### Upcoming Events

**Mon 20th June**

**Grade 5/6 GSODA Excursion**

### Reminders

On **Wednesday**, **School Council passed a policy prohibiting dogs from the school grounds, effective immediately.**

### Newsletter 16th June 2016

#### Principal’s News

**Nǐ hǎo Hello**

**Happy Birthday:**

To all of the students and staff who have had birthdays since our last Newsletter: Kaitlyn B, Sonny M, Patrick F, Caleb M, Zoe C, Byron R, Jake A, Mikaela J.

**Semester One Student Reports**

Next Tuesday 21st June, the mid-year Student Reports will be available via Sentral. Parents/Carers will receive the page indicating where students have achieved (the ‘dots’ for each curriculum subject), as well as the attendance record for the first half year. Please discuss your child’s progress, as well as areas for further work, with your child.

Parents/Carers recently received the upgraded Attitudes & Behaviours Report and will continue to be provided with the once per term written comments component. The next Parent/Teacher interviews will be held in term three.

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**Year Five/Six Production**

What a great effort by the senior students, the 5/6 staff and our own Mr Jared Smith. ‘The Book of Dreams’ was a hit and we do appreciate the plentiful positive feedback we have received from an appreciative audience. Our move to place a great emphasis on ‘The Arts’ about five years ago has provided another pathway for those students who have talent in the performing arts.

**Building Update**

As reported in the last Newsletter, we are currently waiting for the Department’s Infrastructure office to approve the Architect’s initial concepts. No extra news to report yet.

**Dogs in the School**

Following some recent concerns and queries, School Council has spent the last two weeks discussing the issue of dogs in schools. Information was sought from other schools, the Department and the local shire. Some issues raised by the community (parents and staff) include dogs in the buildings, dog excrement in the yard and dogs on leashes in tense standoffs with other dogs on leashes. We know that a significant number of our students are quite fearful of dogs – and we need to provide a safe environment for all students. The basic tenet School Council must ensure is that this is the students’ school and students and visitors need to feel safe and comfortable within the boundaries. The school will continue to host occasional pets programs facilitated by animal experts.

On **Wednesday**, School Council passed a policy prohibiting dogs from the school grounds, effective immediately. Further, dogs cannot be leashed to the school gates whilst unattended. The school already contacts the Shire if unleashed and unattended dogs enter the school grounds during school times.

The only exception to these regulations is where the dog is a prescribed dog assisting a person with a disability (e.g. guide dog) or where a parent has arranged with the Principal to bring in a puppy as part of a student’s ‘show and tell’. The school trusts that everyone will assist in this to make our school safer and cleaner for all. The full policy will be uploaded to the school’s website at the beginning of next week.
Helping With Homework

A common query by parents/carers is “What are the homework requirements for my child?” The requirements for homework vary from level to level. The school’s homework policy prescribes the following:

**Prep Year** - 15 minutes per night of reading activities and strategies including discussion of the book. Activities such as parents reading to their children are encouraged as well. Activities on letters, sounds and words also supplement the reading as required by the teacher. Total time = 15 minutes (reading) x 5 days = 75 minutes per week.

**Years One/Two** - 15 minutes reading per night. A further 30 minutes can be set for the week dealing with such areas as word study, projects, language, mathematics, as set by the classroom teacher. Total time = 15 minutes (reading) x 5 days = 75 minutes + 30 minutes other = 105 minutes per week.

**Years Three/Four** - Minimum 15 minutes reading per night. Up to a further 45 minutes of school based activities can be set related to classroom work. Total time = 15 minutes reading x 5 days = 75 minutes + 45 minutes other = 120 minutes per week.

**Years Five/Six** - Generally one literacy task, one numeracy task, spelling and 15-30 mins of reading per night. Work involving any aspect of the curriculum can be set. Open-ended homework activities can be established (for example: complete a project, adventure reading activities, etc). By year 6, students are expected to begin to organise their time in relation to work to be completed. Total time = 30 minutes per day/150 minutes per week.

The nature of the activities will vary so it is best to discuss expectations with your child’s teacher. While requirements may vary, most educators agree that reading is the most valuable homework a child can do and should become a daily habit. Parents can help children develop sound study habits from a young age which include establishing a predictable routine, encouraging effective use of time and helping them to be organised.

