**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**

21 February 2013

This week we have had 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

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.

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>21 Feb  Gr 5/6 Information Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>25 Feb Assembly: Leadership &amp; JSC Badges Presented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>26 Feb School Photo Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>27 Feb School Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>5 Mar  Wise Ones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>6 Mar  Gr 5/6 Parliament Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>11 Mar  Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>12 Mar  Wise Ones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>13 Mar  Gr 3/4 Hockey Clinics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>15 Mar  Gr 3/4 Hockey Clinics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>15 Mar  J.S.C Funky Hair Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>18 Mar  J.S.C Training Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>19 Mar  Wise Ones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>20 Mar  Parents &amp; Friends Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>21 Mar  Inter School Chess Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>25 Mar  Assembly: Lead by School Leaders. Student Voice Badges Presented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>26 Mar  3 Way Conferences . Students attend only at time of conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>28 Mar  Last Day of Term 1 2:30pm Dismissal</td>
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</tbody>
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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.
Participating in your child’s education does pay off, a new report finds. 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.

Last week we had our 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 – Anthea Newton

School Council will meet next Wednesday February 27th at 7.30pm in the staff room. Fortunately we were able to fill all four parent vacancies.

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

Brad Campbell
Rodney Cornwall
Stephen Potter &
Trudi Richards

We hope to co-opt Ronda Pearce, who has extensive experience with the Community Centre in Doreen-Rogan Way, to one of the community positions at our first meeting.

There is still one community position available to which School Council can co-opt a community member, so 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.

The Annual General Meeting where we take a look back at the previous year and the Annual Report is presented will be on Wednesday March 27th. This has been delayed due to the DEECD altering the date for the distribution of school data.

On Monday February 25th we will be presenting our Junior School Councillors, Office Monitors, Reporters, Photographer and ICT Leaders with their badges. Our student leaders are an important part of our school and we congratulate them all on their appointments.

There are two remaining Monday afternoon assemblies for term 1. We will also have an end of term assembly on the final day of term. These are listed 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.

We are always looking for ways to celebrate regular attendance. As you will read later in the Newsletter, PFA have decided to organise a Cadbury fundraiser instead of Easter raffle. We would like to allocate a ticket to those children who have had at least 98% attendance and have a special draw at the last Assembly. If you have already donated an Easter prize or would still like to do so, if you agree, we would love to use these as a special reward for our regular attenders winner from each grade level.

Please contact Deb in the office if you have already donated and agree to allow us to use your donation in this way.

In the interest of children’s 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 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 and Grade 1 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
1. 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:

1. Get an application form at an Australia Post outlet.
2. Fill out the application form using a black pen. Do not sign the form yet.
3. Take the form, 100 points of acceptable identification and a passport size photograph to an Australia Post outlet. A staff member will witness your signature.
4. Pay the application fee of $100.20 if you are applying for an Employee card. This fee is not refundable. **Volunteer applications are free.**
5. There is a cost of $16 for the photo. However you may be able to provide your own photo.
6. Keep the application receipt, which is an important document.

In recent weeks the **City of Whittlesea By-Laws officers** have been patrolling **parking areas surrounding schools**. There was some concern in our community earlier this week about an officer taking photos of **illegally parked cars and other traffic violations**. When alerted to this, Leanne Roberts, our Business Manager approached the officer and asked for identification. She was shown the appropriate identification. The officer was dressed in a pale T-shirt with a City of Whittlesea Logo and coordinating shorts. This is the approved uniform. A concerned community member called the council to alert them to the activity and question the uniform. Another City of Whittlesea Officer drove past to check the authenticity of the officer and confirmed to the Council that he was a known officer and was in uniform.

At one of the information nights a parent asked about **Emergency Management Plan**. 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.

At the January School Council Meeting the following **Pupil Free Days** were approved along with two alterations to the school day for **student led conferences**:

- **Tuesday March 26th** – Student led conferences (Students attend for conference only)
- **Friday April 26th (Pupil Free Day)**
- **Thursday August 8th (Pupil Free Day)**
- **Tuesday September 18th** - Student led conferences (Students attend for conference only)
- **Monday November 4th (Pupil Free Day)**

* Please put these dates in your diaries.

