

## 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.

## Important Dates

Thur	29 March	Term 1 Finishes. Students dismissed 2.30pm
Mon	16 April	Term 2 Commences 9am
Mon	16 April	Assembly– Lead by School Leaders
Tues	17 April	Gr 5/6 Toolangi Camp Commences
Fri	20 April	Gr 5/6 Toolangi Campers Return
Wed	25 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Mon	30 April	Athletics Carnival
Tue-Fri	15-17 May	NAPLAN
Fri	18 May	Gr 1-4 Swimming Commences
Tue-Fri	22-29 May	Scholastic Book Fair
Wed	06 June	Gr 3/4 Cook's Cottage Excursion
Fri	08 June	<u>Curriculum Day</u> Students do not attend.
Mon	11 June	<u>Queens Birthday Public Holiday</u>
Fri	17 August	<u>Curriculum Day</u> Students do not attend.
Wed	10 October	<u>Student Led Conferences .</u> Students Attend at Interview time only
Mon	05 November	<u>Report Writing Day</u> Students do not attend.

29th March 2018

### *From the Principal*

Hello Everyone,

It is hard to believe that it is the end of term 1. What a great start we have had to the year.

Thank you and congratulations to all of those families who attended the **student-led conferences** on Monday and celebrated the children's learning with them. It is always wonderful to see so many families around the school on these days.

What a wonderful **Easter Bonnet Parade** we had this morning. Congratulations to all of our students who joined in and the parents who supported them. We had an excellent turn up of family and friends.

Well done to **PFA who raised over \$800** with the Easter raffle. A big thank you to our community who made donations of eggs and chocolates and supported the PFA by selling/buying raffle tickets

The **grade 5/6 Makers Market** was on after the parade. It was also well attended by families and the grades P – 4 students had a terrific time window shopping then making their purchases. Congratulations to the 5/6

**Keep up to date with the school events and important dates by logging into uEducateUs every day!**

## 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.

teachers and particularly to the 5/6 students for a job well done. The items on sale were so creative!

Last week the PFA held their AGM and then had the March meeting.

Congratulations to the following parents who were elected as Office Bearers:

**President:** Shyam Viswanathan

**Vice President:** Emma Dickens

**Treasurer:** Holly Ingwersen

**Secretary:** Kellie Pulcifer

**Publicity Officer:** Shibrone Campbell

The **School Council AGM** was held last night, Wednesday March 28th at 7.30pm where the 2017 Annual Report was ratified.

The **2018/9 School Council** met for the first time last night after the AGM.

All **parent vacancies for the 2017/18 School Council** were filled. However, we still have two community vacancies if you are interested or know anyone who might be. Just let me know.

The School Council members for 2018 are: Max Anderson, Rodney Cornwall; Jodi Greene; Megan Gehrke, Mohit Gupta Michael Hepper, Rhys Kay, Joel Quinton, Amy Backas, Melinda Bell, Shannon Gibbons, Leah Smith and myself.

Congratulations to our **new members** Max, Michael, Amy and Shannon and to the following parents who were elected as Office Bearers for 2018:

**President:** Rodney Cornwall

**Vice President:** Joel Quinton

**Treasurer:** Mohit Gupta

**Secretary:** Amy Backas

This year **ANZAC Day** will be acknowledged by a service on Tuesday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 2.40pm. We are always very proud of our well attended and moving service presented by our school captains. We hope you will join us to commemorate the day.

In the second Gorge News this year I included an

article about Anxiety. There was quite a bit of interest in it so I have included a link to another article below for those who are interested.

