MISSION
Morang South Primary School is a committed and unified partnership of teachers, parents and children. We value diversity and strive for excellence. We are committed to providing a high quality education in a cooperative, caring and safe environment.

Vision
Our vision for Morang South Primary is to become a vibrant learning community where all members are challenged and empowered to strive for and celebrate personal excellence and continuous growth. The children will become positive, compassionate, able, creative, confident thinkers, and life long, socially responsible learners equipped to thrive in and shape the future of our evolving global society.

Calendar of Events Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 24 May</td>
<td>Swimming grades 1/2 &amp; 3/4</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 25 May</td>
<td>District Cross Country Gr 3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 26 May</td>
<td>Lego Excursion Rooms 2 &amp; 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27 May</td>
<td>Lego Excursion Rooms 1 &amp; 3</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 30 May</td>
<td>World of Maths</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 30 May</td>
<td>Chess Club</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 31 May</td>
<td>Swimming grades 1/2 &amp; 3/4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 31 May</td>
<td>World of Maths (WOM)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 1 Jun</td>
<td>WOM &amp; WOM Parent Evening</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 1 Jun</td>
<td>Gr 1/2 Grandparent / Special Friend Day 2.30-3.30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 2 Jun</td>
<td>Prep Grandparent / Special Friend Day 2.30-3.30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 3 Jun</td>
<td>Multi Age Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 18 Jun</td>
<td>PFA Trivia Night</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

From the Principal
In recent weeks we have commenced updating and redesigning our website - http://www.morangsouthps.vic.edu.au/ Please keep an eye on it for future developments. We know you will be patient with us as we edit and populate the new sections. When we have refined it, we will notify you of the launch.

One of the new features is our events calendar which will enable you to look up current and forthcoming events. Another new section is ‘The Feature Article’ where articles by Michael Grose are presented.

More and more families are choosing to receive the Gorge News via email. There is now a facility on our website under the Newsletter button which enables you to subscribe to the mailing list. We are then also notified and can put your email address on file.

During the grade 5/6 camp week we will be trialling daily updates to the website. All being well the parents of our children on camp will be able to see photos of the day’s activities. Please remember that this will be a trial so everything will have to go well for it to be successful. One obstacle may be the internet connectivity at the campsite. Let’s hope the coverage is sufficient!

We hope you find the new website useful and enjoy the new features.

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Week 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Unexplained</th>
<th>Explained</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Late Arrivals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep - 2</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - 4</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 6</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Week 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Unexplained</th>
<th>Explained</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Late Arrivals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep - 2</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - 4</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 6</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your school's total points as of today are 9,330.. 😊
As you know, for students to make the most of their opportunities to learn, make friends and develop social skills, student attendance needs to be high. Schools also need to keep accurate records of student absences. We ask you to inform us and provide a reason when your child is absent. To facilitate this we have set up an email address whereby you can inform us about your child’s absences.

absences@morangsouthps.vic.edu.au

Throughout the year schools often have outbreaks of childhood infectious diseases. These can sometimes require student/staff to be excluded from school for a recommended period of time. At the moment there has been a small outbreak of school sores (impetigo). I have included a flyer on this in the newsletter. As this is extremely infectious, please be vigilant. If you notice symptoms on your child then please take them to a doctor to have it confirmed or discounted. Once the sores are being treated and covered with a waterproof dressing the child/children can return to school.

This year the official Education Week was this week. However we will celebrate Education Week at Morang South from Monday May 30th until Friday June 3rd. There will be many exciting events, including open sessions for grandparents, parents, family members and special friends and World of Maths. I hope parents, carers; family members and special friends will join in the fun during our celebration of this year’s Education Week!

As you know, we have a new canteen manager and we are making every effort to keep our canteen running four days a week. However, this is in jeopardy due to a lack of volunteers, unfortunately. I had to close the canteen last Friday due to shortage of volunteers. If you know anyone who might be able to assist, please ask them to see me. Health regulations prevent children including toddlers being in the canteen, so if you have a toddler maybe you could join with another parent or two and operate a roster whereby one or two parents work in the canteen while the other person cares for the children. This way you would all be able to support your children through the canteen. Both the parent helpers and their children receive a free lunch when the parent is on canteen duty.

IF YOU CAN SPARE SOME TIME TO VOLUNTEER IN THE CANTEEN, PARTICULARLY ON FRIDAYS, PLEASE CALL US ASAP. THANK YOU.

