Principals Report

Moyne Shire Youth Achievers’ Presentation

Last Wednesday the annual Youth Achievers’ presentation was held at the Lighthouse Theatre in Warrnambool. It was a very exciting evening for Mortlake College as we had four nominees who were presented to the audience; Stacey Shalders and Robbie Orwin were nominated for their contributions to the community, Charmelle McCarroll for her sporting achievements and Sara Bolch for academic excellence. To be nominated for an award is a significant achievement and I would like to congratulate each of our nominees on their success.

The conclusion to the evening was particularly exciting when Sara was announced as the overall female Youth Achiever of the Year for Moyne Shire. Sara was recognized not only for her outstanding academic results last year but also for the wonderful contribution that she has made to school and community theatre productions and to the Moyne Youth Council. Congratulations also to current Moyne Youth councillors, Cooper Lower and Gerald Monteith who assisted with the presentations.

Peter’s Project Leadership Congress

On 28 February eight of our student leaders from Years 5-8 will participate in the Peter’s Project Student Leaders Congress at Deakin University Warrnambool. The theme of the congress is “What does it mean to be a leader in my community? The congress and the project as a whole is designed to develop the leadership capacity of our students, raise awareness of cancer research, support and prevention and engage our school and local community in Peter’s Project. After the congress students will be involved in projects at school that will build on what they have learnt at the congress.

Parent’s Association

On Monday evening the Parents’ Association held their first meeting for the year and discussed their program for the year. The exciting news is that the new playground equipment has arrived and the Parents’ Association is hopeful that it will be ready for use early in second term. This is the culmination of a number of year’s fundraising from the PA and it will be a wonderful addition to the playground.

Year 12 Study Camp:

The Year 12 Study camp at Deakin University was very successful and our students are now really well informed about what they need to do in order to be successful in their Year 12 studies. One of the key messages was that students need to apply themselves all through the year and not allow the pressure to build because they haven’t been sufficiently diligent or organised. The Year 12 year is such a short year and, as we see each year, those who are prepared to work hard both at school and at home are rewarded for their hard work.

Thank you to the parents and staff who attended the dinner and presentation on Sunday night and a special thanks to Ian and Sandra O’Brien for providing the delicious pizzas. Thank you to Anthea for all her work in planning and conducting the camp, and to Ken Bell for his support. It was great that two former students, David Shalders and Mitchell Wills were able to share their experiences of Year 12 and also inform the group about what to expect in their first year of tertiary study. Well done to the Year 12 group for cooperating fully throughout the camp.
Swimming Sports
The Years 3-6 House Swimming carnival which was held on Tuesday was very successful and I would like to thank Mr Boyden, our P-6 Sports coordinator, for all his work in organizing the day. The day was keenly contested and the final results were very close. The house cup will be presented at next Monday’s assembly.
The Mid West complex carnival which was held at Mortlake on Wednesday was also a great day and I would like to thank Mr Jones, our senior sport coordinator, for all his work. The final result saw Mortlake victorious after a great tussle with Beaufort throughout the day, and in the end first and second places came down to the results of the final couple of relays. Full details will be published in next week’s newsletter.

Changes to suspension and expulsion procedures
On March 1 the Education Department is introducing new suspension and expulsion procedures. A fact sheet for parents is included in this newsletter.

Reminder! -Welcome breakfast & Leadership assembly
Everyone is most welcome to join us for the student leadership assembly that will be held next Thursday 27 February commencing at 9:15am in the BER. The assembly will be preceded by a ‘Welcome’ breakfast in the undercover area commencing at 8am.

Graeme Good
Fact sheet for parents and carers – new suspension and expulsion procedures

Every member of a school community has the right to feel safe at school. As a parent or carer you should be confident that you are sending your child into a safe and supportive learning environment.

Suspension and expulsion are serious disciplinary measures and should be used as a last resort in managing a student’s behaviour.

