

## Upcoming Events

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
	Feb. 6	Feb. 7	Feb. 8	Feb. 9	Feb. 10
<b>Wk 2.</b>	2:40 Whole School Assembly – Years 1 – 6 – <i>Farewell to Mr Colin Dobson</i>	7:00 Year 5 Camp Info Meeting	Prep Assessments – no Preps @ school 7:00 ISSE Hosting Meeting	<i>3:45 Robotics Club Commences</i>	2:30 Facility Families ‘Welcome’ Afternoon Tea
	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 15	Feb. 16	Feb. 17
<b>Wk 3.</b>	2:40 Whole School Assembly – All students 9:00 SMP Parent Information Session <i>Instrumental Music begins</i> <i>3:40 – 8:00 “Please Tell Me About Your Child” Meetings</i> <i>3:30 Chess Club Commences</i>	<i>Paper Free Day</i> 12:00 – 3:00 - Mulgrave District Swimming <i>3:40 – 6:00 “Please Tell Me About Your Child” Meetings</i>	Prep Assessments – no Preps @ school <i>7:00 Art Show Meeting</i>	<i>4:00 School Council Elections – Nominations close</i> <i>7:30 Parents’ Association AGM</i>	<b>Newsletter out</b> 9:00 Interschool Sport (ISS) Summer – Round 1. 12:00 Prep – Yr 5 Buddy program commences
	Feb. 20	Feb. 21	Feb. 22	Feb. 23	Feb. 24
<b>Wk 4.</b>	9:00 – 12:00 Responsible Pet Ownership 2:40 Whole School Assembly	12:00 - Yr 5 Guest Speaker – Koky Saly <i>6:30 Sub-Committee Meetings</i> <i>7:30 School Council</i>	Prep Assessments – no Preps @ school Yr 5 Gold Rush Excursion		9:00 Interschool Sport (ISS) Summer – Round 2. 12:00 Prep – Yr 5 Buddy session
<b>Year 6 Camp – The Summit ~ Trafalgar</b>					

## From the Principal – Alison Rees

### Welcome

Welcome to the 2017 school year. The year has been very much a start of mixed emotions for our community. We have the excitement that comes with the beginning of any new school year – meeting new teachers, seeing old friends and anticipating new learning and special events. But this year we also have had the sadness associated with our principal – Mr Colin Dobson - leaving us to take up a new principal position and the challenge of building the Monash Children’s Hospital School.



As Marcus Ransom, our School Council President said in his letter to the community on January 30,

*“Colin is leaving Mount View having spent the last 7 years as our principal, and throughout that time has been a dedicated and passionate leader, who has made a positive impact on all of the students who have passed through the school. . . .*

*We would like to wish Colin well in his new endeavour and thank him for the years of dedication he has shown to Mount View. We will miss having his vibrant and visionary leadership at the school, but know that he will leave a lasting legacy that will always be an important part of the ongoing Mount View story.”*

(To access the full letter from Marcus Ransom, please log onto Compass and the Newsfeed.)

The school has invited Colin back to assembly on Monday February 6, next Monday, where students and parents have the opportunity to thank and farewell him. Colin also wants to be able to thank and say farewell to the school community in person.

I am very proud and pleased to take on the role as Acting Principal for Semester 1 while School Council advertise for a new Principal. The Leadership Team of John Kennedy, Sara Kenfield, Chris Brown and Erwin Dumenden and I will continue to maintain, develop and implement the inspiring teaching and learning programs synonymous of Mount View PS. To assist us with this, both Michelle Simpson and Ambre Borneman will be working with the Leadership Team in a Leadership Support/Student Wellbeing role for Semester 1.

*Please note: The process for advertising and appointing a new principal for Mount View is organised by the Department of Education and Training (DET) through the North Eastern Victoria Region. Region staff will meet with our School Council members and support us through the process in Term 2. More information about the process will be shared with our community later this term.*

So despite our loss, we have had a tremendous start to the year and the children have settled into their new classes extremely well. The little Preps and their beaming smiles are lighting up the school.

At the start of this week, staff members were involved in the start of the year professional learning program and embraced this with enthusiasm. It was wonderful to work alongside one another and set the direction for 2017. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the staff for the days they spent at school preparing for the new school year. We are indeed fortunate to have such committed and professional staff members at Mount View PS.

As with last year, this year I would like us to genuinely explore the **concept of unity** and how we develop a real sense of this within the Mount View Primary School community. Our vision and mission statements provide us with the keystones that unite us and I encourage all members of our community to reflect on these important statements.

**Our Vision is:**

*People who are motivated, compassionate, life-long learners helping to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.*



**Our Mission is:**

*Mount View Primary School provides challenging and engaging programmes which promote inquiry and reflection to develop internationally minded citizens.*

*And remember that our school motto is: **Achieve Succeed Together.***



We will be discussing the concept of unity with the children and look forward to another amazing, rewarding and productive year.

