Dear Monmia Families,

A very warm welcome back to our lovely Monmia community. It was wonderful to see excited children and their families walking through our school gates. Everyone seems to have had a really good break, including me and we are all looking refreshed and relaxed-ready for an action-packed and exciting year ahead. I am feeling that 2016 is going to be the best year ever! I am certainly going to do everything in my power to make this happen for our school community. I asked the staff and children what they could do to make it the best year ever for themselves and their classes as well as for our school. You might like to have a discussion about this with them.

Welcome to Mar-Anna Reiljan-Dillon who has joined our staff as our Languages Japanese teacher. Mari-Anna has been getting to know our school as she is both taking Japanese lessons as well as taking classes to support the assessment schedule timetable.

Our 2016 Preppies have started their school journey so well, settling in from the very first day. They were all very excited and eager to explore their learning spaces. They seemed confident in speaking up and sharing the equipment. As it was a wet day timetable at recess, they were very enthusiastic to go on the Prep playground at lunchtime when the weather was more suitable.

Another sizzling start to 2016 happened last Friday with all children and staff enjoying a sausage or veggie burger. It was a fabulous success again with our gourmet chefs Vineta Mitrevski and Lucy Vorpasso cooking those sausages at a rapid pace so they would all be ready for the hungry hordes!!! As soon as we were ready the classes came to Natalie Creasey, Jayne Sutcliffe and Ros Brelis to be served up their delicious sausage with choice of regular, halal or vegetarian! From the way those children were smacking their lips they thoroughly enjoyed their lunch. So I think we can safely say we have established another new tradition at Monmia! Thank you to our cooks, servers, and Mr Squires for organising and setting up the barbecue and then cleaning it up at the end. Thank you to all the staff who helped with serving the children.

There has been such a smooth transition to the start of this year with everyone settling into routines very quickly. As I visited all the classrooms, I could see happy children working with their teachers and classmates. As several staff have changed roles and time fractions, we will introduce our 2016 Professional Learning Communities to you next week.

It was so thrilling to receive our copy of John Hattie’s “Visible Learning Into Action” book at the very end of last year. We are proudly featured in Chapter 4 for our case study on Effective Feedback.

Congratulations to Vineta Mitrevski who has led our Monmia Community through this incredible Visible Learning Journey which has had such an effective
impact on our students’ learning. Congratulations to all our staff who have contributed to our school being internationally recognised. In our chapter, there are quotes from Natalie Creasey, Natalija Caridi and Vineta Mitrevski. There are also samples of our anchor charts and feedback tools.

Monmia has been very fortunate to access an amazing new program for our school. It is called “Moving Lives” and it is delivered by the Bluearth Organisation. We have an assigned coach, Daniel who will be coming to Monmia fortnightly to work with our 3/4 students and staff. Daniel will also be attending our upcoming Twilight Picnic (Wednesday 17 February) to engage children and their families in some fun activities. Here is some information on Bluearth:

We are a national health promotion charity on a mission to improve the health of all Australians and address the burden of disease that is associated with our increasingly sedentary lifestyles. To achieve this we recognise the need for generational change which is why we actively engage Aussies kids to develop their physical literacy and provide them with the skills and motivation to lead active lives. Movement is vital for life, it develops our sense of self, builds confidence, improves resilience and cognition and reduces our risk of disease. Being active is part of life – we are designed to move.

We deliver programs throughout Australia in urban, rural and remote communities to show the value of movement and create positive experiences in activity. Our work with schools, teachers, parents and carers highlights how they can encourage and nurture children to be active every day, enabling them to reach their full potential.

Everyone has a role to play in an active nation and we invite you to join us in building a foundation for a healthier Australia through the discovery of the power and joy of an active life.

Their website is: [http://www.bluearth.org/](http://www.bluearth.org/)

Monmia has a School Philosophy which was developed with feedback and contributions from the whole school community. Each week and assembly I am going to focus on the key elements of this philosophy which underpins the way we all (parents/guardians, students and staff) behave and conduct ourselves in our relationships to one another. A copy of the philosophy is attached to this newsletter and can also be found on our website: [http://www.monmia.vic.edu.au](http://www.monmia.vic.edu.au)

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

New families to Monmia may not know and other families may not have remembered some of the following information:

1. **Parking**
   - The Staff Car Park is only for the use of staff. Parents/Guardians are asked not to park there during the school day. Also parents/guardians and children are **not to walk through** the staff car park as this is dangerous with staff coming and going through it.
   - Parking at the front of the school is only to be used for picking up and dropping off children. Cars can only be parked for 2 minutes. Parents/guardians are not to leave their cars in this zone to pick up children inside the school. You can be fined by the Brimbank Council if you do so.

