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. Children are encouraged and challenged to reach their full potential.

From the Principal
As you know last Friday, we had our annual House Athletics Sports for the grades 3-6 students. A wonderful day was had by all. Sandi and I dropped in for a visit and it was great to see how the children, parents and staff were enjoying the day. Thank you and congratulations to Debbie Molloy for her impressive organisation. Thank you to the teachers for making the day possible and for their input. Thank you to the marvellous parents who helped out on the day. It would not be possible to run such a successful event without your assistance. Please refer to our school reporter’s article to see a list of the parent helpers. Thank you to our grades 3-6 students for competing on the day with such good grace and school spirit. Finally, congratulations to YELLOW HOUSE for winning on the day!!!

Last night we had our first School Council meeting for the year. It was a long but productive evening. We had the last meeting of the 2010 School Council where we thanked our retiring School Councillors, Leanne Bradstreet, Julie Landy, John Matthews and Vicki Scott. They have all been involved in our school for a number of years and made an enormous contribution, which we have appreciated immensely. Being involved as a volunteer and supporting your child and their school, is one of the most admirable pursuits a parent can make. I’d like to thank and congratulate them all publically. I know you would all join with me in doing so. John in his role as a mentor to some of our children and Leanne as a parent and PFA member will remain as community members but to Julie and Vicki it is a fond farewell, as their children are now at Secondary School. Lynette Cartisano has been a staff representative on School Council for the past year and I would also like to thank her publically. Teachers work incredibly hard and it is an indication of Lynette’s dedication that she took on this role.

Calendar of Events Term 2 2011

Week 1: First week of term 2
Wed 27 April Term 2 begins
School Council meeting 7:30pm

Week 2:
Tues 3 May Swimming begins grades 1/2 & 3/4
Wed 4 May Grade 1/2 ‘Starlab’ Incursion
Thur 5 May Mother’s Day Stall
Fri 6 May Grade 2 Sleepover
Grade 3/4 Soccer

Week 3:
Tues 10 May Swimming grades 1/2 & 3/4
NAPLAN grades 3 and 5
Wed 11 May NAPLAN grades 3 and 5
Thur 12 May NAPLAN grades 3 and 5
Fri 13 May M.S.P.S Mum’s Night Out!

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.
We had our AGM where we presented the Annual Report and the first meeting of the 2011 School Council, where we looked at the current finances and the 2011 Annual implementation plan.

Congratulations and welcome to our new School Councillors. Congratulations also to our 2011 Office Bearers.

Next week is planning week for the teachers. They work together in their teams to plan the curriculum for term 2. They use the Victorian Essential Learning Standards Framework as a basis for their planning taking into account the children’s needs and level of achievement. During this week the children will have their Specialist programs on one day. There will also be Casual Relief Teachers employed to enable the teachers to meet together for the day. The schedule is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Classes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1/2s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3/4s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Specialists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>5/6s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Preps</td>
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The notes for our Three-way Conferences on Thursday April 7th have gone home. These are an integral part of our reporting process and provide a great opportunity for you to be involved in your child’s education and celebrate their successes, while supporting them to plan for future learning. Remember they are allocated on a first in first served basis so be sure to send your form in as soon as possible.

This year has commenced with an unprecedented number of natural disasters across the world and our thoughts are with those who have lost their lives or loved ones. In this technological age, where we are seeing these tragedies almost as they happen, children are confronted with a large number of disturbing images. I have included an article by Michael Grose in today’s newsletter to support you in helping your child make sense of natural disasters.

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

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 un-named 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.
On the Friday the 18th of March 2011, the grade 3 to 6 students participated in our annual school athletics day at Willinda Park in Greensborough.

We competed in many events; they were Shot put, Discus, Long jump, Triple jump, 100m, 200m, 800m and Hurdles. We all had lots of fun and everybody participated and got involved. We would all love to thank Mrs Molloy, the Teachers and the Parents who helped us run the day.

Below is a list of the wonderful parents who helped us:

Donna Tait, Kerrie Ralph, Jackie Johnstone, Sherryn Lindsay, Rachel Jarvis, Linley Potter, Julie Hatzis, Donna Campbell, Lisa Bowlen, Jane Marshall, Julie Condidorio and Michelle Lewis.

