

**Our Purpose:** The Monmia school community is committed to providing innovative programs that Stimulate and challenge each student to develop lifelong learning skills and strategies.

We provide a safe, nurturing environment where teachers, students and parents work in an effective partnership.

[www.monmia.vic.edu.au](http://www.monmia.vic.edu.au)

Phone: 03 9364 1007



MONMIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Learn and Achieve -

## **MONMIA MESSENGER**

Dear Monmia Families,

The star event of the last fortnight was our Official Grand Opening Ceremony that happened on Tuesday 4 June. I think every child in the school was jumping with excitement. I thought I would share an excerpt from my speech.

*This amazing STEAM Collaborative Learning Space has involved many people working collectively to achieve the best results for Monmia students, today and well into the future. The impact of this STEAM CLS is evident in the elevation of **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY** as well as **The ARTS** across our school and its community. The culmination was palpable during Education Week's ARTS/STEM Open Evening. This was the first time in five years that we were able to bring back an annual event which had been a highlight for our community. The feedback we received was positive and complimentary. The excitement of the students was indescribable.*

*The vision to create a revolutionary STEM learning space commenced pre-COVID with one of our teachers offering their services to refurbish the old portables. We reached out to the Honourable Natalie Suleyman MP and furnished her with the plans the teacher had drawn up. With the onset of the pandemic, our plans stalemated.*

*To our astonishment in 2021, we were notified by Mr James Merlino, then the Minister for Education that Monmia had been awarded \$6.934 million through the 2020–2021 State Budget to upgrade and modernise the school, including the creation of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) space. We are beyond grateful for the generosity of the Victorian Labor Government for providing us with the funds to create phenomenal learning spaces for our deserving students and a modern, welcoming, safe administration office that epitomises that we are a proud Victorian Government School.*

*Last year the Foundation students and their teachers were the first into the new renovated learning space. Once the soccer field refurbishment had been completed, the soccer aficionados could not contain their glee at being able to play on this fabulous field. The Year 1/2 students and their teachers cheered when they first walked into their new learning spaces. And lastly the office staff and Principal Class could not stop oohing and aahing about the beauty and comfort of their new office spaces.*

### **HIGHLIGHTS IN THE LAST FORTNIGHT**

- We had a celebration on Tuesday 4 June for the Grand Opening of the STEAM Collaborative Learning Space, the refurbished Administration Office, Foundation and Year 1/2 CLS and of course the Soccer Pitch.
- Thank you to the Honourable Natalie Suleyman, State Member of St Albans who attended and officially cut the ribbon to declare our buildings open.



- Thank you to all the guests who came to celebrate with us from AOA (Architects), APGC (Builders), VSBA (Education Department), Regional Director and Area Executive (DE), RAECO, Principal Colleagues, Ray White Taylors Lakes, Monmia School Councillors and Family and Friends and of course, all of our staff and students.



- The School and House Leaders surpassed all expectations in welcoming our special guests and visitors. They described how they felt about Monmia and especially the new and refurbished buildings. Congratulations to them all.
- Some of our youngest students were able to share their thoughts and feelings about their learning spaces with Natalie Suleyman.
- Thank you to all the staff who helped make this such a special occasion.



## **DID YOU KNOW THAT AT MONMIA WE HAVE...**

### **A SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM**

The School improvement Team (SIT) consists of each Teaching and Learning Leader and the Principal Class. Kathryn Buttigieg, Merryn Auld, Regina Koen, Lisa Tate, Mandy Peters, Vineta Mitrevski, Lucia Vorpasso and I meet weekly focusing on teaching and learning practice across the school.

One of the recent features of our meetings was the sharing of Assessment Records for our students from Foundation to Year 6. Each Teaching and Learning Leader shared the record keeping of all the assessments they had implemented with their classes. This comprehensive documentation provides the teachers and students with information for setting their learning goals and informs the writing of student reports.

As a Principal Class we were proud of the consistency of practice across all year levels. This is just one example of the teaching and learning practices and strategies we focus on as a team to drive our future planning for all our students.

I am so proud of our wonderful school and its community. It is a privilege to be the Principal of Monmia Primary School. The experience of celebrating what we have achieved together has been a significant highlight, especially for me. I will be on leave for a period as I am having surgery on my feet. I plan to be back in Term 3, ready to walk the school grounds once again. During this time, Lucia Vorpasso will be Acting Principal. I wish you all the best for the last few weeks of term.

Warm Regards,

*Lorraine Bell*

Principal



# **NOW TAKING FOUNDATION ENROLMENTS 2025**

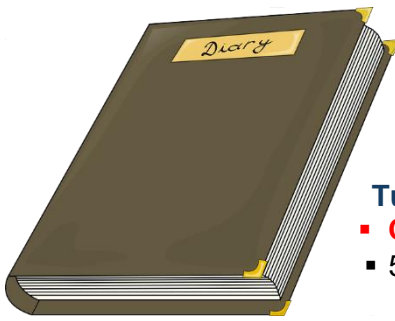
Do you have a child who is turning five by April 2025?