2. **Start of School**
   - Parents/guardians are reminded that the school yard is not supervised by teachers until 8:45am therefore it is **not safe** for students to be at school before this time unless they are booked into the Camp Australia’s Before School Care program which provides supervision and activities.

3. **Early Pick Up**
   - If parents/guardians need to pick up their children early for medical appointments we ask that if **possible** that school times are avoided. We are finding that administration staff have to collect many students in the early afternoon which means they are disrupting classes and student learning time. If parents/guardians are collecting children from their classrooms, it is also disruptive. If children or teachers could be told the time they are being picked up then they could come up to the office ready with their bags at the appropriate time.
   - We also ask that parents/guardians do not ask for students to be called to the office at morning or lunch recesses. Teachers lock their classrooms during these times and if children have to leave they cannot collect their bags. Also students often do not hear announcements when playing outside in the schoolyard.
Some parents/guardians are regularly picking up their children early, sometimes even before 3pm. If children are doing this most days of the week they are missing out on several hours of learning time which can affect their overall progress.

4. End of School
- School finishes at 3:30pm and parents/guardians need to pick up their children at this time.
- Teaching staff have meetings on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 3:45pm every week. Principal Class are also involved in these meetings and therefore not in the administration area.
- Teachers’ hours of duty (including principal class) finish at 4:45pm. Administration staff are not on duty in the office after 4:36pm.
- Norma and Catherine cannot legally supervise students in the administration area. Only teaching staff are legally allowed to supervise students.
- Norma and Catherine have been instructed to send any child who has not been picked up by 3:45pm to the Camp Australia After School Care Program and parents/guardians will be billed for the service.

Please follow us on Twitter: http://twitter.com/MonmiaPS. You can also comment, or favourite or retweet our posts.

Looking forward to working with you in partnership.

Warm Regards,

Lorraine Bell
Principal

We wish all our Monmia families that celebrate Chinese New Year good luck and great success for 2016.
May the coming year bring you joy, love and peace.
PRA  Lillyanne I for making a great start to Prep and being very helpful.

PRB  Geatana S for starting Prep with appositive attitude and settling in well with her peers! I love the way you come to school everyday with a big smile on your face! Keep smiling Geatana!

1/2A  Fai F for settling in well to Monmia and making new friends.

1/2B  Ben Q for a confident start to Term 1 and for helping others in the grade!

1/2C  Joey E for concentrating when doing his work

1/2D  Michael E for sharing some great ideas when talking about “Why it’s Important to Come to School”.

3/4A  Silvia C for excellent learning behaviours and being confident at her new school.

3/4B  Sarahzette W for displaying a positive attitude and assisting others with patience and confidence. Thank you.

3/4C  Josiah I for having a positive attitude from day dot - I love your smiling face!

3/4D  Yung Ming H for his fantastic start to the school year. Thankyou for being so responsible and focused. I’m proud of you Yung Ming!

5/6A  Lloyd S for making a great start at Monmia, with your positive and friendly attitude.

5/6B  Kevin V for finishing all work off and completing multiplication fact challenge in set time. What a hard worker! Keep it up!

5/6C  Brendan G for your positive attitude and organisation! You are a great role model to all your classmates. What a great learner you are Brendan!

5/6D  Caitlyn M for settling well into Monmia and always coming to school with a smile.

WELL DONE !!!!!!
Dear Monmia Families,

Monmia is proud to be a KIDS MATTER school. In bringing the community together to celebrate the start of the 2016 year, we are having a **TWILIGHT GETTING TO KNOW YOU PICNIC**. An invitation is extended to all Monmia families to attend the annual picnic to meet all the teachers and all the families in a friendly and relaxed way. Put the date in your diary and come along and join in the fun.

