



# Newsletter

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*May 7th 2015*

**Principal's Message** - Parents seem to be experiencing increasing pressure regarding their children's education. Everyone wants their child to read well, be at (or near) the top of the class academically, and thrive socially at school. The increased emphasis on standardised testing (e.g. NAPLAN) and the comparison of their child to others provided to parents contributes greatly to this anxiety. Many parents ask me How they can best prepare their children for success at school. The best answer to this challenging question is... it depends.

It actually depends on what you consider success. Many people believe that success is about achieving strong outcomes academically. Academic results can be nurtured by: Encouraging reading at home, Assisting with Mathletics and Spelladrome at home, and focusing on good study habits from a young age. However, some evidence suggests that this type of approach may not be helpful for some children, particularly when they are young.

Some people prefer to define success at school by more than a test score. For example love of learning, curiosity, life outlook, optimism, resilience, flexibility, independence and creative skills.. The way we prepare our child for success at school will depend largely on how we define success at school.

In order to help your child be well-rounded, balanced, happy, and accomplish appropriate goals academically, here are three useful suggestions.

1. Too much time on the Internet or watching television and movies will reduce your children's chances for success at school in two important ways. First, television and Internet use limit your child's opportunities for social interaction. Second, television and Internet use affect your child's interest in reading, doing projects, experiential discovery and play, or participating in extra-curricular activities that are significantly more enriching than screen time. Most experts suggest no more than one hour of television per day for primary school-aged children.

2. Sport and music are two examples of extra-curricular activities that can be worthwhile for children to participate in. Research illustrates that children who are involved in sports get higher school grades, have an increased sense of self-worth, and are more likely to complete high school than children who are not involved in sport. Children involved in sports are also generally healthier due to their increased activity, and have stronger social networks than children who do not participate in sport. Children involved in music activities (such as learning a musical instrument) are often better adjusted, with increased academic performance, ability to think creatively, emotional understanding, and emotional expression. Children involved in music typically have better memory skills than those who are not musically trained.

3. Some children believe that they are either good at something or they are not good at it. They may try it once or twice, but failure will make them give up. Other children have been taught by their parents that to succeed is to practice. These children have parents who have emphasised the importance of learning through mistakes, setbacks, failures, and practice. Studies show that children who believe they're not good at something often won't even try. But children who believe that to be good at something requires practice and hard work are willing to get stuck in, make mistakes, and keep trying until they get it right.

By teaching your children that if they keep trying they can do anything, they will persist, master, and succeed!

**Enrolment Forms** - Forms for new students starting in 2016 can be accessed on our school website or from the front office. I would greatly appreciate this being returned as soon as possible to allow for planning to take place. If you know of any potential students, please feel free to give them my details.

**Good Luck** - To the students who are trying out for the State School Victorian Soccer team on Monday. I'm sure they will impress the coaches.

**Open Day** - Our Open Day will take place Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. We are offering a morning "Meet and Greet" with a tour and morning tea to follow. Tours are on offer every day, however, this is another opportunity for our community to show off this fantastic school.

**Spelladrome** - I have been offered a wonderful deal to give all students access to Spelladrome. What is Spelladrome? To answer this simply, it is the same as Mathletics with a focus on spelling. This program is accessed through the Mathletics site and uses the same password that each child has been given. Spelladrome also gives access to the Write For Fun program, this will be utilised by teachers in the classroom on a regular basis. I am asking parents to pay \$10.00 (value \$50.00) for this program, however, this can be paid at any time throughout the year. If you have any concerns regarding this payment or the program, please contact me.

**Cross Country** - Wow! What sensational students we have. The "Have a Go" attitude I observed was absolutely tremendous last Friday. All students should be extremely proud of themselves. Congratulations to the numerous children who have progressed through to the divisional Cross Country races, they will be racing next Friday. These students will be given notes in the coming days.

