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Community Newsletter

159-211 Coburns Road, MELTON 3337 PO Box 663, MELTON 3337 03 9743 4966 melton.ss@edumail.vic.gov.au

5th May 2017

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AFTER
SCHOOL CARE
COMMUNICATION
LINE

0447 085 696



STUDENT
BUS TRANSPORT
COMMUNICATION
LINE

1800 660 530





A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Community members,

This term I have been overwhelmed by the amount of talent displayed outside school by our students. They are certainly raising the expectations of what is capable for young people with disabilities. Well done to all our stars and the hard work that goes into receiving these achievements. If you would like to celebrate your child's achievements in future newsletters please get in touch with your child's teacher and we will be more than happy to brag about them to our community!

Shout out to all of our Sporting Stars!



Patrick and Jamie-Lee Getson swam their best at the Australian Age State Swiming Championships recently in Brisbane. Collectively they won 16 medals – 4 Gold, 4 Silver and 8 Bronze.

Amy Hibbard played in the Victorian U16 Women's Cricket Championships over the Christmas break and was recently received her Batting Award. She has been invited to attend the Melbourne Renegades U16 Academy to further her skills.

Ash Lay played football for Bacchus Marsh over the ANZAC Day weekend, where he kicked 6 goals for his team and was named Best on Ground!



School Council AGM

Everyone is invited along to our school council AGM where we will be presenting the School Annual Report 2016 to the community. Please come along at 6pm on Tuesday 9th May.

Mother's Day is on Sunday 14th May

Our school is hosting a special Mother's Day Morning Tea for all the special women in our students lives. Please come along to share some light refreshments and socialise over a cuppa. The Parents, Carers and Community Club is hosting a Mother's Day stall on Friday 12th May. Gifts are priced between \$1 and \$5. Send some money in on the day so your child can shop for a gift of their choice. A big thank you to the PCCC for all their extra work organising this stall.

School uniform

Please remember as it gets cooler that **Hoodies are not part of our school uniform**. State School Relief is available for those that need help to purchase correct uniform pieces. If students are not in full school uniform they are not able to go shopping or participate in excursions.

Lateness and Absentees

Please remember that being at school and being on time is crucial for student to make progress. We do understand that at times this can be difficult. If you need support to increase attendance or reduce lateness please contact your class teacher in the first instance.

What's on at MSS

Class and program activities are being included each newsletter. Hopefully you will enjoy seeing all the great activities and programs we have been doing across the school.

School Café

I am truly enjoying visiting the café each week – the carrot cake is amazing! When we take our training wheels off, we will have a parent tester day! – Stay tuned.....

Best wishes everyone Brooke





Check out our school Facebook page!

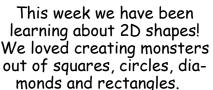
Catch up on the latest news and activities, download the school newsletter and see what is coming up on the school calendar.

A Word From: Room 1— Shanae & Sally

Have A Look At What Room 1 Has Been Up To!

We had lots of fun decorating Easter hats in preparation for the parade last term. There were some great designs and we looked fabulous!















A Word From: Kate— Acting Junior School Leader

What a busy but great start to the term it has been! The Junior students have all been working hard. There have been numerous classes exploring different places within the Melton community. Frequently visiting the library, supermarket, local parks and Bunnings.

There have been a few exciting things happening inside and outside of the school that have been supporting students ILP goals and learning outcomes.



Some lucky students had the opportunity to participate in the COPPS Program. This is a local initiative with the Melton Police Station and the Arsenal Soccer Club to build positive relationships between local students and the police. The program involved a number of students participating in a soccer clinic with other schools in the local area. Students received lots of goodies, including show bags and a free sausage sizzle. Students learnt valuable lessons on creating positive relationships with peers and the police.

Juniors are looking forward to an exciting and engaging term of learning and new experiences.



School Uniform Assistance



If you require help in purchasing a school uniform for your child please contact the office to discuss your options. We have many ways to assist your family in obtaining uniforms, underwear and shoes for your child to wear to school.

School Payments Assistance

CSEF can be used when making payments for school excursions and incursions. Please indicate if you are paying by CSEF when returning your excursion forms.

