**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.

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**13th December 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>14 Dec</td>
<td>Walk a Thon</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>17 Dec</td>
<td>Assembly Lead by School Leaders</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>17 Dec</td>
<td>Carols Night</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>19 Dec</td>
<td>Class Picnics</td>
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<td>Thurs</td>
<td>20 Dec</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>21 Dec</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>21 Dec</td>
<td>Assembly 1.30PM STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 2.00 PM</td>
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<td>Thurs</td>
<td>24 Jan</td>
<td>Office opened for payment 9am-1.00pm and 2.00pm-4.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>25 Jan</td>
<td>Office opened for payment 9am-1.00pm and 2.00pm-4.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>30 Jan</td>
<td>Grades 1-6 Students Commence</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>4 Feb</td>
<td>Canteen Reopens</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
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<td>Prep Students Commence</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>26 Feb</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
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**From the Principal**

Hello Everyone,

This is our final newsletter for the year. However, I will be sending an end of year letter to all families next week. Please look out for it.

At MSPS we are lucky to have an outstanding School Council and Parents and Friends group, whose Presidents, Brad Campbell and Cathie Emery respectively, are terrific. Thank you so much Brad and Cathie for all your support! We also have a large number of parents who belong to these bodies and many others who help around the school in classrooms, on excursions, camps, the library and in the canteen. Thank you all for a wonderful 2012 – we couldn’t do what we do without you.

Each year we like to show our appreciation and recognise the time and effort our parent volunteers put into the school and the myriad of ways in which they support us throughout the year. This year we are holding a morning tea on Tuesday, 18th December 2011 at 11 am, to express our thanks to these wonderful parent helpers. If you have assisted in the school in any way during the year, we hope you will join us for morning tea.

We say goodbye to Cathie Emery at the end of this year as her daughter Sarah is moving on to Secondary School. Cathie has worked tirelessly as a parent in our school for nine years. During that time she has carried out a variety roles from PFA and School Council member to PFA President. Words are not enough to express our appreciation for what you and your family have been to us, Cathie. Greg has also been involved in many projects from props to working bees. Nothing is ever too much trouble for Cathie.

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**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
the Emery family. Cathie has had countless creative ideas, many of which we have used and they have certainly improved our school. Thank you Cathie, from the bottom of our hearts. We wish you and your family the very best for the future.

I would especially like to thank the dedicated and professional staff of our school. I know how the community appreciate the staff and thank you for the way so many of parents have shown this by giving the staff positive feedback. I am very proud of every one of them, for their dedication to your children’s learning and the wonderful way they work together to create a happy learning environment for everyone. It is a joy to be able to call myself the Principal of Morang South Primary School.

Special thanks to our fabulous Assistant Principal, Sandi Young. She is a wonderful partner to me, as we lead the learning community at MSPS. Sandi continues to inspire and challenge us.

We have run three successful intra school transition sessions during the last three weeks. The children and staff have had a wonderful time talking about what to expect next year, getting to know each other and completing some activities to assist with their transition to their 2013 grade level. Our final session will be on the last day of school, December 21st, which is our meet the teacher session.

Last Thursday evening we welcomed our 2013 Preps and their families at a sausage sizzle, where they met their teachers and some of their class mates and were able to enjoy our wonderful facilities. We were lucky with the weather and most families attended, enjoying the community atmosphere and warm welcome to our wonderful school.

This year the grade 5/6 teachers, once again well led by Debbie Cullen, have maintained the high standard in relation to the training and election of our student leaders for 2013. The grade 5s participated in a leadership day last week, where they were given an opportunity to understand and consider leadership roles and responsibilities. While the process is still running for some leadership positions, the process for school captains has been concluded. This fairly rigorous process involves applications, speeches and interviews. Ten girls and four boys stood for these highly valued and important positions. This was then reduced to four of boys and six girls after the speeches and voting. Congratulations and thank you to all of our participants who showed purpose, poise and pride in our school. After ten engaging interviews, it was indeed difficult to arrive at the final decisions.

However, I am happy to announce that our School Captains for 2013 are Grace Bremner and Reece Lewis and Vice Captains are Christy Soe and Moheb Sherbaz. Congratulations to these outstanding young people. Sandi and I are looking forward to working with them as our student leaders in 2013.

Next week Sandi and I will host a morning tea for our current and incoming School Captains and Vice Captains, where we will celebrate their achievements, reflect on 2012 and look forward to 2013.

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 lifelong learning!

