MISSION

Morang South Primary School is a committed and unified partnership of teachers, parents and children. We value diversity and strive for excellence. We are committed to providing a high quality education in a cooperative, caring and safe environment. Children are encouraged and challenged to reach their full potential.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week we have completed our information nights for all grade levels. It has been a delight to see so many parents attend. To all of those who attended, thank you for showing such interest in your child’s education. The children do know when you demonstrate this and they respond accordingly by being focussed and valuing their own learning. Thank you for joining with me in congratulating and thanking our staff each night. I had quite a number of parents who gave positive feedback. Sandi and I would like to congratulate the staff and commend them to the whole community. Their presentations were most informative and clearly demonstrated their knowledge of how children learn and their willingness to work with parents and their children in an effective and focussed partnership.

Well done everybody and thank you.

Parents play a very special role in the lives of their children – their first teachers.

They teach their children to

- walk and talk,
- to use their manners
- to interact with others,
- to try new experiences
- to settle disputes,
- to play
- to share
- to laugh and cry

Important Dates

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<td>Grade 5/6 Camp at Lady Northcote YMCA Camp Commences</td>
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<td>Student Lead Conference Students attend only at time of Interview</td>
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VISION

Our vision for Morang South Primary is to become a vibrant learning community where all members are challenged and empowered to strive for and celebrate personal excellence and continuous growth. The children will become positive, compassionate, able, creative, confident thinkers, and life long, socially responsible learners equipped to thrive in and shape the future of our evolving global society.
After children begin school, teachers endeavour to work with families to broaden the learning that is taking place in the children. Children continue to learn by building on their knowledge and applying these new skills to their everyday lives. The home/school partnership is very important.

Participating in your child’s education does pay off. The Family-School and Community Partnerships Bureau report says there is a strong consensus that parents play a vital role in academic attainment. The report, compiled by the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth, suggests that the influence of the home on student achievement is 60-80 per cent and the school accounts for 20-40 per cent. When parents engaged in their children’s education it appeared to lead to higher grades and test scores, it said.

Every day counts – school attendance

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Last night we had our Parents and Friends AGM and the first Parents and Friends meeting for the year. It was wonderful to welcome back many previous members and some new members as well. Sandi and I will look forward to another fun and productive year working with you all. The office bearers were elected and plans commenced for the year. Congratulations to all the newly elected office bearers. Following is a list of the main office bearers.

President – Michele Lewis
Vice President – Elicia Wilson
Treasurer – Sherryn Lindsay
Secretary – Shibrone Campbell

School Council will meet Wednesday March 26th at 7.30pm in the staff room. The Annual General Meeting, where we take a look back at the previous year and the Annual Report is presented, will also be on this Wednesday March 26th.

Fortunately we were able to fill all four parent vacancies and both Department of Education and Early Childhood representatives (DEECD).

Congratulations to the following parents who have been elected for a two year term to School Council:

Emma Dickens
Rhys Kay
Michelle Lewis

There are still two community positions available to which School Council can co-opt a community member, if you are interested in being co-opted to School Council, please see me as soon as you are able. School Council is our governing body and consequently we need to ensure that we have adequate parent representation. Please consider joining even if you only have a small interest. I would only be too happy to have a detailed discussion about what it involves.

We have expanded the groups of students who we will be presenting badges to next week due to the large number of leadership positions. On Monday February 24th at 2.45 pm, we will be presenting our School Captains and House Captains, Junior School Councillors, ICT leaders and the school Reporters and Photographers with their badges. Our student leaders are an important part of our school and we congratulate them all on their appointments.

This schedule for Term 1 Assemblies is included with the Newsletter for your convenience under Important Dates. This term is always a busy one filled with lots of opportunities for parents and children to meet with the staff and each other as we cement our relationships as a learning community. Please be sure to check the Important Dates list on the front page of the Newsletter to ensure you are aware of school activities.

In the interest of children safety and in order to streamline our processes for accommodating parents who wish to attend camps and excursions we would like to encourage all parents who volunteer to work in the school to obtain a Working With Children Check.
For this year we are requiring all PREP, grade 1 and grade 2 parents/carers volunteering to work in classrooms and attend excursions to obtain a volunteer working with children check. Next year we will require this for Prep, Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4 parents but hope that all parents willing to work in the school will support us by obtaining a WWC Check.

