PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Last Friday we farewelled Graeme and Anthea who have headed off on a well earned break until the end of term. In Graeme’s absence I will be ‘holding the reins’ and I thank all the parents who have wished me well in the Acting Principal position.

This has been a very ‘testing’ week. The year 11 students, and those in year 10 undertaking VCE subjects, have been sitting exams all week. These exams are part of their first semester assessment and also provide valuable experience in managing exam conditions.

The students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 have been sitting the annual NAPLAN tests in literacy and numeracy. These tests provide the school with valuable data that we can add to our other data to provide an overall picture of each child’s progress. While the media like to make a big deal about NAPLAN, it is important to remember that this is just a snapshot of the child on one particular day. No one’s life was ever changed by a NAPLAN result! The results of the tests are not available until October.

The school cross country was run on Tuesday afternoon, providing a test of a different kind. Congratulations to all those students (and teachers) who persevered to do their best in cold and blustery conditions. The results of the cross country will be announced at assembly on Monday, as will the teams to go on to interschool competitions next week.

As Graeme outlined last week, next week is Education Week and we would like to issue a warm invitation to all parents and friends of the school community to celebrate with us from recess till lunchtime on Thursday, 23rd May. This is a great opportunity to take a guided tour around the school with our student leaders, observe classes running, enjoy a couple of musical interludes and be persuaded by our soap box, ‘Have a Say’ finalists.

Congratulations to the 3/4 students and their teachers who raised lots of money toward their school camp by running a Mother’s Day stall. I’m sure, like me, many mums were thrilled with the lovely gifts they received on Sunday that had originated from the stall.

Speaking of camps, in last week’s and this week’s newsletter you will find an expression of interest form for NZ camp next year. The camp was originally scheduled to run this year but postponed due to industrial action. The positive to this is that the new date opens up the opportunity for the year 6s of 2014 (this year’s year 5s) to attend. This will be our 5th trip across the Tasman and every one of them has been a resounding success and great experience for all involved. If you are interested in the camp and would like to know more about it, please contact Geoff or myself.

Yesterday I had the great privilege to ‘beam in’, via our school Poly Com video, to the Marlo campus of the Alpine School where 7 of our year 9s have been honing their leadership and personal development skills over the last 5 weeks. Each group of students attending the SSL are responsible for designing a Community Learning Project to take back and implement in their own community. This year’s group have fabulous plans for a project involving the Mortlake Kindergarten. The reports from Marlo about their progress there have been very positive and we can’t wait to get them back home to our school next week to hear all about their adventures.

Good luck to Stacey Shalders who heads off to Canberra on the Beacon, Outward Bound Leadership Camp next week. Small school = Big opportunities and I know Stacey will be another great ambassador for Mortlake College.

Anne De Manser
Come and see what we do........

MORTLAKE COLLEGE OPEN DAY

24th May 2013 10.45am-1.30pm

Open Classrooms, Morning Tea, BBQ Lunch. Lucky Door Prize!

Choir performing at 10.45 am in the Dome

Students presenting ‘Have Your Say’ opinions at 11 am, and through lunchtime.

Open classrooms Periods 3 & 4

Oliver production number at 1 pm

SCHOOL FETE
19TH October, 2013

Do you have an idea/stall/activity that you think will make the day even better? You must also be willing to organise and man this idea on the day. We are looking for the school community to participate and put in your 2 bobs worth. If you have a fantastic idea, please contact Natasha Gibson marcustash3@gmail.com

We are also looking for donations of preserves, produce etc.
**Walk Safely to School Day**

Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is an annual, national event when all Primary School children will be encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a Community Event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment.

It will be held throughout Australia on **Friday 24 May 2013**

The objectives of WSTSD are:

- To encourage parents and carers to walk to school with primary school age children and reinforce safe pedestrian behaviour.

- To promote the health benefits of walking and help create regular walking habits at an early age.

- To ensure that children up to 10 years old hold an adult’s hand when crossing the road.

- To help children develop the vital road-crossing skills they will need as they become mature pedestrians.

- To reduce the car dependency habits that are being created at an early age and which will be difficult to change as children become adults.

- To promote the use of Public Transport.

- To reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles.

- To reduce the level of traffic congestion.

**Meet at Clarkes at 8:15am**

A healthy breakfast will be provided when you get to school.
**SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM: PREPS**

Forms have been sent out to all Prep students. Could they please be filled out and returned to school as soon as possible. Thanking you.

**Years 5-7 Report**

Term 2 has got off to a great start! Well done to Succeed on winning the 5-1 House Athletics and a big thank you to the parents and teachers who helped out on the day.

I also wish the best of luck to the students doing the NAPLAN tests.

