



Mark Oliphant
College

Primary Years

NEWSLETTER

TERM 3, WEEK 3
7 AUGUST 2015



“There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book.”

- Frank Serafini

KEY DATES...

Wednesday 12 August
Yr 5 Bike Ed Program

Friday 14 August
PY Assembly 11.15-11.45

Monday 17 – Friday 21 August
Science Week

Wednesday 19 August
Yr 5 Bike Ed Program

August 24th to 28th
Week 6, Term 3

BOOKS LIGHT UP OUR WORLD



CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK 2015

Who is your favourite book character?

Dress up as them on
Friday Week 6 for our
Book Week Parade!

A NOTE FROM PRIMARY YEARS LEADERSHIP

I occasionally meet with parents who are concerned about bullying at MOC. The school responds to all complaints of bullying with processes involving the classroom teacher, counsellors, families and leadership. There are several intervention strategies that are used by teachers and leadership to respond to bullying. The approach called 'Positive Behaviour for Learning' underlies the classroom teaching of appropriate behaviour at MOC. This involves explicit teaching of acceptable behaviour, positive reinforcement of that behaviour and negative consequences for unacceptable behaviour.

The negative consequences, sometimes called direct sanctions, are used to prevent future bullying. These may include verbal reprimands; meetings with parents; removal from class; withdrawal of privileges (such as working in the Learning Common); school community service (such as cleaning up rubbish), and suspensions. Meetings with parents range from a meeting to alert parents to an issue as it arises, to more serious conversations about repeat issues.

A restorative approach may involve getting the children who are involved to reflect upon their behaviour, experience a sense of remorse and to act to restore a damaged relationship with the victim of the bullying and the school community. Parents are sometimes invited to meet with their children with leadership or community police in attendance in order to mediate.

We often work not only with a child who may be bullying, but also with the victim, putting programs in place to build and strengthen social relationships. In many cases we find that both children are involved in provoking each other and that they benefit from working together on improving social skills. At all times, the school seeks to find a solution that is best for all involved.

We are continuing to add to our repertoire of specialised pro-social skills programs and individual supports while we develop our whole of college Collaborative Wellbeing Framework.

Kim Cooper

Executive Leader (Birth-Year 6)

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day and the week leading up to it, is a time to for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families to celebrate the strengths and culture of their children. The day is an opportunity for all Australians to show their support for Aboriginal children, as well as learn about the crucial impact that community, culture and family play in the life of every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child.

Children's Day is held on 4 August each year and is coordinated by SNAICC. Children's Day was first observed in 1988, with 2015 being the 28th celebration.

This year we marked the day by hosting a special assembly to unveil our Mural that many students and staff had spent time designing and painting. A range of dignitaries attended the assembly from Commissioner for Indigenous Children through to Indigenous footballers from Port Power! The Mural is an amazing accomplishment and will now take pride of place in our administration area, please do take a moment to view it when you next visit our school!



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education
and Child Development

Ph. (08) 8209 1600
www.moc.sa.edu.au | info@moc.sa.edu.au
99 Douglas Drive, Munno Para SA 5115

BOOK WEEK PARADE

Dress up as your favourite book character for the Book Week Parade

Week 6 Friday 9:15am

Please remember to make your costume appropriate - No scary costumes as you might frighten younger students!



Are you up for the challenge?

MEET THE STAFF

Clayton Page

B. Economics,
B. Education (JP/P)

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving."
Albert Einstein



"I earned both my degrees at Flinders University, 20 years apart. Before teaching I worked in IT and the Wine Industry. I have taught in a range of regional SA schools before arriving at MOC Primary Years in 2012.

I love this Einstein quote, as it combines two of my passions - cycling & lifelong learning - but also reminds us to find balance in our lives.

When not at school, I enjoy cycling with my family in the Barossa or to raise funds for charity, watching cricket at Adelaide Oval, and completing crosswords."

