I am proud to announce that Mornington Park Primary School has joined a campaign to increase awareness about Anaphylaxis and to help people who suffer from Anaphylaxis or care for someone who does.

Parents can help support this campaign by Raising your hands at school: Getting hands raised is simple! Go to anaphylaxis101.com.au, click ‘raise my hand’ and select Mornington Park Primary School from a drop-down list. Parents can raise their hand once every day during the course of the campaign.

Mornington Park Trivia Night

A huge thankyou to everyone who helped organise our Trivia Night and who came along and made the night a wonderful success. Everyone who attended really enjoyed the fun activities, the trivia questions and the prizes and auction.

I would especially like to thank Jeanette, Kaimi, Anita and Raquel for their fantastic efforts in organising such a successful event for the school and Jackie and John for planning and running the games and trivia questions.

Altogether we made over $1800 profit, all of which of course will go to bettering the education for all children at the Mornington Park.

Environmental

The first annual Peninsula Wetland Week is being held during September between 13th and 21st and coinciding with Biodiversity month. At Mornington Park Primary School we are happy to embrace and support this event!

Mornington Park Primary School production, The Symphony, was performed brilliantly during Peninsula Wetland Week. The whole school play showed the importance of caring for the environment and highlighted the interrelated nature of all creatures in wetlands.

Last week, the Environmental Extension Group worked together to plan and make a presentation at a Kids Teaching Kids Conference to help educate students from others schools. Their presentation, called “Caring for Tanti Creek”, included testing water samples from various sites and linking this to the way the creek is used at these sites by people. India, Rhys and Ochre ran workshops to test pH, nitrites and KH levels. Gina, Maddy, Amelie, Jai and Cheyanne created a powerpoint presentation and shared information about the birds and wildlife of Tanti Creek. Saul wrote, played guitar and sang his own song. Rosie, Alex and Mia helped students to test water samples from the creek for phosphate. They ran workshops clearly, and with great expertise, as they linked the actions of people to the health of the waterway.
A large number of children have been sick and we wish them a speedy recovery. We really miss them when they aren’t at school.

Uniform

Thank you to everyone who has sent uniforms to the office, that their child has outgrown. We have redistributed them to other children. Please make sure that you label your child’s uniform so that when they lose it, we can return it!

Valerie Coles Social Worker

During Peninsula Wetland Week, everyone in the community is encouraged to enjoy what is a large and important part of the Mornington Peninsula’s environment. Visit a local wetland or waterway, such as Narambi Reserve which has a lovely outlook with beautiful native water birds, walking track and playground. Here the water is cleaned and filtered by water plants before it flows down Tanti Creek to Mills Beach.

Friends of Tootgarook Wetland Reserves will hold an event on Saturday 20th September 10am - 2pm sharing their knowledge about wetlands and running a guided wetland walk through the Tootgarook Wetland Reserve. Contact Craig Thomson for more information about ‘Spring into Wetlands’

Craig.animalia.shelter@gmail.com  Ph: 0474651292

Athletics

District Athletics was a brilliant day and the 28 students who represented Mornington Park Primary School were fantastic. If I was to mention individual student’s achievements it would take up the whole newsletter. The overwhelming enthusiasm and energy of the students was incredible. People were itching to be part of both track and field events. They showed great support and encouragement for each other and it made us feel very proud to be there alongside them all. Well done to all of you who participated, you were amazing.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and hope that you are all able to relax and enjoy your holiday time.

Bev Dadds

Early Dismissal : 2.30pm Friday 19th Sept. 2014
Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance

From 1 January 2015, the government will provide extra financial support directly to Victoria’s neediest schools instead of providing the Education Maintenance Allowance directly to parents. Parents will not be able to apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance in 2015. The money will be allocated to eligible schools through schools’ core operational funding mechanism, with the neediest schools receiving the most funding. Not all schools will be receiving funding in 2015. This change to how the money is distributed was required by the funding agreement with the Commonwealth government to make sure Victorian schools receive increased funding that will benefit all students and, in particular, those from schools with concentrated disadvantage. The majority of parents who received the EMA payment already elected to provide the money directly to their school.

If you are experiencing financial hardship, you can speak to your principal about how you can access assistance from the State Schools’ Relief Committee for clothing and uniforms. The end of the EMA direct payments to parents will not affect any other payment you may be receiving such as the Schoolkids Bonus, which is provided directly to eligible parents to assist with education costs. If you have any questions about this change, please speak to your school principal.

Wednesday Hot Lunches

$2.00 each week or $20 for the whole term

Parents and Friends Craft Group

Thursday mornings 9.30 to 12.30
Meet in the Art room

The craft group will meet each week to hand make toys, household and decorative items for sale at the craft stall to be held on Election Day in November.

Organic Popcorn Every Thursday

Enjoy a healthy snack at recess every Thursday. 50 cents per bag

Newsletter Advertising Charges: for private businesses:

- Business Card Size Ad: $25.00 one off
- Business Card Size Ad: $50.00 for a full term
- Half Page Ad: $50.00 one off
- Half Page Ad: $100.00 for a full term
- Full Page Ad: $100.00 one off
- Non profit organisations—no charge

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Winter Opening Hours: 9AM – 5PM
Hey Everyone,

Well, here we are at the end of the term, WE MADE IT!!!! (I hear a big sigh of relief from staff, students and parents!) I just love this time of year... Winter is behind us, Spring has sprung, the warmer weather is just around the corner and Footy Finals fever has hit! (Hope your team is in the Finals, mine NEARLY got there. 2015 is looking good though...hehe!!)

Whatever you are up to these school holidays, whether it be going away, staying home, catching up with family and friends or just catching up on all the things you need to do, I hope that you all have a very safe and restful break. Take some time out and spend some quality time with people you love, value and appreciate. Life really is short and it’s the little things in life that are of value and importance!

Looking forward to seeing you all in Term 4, where the big countdown will be on for Christmas (and everything else in between).

Cheers,

Your Happy Chappy

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Over 100 students from 11 different schools participated in the Kids Teaching Kids Conference.

Mornington Park Primary School students were pleased to be part of spreading the sustainability message.

Rhys described, "We taught groups of students how to test if water is healthy using samples from our creek and wetlands. I felt like I was opening their minds to caring."

Rosie reflected on the experience, "We had a good effect on exciting other students to be as passionate as we are about making a difference to wetlands and our precious world."

Jo Dowell, sustainability co-ordinator at Mornington Park Primary School said, "I am impressed with the dedication of our students as they presented their message with enthusiasm and sincerity."