**Anxiety – You Can Come Through the Other Side.** Below is the link to the blog with this article. [http://www.shiftyourthinkingld.com/blog/anxiety-youcancomethroughtotheotherside?gclid=Cj0KCQjw1-fVBRC3ARIsAlifYOP7IW5p-K25n4Yx4QWBIABYw6KGImuPFZKB2jfdMlb7g-KICWtztuYwaApwCEALw\\_wcB](http://www.shiftyourthinkingld.com/blog/anxiety-youcancomethroughtotheotherside?gclid=Cj0KCQjw1-fVBRC3ARIsAlifYOP7IW5p-K25n4Yx4QWBIABYw6KGImuPFZKB2jfdMlb7g-KICWtztuYwaApwCEALw_wcB)

The current Sun Smart policy requires children to **wear their hats until the last week in April**. This is until the **end of week 2** in term two. Please ensure that all children have their hats for these three weeks. Active, outdoor play is important for health and development. Outdoor activities are safe as long as time spent in direct sunlight is

minimised whenever possible – plenty of shade, combined with the use of appropriate hats, clothing and sunscreen help to protect children from getting sun burnt and tanned.

I hope you are all able to find some time to spend with family and friends over the holidays

For those of you who celebrate Easter, have a lovely time with your family.



Our Newsletter arrives via email. If you would like a **hard copy of the Gorge News**, there will be a limited number available in the **foyer for collection** by you or your child.

**Education Matters, Teachers Make a Difference & Every Day Counts!**

Keep up that lifelong learning!

Julie Jones

Principal



# uEducateUs



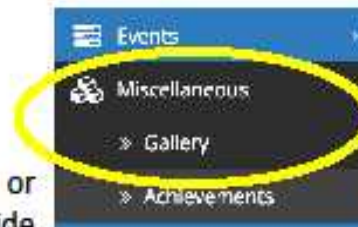
How are we all going with uEducateUs? We have **over 300** parents and carers logging on to see what is happening around the school. Booking the interviews went well and we will be *using uEducateUs to book our second lot of conferences* later in the year. When booking your conference please make sure you are aware of which teacher you are booking with, we had some parents book with our lovely specialist teachers thinking it was with the classroom teacher.

Families are also using this app to communicate about **absences** and stay up to date by viewing the school calendar. uEducateUs is the **best way to communicate** about your child's absent. You can even put *upcoming absences on in advance!*

Over the last few weeks of school, teachers have been **uploading photos** to the class albums section. This is located *down the bottom* under

## **Miscellaneous – Gallery**

From here you can select to view 2 options:

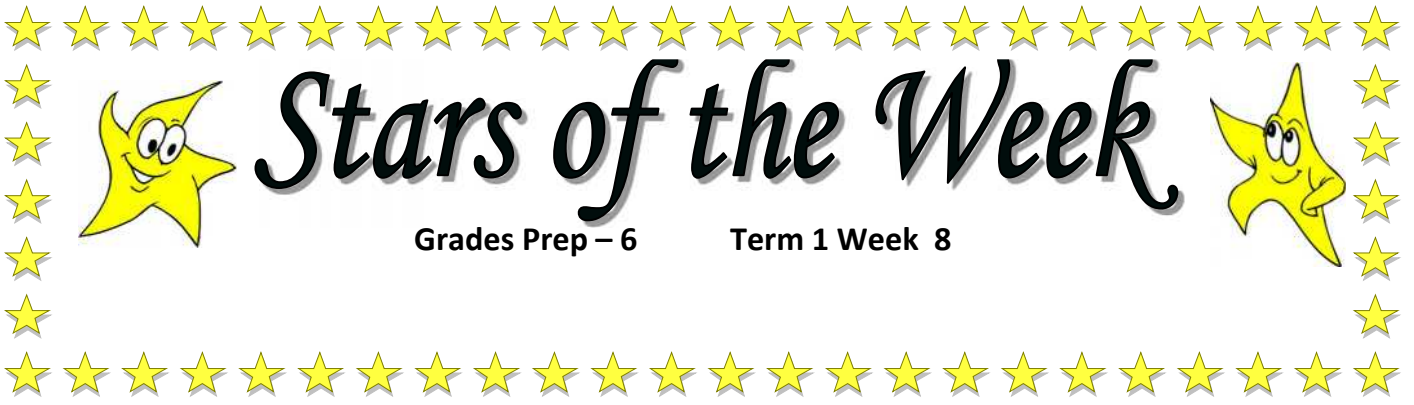


**Public Albums:** Across the school events or programs. Currently you can take a peak inside some of our specialist classes. Stay tuned for Harmony Day pictures and other *whole school events*.

