**From the Principal’s desk …**

**Family Liaison Officer**

One of the actions from our Strategic Plan and AIP is to strengthen the partnerships between home and school, as we know that building these partnerships creates a positive school community and improves student learning outcomes.

A key piece of work has been the development of a ‘Family Liaison Officer (FLO)’ position. The key purpose of the FLO is to develop and provide positive links between home and school to develop the home school partnership. I look forward to announcing next week the person who will fulfil this role and outlining in greater detail the work that they will be doing.

**Child Safe Standards**

The Victorian Government is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. As part of the Victorian Government’s commitment to implementing the recommendations of the Betrayal of Trust report, there are new Child Safe Standards that are compulsory minimum standards for all Victorian schools to ensure they are well prepared to protect children from abuse and neglect.

Whilst our school has many policies and procedures in place that aim to keep children safe, the Child Safe Standards provide a framework to identify gaps and improve policy and practices around child safety.

More information about the standards can be found in newsletter.

**District Athletic Sports**

We have 34 students who will be participating in the District Athletics event to be held at Nagambie Primary School next Friday September 9. These children will receive information about the event tomorrow. Please ensure you return the permission slip to school by next Wednesday.

**Second-hand Uniforms**

We have a huge range of second hand uniforms available at school at the moment so this Friday we are opening the doors and encouraging you to come along with a plastic bag and fill it – no charge!

**Italian**

We are into week 3 of learning Italian at MPS and it is great to hear the enthusiasm of the students as I move around the school. So that you may learn at home too, we will be putting information into the newsletter about what is being covered on a regular basis. The first edition is attached to the newsletter today.

**Head lice**

We have had a reported case of head lice at the school. Please continue to check your child/ren’s hair on a regular basis and treat if necessary. Thank you for your ongoing assistance.

**Concert**

Dates are set for our annual Concert which is in term 4 this year. Please keep Wednesday November 9 (matinee) and Thursday November 10 (evening performance) free!

**Hats**

Hats are back from tomorrow! As we are a Sunsmart school, from September 1 to April 30 all children are expected to wear their hats at school. Please make sure your child/ren have a bottle green hat, either wide brimmed or bucket ready to go!

**Numeracy Expo**

The Numeracy Expo is almost here! Tomorrow afternoon from 3:45pm – 5:00pm each classroom will have a variety of fluency tasks, games and competitions for you to enjoy. We will have some information for parents available about Numeracy at MPS along with a Numeracy scavenger hunt to complete. All the activities will be designed to enjoy with your children so we hope to see you all there!

**Father’s Day Stall**

The Father’s Day Stall is on Friday September 2. Students will be able to purchase a gift (or two) for their Dad or someone special. Gifts range in price from $1.00 - $5.00. Thanks to Michelle Donders for organising and Leanne Wheeler, Jodie Robinson & Kelly Bedwell for helping with this for our school community.

**Melissa Houlihan**  Principal
AROUND THE SCHOOL:
Keys to Success - Getting Along, Confidence, Organisation, Persistence & Resilience

“YOU CAN DO IT”
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
Left to Right
Back: Ebonie, Hermione, Delilah & Nina
Front: Bella, Alex & Joshua

Gr F-1WW – Joshua Bone – For his great ‘have a go’ attitude. Josh has been finishing his work and trying to do his best with a big smile on his face!
Gr F-1WW – Bella Robinson – For her enthusiasm for learning and always trying to do her best. You are a fantastic learner Bella!
Gr 1-2F – Alex Ablitt – Alex has worked very hard to recognise his words using a THRASS chart. His hard work has paid off so that he is now reading many more books by himself.
Gr 2-3V – Nina Caiafa – For working really hard on your explanation text and producing a wonderful piece of published work. Great job Nina!
Gr 2-3V – Ebonie Kiafa – For sticking at your work and making an excellent effort with spelling. Fantastic job Ebs!
Gr 4-5C – Delilah Brannelly – You demonstrated the persistence, confidence, organisation and getting along keys when preparing and presenting the environment and safety presentation at student assembly.
Gr 5-6B – Hermione Richardson – For getting along with others and for your growing confidence in your leadership skills and your ability to be a role model to others. Keep up the good work.

TERM 3 PLANNER

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<td>Hot Dog &amp; Dim Sim Lunch Last Day Term 3</td>
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WINNERS
Lowanna (3-4), Miriam (5-6) & Tex (F-2) winners of the Snow Globe competition judged by Alice from Goulburn Valley Water. Students learnt of the ‘3 P’s’ that are only allowed to go down the toilet.
VR ACA BROS CLEARING SALE BBQ – WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 28

The Clearing Sale is on the last Wednesday of the school holidays. We’re looking for volunteers to cook and serve on the day, plus volunteers to make sandwiches and slices beforehand. If you can offer a hand please let us know before the end of term. For more information contact Michelle Donders (0408 138 197), Michelle Brown (0409 565 443) or Cecilie Munro (0403 363 342). Thank you to all those who have offered to help so far. Many hands make light work!

NB: Unfortunately we missed out on the BBQ fundraiser at KidsFest.

PARENT-CHILD MOTHER GOOSE PROGRAM: There is nothing more important than the bond between parent and child. Parents/ grandparents with children aged from 0-5 years are invited to come along to a morning filled with singing songs, action finger rhymes and story telling! The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program will take place at Murchison Primary School every Friday from 9.30am-10.30am during the school term. Sessions are fun, free and morning tea is provided!
For more information contact (03) 58262391.

RESOURCESMART: Murchison Primary School is working towards becoming a ResourceSmart School in the four areas of waste and litter management, energy use, water use and biodiversity. Each week there will be a change we can make to the way we live to reduce our impact on the environment.

