Term 1 Dates

<table>
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<th>Activity</th>
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<td>March 9</td>
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<td>Year 6 Swimming Program</td>
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<td>Mar 31</td>
<td>Term 1 ends 1.30pm</td>
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Payments for School Activities

With over 800 students in the school and at least 20 separate excursions and incursions across the school each term, the office has to process over 2000 excursion payments each term, and, for each activity, the school has to make provision for adequate supervision for those students on the excursion/incursion as well as for those attending school but not participating in excursions.

To ensure that these arrangements can be made so that all activities run smoothly without disruption to other classes at the school, school policy is that all consent forms and payments MUST be completed at least TWO clear school days prior to each activity. To facilitate this, the school provides a range of payment options such as the Compass website that enables families to both pay for excursions and provide on-line consent.

You are notified of these activities via Compass and one Konnective reminder is sent. Konnective can also be accessed on the web.

As soon as the school makes an exception for one family to be exempted from the excursion guidelines, major issues of equity arise. Please support the school by making your payments and on-line consent as early as possible, and check your Konnective feed, either by app or on-line regularly to ensure that your child doesn’t miss out on a school activity.

Family Fun Run Friday 17th March

Please support the PFA’s Family Fun Run to be conducted at Murphy Reserve in the late afternoon/early evening on Friday 17th March. This will be the PFA’s first major fundraiser for 2017, and it is hoped that the funds will be used for projects such as providing a passive play area near the new double storey building, shade cloth over parts of our playground, and purchasing additional ICT equipment for the school.

Proposed Pupil Free Day

The staff have requested that Friday May 26 be approved by Council as a Pupil Free Day.

Annette Maloney

House Athletic Sports

Our Year 3-6 House Athletics Sports will now take place next Tuesday 7th March at the Lakeside Stadium, after last Tuesday’s postponement due to the very warm weather. I hope that almost every student will be wearing a House Tee-Shirt, available for purchase Monday 6th March at 8:30am and again at 3:15pm at the school. Students who do not have a House Tee-Shirt will wear an appropriately coloured wristband.
Ride2School Day
Port Melbourne will be celebrating active travel day on Friday 17th March. We encourage students and their families to leave the car at home on this day and get a taste of the benefits, ease and fun involved in choosing to walk and wheel to school. To celebrate riding, walking, skating and scooting as fun ways to travel to school, we are organising a variety of activities on the day.

All students are invited to decorate their bikes and scooters with spot prizes being given to the best dressed machines. Staff will be judging the bikes and scooters as they arrive from 8.30am. There will also be fresh fruit for all participating students.

All students will participate in a short assembly on the oval at 9am where we will introduce a very special guest speaker. At about 9.10am our Year 5/6s will leave for their Gala Day, and the 3/4s will join our guest speaker in the Hall for a special presentation. Our junior students will remain on the oval to participate in a parade of their brightly coloured bikes and scooters.

In the lead up to the day we will be conducting a daily wheel count to see how many students come to school on foot and on bikes, scooters etc.

We support our students to walk or wheel to school because:

- Students feel fresh and alert at the beginning of a school day.
- There are fewer cars around the school which eases ‘drop off congestion’.
- Students are more likely to reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity they need each day.
- Students feel happier, healthier and perform better in the classroom.

Parents can join in the fun by walking or wheeling with their students and are welcome to stay and watch the parade.

School Assemblies
During Term 1, assemblies will be held on Friday afternoons in the Hall at 2.45pm on a cyclical basis:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assembly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>Senior School</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Junior School</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>Whole School</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>Senior School</td>
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Council Elections 2017
Nominations close at 4pm tomorrow for three parent Councillors with a two year term, one DET Councillor with a two year term, and one DET Councillor with a one year term. Nomination forms are available at the School Office.

The timeline for the election process is:
- call for nominations: Friday March 3rd
- nominations close: Friday March 10th
- ballot papers circulated: Friday March 10th
- ballot closes: Friday March 17th at 4pm
- poll declared: Friday 17th March at 5pm

The Annual Reporting Meeting of Council is on Tuesday 21st March and the new Council will take office from that date.

Sporting Success
The District tennis competition was recently held in Albert Park. Roisin and Niamh Gilheany easily moved onto the next round blitzing the competition. Hamish Farquharson and Jack Kinsman whilst being competitive were unable to advance to the Regionals but showed promise for next year. Congratulations to all who represented the school and good luck to Roisin and Niamh for the Regional Finals.