**Date:** WEDNESDAY the 17th of FEBRUARY, 2016

**Time:** 5.00pm until 7.00pm

**Where:** On the School Oval (Weather permitting)

**What to bring:** Bring your food, drinks (non-alcoholic and in plastic bottles), rugs or blankets and chairs. The school has hired a Coffee Van and a Gelati Van for us to use if you like but there will not be any other food for sale.

**Theme:** Prep-2 can bring teddy bears
Year 3-6 can come with ‘Crazy Hair’

Parents/guardians will take responsibility for their own children on the evening.

We hope that you and your family will be able to join the rest of the Monmia Community in a fun night.

Kind Regards

Lucy Vorpasso, Student and Engagement Assistant Principal, on behalf of the KidsMatter Action Team
SPOTLIGHT ON BOUNCE BACK!
A WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE PROGRAM

THE FOCUS FOR THIS WEEK IS:
Values that underpin Bounce Back! CARING

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Firstly I would like to welcome you all back warmly and know that we will have a very successful partnership in 2016. Monmia will continue to implement the Bounce Back Program this year to support developing students to be emotionally and socially resilient. It is a program that has received many awards for its ability to engage students in exploring skills and attitudes needed to be an effective member of society and a productive individual.

In the first full week of the year I would like to commence with the Core Values that underpin the Bounce Back Wellbeing and Resilience Program. It comes as no surprise that the school values reflect the Bounce Back Program. The Core Value that we will look at this week is CARING which is a Bounce Back value and a school value.

What is a value?
A value is a belief that you have that is important in your life. A value is a principle or standard that guides your behaviour and choices. Our values form our ‘moral map’ which we consult every time we have to make a value-based decision or we face a moral dilemma.

What does caring mean?
- Caring shows thoughtfulness and concern towards others.
- Caring is showing respect and understanding of how others feel.
- Caring is when we show empathy for another person.
- Synonyms for caring are: compassionate, loving, kind, warm, sensitive, sympathetic, responsive, considerate and warm hearted.
- Antonyms for caring are: ignoring, neglecting, disregarding, paying no attention, overlooking.

Family Activity
Interview each member of your family and ask them this question “How have we been caring towards members of our own family?”

I hope you find the articles useful and I look forward to any feedback. Next week we will continue exploring the topic of values.

Warm Regards,

Lucy Vorpasso
Assistant Principal - Student Engagement and Wellbeing

Don’t forget to follow us on Twitter: http://twitter.com/MonmiaPS
Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back everyone! I know that 2015 is going to be a fabulous year for our staff, students and community as the students have already settled in very well into the new classes.

To support the four components of the Kids Matter initiative we will continue to implement the **Bucket Filling Philosophy** this year. Your child has already received his/her bucket for the classroom and a Bucket Filling pencil. All staff members have a bucket and pencil as well. The philosophy is based on 50 years of research by Dr. Donald O. Clifton (psychologist) who first created the concept in the 1960s. It is now widely promoted by Carol McCloud as an early childhood educator in the United States of America.

**Here is a reminder of some points for you to know.**
- We all have an invisible ‘bucket’.
- The invisible ‘bucket’ represents your mental and emotional self.
- The invisible ‘bucket’ holds all your good thoughts (stars) and happy feelings (hearts).

**When your ‘bucket’ is FULL:**
- You are more likely to learn to your potential.
- You feel more confident, connected, valued, secure, calm, patient and friendly.
- You show internal and external happiness that can spread to those around you.
- You form and maintain healthy relationships.

**When your ‘bucket’ is EMPTY:**
- You can easily become sad, negative, insecure, nervous, angry, depressed, stressed, worried, disengaged or physically ill.
- You have red thoughts and believe that you won’t do anything that is successful.
- You show your emotions in a way that empties the buckets of others around you.
- You find it hard to form and maintain healthy relationships.

**3 EASY RULES TO FOLLOW**

Rule 1: Be Bucket Filler!

Rule 2: Don’t dip.

Rule 3: Use your lid.

**3 EASY LAWS TO FOLLOW**

Law 1: When you fill someone else’s ‘bucket’ you fill your own ‘bucket’.

Law 2: When you dip into someone else’s ‘bucket’, you dip into your own ‘bucket’.

Law 3: When someone dips into your ‘bucket’, your lid controls how much is taken out.

