**Principals Desk**

**VIRTUE OF THE WEEK**

*Service* - Service is giving to others and wanting to make a difference in their lives. Having an attitude of service means looking for ways to be of help rather than waiting to be asked... When you work with a spirit of service, you give any job your very best effort. You make a real contribution. People who want to be of service can change the world." - excerpts from The Virtues Project™

**My Friends and I**

**Tuesday 22 March 2016**

Our friends from Bendemeer Public School will be joining us next week for a performance of, ‘My Friends and I’.

With a winning blend of drama, poetry, puppetry and staging, this light hearted, humorous production tackles the problem of bullying head on. Throughout the show students are assured that if they are being bullied it is not their fault and there are things they can do about it.

The show explores the effects of bullying on the victim as well as offering strategies to deal with bullies. Strategies such as self confidence, walking away and talking to someone who can help, are presented as useful tools to disarm bullies. Students are also reminded that we all need friends and that to have a good friend you must be a good friend.

With its colourful cast of puppets, masks and student volunteers, My Friends and I gets its serious anti-bullying message (bullying is not acceptable and cannot be tolerated) across in a fun, entertaining way.

Please complete and return the attached permission note with payment to the office. Thank you.

**Parking** - Charles Street. Thank you to parents/carers and friends for remembering to park rear to kerb when parking in Charles Street near the school fence. Please remember however to leave the walkways clear for pedestrian traffic. 😊

**NO TENNIS NEXT TUESDAY**

**Year 7 – 2017 NOW DUE**

Expressions of Interest forms are attached for year 6 students. These forms need to be completed and returned to school. These forms should be returned to school even if the student will be attending a private secondary school. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office.
Leather shoes
Shoes – all students are required to wear well-fitting, black leather shoes. Black joggers or school shoes are fine. No canvas slip ons. There have been issues with shoes coming off whilst running and leather is required because of safety issues.

Student phones
It is not recommended that students bring mobile phones to school, however, we do understand that on some occasions it may be required. For security reasons, mobile phones are to be left at the office and collected before dismissal assembly in the afternoon. The school will not be held responsible for damage to or theft of student mobile phones.

Signing out
Families needing to collect students earlier than 3pm must come to the office first and sign students out of the school. This is a mandatory Department of Education requirement.

NAPLAN
Dates for this year’s NAPLAN are as follows:
10 May - Language/Writing, 11 May - Reading
12 May - Numeracy

Any parent/carers wishing to apply for exemption, withdrawal and/or disability adjustments should collect a form from the school office and submit before 13 March 2016.

Please see the attached letter that contains more information for parents of students in years 3 and 5.

BOOK CLUB
NOW DUE
ORDERS AND PAYMENT DUE BACK TO SCHOOL

Thank you for supporting book club, this is a great way for us to earn resources for our library and to encourage our young readers.

Working with children check
All parent helpers and volunteers must obtain a Working With Children Clearance (WCC) in order to help in the classrooms, carry out work within school grounds and/or participate on excursions. This is a child safety direction within the guidelines of the Child Protection Act. For volunteers this clearance is free. Our office staff will happily help you with any enquiries with regard to obtaining the WCC.

When completing your online application, it is important that you enter your information exactly as it appears on your driver's license or other proof of age certification as this will be needed when verifying your identification at the Service NSW centre.

It is important that you advise the school office of your current Working With Children Clearance number. Numbers are valid for 5 years.

PUPIL ABSENCES
Children who are sick should be kept at home
If your child is absent from school for ANY amount of time you must supply the school with a note of explanation. Absence reports may also be made via email or by telephoning the office. If your child will be leaving early or has arrived late, you must come to the office and fill in a part absence form (available from the office) noting the time of arrival or departure.

Absence notes are used to accurately mark the class rolls, which are legal documents. Our rolls are regularly checked for extended or unexplained absences by our Student Welfare Team and Home School Liaison officers. For extraordinary circumstances eg Elite Sport, students can apply and may be granted an Exemption from Attendance for limited times. This Exemption is granted by the Principal following special criteria and is not included as an absence.

Each term Outstanding Attendance Awards are presented at our final Assembly.