As of 1 March 2014 changes have been made to how suspension and expulsion processes work in government schools.

The grounds for suspension and expulsion have also been updated to better enable principals to prevent and respond to behavioural incidents that may compromise the health, wellbeing and safety of staff and students. The grounds for suspension and expulsion can be found at: [http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/discipline.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/discipline.aspx)

The relevant person – ensuring students are supported

It is important that every student has a person to support and advocate for them throughout a suspension or expulsion process. The new guidance on suspensions and expulsions has introduced the concept of a **relevant person**, which is the adult who will play this important support role.

**In most cases a student’s relevant person will be their parent or carer.** However, you as the parent or carer can also nominate another responsible adult to act as the relevant person if you cannot, for whatever reason, take on this role yourself.

The role of the relevant person **does not replace your role as parent or carer** with regard to responsibility for decision-making about your child’s education, and for their enrolment and attendance at school. Rather, it has been introduced in recognition of the fact that students come from diverse family backgrounds and that a parent or carer may not always be able to act as a support person for their child.

All relevant persons are entitled to bring an independent support person so long as they are not acting for fee or reward. For Koorie students you can ask for a Koorie Engagement Support Officer or Koorie Education Coordinator to play this support role.

The suitable persons list

In some cases, a parent or carer may be unable to act as the relevant person for their child during a suspension or expulsion process, and may also be unable to nominate another adult to fulfil this role.
In these situations the school principal will appoint a person from the ‘suitable persons list’ to act as the student’s relevant person. The suitable persons list is a register of departmental employees with relevant welfare expertise, experience and training.

This is to ensure that every student has somebody to support and advocate for them.

Meetings with the school principal – the behaviour review conference

A principal is required to hold a meeting, called a behaviour review conference, when an expulsion is being considered for a student. The student and their relevant person must be invited to this meeting to discuss the student’s behaviour and possible consequences and strategies to address the behaviour.

The relevant person can also request a meeting with the principal at any point during an expulsion process if they have any concerns.

The relevant person – whether parent, carer or another adult – may bring an independent support person to any school meeting as long as they are not acting for fee or reward.

When suspending a student, principals are not required to hold a meeting with the student and relevant person either before or after the suspension, but the relevant person can request a meeting with the school principal at any point during the suspension process if they wish to discuss any concerns.

If you are unable to resolve your concerns with the school principal, you can contact the relevant department regional office to discuss further. To contact your closest regional office see: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/contact/Pages/regions.aspx

Expulsion appeals

A student who has been expelled has the right to appeal their expulsion. The relevant person may exercise this right on their behalf, taking into consideration the student’s views and best interests.

The school must provide every expelled student an appeal form along with the Notice of Expulsion.

More information

For more information on suspension and expulsion processes, see:
The Sungold Field Days

On the 12th February the Year 3/4s went to the Sungold Field Days in Allansford. When we got off the bus we got into our 7 groups and we all went different ways so we got to see different things. We were allowed to take $10 each to spend on the day. The steam train was very interesting and it was interesting because there was heaps of schools and not just our school. There was an animal farm and in it there was a calf, puppies, rabbits, guinea pigs, chickens, a pony, a baby deer and a donkey (this was our favourite part of the day). There were old cars and tractors, new tractors and motorbikes and heaps of free stuff like pens, balloons flavoured milk, sausage sizzles, snow cones, balls, drink bottles, hats and heaps more.

We would like to thank Mrs Storr, Mr V, Mrs Pekin, Mrs Schuuring, Mr Wood, Mrs Lynzaat and Ms Cann for helping out on the day.