In the Swim
Best of luck to our 27 swimmers who will represent us tomorrow morning at the District Swimming Sports at the Prahran Pool.
**Weekly Staff Profiles**

This week we profile our Prep EF teachers, Bridie Watts and Lizzie Parmar.

Bridie started working at Port Melbourne Primary School in July 2016 where she taught Year 3. She spent the first half of 2016 travelling overseas to Japan, South East Asia, India and America. Since finishing her teaching degree she has worked at a couple of schools teaching grade three, four and preps.

Bridie loves her job and enjoys teaching immensely. She believes that learning should be active, collaborative and creative wherever possible. Bridie’s classroom is a bright, warm and happy place where children can learn, collaborate, explore and have fun, while being challenged and inspired. The students in Bridie’s class have opportunities to learn in many different ways and her goal is for each and every child to be the very best person that they can be.

Outside of school she enjoys spending time with family and friends. She lives an active lifestyle running, cycling, swimming, playing netball, competing in triathlons and taking her dog Hazel for walks. She loves travelling and enjoys spending her time on the weekends brunching, baking and going to the beach or getting out of Melbourne and going down to her beach house.

Lizzie grew up in a small town in England called Rugby. After studying Sociology at Loughborough University, she trained to be a teacher and taught at a school in Burbage for three years before relocating to Melbourne in June 2016 with her husband. She spent the last eight weeks of 2016 teaching the delightful Prep CD and loved it so much, she applied for a job to teach Prep in 2017.

Outside of school, Lizzie loves to read, cook delicious Indian food, bake and practice yoga. She is enjoying her new city life in Melbourne – particularly all of the amazing food festivals and markets. During the holidays, Lizzie loves to travel and is looking forward to seeing more of Australia.

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**Assistant Principal’s Report**

**Learning Tasks**

Congratulations and thank you to all of the students and teachers who completed their first Learning Task. This is a totally new approach to reporting for PMPS and the feedback from students, teachers and parents has been very positive. This style of ‘on going’ reporting allows teachers to provide immediate feedback to students and parents about what they are learning in class. The next learning task is a Reading task and will be going live next Friday afternoon, 10th March. There will be a Konnective and a newsfeed item on Compass to notify families when each learning task is uploaded.

To access the learning task please follow these instructions:

1. The first way is clicking on the pencil icon ‘Teaching and Learning’ then click Learning Task.
2. The other way is to click on your child’s profile and then clicking on the Learning task tab.

Once you click on the task, there are two tabs ‘Task details’ and ‘Feedback’. Task Details provides you with the curriculum content and task details. Feedback is where you will find the teacher’s feedback and for some learning tasks a downloadable photo of the task.

**Curriculum Update**

**Mathematics**

The past twelve months has seen our first participation in the Mathematical Association of
Victoria’s Maths Talent Quest. Students from Grades 4-6 were invited to participate by choosing areas of interest to conduct a mathematical investigation. Their results were then displayed as a project. Of the projects we entered in the competition, all Port Melbourne students were awarded a credit certificate or above. Two of our students, Abby Lang and Emily Morgan won the Year 5 award for best group investigation in the country and Port Melbourne PS was awarded ‘Most Outstanding School’ at the state award ceremony.

Students in Years 4-6 were also involved in Maths Games Days against schools from all over Melbourne. A Maths Games Day is an opportunity for students to develop their mathematical talents and thinking skills in a setting where maths is regarded as fun and worthwhile with like-minded students from a diverse range of schools. We performed well and all students involved had a great time.

On Monday the 27th of February, the teachers had the opportunity to participate in a 2 hour workshop with Michael Ymer. Michael is a specialist mathematics consultant from Melbourne. He is involved in many Professional Development programs in schools across Australia and Asia. Michael is an enthusiastic and entertaining presenter who has a clear and practical approach to the challenges that confront schools and to help teachers with planning that is aligned to the new Victorian Curriculum.

Maths continues to go from strength to strength at PMPS and we look forward to another positive year in 2017.

Sasha Goss
Numeracy Leader

NEXT MEETING
Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th March, this meeting will be our AGM, and our office bearers for 2017 will be elected.
We will be presenting a summary of the past year, and all positions within the PFA will be declared open for election.
We encourage everyone to come along and get involved and look forward to meeting many new parents. There is no pressure to put your name against any role, just come along, have a voice on what we can do to add to the school for the kids, parents and teachers.

