Principal’s Report

School Elections 2013

The role of School Council as outlined in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 is one of helping to set the long term future for the school and maintaining oversight 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 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 needed for the running of the school
- Raising money for things the school needs
- Making sure the school grounds and buildings are maintained
- Creating positive interest in the school within the community.

The Moonee Ponds West School Council is a wonderfully supportive group who work diligently to assist the school to work towards achieving the goals in our Strategic Plan. With a new Council year commencing in March I would like to announce the new members of Council for 2013.

Declaration of Nominees Elected

I declare the following nominees duly elected to the Moonee Ponds West Primary School Council for a two year period 2013-2015;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>No. of Vacancies</th>
<th>Nominees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent Members</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1) Chris Connelly</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>2) Kirsty Downes</td>
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<td>3) Paul Girdler</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>4) Rohan Hawker</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5) Jo Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEECD Employees</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1) Sheenagh Callahan</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2) Helen Thomas</td>
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The next School Council meeting will be held on Monday 18th March 2013 in the Principal’s Office (Admin Building) at 7.30pm

At this meeting we will hold elections for President, Vice President & Treasurer. The retiring school council members will also be in attendance on this night.

Congratulations to our new Councillors.

Principal’s Report Continues over the page..

NOTICES FOR PARENTS
- School Levies
- Hand, Foot and Mouth Alert
- Head Lice Alert
- District Swimming

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For full calendar go to mooneewestps.vic.edu.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 28th Thu</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Lorraine Wilson Information Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 1st Fri</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>District swimming @ Queens Park Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 1st Fri</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Movie Night on the Tiger Turf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 4th Mon</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 4th Mon</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Education Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 8th Fri</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Curriculum Day—No school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 11th Mon</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Labour Day—No school</td>
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Principal’s report continued..

Education Subcommittee
On Monday 4th March 2013 the Education Sub Committee of School Council will meet in the Conference room at 7pm. At this meeting Sue Phillips, our Creative Arts Teacher will facilitate a short presentation on the DAX Program. We will discuss the plan for the audit of our school policies. All members of the school community are welcome to attend these meetings. If you are not a regular member of the committee and you would like the agenda forwarded to you please email thomas.helen.h@edumail.vic.gov.au and the necessary paperwork can be sent through.

Parent Forum Terri Campbell
On Monday night our literacy consultant Terri Campbell presented a session to our community on the writing program at MPW. She spoke about the ‘6 traits of writing’. Terri spoke about the ways parents can assist their child with writing at home. Terri also shared with the group the journey she has taken the whole staff on in terms of professional development over the past couple of years. It was a very well attended session and the feedback from those present was fantastic. This session followed on from a well-attended session held last year. The Power Points from both presentations are available on our school website. Terri will be back for a remaining session next week working in the 1/2 area of the school as well as an after school staff meeting.

Lorraine Wilson Reading Session
On Thursday Lorraine Wilson will present a session on Reading to our school community. It is to be held in the Performance Space at 9.15-11.00am. It is not too late to register for the session. Childcare is available from 9.10-11.00am on the day in the Community Room. We have organised two of our Education Support team to supervise the childcare. Please complete the notice that was sent home recently advertising the session and return to the school office as soon as possible.

Disabled parking
We ask that families refrain from parking in the designated disabled parking bays around the school. Please be considerate of families needing to access these spaces before and after school.

Before and After School Supervision of yard
The yard is supervised by yard duty teachers before school from 8.45-9.00am and after school from 3.30-3.45pm. It is great to see so many families accessing the play equipment and Tiger Turf outside of these times and for the safety of all students we ask that where appropriate the children be carefully supervised.

Basket Tea
A big thanks to everyone who attended last Friday night’s Basket Tea. It was a great evening, very relaxing and an opportunity for many families to catch up after the holiday break. It was even more enjoyable with our staff member, Ryan Vermeulen and his lead singer, Hugh, entertaining the crowd.

Movie Night
Just a reminder about our Movie Night this Friday. It begins at 6.30 p.m. on the Tiger Turf. Thanks goes to Karen, Michelle, Kath and Lawana for organising what will no doubt be a very enjoyable evening. If you haven’t purchased your tickets yet it’s not too late.

Assembly
If you were at assembly on Monday you were probably as impressed by the MCs and speakers as we were. A highlight were four students from Room 17 or shared their ‘I am’ pieces. They were extremely honest and moving.