By Claire Mahncke & Declan Gibson
Year 3/4V Class Captains
Banana Muffins

Ingredients

*Melted Butter for Greasing
*75g Butter Melted

*2 Cups (300g) Self Raising Flour
*½ Cup (125ml) Milk

*1 Tsp Baking Powder
*2 Tbs Honey

*½ Tsp Bicarbonate Of Soda
*1 Tsp Vanilla Essence

*1 Tsp Cinnamon
*2 Eggs

*½ Tsp Cinnamon

*1 Cup Mashed Banana
*1 Cup Mashed Banana

Method

Preheat oven to 180°

Grease 12 x 1/3 cup muffin pans with melted butter (or use paper cases)

Sift flour, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda, cinnamon and salt into a large bowl

Sift in sugar

Combine melted butter, milk, honey, eggs and mashed bananas in a large jug

Whisk until well combined

Make a well in the centre of the dry ingredients. Add egg mixture, stir until just combined (don’t over mix)

Spoon mixture into muffin pans

Bake 20 minutes (or until cooked through when tested with a skewer).

Cool in pans for 5 minutes

Cool on a wire rack
House Captains Profiles

Name – Tyler Fowler
Age – 16
Town lived – Mortlake
Parents – Melissa & Jason
Siblings – Jacob, Issac, Kaitlyn, Daniel & Zavier
Favourite Food – Pasta
Favourite Hobby – Sport
Favourite Colour – Green / Blue
Favourite Number – 15
Favourite TV Show – Big Bang Theory, 2 Broke Girls, Black List
Favourite Movie – Don’t have one
Favourite Song/ Band – I enjoy a wide range of music
4 people you would invite to dinner – I wouldn’t have a dinner party
2 words to describe you – Sporty, Determined
Dream Holiday Destination – Travelling around

Name – Shona McGuigan
Age – 15
Town lived – Mortlake
Parents – Tammy & John
Siblings – Erin, Bridie, Holly & Millie
Favourite Food – Sausages
Favourite Hobby – Playing with my dogs
Favourite Colour – Blue
Favourite Number – 17
Favourite TV Show – Winners & Losers
Favourite Movie – Star Struck
Favourite Song/ Band – Jason Derulo
A person you would invite to dinner – Ryan Reynolds
One word to describe you – Random
Dream Holiday Destination – Darwin
Last week on Wednesday, we had Show, Tell, Share. Josie brought in her puppy named “Ted.” Luke E showed us pictures of his tiny puppy. Amy brought in a picture of a beautiful sky that she entered in a competition. And Matilda brought in her mum’s swap cards that were given to her.

On Thursday, we did a Fire Plan activity where we had to draw our house and think about what we would do if there was a fire. We then had to go home and talk to our parents about it.

And that is everything interesting about Inspire home group last week!

Thank you.

By Olivia Anders
CLASSROOM HELPERS COURSE: NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Mortlake College invites parents to a series of talks/discussions on understanding how children develop their literacy skills. You will develop an understanding of ways in which you can help your child in reading, writing and speaking & listening.

It is desirable that you attend this course if you would like to help with our reading program, so that you have an understanding of how reading and writing is taught in the classroom.

We will run the course on **Wednesday February 26th** from 9:00 till 3:00. Lunch and morning tea will be provided. If you are interested please fill out the return slip or contact Sue Amos on 55992204.

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**Welcome Breakfast**

**Thursday 27th February**

From 8 – 9 am
Undercover area
Cereal, Fruit & Yoghurt
All Welcome!
Followed by our
Student Leadership Assembly
@ 9:15am
Come and Meet our Yr 12’s and Preps of 2014

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**Do you have an email address?**

**Do you receive the weekly school newsletter in hard copy form?**

Due to price increases with printing, we would like to change to email the newsletters to all families.

Please email: Glenice on justin.glenice.j@edumail.vic.gov.au or phone 55992204 to update your details.

Thanks for your support.

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I have received a number of emails from parents regrading problems with opening the newsletter attachment each week … this may be a problem with your computer settings. If you keep having difficulties, the newsletter is always available on the school website to read/print in PDF format.
Congratulations to the Secondary students’ Swim Team on Winning the Midwest Complex Aggregate Shield today at the Interschool Swim Sports.