Well done to Phoebe Calvert, Jack Lehmann, Harry Quail, Wha Wha Hapuku, Anna Roxburgh, Grace Thulborn, Henni Roxburgh, Henry Kain and Kismet McCarroll for getting over 50 stamps in their reward log this year.

Congratulations to the following people who got over 85% in the March/April review: Isaac Wareham, Steph Jubb, Henni Roxburgh, Jack Lehmann, Keely Moore, Henry Kain, Bobby Jamieson, Erin McGuigan and Robbie McGavin.

5-7 Communications Captain,

Robbie McGavin

**MUSIC STUDENTS NEEDED!!!**

Music education is often considered to not be as important as other areas in the curriculum. This is inaccurate. Many studies over many years, the latest being reported in The Herald-Sun on April 22nd, state that "Most musically tutored students easily outperform their peers who do not play an instrument. Study after study by some of the world’s leading universities has shown students learning instruments, playing in bands and singing in choirs perform significantly better at other subjects, particularly maths and languages... children trained in piano or keyboard have a better understanding of maths and scientific concepts than children receiving computer training... As they develop skills and a sense of belonging, their self-confidence increases and they learn self-expression, analysis, discipline, co-operation and co-ordination. Music improves their writing and communication skills."

I currently have room for up to five new students who wish to learn a musical instrument. There is quite a range to choose from, including piano, guitar, flute, recorder, clarinet, trumpet, saxophone, drums and violin. I teach students of all ages, from Prep to adult, and have different lengths of lessons to accommodate for attention spans! Please consider the benefits of having your child(ren) learn a musical instrument and contact me on 0355623975 for more information.

Melanie Pocknall
Instrumental Music Teacher

**LOST PROPERTY**

At the present time there is a vast amount of lost property at the College. It ranges from drink bottles, lunch boxes, containers to the usual clothing items. If your child has lost any of these items please check the lost property when visiting the College.

Please make sure that all articles are **clearly named** so that they can be handed back to your children.
On Wednesday 8th May our Year 7-12 students travelled down to Warrnambool to compete in the annual MWD Athletics. Conditions were excellent. Thank you to those staff who assisted with duties on the day as well as to those Year 5/6 students who helped out filling events.

Results are below.

AGE GROUP CHAMPIONS:

17 Girls Zoe Tarbolton
(Zoe was also equal overall girls champion)

15 Boys Lachlan Wareham

OVERALL:

1st Beaufort 267
2nd Mortlake 223
3rd Hawkesdale 185
4th Lake Bolac 142
5th Derrinallum 123

The next round of competition will be held in October. More information will be provided closer to the date.

STATE NOMINATIONS

If you wish to nominate your child for state team tryouts then visit the following website:
https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic

Other Important Dates:

- MWD Cross Country Years 7-12 Friday 24th May (Lake Bolac)
- Junior Football / Netball Carnival (Years 7-9) 13th June (Mortlake)
- GWR Cross Country 19th June

If you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Mr. Nathan Jones
Sports Coordinator 7-12
jones.nathan.t@edumail.vic.gov.au
Have you ever wanted to:

- Travel to another country with your own personal tour guide?
- Experience another culture?
- Eat food cooked by steam from the core of the Earth?
- Visit natural thermal pools?
- See where and how the Maori people lived?
- Visit sparkling white beaches and beaches covered in black sand?
- Go walking in a bush where there are no spiders or snakes?
- Swim in hot mineral pools?
- Ride a luge down the side of a mountain?
- View some of the most spectacular scenery in the world?

In 2014 we are once again planning to conduct a Mortlake College tour of the North Island of New Zealand. It is anticipated the trip will take place in March / April from Monday 31st March to Friday 11th April over 12 days. The tour will be open to students who will be in Yr 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 in 2014.

Based on current airfares and exchange rate the full cost of the tour including airfares, ground travel, accommodation, food and entry to attractions will be approximately $1300.00.

This would be due in a series of payments
$500 – end of term 3 $500 – end of term 4 final $300 end of February 2014

On top of this travellers would need a current passport and spending money.

We are also looking for interested parents to join the tour as supervisors as we will need a student/ adult ratio of 5 or 6 : 1. As with staff attending, parents will be expected to pay the same costs as students. At this stage we are only looking for expressions of interest to see if we are likely to have enough numbers to make the camp viable. Returning this form does not guarantee a place on the tour, nor does it commit you to taking part. If you would like further information see Anne or Geoff De Manser.

Please think about your options for the camp next year and if interested return this form to the general office.

My child (name) .................................................................. is interested in participating in

the NZ school trip.

I (name) ............................................................... am interested in accompanying

the NZ school trip.