Julie Jones
Principal
Stars of the Week

Grades Prep – 6

Week 10

Home Group 1  Home Group 01  Home Group 2  Home Group 02
Home Group 3  Taylum & Tristan  Home Group 7  Josh R, Reece & Josh D
Home Group 9  Brody  Home Group 11  Jayde & Home Group 11
Home Group 13  Moheb, Kristy & Angus  Home Group 15  Jonah & Erin
Home Group 16  Home Group 16  Home Group 19  Thimasha, Declan, Sophie & Antasia
Home Group 20  Home Group 20  Home Group 21  Cynthia, Omar & Home Group 21
Home Group 22  Ethan & Mia  Home Group 23  Stehanie & Emma
Home Group 24  Home Group 24  Science P-4  Home Group 22
Scientist of Week  Christian HG 22
Sports Report: 5/6 Soccer

On Friday November 30th the grade 5/6 soccer teams finally had a chance to compete after being washed out earlier in the year! The matches were held at The Lakes South Morang. It was a very humid day and the children all played hard in the heat. Our boys’ team persevered valiantly and won 2 out of their 4 matches. The girls’ team were victorious winning all of their 4 games.

I would like to congratulate all the following children for their sportsmanship and excellent behaviour on the day: Lauren Marshall, Tahlia Thomas, Kassandra Mathison, Jasmine Egan, Shaylee Jackson, Rikki Powell, Jessica Arnott, Natasha Vu, Christina Ramadan, Stella Jolevska, Marnie Jarvis, Mikieli Jones, Tara Johnson, Jessica Romeo, Nathan Romeo, Max Bajric, Brandon Pisani, Mohab Sherbaz, Ethan Nguyen, Jesse Brown, James Balakas, Raffaele Palermo, Nevmin Hewage, Kiyam M Basari, Matt Falzon, Luc Konstantinou, Joel Turner and Lachlan MacDonald.

A special thanks to super coach extraordinaire, Jayne Marshall (mum to Lauren and Georgia) for her coaching throughout the year and on the day.
Throughout the term HG 09 have been learning about author and illustrator Jeannie Baker during their library lessons. After reading some of her books and admiring her collages HG 09 were given the task of creating their own collage. The students could choose their own theme which could be anything they wanted. So over the past few weeks HG 09 have worked hard on their collages and have now produced something fantastic!

Written by: Brooke F
Taxonomy is the arranging, and defining of groups of animals on the basis of shared features and giving names to those groups.

HG16 became taxonomists last week when they collected leaf litter and used magnifying glasses and microscopes to see which animal groups they could find. There were cheers of joy as they found insects, arachnids, annelids and myriads.
Wise Ones is a special extra program operating at our school for our students with a high potential. Karen, our Wise Ones teacher, provides a multidisciplinary program covering a range of topics to cater for the diverse interests of these students. This year’s topics included Geography (Around the World in 8 Weeks), Mathematics (Hands on Algebra), Art (The Impressionists) and this term History (The Vikings).

At the end of each term the students celebrate their learning. Parents are invited to share in this special occasion. As can be seen in the photos it is an enjoyable time for all.

Next year’s participants are looking forward to starting the year with Engineering.

Diana Gevaux
Chess Club

Many awards were given out to signify the great accomplishments of this club. There is gold, silver and bronze medals as well as most valuable player, encouragement or enthusiasm and most improved pins. The most valuable player, as always, was chosen by a vote completed by each group.

Group 1
The gold medal went to the outright winner Kiyan, while Lachlan narrowly snatched silver away from the third placed Andrew. Most valuable player was awarded to Lauren, while Fonda was given the encouragement award and Ethan received the most improved pin. We also had to say goodbye to our grade sixers as they continue past primary school into their secondary school years and hope they continue to keep chess in their lives.

Group 2
This term there was a closely competed contest for the top three spots with only half point separating them. In 1st we had Josh, silver went to Peter with only rating points separating him from the gold, leaving Heath with the Bronze. Alex received the most valuable player pin, while Lachlan and Shayden received the encouragement and most improved awards respectively.

Group 3
The fight for first place in this group was very strong, going down to two tie-break points; this brought a lot of fun and excitement to the group as we witnessed the first place battle come down to the final week. Coming out on top of this was Aleks, grasping the gold medal, leaving the unlucky Thomas with the silver medal, while Sam received the bronze medal. Kelsea clenched the most improved while Mia received the enthusiasm award and Ethan got the most valuable player pin.

Group 4
Coming out on top was Ben, grasping the gold medal, leaving Benito with the silver medal, while Eboni, after only two terms of chess, gave a valiant effort to receive the bronze medal. Alannah clenched the most improved while James received the enthusiasm award for always being on time and keen, meanwhile our newcomer, Riley, got the most valuable player pin.

Intra-school Chess Tournament
On the 5th of December, all 38 chess players competed against each other in an all-out brawl, so to speak. This tournament allowed each of the children to play against different skilled players that come from each of the other groups, giving them good experience for when the inter-school chess tournaments are played. Some interesting, surprising and impressive results were presented to the many parents that spectated during the day. Similar awards were given out, however there was no most improved or encouragement/enthusiasm awards and the most valuable player was chosen by myself and Mrs. Gevaux. Accompanying the usual awards, there was also a ‘best girl’ award given to the highest placing girl of the tournament. This award as well as the top three awards were accompanied by magnetic chess sets, while the other award winners also received a snazzy chess-themed wrist band. The gold, silver and bronze medals were given to Josh, Heath and Kiyan respectively; Josh being the only person from our school to win against Kiyan all year. The most valuable player was narrowly awarded to Lachlan. The best girl was given to Jess, whom has only been playing chess for a miniscule two terms. A special thanks to all of the parents that turned up to watch their children play, it was great to see.