Congratulations to our wonderful staff and grade 3 and 5 students who completed the National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) last week. Each year ACARA, the supervising body, randomly audit a set number of schools across the country. This year our school was selected for an audit. Sandi Young was managing our NAPLAN implementation and the organisation and communication with staff, parents and students was excellent. The verifier was most impressed with our organisation, approach and the way our students went about completing the process. Also to be congratulated are our grade 6 students for the support they gave their grade five class members. Thank you and well done to all those involved.

According to ACARA, the student results from the NAPLAN testing will be due in schools later in the year.
Walk to School day was today! This event was proudly sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. It is supported by the Australian Government, all State/Territory Governments and Local Governments, as well as the Heart Foundation, Cancer Council Australia, Diabetes Australia, Beyond Blue and the Australian Conservation Foundation.

There are a number of really good reasons why you should walk to school or park the car and walk some of the way to school.

Health benefits
According to the Australian Federal Government report, Healthy Weight 2008, more than a third of Australian children between the ages of seven to 11 are overweight or obese.

Children should spend no more than 2 hours of recreational time on TV/couch/PC a day.

Walking regularly can help kids steer clear of:
- heart disease
- type II diabetes
- accidents, fractures and injuries (through improved strength and coordination)
- some cancers (including colon cancer)

Safety
Experts agree, reducing the number of cars around school gates can help reduce the risk of injury to child pedestrians. By parking the car a few blocks away and safely walking the rest of the journey with a parent or carer, school areas become less congested with traffic and therefore safer for young children.

Quality time together
This may be a good opportunity to talk with your children; maybe the only real chance you get!

Please remember that we love to have parents and carers helping in the classrooms.

If you have any worries or concerns, please let us know straight away.

You are welcome to see me if you wish to discuss the issues I’ve written about today. I would appreciate feedback as to whether you find the information useful.

Keep up that life long learning!

Julie Jones
Principal
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World of Maths</td>
<td>World of Maths</td>
<td>World of Maths</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Open Session in OLA and classrooms. Family and friends welcome! 11.40 – 12.50</td>
<td>Multi-age Activity Day!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20-11:00 Prep</td>
<td>9:20-11:00 Grade 1/2</td>
<td>9:20-11:00 Grade 1/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>World of Maths</td>
<td>World of Maths</td>
<td>World of Maths</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:40-12:50 Grade 1/2</td>
<td>11:40-12:50 Grade 4</td>
<td>11:40-12:50 Grade 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00-1:30 Grade 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>World of Maths</td>
<td>World of Maths</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:40-12:50 Grade 4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30-3:00 Grade 3</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Invitation to grandparents and special friends during session 5 for some fun with Maths games.</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Invitation to grandparents and special friends during session 5.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00-3:30 Grade 3</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Invitation to grandparents and special friends during session 5.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30-4:00 Grade 3</td>
<td>Prep On the Turf - Old fashioned games for grandparents and special friends.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Stars of the Week**

Grades Prep– 6
Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Group 1</th>
<th>Charlotte, Declan</th>
<th>Home Group 2</th>
<th>Blake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 3</td>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>Home Group 4</td>
<td>Joshua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 5</td>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>Home Group 7</td>
<td>Jayden, Jemma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 9</td>
<td>Rikki</td>
<td>Home Group 11</td>
<td>Michael</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 13</td>
<td></td>
<td>Home Group 15</td>
<td>Home Group 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 16</td>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Home Group 19</td>
<td>HG 19 Grade 2 Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 20</td>
<td>Alannah</td>
<td>Home Group 21</td>
<td>Jessica, Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 22</td>
<td>Mark</td>
<td>Home Group 23</td>
<td>Ashlee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 24</td>
<td>Balin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Stars of the Week

Grades Prep– 6
Week 4

Home Group 1  Amant
Home Group 3  Lachlan, Kye
Home Group 5  Isabella.D
Home Group 9  -
Home Group 13 Dylan, Brandon
Home Group 16 Monique
Home Group 20 A.J
Home Group 22 Jack
Home Group 24 Sapna

Home Group 2  Thomas
Home Group 4  -
Home Group 7  Lachlan
Home Group 11  -
Home Group 15  -
Home Group 19  Georgia
Home Group 21  Isabelle
Home Group 23  Harrison
LESS THAN TWO WEEKS TO WORLD OF MATHS

As outlined in notes that have gone home World of Maths is an incursion, which gives the children the opportunity to participate in solving a variety of problems from large, hands-on displays and puzzles. Problem solving is an important part of all topics throughout the Mathematics curriculum. All students will benefit from this experience as it caters for all ability levels and also shows that Maths can be fun!

World of Maths will be here from Monday 30th May to Wednesday 1st June.

