PRINCIPAL’S NEWS
WELCOME
Welcome to a new school year at Moolap Primary. Our Prep students are settling in well and our Grade 6 students are doing a great job ensuring their buddies are doing well. We are also excited to welcome over twenty five new families to our school community. As a school we have much to look forward to this year and together I am sure we will fulfil our vision “to build a caring community engaged in learning and committed to its values.”

CURRICULUM FOCUS
Over the last two years we have focused on developing both the Reader’s and Writer’s Workshop Approach across the school. By having a consistent approach to teaching literacy based on best practice, our team of professionals are able to work collaboratively to refine practices to best meet the needs of all our students. Another benefit to having consistent approaches to teaching is our students are able to pick up from where they left off last year and continue their development.
This year, we are going to continue to further refine our practices in teaching reading and writing. We also intend on building on our work of engaging our community in the learning of our students through beginning to develop learning portfolios, and exploring ways to better communicate what will be covered in the school program. Furthermore, we will be focusing on further developing our practices in teaching mathematics. As a team we are committed to completing all of this work through Professional Learning Communities.

18 DAYS TO OUR SCHOOL FAIR
Thanks to the effort of a small committee of volunteer parents and staff, we are having our Country Fair on Saturday 21st February. Our focus for this School Fair is to provide an opportunity of our community to come together and have fun. The School Fair is also our major Fund Raiser for the year. We are hopeful we raise enough funds to improve the play areas for our students and to purchase more instructional and take home readers.
Please ask all your friends and family to pencil in this date to join in the fun and to support our school.

Wrist Bands and Food Vouchers available for sale from the office now
FAIR FOOD VOUCHER - Sausage in Bread x 2, Prima, Snow Cone, Jam Donut $10each
FAIR Ride WRIST BANDS – Whizzer, Jumping Castles x 2, Tea Cups, $20 now OR $25 on the day OR $6 per ride on the day

We Need You!
School Fairs can only happen if we have many helpers. If we have every family volunteer on the day for at least an hour, we will be able to provide everyone the opportunity to help out and also have time to have fun with their family. Over the next few weeks we will be providing you with information about signing up to volunteer. Let’s make this a truly Community Run Event!

Important Student Health Information
The school has several students with severe nut allergies. Students are not allowed to share food at school and we ask parents, if possible, to refrain from sending nut products to school.

Important: Due to the significant impact on the health of one of our students, parents must immediately inform the school if their child has Chicken Pox or Measles. As is the case each year, we strongly discourage students attending school when they are sick. If you child is sick, please keep them home and contact the school.

Home Reading
Moolap students love to READ! As this is a relatively short term, we are challenging all of our students to read at least 30 nights this term. It is very important that parents support our reading program by ensuring their child is reading at home and completing all that is expected by their class teacher. Reading is like any other exercise, “Practice Makes Perfect.”

Save the Date – “Info Expo”
After school on Thursday 27th February, we are going to have our first “Info Expo.” This will be a time where your child will be able to show you what they are doing at school and for you to ask the class teacher curriculum and other school related questions.

School Council Elections 2015
Our School Council has an important role in the governance of our school. We are encouraging parents to consider taking on this important role in our community. Due to the end of several two year appointments, we have five parent vacancies and one DEECD vacancy this year. Nominations for School Council will open Monday 9 February and close 4 p.m. Monday 16 February. School council meets eight times per year (at school) on a Monday at 5.30p.m. The election time line is detailed below. Information for those considering nominating is provided at the end of this newsletter.

Election Timeline:
Nomination forms may be collected from the General Office in the week commencing Monday 9 February 2015. Please note nominations close at 4p.m. Monday 16 February 2015.

- Ballot papers (if required) will be distributed on or before Monday 23 February 2015
- Close of ballot Tuesday 3 March 2015
- Vote count and declaration Wednesday 4 March 2015 at 4.30p.m.
- New School Council will meet Monday 23 March 2015 at 5.30p.m.

