

# **MOULAMEIN PUBLIC SCHOOL**

2017 Term 1 Week 6 Newsletter 28/02/2017

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District Swimming Carnival, Swan Hill
P & C Meeting
School Assembly 12.30
School Anniversary Meeting
PSSA Football Trials, Leeton
PSSA Netball Trials, Griffith
150 Year School celebrations

#### Principal's Message

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." - Aesop

We have so many kind and caring people in our school community. From the wonderful staff who go out of their way to make the students learning more enjoyable, to our amazing P&C, volunteers and of course the students who on a daily basis go out of their way to help others. I see this each and every day in the playground and in the classroom. It's important at times to take a breath and step back and appreciate what we have.

We also received a phone call from principal of a feeder high school who gave us some very positive feedback on students who graduated from Moulamein PS last year. He said he liked the way Moulamein students were very eager to give things a go and had enough confidence to try new things. He has found students from Moulamein PS always have a very positive outlook and excellent manners.

## **Swimming Carnival**

Congratulations to some of our students from MPS who placed in events at our Small Schools Swimming Carnival. They will be attending our District carnival on Friday in Swan Hill. All students attending have been notified and we wish them the best of luck! Mrs Mertz will be managing our team at the carnival and we thank her for her assistance and support during this day.

#### **PSSA Netball and Football**

Last Friday some of our senior students were invited to attend a PSSA Netball and Football trial in Barham. They should be congratulated on their outstanding behaviour and sportsmanship. Indiana was selected in the netball and Connor, Tyler and Ethan were selected in the football. The boys will represent the Moulamein PSSA District in Leeton on the 16<sup>th</sup> March and Indiana will represent the same organisation in Griffith on the 28<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **Assemblies**

To fit in with staffing arrangements and Key Learning Areas timetables, school assemblies will be held at 12:30 on advertised Fridays this year, and run through until lunch. Parents are welcome to stay at school and join students for lunch on these days. Our first assembly will be in Week 7, 10<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Personal Belongings**

Student personal belongings and private property brought to school by students is not insured and therefore, the school or the Department of Education accept no responsibility for any loss or damage. This includes mobile phones, i-pods, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and jewellery etc. Mobile phones must be left at the office and collected at the end of the day. We encourage all students to leave valuables at home.

# New Sight Word Program for K-1 Students

Kindergarten and Year 1 students will be bringing home a sight word list to learn each week. Students will also be learning these words in literacy time. Sight words are very important for your child to master because, believe it or not, sight words account for up to 75% of the words used in beginning children's printed material according to research. Many of the over 200 sight words do not follow the basic phonics principles, therefore, they cannot be "sounded out." Beginning readers need an effective strategy for decoding unknown words, and being familiar with sight words is an effective method. When your child begins to read a book and can already recognise the words, chances are they won't feel discouraged and put the book down, rather they will have more confidence to read it all the way through. And, choose another!



Students will be tested each week and given a new set of words to learn if they can read them fast and without hesitation. Each set of words builds upon the other, and increases in difficulty. This program has been designed especially for students at Moulamein PS and both Mrs Wilson and Mrs Mertz will be encouraging students to practise these words each night.

My motto is....

Sights words are the islands of safety!

# 150th School Anniversary



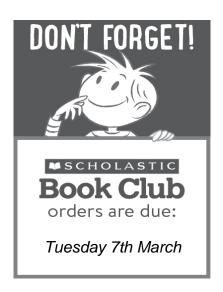
Date Set!

August 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

Moulamein PS have set a date for the sesquicentenary Anniversary this year. The weekend we have nominated is the long weekend in August. Celebrations will begin though on Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. We are inviting parents, community and family members to join our committee to help with the organisation of this day. Many hands make light work for such a big event for our town!

Our second meeting will be held on the <u>13<sup>th</sup> of March 4.00-5.00pm</u> at Moulamein Public School. Please let us know if you would like to attend our meetings. We will be publishing a timetable with an order of events as soon as we are finished planning. A facebook page will also be set up for the Anniversary soon. Please let all family members and friends aware of this date and to save it in their calendar.

Jennie Wilson- Principal



## A Day in the 2/3 Classroom

The 2017 2/3 classroom has got off to marvellous start with all students (and teacher) settling in nicely for the year.

Before School – students rush in to see what their Handy Helper job is, set up their desks for the day, complete a morning read and tell Miss Fay some tremendously important news that has happened overnight ("Miss Fay, I got these jelly beans last night that taste like dirt!" – Archie, Monday 20th Feb, or, "Miss Fay, my brother Lenny hid my iPad last night, can he sit out at recess?" – Henry, Wednesday 22nd Feb).



**Morning Session** – Students sit for a morning welcome, the day and date and a brain warm-up riddle – *Sophie* and *Rhys* are quickly becoming the 2/3 'Riddle Masters', with their ability to think outside the box and problem solve!









**Spelling** – all students participate in spelling activities on different digraphs and blends to increase their vocabulary and ability to independently spell. All students received 7/10 or above for their first test, proving their hard work and dedication to their learning. Well done to *Chloe* and *Meg* who always complete their spelling neatly and in a timely manner.

**Guided Reading** – Students move into their reading groups to complete shared reading and activities to improve their fluency, articulation and comprehension. Last week *Baxter*, *Jason*, *Colby* and *Archie* were reading an information text titled **The Solar System**. They were able to learn and teach the class facts about all the planets in the solar system. Well done, boys!

A Sentence A Day – A Sentence A Day is a grammar, punctuation and vocabulary program designed to assist students in building their writing skills. Last week students learnt about nouns (people, places, animals and things). Students wrote sentences to match the picture prompts and underlined the nouns. It is also a time to practice handwriting. Well done to *Jie Ann* who always presents beautiful writing during A Sentence a Day and takes care in learning to write grammatically correct sentences.

**Mem Fox** – This Term the class is looking at Mem Fox books as part of their literacy program. So far we have read Harriet, You'll Drive Me Wild, Whoever You Are and Wilfred Gordon **McDonald** Partridge. Students have loved reading Mem Fox's beautifully written rich literature and have made many fantastic observations and deeper connections with messages. Well done to Faith and Henry who both contributed thoughtfully throughout class discussions on humanity during the reading of Whoever You Are.

**Recess** – time for a snack (and coffee!) and a play before more learning.

Depending on the day of the week, after recess students will either complete a 15 minute **PE fitness** session or 15 minutes of **DEAR** (Drop Everything And Read).

Numeracy – Numeracy sessions start off with an introduction to the lesson focus, some teacher modelled examples of strategies before usually moving to a collaborative concept focussed maths game and independent learning. Last week's focus was both subtraction and area. Well done to *Clem* who excelled in both concepts taught and enjoyed completing subtraction equations on a blank number-line.

After numeracy, either **ICT** or **Handwriting** – During the ICT session students will usually complete learning through Study Ladder, or complete a typing activity. Last week students learnt how to create a folder on the server and save their work into it. Well done, and thank-you, *to Abby* who always volunteers to help set up the computers and loves typing. Students have an individual handwriting book where they complete their very best writing. They have been practicing downward strokes so far with both L and J.

Lunch – time for a break and run around before the last session of learning for the day.

Depending on the day of the week, K/1/2 have either Mrs Wilson, Mrs Mertz or myself and 3/4/5/6 have Miss Midson or myself for all the other important KLAs such as **History**, **PD&H**, **CAPA** and **Sport**.

It has been an extremely exciting and busy start to the year and I look forward to reporting back to you all with more tales from the 2/3 classroom soon!

#### Miss Fay