Information
Chess club should be returning once again next year with a similar setup. I, Rhys, the chess coach, would like to thank all of the children for making the past four terms a great and fun experience and hope to continue for many terms to come. I would also like to thank the parents of these children for any and all of the support they receive at home for chess. Last, but not least, I would like the thank my mum, Mrs. Gevaux, for supporting me through the past year and on behalf of chess club as well for allowing me to use part of her room.

Congratulations to all those that received awards for one reason or another during the term and to those who persist and strive to improve their game. Looking forward to another great year of chess, see you then!
J.S.C. would like to thank everyone for their support with the Christmas Hamper Appeal. Our collection was donated to Diamond Valley food share and we are pleased to know that we have made a difference to some families this Christmas.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in Junior School Council and the House Captains and Vice Captains for their work and contributions this year. In 2012, they have participated in and achieved the following:

- In March, we had a CRAZY HAIR DAY and raised $300.50 for World’s Greatest Shave - LEUKAEMIA FOUNDATION.
- In June we raised $400.00 for State Schools Relief when we wore odd socks to school.
- We helped out at the PFA School Disco and became Ambassadors for the night.
- In August, we raised $400.00 for the Tiana Reidy Foundation which supports children with cancer. We wore Pink, Purple and sparkly clothes to school.
- In October, we supported State Schools’ relief by having an out of uniform day and raised $400.00.
- We helped out and sold books at the pre-loved book stall at P.F.A’s mini market.
- We came to school wearing moustaches in November and raised $325.30 on Movember Day.
- We collected food for Diamond Valley Food Share in the annual Christmas Food Hamper Appeal.
- We promoted and participated in the PFA Christmas School Dance Party.
- Finally, with every one’s help we collected 80,000 points in the Woolworths Sticker Collection and as a result, we have ordered lots of wonderful resources for our school, which should arrive in March 2013.

WELL DONE TO EVERYONE IN JSC ON A FABULOUS YEARS WORK and to everyone at MSPS for their support.

Mrs Cartisano
This week, Melbourne Heart Football Club Game Development Officer Josh Bondin will be visiting our school to conduct football clinics with the students in Prep and Grade 3/4. The students will learn how to juggle, learn new skills and play a game. Should be a great experience for all!

Sue Grad (Prep-4 PE).
OSHC NEWS

Hello South Morang Community,

Just a reminder that there will be no after school care program running on the last day of term the 21st December.

Thursday the 20th will be our OSHC end of year party please feel free to come along and join us to celebrate a fantastic year we have had.

- Reannan, Kristin, Charleigh & Vincenza

REMININDERS

How to get started before using our programs register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Visit our website to begin www.campaustralia.com.au

Once registered you can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day online.

Save on Care You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care 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 105 343 Monday to Friday.

WHAT’S ON THIS WEEK

AFTER SCHOOL CARE
Week 11

MONDAY
Christmas baubles

TUESDAY
Chocolate balls

WEDNESDAY
Christmas decorations

THURSDAY
End of year PARTY!!

FRIDAY
No OSHC running

AWARDS... Savannah C, Emily A and Charlie O

MENU

MONDAY
Salads with a Variety of spreads

TUESDAY
Sandwiches with a Variety of spreads

WEDNESDAY
RESTAURANTS

THURSDAY
Party Food

FRIDAY

Program hours
Before School Care
7:00 – 8:45

After School Care
3:30 – 6:00
TOMAS FITZGERALD
INSTRUMENTAL
GUITAR  BASS  DRUMS  FLUTE  VOICE  PIANO

★ FIRST LESSON FREE! ★

★ LESSONS START FROM $12.50! ★

★ COLLECT AN ENROLMENT FORM FROM THE OFFICE ★

Tomas’ holistic teaching approach involves elements such as:

✓ Fun,
✓ Creativity,
✓ Reading music,
✓ Aural skills (ear training),
✓ Performance,
✓ Technical development
✓ Learning repertoire and
✓ Recording (optional).

An incredible opportunity exists for your child!

Studies show that learning a musical instrument increases a student’s level of academic performance, study skills, self expression, hand/eye/mind coordination, self confidence and concentration.

Tomas Fitzgerald is dedicated to providing your child with the musical foundations they need with their chosen instrument.

For more information on instrumental music lessons at Morang South Primary School please feel free to call on 0425 865 909 or email at tomasfitzgerald@hotmail.com.