Principal’s Report

What makes the biggest difference?

In John Hattie’s – ‘Visible Learning – A Synthesis of Over 800 Meta - Analyses Relating to Achievement’ he makes reference to the impact parent involvement has on student learning outcomes. The most significant are the beliefs, encouragement and expectations (schools working with parents to assist in making aspirations high and challenging) and the use of the ‘Language of Learning’ resulting in an increase in the understanding between school and home.

The ‘Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians’ also refers to: Parents, carers and families being the first and most important influence in a child’s life, instilling the values that will support young people to participate in schooling and contribute to broader local and global communities.

Randal Symons and Nicole O’Brien are undertaking a course through the Bastow Institute on building our school’s community partnerships. This Masters subject has the theoretical background to underpin the work that is being completed.

We look forward to presenting work on this area as the year proceeds.

National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be held next week. The NAPLAN tests are conducted by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) on behalf of the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA).

The dates for Year 3 and 5 children are Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th of May. The results provide another source of information for parents and teachers about a child’s performance in Literacy and Numeracy. Later on in the year you will receive your child’s personal report. If your child has a disability and needs special consideration or has been learning English for less than one year please see Helen Thomas, Assistant Principal for special consideration. For more information about the tests go to www.nap.vic.edu.au A VCAA NAPLAN information pamphlet and letter was sent home to all families during the week.

Communication workshop

Would you like to know more about engaging with your children through effective communication? Please see information further on in the newsletter about a workshop being run by Christine Clancy, a parent at MPW on either Friday 31st May 9.30am in the Community Room OR Wednesday 5th June 7.30pm in the Community Room.

Importance of being at school

In last week’s newsletter I spoke about being at school on time. It is great to see families making a real effort to send the correct message to their children, valuing school and being here ready between 8.45-9.00 to change books, catch up with the teacher and be settled for a 9.00 start.

Enjoy the week,

Jenny, Helen and Randal
**Education weekly**

**SPORTS NEWS**

**Cross Country**

Congratulations to all the students who represented MPW at the district cross country. With the 11,12/13 year old competing in a 3km race and the 9/10 year olds racing over 2km. Congratulations to Jack Thompson (2\textsuperscript{nd}), James Wilkinson (5\textsuperscript{th}), Natalie Leyonhjelm (5\textsuperscript{th}), Stuart Purves (4\textsuperscript{th}), Daniel Priskas (6\textsuperscript{th}) and Marcus Medina (7\textsuperscript{th}) who with their top 10 finishes will represent the Ascot Vale District at Divisions on Friday May 30\textsuperscript{th} at Brimbank Park.

**Winter Sport**

Last Friday Winter Sport officially began with our Netball, Bat Tennis and Football teams competing in round one. MPW Gold played at home against Holy Rosary and MPW Blue travelled to Kensington. Well done to all teams.

**MPW Blue v Kensington**

Net A: Lost 10 - 14  
Net B: Won 3 - 1  
Football Won 43 - 36  
Bat Tennis lost 20 - 4

**MPW Gold v Holy Rosary**

Net A: Drew 4 -4  
Net B: Drew 2-2  
Football won 81 - 1  
Bat Tennis won 25 – 13

**SEDA Sport**

Last Friday some Gr 5/6 students began a Hockey program with SEDA sport coaches. The program will consist of skill development activities and a round robin tournament in which the SEDA coaches will assist the students with taking responsibility for the various roles required in sport including player, coach, team manager, scorer, umpire, time keeper, results etc.

**Up & Coming Events**

Friday 10\textsuperscript{th} May – St Mary’s B v MPW Blue & MPW Gold v Kensington  
Friday 17\textsuperscript{th} May – MPW Blue v MPW Gold  
Thursday 30\textsuperscript{th} May – Division Cross Country (Brimbank Park)

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**Mother’s Day Stall**

Yes it is that time of the year again and aren’t we all excited!!  
Come and but that special present for Mum this Friday the 10\textsuperscript{th} of May  
Present will range from $1 up to $10  
Wrapping paper and cards will also be available for $1 each.  
Also if any Prep Parents are able to help out on the day please contact Narelle on either 93727884 / 0409964320 or rellsy@live.com

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**“Biggest Morning Tea”**

Thursday 23\textsuperscript{rd} May  
9.15 Community Room

Sadly, as in the general community, many families in the Moonee Ponds West Primary School community have been affected by cancer in one way or another.  
All families and staff who are free at the time are invited to the “Biggest Morning Tea” which aims to raise funds for cancer research by the Victoria Cancer Council. This year we are delighted to have comedian Kate Hanley as our special guest. And although cancer is certainly not funny, she will help us see the lighter side of life.

Please come along, “make a cuppa and make a difference”

For further details see Vicki Mesiti Room 21 or log onto: www.biggestmorningtea.com.au

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**STUDENT BANKING**

Win the Dollarmites’ treasure. Thousands of dollars worth of prizes to be won in Term 2 of School Banking.

During Term 2 one lucky banker will get the opportunity to go on a $5,000 adventure holiday with their family and also win $5,000 for their school. There are also some fantastic adventure kit runners up prizes as well. To be in the running simply make three or more deposits at school during Term 2 and you will be automatically entered into the competition. To find out more visit www.commbank.com.au/adventureisland

If you aren't already banking through the school there is still time to open a Dollarmites account at the Commonwealth Bank and start banking. If you have an account already all you need to do is bring the book to school on your next banking day.

School Banking day is Thursday
Communication Workshop

Would you like to know more about engaging with your children through effective communication?

Christine Clancy is a parent of Charlotte in year 2 and Riley in Prep, and is a class representative for both classes at MPW.