**IDEAS**

- Establish a predictable routine. If homework is done at the same time each night, getting started is usually less of an issue.
- Make homework time as enjoyable as possible. When sharing a book, make yourself comfortable, be involved in the story and enjoy yourself. Don’t make reading a test.
- Establish a good working environment for students. Make sure they have a quiet area (away from distractions) that is well lit and with good ventilation. A table or a desk makes a good work space.
- Encourage children to work reasonably quickly and efficiently. Have a set time limit which they should stick to. A little work each night is more productive than packing it all into one weekly session.
- Encourage children to become organised by planning homework around their extra-curricular activities. A weekly planner or diary will help older students to organise themselves.
- Keep explanations simple and practical when helping a child. If they become upset or frustrated and the atmosphere becomes tense, stop helping.
- If your child has a problem, talk about the best way to find a solution. Perhaps between the two of you it can be worked out.
- Be realistic and don’t expect to solve all homework difficulties. When in doubt, contact your child’s teacher letting him/her know the problem. They will appreciate being informed.

Zàijiàn Goodbye

Steve Durkin

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**Parents and Friends Update**

**Crazy Hair School Disco - Friday 24th June 2016, 6-8pm**
- Don't miss out on a great night with a DJ, dancing and crazy hair! $10 per ticket includes entry, activities and snacks.
- Tickets MUST be purchased prior to the event to allow catering to be finalised.
- The permission form can be downloaded through SENTRAL or picked up from the school office.

**Election Day Cake Stall - Saturday 2nd July**
- Please return your form to indicate what yummy baking you will be contributing to the cake stall.
- Baked items can be dropped off prior to the cake stall on Thursday 30th or Friday 1st anytime direct to Kerrie Charlesworth. Please call Kerrie on 0415 298 244 for any additional details.
NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL CAPTAINS

On Monday 7th June all of the Grade 5/6s participated in the SSA Football and Netball Lightning Premierships at Banyul-Warri Fields in Torquay. We competed against all of the SSA schools (nine in total). Everyone enjoyed the day even though it was fairly cold.

On Tuesday 14th June the Grade 5/6s presented their 2016 Production in the auditorium at Grovedale Secondary College. There were two shows in each of our two sessions (Super Zeroes and Rock Candy). Many families and friends came to watch. We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Smith for the fantastic job he did in helping us put the plays together. It was a lot of work and we could not have done this without Mr Smith’s expertise and patience.

Thanks also to our families for assisting with the costumes and stage props. The shows were very entertaining and everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves. Some photos of the Production are included at the end of this Newsletter.

Stars of Moriak for this fortnight are:

Prep: Baxter B. 1/2A: Noah S. 1/2B: Lucy R, Mitchell M.

Pictured left are Stars of Moriak from last fortnight
SCHOOL CALENDAR

June
Mon 20th
Grade 5/6 GSODA Excursion
Fri 24th
Crazy Hair Disco run by Parents & Friends
Group 6-8pm in Multi Purpose Room

Term 3
July 19th
2017 Prep Information Night 6:00pm

Aug
Tues 2nd
Puberty – Parent Information Night
Fri 5th
Grade 5/6 Puberty Session 1
Fri 12th
Grade 5/6 Puberty Session 2
Tues 16th
Grade 4 Girls & Mums Night
Fri 19th
Grade 5/6 Puberty Session 3
Thurs 25th
Parent/Teacher Interviews – Students
dismissed at 2:00pm

Fri 26th
Grade 5/6 Puberty Session 4
Tues 30th
Parent/Teacher Interviews – Students
dismissed at 2:00pm

Sept
Fri 2nd
Grade 5/6 Puberty Session 5
To
Wed 7th
Grade 3/4 Camp - Melbourne
Fri 9th

SCHOOL LEADERS

School Captains
Rosie C  Mia V
Kaitlyn B  Jai L

House Captains
Clodagh N and Luke F (Kidman)
Jacob A and Mali W (MacArthur)
Jaidyn A and Siena M (Farrer)