A reminder: **Please inform the school office if there are any changes with your residential address and contact details. It is critical that the school office has accurate and up to date information.**  
**This is a Department of Education and Training requirement.**

### Important Start of the Year Information

#### 2017 School Fees – Friday March 3, 2017

School fee notices will be sent out next week. It would be very much appreciated if the school fees are paid as soon as possible and it would also be fabulous if you are able to make any additional voluntary donations as outlined in the fee notice. This will allow Mount View Primary School to continue to develop wonderful learning programs and facilities for the children in our care. The school administration team members had to 'chase' the payments of school fees from a number of families and this took up a significant amount of time. Please support your child's school by paying the fees by the due date: **Friday March 3, 2017**.

#### School Council Elections

During Term 1 of each year, elections are held to replace retiring members of School Council. This year there will be **five** vacancies in the parent member category and **two** vacancies in the Education Department employee category.

I would like to thank the following School Council members – parent and DET - who have worked on your behalf over the last 2 years:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wendy Watson</li> <li>• Felisia Dewi</li> <li>• Tania Parkyn</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Siva Sivasuthan</li> <li>• Michael Tse</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Kennedy</li> <li>• Natalie Wynd</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|

*\*\* Please note that retiring council members are eligible to nominate for re-election if they continue to be parents or staff at the school.*

On Thursday February 9 I will officially call for nominations for the **five** Parent Member Category vacancies. If you would like to self-nominate or be nominated by another member of our school community, please obtain the nomination forms from the school office as well as an information sheet regarding School Council. These forms will be available from the office. **Nomination forms must be lodged at the school office by 4:00pm on Friday February 16.** Please note that the term of office is a two year period.

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. If the number of nominations is **less** than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be circulated.

If the number of nominations **equals** the number of vacancies, those nominees will take up the advertised positions. If the number of nominations is **more** than the number of vacancies, a ballot process will then be implemented. The ballot (if required) will close on **Monday March 7 2017**.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<i>Thursday February 9</i>	<i>Election – Official call for nominations</i>
<i>Thursday February 16</i>	<i>Election - Nominations close</i>
<i>Tuesday February 28**</i>	<i>Election ballots distributed</i>
<i>Monday March 7 **</i>	<i>Election ballot closed</i>
<i>Tuesday March 21</i>	<i>First meeting of new School Council &amp; Election of 2017 – 2018 Office Bearers</i>

\*\* Only if needed

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## Staff News

We have a number of new staff starting at Mount View Primary School as well as staff members returning to the school. These staff members bring with them a wealth and range of experiences. I would like to acknowledge the new or returning staff members to Mount View in 2017:

### New Staff

- Prep – Mrs Liz Anthonisz & Miss Rebecca Newman
- Year 1 – Miss Libby Salter
- Year 2 – Miss Amelia Thomas & Miss Jessica Deer
- Year 5 – Mr Andrew Levey & Mr Chris Goldsworth
- Performing Arts – Miss Michelle Crupi
- Digital Learning – Mr Erwin Dumenden
- Leadership Support – Mrs Michelle Simpson (W & Th) & Mrs Ambre Borneman (F)

### Staff returning from leave:

- Mr John Kennedy
- Ms Raelene Turpin

### Weddings

- Wedding congratulations to:
  - Mrs Vanessa Ng
  - Emily Curtis – now Mrs Emily Fletcher

### Name Changes

- Ms Carly Cunningham - now Mrs Jones

### Babies

- Still waiting for Mrs Kylie Middlemiss, Mrs Georgie Kennedy and Mrs Avril Burke to have their babies – no news yet



## Parents' Association Annual General Meeting – February 16

The first meeting of the Parents' Association is their AGM. This will be held in the staffroom on Thursday February 16 at 7:30pm. I strongly encourage all parents to attend. We are indeed fortunate to have such a dynamic and energised Parents' Association.

## School Assembly

On **Monday February 6 at 2:40pm** we will be running a school assembly for students in Year 1 - 6. (Our Preps will join us at the next assembly on February 13.) This will be the first assembly for the year and we will also be presenting the School Student Leaders with their badges. (JSC representatives will be presented with their badge later in the term once their class elections have been held.) The students will also be saying a "Goodbye" to Mr Colin Dobson who will be joining us at our first assembly.

The assembly will be outside under the outdoor structure. I invite and encourage all parents to attend, especially the parents of our 2017 school leaders.

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### **School Arrival and Departure Times**

**Learning at Mount View PS happens every day between 8:50am and 3:30pm**

Punctuality is one of the important characteristic we should maintain in our life. It helps us to complete our work on time, and if we're not punctual, we might miss many important things in life. If we wish to support our students to be successful with their learning, then being punctual to school on a daily basis is key. It is not okay for students to be late or absent from school unless unwell.



