Principals Report

Curriculum Day

Last Friday we ran a most successful curriculum day. The focus in the morning was on eLearning. The session began with presentations from staff members on how their classes are integrating eLearning to support their teaching and learning programs. We then handed over to our consultant, Andrew Del Mastro, who took us through a number of models and theories of current practice for the effective implementation. SAMR, Flipped Classroom, Story Telling and making learning ‘sticky’ were the four he presented. From there the staff focused on using a number of school devices and web resources to develop a series of learning opportunities which will be implemented in their classrooms.

In the afternoon, we explored restorative practices with Dave Vinegrad. This included theory and practical examples of a proactive and reactive nature. Restorative practices are embedded in our student wellbeing and engagement policy and is a philosophy that underpins all interactions between students and staff at MPW. Our rights and responsibilities documents and playground responsibilities are examples of this and include logical and negotiated consequences.

“Restorative Practice is based on the philosophy of Restorative Justice. This approach is called Restorative Practice and the focus is about community, relationships and healing. This Restorative Justice framework is also about real accountability; according to people and their needs, rather than accountability according to rules and codes of conduct. Restorative Justice philosophy holds that human beings are happier, more productive and cooperative, and more likely to make positive changes in their behavior when those in positions of authority do things with them, rather than to them or for them. Restorative schools in general, experience increased levels of cooperation and compliance. Restorative classrooms experience improved relationships and learning outcomes, and report far less disruption. Teachers working proactively in their classrooms and in the playground view wrongdoing as an opportunity for learning about how to live a decent life; they see wrongdoing as an opportunity for reflection and reinforcement of boundaries, limits and expectations. In other words inappropriate acts are viewed as teachable moments.” (Dave Vinegrad ‘Behavior Matters’ www.behaviourmatters.org.au)

Principal’s Report continues over page...
Principal’s Report continued.

Relationships are important for learning as well as for building socially responsible communities. This session reaffirmed many of the approaches already being used at MPW. It also built on our knowledge and understanding of student behavior and the management of this. We look forward to further exploring restorative practices with Dave in 2014.

(Thank you to Mandy Jones - Wellbeing Leader for this curriculum day report)

Being Cybersmart

How cybersmart are you?

In 2012 MPW ran a number of sessions through the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) on being cybersmart. Their website is a great resource for parents, teachers and students of all ages. Our students are technically able to access and navigate their way around technology but this does not necessarily mean that they have the emotional ability to deal with some of the situations they may come across. What do I do if someone wants to be a ‘friend’ with me and I don’t? What do I do when I find myself in a discussion that I feel uncomfortable in? How do I ensure my account is as secure and ‘private’ as it can be? Which programs are more secure than others? What are the age restrictions on different programs?

Being a ‘digital citizen’ is particularly relevant. Spend time with your children and ask them to show you the programs they are interested in using before they start using them.

When at home, we would suggest that technology is kept within the area’s where your family spends most of its time. However, this can be difficult with WiFi capabilities and items such as iPod touches etc... being WiFi enabled.

We highly recommend the following site. It is by the Australian government and addresses the above areas as well as many more. [http://www.cybersmart.gov.au](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au)

iPad Conference

Last week Randal attended the two day ‘iPad iLearn Conference 2013’. Over the two days various facilitators presented ideas on maximising the iPad’s use in the classroom to improve teaching and learning outcomes. Over the coming weeks we will share some of the apps which are being used at MPW to assist teaching and learning. The first are Quick Response Codes (QR). You may have seen these in magazines, in shop windows, train stations, airports etc... They are similar to bar codes. They began in Japan in the automotive industry. Since then their use has expanded. With a QR Reader your iPad, iPhone or other device scans the code. Generally it will take you to a website but often it is to additional information.

One example is for student book reviews. They create QR codes, print them and put them on the inside cover of the book. People wanting to read the book can scan reviews to see what others have thought about it. Scan the following QR code to see where it takes you.

Target 200

We have currently got 142 people who ‘like’ us on Facebook. We would like to reach 200 before the end of September. Our address is [https://www.facebook.com/Mpwps](https://www.facebook.com/Mpwps) or you may like to scan our QR code on the right.