Japanese Visitors
Yesterday Diana Vivian hosted 11 students from JTB University in Japan. The purpose of their visit was to see the teaching of Japanese in Australian schools. Once again it speaks highly of the excellent language program which is offered to the students at MPW.

Have a great week.

Jenny, Helen and Randal
School Council convened its first meeting for 2013 on Monday 18 February. The Agenda covered a wide range of issues including:

- Nominations for School Council have opened and will close at 4pm on Wednesday 20 February. A list of candidates and nominators will be posted by Friday 22nd February. If an election is required, ballots will be distributed on or before Wednesday 27 February and the ballot closes at 4pm on Thursday 7 March.

- The Annual Report to the school community is currently being drafted and will be presented to the school community shortly.

- The Annual Implementation Plan is currently being reviewed by the professional learning teams and will be considered by Education Committee in March. Education Committee is open to any interested parent/carer and is a wonderful forum for discussion and information exchange on teaching and learning at the school. The next meeting will be held at 7pm on 4 March.

- Terri Campbell, a literacy consultant to the school, will be conducting an **information session** for parents/carers at the school on Monday 25 February 7:00pm-8:30pm. This is an excellent opportunity to hear more about the writing program at the school and ways families can support children through their learning. The school will also have the “spelling expert” Diane Snowball working with MPW this year.

- Council discussed ways that families could be better informed about children’s transition to new classes. It was suggested that the school continue its previous practice of providing a classroom list to families in the first week of school. This feedback will be considered in planning for 2014.

- Junior School Council is in the early stages of being assembled for the year.

- Traffic update: the newly installed crossings will not be operational until July. Further consultation is occurring with the Council about improvements scheduled in the 2013-2014 Council budget that will help make the school zone safer for the school community.

- Council extended its thanks to the Fundraising Committee for its outstanding efforts last year for the school through the Movie Night, Trivia Night, Chocolate Drive and the Christmas stall/raffle.

- The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has been restructured and the number of regions has been reduced from eight to four. Moonee Ponds West is in the South Western Victoria region

- School Council is also updating its governance policies, a requirement under the legislation that establishes School Councils. This month the Standing Orders for the conduct and operation of Council were updated and will be posted on the school website shortly.

The next meeting of School Council is on Monday 18 March at 7:30pm.

Carli Wilson  
School Council
**Education Weekly**

**Lorraine Wilson Parent Information**

**Session: Your Child and Reading**

On Thursday 28th February at 9.15-11.00am, Lorraine Wilson will be conducting a seminar looking at how children learn to read. Lorraine will discuss areas such as: Reading is the construction of meaning from printed text. How does a reader construct meaning? How important is it to name each word on the page correctly? How should we respond to children's oral reading errors? Lorraine will give many strategies for parents to use with their children in developing life-long readers. She will also spend time outlining what phonics is, and how important early writing is in the development of children’s phonics understandings.

**We encourage all parents new to the school to come along to this important event.**

**Soundhouse**

If you have not already done so, please contact the school office, this week, to arrange fee payment for Term One Keyboard, Guitar, Singing & Performance (SAP)

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE**

If you are the holder of a Health Care Card or Pension Card that is valid at the 29th January you are eligible to apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance. Applications close on the 28th February. Forms are available from the Office.

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**HELP THE ENVIRONMENT  
HELP YOUR ORGANISATION  
HELP SAVE LIVES**

**RED BAG SUPERSTARS FUNDRAISING EVENT 2013**

**CLEAR CLUTTER FOR A CAUSE.**

Our Moonee Ponds West Primary School is participating in the SIDS and Kids NSW and Victoria – Red Bag Superstar Event.

Your children will be bringing home a Red Donation Bag which we ask you to fill, plus any additional bags with any unwanted Men’s, Women’s, Children’s Clothing, Curtains, Linen, Shoes, Toys, Books, Bric-a-brac, and any Small Household items as we will be receiving a rebate for the amount of kilos returned for all soft items donated.

The Campaign commences on 05/03/2013 and can you please return your donations by 20/03/2013.

Please contact the office if you require any additional bags.

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**MPWPS HELPING HANDS – SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY WITH A HOME COOKED MEAL**

Would you like to be involved in the Helping Hands volunteer program? Occasionally families within our school community experience a traumatic event such as a serious illness, accident or bereavement, and one way we can offer support is by providing meals for the family during these times. The Parent Group is calling for helpers who would like to cook a meal every now and then when needed - any contribution you can make is greatly appreciated! If you would like to find out more please contact Martine on 0425 859 701 or email martine@people.net.au. Thanks!

