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.

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Life Education Van Gr 1/2 &amp; 3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Gr 5/6 Family Classroom Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Gr 1/2 &amp; 3/4 Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>JSC-Walk Safely to School Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>25 May</td>
<td>Life Education Van Gr 1/2 &amp; 3/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>25 May</td>
<td>Wise Ones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>26 May</td>
<td>MSPS Cross Country Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>26 May</td>
<td>PFA Hot Dog Special Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>27 May</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>Gr 1/2 &amp; 3/4 Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>Interschool Sport Grand Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>MORNING ASSEMBLY 9.10am Hosted by HG 09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>Wise Ones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>3 June</td>
<td>District Cross Country Bundoora Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>4 June</td>
<td>Gr 1/2 PIT Gym Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>5 June</td>
<td>Gr 1/2 &amp; 3/4 Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>8 June</td>
<td>Queens Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>9 June</td>
<td>Staff Professional Learning PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>11 June</td>
<td>Division Cross Country Bundoora Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>12 June</td>
<td>Gr 1/2 &amp; 3/4 Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>15 June</td>
<td>Wise Ones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>15 June</td>
<td>Afternoon Assembly Hosted by HG 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>19 June</td>
<td>Gr 1/2 &amp; 3/4 Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>19 June</td>
<td>Glow in the Dark Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2 Students dismissed at 2.30pm</td>
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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello Everyone,

We are now more than halfway through the term and at the end of week 6 on Friday. Time certainly flies when you are having fun!

Congratulations to our wonderful staff and grade 3 and 5 students who completed the National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) last week. Also to be congratulated are our grade 4 and 6 students for the support they gave their grade three and five class members. Thank you and well done to all those involved.

Education Week commenced last Sunday and we have had a wonderful week, so far celebrating the Italian Language, the traditions and culture of Italy. The students always enjoy participating in multi-age days and Tuesday was no exception. There have been lots of visitors including grandparents, parents, special friends and siblings. Last night we had a number of families attend our Maths Games night. They had lots of fun and walked away with a great pack with games and equipment to continue the fun at home. Thank you to all those who have attended all or some of our education week activities, we hope you have enjoyed them as much as we have! Congratulations to Mel Bell for organising such a great week and to all of the staff for making the week such a success.

We have a flourishing Chess Club at our school with players from grades 3 to 6. There are currently about sixty students in our Chess groups. We have one group who will represent our school in the State Championships later in the year.

A recent article in The Educator (May 11th 2015) looked at the game of Chess and how it supports student learning. I thought it would be of interest to you.

One teacher told The Educator that apart from

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.
helping to improve the concentration of students, chess also teaches patience and perseverance. “These are qualities which many students of today’s fast paced media age often struggle to develop,” Clarke said.

“Chess provides an opportunity for students to be taught how to focus on a problem or situation through careful observation of the events that are unfolding around them.”

John Adams, government relations director with the Australian Chess Federation (ACF), recently announced plans to conduct a research project drawing on a large international body of work into the positive impacts of the game on brain development.

Clarke explained how chess has been improving students’ abstract thinking and creative problem solving, widely considered key elements of 21st century learning.

“Throughout the game players juggling multiple considerations simultaneously, thinking abstractly to solve problems by recognising patterns,” Clarke said, adding that his students’ behaviour and learning outcomes have improved as a result of playing the game. The following are the positive outcomes recorded at one school through having chess as part of the curriculum:

- Increased attention spans – this is relevant to all curriculum areas as they are able to concentrate for longer periods.
- The social platform provided through Chess Club has allowed students from vastly different backgrounds and academic abilities to come together to build positive relationships.
- Engagement levels are very high as students are motivated to perform well while playing Chess.
- Students who regularly encounter difficulty resolving playground issues have become better equipped to deal with these events by being exposed to winning and losing as part of Chess.
- Positive self-image of low esteem students has been enhanced by them being engaged as mentors to younger or less capable Chess playing students

**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. Missed 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. The new laws were activated as of the 1st March 2014 and this means 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.

**Foundation (Prep) enrolment 2016**

We are now taking enrolments for our 2015 Foundation (Prep) classes. Please inform family, friends and neighbours that if they have a child starting school next year and would like them to come to our school to enrol them soon. It is important that children are enrolled by the end of Term 3 so that they can participate in our excellent Foundation (Prep) Orientation Program in Term 4.

Our Newsletter arrives via email.

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.

**Education Matters, Teachers Make a Difference & Every Day Counts!**

Keep up that lifelong learning!