The DEECD has made a change to coding for student absences. There are now **approved and non-approved absence categories**. There is not a definitive list of these non-approved absences. I am investigating this and will write about this in a future newsletter.

As most of you will know, we email our Newsletter. If you would like a **hard copy of the Gorge News**, there will be a limited number available in the **foyer for collection** 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
We have thoroughly enjoyed another 2 weeks of ‘Arts’ sessions. It is an absolute pleasure working with your children on their Arts projects! We recently have displayed some beautiful work in the office foyer. (Photo below)

Grade 3/4 children have been asked to collect bird pictures/photos at home. Grade 3/4 children have been asked to collect toys/items for their movie.

Unfortunately, there are still children who do not have their art smocks at school. You do not need to buy one. Your child could use one of your old shirts. If you haven’t already, please send your child’s art smock to school and remember to put your child’s name and room number on it.

Thank you,

Sandi Young
(Assistant Principal & Grades 3-6 Art Teacher)
We are excited to announce that this Monday 25th February 2013

Morang South Primary School will launch it’s very own Facebook Group!

This would not have been possible without the very successful ‘Mums at Morang South’ Facebook group that Michelle Lewis (2013 PFA President) has administered and parents (Mums and Dads) have used effectively over the past year. Michelle has done a wonderful job and we thank her for her initiative, time, efficiency and support. Michelle has offered (and we have eagerly accepted) to support our new Facebook group by joining Julie Jones and myself as the administrators of the new group. LuLu McTavish (an alias for Sandi Young) will no longer be required as Julie and I will utilise the profile ‘Morang South’ for our posts. ‘Mums at Morang South’ will close this weekend and we are hoping everyone will join our new group.

Our group is a closed Facebook group. This means you can search for it: ‘Morang South Primary School’ however only members of our group can read or add to the group’s posts. You do not need to add the Administrators as friends to be part of this page. To find us type: Morang South Primary School into your search bar on Facebook. It is not a page, it is a GROUP with the apple and ruler icon.

To ensure our new Facebook group runs effectively Julie Jones and I have developed a list of protocols we request members of our ‘Morang South Primary School’ group to follow.

Our MSPS Facebook Group Protocols:

Morang South Primary School is a committed and unified partnership of teachers, parents and children. After the successful trial of ‘Mums at Morang South’ group, we are pleased to be trialling our own Facebook group in 2013. We are committed to making this a successful, dynamic and interactive form of communication. This is strictly a school based group intended to communicate relevant factual school based information. We would like this group to support our parents and families with communication, questions and shared information about the goings on in our school. For example: excursions, events, canteen information etc... For this reason, only parents who have children at our school can be accepted or join this Facebook group. Children or students will not be part of this group.

This group is to SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY and at no stage will slander, defamation, personal and negative comments be tolerated. There is to be no business advertising/group posting or links for businesses. Members who block the administrator profiles: Morang South (Julie Jones and Sandi Young) or Michelle Lewis, will be removed from the group. The administrators of the Morang South Primary School’s Facebook group will delete any inappropriate posts. Anyone found posting an inappropriate comment will be deleted from our group.

So let’s keep it positive, informative and encouraging. We ask you to live by our school values when using our Facebook group. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school directly. Please come and talk to your child’s teacher or the Principal: Julie Jones or Assistant Principal: Sandi Young.

Morang South Primary School has permission to publish our photos and at this stage we request that you do not upload any photos to our Facebook page.

Thank you, I'm sure you all understand. We appreciate your support.

Sandi Young
**COMING VERY SOON...to MSPS**

As you are aware the cost of Mathletics was included in your 2013 booklist. It is almost ready to use! We are waiting for our teacher training/professional learning, final stage of technical support and our usernames/passwords. It is taking longer than anticipated because it is the first time we have subscribed to Mathletics.

