**Upcoming Events**

**Parent/Teacher interviews** Tues 1st & Thurs 3rd March 2-7pm. Students dismissed at 2pm.

**Whole School Athletics** – Monday 7th March

**Curriculum Day** Friday 11th March (No students at school)

**Reminders**

- Broad brimmed sunhats must be worn at all times when playing outdoors during Term 1.
- Please ensure your child has their hat with them every school day.

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**Happy Birthday**: To all of the students and staff who have had birthdays since December 18, 2015: Matilda T, Sam F, Tenace V, Ruby B, Rowan V, Ethan K, Arlen C, Livinia S, Ashleigh J, Thomas B, Zali S, Sophie P and Mrs Sayers.

**Sentral**: Most families are now on. We are aware of some families having trouble. The best way to sort those issues out is to come into the school and Suz or I can assist.

**Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)** - Last fortnight, I wrote in the Newsletter “Our goals for 2016 are now on our website.” After meeting with our regional office, the school needed to ‘tweak’ the AIP. Once this is done, it will go online. Sorry for the delay.

**Facebook** - A reminder that, even though our old Facebook site appears to be accessible to people, this school no longer adds content or responds to content from Facebook. Our communication preferences are the school’s website [www.moriacps.vic.edu.au](http://www.moriacps.vic.edu.au) and through Sentral.

**Teachers as Learners**: Moriac Primary School is currently involved in two significant research projects. Four of our staff (Penny, Nicole, Amanda and Kirsty) are part of a three-year project researching the teaching and learning of mathematics. Moriac is one of just six schools that successfully applied to join the investigation. You may recall I have previously flagged this area as one of great interest to the school. We are confident that the school’s maths program will be significantly enhanced as a result of the involvement and that, ultimately, your children’s maths skills and knowledge are further developed.

The second major project that the school is involved in is a Deakin University/Department of Education & Training research project into teachers sharing best practice across the State. We are one of just ten schools participating in this study. The goal here is for teachers to enhance effectiveness by being observed by others and reflecting on their practice. Staff participating in this are Mikhala, Ben, Suz and I.

Beyond that, Aaron and Suz are completing studies into school leadership. Other staff will be adding to the development of the school as we find out about other projects in which we are seeking to become involved.

Our vision statement talks about students becoming lifelong learners. The above demonstrates our staff are walking the talk.

**Clean Up Australia School Activity** - Kaitlyn, one of our school captains, followed up on this annual Australia-wide initiative and, as a result, the school will be conducting our own Clean Up Moriac PS on Thursday 3rd March. During the morning, our students will be involved in activities such as tidying our grounds, gardening and minor rubbish removal. Parents are welcome to come along between 9.30 and 12 noon. We will need assistance to prune some of our low hanging branches, weeding, sweeping and whatever else we can fit in. If you can come, even for a short period, that would be great.

**School Council** - There are four parent member positions up for re-advertising, as well as two DET positions. If you are interested in nominating or re-nominating, the required documents are at the office, including nomination forms and information on the role and responsibilities of School Council. The timeline for the process is also on the front door. We will be seeking nominations next week and, depending on the numbers of interested people, we may need to go to election the following week. School Council meets eight evenings per year from 6.30pm to 8pm on the third Wednesday of most months. If you would like more information, please call. The ‘new’ School Council will meet on Wednesday 16th March at the AGM.

**Fiji** - It’s great to report that Dan Tabuakoto and husband Vili’s family are ok, following the cyclone which struck their island in Fiji this week. Unfortunately, there was tremendous damage to their village. There are several channels for making donations towards the recovery.

**SSA District Tennis Tournament** – Last Friday Mali W, Lily J, Will S and Tom B competed in the SSA Tennis tournament. All of these students represented our school very well. Tom did a particularly good job and won all of his matches. Well done to you all.

**Steve Durkin**
NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL CAPTAINS

During the past two weeks we have had a lot of different events going on at Moriac Primary School. We had the SSA Swimming carnival and the SSA Tennis tournament. The Grade 5/6 students went on an excursion to the Immigration Museum in Melbourne which was really interesting and fun.

Rehearsals have already begun for the Grade 5/6 Production.

We hope the next two weeks are as enjoyable.

Kaitlyn B, Rose C, Jai L and Mia V.