Julie Jones
Principal

**GREAT NEWS FOR PARENTS...**

Applications are now open for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

This will ensure primary families with a valid Health Care Card can now have assistance to pay for camps and excursions. If you are eligible, please complete an application form and return it to school. Once processed the amount of $125 per child for the year, will be paid to the school for use on camps and excursions. An information flyer and an application form are included with this Newsletter.
Grades Prep – 6
Term 2 week 6

Home Group 1: Jack and Liam
Home Group 3: Teagan M, Brody & Tyla
Home Group 5: Grade 6 Students
Home Group 09: HOME GROUP 9
Home Group 11: Emma and Thomas
Home Group 14: Bree and Declan
Home Group 16: Deakin and Luke
Home Group 21: Nathan Matthew
Home Group 23: Ryan & Braeden
Science: HG07
Junior Sport Award: HG 02
P.E. 1-6: HG07
The Arts – Junior: HG 04
The Arts – GR 1-6: HG09

Home Group 2: Isa Maria & Isaak
Home Group 4: Harlan & Athan
Home Group 7: Elena & Blake
Home Group 10: Amelia C & Liam
Home Group 13: Misha and Josh
Home Group 15: Ava & Brady
Home Group 17: Djamal and Humna
Home Group 22: Lucas I and Kade
Home Group 24: Abby and HG24

Scientist of Week: Saba
P.E Prep: Julian L HG 01
Junior Artist Award: Teagan Mc HG 03
The Arts – GR 1-6: Takara Clarke HG 09
We went to visit an archaeological dig today. It was in Mernda on the site of an old flour mill. Moses Thomas owned the flour Mill and surrounding area. He also built a bridge, school and a pub. He lived in that area in the late 1800s.

They found a bottle, lots of pieces of glass and some china. We watched them cleaning artefacts with toothbrushes. They also found a candle holder. They found some aboriginal artefacts. The aboriginal artefacts are about 5000 years old. They found a house made of bluestone and they found some bricks. They think the bricks might be from a chimney.

Our excursion was fun and educational. We learnt a lot from the archaeologists. They are having an open day on Saturday from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm. See details later in this newsletter
As part of the Everyday Counts initiative, the DEECD is reporting attendance in percentages. Some children have 100% attendance.

The percentages in the following table indicate the average attendance for each grade during the fortnight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation</th>
<th>Grades 3/4</th>
<th>Grades 4/5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 1</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>Home Group 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 2</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>Home Group 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 3</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>Home Group 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 4</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>Home Group 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 18</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>Home Group 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 1/2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Grades 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 10</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>Home Group 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 21</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>Home Group 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 22</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>Home Group 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 23</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>Home Group 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group 24</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>Shaded Area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember that every day counts and arriving at school on time, every day, can improve student learning! Please make sure you send a note if your child is going to be absent from school or on their return to school after an absence.

Change to MSPS Cross Country Trial Date

Please note that due to unforeseen circumstances, the date for our school trials for Grade 3-6 Cross Country has been changed to **Tuesday May 26th**

Thank you,
Sue Grad
In 2014, Morang South PS officially began our participation in a national initiative KidsMatter. Last year, MSPS formed a parents & teachers ACTION TEAM to facilitate the implementation of KidsMatter. We also anticipate that Student Voice will also play a key role. The 2015, MSPS Action Team includes:

Sandi Young, Steph Tigani, Chantelle Armet, Deb Powell, Emma Dickens, Em Rasit and Bruce Anderson.
Guess the MSPS staff member

The following three clues have been provided by a mystery staff member.
Can you work out who they are?

• I have a niece and a nephew
• I lived in Bendigo for 3 and a half years
• I really want a Spoodle puppy

Do you know who it is?
All will be revealed next newsletter.

What is the ‘Bounce Back’ program?

Bounce Back! is a wellbeing and resilience class-based program for children and young people from Kindergarten to Middle School. Bounce Back! offers practical strategies to help children and young people function well at school and in life. It promotes positive mental health, wellbeing and resilience for students and teachers plus safe and supportive class and school learning environments.

MSPS Values, Rights & Responsibilities

Component 1: Positive School Community
Inclusiveness: surveys & ‘tweaking’

Component 2: Social & Emotional Learning
- Explicitly teach 5 competencies

Component 3: Parents & Carers

Component 4: Helping Children with Mental Health Difficulties

Successful schools start with healthy minds
Fantastic savings and deals available with local businesses and more in the Funde voucher book. An example of the vouchers included: Village Cinema, Time Zone, Latitude, Block Buster, Strike Bowling, AFL tickets, Groove Train, Salsas, Taco Bill, Pancake Parlour, Muffin Break, Kryal Castle, Ready Steady Go, Ice House, Sky Deck, Phillip Island Park Pass, Queensland 3 Park Pass and more!!!
## SPECIAL LUNCH DAY

**‘HOT DOG DAY’**

**TUESDAY 26th MAY**

Notes sent out with money to be returned by Thursday 21st May

## DISCO

**FRIDAY JUNE 19th**

Further details to follow

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

have arrived!!

Please see the office for further details

## SCHOOL BANKING

**Every Tuesday 9.00am**

Lots of cool rewards throughout the year along with certificates at different stages

New bankers always welcomed :-)

## CLASSIFIEDS

The MSPS Classifieds is a PFA initiative that aims to provide affordable local advertising.