.... And the Yr 3/6 Endeavour Team take out the Swimming Sports yesterday!
Mortlake College is SunSmart

- Mortlake College follows the SunSmart recommendations. We have a sun protection policy.
- Students must wear hats when outside in the sun during Term 1 and Term 4.
- Sunscreen SPF 30+ is available from the school and students can wear Australian Standards sunglasses.

UV levels are the highest during the middle of the day.

1. Slip on sun-protective clothing that covers as much skin as possible.
2. Slip on SPF 30 or higher sunscreen – make sure it is broad spectrum and water resistant. Put it on 20 minutes before you go outdoors and reapply every two hours.
3. Slap on a hat that protects your face, head, neck and ears.
4. Seek shade.
5. Slide on sunglasses – make sure they meet Australian Standards.

Lunch Box Blitz
The Year 12 students returned from camp Tuesday afternoon after a busy few days at the Warrnambool campus of Deakin University. They participated in a range of sessions related to VTAC; study skills in Year 12; courses available at Deakin University; and the expectations of Year 12.

It was great that parents were able to join us for tea Sunday night and enjoy the pizzas kindly provided by Tim's parents. Thank you very much to Ian and Sandra, and to parents for staying for the VCE information session. We were fortunate in having former students David Shalders and Mitchell Wills speak to us on Sunday evening about their different experiences in Year 12 and in their first years of University.

Students also had the chance to do some shopping and go to the movies. The general consensus, however, seemed to be that 'Last Vegas' was not a high point of the camp! I would like to thank the Year 12 students for being such a terrific group of students to spend time with. We were also very fortunate in being able to experience a little of what life might be like as a university student. At this stage we are encouraging students to explore all possibilities for life after Year 12 before settling on one particular course or career path. Students should continue to explore possibilities by doing their own research and working with myself, Mr Bell, Mr Croucher and their house mentors. We will be encouraging students to begin drafting scholarship applications if they are intending to undertake tertiary study, and explore accommodation options. In May we would also like to take students to the Age Careers Expo to help them gather further resources and information.

Our camp concluded with a session run by our school nurse, Jenny Williams, based around stress and time management in Year 12. Jenny and Kerry are both great in managing student welfare, and are available to help our students at any stage through the year.

Anthea Good
VCE Co-ordinator
Welcome to this year’s 5-12 production of Wizard of Oz. We have another large cast this year with many Year 5s joining the production. The main cast has been selected and is listed below. Many of the supporting roles will be cast during class rehearsals over the next few weeks. Congratulations to all those who auditioned and particularly to those who have been selected to take on a major role.

After-school rehearsals will commence for main cast in the next two weeks. A rehearsal schedule will be given out by next week and will be available on the Mortlake College Performing Arts Facebook page and the school website. For most supporting cast and chorus, after-school rehearsals will not commence until Term 2. They will be on Wednesday night, as in previous years.

The performance dates this year are a little earlier than last year as we intend to complete the performances by the end of Term 2. Performance dates:

- Friday, June 20
- Thursday, June 26
- Friday, June 27

The matinees will most likely be the Monday and Wednesday of that week.

Production Support Meeting: there will be a meeting of those parents, staff and community members interested in helping with the production in any way after school on Wednesday February 26 at 3.30pm in the Staff Room. This could be anything from helping with costumes, set painting, catering, organizing tea and coffee or helping on the door. We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible and if you have other interested grandparents etc, please bring them along.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Cheers.