By
Jordyn Cullen
School Reporter

Sunday 10th April at Melbourne (State Library of Victoria forecourt),
Ballarat (Ballarat Library), Geelong (Deakin’s Waterfront Campus Café)

Join us as we celebrate families reading together and attempt to set a record for the most children reading with an adult.

• You can register for all venues online at http://bigread.cbca.org.au for a registration fee of $5.
• The event begins from 9.30am and will be supported with entertainment both before and after The Big Read.
• The first 3,500 children to register will receive a free Big Read cap.

Join us in our record attempt as we celebrate reading!

Further details:
Web: http://bigread.cbca.org.au Email: vic@cbca.org.au Phone: 1300 360 436
**5/6 Parliament Excursion**

On Tuesday the 15th and on Thursday the 17th of March the 5/6s went to Parliament house and the Old Treasury Building in the city for their unit on Democracy and Government.

We went inside the Legislative Assembly which is green and the Legislative Council which is red. At Parliament house we were told about roles of the people who work in Government. At the Old Treasury Building we learned about Australia’s history and about the Old Treasury Building itself.

We had a great day and we learnt lots of new things about Parliament!

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**Swimming Carnival update...**

On Wednesday March 16th the following Children participated in the Whittlesea district swimming carnival finals: Hannah Smyth, Brittany Fanger, Jessica Campbell and Sarah Emery!

Mrs Molloy reported that all children behaved fantastically on the day.

Mrs Molloy would also like to thank the parents who transported the children to the swimming pool on the day. Also, a big thank you to Jessica for filling in for Milly Turner.

Congratulations to the Morang South Swimming team.

Jordyn Cullen  
School Reporter

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**Our 2011 Grade 5/6 Leaders**
Stars of the Week

Grades 3-6

HOME GROUP 05  Simon, Kally
HOME GROUP 07  Kiyan, Bree
HOME GROUP 09  Callan, Christina
HOME GROUP 15  Reece, Grace, Charlotte
HOME GROUP 19  Thomas, Mallory
HOME GROUP 21  Lauren, Peter

ART  Home Group 05

P.E  Grade 3 to 6 Athletics Participants
Help your children make sense of natural disasters

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

The Queensland floods and the Victorian floods wreak incredible havoc on so many people’s lives and will no doubt leave an indelible imprint on our collective psyches. These two natural disasters have been brought into our living rooms via the media over the last few weeks, and will continue to do so in the immediate future.

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

So what is a parent, teacher, or other caring adult to do when the natural disasters fill the airwaves and the consciousness of society? Here are some ideas:

1. Reassure children that they are safe. The consistency of the images can be frightening for young children who don’t understand the notion of distance and have difficulty distinguishing between reality and fiction. Let them know that while this event is indeed happening it will not affect them directly.

2. Be available. Let kids know that it is okay to talk about the unpleasant events. Listen to what they think and feel. By listening, you can find out if they have misunderstandings, and you can learn more about the support that they need. You do not need to explain more than they are ready to hear, but be willing to answer their questions.

3. Help children process what they see and hear, particularly through television. Children are good observers but can be poor interpreters of events that are out of their level of understanding.

4. Support children’s concerns for others. They may have genuine concerns for the suffering that will occur and they may need an outlet for those concerns. It is heart-warming to see this empathy in children for the concerns of others.

5. Let them explore feelings beyond fear. Many children may feel sad or even angry with these events so let them express the full range of emotions. They may feel sadder for the loss of wildlife, than for loss of human life, which is impersonal for them.

6. Help children and young people find a legitimate course of action if they wish. Action is a great antidote to stress and anxiety so finding simple ways to help, including donating some pocket money can assist kids to cope and teaches them to contribute.

7. Avoid keeping the television on all the time. The visual nature of the media means that images are repeated over and over, which can be both distressing to some and desensitizing to others.

8. Be aware of your own actions. Children will take their cues from you and if they see you focusing on it in an unhealthy way then they will focus on it too. Let them know that it is happening but it should not dominate their lives.