The information below was taken from the Mathletics website:


**Students Love Mathletics**

- Mathletics captivates and challenges students in a stimulating, interactive environment.
- Used by more than 30 000 students each day
- Students are motivated and engaged
- Students are able to work through the curriculum at their own pace
- Students are assisted by an on-line support centre
- Live Mathletics fosters a stimulating and exciting on-line learning community
- Hall of Fame and certificates recognise and reward participation and achievement.

**Benefits of Mathletics**

- Students love Mathletics
- Students are engaged and motivated to learn
- Improved results
- Easy to use
- Students have access to Mathletics 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Provides the perfect link between home and school, where results flow seamlessly.

**Mathletics can support student achievement**

- Mathletics motivates students to strive for better results.
- Is fully aligned to Syllabus Outcomes
- Is adaptive, it tailors questions based to the ability of individual students
- Provides immediate feedback to students, teachers and parents
- Visually supports every curriculum concept
- Integrates home and school learning
- 24 hour access at both home and school.
## Stars of the Week

**Grades Prep – 6**

**Week 03**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Group 1</th>
<th>Home Group 1</th>
<th>Home Group 2</th>
<th>Home Group 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 3</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>Home Group 4</td>
<td>Naomi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 7</td>
<td>Jessica D</td>
<td>Home Group 9</td>
<td>Moheb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 11</td>
<td>Home Group 11</td>
<td>Home Group 13</td>
<td>Joshua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 14</td>
<td>Michelle &amp; Tafa</td>
<td>Home Group 15</td>
<td>Bently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 16</td>
<td>James &amp; Jacqueline</td>
<td>Home Group 22</td>
<td>Stephanie &amp; Emma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 23</td>
<td>Logan &amp; Mia</td>
<td>Home Group 24</td>
<td>Isabella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Award</td>
<td>Home Group 09</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Home Group 14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
YOU CAN DO IT

In Home Group 23, GETTING ALONG means:

| Show respect. Thomas  | Be friendly. Cameron  |
| Tiernan Be helpful. Harrison | Listen to other people. Amanat  |
| Share your toys. Tezai  | Play with new people. Niveditha  |
| Be kind. Jonathan K  | Help each other. Zoe  |
| Be caring. Ethan Have fun with your friends. Alysha  | Use your friendly voice. Madisson  |
| Let other people play with you. Mia  | Take turns. Logan  |
| Use your friendly voice. Madisson | Saying nice words. Joshua  |
| Be nice to others. Bailey  | Use your manners. Jonathan S  |
Science Learning

All the students are exploring Chemical Science this term. Preps are investigating different materials. The grade 1/2s are creating and defining mixtures. The grade 3/4s are having lots of fun looking into what happens when we add or remove heat from various materials and the 5/6s are taking melting to a more complex level explaining what happens to the particles in materials when heat is added.

The photos show some of our grade 1/2 students combining materials to make mixtures and then explaining their discoveries using annotated drawings.

Donations Please!

The Science Program would greatly appreciate any of the following donations please.

Clean jars - 120ml, 250ml, 330ml and 500ml. Paper towel, hand wash, sponges and tissues.

Thank you for your support.
Swimming Carnival 2013

This Monday 7 students went to Northgate pools to compete in the bridge inn district swimming carnival. All the children had a fun day swimming and representing our school, they all tried their best when swimming in their 50m events as all the parents cheered them on.

Written by Haylee Cramp (School Reporter)
2013 is already shaping up to be another busy year for Junior School Councillors. Our 2013 Junior School Councillors have been appointed and will be presented with their badge at assembly on Monday, 25th February in the Paringa Gym.

Well done to all those student candidates who displayed great leadership skills by being part of the election process.