There is also a family evening so keep Wednesday 1st June free so your child can share their experiences with you. It will run from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Hope to see you there.

Diana Gevaux

WAKAKIRRI 2011

Many of the children from grade three to six have started rehearsing their Wakakirri items. They are all excited and working hard. Costumes are being sorted and recycled where we can. As part of one of the costumes in one item we need old bike helmets. They can be cracked ones as long as we have the shape. The shape will give me the head of one creature. We need eight helmets for us to use as part of a costume. If you have a helmet stuck in your garage that you can’t use and don’t know what to do with, we would love your donation. If you are able to assist us please send the helmet to school with your child and they can give the helmet to Ms Creevey in the Performing Arts room.

We now know the competition date. It is Wednesday 24th August.
**PREP PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Parents of the children in rooms one, two and three please take note that on Tuesday afternoons the prep children are involved in Physical Education in both gymnasiums. They are split into two groups:

- Room 2 and half of room 1
- Room 3 and half of room 1

On alternate weeks they are in either gym. This week room 2 and half room 1 are in the new gym. Room 3 and half room 1 are in the old gym. Next week they change over.

**ROOM ONE SPLIT:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>With room 2</th>
<th>with room 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olivia A</td>
<td>Dakota C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte B</td>
<td>Amant K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ananya B</td>
<td>Declan Mc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell D</td>
<td>Ashan P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samir E. B.</td>
<td>Emanuel R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manisha G</td>
<td>Niveditha S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jarrod H</td>
<td>Darcy W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Callum W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beau D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Naomi W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the old gym we will be running A Perceptual Motor Program for the children. This requires parent helpers for the group activities. If you are able to assist please let your child’s teacher or Ms Creevey know. The session runs from 2:30 until 3:30 each Tuesday.
Reminders:

- **Conserve paper have your newsletter emailed!**
- **Care for our environment send lunches and snacks in rubbish free containers!**
- Please ensure that your children do not **arrive at school** preferably, before 8:45 and certainly **not** before 8:30 in the mornings. We have staff on duty from 8:45 until 9:00am.
- By following the **dress code** families are demonstrating **respect** for our school and acknowledging their commitment to our learning community.
- Please make sure all items of clothing are **named with both first and last names**. Any lost items will be returned if named and at the end of each week, any unnamed clothing will go to our second-hand uniform shop.

A huge **thank you** to you all for how you support your children to make sure that they have sufficient “brain” food and water to ensure they can get through to second lunch without having to eat the snack food which doesn’t assist their learning.

Our fortnightly publication – The Gorge News- is the prime source of communication from the school to parents, so it is vital to read this to keep up to date. In an effort to protect the environment and better use school resources we would like as many families as possible to have the Gorge News emailed. We hope you will support us with this.

------------------------------------------

**REQUEST FOR EMAIL OF SCHOOL’S NEWSLETTER.**

We would be pleased to support the environment and the school by having our Newsletter emailed. We no longer require a hardcopy of the school’s newsletter.

FAMILY NAME…………………………………………………….

YOUNGEST CHILD’S NAME ………………………………….

HOME GROUP……………………………………
Email Address/es ………………………………………………………………………………
DISCO
Friday 24th June
Always popular is our school disco. Further details to follow soon

TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday 18th June
More details to follow

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS
These are still available for purchase at $65 from the office with $13 profit going towards the school

CLASSIFIEDS
Advertising prices (per month) are:
Business card $12
¼ page $18, ½ page $24
Full page $48
To advertise, contact Donna on 0439 322 242 or email donnaforthergill@hotmail.com

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP
Situated in the Parents & Friends Room (opposite Room 22).
Open Thursday mornings 9:00-9:30am

BAKERS DELIGHT – RIVERGUM “Dough Raiser”
Shop at Bakers Delight Rivergum Shopping Village, mention Morang South Primary School and they will happily donate a % of the total you spend back to the school

Full Life PHARMACY MILL PARK
AND Amcal PHARMACY RIVERGUM
Remember to place your receipts in the Morang South Primary School box

NEXT MEETING – To be confirmed
New Members Welcome

😊
Not all good Books must come to an end!

The 2010 | 2011 Entertainment™ Book may be expiring on June 1st, 2011, but the good news is that the sequel is here and you can continue to enjoy the many valuable offers in the latest edition.

The new 2011 | 2012 Greater Melbourne Entertainment™ Book is packed with offers from the best restaurants, attractions, cinemas, sports, hotel accommodation and much more... receive 50% off, 25% off and 2-for-1 offers.

Choose what you want to do and when you want to do it, with offers valid from now until June 1st, 2012.

