**School Values**
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Excellence

**Diary Dates**

**Term 2**

**Week 3**
- Monday May 12 – Friday May 16
- NAPLAN
- Tuesday May 13 Governing School Council at 7:00pm

**Week 4**
- Wednesday May 21 – National Competition – Gym

**Week 5**
- Monday May 26 – National Gym

**Leader’s Report**

**Attendance**
As part of our duty of care to the students at Ascot Park, we are very concerned when students are frequently absent or late. We are required to address issues of attendance and make reports to DECD when children’s punctuality and non-attendance frequently occur. We are also required to enter reasons for absences and late arrivals into the system which goes into the Education Department. Therefore, we are asking you to respond to your child’s teacher’s request for reasons for your child’s absence or lateness. Failure to comply, will force us to make a report to Attendance. It is your responsibility as parent or guardian, to ensure that your child attends school as required. We understand that illness or family occasions are unavoidable. However, the likelihood of success in learning for all students is strongly linked to regular attendance and appropriate participation in educational programs. It is crucial that students develop habits of regular attendance at an early age. Research shows that students who are absent for more than 10 days per year are disadvantaged both educationally and socially.

**After School Pick Up**
A majority of parents have been excellent with collecting their children on time, or have notified the office of any situation where they may be arriving late to school in the afternoon. It is very important students are collected in time due to supervision issues. Staff have meetings and training and development after school, so the yard can only be supervised up until 3:30pm. All left over students are then sent to the office to wait for collection. We have had a few students being picked up as late as 5:30pm, almost two and a half hours after the siren. The school policy is:
- At 3:30pm left over students are sent to the office
- Parents are contacted to collect their child
- If parents can’t be contacted, then emergency contacts are called
- If there is still no resolution by 4:30pm, Crisis Care will be contacted

There are always emergencies that happen or certain situations where parents will be late picking up students. Please contact the school and let us know the situation and we can help where ever possible. It is just very hard to know the reason when there hasn’t been any contact and we are not aware of any issue.
NAPLAN

"The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th May, students will take the 2014 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

All students are expected to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for reasonable adjustments that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. Some students with very specific circumstances may be exempted from participating in the tests. For information about participation in NAPLAN, you can go to:

http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at www.nap.edu.au."

Canteen

The canteen will re-open for students from next Thursday 8th May. Canteen hours have been drastically reduced due to declined sales and will now only be open for Thursday lunch and Friday lunch. It will not operate Monday to Wednesday or Thursday and Friday recess. This will mean some planning to ensure your child has adequate food. We have been fortunate to gain the services of Kym Saunders who is currently running the Marion PS canteen. Kym is keen to join our staff and start making our canteen viable with healthy food choices for your children.

Community Mentoring

We currently have 6 of our students being mentored as part of the community mentoring programme with another 8 mentors wishing to volunteer their time. This is a fantastic result for our school as this programme is fabulous for the students involved. Also a special thanks to one of the mentors, Brian Keller who nominated our school for the ‘Foodland Helping Hand’ competition. As a result we received a $200 Gift Card which will be used for our programme.

Staff Carpark

A reminder that the staff car park is not to be used to drop children off and collect them at days end. Governing Council are quite adamant about this for safety reasons and as a result have ask that a chain be placed over the entrance. This will be in place as from the beginning of week 2.

Sport

Specialist Sport – The soccer programme is going very well and I am looking at how we can expand and improve the programme. I have written to all local soccer clubs inviting them to attend a meeting to discuss how we can work together. Last Thursday I had a very productive meeting with Netball SA looking how we can develop a partnership and include netball as a specialist sport at APPS. Netball SA are very excited about the prospect of working with APPS to develop netball.
School Sport – Basketball and netball are sports being offered to our students after school this term. A number of students have indicated they are going to play. Also for the first time we have a number of our 5 to 8 year old students participating in an indoor soccer competition at Marion Leisure Centre each Monday night.

CPS CORNER

“Hello … Welcome back to school! … How are you? … Good to see you again! … How were your holidays? … What did you do in the holidays? … What is different? … What is happening this term? … “This chatter has filled the beginning of term two and makes for a welcoming, vibrant community as it gathers together again to continue its learning in the school setting.

What did I do in the holidays? I am so glad you asked as I want to talk about plans. As they say – “the best laid plans of mice and men often go awry” – actually Robert Burns first used the phrase in his poem of 1785. Well, I began my holidays with plan A and finished with Plan B. Plan A actually started last Christmas holidays and I was devoting the Easter holidays to completing Plan A. However, my father fell ill and, as my mother does not drive, I became the chauffeur for them. The family Easter lunch was at my place so Plan A was relegated to week two of the holidays. My father was so grateful for my help that, on noticing that I had not had time to weed the front yard, offered to pay for someone to come and do it. “Weeding I can do,” I said, “but I could use the money to get someone to remove two tree stumps.” And so it was agreed.

Tuesday of week 2 the stump remover man came and not only removed the stumps but an extensive root system. I was left surveying an area of damaged lawn, uplifted stepping stones, a wrecked brick path and a broken sprinkler! There was nothing for it but to escape to fantasy-land so I hopped on the train to Elizabeth to see the royal couple. Back to reality and the task of relaying my brick path, which required much mathematical genius, especially when the last three bricks didn’t fit! Plan A had now been modified to Plan A’ for the last three days of the holidays. I could still do it!! My damaged lawn area still needed more derooting, the stepping stones re-laid and the area levelled and top-dressed. But Plan A’ was still more important.

And then came the weather forecast for rain. Perfect for getting the lawn to regrow if those final jobs were done! Plan A would just have to wait. And so it was that by the end of the holidays none of Plan A had occurred- but I was more than happy with the completion of my unplanned Plan B!

So what can we expect for term two? There is definitely a Plan A which will largely be adhered to - but don’t be surprised if some of the details change. Enjoy the term!

Til next time

Karen Tromans
CPSW

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View our website for more information
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Your child’s future is important to US

HAMilton SECONDARY COLLege
Thursday 15 May 2014
Come and see the school in action on a
Principal’s Tour at 9:30 – 10:30am or 2:00 –
3:00pm
Principal’s address at 6:00pm
College tours and special displays from 6:15 –
8:00pm
Individual appointments are always welcome.
Phone the Principal’s Secretary on 8275 8360
to arrange a College tour

MARION LIBRARY SERVICES
Opening Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10:00am –
8:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday 10:00am -4:00pm
Sunday 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Phone: 8375 6785

Dance Party – Friday May 16th – 6.30pm –
9.00pm
Bay Function Centre – Glenelg Football Club
9-13 Year Olds - $5.00 Per Ticket
Face Painting And Lots Of Giveaways
Food And Drink Available For Purchase.
Lock In - No Pass Outs
Enquiries - 8207 4820
Tickets Available From The Bay Function
Centre Box Office