Parent signature ..............................................................
“Keys Please” is a short, 70-75 minute session aimed at helping you, the Learner Driver, enjoy the learning-to-drive experience, pass your Licence tests and become a safe and competent driver. At the same time it will help your supervising drivers (parents, older brothers/sisters, uncles, aunts, whoever) tackle their role with confidence while avoiding the stress that can sometimes be a part of it.

It’s been run here at Mortlake P-12 College for a few years now, with great success. Everybody who attends comes away saying they’ve learned something. And had a laugh!

Learning to drive should be a fun, exciting time – not a scary or dull chore. We’ll show you how to make the most of it.

BER Building
Friday, 17 May, 2013 at 1.45 pm.
All we need is you!

P.S. It really would be handy if your parents come along

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**POLO SHIRT ORDER**

A second order for the house polo shirts will be placed in Term 2. The polo shirts coincide with the colour of your child/children’s new house (Inspire, Succeed or Endeavour). They will have the school logo with the house name on the left hand side similar to the white and red polo’s available from the uniform shop at the moment.

The cost for each shirt will be $19.00

All orders need to be paid for before ordering can take place.

*All order forms and payment are required back by Thursday 23rd May, 2013.*

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Inspire Succeed, Endeavour – Polo Shirts.

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March 13, 2012

Dear Wendy,

On behalf of all of us at Te Mania Angus, we would like to thank all the wonderful ladies that went to so much trouble to make all the beautiful cakes and biscuits for the bull sale this year.

A huge thank you also to all those who came to the bullshed to help with lunch as well as morning and afternoon teas. The food was delicious and we really appreciated all the hard work that went into ensuring there was enough food as well as enough hands on deck.

Please find enclosed a cheque for the amount of $1,200 to go to the Mortlake College Parents and Friends Association.

Warm regards

Lucy Gubbins
Te Mania Angus

LOST PROPERTY  1 x Mortlake College Navy Blue Coat marked with ‘Quail’ and 1 x green hand-knitted scarf.

If found please return to Ned or Harry Quail
L2P LEARNER DRIVER MENTOR PROGRAM

THE WARRNAMBOOL AND MOYNE L2P PROGRAM PROVIDES SUPPORT TO YOUNG PEOPLE TO LEARN TO DRIVE IN A SAFE AND LAWFUL MANNER AND TO INCREASE THEIR PROSPECTS OF FINDING EMPLOYMENT.

The L2P learner driver mentor program, an initiative of VicRoads funded by the TAC, is a community based program designed to help disadvantaged learner drivers get their driver’s licence. Under the new Graduated Licensing System or GLS introduced in July 2007, learner drivers are required to have a minimum of 120 hours of supervised driving experience before they can sit for their Probationary license test. The L2P program targets learner drivers under 21 years of age who have their Learner’s Permit but do not have access to a supervising driver or a vehicle due to financial or family circumstances in order to achieve the required 120 hours of driving experience. Without a driver’s license, these young people are likely to be further disadvantaged by not having access to a range of employment opportunities that require a driver’s license.

Research has shown that young drivers who achieve 120 hours of supervised driving experience, in a range of driving conditions, are less likely to be involved in serious motor vehicle accidents in the years following the attainment of their driver’s license.

BECOME A MENTOR

Volunteer mentors are needed to act as Supervising Drivers for learner drivers aged 16 – 20 to supervise driving practice sessions in vehicles supplied by the program. Supervising Drivers ensure that learner drivers complete their log book correctly and gain experience in a range of driving conditions including night driving. This practice is intended to make young learner drivers more competent and safer on the roads and reduce their over-representation in motor vehicle accidents.

Volunteers need to be mature models of safe and responsible driving, enjoy engaging with young people and be willing to develop their communication skills with this cohort. The volunteer’s role is like that of a parent or coach and not a professional driving instructor. Volunteers must have a full (non-Probationary) current Victorian drivers licence with a good driving history (less than 6 current demerit points). Volunteers would be required to supervise at least one driving practice session per week (1 ½ – 2 hrs/wk) over 6 months or longer if possible.

Prospective volunteers must complete an Application Form providing at least two referees and undergo relevant security checks including the Working with Children Check, Victoria Police and VicRoads driving history check. Following receipt of an application form, prospective volunteers will be provided with the relevant paperwork for the above security checks. All fees associated with these checks are borne by the program. Applicants would then be invited to attend an interview with the Program Coordinator as part of the screening process for all volunteers.

Selected applicants would be required to participate in a VicRoads training course for Supervising Drivers prior to being matched with a young person. The training involves three sessions over 2 – 3 weeks (two week nights and a half-day practical session on a Saturday or Sunday) 10 – 12 hours in total. Supervising Drivers receive ongoing feedback, advice and support from the professional driving instructors and the Program Coordinator while involved in the program. All volunteers are covered through insurances held by WCC.