Here are just a few of the many valuable offers in the new 2011 | 2012 Book

- Complimentary main courses at Melbourne best fine dining restaurants including Verge, Saint Peter's, Church St Enoteca and Esposito  Estimated value: $180.00
- 25% off the total bill at the likes of Red Spice Road, City Grill Room, Stavros Tavern and Richmond Hill Café & Larder  Estimated value: $165.00
- Family dining offers from TGI Fridays, Taco Bill, The Pancake Parlour and The Groove Train  Estimated value: $180.00
- 5% savings on your shopping all year round at Coles and Kmart  Estimated value: $250.00
- Six great new offers from McDonald's and McCafe  Estimated value: $20.00
- Buy one get one admissions to Luna Park, Melbourne Aquarium and all three Zoos  Estimated value: $100.00
- The lowest room rates guaranteed at over 1,200 Hotels across Australia and New Zealand with the My Bookings program  Estimated value: $200.00

TOTAL VALUE: $1,095

To order your new Entertainment™ Book, contact:

Morang South Primary School
Address: 77 Gorge Rd South Morang 3754 - PH: 9404 1548
Contact: Michelle Lewis  Phone: 0419 580 768  Email: missychooka01@bigpond.com

Name: _____________________________ Phone: __________________ Mobile: ____________________________
Address: ___________________________ State: _______ Postcode: _______

I would like to order_____ x Greater Melbourne @ $65 each (including GST)  $______
I would like to order_____ x Geelong, Surf Coast & Ballarat @ $55 each (including GST)  $______

TOTAL ENCLOSED $______

Payment type:  □ CASH □ VISA □ MASTERCARD □ CHEQUE (Make cheques payable to <Organisation Name>)
Credit Card number: __________/_________/_________/_________ Expiry date: _______/_______
Cardholder's name: ____________________________________________________ Signature: __________________________

Thank you for supporting Morang South Primary School $13 from each Book sold will contribute to PFA for fundraising.

© 2011 Entertainment Publications of Australia Pty. Ltd.
Community News

The Lions Club of Whittlesea has supported the new Lions Club Plenty Valley.

If you are 18 or over and would like to become a member of this group and support your local and growing community please contact me either by email or phone.

Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday evenings, locally for about 90 minutes.

Maureen Rundell- rundellmaureen@gmail.com or Phone 9422 8716 (answering machine available if I am not home)
Chairperson

FOR SALE-
- 2 x Size 8 Girls Summer Dress Uniforms $10 each
- 1x Size 8 T Shirt $5 All Excellent Condition. Contact Denise on 0422 133 863

Mathematics Tutor
1st year university student, available to tutor years 6 to 9 students in enrichment or intervention. Available throughout the year, including holidays.
$20 per hour Call Rhys Gevaux on 0423 081 826 or email: rhys.gevaux@gmail.com

Moving House
Garage Sale
35 Honeyeater Tce
South morang
Sunday 22nd May
From 9am to 3pm
Manchester, Nic Nac’s Furniture, Clothes & More

Mrs Young has
Kittens
FOR SALE
Beautiful pure breed Tonkinese Kittens
Intelligent, affectionate, playful, loyal companions!
3 blue (grey) colour (2 male & 1 female) & 2 champagne (cream) colour (1 male & 1 female)
Ready take home July school holidays.
See Mrs Young for details 😊
WEEK 5

MONDAY
Craft
Chinese
Dragons

TUESDAY
Craft
Boomerangs

WEDNESDAY
Craft
Origami

THURSDAY
Craft
Taj Mahal

FRIDAY
Movie
Madagascar

Cultural
Diversity

WEEK 6

MONDAY
Craft
Foam
Mr men

TUESDAY
Craft
Paintings

WEDNESDAY
Cooking
Create your
own book

THURSDAY
Craft
Foam
Little miss

FRIDAY
Movie &
computers
In Library

Mr Men and
Little Miss

The Playground, Drawing, Air hockey,
Dress up’s, Home Corner, Puppet show, Cars and trains, Puzzles, Board games and a quiet area are
available for your children to play with everyday.
Computer time at the library occurs 1 day a week. Check the OSHC room for details.
Breakfast is provided every morning and a light snack and a fruit platter is
served of an afternoon. Cold Water is also provided.

If you need to make a booking or cancellation please come in and see
Reannan or call our number 0412 318 716.

Hi everyone,
To our OSHC families all booking & cancellations can be done on our
Parent Portal online at: www.campaustralia.com.au. New enrolments are
done completely online, once registered you can make or change book-

ings and manage your account online. Keep in mind that we are able to
take bookings at short notice to help busy families.

