Airport West
Dates: Monday, 16 and 23 March
Time: 4.15pm–5.45pm
Cost: $8 for both sessions (sibling(s) pay only half price)
Bookings: 8325 1890 or BowesAvCC@mvcc.vic.gov.au