Tip 26: Refuse plastic bags!
Take your own bag when you shop or ask for a cardboard box.
Tip 27: Make a call, email or text and replace the drive.

MURCHISON SUPA VALU CENTRE – proud sponsor of the School Newsletter
CELEBRATING 25 YEAR’S SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY
SUPERMARKET MILKBAR NEWSAGENCY
Shop Hours: Mon – Thurs- 5:00am - 6:30pm,
Fri- 5:00am – 7:00pm, Sat- 6:00am – 6:30pm,
Sun- 7:00am – 6:30pm.

BATTERY RECYCLE DEPOT
SHOP LOCALLY FOR CONVENIENCE & SERVICE CITYLINK PASSES available

SCHOOL BANKING EACH WEDNESDAY AT MURCHISON PS – See Shelly for information about opening an account so you can become a weekly saver too!

MURCHISON SWIMMING POOL
The Murchison Swimming Pool Committee will be having their AGM on Saturday Sept 10, 9:30 at the pool. We are looking for new members or individuals interest in helping out throughout the season. Any inquiries, please contact Michelle Brown 0409 565 443 or Leah 0400 317 136.
STUDENT BEHAVIOUR SURVEY:
Student’s at the end of term 2 completed a survey, regarding the behaviours of fellow students and teachers at our school. These surveys have been collated during term 3. The following is a summary of the results and an outline of the proposed follow up.

Results have indicated that just less than half of our students perceived that they had been bullied. Most students indicated that most bullying occurred on the oval at lunchtimes. As a result we followed up with another set of questions to get more information (including asking for who they perceived the person(s) are that were bullying them). Results from this indicated that 15 students were the recipients of “mean” behaviour from some students. Parents of these students (15) will be contacted in view to students being involved in follow up group work with me around how to cope with mean behaviours toward them and to develop their support networks.

We are also contacting all Parents of students named (6) who received complaints from at least 4 other students. We are conducting meetings to inform both parents and child of what they have been named to be doing to other students. (name calling; making fun of people; taking things; spreading rumours; yelling at them; threatening them; excluding them; pushing them; teasing; flicking; pushing others around). In the meeting we are allowing students the opportunity to respond to the claims against them and offering support to both the student and the parent. We are giving a clear message that these behaviours are not acceptable at MPS and we need to see an improvement in their behaviour toward others.

Next term I will be continuing to follow up with students who feel that they are on the end of mean behaviours to ensure that it is not continuing to happen and that they are feeling ok at school – safe.

None of what students have said indicates that we have genuine ‘bullies’ at our school. None of what was said indicates premeditated, ongoing, targeted bullying. BUT we do have some students who are both rude and mean to others and this does not support the respectful behaviours we expect from all within our school community.

We thank all students for their honesty in answering our Behaviour questions, this has allowed us to get a better picture of what is happening in our school and permits us to deal with these unacceptable behaviours. At MPS the safety of all our students and teachers is paramount.

Debbie Turvey
Student WellBeing

Murchison Primary School
Student Absence Form

Name: _______________________
Class: ___________________ Date: _________________
Reason: _______________________
Parent’s Signature: _______________________

Murchison Primary School
Student Absence Form

IS IT BULLYING?

When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once, that’s RUDE.

When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once, that’s MEAN.

When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it even when you tell them to stop or show them that you’re upset, that’s BULLYING.

Please hand to your class teacher
Italian is underway at MPS with Dr Lucette Bailliet and it has been fantastic to hear the children practising what they have learnt. So far across all the classrooms we are learning some basic greetings and numbers. Next on the list is colours and names of body parts. If you would like to practice at home, here are some of what the children have been learning about...

**Italian Greetings**

**Ciao** – Hello and good-bye  
**Buongiorno** – Good morning  
**Buonasera** – Good evening, good afternoon  
**Buonanotte** – Good night  
**Mi chiamo** – My name is  
**Come ti chiami?** - What is your name?  
**Come stai?** How are you?  
**Sto bene** – I’m well  
**Così cosi** – Not bad, so so  
**Sto male** – I’m not well  
**Quanti anni hai?** How old are you?  
**Ho ........ anni** - I have ..... years old (you don’t say am)
**CHILD SAFE STANDARDS:**

As a result of the ‘Betrayal of Trust’ report and recommendations, all schools are required to be compliant with the new Child Safe Standards under Ministerial Order 870. The child safe standards require schools to consider all aspects of child safety and put measures in place to protect children from all forms of abuse, including:

- sexual or grooming offences
- physical violence
- serious emotional or psychological harm
- serious neglect.

There are 7 key standards to ensure that all schools are safe places for children and that they have a zero tolerance towards child abuse. We will be working together with School Council to update, amend or develop policies in alignment with the Child Safe Standards.

The standards are as follows:

1. Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements.

2. A child safe policy or statement of commitment to child safety.

3. A code of conduct that establishes clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children.

4. Screening, supervision, training and other human resources practices that reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing personnel.

5. Processes for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse.

6. Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse.

7. Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children.

Some of the key elements for our school are:

- Everyone connected to our school can help children be safe.
- We have zero tolerance for any abuse of children.
- We already have policies and processes in place to protect the care, safety and welfare of children. These are being strengthened to ensure a zero tolerance approach to child abuse.
- There are clear boundaries about how adults in our school community may interact with the children here.
- The new child safe standards go further than child protection arrangements did in the past.
- The child safe standards apply to school staff (including volunteers and contractors), visitors and students’ family members.
- Keeping children safe is everyone’s responsibility. Different people at our school have different roles and responsibilities for ensuring children’s safety.

What this will mean for you as families and as a school community is that there will be a number of changes and updates to the policies and processes we currently use. This information will be communicated in the most effective way, usually via the newsletter or attachments to the newsletter and on the website.