Calendar of Events

Thursday 10th October
2014 Prep Transition begins 9.00-10.00am

Friday 11th October
Assembly item—S13

Wednesday 16th October
Parent Club meeting at 2.30pm in the staffroom.

Thursday 17th October
2014 Prep Transition 9-10am

Friday 18th October
Assembly item—S13

Children’s Week
Monday 21st—Friday 25th
Focus Week on Student Safety
Filled with safety activities

Monday 21st
Middle School Musical in a Day

Friday 25th October
Safety expo in the MPC

Term 4 dates for your calendar:

Monday 4th November
Curriculum Day
(Pupil Free Day)

Thursday 28th November
School Concert

Principal’s Report:

Welcome back to term 4. I hope you survived the windy conditions over the holidays and had a relaxing and restful time away from the hustle and bustle of school.

Today we welcomed some of our 2014 prep students for their first transition visit. (see pictures below) The first stage of transition has begun. Students enjoyed a variety of physical activities in the MPC followed by storytime and borrowing in the library. It is important that all students beginning the school year in 2014 are enrolled now. This term we begin planning for class sizes and formation. Your child needs to be enrolled to ensure the correct class sizes and teachers for the 2014 school year. If you haven’t enrolled your child, this needs to be done immediately. If you are planning on leaving Coral Park in 2014, please let us know as soon as you can and ensure your child is enrolled at their new school.

Today the Year 3 and 5 NAPLAN results were sent home to parents with the newsletter. Please discuss your child’s results with them and congratulate them on their efforts. The testing time can be very stressful for some students and I am sure they all tried their best. If you have any questions in regards to your child’s result, please discuss this with the classroom teacher. Remember that these are a snapshot of your child’s achievement level when the testing was completed in May, these are not your child’s final reports for the year.

We are also sending home 2014 Booklists. You may think this is early however, we wish to give parents as much time as possible to get these paid before the Christmas rush hits and before some families have the extra expenses funding secondary college students.

Please add these important term dates to your calendar; Monday 4th November is a Pupil Free Day. Thursday 28th November is our school concert night. We will again host this event at the River Gum Performing Arts Centre. Stay tuned for more details.

Here’s to a fabulous term.

Regards, Gill

Prep Transition has begun for our 2014 prep student

Do you have a child ready to begin prep in 2014?
Have you enrolled them at school yet?

REMINDER From September to May

Hats are available at the school office for $10

CONGRATULATIONS

Last week’s winning house: Scorps
Children's Week 2013

In week 3, we celebrate Children's Week. Children's Week is an annual event celebrated in Australia during the fourth week in October. In 1996 it was decided to adopt a permanent theme: “A Caring World Shares” as a reflection of Children's Week aims while at the same time acknowledging the designated year on national posters and other printed materials. Children's Week celebrates the right of children to enjoy childhood. It is also a time for children to demonstrate their talents, skills and abilities.

This year we are placing our focus for Children’s Week on ‘STUDENT SAFETY’.

The issue of safety has become more prevalent in recent times with cyberbullying, many attempted abductions, stranger danger alerts, youth suicides and internet safety concerns. Throughout this week and the remainder of the term, our focus is on 5 aspects of student safety which will be highlighted through the newsletter and to students through our school multimedia program. The 5 aspects to be covered include: Safety at School, Safety at Home, Safety in the Community (when travelling between school and home), Bullying and Cyberbullying.

There are many campaigns now that work to help reduce the number of safety related incidents though helping to raise community awareness and strategies for students. Without wanting to alarm students, we want them to be alert to help keep them safe. Often in the media or through Department of Education alerts, we are reminded of what can happen so easily on any day of the week. Please help us to remind students of safe behaviours at all times. Over the next few weeks, you will read about ways of helping to keep our students safe, please discuss these with your child.

BULLYING: Sadly the number of school children bullied every fortnight across Australia could fill the MCG. 27 per cent of young people report they are bullied every two weeks or more often, while cyberbullying happens to about one in ten young Australians every two weeks. Bullying is a serious issue for everyone in a school community. We know that it can happen anywhere, anytime, and can have devastating consequences. Any child can be bullied. That is why Bully Stoppers calls on all Victorians to make a stand and lend a hand to prevent and respond to bullying behaviour.

What is bullying?

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological aggressive behaviour by a person or group directed towards a less powerful person or group that is intended to cause harm, distress or fear.

Types of bullying behaviour

There are some specific types of bullying behaviour:

- **verbal or written abuse** - such as targeted name-calling or jokes, or displaying offensive posters
- **violence** - including threats of violence
- **sexual harassment** - unwelcome or un reciprocated conduct of a sexual nature, which could reasonably be expected to cause offence, humiliation or intimidation
- **homophobia** and other hostile behaviour towards students relating to gender and sexuality
- **discrimination including racial discrimination** - treating people differently because of their identity
- **cyberbullying** - either online or via mobile phone.

What is not bullying?