Lyle Russell
russell.yle.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

MAIN CAST

Dorothy .......... Bree Cummins
Aunt Em/ Glinda ..........Asha Kelly
Uncle Henry/Guard ......... Jacob Pugh
Zeke .......... Lizzy Kelly
Hickory ........ Ryan Tanner
Hunk ....... Harry Quail
Miss Gultch/Wicked Witch ..... Charmarelle McCarroll
Professor Marvel/Wizard of Oz ...... Gerald Monteith
Scarecrow ..... Cooper Lower
Tinman ...... Jake Tanner
Lion ....... Lilli Cummins
Munchkin Mayor ...... Jack McDonald
Munchkin Coroner ..... Brooke Harfoot
Munchkin Barrister ...... Kismet McCarroll
Raising Teens

A program for parents of children in Years 8, 9 & 10

Topics include:

- Normalising behaviour
- Setting boundaries & building resilience
- Identifying at-risk behaviour
- Communication
- Tips for maintaining a positive relationship with your adolescent

Date: Tuesday 11th March 2014. Cost: FREE!!!!
Time: 6.00pm—7.30pm
Venue: Terang College.
RSVP by: Tuesday 4th March
Terang parents: register at the school office.
Mortlake parents: register with Jenny Williams.
Sorry, no childcare available.
1st Terang Scout Group presents....
COME AND TRY SCOUTS DAY

Come and Experience what scouts is all about.
Fun Activities for all ages.

Date—Saturday 22nd Feb 2014
Location—1st Terang Scout Hall
The Promenade, Terang
(Next to Terang Kindergarten)
Time—10am—2pm
Contact—Justin Keane
Ph: 0450 428 260
Website—tinycc/cometryscouts

TERANG JUNIOR BASKETBALL
-Skills Sessions-
28th of February & 7th of March
4pm-5pm
at
Terang Basketball Stadium
Boys and Girls aged 7-10 welcome

Cost - $2
(per child to cover court hire fee’s)

-Non-marking soles on shoes
- No shorts with pockets
## 2014 CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>Biology Excursion</td>
<td>Fri 14th</td>
<td>Yr 4/6 Regional Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 26th</td>
<td>Classroom Helpers Course 9m-3pm</td>
<td>Mon 17th</td>
<td>Parents Association AGM 7pm</td>
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<td>Thurs 27th</td>
<td>Welcome BBQ Undercover area 8-9am</td>
<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews 2-6:30pm - Students Half Day - Finish 12:50pm</td>
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<td>Thurs 27th</td>
<td>Student Leadership Assembly 9:15am BER</td>
<td>Wed 19th</td>
<td>Yr 3/6 Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Fri 28th</td>
<td>District Tennis</td>
<td>Thurs 20th</td>
<td>Immunizations Yr 7, Yr 9 Boys &amp; Yr 10</td>
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### MARCH

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<td>Wed 3rd</td>
<td>Prep Interviews</td>
<td>Mon 24th</td>
<td>House Athletics Trials Yr 5-12</td>
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<td>Tues 4th</td>
<td>Prep Interviews</td>
<td>Mon 24th</td>
<td>VCE PARTY Program Warrnambool</td>
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<td>Tues 4th</td>
<td>NZ Camp Information Night 6:30pm</td>
<td>Tues 25th</td>
<td>Yr 3/6 Athletics Camperdown</td>
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<td>Wed 5th</td>
<td>Yr 4 Excursion Gnurad Gundiji</td>
<td>Mon 31st</td>
<td>March - Fri 11th April New Zealand Camp</td>
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<td>Wed 5th</td>
<td>Prep Interviews</td>
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<td>Thurs 6th</td>
<td>Yr 3/6 Swim Hamilton</td>
<td>Tues 1st</td>
<td>Yr 12 TIS</td>
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<td>Fri 7th</td>
<td>MWC Tri</td>
<td>Wed 3rd</td>
<td>P-2 Athletics Fun Day</td>
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<td>Mon 10th</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY (No School)</td>
<td>Fri 4th</td>
<td>Term 1 Ends - School Finishes 2:20pm</td>
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<td>Tues 11th</td>
<td>SSG’s P-12</td>
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### APRIL

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 13th</td>
<td>Visiting Show</td>
<td>Tues 29th</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
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**Reminder to all New Zealand Campers—**

**Final Camp payments are due**

**Friday 28th February**

**(next week)**

**Thanks !**