Enjoy!
Robbie

SCHOOL NEWS
ADMIN MATTERS
Thank you to those families who have updated their child’s details. If you have not returned the Student Information Full Details forms please do so as soon as possible. Please be aware that the office needs to be notified throughout the year of any change to your child’s details as soon as possible, especially changes to contact numbers, emergency numbers, change in medical details etc.

PREPS 2015
Our lovely preps will have each Wednesday as a ‘rest day’ for the first 6 weeks of this term. This means the first full week for Preps will be the week commencing Monday 16 March.

MOOLAP NEWS
Our Moolap News is the main means of communication to our school families and is published each Tuesday. This week’s newsletter will be printed and a copy provided to the eldest in each family. From next week onwards, the newsletter will be delivered electronically to families, for those without access to the internet a small number of copies will be available from the school foyer.

To register for the Moolap News please go to our school’s web page http://www.moolapps.vic.edu.au/ on the right hand side of the front page click the orange link ‘subscribe to Newsletter’ complete your details and select ‘Newsletter’ as the group.

Please note we also have an ‘Official’ Facebook Page at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Moolap-Primary-School-Official/47963818774906 in addition there is a ‘private’ facegroup page for current school families; search Moolap Community Group and request to join group. The rules are simple and easy to follow…….

Thank you to Jason Pitt (Father of Heath Pitt Grade 1) for donating flyscreens for our windows in the Pavilion.

SCHOOL CAR PARK
At the end of the newsletter is information regarding the school car park from City of Greater Geelong. Please take note of the yellow lines indicating no stopping anytime. Cars are to travel at walking pace within the car park, to reverse into parking spots and to walk children to the school gates. Local Laws Geelong frequents the car park throughout the year and will fine those who are not parking correctly. If you wish to ‘drop’ your child/ren, please use the High Street School Crossing. We all need to do the correct thing for the safety of all our students….DO NOT SPEED, PLEASE DROP OFF CORRECTLY and BE AWARE OF THOSE AROUND YOU.

EXTEND OSHC AT MOOLAP PRIMARY SCHOOL
Our weekly recap
Welcome to 2015! Enrolments & Bookings must be now done through the online Parent Portal, this available at www.extend.com.au under parents.

Regards,
Lisa

Activities:
Monday 2nd February:
Cooking Scones
Tuesday 3rd February:
Nature walk & nature art
Wednesday 4th February:
Storybook creations & calendars
Thursday 5th February:
Name Art
Friday 6th February:
Magnets & cooking
ONLINE BOOKINGS: extend.com.au
CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437

LATE ARRIVAL / EARLY DEPARTURE
Children arriving late to school or leaving earlier than 3.30 p.m. you are required to sign in / sign out at the office and collect a slip to provide to the class teacher.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES / IMMUNISATION DETAILS
Please ensure if you have not provided a copy of these details to the office that you do so as soon as possible.

STUDENT BANKING
Student banking is available to all students who have an account with the Commonwealth Bank (i.e. Dollarmite Account). Student banking is each Friday, please bring along bank book and savings and give them to your class teacher. Information packs are available from the office.

ASSEMBLIES
Our student run assemblies start back this Friday. Parents are invited to attend from 3.00p.m. onwards. No Kids Matter this week.
SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
Scholastic Book Club brochures are sent home with students. If you wish to purchase items please return order and payment, in a named envelope, to the office. Delivery is approximately 2 weeks from closing date.

NETBALL NEWS
Training for the Cubs (Prep -2) commences Monday 9 Feb at 3.45p.m. at school – new players most welcome.
Training for Munchkins 1 & 2 (Years 3 & 4) commences Wednesday 4th, lunch time at school.
04th Feb – Munchkins #1 – 4.40 p.m.  Munchkins #2 – 5.20 p.m.
05th Feb – Moolap Cubs – 5.20 p.m.
11th Feb – Munchkins #1 – 4.00 p.m.  Munchkins #2 – 4.40 p.m.
12th Feb – Moolap Cubs – 4.00 p.m.
18th Feb – Munchkins #1 – 4.00 p.m.  Munchkins #2 – 4.00 p.m.
19th Feb – Moolap Cubs – 4.00 p.m.
25th Feb – Munchkins #1 – 4.40 p.m.  Munchkins #2 – 5.20 p.m.
26th Feb – Moolap Bubs – 5.20 p.m.