Do you know of a relative or friend who has a child who is ready to start school next year?

Make sure you pick up an enrolment form from the office to secure a place in our Foundation classes for 2025. School organisation for 2025 will commence from September. We need to confirm our enrolment numbers to determine the number of Foundation classes we will need.

# IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY

2024



## TERM 2

**Monday 10 June**

- Public Holiday – King's Birthday

**Tuesday 11 June**

- **Curriculum Day – No School for students**
- 5/6A Student Led Conferences 2.30 pm – 6.35 pm
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**Friday 14 June**

- Book Club Orders Due

**Monday 24 June**

- Semester 1 Student reports emailed to families.

**Wednesday 26 June**

- Student Led Conferences from 2.30 pm

**Friday 28 June**

- Last day of Term 2. **Students finish at 2.30pm**

## TERM 3

Monday 15 July - Students Resume

Friday 20 September - Last day of Term 3

Students Finish at 2.30pm

**Curriculum Day – Tuesday 6 August No School for students**

## TERM 4

Monday 7 October – Students Resume

Friday 20 December – Last Day of Term 4

Students finish at 1.30pm



CASEA PROGRAM



## SPOTLIGHT ON SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

### THE SCHOOL-WIDE SEL FOCUS IS: **WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE BEING BULLIED.**

THIS SKILL IS FROM:

**THE BOUNCEBACK WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE PROGRAM**

**THE RESILIENCE, RIGHTS & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS PROGRAM**

**THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CASEA PROGRAM**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week we will explore **WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE BEING BULLIED** from the BounceBack Wellbeing and Resilience Program.

THE KEY MESSAGES ARE:

- **At Monmia Primary School we say “BULLYING...NO WAY!”** There are different strategies that can be used to help yourself if you are being bullied and help others as well.
- Use your right hand as a memory jogger to help you know what to do.
  - **FINGER 1: (Thumb) IGNORE THE BEHAVIOUR**  
You can choose to ignore the behavior. You might stop looking at them, talk to someone else near you or turn your body away from them. This way you are not giving the bully the attention or power they want.
  - **FINGER 2: AVOID THE SITUATION AND MOVE AWAY**  
Bullies like to find quiet areas to bully others so no one sees them. Choose to play in areas where there are lots of other students and if you see bullying move away.
  - **FINGER 3: USE POSITIVE SELF-TALK**  
Using statements that start with the word 'I' boosts your confidence and self-esteem and helps you get through a difficult situation. Use phrases like “I deserve to be treated with respect” and “I know that the rumor being spread about me is not true”.
  - **FINGER 4: AN ASSERTIVE RESPONSE (STANDING UP - THE COOL WAY!)**  
People who look unsure of themselves are often targets for bullying. Using powerful words lets the person who is doing the hurting know that you will not put up with that behaviour.
    - **Say ‘I don’t like (name the behaviour) so stop it (name the person)’.**
    - Stand tall, back straight, look the person in the eye and use a clear, strong voice.
    - Stay in control of yourself by using words and not physical actions.
  - **FINGER 5: ASK A TEACHER FOR HELP IN SOLVING THE PROBLEM**  
Try the other strategies first, but if the behaviour does not stop then you **must** tell a teacher. If you do not, the bullying behaviour will continue and the bully will do it to others as well. By keeping quiet, you are giving the bully power and saying bullying is okay.

**Understanding WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE BEING BULLIED is an important strategy in ensuring that Monmia Primary School creates a warm, inclusive and positive school environment.**

I hope you enjoy this article and please discuss the focus as a family each week.

Warm Regards,

*Lucia Verpasso*

Assistant Principal - Student Engagement and Wellbeing



CASEA PROGRAM



## SPOTLIGHT ON SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

### THE SCHOOL-WIDE SEL FOCUS IS: **BEING AN ACTIVE BYSTANDER**

THIS SKILL IS FROM:

**THE BOUNCEBACK WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE PROGRAM**

**THE RESILIENCE, RIGHTS & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS PROGRAM**

**THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CASEA PROGRAM**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week we will explore **BEING AN ACTIVE BYSTANDER** from the BounceBack Wellbeing and Resilience Program.