Melton Specialist School's Essential Education Items are listed as excursions/activities/swimming at \$125.00 per year. If Parents or Guardians hold a current Health Care or Pension Card then you will need to register for CSEF and will not have to pay for this fee for the year.

Please ask the office for more information or check out the Department of Education CSEF website.

Head Lice

We have had a few reported cases of head lice recently and would like to remind parents to be vigilant in checking their child's hair and applying the appropriate treatments before returning to school.

To prevent head lice becoming an issue for your child there are a number of tips that can help:

- If your child has long hair, tie it up into a secure hair style
- Use gel, hairspray and other styling products to coat your child's hair so they will not be able to attch to the hair shaft.
- Check your child's hair regularly for lice

If you find that your child has lice please notify your child's teacher via the communication diary so they can support your child.

To remove head lice there are a number of tips that can help:

- Coat your child's hair in conditioner and use a lice comb to remove the live lice and eggs. Repeat this process every second day for a week to break the cycle.
- Afterwards apply a commercial treatment to kill any remaining live lice and eggs according the manufacturers directions.

Applied Learning Mother's Day Sale

Thursday 11th May



Assorted Plants starting from \$2
Wooden Flower Plaques Large \$4 Small \$2
Mother's Day Cards 50c
Mother's Day Bookmarks 50c
Raffle \$1 a ticket or 3 for \$2 ~ Set of 3 recycled
Wooden flying ducks



Friendly Reminders

Drop Off/Pick Up & Parking Information

NO ENTRY TO SCHOOL CARPARK

In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment, we remind parents that between **8.30 a.m.** and **9.20 a.m.**, as well as **2.30 p.m.** to **3.20 p.m.** that parent/carer/guardian vehicles are to remain outside the school gates in designated car parks.

DESIGNATED WALKWAYS

When you are walking into the school please use the designated walkways which are highlighted by the yellow painted lines.

PARENT PICK UP/DROP OFF ZONE

Please note that the Parent pick up and Drop off zone is now located at the blue seating in the school courtyard. Please feel free to wait in this area in the morning and afternoons for your child

School Absences

If your child is sick or not going to be at school for the day, please call the school and leave a message.

- Ring 9743 4966
- Select option to leave a message
- Include your child's name, classroom teacher, date of absence and reason for absence

Upon return to school it is necessary to have a note in the Communication Diary regarding the absence and a medical certificate if appropriate.

Volunteer Induction Session

Our school greatly appreciates the support given to students' learning through volunteering. Family involvement in the classroom and special activities is encouraged and very welcome.

People who volunteer must have a current *Working with Children Check*. Applications can be made online and there is no fee involved. Once you receive your card, it must be presented to the office for verification.

Our next Volunteer Induction session will be held on Wednesday 10th May at 10:15am.

Please get in touch with your child's teacher if you wish to help out in the classroom.



School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Prize Winners

Junior School

Lillian—for being RESPECTFUL in the yard
Harmony—for following instructions and being RESPONSIBLE in doing her work
Tahnee-Lea—for being SAFE in the playground and classroom
Makyla —for being RESPECTFUL to staff

Middle School

Kacyi—being RESPECTFUL to staff Brendon W—being RESPONSIBLE in cooking Azay—Being SAFE on the slide

Senior School

Jayden M—being RESPONSIBLE and RESPECTFUL in the classroom Connor F—showing all three values Cate M—for being RESPONSIBLE and following directions

Dates to Remember

Monday	8th May	National Volunteer's Week
Tuesday	9th May	Golf Elective—selected senior students
		School Council Meeting & Annual General Meeting 6pm
Wednesday	10th May	PCCC Committee Meeting 9:15am
		Volunteer Induction Session 10:15am
		GAP Community Project—VCAL Horticulture students
Thursday	11th May	Mothers Day Morning Tea 10 to 11:30am
		Vic Uni Inclusive PE Program—Penny's class
		Youth Participation Project Golf—selected students
Friday	12th May	PCCC Mother's Day Stall 10am to 11:30am
Tuesday	16th May	Golf Elective—selected senior students
Thursday	18th May	Youth Participation Project Golf—selected students
Friday	19th May	Excursion 100 Story Building—Rohan and Rebecca's class
Monday	22nd May	Education Week
Tuesday	23rd May	Golf Elective—selected senior students
Wednesday	24th May	Landcare Project—selected senior students
Thursday	25th May	Youth Participation Project Golf—selected students
Friday	26th May	National Sorry Day
		Mid Term Assembly 1:15am
Monday	29th May	National Reconciliation Week
		Blackwood Camp—Kirsten and Danni's classes
Tuesday	30th May	Golf Elective—selected senior students
Thursday	1st June	Youth Participation Project Golf—selected students
		Blackwood Camp—Brigitte and Glen's classes
Tuesday	6th June	School Council Meeting 6pm
Thursday	8th June	PCCC Special Lunch Order Day—PIZZA
Monday	12th June	Public Holiday School Closed—Queen's Birthday
Tuesday	13th June	Curriculum Day—No Students to attend school
·	30th June	End of Term Assembly
		Term 2 finishes 2pm—early dismissal