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MCG (MOOLAP COMMUNITY GROUP) NEWS
Canteen
No Lunch orders or Canteen this week, more information regarding Lunch Orders and Canteen will be in next week’s newsletter

2015 DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY
Mon 9  School Council Nominations Open
Mon 16  School Council Nominations Close
Wed 18  Football Clinic
Sat 21  Moolap Country Fair
Wed 25  Football Clinic
Thurs 28  Moolap Information Evening 5-7p.m.

MARCH
Mon 9  Labour Day Holiday
Mon 16  Preps First Full Week
Mon 23  School Council Meet 5.30p.m
Wed 25  Football Clinic
Thurs 26  Moolap Cross Country
Fri 27  Last Day Term 1 2.30 Dismissal

APRIL
Mon 13  First Day Term 2

COMMUNITY NEWS

BELLARINE PARENTS NETWORK
A network for parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder on the Bellarine Peninsula

WIN A FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2015
www.tmwf.org.au

COMMUNITY NEWS
School Council Elections 2015

**What is a school council and what does it do?**
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

**Who is on the school council?**
There are three possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- **A mandated elected DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- **An optional Community member category.** Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

**Why is Parent membership so important?**
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

**How can you become involved?**
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

**Do I need special experience to be on school council?**
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

**What do you need to do to stand for election?**
The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

**Remember**

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.
MOOLAP PRIMARY SCHOOL CAR PARK

- Travel at WALKING PACE only
- Reverse into car spaces provided
  - Walk your child/ren to the school gate using path indicated by orange line
    - DO NOT pull up and drop children from your car at the gate
  - DO NOT park where yellow lines are indicated – these are NO STOPPING zones
    - For ‘Drop Offs’ use High Street Crossing
- Practice School Values when using the car park *Respect Responsibility & Integrity*
- *Local Laws* do patrol the car park and parent will be fined if not using the car park correctly.

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Picking up & Dropping Off Children around schools.

For the safety of children, parents are reminded to take care and obey parking signs when picking up or dropping off children around schools. Council’s Parking & Information Officers regularly patrol school areas during start and finish times and motorists detected breaching parking regulations risk being issued with a Penalty Infringement Notice.

Remember, as soon as you stop to let your children in or out of the car, you are deemed to be parked. You do not have to leave your car or turn the engine off to be fined so please ensure you are parked in a legal parking area.

At children’s crossings, you must remain stationary at the stop line while any person (including an adult or the supervisor) is on the crossing or the stop sign is displayed. Do not let your child alight at this time, ensure that they wait until you are safely and legally parked.

If you breach a parking regulation the Parking & Information Officer assigned to monitor the crossing will usually record your registration number and details, and the Penalty Infringement Notice will be posted to you within the next three days.
MOOLAP PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNTRY FAIR

Saturday
February 21st 2015
11 am - 5 pm
Come join in the fun & celebrate with us!

In association with Geelong Animal Welfare Society

RIBES · FOOD · STALLS

Leopold Pre Loved Bikes & Toys

For sponsorship Ph. 5248 2284

Stalls
Home Made Children's Toys
Seed Shack & Chooks
Avon
Smashing Plates
Encompass Craft
Plaster Fun House
Munch & Crunch Cake Decorating
Café
Snack Van
Lions Club BBQ
Snow Cones
Tupperware
Elemental Design
Little Squirtz
Fairy Dress Heaven
Leopold Pre Loved Bikes & Toys

For the Kids
Rides
Cake Decorating
Craft Stalls
Food
Face Painting
Smashing Plates
Dunk Tank
Mini Golf
Pony Rides
Petting Zoo

Elemental Desire
Beauty Products

Cake Stall & Competition
Donations Required, more info this week!
Categories—
Best Chocolate Cake
Best Plais-Skees
Best Sponge

Leopold Pre Loved Bikes & Toys