9. Take action yourself. Children who know their parents, teachers, or other significant caregivers are working to make a difference feel hope. They feel safer and more positive about the future. So do something. It will make you feel more hopeful, too. And hope is one of the most valuable gifts we can give children and ourselves.

Children’s worlds can be affected in ways that we can’t even conceive of so adults need to be both sensitive to children’s needs and mindful of what they say and how they act in front of children.

In difficult times, it is worth remembering what adults and children need most are each other.
**Morang South Primary School**

**Play group**

**When:** Monday Morning 9.30-11.30 approx  
**Where:** Morang South Primary School  
Gorge Road, South Morang.  
9404-1548.

**Cost:** $2.00 per week per child over 9 months.

Come and enjoy some time with your children whilst meeting other parents in the area.

Tea and coffee provided.

The group begins with some music, singing and dancing followed by a craft activities with breaks for snacks. Many of the songs use instruments and other props to keep the children focussed.

All you need to bring is a snack for your child. For those not wanting to join in with craft activities there is plenty to keep them busy.

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**Welcome to The Lakes!!!**

The Lakes South Morang School will be running school tours for prospective 2012 year 7 parents and students at the following times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 31 @ 9.30am</td>
<td>Thursday April 28 @ 9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday April 7 @ 4pm</td>
<td>Wednesday May 4 @ 4pm</td>
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We will also be holding a year 7 information night at 7pm on Tuesday May 3.  
(Discovery Night begins at 6.30pm)

All school tours and the information night will be held at the Middle Years campus: 80 Jardier Terrace South Morang

For more information go to the school website – [www.thelakes.edu.au](http://www.thelakes.edu.au)
Diamond Valley College
Open Morning & Information Evening

Open Morning Wednesday 4 May 2011
Tours departing 9.00, 9.30 and 11.00
Visit Year 7 Home Rooms
Followed by College Tours
Bookings essential on 9438 1411
Information Evening Wednesday 4 May 2011
Presentation in Auditorium at 7.30 pm
Followed by College Tours
If you are unable to attend on this day, please contact Allison Bennett on 9438 1411 to arrange a tour.
## OSHC News This Week

'We make kids smile'

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 9</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFTER SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS Multicultural</td>
<td>Cooking Pasta</td>
<td>Cooking Mini Pizzas</td>
<td>Cooking Damper</td>
<td>Cooking Pita chips &amp; dip</td>
<td>Cooking &amp; Movie Shortbread Biscuits</td>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK 10</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFTER SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS Easter</td>
<td>Craft Easter baskets</td>
<td>Craft Painting eggs</td>
<td>Cooking Chocolate cake</td>
<td>Craft Bunny ears</td>
<td>Movie &amp; craft Easter greeting cards</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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 All,

OSH has a new number!! If you need to contact us for any bookings, cancellations or enquiries please call 0412 318 716.

With only 2 weeks left of term 1, why not come and join us in the excitement of OSHC many exciting cooking, craft and active sports activities for your child to join in.

So visit www.campaustralia.com.au and register your child now.

Reannan, Monique, Bianca, Charleigh & Belinda

Outside School Hours Care with Camp Australia

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

Hours of Operation
BSC- 7.00 - 8.45 am
ASC- 3.30 - 6.00 pm
BILLY G COOKIE DOUGH
Order forms have been finalised with expected delivery Tuesday 5th April

EASTER RAFFLE
Once again we are running our Easter Raffle with fantastic hampers to win.
If you would like to contribute any donations please place them in the box located in the office foyer. This raffle will be drawn at the end of Term 1 assembly on Friday 8th April.
Easter Raffle tickets are being sent home today

MUM’S NIGHT OUT
Put this one in your diary ladies - Saturday 14th May for a fun-filled evening.
Dancing, games, finger-food etc. to be held at Morang South Primary School old gym,
7:00pm for a 7:30pm. Further information to follow soon......

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 & Amcal PHARMACY RIVERGUM
Remember to place your receipts in the Morang South Primary School box

Next Meeting – Wednesday 6th April

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME 😊