PRIMARY YEARS TEAM

Kim Cooper

Executive Leader (Birth-Year 6)
E: kim.cooper@moc.sa.edu.au

Chan Welfare

Senior Leader
(Learning and Achievement)

Barry Solomon

Leader
(Learning and Well Being)

Ashlee Button

Leader
(Learning and Teaching)



www.facebook.com/MOCPTY

REMINDER

We would like to remind parents and caregivers that at the end of each day our students engage in 'Book End Reading.' As students are learning until the dismissal bell sounds, we ask that you wait outside of the buildings. Alternatively, you can keep warm in the library where we offer tea and coffee each day from 2.30pm onwards.

Ella Ailmore

EMPOWERING STUDENTS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

This week parents have had the opportunity to attend parent/teacher interviews. Whilst this is valuable in specifically learning about students' progress it is more valuable still in supporting children as learners in a broader sense.

Family participation and interest in school life and learning is linked to student success. This does not mean families need to know and understand everything that is being taught, rather that they take an interest in what is being taught. Taking an interest in learning could come through questioning about what is being learned at school, asking about the best thing that happens each day, accompanying students on excursions, joining in with class tasks, listening to reading or practicing times tables at home. Each time we talk to children about their learning we are reaffirming the importance of learning and education and how much we value it.

The Family-School and Community Partnerships Bureau reports that increased parental interest in education leads to 'higher grades and test scores, greater likelihood of commencement of postsecondary education, better social skills, improved behaviour, school attendance and greater belief in one's self as a learner'.

If you have not yet been able to see your child/ren's teacher please ring 8209 1600 and make a time. Your input and your knowledge about your child/ren is greatly valued.

Chan Welfare - Senior Leader (Learning and Achievement)

CLASS CONTRIBUTION -

Amy Campaign

At MOC we are very lucky to have Ms Liu running Asian cultural studies with our classes. 9.8 was so excited last term to experience using chopsticks, learning a short conversation in Chinese and making masks. This term in our first lesson we learnt to count up to 100, how to translate and the Chinese zodiac. The most exciting thing was experiencing Chinese calligraphy!



COLLEGE WELL BEING

SCHOOL EYE TESTING Advance Notice



This begins NEXT TERM - October 19th and October 30th. OPSM is supporting this initiative. In October 19th and October 30th we are planning to offer eye tests for those students in need. This program is being supported by OPSM. This complements the dental checks earlier this year, and is another important facet of our Wellbeing focus. The testing will be here at the college, there are no out of pocket expenses and at the very least, students will receive advice and information about looking after their eyes. The success of this scheme is very much a team effort between all staff.

THE LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION

The Child Support Unit - provides free legal advice about:

- Completing Child Support forms
- Changing your Child Support Assessment in Special Circumstances
- Child Support Agreements
- Adult Child (over 18) Maintenance
- Spousal Maintenance
- Court applications

Contact phone numbers are:
811 5576 or 1300366424

They are located in the Windsor Building, Elizabeth Shopping Centre or at 159 Gawler Place Adelaide.
www.lsc.sa.gov.au

Maryjane Tenison Woods
Coordinator of College Well Being

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

On Tuesday this week the Primary Years sub-school was able to achieve perfect attendance for 5 out of 13 classes! This is a great result to build on for the rest of the year. Thank you for your ongoing support to ensure your child attends school regularly and also communicating any unavoidable absences to the school ASAP. Class teachers and I will continue to follow-up absences and offer any support we can.

By attending school regularly your child will have opportunities to develop:

- Essential academic skills
- Self-discipline and organisational habits
- Social skills and positive relationships

Please inform the school or your child's teacher ASAP by phone or note if your child has to be absent due to sickness (or for appointments that cannot be arranged out of school hours). In the case of more than two consecutive days of illness please supply a medical certificate when your child returns to school.

If your child is reluctant to attend school please contact their teacher or myself ASAP so we can deal with any issues. Thank you for your continued support.

Barry Solomon
Leader (Learning and Well Being)

