Principal’s Report

What an extravaganza we had at the ‘Twilight Market’ on Friday night. It was the best market ever and it was so good to see all our classes really putting in an effort to add to the vibe on the night by providing a variety of activities and goodies for us all. Delicious food and drink on offer and wonderful music to listen to added to the buzz. Congratulations to all of our raffle winners. Nothing is possible though without the efforts of many people. Thanks to our special sponsors - Bakers Delight Mornington, Men’s Shed Mornington, The Enchanted Maze and TROFEO Winery. I know that there are a lot of quiet achievers who put in whole heartedly and I apologise if I don’t mention you personally. Thank you to Dave and Paula who organised outstanding music for the night. Nikki Devis for organising the set up. To Jenny George for the most amazing Falafels and to Dani and Jonathan Pritchard for cooking the sausages. Special thanks to Johanna Camm for her excellent organisation in bringing the whole event together. And of course our dedicated and supportive staff who are the best there is.

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It is the time of the year when everyone is eager to find out what teachers will be in place for next year. Believe me I will gladly let you know just as soon as I do.

At the moment we are going through the process of recruiting staff as many of our staff contracts are finished. I can say with delight that Mrs Jodie Hollands, Mrs Anna Vevers and Mrs Paula Tuck have been through the process successfully and will be working at our school next year.

Congratulations, we are very lucky to have them teaching at Mornington Park. We are still in the process of finalising Steiner staff and Education Support staff. As you can imagine there are many factors to consider when placing staff including; teacher requests and teacher expertise matched to the needs of our children. I can assure you I take this responsibility very seriously so that the best education is provided to all.

Last week Hayden, Caleb, Daisi and Lacey joined me at Mornington Secondary College for the Remembrance Day service. They laid a stunning wreath that had been handmade by our Steiner children, in front of the whole school and special guests. Naturally our children were very well behaved, representing our school beautifully and our wreath was the best! Thank you Daisi for the generous donation of flowers for the wreath.

Once again Sherpa Kids Mornington Park will be running its Vacation Care Program for the up and coming summer holidays. The dates for our Vacation Care Program are from 30th December 2013 to 27th January 2014 (Weekends and public holidays excluded). Times are from 7am to 6pm. The cost is $0.00 if you are on 100% CCB. Please register your name, child’s name and contact details with the office by December 16th, 2013. We look forward to providing some exciting programs and welcome any feedback.

Our Year 3 and 4 children are hopefully having a wonderful adventure at camp in Flinders. I’m sure there will be loads of photos and stories in the next student newsletter. Camps are always exhausting but worth it for all involved, even with no sleep.

I don’t think I have met a child who didn’t enjoy their time with friends and teachers in a relaxed setting revelling in activities that are usually new to them.

I would like to remind you of a few important events coming up in the next month for you to put in your diary:

- 12th Dec-Year 6 Graduation
- 13th Dec-Pupil Free Day
- 17th Dec- Steiner Celebration of Learning
- 19th Dec-Christmas Concert

Bev
Hello Everyone,

One of the most frequent issues that I am asked about and wanting help for is the issue and age old problem of bullying. Here at Mornington Park PS we have a no bullying policy and the staff take any cases of bullying seriously. As a whole school community, we can partner with the parents and care-givers to help the child feel empowered and learn some strategies to cope with bullying behaviour. I was reading up on bullying this week and found some interesting and hopefully, helpful ways that you can help your child if they are being bullied. Bullying behaviour is NEVER ok and can have serious consequences if not dealt with.

Hope you all have a great week,

Till next time,

Trish

Just a reminder that students are supervised in the school grounds 15 minutes before and after school.

Sherpa Kids OSHC is happy to announce they have two new staff members Megan and Deborah who joined the after school care program full time as of Monday the 18th of November. Working closely together the new staff are able to create and develop fun and educational activities for children of all ages, whilst providing a safe and happy environment. With activities such as arts and craft, outdoor play, music, drama, cooking and technology you can feel at ease knowing your child is experiences everything Sherpa Kids has to offer. With vacation care coming up now is the perfect time to drop in and meet the staff and get a better understanding of what goes on every afternoon.

Sherpa Kids Team.
What a wonderful Twilight Fair!
Thanks to all of our families who came and enjoyed all the amazing things our classes and community had on offer. Yummy food, fun things to do and so many wonderful things to look at and listen to. Congratulations to all of our raffle winners and a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all of our helpers. Thanks to our special sponsors-Bakers Delight Mornington, Men’s Shed Mornington, The Enchanted Maze and TROFEO Winery.

GRADE 6 GRADUATION
At Mornington Golf Club
Thursday 12th December, 2013
5.45pm. Cost $20.00

LETS GO CRUISING CAR CLUB
TUESDAY 3RD DECEMBER, 2013
FREE ENTERTAINMENT
CALL CHERYL HUDSON
0439 456 653
Every Tuesday HOT LUNCHES

Hot Lunch orders are due by Monday for catering purposes.

Next hot lunch will be: Tuna Pasta Bake

HATS

Many students are coming to school without a hat. Please check at home in school bags etc. for missing hats. Students will be asked to play under cover during recess and lunch if they do not have a hat. As we are a Sun Smart School hats are compulsory for this term.

Attendance

Week ending 8/11/2013

97 Students attended 100%

Week ending 15/11/2013
Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery. You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:
- $200 for prep students
- $150 for students in years 1 – 6.
- $300 for year 7 students
- $250 for students in year 8 – until age 16*.

* A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014.

How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.

Closing Date: You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014.


A Marvellous Christmas in Mornington’’

**Saturday 14th December: Main Street Heart & Craft Christmas Market 9:00am – 2:00pm**
Over 60 Market Stalls on Main Street / Arts & Craft / Delights & Treats / Plants and Fresh Produce / Face Painting / Keep an eye out for Santa as he will be popping up along Main Street throughout the day.

**Saturday 14th December: Mornington Carols in the Park 6:00pm – 8:30pm**
Featuring special guest JACKIE SANNIA from the VOICE AU
- Free children's animal farm
- Free face painting, and
- PLUS a special visit from Santa himself on the Big Red Fire Truck!

BYO Picnic and a Blanket or enjoy a tasty treat from one of the many food vendors.
Special Christmas Market Stalls will be open for those last minute Christmas gifts and stocking fillers.
Battery operated candles will also be available for purchase.

Everyone welcome. Bring the whole family!!

*This is strictly an alcohol free event.

For more information email: info@morningtonchmaber.com.au, call 5975 4522 or visit [www.mainstreetmornington.com.au](http://www.mainstreetmornington.com.au)