Calendar of events 2014

Today
All chocolate money and unsold chocolates are due back.

Tomorrow
Friday 22nd August is a Pupil Free Curriculum Day.

Friday 29th August
Book Week, Numeracy & Literacy Week Dress Up Day

Premiers’ Reading Challenge
Not long to go! Keep reading!

Friday 5 September
The Father’s Day Stall
No Assembly due to set up for the Arts Expo

Book Week, Literacy & Numeracy Week Celebrations
Did you know Book Week and Literacy and Numeracy Week are almost here?

No…. Well Book week is happening from August 19th - 23rd
Literacy and Numeracy Week is happening from August 24th - 30th

Next week we are combining our Book Week and Literacy and Numeracy Week celebrations. Students will participate in a number of activities including; reading the short listed books, listening to simultaneous reading over the loud speaker during eating time, participating in buddy grade activities focusing on water usage which is the theme of Numeracy week, Pocket Poems and Connecting to reading which are the themes of Book Week and Literacy week.

We will be concluding our celebrations on Friday with a dress up day. We would love to see all students come dressed as a favourite book character or something mathematical, this could be their favourite number or shape. We look forward to seeing everyone’s fantastic costumes on our Dress-Up Day at assembly.

When: Friday 29th August

Parents be sure to come along and see all the great costumes, feel free to get involved and come dressed up too!
Remember awesome costumes can be created from clothes and other items you have at home. They don’t need to be specially brought costumes.

The Father’s Day stall is coming on Friday 5th September.

Lots of goodies will be on sale, gifts ranging from $1 to $5 so don’t forget to bring your money along.

Parent helpers are needed for the Father’s Day stall. If you can help out with sales time on the morning of Friday 5th September please let Linda in the office know.

THUMBS UP TO:

• Thumbs up to all the students who are in class ready for learning time by 8.55am.
• Thumbs up to all the families who have sold all of their chocolates and returned their money.

Thumbs down to the families who continually arrive late. Please ensure your children are in class by 8.55 to optimise their learning time and not interfere with the learning time of others. No excuses.

TOMORROW is a CURRICULUM DAY.
Students don’t come to school!
Birthday Books

Thank you Elissa, Miss T, Jessica and Juliana for donating birthday books to our library. We hope you all had a wonderful birthday.

If you would like to donate a birthday book to the school, please see Linda in the library.

Professor Maths Incursion
Grades 3 to 6

Professor Maths brought a large range of fun maths activities for students to work together collaboratively and solve.

All the activities were exciting, stimulating and challenging.

The main message of Professor Maths was that if something doesn’t work the first time, keep trying and never give up.

When students solved the Super Challenge they became a mini Professor Maths. There sure were a lot of super challenge solvers.

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Cadbury Fundraiser

Don’t forget, all monies and unsold chocolates are due TODAY Thursday 21st August. If you haven’t yet returned them, please ensure you bring them back on Monday.

For every box sold (or equivalent donation) a raffle ticket is written in your family name for your chance to win a great family fun pack or the GIANT toblerone. Good luck!

Chicken nests by the Middles.
Parents Are Having Much Farther Reaching Effects Than They Know—an article from Generation Next

We were pretty good at keeping computers and televisions out of bedrooms, but as technology developed we somehow missed that phones and tablets ARE computers. One of the main conversations I have with parents is about their exhaustion at parenting with so many devices in the home. Parents feel out of control. At my seminars I often ask for a show of hands and the majority of families own a collection of iPads, iPods, other tablets, an Xbox, a Wii, a DS, iPhones and more... Most parents wonder if their limit setting is actually worth it. It’s so constant isn’t it? I have 3 children and it feels like I have to remind them of the boundaries with technology regularly.

But be encouraged, it IS worth it.

A study of over 1300 families, by my colleague in the US found, “that parents are having much farther reaching effects than they know.” The study indicated some powerful benefits for children when parents set healthy limits on entertainment screen time (TV and video games) and limits of the type of content viewed. Some effects are seen more immediately and others over time. (Please keep in mind that ‘limiting’ does not mean banning all technology or taking everything away – it indicates a healthy balance and an inclusion of many other activities, such as sport, drama, kicking a ball, going shopping, chatting over dinner...) “When parents are involved it has a powerful protective effect across a wide range of different areas that they probably never would have expected to see,” (Douglas Gentile)

Two Immediate effects of placing limits on media (which seem obvious but are great to see):
1. Those children spent less time on TV and video games
2. Those children saw less violent media content

However, it is the long-term effects that surprised the researchers the most. Children whose parents set more limits on the amount of time spent with media 7 months before:
1. were now getting more sleep
2. were getting better grades in school
3. had an indirectly positive change in Body Mass (because children were simply moving around more)

Additionally, parents limiting children’s content exposure (to violent media) 7 months before resulted in:
1. increased prosocial behaviour – exhibiting more helpful and cooperative pro-social behaviours at school
2. less aggressive behaviour toward their peers

Doug reminds us that the effect is not immediate and that makes it difficult for parents to recognise. We don’t notice children growing taller in a day, or see Maths grades improve after a week of extra maths lessons, but after a year? – well that is when we suddenly notice that our son has grown too tall for his trousers. Thus, this principle applies to media exposure. i.e Our children are not going to become violent street brawlers after a few days of playing violent video games, or get an F in English after staying up for the World Cup, but over time the distributed effects on their lives are real.