2012 WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN UPDATE

Last year we all did a fantastic job collecting stickers for the Woolworths ‘Earn and Learn’ campaign!!! We earned a total of 86,506 points. We now have a new supply of learning resources for the students to use in their specialist classes. The Arts received 59 Recorders, 4 Screen Printing Kits, 1 Children of The World CD, 16 Indian Beads sets, 3 Metallic Pony Bead Pack, 3 Aqua Chunky Funky Beads, 6 Mixed Craft Beads, 3 Sparkles Beads Box, 3 Blue & Gold Chunky Funky Beads, 3 Red Chunky Funky Beads. Science received some much needed construction kits : 7 K’nex Construction Sets, 2 Crazy Forts and 8 LEGO - Early Structures Set.

To complement our Mathematics resources we also ordered 4 Fractions Class Kit.

We received all of these wonderful goodies due to your shopping at Woolworths and the Woolworth’s Earn and Learn program.

Thank you!!

Charlotte Bradstreet
(2012 JSC representative)
FUNKY HAIR
FRIDAY

WHEN:
Friday 15th of March

THE LEUKAEMIA FOUNDATION'S
WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

COMING TO SCHOOL WEARING YOUR HAIR
IN A WHACKY WAY.

PLEASE BRING A GOLD COIN DONATION.

THANK YOU
JSC

worldsgreatestshave.com | 1800 500 068
CADBURY CHOCOLATE DRIVE

One of our most popular fundraisers is back!!

Cost: $48 per box, chocolates to go out on Thursday 28th February
with money expected back by Friday 22nd March

Due to this fundraiser, we have decide not to go ahead with the Easter Raffle

Thank you for your support

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

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Situated in the Parents & Friends Room (opposite Room 22).

Open Thursday mornings 9:00-9:30am

BAKERS DELIGHT – RIVERGUM “Dough Raiser”

Shop at Bakers Delight Rivergum Shopping Village,

mention Morang South Primary School and they will happily
donate a % of the total you spend back to the school

Full Life PHARMACY MILL PARK
AND Amcal PHARMACY RIVERGUM

Remember to place your receipts in the Morang South Primary School box

Next Meeting:

Wednesday 20th March, 7:30pm in the staffroom

All welcomed
Education Maintenance Allowance

If you hold a current health care card or pension card you could be eligible for the Education Maintenance Allowance. Please make sure you fill in an EMA application form and present your current card to be photocopied to the office as soon as possible. This process needs to be done at the start of every school year.

Parent applications close – 28 February 2013

School Council Policy

Due to the number of allergies children have and sometimes a ‘fear’ factor, School Council has a policy regarding dogs in the school ground.

DOGS ARE NOT TO BE BROUGHT INTO OUR SCHOOL GROUNDS.

Please respect this policy and keep your dog out of our school grounds.

If your child would like to bring a pet for show and tell, please make special arrangements with their classroom teacher.

Morang South P.S Play Group

Tuesday 9.30-11am

Held in the PFA Room (opposite room 21)

All ages welcome

$2.00 per child per session

Lots of fun for all the children.

Come and have a coffee and a chat while your children play.

Any questions please call Heather on

0410 268 072
OSHC NEWS

Hello South Morang Community,

It’s still HAT time; please send a hat along with your child’s name on it, to be left at OSHC.

If you have not yet supplied your child’s immunisation forms please do so. We need this to meet the National Quality Framework standards.

Reannan & Kristin

REMINdERS

- How to get started before using our programs register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Visit our website to begin www.campaaustralia.com.au
- Once registered you can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day online.
- Save on Care You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343 Monday to Friday.

WHAT’S ON THIS WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycle craft</td>
<td>Recycling poster</td>
<td>Ocean animals</td>
<td>Cooking</td>
<td>Practice emergency evacuation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AWARDS... Ishka and Ben

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
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<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rice cakes with a Variety of spreads</td>
<td>Sandwiches with a Variety of spreads</td>
<td>Salads with a Variety of spreads</td>
<td>RESTAURANTS</td>
<td>Popcorn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program hours

Before School Care
7:00 – 8:45

After School Care
3:30 – 6:00
Term 1 School Tours at The Lakes:

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 March 6 @ 3:45pm

Thursday March 21 @ 9:30am

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!
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.*