The Working With Children Check is a mandatory screening requirement for any Victorian who undertakes child-related work described in the Working with Children Act 2005. Under the Act, people who engage in paid or voluntary child-related work need a WWC Check.

The check involves:

- Consideration of:
  - criminal history records in all states and territories across your lifetime
  - disciplinary findings of Victorian professional bodies such as the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) and the out of home care Suitability Panel
  - relevant determinations by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) under the Health Professions Registration Act 2005.

2. A rigorous assessment of relevant offences and disciplinary findings revealed by the criminal history check. For the assessment the department gathers information from a range of sources such as:

   - court records including the children’s court
   - other departments such as Human Services, health professionals employers and Corrections Victoria
   - Any material provided by the applicant.

To apply for a Working with Children (WWC) Check, (arrangements have changed since last year):

You need to:

- Obtain a passport size photo of yourself
- Gather your proof of identity documents to the value of 100 points and
- Lodge your application at a [participating Australia Post retail outlet](https://www.australiapost.com.au/)

**Volunteer applications are free.**

- Keep the application receipt, which is an important document.
- Please bring your receipt to the office for us to copy so you can volunteer in the interim

- When you receive your card, please bring it to the office for us to copy and make a record.

Thank you to those parents who set the right example for our students and obey the parking laws. They can be inconvenient at times but I hope you’d all agree it’s much better to be safe than sorry!

In recent weeks the City of Whittlesea has been contacted by concerned community members to ask that the By-Laws officers who patrol parking areas surrounding schools visit our school. Please remember that the parking south of the crossing in Riverside Drive is a 3 min drop off zone until 9.15 am in the morning and until 4.15 pm in the afternoon. Sandi and I have been personally reminding parents in recent weeks as we would like this drop off zone to work as it should but we would also not like to see our parents and carers fined. THERE ARE AREAS AROUND THE SCHOOL WITH PARKING RESTRICTIONS – PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THESE. I have included a copy of the signs in the Newsletter.

Please remember that the **staff car parks are not available to parents and carers.** This is DEECD policy. Of course it is also a safety issue. **Please do not walk your children through the staff car park.** There are a number of paths which lead directly to the office.

All schools have an emergency management plan which is registered with the DEECD. This details our procedure in case of emergency catering for evacuation from our building, the need to lock down in our buildings and evacuation off site. We will be having two practices this term.

As most of you will know, we email our Newsletter. If you would like a [hard copy of the Gorge News](https://www.dee.edu.au/), there will be a limited number available in the [foyer for collection](https://www.dee.edu.au/) by you or your child.

Please remember that we love to have parents helping in the classrooms and if you have any worries or concerns, please let us know straight away.

You are welcome to see me if you wish to discuss the issues I’ve written about today. I would appreciate feedback as to whether you find the information useful.

Keep up that life long learning!

Julie Jones
Principal
Stars of the Week
Grades Prep – 6
Term 1 week 4

Home Group 1  Cooper & Parisa
Home Group 3  Nathan & Toby
Home Group 4  Ailin & Matthew
Home Group 5  Emmerson & Emma
Home Group 6  Josh, Ashlee & HG 7
Home Group 7  Chelsea & Brandon
Home Group 09  Benito & Lida
Home Group 13  Jacqueline & Tezai
Home Group 14  Luke, Hayden & Cooper
Home Group 15  Ashton & Tommy
Home Group 16  Harrison G & HG 16
Home Group 21  Jonathan & Shaylah
Home Group 22  Deakin & Honey
Home Group 23  Mohamad & Ava
Home Group 24  Sharon & Cooper
Home Group 21  Scientist of Week
Home Group 22  Thomas
Home Group 23  HG 01
Home Group 24  P.E. 1-6
The Arts – Prep  The Arts – 1-6

The Arts – Prep
Scientists of Week

Good Sport Award
Chelsease from HG 11
Home Group 11
For **YOU CAN DO IT** Home Group 23 having been learning about how to ‘**GET ALONG**’. Here are some ideas.

Getting along means being kind.

Ava

Getting along means sharing.

Bailey

Getting along means sharing.

Ethan

Getting along means helping someone who is hurt.

Jaida

Getting along means being caring.