Christine also runs Professional Alignment Workshops where she provides coaching, working with everyone from Olympic athletes to corporate professionals. Christine uses her mind-body expertise with her training, consulting, and coaching experience across many different fields, including the NMIT, the Leukemia Foundation, Rowing Victoria and public workshops. She has also been the Managing Director for the non profit organization, Breathe for Brain Injury, as well as being on the board for Blinkcorp, supporting women in business.

We are very fortunate that Christine will be running her very popular workshops at Moonee Ponds West, offering you the opportunity to improve your communication skills!

About the Workshops

Everyday we engage with people and model communication to our children through interactions on the phone, online and in person. We spend time encouraging our children to express their feelings and thoughts clearly and easily, because we know that part of being happy in life is being able to relate to people on many levels.

Sadly, many adults struggle with an inability to communicate effectively, which stops them moving forward in their careers and in social and personal relationships.

By learning to communicate more openly and freely *you*, you can be happier, healthier, and more successful because great communication brings more discussion and creativity in ideas, helps to avoid or correct problems quicker, and clears up misunderstandings so people are happier and more productive. In turn, the great communication skills that you learn and model to your children will also help them to be more successful and happy in their relationships and lives.

By attending Christine’s workshops, you will have the opportunity to:

- learn how to thoughtfully communicate,
- choose words to your advantage
- learn about new perspectives on the behaviour and communication of others
- learn how to communicate in order to reach your goals

I will be attending the Communication Workshop with Christine Clancy on Friday 31st May 9.30am in the Community Room OR Wednesday 5th June 7.30pm in the Community Room (please circle which one).

Name: ______________________________________________
Child’s Name: ________________________________________
Room Number: _______________________________________
MPWP 2013 MAJOR FUNDRAISER

Saturday 15th June

Pizza & Trivia Night

The trivia company is booked.
The pizzas are organised.
Donations are coming in for auctions and prizes.

SO PLEASE BOOK YOUR TABLE NOW!

Venue: The school gym (We have heaters!)
Time: 7pm
Ticket price: $20 (cash, eftpos or cheque at the office).
Buy individual tickets or tables of 10 are available.
What do you get? A fabulous night to enjoy with friends.
Pizza for dinner, and other nibbles.
Water will be available for purchase.
BYO alcohol.

Donations: Can your company donate any goods, services or vouchers for auctions or prizes? Any donation big or small would be greatly appreciated. If you require a letter from the school please contact one of us.

Thanks from your fundraising committee.....
Karen Korff 0417 362 278, Michelle Currie 0417 583 075,
Lawana Coulson 0438 947 010, Kath White 0434 191 311 and
Shirley Stephens.
ROOM 14’s Visit to the Melbourne Zoo!

As an introduction to our inquiry topic for term two “I Will Survive”, the students from Room 14 joined with the other 5/6 classes on an excursion to Melbourne Zoo last Tuesday. During the excursion we were able to explore the vast variety of animals around the zoo and also took part in a “Classy Adaptations” lesson from the zoo staff in the Discovery Centre.

Classifying animal skulls

Meeting ‘Tattoo’ the snake!

Greeting a green tree frog!

Getting up close to see Rigo’s features – a Western Lowland Gorilla

NEXT WEEK—
**Free Mother’s Day Family Night**

Thursday 9th May 6pm – 8pm

Join us for a free night of fun and gift making
- Make a gift for mum
- D.I.Y. workshops
- Light refreshments provided
- Free gift wrapping

Bookings recommended. For more information or to book, email one of our team in-store or visit www.bunnings.com.au

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**Free Lifeskills Clinics**

With attention and self control issues becoming an increasing problem with children, life skills and discipline our students achieve through Taekwondo means them better students at school and at home.

Taekwondo is both quirky level sport and a safe, self defense based martial art. It builds focus, fitness and co-ordination, as well as skills in listening, self control and respect for others. Physical conditioning from fun and captivating classes helps develop each student's confidence to participate in all school activities.

We believe Taekwondo is now is necessary an after school activity as swimming!

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**Team Carlo at your School**

Schools have invited us this past to come along and demonstrate Taekwondo to their students, and we've had a lot of very positive feedback about this program.

It's a fantastic way to teach respect and discipline, although it's in a fun environment, so students don't really notice. It's just like sneaking healthy vegetables into a tasty recipe.

We would love to demonstrate the benefits of Taekwondo to your school. We can conduct a FREE and FUN 30 minute class for the whole school (in groups of 20 to 30 students at a time), introducing Taekwondo's life skills. Students will have fun participating in drills, games and exercises that are exciting and developing their skills.

This fall program is valued at $750. NO FEE for your school. Available dates are limited, so we encourage your contact as soon as possible to organise a suitable day for the event. We can also provide information about our schools program to be distributed to families via your school newsletter before the day.

$100 DONATION

For more information, or to book your school demonstration day:

**Gymnastics**

Is your child always flipping, bouncing and jumping around the house?? Could they be a future gymnast??

Or do they just need more exercise??

At EKGA we have classes for boys and girls gymnastics as well as Trampoline and Kinder Gym.

We run classes during the day, after school and on weekends.

We also have our great Gymnastics Holiday Program – every school holidays.

We pride ourselves in the brightest, cleanest, best facility in town!

With the most professional, kid friendly coaches you can find.

Give us a call to book in today and try a class.

Trial classes are $16.50 & free with this flyer.

We also host the World’s Greatest Gymnastics Birthdays Parties at our gym and rent out Jumping Castles for parties of any size.

Visit our web site for details.

www.gymnasticsgirls.com.au

Bookings essential: Phone: 9353 4077 or send us an email: digi@ekga.com.au

www.ekga.com.au

19-29 Roberts Road, Airport West.