Prices per Month: (as of 25th February 2015)

- Small: $10
- Medium: $20
- Large: $35
  
  (approx. A5)
  
  (approx. A4)

To advertise, contact the school on 9404 1548 or email young.sandi.c@edumail.vic.gov.au for further details

## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Run by Jodie Potter and Kate Rigoni

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

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**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 17th June**

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**Messages from the Department of Education and Training**

**Personal Goods Brought to School at Owner’s Risk:** The DET does not hold insurance nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, staff and visitors. Please do not bring any unnecessary or valuable items to school.
Parking and traffic around all schools at drop off and pick up time is often problematic. In recent weeks the City of Whittlesea By-Laws officers have been patrolling parking areas surrounding schools. The City of Whittlesea has been alerted to the fact that some people are parking for far longer than permitted in the parking section south of the crossing in Riverside Drive, which is designated a three minute drop off zone.

Please consider others and park according to the law. Remember that you will be fined if you park illegally in this zone!
THIS IS WHERE WE LEARN.

PLEASE DON’T SMOKE HERE.

In Victoria, smoking is banned on the grounds of, and within four metres of an entrance to, all childcare centres, kindergartens and schools.


Department of Health & Human Services
The MSPS Classifieds will remain an online feature of our school website:

“Friends of Morang South PS.”


A hyperlink to the MSPS Classifieds will now be emailed to everyone at the same time our Gorge News School Newsletter is emailed each fortnight. That is approximately 330 families and friends of Morang South Primary School. Previous We had made our Classifieds more efficient and easier for everyone to click a ‘link’ to view our MSPS Classifieds online.

We will also regularly include a hyperlink on our very successful MSPS Facebook group to the MSPS Classifieds.

All advertisements in the MSPS Classifieds will be in COLOUR.

Businesses or groups who already hire our facilities (eg. Paringa Complex or our Killara Gym) will receive 10% off each advertisement. If you choose to advertise for 10 consecutive months you GET 1 month for FREE!

The MSPS Classifieds aims to provide affordable local advertising.

Prices per Month: (as of 25th February 2015)

- **Small:** $10 (approximately A5)
- **Medium:** $20 (approximately A4)
- **Large:** $35

If you would like to advertise in our Classifieds... Email: young.sandi.c@edumail.vic.gov.au

** Morang South Primary School, the School Council and Parents & Friends Association accept no responsibility for services or special offers advertised. **
Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Fair. It was once again a great success.

We were able to select some new books for the library as well as earning a commission from book sales.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

To our amazing Parents & Friends for all of their help in running the Book Fair.

Archaeology Open Day
Saturday 23 May

Come and discover the ruins of the Thomas Mill, nestled in the Plenty Gorge Park. Watch archaeologists uncover artefacts that have been buried for 160 years, get your hands on a piece of history, and join a guided site tour.

Archaeologists from Heritage Victoria have unearthed ruins and artefacts that tell the story of the mill, and the people who lived there. The rich and diverse history of life along the Plenty River is also demonstrated by the discovery of Aboriginal stone tools.

Join us on site for this special National Archaeology Week event as the team unearth the remains of the mill, and tease out its secrets.

Where: Plenty Gorge Park 610 Bridge Inn Road, Mernda (Vehicle access through the farm gate – follow the signs to the car park)
When: 10am – 2pm  Saturday 23 May 2015
Cost: Free  No RSVP required.
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date
You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Application forms are now available at the school office.
CSEF Application Form

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details
Surname ____________________________
First name _________________________
Address ____________________________
Town/suburb _________________________ State ________ Postcode ________
Contact number ______________________

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)
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In 2012 we began the Commemorative Brick fundraiser at MSPS. It might have been ‘that time of the year’ but we only received minimal orders, we did not have enough special bricks to create a path! We had planned to lay them across the dry river bed, creating a walk way, in front of the Paringa Complex as part of our landscaping.

Last night, at our Parents & Friends meeting, it was decided to restart the Commemorative Brick fundraiser in 2015. Our aim is to sell more Commemorative Bricks and create our path across the dry river bed! CAN YOU HELP? Would you like your child or your family to have a very special memory at MSPS? Talk to your friends... Two families could share one brick. 😊

**Prices:** 1 brick: $30  2 bricks: $50  3 bricks: $70  4 bricks: $90

If you would like to participate in this fundraiser, please return this section below in an envelope with the correct money and the slip of paper below with your design on the back. (Please remember to follow the instructions below).

Name: ____________________________________        HG:_________

**YES PLEASE! I would like to purchase** [ ] brick(s) and I have enclosed $__________.

Print this page to draw on the back of this section below to record your design OR visit our office.

**ON THE BACK OF THIS SECTION**

(ONE NAME PER PAVER) Please follow these simple steps when creating your hand drawn image.

- Draw your image on the other side of this slip of paper. (the size is the same as the engraving area of a paver.)
- Draw your image using a good quality medium thickness black marker pen. (about 2mm thick.) Do not use a ballpoint pen!
- Make sure that you rub out any pencil lines as these will show up in the finished paver.
- Do not include computer generated or pasted pictures, the hand drawn image engraving process is set up to engrave hand drawn images only.
- Sample #1 has been drawn correctly. Sample #2 is incorrect it has a computer generated image and the text was written with a ballpoint pen.