Renee

Getting along means making people happy.

Blake

Getting along means being nice, sharing and being kind.

Bree

Getting along means smiling at people.

Alkadi

Getting along means helping people who are hurt.

Kishaya
Getting along means co-operation.
Lachlan

Getting along means helping your friends.
Ryan

Getting along means caring and sharing.
Fadi

Getting along means making people happy.
Blake

Getting along means caring and sharing.
Jennifer

Getting along means being nice, caring and sharing.
Mohamad

Getting along means trusting and caring.
Leah

Getting along means caring, sharing, smiling and looking out for your friends.
Anika

Getting along means smiling at people and being kind.
Logan

Getting along means smiling, caring and helping others.
Jai

Getting along means helping others, smiling at people, being kind, being nice and sharing.
Oakley

Getting along means helping some-one who is hurt, smiling and making them happy.
Chloe
On Monday February 17th, 28 students attended the Bundoora District Swimming Sports at Northcote Aquatic Centre. The team was chosen from grade 3-6 students (10-12/13 year olds) who achieved good results at the MSPS School Swimming Carnival. Students participated in individual events such as Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly, as well as Freestyle Relays and Medley Relays. The students were fantastic at “having a go” and competing in the 50 metre pool—a long distance to swim!! We achieved some terrific results with a few 1st, 2nd and 3rd place-getters. Also Ryan L. and Ethan M. got through to qualify for the next level—the Zone competition—well done boys! The whole Swimming team were a credit to our school and showed outstanding Sportsmanship as they encouraged and cheered each other along.

What a great day! Thanks to Ms. Barden who came to help and also to the parents who were able to come along and support our team.

Sue Grad (1-6 P.E.)
CADBURY FUNDRAISER

Notices have been sent home with 3 options given to families:

1. If you choose to have them sent home, they will be distributed on Wednesday 26th Feb
2. Yes I’d rather donate $20 as our contribution
3. No I’m sorry, but unable to support this fundraiser at this time

*Please note if choosing Option 2 & 3, the note needs to be returned back to school by Thurs 20 Feb so that you do not receive chocolates*

CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising prices (per month) are:

- Business card $15
- ¼ page $20, ½ page $30, Full page $60

To advertise, contact the school on 9404 1548 for further details

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Situated in the Parents & Friends Room

Open Thursday mornings 9:00-9:30am

*IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS OF CLOTHING THAT YOU NO LONGER REQUIRE PLEASE SEND THEM TO THE SHOP
DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED—THANK YOU :)*

Next Meeting

Wednesday 19th March 2014

7:30pm Staffroom

New parents welcomed :-}
What a lovely start

The team at After School Care had a lovely smooth start to the year, discovering new and exciting things we can do in OSHC. Cooking, craft and outside sports have definitely been a big highlight so far!

In the past week we have been discovering Asia and how special the country is, making lots of different craft such as, pandas, flags and Chinese dragons to display in our room.

This week we are exploring ‘Families’ as an underlying theme as we reflect on the how special our families are, and different to each others. We will also be encouraging everyone to have a go at cooking during the week.

Also don’t forget your hats for 2014!

Ticket in the Tub winners

Shreya and Nathan

Once registered
You can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day.

Save on Care
Save 50% or more on Before and After School Care with the Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343

Holiday Clubs
Don’t forget about the Camp Australia Holiday Clubs these school holidays. Use the Holiday Club Finder on the website to find the nearest program: www.campaus.com.au/holidayclubs

Healthy Snacks
Afternoon tea is served daily. Menus are tailored to children's tastes, developmental and nutritional needs. Afternoon tea includes a selection of yummy sandwiches and fruit. Children may also engage in fun cooking activities.

we make kids smile
www.campaus.com.au
Supervision before school

Parents are reminded that teachers are on yard duty from 8.45 am and that students who arrive at school prior to this time are not supervised. Any child who arrives without an adult before 8:30 am MUST go straight to the office. Children arriving at school earlier than this will be placed in Out of School Hours Care and you will be charged accordingly.
Student Accident Insurance Arrangements: The DEECD does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs, unless the injury is caused by the negligence (carelessness) of a Department or School Council employee or volunteer. Students Accident Insurance is available privately at low cost. Forms will be sent home in the near future for those wishing to take out private insurance.