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School Photos

MSP Photography will be at school on Monday 21st March to take our annual school photos. Students are requested to wear their school uniforms for this day. Photo order forms/envelopes will be sent home next week. Please ensure your child/ren bring their envelope back to school on photo day to hand to the photographer. Teachers will not be collecting the envelopes.

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PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher interviews will take place on Tuesday 1st and Thursday 3rd March from 2:00-7:00pm. Online registration for these sessions will be open from 9:00am on Monday 15th February 2016 to 3:00pm on Monday 29th February 2016. When registering please ensure you book using your child’s year level and not their teacher’s name.

Please contact the school office if you require assistance.

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CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The following information is an extract from the Victorian Government’s website.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 per student (Primary)
- $225 per student (Secondary)

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

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PARENT HELPERS NEEDED

HOUSE ATHLETICS

On Monday 7th March we will be holding our House Athletics Sports Day and are looking for some helpers. If you have an hour or two to spare and would like to help out, please complete the slip on the back page of this Newsletter and send it to school.
Stars of Moriac for this fortnight are:

- Prep: Millie E and Bessie M
- 1/2A: Lara G and Noah S
- 1/2B: Geoff C and Oscar W
- 1/2C: Kobi W and Millie S
- 5/6A: Sabian M
- 5/6B: Charlie A

HELP CONTROL RABBITS
Our local Landcare group is running a bait program to help reduce the rabbit numbers in Moriac. Please see below for ordering rabbit bait in your area.

**Modewarre**
Dates: 23rd, 26th, 29th Feb (pindone carrots to be collected between 12 and 1pm)
Collection point: Modewarre Hall, 910 Cape Otway Rd
Orders due by: 16th Feb
Contact: Jacinta Langdon 0429 418 819

**Freshwater Creek**
Dates: 1st, 4th, 7th March (pindone carrots to be collected between 12 and 1pm)
Collection point: Freshwater Creek Hall, Dickens Rd, Freshwater Creek
Orders due by: 22nd Feb
Contact: Jacinta Langdon 0429 418 819

SCHOOL CALENDAR

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SCHOOL LEADERS

**School Captains**
Rosie C Mia V
Kaitlyn B Jai L

**House Captains**

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

CmUNiK8

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

Thank you to all of the parents who are on Sentral. We believe it is an excellent form of communication between the school and home in regards to messages, learning and general information. We have also had a lot of people enquire about an APP. There is meant to be an APP coming soon. We are just waiting to hear about the release date!

A few parents have expressed concerns about logging on to Sentral. There have been a number of reasons for this and I thank those parents who have had a go and others who have contacted me – it has generally been a ‘quick fix’ to get these parents on. A number of parents have registered but have not completed the next step which is entering the ACCESS KEY once you have been approved (this is a safety measure for the school and your privacy). Please note – if you have not received an email within a day please try to enter your access key anyway as it may have been approved but the email not sent.

I thought I would explain a couple of main points in each newsletter about Sentral.

MESSAGES

When you log on to Sentral you will see the panel above. If you have a message it will have a number next to it. You click on this BEFORE you click on your child/ren’s photo. This then gives you the option to type a message to the

Click on NEW MESSAGE, select the teacher.

TEACHER MESSAGES

These are PRIVATE messages to individual parents from the teacher/s. Please note that to respond to teacher messages at this stage you need to go to NEW MESSAGE at the top right hand side of the page (on the first page BEFORE you click on your child’s photo). Teacher messages will remain there until you have viewed them and clicked on MARK AS READ. They will then move to your READ folder.

DAILY NOTICES

Daily notices are messages from teachers to parents as a group. These messages will appear on Sentral for a number of days (generally seven days) and then they will disappear. Please see example below -

There may be attachments.

CALENDAR

With the calendar you need to click through two steps. The calendar will hold the most up to date information we have.

STEP 1 – click on CALENDAR

STEP 2 – click on SENTRAL DASHBOARD

The calendar will appear
Moriac House Athletics 2016

March 7th

[Please note change of date]

Moriac Primary School

HELPERS NEEDED

Can you help out with an event at our school athletics carnival? We require parents to help run each event on the day.

You can help all day or just a few hours.

Please return the slip below to your child’s teacher.

Child’s name: ____________________________ Grade: ____________

Parent name: ________________________________

Contact number: ________________________________

☐ I can help out all day [9am-2.20] ☐ I can help out between ________ - ________