THE KEY MESSAGES ARE:

- **Bullying is everyone's problem.**

*We all have to work together to make sure that nobody gets bullied. Bullying is an expression of power and thrives on an audience. Bullies frequently assert their superiority before an audience called bystanders. Bystanders can be part of the problem because they reinforce the bully's behavior by their laughter or their silent acknowledgment of the bully's power.*

- **Bystanders can help stop Bullying.**

- *If you do not do anything to help someone who is being bullied, then you have made a bad decision and are guilty of hurting that person as well.*
- *You cannot blame other people for your bad choices.*
- *Even if you take part in the smallest way by laughing you will be part of the problem. It is not Okay to say "someone else started it" or "someone else made me do it" or "everyone else was doing it too".*
- *Bystanders should show disgust and find the courage to tell the person that what they are doing is wrong and mean and that they should stop it.*

- **Let a teacher or adult know if someone is being bullied.**

- *If you know that another child is being bullied, then the responsible thing to do is to ask a teacher for help. This is not dobbing, but it is being very helpful.*
- *By telling a teacher, you are trying to help someone who is in trouble. It takes courage and kindness to do this for someone.*
- *Teachers need to know about bullying so that they can help the person being bullied and counsel the person doing the bullying so the behaviour stops.*

- **Even if only one person reports bullying, this can make a big difference in making sure everyone feels safe and happy.**

**Understanding HOW TO BE AN ACTIVE BYSTANDER is an important strategy in ensuring that Monmia Primary School creates a warm, inclusive and positive school environment.**

*I hope you enjoy this article and please discuss the focus as a family each week.*

Warm Regards,

*Lucia Verpasse*

Assistant Principal - Student Engagement and Wellbeing



## EVERY DAY COUNTS: Routines are essential!

*Are you having problems getting your child to school?*

*Perhaps he/she:*

- *will not get out of bed in the morning and will not go to bed at night*
- *cannot find their uniform, books or school bag.*
- *eats their breakfast too slowly*
- *has not completed their homework*
- *spends too much time watching TV in the morning.*

*If so, speak about school positively and set home and school routines to help*

- *have a set time to go to bed and to get out of bed*
- *have the uniform and school bag ready the night before*
- *have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast*
- *set a time for daily homework tasks*
- *be firm and send your child to school every school day.*

Lucia Vorpasso Assistant Principal: Student Engagement and Wellbeing



**EVERY DAY COUNTS**



## **STUDENT LED CONFERENCES - BOOKINGS OPENED**

The Student Led Conference is an opportunity for students to open communication between school and home, it teaches self-evaluation and reflection and focuses on goals setting and learning.

Please note that student led conferences will be occurring on **Wednesday 26 June for all classes, except 5/6A**. The student led conference is a conversation conducted by your child about their learning. It is a self-reflection of the way in which they have progressed in their learning throughout the semester. It is an opportunity to highlight achievements and note next steps for future progress. This is a valuable opportunity for your child to share their learning goals and successes experienced through effort so far.

Each student led conference will be for duration of **10 minutes**. Your child will be expected to lead the conference discussion in the presence of their teacher and a parent/guardian. If you have specific questions /concerns you would like to discuss, please arrange a meeting time outside of the Student Led Conference with your child's teacher.

Please ensure you have booked a suitable time between 2.30pm-6.45pm using the Sentral Management System.

**If you require an interpreter, please contact the office no later than Tuesday 18 June so that such requests can be arranged.**

To make your booking you must:

- download the Sentral App
- If you do not have the Sentral app please contact the office to request instructions on how to support you to do this.

**Bookings will close on Tuesday 25 June at 3.45 pm.**

If you are having any problems booking, contact the office as soon as possible.

**Let's work together to support the learning of your child.**

*Vineta Mitrevski*

Assistant Principal- School Improvement



## DO YOU HAVE A CURRENT HEALTH CARE CARD OR PENSION CARD?

Families with a Health Care Card or Pension Card can apply for the CSEF (Camps, Sports, Excursions Fund). The Government gives you \$150 that can be used to pay for any school activity. Parent Applications CLOSE for the CSEF **Monday 14 June**. Application forms can be completed at the office.



### Divisional Cross Country

Congratulations to Sophia and Brandon for their fantastic effort at Divisional Cross Country on the 31 May. Well done to Sophia for progressing to the next stage.



### STORYHOUSE EXCURSION TO MONMIA

A BIG thank you to the students in 3/4A and Foundation for welcoming Storyhouse Kinder to Monmia Primary School. We also thank our school leaders for providing Storytime in the library. Storyhouse Kinder completed a successful excursion to Monmia Primary School today. Our little friends were in awe of our new buildings in particular the STEAM building and Mrs Bell's office. We hope to see many of our Storyhouse students at Monmia in 2025.

# FAMILY & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER



Join us at the  
next meeting!



Date: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Time: 9.15am

Venue: Community Room

## THANK YOU!



Thank you for your  
support!

We look forward to  
delivering the donuts  
to you on 20<sup>th</sup> June!

## Do Your Child Need More Uniforms? Check out the **2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniform Shop!**

Polo tshirts/School dress - \$2

Jackets/jumpers - \$5

Shorts/Pants/Skorts - \$1

School Bag - \$5

Hat - \$1

How? Contact the school office or contact any  
of the Family & Friends committee members.



## Coming in Term 3....

### Father's Day Stall



### Pie Drive with

## TONY'S PIES



### Footy/Sports Out of Uniform Day