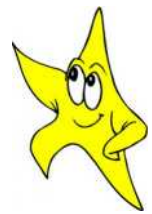
**Class Albums:** These are albums for *just parents/carers from your child's class* to view. This is more about what is happening in class. We have a range of albums from buddies through to hands on maths activities.

**Cannot see you child in class albums?** Your child may not have permission to have their photo published. Please come to the office to sign the Photo Permission form.

Amy Backae  
Acting Assistant Principal



# Stars of the Week



Grades Prep – 6 Term 1 Week 8

- |                         |                     |                              |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Home Group 02</b>    | Leon and Chelsea    | <b>Home Group 03</b>         | Emvi and Kosta      |
| <b>Home Group 04</b>    | Chase and Cillian   |                              |                     |
| <b>Home Group 05</b>    | Johnathan and Alpay | <b>Home Group 24</b>         | Blake and Marley    |
| <b>Home Group 25</b>    | Fatima and Jonathan | <b>Home Group 26</b>         | Emma and Xavier     |
| <b>Home Group 27</b>    | Bailey and Shelby   |                              |                     |
| <b>Home Group 08</b>    | Emma and Jacob      | <b>Home Group 13</b>         | Kai B and Liam I    |
| <b>Home Group 14</b>    | Elaf and Blair      | <b>Home Group 19</b>         | Alyssa and Isabella |
| <b>Home Group 20</b>    | Ben and Jadeene     |                              |                     |
| <b>Home Group 09</b>    | Emily and Renee     | <b>Home Group 11</b>         | Jai W and Madelyn P |
| <b>Home Group 15</b>    | Nathan and Sara     | <b>Home Group 17</b>         | Aidan and Tahlia    |
| <b>Science</b>          | Home Group 24       | <b>Scientist of the Week</b> | Ryan S              |
| <b>Good Sport Award</b> | Madison B. HG08     | <b>P.E. 1-6</b>              | Home Group 14       |



# HARMONY DAY AT M.S.P.S

On Wednesday the 21st of March, children at M.S.P.S celebrated Harmony Day! Staff and students participated by dressing in either a national dress, colours of flags or orange (the colour of Harmony Day). Students participated in a range of activities from different countries. Thanks to all our special visitors who came into our classrooms in session 5. It was a fantastic day enjoyed by everyone!



# COMMONWEALTH GAMES DAY

by HGO5

Last Friday we had a Commonwealth Games day at school. We rotated through different activities and learnt about the games which will begin on the 4th of April. We learnt that Borobi the surfing Koala will be our mascot. We talked about the countries that will compete and some of the sports we might see.



**Isabella, Leo, Sam, Dayyan and Jake  
liked making flags.**

**Ruby, Rion, Lilybelle, Johnathan, Riddhi,  
Andrew, Hersh, Madeline and Callan  
liked making medals.**

**Jaxon, Zeidan, Aarshiya and Marco liked  
learning Borobi's dance moves.**

**Luke, Ishan, Vanya, Aiden and Jahkyla liked looking at  
the sports, the pictograms and  
colouring an athlete in Australian colours.**

**We all enjoyed the activities and had a fun day!**

# Gold Medallist visits 5/6 students at M.S.P.S



M.S.P.S had the pleasure of welcoming 2 x Commonwealth Games Gold medallist, Laetisha Scanlan to speak to our 5/6 students. Laetisha participates in the sport, Clay Target Shooting and will be competing in the upcoming Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast. Laetisha explained the importance of working hard and having a Growth Mindset when working towards achieving her dreams. We got to hold her gold medal and a few clay targets too!



# Building better

## family relationships

There are lots of ways to show you care even in busy families



Caring and commitment are the basis of strong family relationships. This means making the wellbeing of family members a first priority and offering support when needed. Some families seem to pull together easily, while for others it takes greater effort. To build strong family relationships, start by identifying the strengths you do have and appreciating them. Paying attention to the things that work well and building on them will help to strengthen your relationships. The following suggestions may be useful reminders.