**How can I become ‘bucket’ filler?**

Firstly make sure that you fill people’s ‘buckets’ by acknowledging their efforts and achievements. In the school’s front office area you will find a large red bucket for community members to use that has drops for you to fill in. So when you are at the school next, fill in one of the drops and place it in the ‘Community Bucket’. Your drop will be acknowledged at the whole school assembly or given to the person or group.

In next week’s newsletter I will provide you with more information about the ‘**Bucket Filling Philosophy**’ at Monmia PS.

**Happy Bucket Filling!**

Kind Regards,

*Lucy Vörpasse*

Assistant Principal - Student Engagement and Wellbeing
From the start of September to the end of April, there are 5 things to remember!

Slip! Slop! Slap! Seek! Slide!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last year The Cancer Council of Victoria recommended that Sunsmart processes should be implemented from the start of September to the end of April. Therefore Monmia Primary School will be implementing its NO HAT, NO PLAY process as part of the Sunsmart and School Uniform Policy.

Please encourage your child to wear his/her broad brimmed or Legionnaire hat at school. Should you require another sunhat, they can be purchased from the school office for $11.00 each.

Any student without a hat will be asked to sit in the shade.

Thank you for your cooperation with this very important health and safety measure.

Kind Regards,

Lucy Vorpasso
Assistant Principal
Student Engagement and Wellbeing

PLEASE READ BELOW!

From September, Victoria’s UV levels are on the rise, so it’s time to dust off the sun protection gear and Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek, Slide whenever you are outside. Check the SunSmart UV Alert for daily sun protection times – you can find it on the free SunSmart app, online (sunsmart.com.au), in the weather section of newspapers, or as a free website widget. If you can’t check the UV Alert each day, make sure you use sun protection every day from September to the end of April in Victoria. Don’t just wait for hot, sunny days.

REMEMBER THESE 5 SUNSMART STEPS DURING THE SUN PROTECTION TIMES, EVEN IF IT’S COOL OR CLOUDY

1. Slip on covering clothing. If you can see skin, UV can reach it. Is your child’s skin covered with cool clothing today?
2. Slop on SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum sunscreen. Apply sunscreen before going outdoors and reapply every two hours. One application is not enough. Has your child had sunscreen applied and reapplied today?
3. Slap on a sun protective hat. The best hat shades the head, face, eyes, ears and neck. Does your child’s hat protect all of these areas?
4. Seek shade. Shady spaces help block some of the sun’s UV but not all so you still need to wear hats, clothing and sunscreen even in the shade. Does your child have shady places to play?
5. Slide on sunglasses labelled AS 1067. If practical, help protect your child’s eyes with sunglasses. Are your child’s eyes safe in the sun?

A note about vitamin D

The sun’s UV is the best natural source of vitamin D. From September to April in Victoria, most people need just a few minutes of sun exposure to the face, arms and hands (or equivalent area of skin) mid-morning or mid-afternoon on most days of the week to help with vitamin D. Even with sunscreen you can still get some vitamin D. Sun safe outdoor play throughout the day should not put your child at risk of low vitamin D. Children with naturally very dark brown or black skin need even more sun exposure to help with vitamin D. These children usually don’t need to apply sunscreen but they should still use the other SunSmart steps during sun protection times.
SCHOOL BANKING DAY IS THURSDAY!
CAN STUDENTS PLEASE GIVE THEIR BANK BOOKS TO THEIR TEACHER IN THE MORNING TO BE SENT TO THE OFFICE IN THE BANKING POUCH.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

TUESDAY 1ST MARCH 2016.
ENVELOPES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED SHORTLY.

PRINCIPAL MUSIC INSTITUTE
Instrumental Music Lessons - Small Group And Private Lessons

Keyboard And Guitar Lessons At Your School
- Enrol TODAY – via PMI’s website OR enrolment forms available from the school front office
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – with lessons during and outside of school hours
- Only $13.50 per child per small group lesson (typically 3-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons also available ($32.50 per child for 30 minutes)
- Learning plan for all students via “PMI Stars” program – structured objectives with progress visibility
- PMI teachers supply keyboards and textbooks for keyboard lessons
- Ten minutes per day of practice at home is all that is required to see improvement!
- Instrumental music can improve your child’s school results – including for reading, maths, coordination
- Limited spaces are available so please enrol ASAP


Don’t forget to follow us on Twitter: http://twitter.com/MonviaPS
In 2014 the school launched the Monmia Philosophy after community consultation. It states:

**WE BELIEVE**
We are a community of dedicated and passionate learners working in a dynamic and collaborative environment.