SCHOOL COUNCIL
Steve Durkin – Executive Officer
Jodie Frisch – President
Andrea Delves – Vice President
Stuart Christie – Treasurer
Rebecca Barthlett – Parent
Brett Drayton – Parent
Lance Houlihan – Parent
Paula Stiles - Parent
Suzanne Prendergast – DET
Aaron Randall – DET
Mikhala Vawdrey - DET

Mail: 785 Hendy Main Road, Moriac 3240
Phone: 5266 1298
Email: Moriac.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Web: www.moriacps.vic.edu.au

New and Second-hand Uniforms
Our Uniforms Shop has a variety of second-hand clothes for sale. If you require Winter uniform items, and would like to save a couple of dollars, please fill out an Order Form and hand this to the office.
These items are all washed and in good condition.
We also have a full range of new Winter uniform items in stock.
Uniform Order Forms are available from the school office and via our website.

SUSHIFUN FRIDAYS
Locally made Sushi lunch available every Friday.
Brochures available at school office.

Our eSmart Coordinator, Mrs Teresa Higgins from our 5/6 team, will be happy to answer any queries you may have.

Our eSmart
We are eSmart
Our school is proud to announce we are now officially an eSmart school.
Since we first registered with the program, we have introduced many new policies and activities to improve the way our school manages cyber safety, bullying and cyberbullying.
We feel confident our students, staff and the wider school community are now well supported to be smart, safe and responsible users of digital technology.
We encourage everyone in the school community to continue to uphold and promote eSmart behaviours, at school and at home. If you are aware of any incidents of bullying, cyberbullying or risky online behaviour, please contact the Principal or our eSmart coordinator.

Our eSmart Coordinator, Mrs Teresa Higgins from our 5/6 team, will be happy to answer any queries you may have.
On Tuesday the 5/6s performed 'The Book of Dreams' at Grovedale College. We (the students) organised 95% of the production. We worked out our roles, directed, choreographed, did the lighting, sound, props, advertising material etc. It was a long, fun day rehearsing and then performing two shows. Luckily we were treated to pizza in-between!

It was great to see so many of the Moriac Primary staff, parents, extended family members, past students and their families and students from different year levels attend and support us. Thank you!

We would like to say a big THANKS to Mr Smith who worked with us to make this possible. A huge thank you also goes to the parents, for not only coming on the night but organising costumes amongst a host of other things.

Rock on Rock Candy!

Grade 5/6 Students
MORIAC PS ELECTION DAY CAKE STALL

DATE: SATURDAY 2nd JULY 2016

LOCATION: MORIAC COMMUNITY CENTRE

HOURS: 8AM TIL 2PM (OR UNTIL SOLD OUT!)

Moriac Primary School Parents and Friends Group is seeking donations of baked goodies for the cake stall to be held on election day. Whether it is cakes, biscuits, slices, or anything in between, they will be welcomed!

Please remember the Stall will not have a refrigerator so all items sold must be shelf safe – this means items with cream, raw eggs or items that need refrigeration cannot be accepted.

All baked goods dropped off must be clearly labelled with a full ingredient list.

As the election is on the middle Saturday of school holidays, the baked goodies will need to be dropped off either Thursday 30th June or Friday 1st July any time direct to Kerrie Charlesworth.

6 Bluebell Close, Moriac
0415 298 244

If you are not keen on baking but would still like to help? We will need help on the day to man the stall, so please indicate below if you can help fill the roster and we will be in touch.

Please let us know if you can help out by returning the slip below with your child to school.

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Yes! I would love to help with the Moriac PS Election Day Cake Stall!

Yes, I can provide baked item/s for the cake stall

Please indicate roughly what baked item you will provide

Yes, I can help out on the cake stall roster on the day (1 ½ hour shifts)

Please circle preferred roster time:

8.00 - 9.30am / 9.30am - 11am / 11am - 12.30pm / 12.30pm – 2pm

Parent/Carer Name and contact number

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COME AND TRY JOEY SCOUTS!!

JOEY SCOUTS meet in the Modewarre Memorial Hall from 5 - 6pm on Tuesdays of the school term. It is for 6 and 7 year old girls and boys to learn while having fun. We do craft, nature, bushcraft, imaginative activities & games in and around the hall each week. Sometimes we go on adventures away from the hall, have a sleepover or do joint activities with the Cubs or other Joey Scout Mobs.

If you are interested please contact Kookaburra on 0428 780 515 for more information