Term 1
Monday 11th March – Labour Day
Thursday 28th March Last Day of Term 1
Early Dismissal 1.30 pm

Coles Sports equipment has arrived!!
Last week several boxes arrived at school which created much excitement about what was in the boxes. Karen Avery and Isobel Flannery Serle along with students for Room 7 helped unpack all the new equipment. Sue Page our phys Ed teacher was thrilled and spent yesterday trying out some of the new equipment with the students.

Student Support Group Meetings
Student Support Group meetings will commence shortly throughout the school. This is a terrific opportunity for parents, carers and teachers to discuss what goals they would like students to work towards throughout the year. Letters will be sent out shortly with dates and times available for each class.

Student Detail Forms
Thank you to all the families who have updated the Student Detail Forms and returned them to school. There are still a small number that haven’t been returned could you please send these in as soon as possible. If no changes are required please return the form with a note on it saying there are no changes. It is extremely important that we have emergency contact numbers for all our students so that in an emergency you may be contacted quickly.

School Council Elections
Nominations closed at 4pm on Monday 18th February and I am pleased to announce that I received 4 nominations for the 4 Vacant parent positions as a result I can announce that our new school councilors are Val Beckett, Linda Fuller, Jacqui Jobling and Lesley-Ann Hutchinson

Robyn Simmonds
Principal
News From the Assistant Principal’s Desk

Firstly, I would like to express a very warm welcome to all our parents, carers and for all of us. Let’s hope 2013 will be a good year. During 2013 I will continue to run the specialist P.E. program across the school as well as coordinating our eSmart initiative.

Specialist P.E. Program
Each class has a 1 hour a week ‘specialist’ P.E. session where we concentrate on developing skills in the following areas:

- Muscle strength, flexibility and agility
- Aerobic fitness
- Perceptual/motor coordination
- Team play

Some of the activities will include: a variety of ball sports such as T-Ball, Cricket, tennis, hockey and catch/throw ball games; Pilates; elastics; athletics and circuit training. Also, we will be participating in another ‘Jump Rope for Heart’ day on 15th May and I will be calling on parents to help ‘turn the rope’ on this day. So please put this date in your diary.

Important Note:
As many of our activities for P.E. are outside, can you please ensure that your child has appropriate shoes, hat AND sunscreen.

eSmart Program
The Allanah Madeline Foundation is a charitable organisation with a mission to keep children safe. The foundation is working in partnership with DEECD to help develop education programs to promote the safe, smart and responsible use of technology in schools and home and to stamp out cyberbullying.

Our eSmart program at MSDS, ‘Connect with respect’, will concentrate on the following:

- Safe and responsible use of equipment, including times for starting and finishing a computer activity.
- Following school and home rules regarding the use of technology including, iPads, Computers and mobile phones, and consequences for misuse.
- What is private and public information.
- Using passwords.
- What is bullying? What is cyberbullying? What to do when we experience bullying?
- How to protect ourselves when social networking and when using technology.
- Respect for ourselves and others when using technology.

During Term 1, I will work with the teachers and students in each classroom to initiate the program and during Terms 2, 3, and 4 teachers will continue to work with students and parents to increase student Cybersafety skills and awareness.

This year, the school will be providing one set of headphones to each student to use during their technology sessions. Students will be taught to care for their own set of headphones and will be responsible for replacing them if they are broken or lost.

On May 30th 2013, we have scheduled a special Cybersmart Outreach Day for students and parents. Students will attend workshops at Mornington SDS during the day and Parents will be able to increase their own knowledge of Cybersafety, And ask questions of the experts, at a special presentation from 5.30pm - 7.00pm. We will send you more information closer to the time, but in the meantime, this is another date to put in your diaries.