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<tr>
<th>Students will:</th>
<th>Staff will:</th>
<th>Parents/Guardians will:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set high learning goals and work hard to reach them</td>
<td>Have high expectations of their own and student learning</td>
<td>Share their enthusiasm for learning</td>
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<td>Be risk takers, learning from their mistakes</td>
<td>Know all students and how best to motivate their learning</td>
<td>Be involved in the work of the school community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follow the code of cooperation</td>
<td>Be risk takers, learning from their mistakes</td>
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<td>Be active listeners</td>
<td>Know what they need to teach and be prepared</td>
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<tr>
<td>Celebrate their own achievements and others’ achievements</td>
<td>Cooperate with others and work together in learning communities</td>
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We are focused on social, emotional and academic growth so that our students demonstrate resilience, responsibility and make informed choices.

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<tr>
<th>Students will:</th>
<th>Staff will:</th>
<th>Parents/Guardians will:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Know and show the school values</td>
<td>Know and model school values</td>
<td>Build trusting relationships with the school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make wise choices about friendships and relationships</td>
<td>Build trusting relationships with all students, staff and families</td>
<td>Know and model school values</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stand up for themselves and others</td>
<td>Use restorative practices to help students in finding solution</td>
<td>Have regular, positive conversations with their child</td>
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<tr>
<td>Be engaged in their learning</td>
<td>Will give feedback on learning and personal behaviours</td>
<td>Guide children with making wise choices</td>
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**MONMIA PRIMARY SCHOOL**
- Learn and Achieve -

**PHILOSOPHY**
We serve our students so they will all learn and achieve at high levels.

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<th>Staff will:</th>
<th>Parents/Guardians will:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Know where they are in their learning</td>
<td>Develop Learning Intentions and Success Criteria to direct the learning</td>
<td>Reinforce that mistakes are learning opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Know how they are going, and where to next</td>
<td>Get goals for students so they know what they need to work on</td>
<td>Make positive comments about learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make smart choices about their learning and others</td>
<td>Give timely and specific feedback</td>
<td>Encourage their children to do and show their best</td>
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<tr>
<td>See mistakes as a learning opportunity</td>
<td>Deliver an exciting, rich curriculum</td>
<td>Establish morning routines that help their children to get to school every day on time</td>
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<td>Will attend school regularly and punctually</td>
<td>Provide learning opportunities for students to work individually and together</td>
<td>Help their children at home with their learning</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Adjust the learning experiences according to individual needs</td>
<td>Ask teacher for what they can do at home to help them achieve</td>
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We are committed to building strong relationships with our families, embracing equality and diversity.

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<tr>
<th>Students will:</th>
<th>Staff will:</th>
<th>Parents/Guardians will:</th>
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<tr>
<td>include one another so that everyone belongs</td>
<td>Welcome and connect with families</td>
<td>Take an interest and be involved in the school community</td>
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<td>Treat others kindly and play fairly</td>
<td>Model positive and fair behaviour</td>
<td>Communicate positively with the school</td>
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<td>Be a ‘bucket filler’</td>
<td>Have a genuine interest in every child</td>
<td>Follow school processes when raising concerns</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Be a ‘bucket filler’</td>
<td>Model positive behaviours with their children and all members of the school community</td>
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<td>Provide feedback to the right person, in the right place, at the right time</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Be a ‘bucket filler’</td>
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We employ staff who are quality educators, committed to their own and student learning, taking collective responsibility for all our students. The staff members work in a collaborative culture in high performing teams ensuring all students achieve their individual goals, in a positive and safe learning environment. Our students are happy and engaged, taking active responsibility for their learning. We acknowledge and celebrate individual and whole school success.
Cheerleading

GYMNASTICS

FREE First lesson

ALL AGES 2 YEARS-ADULTS

BEGINNER
ADVANCED
COMPETITIVE
TRAMPOLINE ACROBATICS
KINDER GYM
BIRTHDAY PARTIES
HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Facebook: Gymnastics Unlimited Caroline Springs

www.gymnastics-unlimited.com.au