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**SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES**

- A ‘No Parking’ sign means that drivers must not stop in the area indicated by the sign unless they are dropping off or picking up passengers or goods. While stopped drivers are not permitted to leave the vehicle unattended, which means they must remain within 3 metres of the vehicle. The driver must complete their task and drive two minutes after their task is complete.
- A driver must not stop in the area shown by the arrow, even if they are picking up or dropping off passengers. Similarly, drivers must not stop along sections of road marked with a continuous yellow edge line, when older ‘No Stopping’ signs are being phased out, but they have the same meaning as ‘No Stopping’.

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- You are not permitted to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked along the road.
- Signs are placed around school precincts to protect our kids. Police will enforce breaches of the road rules.
- A message from your local police.
Four days to go...

Thanks to the fantastic support for the movie night, it’s definitely going ahead. And if the forecast is for wet weather, the movie will screen in the gym.

Tickets will be available on the night: Adult $10 Child: $7 and Family Ticket: $30

So, a few reminders:
Please bring your ticket for entry
BYO chair, picnic rug or bean bag
Sausage sizzle, snacks and drinks will be available from 6.30 pm. Please bring small change.
Movie starts at sunset
We look forward to seeing you there!

We need a few more volunteers, if you can help please call Karen Korff on 0417 362 278, Michelle Jeffery on 0417 583 075, Kath White on 0434 191 311 or Lawana Coulson on 0438 947 010.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Boost your child's creativity, confidence and verbal skills.
Helen O'Grady Drama Classes available in your area now.
Check us out at www.helenogrady.com.au or call Josie (local principal) on 9016 8928

Essendon High School
1913 - 2013
AN INVITATION TO CELEBRATE

Armed one of all of the fantastic events to be held during 2013:
- Gala Performance, Wednesday, Friday March 15, 2013
- Theatre performances "High School, My School!
  - commencement: March 22 & 23, 2013
- Careers Open Day: Essendon High School, March 24, 2013

To register your interest or to receive more information, please contact us on (03) 9330 0100, E-mail
Essendon.hhs principals@edeas.vic.edu.au or visit our website www.eshs.vic.edu.au

THE ARTS
- Performing Arts Programme
- Public - March 15, 2013
- 7.30pm - 8.30pm
- Public performance - March 22, 2013 (Europe)
- March 23, 2013 (Asia)
- Relax, be your soft and sophisticated self.
- Free dress code: 9/10/2013
- Contact the College 9330 0100 or email "art@essendonhhs.edu.au"
- Closing date: March 8, 2013

"HIGH SCHOOL, MY SCHOOL"
- A lively, teacher-led look at the history of EHS
- Undergraves
- 70 M Alexander Rd
- Moonee Ponds
- Public presentation - March 22, 2013
- School performances - March 23, 2013
- Information - www.eshs.vic.edu.au
- Tickets: $40.00

OPEN DAY
- An opportunity to meet old friends at familiar venues
- Essendon High School
- 260 Boundary St, Essendon
- Sunday March 17
- 10.00am - 4.00pm
- Public entrance $10
- Display of assemblies, band concert
- demolition to 6:30pm Free other entertainment & fun
- no cost on

FOOTSCRAY CITY COLLEGE
OPEN DAY
Sunday March 17th
Smart School Smart Choices Smarter Futures

Principal's Address 1.30 pm
Guided Tours 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

The Sciences & the Arts - Dual Priorities
New Year 1 & Learning Centres
Established Quality, Music Program
Individualised Dismissals, Caring Environment
Partnerships with Victoria University & FPT

Strong academic focus
High Achievers Discovery Program
Wide diversity of programs
High Performers in VCE

Tours every Friday at 9:30am

Come and see us at work!
Other tours available by request. Bookings Essential.
Ph: 8387 1500

Kinnear Street, Footscray 3011 Ph: 8387 1500 www.footsco.edu.au

Traffic Alert for Sunday 24th March - Herald Sun / City link run for the Kids
2,000 people will walk in the streets of Melbourne for the Herald Sun / City link run on Sunday, March 17, to raise vital money for the Royal Children's hospital Good Friday Appeal.
In order to provide extra walking courses for the most deserving causes, there will be significant disruptions to traffic and numerous road closures. Please plan carefully and be on the road closure of the 'two cycles,' plan your travel and leave plenty of time.

NOTE: All traffic around the Eastern Suburbs, should be aware that an event is taking place on the same day in Footscray, which will affect major roads in the local area.