SICKNESS
If your child becomes ill at school you will be notified and asked to come and pick him/her up. Children who are sick should be kept at home. Please notify the school if your child has a communicable disease, e.g. Chicken pox, conjunctivitis or if he/she has head lice. Please ring the school if you are unsure as to how long your child should be kept away from school. Please see the attached pages, ‘Staying Healthy at Moonbi Public School’.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL
Parents should complete an ‘Administer Medication’ permission and schedule for students requiring medication at school before leaving any medication at the office.
Munch and Crunch March
Healthy eating is not about just being a healthy weight. What children eat effects how the brain grows and works. If you put dirty fuel in your car it won’t work very well. The same applies to our body. Research has shown direct links between our ability to focus and how we behave. With ‘dirty fuel’ students are unable to focus, learn and are more irritable and more likely to make poor behaviour choices.
So throughout March, we will work to raise the awareness of students about the quality of fuels they are feeding their bodies. The SRC have organised a Mufti Day & Competitions and teachers will be working with students to diarise, graph and analyse fuel consumption.

Netball training has started after school from 3–4pm Fridays for girls in years 3–6. If you are interested in playing please make sure you have the correct footwear and a drink bottle.

We are starting to get hockey up and going so please remember your mouth guards on Fridays.

We are also hoping to start Rugby league and Oztag training soon.

Miss Cornish

**FLINDERS**
23

**OXLEY**
29

**MITCHELL**
35

Moonbi Explorers Points Score

**Friday waterfun!**
As a reward option for students that have not received orange slips this week, we are offering some water fight fun at 1st lunch Friday 18 March. This will be a supervised activity.

Students can bring their swimmers (personal choice) or water play in their sports uniform. Water pistols are permitted but NO WATER BOMB BALLOONS. It is recommended that all participating students bring a towel and rash or tshirt.

A second reward option will be colouring in activities. Children permitted to participate may choose their reward.

**CANBERRA EXCURSION**
This year the senior excursion will be in week 10 term 2 (27 June – 1 July). Expression of interest letter was sent home last week with newsletter. Please fill this out and return to the office as soon as possible with the non refundable deposit.

**School Mornings**
Active playground supervision commences at 8.45am, students SHOULD NOT be at school prior to this.
Teachers and staff are in meetings or doing class preparation work before this time. Students should only be at school before this time under extraordinary circumstances (the office to be contacted to arrange) These students are asked to put away their bags and then sit quietly on the veranda until 8.45am. Parents are asked to be mindful of the time when dropping their children to school. Thank you.
Students who make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 will be automatically entered into the draw. This is another great way to motivate students to save regularly and reach their savings goals. Find out more at www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking
Lisa Madden - School Banking Coordinator

If you are not currently a member of our P&C and have not yet submitted and paid your membership you will be unable to vote at the AGM. If you are an existing P&C member you will be eligible to vote if your membership is current until the close of the AGM on Wednesday, 16 March 2016.

Kootingal Moonbi Junior Rugby League Football Club held a junior sign up day Sat 27 Feb. The P&C were asked to help with the sausage sizzle. It was good to be able to help another association. Thank You Jackie Robertson, Lisa Madden and Jesse Freedman for spending the afternoon helping cook sausages and sell drinks and baked goods. We ended the night watching a movie under the stars provide by Centre Care. Thank You for proving services like this to the community.

We look forward to seeing you there. 😊

Jen Hernando

Hi bankers. The colouring in Competition is open to all banking students, pictures are to be returned to the office by this Friday 18 March. Pictures are available at the office. There will be prizes for the best one in each class. If you would like to open a new account for you child, please don’t hesitate to contact me at the school Friday mornings. This term with your tokens you can claim a Flying Snake and a Wildlife Writer Set.

This year we’re giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin.

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Student Banking

by Lisa Madden

Clothing Pool

I am available at school Thursday morning or by appointment only Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons. You can contact me on 67605218 or 0429445253.
Clothing Pool Supervisor - Penny Foster

Mother’s Day Stall

We will be running a Mother’s Day Stall again this year. We will be running it on the 5th May in Term 2. If anyone would like to donate any gifts or homemade gifts please come and see me or give me a call. Just remember, all money we raise goes back to improving our kids’ education and resources.

Thank You Jackie Robertson (0458201127)

For this week’s daily special we will be having bags of popcorn for 50c.

If your children love ice cream don’t forget we have ice cream cups for $1.00 and Chocolate and Rainbow paddle pops for $1.40. They are both great for these hot days.