At Mount View, it is important that children are ready to walk into class at **8:50am**. Notices are checked, rolls taken, reading books changed and the schedule for the day discussed and then we are ready for the academic program to start at 9:00am sharp.

Please note that children must not be dropped off at school prior to 8:30am. The children are expected to arrive at school between **8:30 and 8:50am**.

***Please assist your child by getting them to school between 8:30am and 8:50am.***

Children must also be picked up between **3:30 and 3:45pm**. I have noticed that there is an ever increasing number of children being collected at 4:00pm or later. This is not allowed.

Mount View PS has an after school care program and if families are unable to collect their children by 3:45pm then they should contact Camp Australia and register their children with this 'Out of School Care' operator. On the rare occasion that parents are running late to collect the children, simply phone the school and let reception know.

### **Limiting access through the Office Area**

We are re-introducing a policy that children should not enter or exit the school through the office area unless accompanied by an adult. The narrow corridor is causing concerns and large numbers of children and adults are causing a 'traffic jam' in this restricted area. The re-introduction of this process will free up this area and also provide parents easier access to the office itself.

### **COMPASS - School Management System**

Mount View uses the **Compass** school management system. As in 2106, we will be sending ALL important messages through the Compass system and once again student/parent/teacher conferences will be booked through this system. All financial invoices and payments will be distributed through this system as well.

It is **CRITICAL** that **the family username and password are stored in a secure place** and this is the responsibility of the family. Due to the unprecedented requests for new passwords we are going to once again create brand new passwords for each family. This process **will not be** repeated each year. Families can then change their password to one that they prefer. **If you lose it, then you will need to go through a reset process in the same way that you would for other membership websites.** If you have difficulty with this process, please don't hesitate to contact the Office for assistance.

A reminder: ***Please inform the school office if there are any changes with your residential address and contact details. It is critical that the school office has accurate and up to date information.***  
***This is a Department of Education and Training requirement.***

### **2017 Student Approval Request**

The 'Student Approval Request' form was uploaded to Compass on February 1. This is an important document that needs to be read and completed by parents ASAP – one for each child at Mount View – and returned to your child's classroom teacher by **Friday 3 March, 2017**. This information will then be gathered and documented by the classroom teacher as well as the school administration team.

### **Please Tell Me About Your Child Discussions**

#### **Monday February 13 or Tuesday February 14**

At the beginning of each school year it is important that our staff and parents develop a trusting and supportive relationship where open communication and dialogue is fostered. In order to best support your child this year, it is really helpful for our teachers to understand how you see your child at home and school. With this in mind, the first of our Parent Partnership activities is happening in on Monday February 13 or Tuesday February 14.

As part of this, all parents are asked to complete a survey for their child's 2017 teacher which involves making brief notes about your child's social and academic development, interests, attitudes, strengths and special needs. This can be printed, completed and returned to your child's teacher, or completed electronically and emailed to him/her. Either method is acceptable, but we do ask ALL parents to complete the survey regardless of whether they book a meeting with the teacher.

Parents of students in Years 1 - 6 are also given the opportunity to arrange a "Please Tell Me about Your Child" discussion time with their child's teacher if they wish to elaborate on some of that information. (Parents of Prep students will be having these discussions as part of their Wednesday meeting with the class teacher.)

Please note – these meetings are designed for the parents to tell the teacher about their child in order to best support him/her with his/her learning in 2017. It is a chance for both parents and teachers to "put a face to a name" and begin to form a strong relationship to benefit the child.

At this first meeting, our teachers want information from you, and, as it's early into the new year, they won't have developed a clear picture of the specific learning needs of your child. Whilst this year's class teacher has read your child's previous reports and engaged in conversation with last year's teacher, for the most part they won't be discussing specific learning outcomes or goals. It is about you sharing information with the teacher.

Year 1 – Year 6 parents are now able to book their Tell Me About Your Child 10 minute session with the classroom teachers on the Compass system. These meetings have been built around 15 minute blocks. The additional 5 minutes in the 15 minute timeslot is only for those families whose child is on an Individual Learning Improvement Plan (ILIP) or where a translator is required. In summary, for the majority of families the Tell Me About Your Child session will run for 10 minutes.

The session times will run on:

- Monday 13 February 3:45 to 8:00pm
- Tuesday 14 February 3:45 to 6:00pm.

Those families requiring an interpreter for this meeting **MUST** complete the English Language Support section on the student survey.

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### **School Crossing Supervisors**

The two school crossing supervisors do a wonderful job. Please can you speak to your children about the need for them to carefully follow the supervisor's instructions. All members of the school community must wait for the whistle to be blown before crossing. The crossing supervisors are: Priti – Traffic Supervisor for Shepherd Road and Elizabeth - Traffic Supervisor for Gallaghers Road.