HOUSE T-SHIRTS
What a great success the house shirts have been. So popular we have had to order in more in certain sizes as we have run out.
I will run the next stalls on Monday at 8:30am and again at 3:15pm just in time for Athletics Carnival on Tuesday. We may not run another stall prior to the Fun Run so don’t miss out.

COFFEE IS COMING!
From next Wednesday 8th March Christian and his team from Brew Crew will be making coffee in the playground from 8am. The team from Brew Crew will be on school grounds every Wednesday through the school term.
Wednesday hump day will never be the same again at school!

SUSHI DAY - Thursday 9th March
On Thursday 9th March the PFA is having a sushi lunch day at school. Sushi will be provided by Yurakucho Modern Japanese Eatery in Bay St.

There will be 4 flavours to choose from Salmon, cooked Tuna, Teriyaki Chicken and Avocado.

Each sushi roll will cost $3, order as many as you like, mix and match is fine.

We will be only accepting orders through the Qkr app.

Final orders need to be in by Monday 6th March at 12.00 noon to ensure we get all orders to our suppliers.

The sushi will be freshly made and delivered on the day. Please note we are unable to cater for any food intolerances or allergies.

As with all our PFA food days we cannot do it without volunteers. If you can help us pack and
deliver the sushi to the classrooms we will need volunteers from 11:30 till 1:00. Please meet at the canteen. The more the merrier.

**PMPS FUN RUN** is coming: Friday, 17 March 4-7pm at JL Murphy Reserve.

An evening filled with fun, obstacles, water cannons, music and running! Dinner is easily sorted as delicious choices will be available for purchase on the night. Be on the lookout for our Volunteer roster (we can’t do this without support from our community), and you should have already received your Sponsorship form. Please remember you are responsible for your child on the day. See you there!

**The PMPS Annual Easter Raffle**
Each year the PFA holds an Easter Raffle, which is drawn on the last day of term, Friday 31st March.

To ensure the raffle is a huge success we ask a few things from you.
1. Raffle books are coming home with your child in the following weeks. Each child will receive a book of 10 tickets, valued at $2 each. Please encourage your child to sell the tickets to family, friends and neighbours, and don’t forget to ensure names and mobile numbers are clearly written on the ticket stub. Please return money and tickets to your classroom teacher;
2. Donation of Easter Eggs: we need as many as possible, the more eggs the more winners - last year we handed out over 130 prizes! Egg donations can be made to the office.
3. Please return all egg donations, tickets and money by Monday 27th March.

**MOTHERS DAY LUNCH** - Friday 12th May - save the date

**TRIVIA NIGHT** - Friday 2nd June - save the date

One again, our trivia night is locked in at Station Pier for Friday 2nd June (pop that date in your diary now).

We have had a ball organising the trivia night for the last 5 or so years, but feel it’s probably time to pass on the baton to a new team of enthusiastic parents. Realistically, there needs to be a core team of about 8-10 parents, then a larger group for setup, games on the night, and bump out the next morning.

We are looking for people with different skill sets – function coordinating, data entry, photography, prize sourcing (donations), finance, muscles etc. The night runs like a well oiled machine – but it’s time for some new energy! Don’t worry, we won’t run and hide, and we’ll be right there with all the required info. This year will be a ‘soft’ handover.

If you think you (and maybe your friends) would like to give it a go, please let us know via email, or find us at school.

We have also planned a meeting for Wednesday 22nd March, around 7:30pm, at a venue TBC.

Sim, Thea, Bre, Linda, Anna, Kate and the rest of the Trivia night team!

Thanks

Bre McGrath
0411 228 921
Pmpsparentsandfriends@gmail.com

**DAD’S FOOTY LAUNCH** – Saturday 4th March

Dad’s Footy will launch this Saturday night at the Limerick Arms, South Melbourne from 7pm. We’re seeking new Dads (prep or those who haven’t played before) to join the ranks of the ageing soldiers. This year, we will play a rivalry game on Sunday May 21 at a marquee AFL stadium, with the Bayside Dad’s Footy Carnival scheduled in for Saturday September 2nd. Training commences at Murphy Reserve this Sunday (5th) from 4pm at Murphy Reserve. Come along and have a short run and kick followed by a chance to meet other Dads over a warm-down beer.
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