A note on aggression:
Parents assume that we mean that children will display violent behaviours or become involved in school punch-ups after playing days and days of GTA, and when that doesn’t happen, they say, “You see, there is no effect on my child! The study is nonsense.” However, learned aggression is not related to direct copying behaviours, but ways of thinking. Thinking about how others see you, their intentions toward you, your position in the group, their responses, etc.

It is important to remember that the largest growing market of gamers are adults, hence the games developed with adult themes. Children playing violent (MA15+) games, while still in the process of growing and developing their sense of self, sense of others, etc.

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It is important to remember that the largest growing market of gamers are adults, hence the games developed with adult themes. Yet there are far too many children playing violent (MA15+) games, while still in the process of growing and developing their sense of self, sense of others and learning about the world around them.

If you still don’t believe there is any effect on children please think about a simplistic illustration for a moment – How do you learn a phone number? You repeat it over and over and over until it is committed to memory. Even when you erase the number from your phone, it is burned into your brain for a long time. I can still remember the phone number from my childhood home in another country, which changed over 25 years ago. Can you?

Please be encouraged

“When you tell your child that they’ve reached their limit of screen time for the day or that they aren’t allowed to play a particular game because of its content, you aren’t going to see their grades improve immediately or better behaviour tomorrow (in fact, you might see a lot of complaining today but always remember, you are the adult in the house, you set the rules). But this study demonstrates that the effects of setting and enforcing limits has powerful benefits for children’s health, school, and social outcomes. That’s remarkable when you realize that these are all very different types of outcomes, and setting media limits has a measurable impact on all of them for the future!” A/Prof Douglas Gentile

In our home we don’t always get it perfectly right, but this study is encouraging to all of us ‘limit setters’. It is worth it. We do have a positive effect, even if we don’t notice it today.

Article by Collett Smart (Collett is a registered psychologist, psychology tutor at UWS, speaker, freelance writer and mum of 3.)
Be in class by 8.55am for optimal learning time. NO excuses.

Coral Park Playgroup Monday AND Friday
Playgroup is now open on Friday mornings also!
Sessions are on each
Monday 9-11 and Friday 9-11. Please come along
and meet new friends from our school community.

Every Day Counts
Primary school attendance

Before and After School Care has a new home,
they are now in the MPC each day.
After School Care promotes a healthy and active
lifestyle, encourages friendships and support
students to develop new skills—all while having
fun.

Coral Park has partnered with Camp Australia to
provide After Hours School Care for our families.
Come along and introduce yourself to Jess in
the MPC before and after school. The program
combines active games with planned and
unplanned play, quiet time, homework time and
a healthy snack. Did you know, one session can
cost as little as $8 with full rebates available.
To enrol your child into the Coral Park OSHC
Program, complete an OSHC Registration Form
which is located on the Camp Australia website -
enrolled be ready to get involved in fun, quality
and engaging experiences in a safe and happy
environment.

Thursdays are Cooking Days at
Kid’s Club!
Our kids have been cooking yummy
treats like Honey Joys, Chocolate
Cakes, and Anzac Biscuits this term
at kids club. Come along and learn to
cook something tasty, or
take part in one of our kid's
club kitchen challenges!
We are getting into
the garden as well,
making seed creatures
that grow when you
plant them out of
recycled newspaper.
Parents are welcome
to come along to the
MPC to talk to Jess
and find out more
about our program.

Session times:
Before Care- 6:30am-8:45am
After Care- 3:30pm-6:00pm

Edustar officers visit Coral Park
On Monday 18th August two DEECD Edustar Officers, Alistair and Jo,
worked with some of our Prep, Junior, Middle and Senior classes using
iPads and Laptops to help them with their learning. The Edustar officers’
role is to showcase to schools software and online resources that are
available free to schools to help teachers and students incorporate more
Information Technology into their learning.
The Preps read the fairy tale of Jack and the Beanstalk and used the
iPads to take pictures of themselves acting out the beginning, middle or
end of the story. The Juniors used interactive books to read stories and
answer questions to show their understanding of the story. Middle
students used poetry and graph creating websites and Seniors designed
houses and used the program scratch to create animation.
The students all had lots of fun and the Preps have already written
about the visit on their area blog.

http://cppsprep.global2.vic.edu.au/2014/08/19/edustar-officer-visit

Thumbs up to all the parents who are using the Parent
Sentral Portal to inform the school of their child’s
absence. If you have any questions about the Sentral
Parent Portal or would like to enrol yourself for an
account please follow the link on the Coral Park
Website or contact Matt on 9702 8398.