### **Car Parking Reminder & Changed Traffic Conditions**

Now that we've been back at school for 3 days you might be asking, **“What do we have to do to reduce the parking and congestion outside of the school and make it safe for our children?”**

The answer, **“We'd like you to walk your children to and from school. Park down the bottom of Shepherd Rd at least, and walk them up to school.”** This would not only reduce the hazards, but it would also switch your child on for learning.

### **Why is walking good for kids?**

Walking is:

- a great way to stay active for people for all ages. Particularly for kids,
- fun and interesting. You get to notice things along the way and meet people in your neighbourhood.
- sociable. Children love walking with their friends, especially on the journey to school.
- makes them feel good. The exercise makes them feel calmer and happier and it improves their concentration, making it easier to focus in school.
- promotes independence and freedom. Children can make more decisions about their journey than they can in the car. They can choose to stop and look at something along the way and they can start to make decisions about road safety. For older children, walking independently offers some time to themselves.



*Source: Sustrans – The Benefits of Walking with Kids*

<http://www.sustrans.org.uk/what-you-can-do/children-and-families/walking-kids/benefits-walking-kids>

Please remember that the school side of Shepherd Road is a **drop off zone only** between 8:30 and 9:30am. You are not allowed to park and leave your car. It is a 2 min drop off zone only.

Please be aware that due to the number of illegal U-turns happening in Shepherd Road, particularly during school drop off times, and some resulting in accidents, the Council has now installed a traffic island in Crestmont Dr. There are also “No U-Turn” signs posted all along Shepherd Rd. Council & police will also be monitoring the area and issuing fines to those driving unsafely and illegally.

We ask that our Mount View community please keep our children safe by being respectful and obeying the road rules and signage.

### **Healthy Eating Policy**

We are committed to a whole school approach to healthy eating. Mount View's School Council ratified a Healthy Eating Policy last year, which is now in place. Please make yourself familiar with this policy which can be found on the school website in the Important Document section under the Parents tab.

A reminder: **Please inform the school office if there are any changes with your residential address and contact details. It is critical that the school office has accurate and up to date information.**  
**This is a Department of Education and Training requirement.**

We ask parents to give the class teacher 24 hours notice if your child is going to bring a food item to share on a special occasion. e.g. birthday. For special occasions we ask that no lolly bags or pre-packed confectionery bars are sent. If a cake or something is baked please ensure you inform the class teacher of ingredients.

### ***Photographing and Videoing of Students in Class***

Earlier this week we had the situation of parents videoing and photographing their child's class through the window of the classroom. *This behaviour is not appropriate and cannot be endorsed.*

You will know from the Student Approval form that was sent out via Compass on February 1, we ask for approval to publish student photos on our newsletters, website, etc. This is to protect our students. We've all heard stories of photos being uploaded through social media without permission and the social/emotional damage that this can cause.

So we'd like our Mount View community to help protect our children. We ask all parents to photograph/video only your own child, unless you have specific permission from another child's parent. At no stage should parents be videoing the class. Any class activities that need photographs/video will be done by the class teacher

### ***Dog on School Premises Policy***

At Mount View we acknowledge the important role that pets, dogs in particular, play in our community and the positive impact dogs can have on their family. A dog can be a joy but they also come with a major responsibility. The school also acknowledges the benefits of walking to and from school in a family group with their pet dog.

However, in recent times at Mount View Primary School we have seen more dogs being brought to school. With the increase of dogs being brought to school, this in turn has the potential to increase the risk of injury to children caused by dogs (e.g. bites and scratches) through dogs reacting adversely to unexpected noise and/or movement of children.

In order for our children to be kept safe whilst enjoying our furry friends, we have now developed a *Dog on School Premises Policy*. This policy covers all dogs (except guide dogs or support dogs). We will also implement City of Monash on-leash laws to promote and encourage positive health, safety and well-being for our community. Please make yourself familiar with this policy which can be found on the school website in the *Important Document section under the Parents tab*.

### ***New Labelling - Asbestos***

As part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Health and Safety Management Plan, new labelling will be installed at our school. The labels remind people to contact school reception prior to undertaking any works at the school, to ensure they have up-to-date information from the school's asbestos register.

Asbestos - which was used extensively in building materials in the past but is now banned - is considered safe unless damaged or in poor condition. The new labels form part of a comprehensive program to ensure Victorian government schools remain safe. Children's safety is our number one priority. That is why we are taking this extra step as a precaution.

### ***Beth MacLaren Smallwood Foundation***

I would like to once again express my sincere gratitude to the Beth MacLaren Smallwood Foundation. The Foundation has once again confirmed that they are supporting the program for the 2017 school year. This is indeed a generous philanthropic donation and as a school we are very grateful for this support.

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