### Tune In

One way to show you care is by listening to what other family members have to say with interest and enthusiasm. Other ideas include doing things for one another, helping (without complaining!), celebrating birthdays and achievements, and taking the time to understand how other family members are feeling. Hugs are another favourite.

### Have fun together

Spend time doing things you enjoy. Doing simple things that allow you to relax and play together is very important for building positive feelings and connections amongst family members. Playing games or sports, going to the park, having picnics, visiting with friends or just relaxing together are examples of family activities that help to build relationships.

### Family rituals

Family rituals can help to build a sense of connection and belonging. These may include family celebrations that happen once a year, as well as everyday activities like bedtime stories, morning cuddles or cooking a special meal together once a week. Having family rituals and routines that you enjoy together helps to create strong family bonds.



### Share the load

Family life can get out of balance when one person feels they have the burden of responsibilities, or when one person makes all the decisions. Supporting each other includes sharing the chores and making sure that everyone gets to have a say in the decisions that affect them.

### Get support

Family life has many challenges as well as rewards. Getting support when you need it – from extended family, friends, or professionals – is important for managing the challenges. Professional counselling is a particularly valuable strategy for helping many families who experience relationship problems.

There are lots of ways to show you care even in busy families – *continued*

### Make time to talk

Regular time for talking and listening to one another helps families to plan and set priorities, strengthen relationships and build mutual understanding. Taking a few minutes to talk with children after school or before bedtime, and making time for adults to 'check in' with each other, is important for building connections and cooperation. Family discussions are often very helpful ways of resolving conflicts and maintaining positive relationships. Make sure that everyone gets a turn to share feelings and thoughts and contribute to finding solutions that can work for the whole family.

### Share values

Sharing common values strengthens belonging and helps families work together when challenges arise. Discuss your beliefs and values or tell stories about your own family and cultural history. Demonstrate through your behaviour values like respect, care, compassion and responsibility. Remember that children are influenced by what you do even more than by what you say.

### Appreciate differences

Family togetherness doesn't mean everybody has to be the same or always do the same things. It helps to appreciate that everyone is different, and to value and respect each family member's unique needs, wants and talents. Avoiding negative comparisons, and affirming what each individual has to offer, creates strong family bonds.





## EVERY DAY COUNTS @ MSPS

### Student Attendance Report : 13/03/18—23/03/18

As part of the **Everyday Counts** initiative, the DET is reporting attendance in percentages.

**Some children have 100% attendance.**

The percentages in the following table indicate the **average** attendance for each grade during the fortnight.

<b>Foundation</b>		<b>Grades 3/4</b>	
Home Group 02	95%	Home Group 08	95%
Home Group 03	92%	Home Group 13	94%
Home Group 04	95%	Home Group 14	90%
Home Group 06	90%	Home Group 19	94%
		Home Group 20	94%
<b>Grades 1/2</b>		<b>Grades 5/6</b>	
Home Group 05	93%	Home Group 09	95%
Home Group 24	94%	Home Group 11	95%
Home Group 25	92%	Home Group 15	95%
Home Group 26	93%	Home Group 17	96%
Home Group 27	95%		
		Shaded Area	Indicates Highest Grades at each grade level

#### **COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY**

Morang South Primary School is committed to providing a safe environment for all children and to protect them from any form of abuse or neglect. A policy has been written to demonstrate the strong commitment of the whole school community to Child safety. This community comprises of school leaders, staff, volunteers, contractors, students and their families.

All students enrolled, and any child visiting Morang South Primary School, have a right to feel safe and be safe at all times.

At Morang South Primary School we acknowledge that:

- **Everyone has the right to work and learn.**
- **Everyone has the right to feel safe and comfortable.**



## Advance Notice!



The **Grade 3-6 MSPS Athletics Carnival** has been booked for **Monday April 30th** at Meadowglen International Athletics Stadium—week 3 of term 2. We need *lots* of helpers to make this event a success. Parents/Grandparents/Carers can assist us on the day by running an event to assist with organising equipment and measuring distances/results (all necessary information will be supplied). Please mark this date in your diary, and if you are able to come along to help, then also make sure that your [Working With Children Check](#) is up to date. Look out for further information in the Newsletter/Facebook page/uEducateUs, and notes coming home with your child/children early next term! Thanks—looking forward to having lots of helpers!!