Parent SAVE 50% or more on fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more, call our
Customer Service Team on: 1300 105 345

Reannan, Monique, Charleigh, Belinda & Kristin

Donations of pre loved toys especially dolls and
dress ups. Also board games and puzzles would
be greatly appreciated.

Hours of Operation:
BSC- 7.00 – 8.45 am
ASC- 3.30 – 6.00 pm

Outside School Hours Care with Camp Australia
Impetigo (school sores)

Impetigo is an infection of the skin. It is often called 'school sores', probably because school age children are usually the most likely to get them, and they can be spread at school. Impetigo is very easily spread, but with care spread can be reduced.

What is impetigo?

- Impetigo is an infection of the skin caused by bacteria (usually by one of two bacteria called either *staphylococcus aureus* or group A, b haemolytic streptococcus). These bacteria can live on the skin, in the throat or nose, or on other parts of the body without causing a problem but sometimes they start to cause an infection such as impetigo.
- Impetigo can occur on healthy skin but it often happens when the skin has already been damaged by a scratch, bite or a disease affecting the skin such as eczema or chicken pox.
- Impetigo is very easily spread.
  - It is more common in hotter months.

Signs and symptoms

- The sores can be anywhere on the body, but are often on the face near the mouth and nose, or on the arms and legs.
- Impetigo may start with a blister or a group of blisters.
- The blister bursts leaving a patch of red, wet skin which weeps.
- The spot usually becomes coated with a tan or yellowish crust, making it look like it has been covered with honey.
- There can be small spots around the first spots, spreading outwards.
- Impetigo is usually itchy.
- The sore takes about 1 to 3 days to develop after contact with fluid or crusts from a sore.
- There is often superficial peeling on the edge.

How is it spread?

- The sore is itchy, and children can scratch it, spreading the infection to nearby skin or to other parts of their own body.
- The fluid and crusts of the sore contain the bacteria, and contact with the sore or with things that have been on the sore (clothing, dressings, towels, etc) can spread the infection to other people.
- A sore can be infectious as long as it is weeping. Usually it has stopped being infectious about 24 hours after treatment with an antibiotic has been started, and healing has begun.
- The germs can also be spread from other parts of the body that do not appear to be affected, e.g. from a runny nose.
Impetigo (school sores) continued...

Treatment

- A child with impetigo needs to be checked by a doctor to be sure that it is impetigo, because sometimes an antibiotic medicine is prescribed.
- Remove the crusts. The best way to do this is to bathe the child for 20-30 minutes, while wiping the crust away with a wet towel.
- Try to prevent your child scratching the sores as much as possible, e.g. cover sores with a watertight dressing and cut your child’s fingernails.
- Continue medical treatment until all sores are healed.
- Your child can go back to school, kindergarten or day care after 24 hours of treatment and when the sores are completely covered with dressings.
- The sores should clear up in a few days with treatment but may need to be treated again.

Reducing the spread of impetigo

Impetigo is easily spread but it is usually not a serious infection. People can be worried about it because it is on the skin, and easy to see. Impetigo can occur even when the skin is kept clean, it is not a sign of poor parenting.

- A daily bath or shower with soap and water may reduce the risk of impetigo. Antiseptic soaps can be used, but these can irritate the skin of some people.
- Good hygiene including regular hand washing and throwing away used tissues is advised. Cut your child’s fingernails short and keep them clean.
- Make sure that grazes or cuts are thoroughly washed and if your child is scratching a sore, it may be wise to cover it with a dressing.
- People coming in contact with someone with impetigo need to wash their hands regularly. Put all dressings in a bin with a lid as soon as they are taken off.
- Wash your child’s clothes, towels and bed linen separately from the rest of the family. Wash them in hot water and dry in the sunshine or a hot tumble dryer. Toys can be washed using a mild disinfectant.

Follow up

See your doctor again if:
- The sores are spreading or getting worse even after treatment.
- Your child has become unwell - i.e. with a fever.
- You are worried for any reason.

Key points to remember

Impetigo is very contagious (infectious) and can be easily spread to other children.

- Try to prevent your child scratching the sores as much as possible, e.g. cover sores with a watertight dressing and cut your child’s fingernails.
- Your child can go back to school, kindergarten or day care after 24 hours of treatment and when the sores are completely covered with dressings.
- Continue medical treatment until all sores are healed.
- It is extremely important to remove the crusts, even if the child is taking antibiotics.

More information

- South Australian Department of Health 'You've got what?':  
- Centres for Disease Control (USA)