There are also some behaviours, which, although they might be unpleasant or distressing, are not bullying:

- **mutual conflict** - which involves a disagreement, but not an imbalance of power. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation.
- **single episode acts** of nastiness or physical aggression, or aggression directed towards many different people, is not bullying
- **social rejection or dislike** is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.

We all need to work together to encourage everyone to find a voice—not only their voice if it is happening to them but also for someone who can't find their voice or the courage to tell others. Ensure all incidents are reported and don’t let them fester or the problem may continue. Please make a time to discuss any issues with your child’s classroom teacher. Never approach the other child—that in itself is bullying/intimidating behaviour and never tell your child to hit back, this doesn't help solve the problem, in fact it can often make it worse.

The ‘Say Something’ campaign was formed to help reduce bullying. The powerful campaign was designed to highlight the important role bystanders can play during instances of bullying. Bullying behaviour can be reinforced when people watch and do nothing. When bystanders stand up to bullying, while in a safe and supportive environment, the bullying behaviour is more likely to stop. Research has revealed Australians who witness instances of bullying are more likely to stay quiet than say something.

Five tips for school students who witness bullying behaviour

1. Stay safe and never put yourself in danger. Only intervene if it is safe to do so.
2. If you feel it's safe and you have support, tell the person who is bullying to stop, that it's not OK.
3. If the behaviour doesn’t stop, walk away - being part of the audience is being part of the problem.
4. Afterwards, talk to the student who was being bullied to make sure they're OK.
5. Ensure you tell a teacher or other adult what you saw.

Recognise, React and Report—is the message from the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. The Daniel Morcombe Foundation was founded after 13 year old Daniel was abducted and killed whilst waiting for a bus. This message encourages children to Recognise, React and Report if they feel something is not right. This message will be discussed more next week when we look at Safety in the Community.

On Friday 25th October, we are holding a ‘Wear Red and Educate’ fundraising day to help raise funds for ‘Day for Daniel’ through the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. This day is dedicated to Keeping Kids Safe. We simply ask that you wear the colour red and bring a gold donation.

Remember, ‘SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY—EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE.’
An important way for parents and carers to help keep our students safer is simply through ensuring we have the correct contact details at all times.

Have any of your contact details changed? Home phone? Mobile phone? Or Emergency contacts for your children? Please ensure you keep these details updated at the office regularly.

On the last day of term 3 Coral Park celebrated its first "Technology Day". Whilst working with their buddy grades, all students participated in a web quest around the school. Using Ipads they scanned QR codes which opened videos, music or songs to give them clues to work out where to go next and how to find the secret location (The MPC Kitchen) within the school. Lots of prizes to be had and everyone had lots of fun using technology.

Junior students also had their first turn using the green screen in the performing arts room. Each grade acted out parts from children’s story books whilst actually appearing in the story. The juniors loved watching themselves back on the interactive whiteboard. Our very own television stars!

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Three weeks ago Chelsea, Courtney and Tayla competed for the State Championship Competition for Calisthenics. "It was a lot of hard work, but a lot of fun".

By working their hardest the girls are State Champions for 2013.

**Middle School Students present**

**A Musical in a Day**

You are invited to be part of the audience supporting the middle students in their musical performance ‘The Lonestar Cowboy’. This is a contemporary and entertaining musical that looks at the issue of bullying.

**WHEN:** Monday 21 October

**TIME:** 2:00pm

**WHERE:** MPC
Coral Park Primary School After School Care

With Government subsidies such as the Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate, after school care has never been more accessible!

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Join your friends at Camp Australia and have fun after school with arts and crafts, sports, exciting group games and a whole lot more!

BOOK NOW! 1300 105 343 or Register online: www.campaustralia.com.au/parents

Save 50% or more on Out of School Hours Care, with the child care rebate, almost all families are eligible. To find out more call the Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343.

Do you require Before School Care? Currently we can't offer before school care as we don't have enough students to maintain the program. When we know we have a minimum of 7 permanent student bookings each morning, we can re-open the program. So if your needs change and you require care in the morning, please let the school know so we can maintain a list to hopefully provide care onsite in 2014. Currently, before school care is being provided at Hampton Park Community House who bring the children to our school in their bus.

HEADLICE:

It is the first week back and we want a headlice free term. Parents must check their child’s hair for head lice each Sunday before they return to school. Please treat immediately if eggs or live lice are found. The incidence of head lice would reduce significantly if this quick check was undertaken weekly. Classes have been checked this week so that we don’t let headlice spread around. Students with live lice will be sent home for treatment and must be treated before they return to school.

Keep up to date with the latest news and events.

Personal goods are brought to school at owner’s risk

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. Please note the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Staff and students are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school or do so at their own risk. All valuables should be locked safely away throughout the day.

PLAYGROUP — Do you have a child under school age?

Do you have young children under school-age? Come along each Monday morning and join in play group. Meet new people, have a coffee and chat while your children have play learning time with Linda. Meet in the Art room between 9.00-11.00 on Monday. We would love for you to join us.

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House Points Tally from Term 3

- Scorpians
- Pegasus
- Phoenix
- Lynx