Sue Grad (P.E. Gr. 1-6)



It is the **last week** to collect Coles Sports for Schools Vouchers.

The program finishes on **April 3rd.**

Bring your vouchers into school so we can finalise our collection

ASAP!

Thank-you!

# SAFEMinds.

SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES ENHANCING MINDS

"A sense of connectedness to families and schools is the most significant protective factor for young people."

(Reanick et al. *Protecting Adolescents from Harm*, 1997)

## SAFEMINDS: AT HOME



**Did you know that mental ill-health is the biggest health issue for young Australians today?**

**Do you want to learn some practical tips on how to identify when your child might need support with their mental health and wellbeing?**

**SAFEMinds At Home parent information sessions can help you with practical tips and resources to support your child through tough times.**

### SAFEMinds Comes to Doreen!

headspace Greensborough will be presenting a **FREE** session for parents to learn about early detection and support for young people through the SAFEMinds mental health training currently being introduced for schools and families across Victoria.

**When:** Wednesday 18 April 2018

**Time:** 6:45pm for a 7pm start – 9pm

**Venue:** Orchard Road Community Centre  
121 Orchard Road, Doreen

Limited child care places available upon registration.

**Bookings essential.**

For enquiries and registration contact Baseline on 9404 8800 or email [baseline@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:baseline@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)



Meet members of the headspace Greensborough team and learn more about the supports and services available at headspace Greensborough.

A panel of local services will be available to answer your questions about local support services for young people and families.



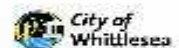
SAFEMinds combines a range of targeted training and a comprehensive toolkit of resources, to support whole school communities apply the NIP *it in the bud!* early intervention approach.

SAFEMinds Online

SAFEMinds: In Practice SAFEMinds: At Home



Supported by



### **Attendance and arriving on time:**

If students arrive on time to school, they will be there for the 'introductions' to the lesson with focused teaching and a learning intention. If a student arrives late they have missed an important part of the lesson! **Please parents**, have your children at school on time, ready for their learning. Thank you.



### Small Group & Private Lessons

- Please **ENROL TODAY** – via PMI's website OR enrolment forms available at your school front office
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – typically during the school day
- Only \$15.95 per child per small group lesson (2-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons also available (\$32.95 per child for 30 minutes)
- Learning plan for all students via "PMI Stars" program – structured objectives with progress visibility
- PMI teachers supply keyboards and textbooks for keyboard lessons (students bring their own guitars)
- Ten minutes per day of practice at home is all that is required to see improvement!
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination
- Limited spaces available – so please enrol ASAP

P: 1300 362 824 E: [admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au](mailto:admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au) [www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au](http://www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au)



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# 2018 MSPS Classifieds

The MSPS Classifieds will remain an **online** feature of our school website:

**“Friends of Morang South PS.”**

<http://www.morangsouthps.vic.edu.au/>

A **hyperlink** to the MSPS Classifieds will now be emailed to everyone at the same time our *Gorge News School Newsletter* is emailed each fortnight. That is approximately 330 families and friends of Morang South Primary School. Previously, we had made our Classifieds more efficient and easier for *everyone* to click a ‘link’ to view our MSPS Classifieds online.

We will also regularly include a hyperlink on our very successful MSPS Facebook group to the MSPS Classifieds.

All advertisements in the MSPS Classifieds will be in **COLOUR**.

Businesses or groups who already hire our facilities (eg. Paringa Complex or our Killara Gym) will receive 10% off each advertisement.

If you choose to advertise for 10 consecutive months you GET 1 month for FREE!

The MSPS Classifieds aims to provide affordable local advertising.

Prices per Month : (as of March 2017)

**Small: \$10    Medium: \$20    Large \$35**

(approximately A5)

(approximately A4)

If you would like to advertise in our Classifieds [email: corevski.tina.t@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:corevski.tina.t@edumail.vic.gov.au)