This week’s volunteers are: Zoe and Kelly

Our canteen menu is also available through the school website.

Jackie Robertson – Canteen Coordinator 0458201127

Volunteers needed

Remember to complete a FREE online Working With Children Clearance Check (it is free for volunteers and lasts 5 years). Information available at office.
**Missing memory stick**

Late last week a memory stick went missing from school. It contains lots of researched documents as well as other important school things. Although a thorough search has been conducted it hasn’t turned up. It is possible a student may have picked it up without realising what it is and taken it home. It is the same as the one in the photographs, however has a different Hello Kitty dangle on it. I would appreciate it if anyone finds it, could you please return it to the office. Thank you.

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**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CLASSROOM**

**Budgies**
Thank you to Mrs White, Mrs Newman and Miss Drury for looking after us while Miss Cornish was sick. We’re all happy that she is back now. 😊

**Rosellas**
This week year 1 and 2 students from our class visited the ‘Teddy Bear’s Hospital’. The student’s teddies enjoyed a check up from the doctors in training, while the students gained confidence for when dealing with doctors.
I was very impressed to see students had improved their times table skills and were able to give quick responses during our ‘times table challenge’.

**Hawkes**
We are starting a new science unit this week. We will study bridges and become structural engineers, attempting to design a bridge that can hold weight.
Please remember that LOTE projects are due in tomorrow.

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**ATSEC**

Stella Lamb will be joining us again on Monday 21 March for our Harmony Day celebrations. We will have some activities following our Awards Assembly at 9am.
Everyone is welcome. Let the office know if you are able to join us.

On Friday 1 April our school will be visiting Walhallow Public School for a ‘Celebration of Respect’. This will be a great opportunity for our students to experience a different learning environment and enjoy some fun activities including storytelling, dance, art, music and language. A note and further details will be sent home soon.

Our committee is looking forward to bringing a cultural day/experience to students every term.

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**SRC Fundraising**

- Hot weather and icy poles, what a great combination! Once again our SRC will be raising funds by selling icy poles at lunch times Monday – Thursday. 50c per icy pole.

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Thank you to the enthusiastic band of students practicing ‘service’ tidying the school grounds and offering to help others.
Happy Easter Everyone!

The S.R.C is going to run a fundraiser for Easter. Prizes will be an Easter hamper and other Easter themed items.

We are asking for donations to include in our hamper. If you would like to support the SRC with this fundraiser, please bring in an Easter chocolate or something Easter related for us to add to the hamper.

We will be selling raffle tickets from tomorrow, through until the Thursday before Easter. The tickets will cost 50c each.

Thank you.
WHAT’S GROWING?

This week students were very busy learning how to plant seeds. The students all listened very carefully to the instructions to ensure the beetroot seeds were planted correctly. Like most veg, beetroot likes a sunny spot and good drainage. The beetroots are ready to harvest when they are approximately the size of a small orange; too large and they won’t be as tasty.

Students have been looking after the garden during this hot weather by ensuring they are watering the plants daily and adding mulch to garden beds to protect the soil from direct sun. Students are nearly finished scattering the wood chips around the school garden. They have been working very hard to try and get this job finished.

MISS REILLY

WHAT’S COOKING?

The Carrots group cooked Greek Vegetable Kebabs. Both Mrs Johnson and myself wish to congratulate the whole group for your manners, enthusiasm and cooperation.

I liked how the vegetable kebabs were made (Lauren).

I learnt how to cut zucchini (Giselle).

MRS HARRIS – KITCHEN COORDINATOR
Harmony Day
Monday 21 March
The theme for Harmony Day 2016 is *our diversity is our strength*

Assembly
Monday 21 March, 9am

Anti Bullying Performance
Tuesday 22 March
$4 per student

Bunny Bazaar
Thursday 24 March
Morning hat parade and a day of Easter themed fun. Further details to follow.

Good Friday
Friday 25 March

Easter Monday
Monday 28 March

Sporting Schools Tennis
Tuesday 29 March

Year 5-6 Canberra Excursion
Week 10, Term 2

Year 3-4 Tea Gardens Excursion
Week 8, Term 3

SCHOOL MISSION
Our motto is to ‘*STRIVE FOR PERFECTION*’ and our students are expected to strive for the highest standards academically, socially, physically, emotionally and culturally.

Upcoming Events

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