Important Information for Moorabool Shire Residents



Central Highlands NDIS District News

The NDIS became available in the Central Highlands area from 1 January 2017. Additional information about phasing arrangements and how to access the scheme is available at ndis.gov.au.

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVTE YOU TO OUR



All the special women in our student's lives are welcome to come and enjoy some light refreshments and have a chat with each other

Thursday 11th May 2017 10am - 11:30am



Mother's Day Stall Friday 12th May from 10am

Affordable quality Items from \$1 to \$5 including mugs, pamper packs, keyrings, travel mugs, pens, candles and others.

Items for mothers, grandmothers, step-mothers, carers and any other special women in your child's life.

Please send money in your child's communication book on the day. They will be assisted to purchase the present.

Stall hosted by the Parents, Carers and Community Club.

Volunteers needed to assist, please contact Breeanna Guardabascio through the school office on 97434966.

VICTORIAN CARER STATEMENT SURVEY



Help shape Victoria's future direction to support carers!

The Victorian Government is working with Carers Victoria to develop a Carer Statement which will outline how we can best support and recognise carers.

Carers look after someone who has high or low needs to be independent because of disability, mental illness, being older or chronic illness. All care relationships are unique and carers do a variety of tasks to help the person they are caring for. These can include but are not limited to:

- A parent caring for a child of any age with special needs
- · A husband looking after his wife who has problems with her memory
- An adult daughter looking after her mum or dad as they get older and need more help around the house, such as gardening, cooking, cleaning or showering and dressing, or
- A friend looking after a neighbour with a chronic illness, checking in on them, talking to
 doctors and nurses.

We want to know: What works best in services and supports now? What could be improved and how? What service gaps are there?

Have your say - attend the CALD consultation

We invite you to attend the Carer Consultation for people from diverse cultural and language backgrounds who are in care relationships.

Wednesday 31 May 4:00pm – 6:00pm Carers Victoria Office Level 1, 37 Albert Street, Footscray

The office is wheelchair accessible and there is parking close by. Light refreshments will be served.

Please register by Thursday 20 May to Margaret Boulos, phone 9248 9610 or email margaret.boulos@carersvictoria.org.au

Places are limited so be sure to book early.

Please let us know if you need an interpreter.

Spread the word

Please help spread the word about this important survey and consultation among carers in your community.

www.carersvictoria.org.au





AFTER SCHOOL CARE

From the 26th April 2017, Distinctive Options will be conducting an after school care program at Melton Specialist School. We provide safe, stimulating, individualised care for children to allow parents to work longer hours, spend time with their other children and as a form respite. Fees are subsidised up to 50% through Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate, and respite support hours may also be used.

All children are fully supported and encouraged to get involved with all of the fun activities on offer. Our program follows the My Time Our Place Framework for School Age Care in Australia and incorporates various activities, including games, construction, music, art, craft, sport, dance and cooking.

All staff are experienced in children with complex needs as well as qualifications in first aid. anaphylaxis and asthma management.

Once a child is enrolled, they can be placed in the program on a permanent basis each week or on a casual basis at short notice.

Pick up a Parent Handbook and Enrolment Pack from the school office now, request one to be sent home via your child's communication diary or contact the coordinator Sarah for more information.