Make an educated choice about your future and our school

School Banking Day Reminder:

<DoubleCheckMarkIcon> Remember School Banking is every Tuesday
<DoubleCheckMarkIcon> Remember to fill in your deposit slip and place money in the Velcro pocket. No minimum amount.

Schools receive $5 for every account activated through the School Banking program (i.e. for each student who banks through school for the first time). 5% of every deposit made at school (up to a maximum of $10 commission per individual deposit).

Tip….Place a reminder in your calendar, diary or phone for the night before to remember banking day

2014 Rewards

- Notebook
- Scattered Pencils
- Speedy Paper Ruler
- 10cm Scalpel Blade
- 3cm Scalpel Blade
- Tin Moneybox
- Swimming Bag
- Projector Cap
- Sise Streamers

College Tours conducted every Tuesday at 9.15am.
Please contact the College to make an appointment.
NORTHERN REGIONAL UNIFORMS
UNIT 21, 8 OLEANDER DRIVE, SOUTH MORANG
SUMMER SALE

NORTHERN REGIONAL UNIFORMS
ARE HAVING A 20% SALE ON ALL SUMMER STOCK
TWO WEEKS ONLY, STARTING ON
MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY TO SATURDAY 1ST MARCH
NO LAY BYS OR BACK ORDERS
PHONE NO: 9436-4005

Term 1 School Tours:
The following tours will be held at The Lakes South Morang P-9 School for prospective parents:

Middle Years campus (Years 5-9):
80 Jardier Terrace South Morang
Wednesday 19th March @ 9:30am
Wednesday 26th March @ 4pm

All tours will begin at the front office of each campus and be conducted by a member of the school’s leadership team. Hope to see you there!

South Morang Football Club

Celebrating 60 years

South Morang Football Club is seeking women aged 18 and over to play in the inaugural open age women's team participating in the VWFL in 2014.

No previous experience in playing Australian Rules Football is required – just lots of enthusiasm!!

Training is held twice a week at South Morang Football Ground, Mill Park Lakes.

We are also seeking girls aged 9 to 12 to play in the under 12 girls team. Competition is amongst other all girls teams in the Northern Football League.

Please see the club website for further details:
smjfc.com.au

Bundoora Secondary College

Bundoora Secondary College is now conducting college tours for students wishing to enrol in 2015 and 2016.
Please contact Rosina on 9467 1511 for bookings.
How to avoid a parking fine around schools

Please think of the safety of children and observe the signs. Practice safe driving around the school by driving slowly. Obey the road rules and allow enough time to drop off or pick up your child. If necessary, park a little further away from the school in a legal parking space and walk down to pick up or drop off your child. Some examples of restrictions around schools are listed below. If you have any further queries, please call our Local Laws Department on 9217 2100.

NO STOPPING
This sign means that you can’t stop here, not even briefly. The left side of this sign applies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The right side of this sign shows specific times when the sign applies.

The same applies if there is a continuous yellow line on the edge of the road.

NOTE: No Stopping means no stopping at all — even if you are only letting someone in or out of the vehicle, and regardless of whether you leave the engine running and stay in the vehicle.

PARKING, timed, school days only
Parking time is limited on school days only, and during the specified times. A timed parking sign will be at both ends of the timed parking zone; note the directional arrows. Depending on the length of the zone there may be an additional sign in the middle of the zone with the arrow pointing in both directions.

SCHOOL CROSSING
The School Crossing is operational when flags are in place (there may also be a School Crossing Supervisor in attendance). School Crossing Supervisors can also be on duty at pedestrian lights; pedestrian crossings; and intersections lights.

Note: A driver must not stop or park on a children’s crossing, or on the road within 20 metres before the crossing and 10 metres after the crossing whilst the flags are displayed.

CAUTION, CROSSING AHEAD
Colours will vary depending on the environment.

DISABLED PARKING
Parking is limited only to vehicles displaying the blue disabled parking permit.

DOUBLE PARKED
Vehicles may not be stopped next to legally parked vehicles even for a short time to drop off or pick up passengers. Double parking can reduce the visibility for other motorists and pedestrians. It can also cause other motorists to drive on the wrong side of the road in order to pass.

A driver must not unreasonably obstruct the path of another driver or pedestrian.