FOR LEARNER DRIVERS

To be eligible for the Warrnambool and Moyne L2P learner driver mentor program, learner drivers must be:-

- Aged between 16 and 20 years
- Live in Warrnambool or the Moyne Shire
- Hold a current Victorian Learner’s Permit
- Be unable to access a suitable supervising driver or vehicle to gain driving experience
- Be financially disadvantaged

All learner drivers accepted into the program receive a number of professional driving lessons from qualified driving instructors both prior to commencing practice sessions with a volunteer Supervising Driver and as they progress through the stages of learning to more complex driving situations. Prospective learner drivers must complete an Application Form prior to attending an interview with the Program Coordinator.

The Warrnambool & Moyne L2P program is an opportunity for residents in our community to play a part in helping to keep young people safe on our roads.

For more information or to apply, contact the L2P Program Coordinator
PHONE 5594413 or EMAIL hcranage@warrnambool.vic.gov.au
L2P IS BASED ON 4 STAGES WITH THE HELP OF SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE AND PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTION

New learner enters program

Professional lessons

STAGE 1 Controlling the car

STAGE 2 Driving on Quiet low speed roads
Professional lessons to assess readiness to move to stage 3

STAGE 3 Complex Driving situations
Professional lessons to assess readiness to move to stage 4 and to detect any safety-related problems

STAGE 4 Rehearsing Solo Driving
Professional Lessons to assess readiness for licence test and solo driving

Learner takes test and leaves program

For more information or to apply, contact the L2P Program Coordinator

PHONE 55594413 or EMAIL hcranage@warrnambool.vic.gov.au
## 2013 Calendar

### May

- **Tues 14th – Thurs 16th**: NAPLAN Yr 3, 5, 7 & 9
- **Fri 17th**: ‘Keys Please’ Forum
- **Mon 20th**: Parent Association Meeting
- **Thurs 23rd**: 3-6 District Cross Country – Noorat
- **Fri 24th**: House Cross Country (7 – 12)
- **Walk to School and Healthy Breakfast**
- **Thurs 30th**: 3-6 Division Cross Country

**27th - 31st**

- Yr 10 Work experience
- State School Spectacular Rehearsal 1
- Yr 3/4 Bike Education

### August

- **Fri 9th**: ‘OLIVER’
- **Thurs 15th – Sat 17th**: ‘OLIVER’
- **Mon 19th**: Parent Association Meeting
- **Fri 23rd**: Pupil Free Day – P-12
- **Thurs 29th**: Teenage Expo

### September

- **Fri 23rd**: Pupil Free Day
- **3rd - 6th Division Table Tennis**

### June

- **Tues 4th**: School Council
- **Fri 7th**: Report Writing day – Student free
- **Mon 10th**: Queens Birthday Holiday
- **Tues 11th**: Barwon Prison Visit (VCE)
- **Wed 12th**: GAT Exam – Yrs 11-12
- **Thurs 13th**: Junior Netball/Football - Mortlake
- **Mon 17th**: Parent Association Meeting
- **Tues 18th**: 3-6 Regional Cross Country
- **Mon 17th – Fri 21st**: Drug Action Week - BER
- **Wed 19th**: GWR Cross Country - Hamilton
- **Fri 21st**: Ballarat Uni Visit – Yr 11
- **Wed 26th**: State School Spectacular Rehearsal 2
  - Yr 5/6 Trisports
  - Legally Blonde
  - End of Term 2
  - P-4 Dress, Talk & Walk like a Pirate Day

### July

- **Mon 15th**: Start of Term 3
- **Tues 23rd**: School Council
- **25th – 27th**: State School Spectacular
- **Mon 29th**: Parent Association Meeting

### October

- **Mon 7th**: Start of Term 4
- **Mon 14th**: GWS Athletics - Ballarat
- **Tues 15th**: School Council
- **Fri 18th**: 3-6 Regional Athletics
- **Sat 19th**: SCHOOL FETE
- **Mon 11th**: Pupil Free Day – P-12
- **Tues 12th**: School Council
- **Wed 13th – Fri 15th**: Yr 5/6 Camp

### November

- **Mon 11th**: Pupil Free Day – P-12
- **Tues 12th**: School Council
- **Mon 18th – Wed 20th**: Yr 3/4 Camp - Kangarooie

### December

- **Mon 9th**: Parent Association Meeting
- **Tues 10th**: Presentation night
- **Tues 17th**: School Council
- **Wed 18th**: Last day for all students