3.00PM - 6.00PM

MSS STUDENTS BETWEEN 5 AND 18

PERMANENT OR CASUAL BOOKINGS

FUN ACTIVITIES ON OFFER EACH NIGHT OF THE WEEK

COST CAN BE
COVERED USING
CHILD CARE
BENEFIT, CHILD
CARE REBATE &
RESPITE SUPPORT
HOURS

SARAH OUIGI FY

Coordinator 0418 865 736 arah quigley@d-o.com au

www.distinctiveoptions.com.

WESTERN VOCATIONAL ASSOCIATION



A Free Employment Service for People with Learning Difficulties and / or Disabilities

..WHAT IS JOBS WEST?

JOBS WEST is an employment service that assists people with learning difficulty to become active members of the workforce.

JOBS WEST has been assisting people find and maintain jobs since 1986

..WHAT DOES JOBS WEST DO FOR YOU?

WE CAN PROVIDE

- ☑ Pre-employment Skills Training
- ☑ Job Search Assistance
- ☑ New Resume & Job Application Assistance
- ☑ Job & Interview Preparation & Support
- On site job training and support if required
- Opportunity to enter into an National Work Experience Program (NWEP)
- Information and advice on training options and other service providers

..WHO CAN USE JOBS WEST?

PEOPLE WHO:

- ☑ Have a learning difficulty
- ☑ Are of working age
- Are studying or at school and would like to work part time (minimum of 8 hours a week).
- Are motivated to enter the workforce
- ☑ May need on job training
- Have the skills and capacity to undertake work
- ☑ Are registered with Centrelink



Get Active Information Night

Come along and celebrate the end of the first Health and Wellbeing program for 2017!

There will be a presentation of the program so far and plans for the program at the end of the year.

Whether you are a school leaver, a local sporting club, a person living with a disability or just someone who wants to get involved in your local community, it's a great opportunitity to get more information about upcoming sporting events and opportunities to get involved in the local area.

Come along on the night and meet other people that are interested in getting active as well as coaches and trainers that have participated in the program so far.

Thursday 16th May 2017 When:

5.30pm - 7.00pm Time:

St Albans day and lifestyle centre, Where:

432 main rd west, St Albans 3021

Tuesday 9th May 2017 RSVP:

Contact details

For more information please or to register your interest please contact Amy Marie





Email amarie@scopeaust.org.au









AN INITIATIVE OF LINKING MELTON SOUTH

FREE event - May 13th from 1pm - 4pm

Uniting Church Opportunity Centre 16 Brooklyn Rd, Melton South

Melton Station Square - across from the train station

Featuring fixers:

RUDE Record - Karen and Danny Mary-Jane Roy Janene Menner

Do you have any household items that are broken or need mending? Bring along any: clothes, appliances, lamps, computers, electrical items and more, and chat to one of our amazing team! (1 item per person)

For any enquiries about the event or to join the Mend It, Melton team contact Ben:







9361 9377 🛕 BenjaminT@djhs.org.au 🕴 www.facebook.com/groups/menditmelton





Registered NDIS Provider







Ballarat NDIS Parent Connection Group

Dessert and Discussion

Tuesday May 9th, 7.30am - 9pm Golf House Hotel, 920 Doveton St N, Ballarat North

Come and share your experiences of the planning and implementation of your NDIS. We will also have some examples of plans available to view and discuss. Food and drinks available for purchase at venue.

The Ballarat NDIS Parent Connection Group is a new group open to all parents of children eligible for the NDIS. A chance meet others in a similar situation and gather or share information and ideas about preparing and implementing NDIS plans.

Please RSVP to Rebecca Paton, Parent Support Program Coordinator 5329 1361, rpaton@pinarc.org.au



Photovoice Exhibition

Providing a voice for immigrant and refugee women to speak about violence against women.

The exhibition will be on display until 23 May during regular Melton Library and Learning

Exhibition Launch will include:

- Guided tour of exhibition
- Clothesline Project Photobook launch
- Women Making It Happen video viewina

FREE Exhibition until 23 May

LAUNCH DETAILS:

WHEN:

Thursday 18 May

TIME:

5.30pm arrival for 6pm - 7pm

Melton Library and Learning Hub Ballam Ballam Room 31 McKenzie St Melton

COST:

Email: sarahgr@melton.vic.gov.au Phone: 9747 7200

For more information, visit melton.vic.gov.au/ASPIRE-**Photovoice**