As a sign off note, we would just like to wish our 5/6 students a great time at Camp Curumbene. Camp 1 left on Monday and by all accounts, they are having a great time so far. Camp 2 begins next Monday and we are sure all students will have a super week. Happy camping everyone!

Jenny, Helen and Randal

Slapped Cheek Disease

It has been brought to our attention that some students in the junior grades have been diagnosed with Slapped Cheek. This is usually a mild illness. For most, slapped cheek causes little more than a cold. The signs & symptoms are a fever, aching muscles, headache, sore throat, runny nose, coughing & sneezing. Most children with slapped cheek need little, if any treatment. However, the infection can be more serious for pregnant women.
**Lost Property**

Just a reminder to everyone that there is still quite a large amount of unclaimed lost property. If any students are missing items, it may be worth while to check our lost property box, located in the main toilet block. If unclaimed, items will be donated to charity at the end of term.

**MVIMP Concert**

*Wednesday Sept 18th 7.00pm*

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

*Wednesday September the 18th at 7.00pm*  
in the Moonee Ponds West Gym.

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

**Melbourne Sinfonia Concert 2013**

Dear Friends and Music Lovers,
The third Melbourne Sinfonia Concert for 2013 in aid of the Royal Children’s Hospital, will be presented on Friday evening, September 13th at 8.00pm.
The venue will be as usual - the James Tatoulis Auditorium, MLC, 207 Barkers Rd., Kew.
The concert features the Mozart Clarinet Concerto, with outstanding young performer Nick Evans, who has previously been a soloist with the Queensland Youth Orchestra, UTAS Conservatorium Orchestra, the Tasmanian Youth Orchestra and Orchestra Victoria. Come along and have a great evening and support the Royal Children’s Hospital as well!

For bookings, click the following link  
http://www.trybooking.com/DCES

**Harvest Moon**

Just a little heads up about our exciting Harvest Festival on **Friday the 13th September** at the veggie patch.

Parents, children and teachers have worked very hard to nurture our lovely patch and all their hard work will come to fruition at the festival. The produce will be harvested and prepared by loving hands for sampling and enjoyment. Forget Masterchef, Jamie Oliver and the rest, we have our own experts on good food and nutrition here at MPW. If you have time and are able, we would love to see you here at 12.00 on Friday the 13th at the patch. This festival will coincide with the launching of MPW’s Healthy Eating policy which has been a long time coming and a very exciting and important policy.

We are committed to ensuring our children and community are well informed about the importance of good nutrition.

The Environment committee, Hall, Healthy Eating policy working party, parents, children and beyond, working together for the good of our community.

**Parent Information Session – Healthy Lunch Boxes**

Run out of good ideas for your child’s lunchbox?  
Would you like your child to eat healthier food at school?

Come along and hear our guest speaker from Doutta Galla Community Group who will speak about healthy lunchbox choices.

*Wednesday 11th September at 9.15 a.m. in the staffroom.*

Here at MPW we have a strong commitment to student wellbeing. Over the last 12 months we have taken the next step in embedding healthy choices at our school by developing a draft Healthy Eating Policy. This policy links closely to other programs in our school such as Environmental education via our Veggie Patch and rubbish-free lunches, Health and Physical education programs as well as our learning to learn and health-focused units. It is our belief that there is a direct link between healthy eating, lifestyle choices and success in learning.

Please take the opportunity to hear the guest speaker talk about your child’s healthy lunchbox.

Thank you to Kara Brystrom for organizing this event.

To RSVP, please follow this link to our school website  

Sheenagh Callahan  
For Parent Forum
Flemington Cricket Club

Junior players wanted

We are currently seeking both Under 10 and Under 12 players for the upcoming season (commencing in Term 4). U10’s play on Friday nights and the U12’s on Saturday mornings.

If interested come along to our Junior Registration Day on Sunday 15 September at Walter Reserve on Walter Street, Ascot Vale at 11am or join us for our first training session on Monday 23 September at 5pm.

For more information please contact Amanda Lecaude on 0409 967 166.