**Excursions** - Please make sure permission forms are returned for the numerous excursions coming up. Please note that reminders of all excursions are sent through our Tqibiz app. The community are also able to look at our website [www.gordonps.vic.edu.au](http://www.gordonps.vic.edu.au) for event updates.

**Spare Clothes** – Can parents of P – 3 children please ensure that there is a spare change of pants and underwear for the numerous emergencies that students can have.

**Mother's Day** – It is often said that being a mother is the toughest job in the world. Because of this mum's will be thought of and celebrated this Sunday. I think back to my childhood and can remember being up the tree in the back yard, Mum yelled from the door, "If you break both your legs, don't come running to me". Mum also taught me a great deal about Justice, she often said, "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you". A very wise woman. On Sunday I trust that all mums are given the great reward they deserve.

**Thank you** - A big thankyou to the P and C for their efforts on the Mother's day stall. I hope that all children chose wisely this year.

#### **Happy Birthday**

We would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to Cody Kinna, Ashlyn Hall and also to any members of our community who are celebrating their special day.

**Have a great weekend**  
**Russel Cowan**  
**Principal**

## **May 2015**

All dates are correct at time of going to print however they may be subject to change.

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
			<b>7 School Photos am</b>  <i>Responsible Pet Ownership Program</i> <i>All Grades pm</i>  <b>Assembly 2.45</b>  <i>School Council Meeting 6pm</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13 Money in for Hot Lunch tomorrow, <u>NO</u> late orders</b>	<b>14 \$2 HOT LUNCH Pasta &amp; Napoli Sauce</b>	<b>15 Cross Country Finals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18 Gr 5/6 visiting Mars</b>	<b>19 9am Visit from Michael Ronaldson</b>	<b>20 SCHOOL OPEN DAY</b>	<b>21 Sovereign Hill Excursion—All Day Whole School</b>  <b>NO ASSEMBLY</b>	<b>22 National Walk to School Day</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25 Ambulance Victoria Visit for Gr's P—4</b>	<b>26 Moorabool Mayor visiting Gr 5/6</b>	<b>27 Money in for Hot Lunch tomorrow, <u>NO</u> late orders</b>	<b>28 \$2 HOT LUNCH Baked Potatoes</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

#### **P & C ITEMS**

**HOT LUNCHES:** The children enjoyed pumpkin soup for lunch last week. Next Thursday it's pasta with Napoli sauce; so get your order and \$2 in on Wednesday. Late orders WILL NOT be accepted. Anyone who would like to help; you are more than welcome to. If you would like to pay in advance this is what's coming up this term: Thursday 14 May - Pasta with Napoli Sauce, Thursday 28 May - Baked Potatoes, Thursday 11 June - Macaroni and Cheese & Thursday 25 June - Pizza.

**MOTHERS' DAY STALL:** Thank you to everyone for providing your child/ren with the opportunity to purchase something for mums. Also, thank you to all our helpers!

**NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY:** Friday 22 May put on your walking shoes and walk to school. On arrival join the P&C for a hot breakfast!

**HARDWARE ITEMS? GARDENING ITEMS?** Speak to one of the Committee members about what you might have that you would like to donate.

**COOKBOOK:** Keep the recipes coming! Email to: [nicolesmith72@hotmail.com](mailto:nicolesmith72@hotmail.com) - send through your photos or drawings too.



# ANZAC Day Tribute



## Grade 4 Homework





# Cross Country 2015





# Cross Country 2015





# Cross Country 2015





# Cross Country 2015



# Cross Country Winners 2015





# EarthEd Change Detectives





# Is your child 2, 3 or 4 years old?

**Is your child ready for early years education?**

**What are the signs of readiness?**

**What are your options?**



## **School & Kindergarten Readiness Night**

**With Dr Shona Bass**

**May 12, 2015 6.30 - 8.00pm**

**Supper Room, 213 Main St Bacchus Marsh**

**Light supper provided**

**Free child minding is available, bookings essential**

**To book please contact Nichole on 5366 7100**

**or email [info@moorabool.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@moorabool.vic.gov.au)**



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