Welcome back Everyone
I hope all families have had an enjoyable and relaxing break. It was great to see so many happy faces and to hear about the different activities the students took part in during their holidays.

School Uniform
It is pleasing to see so many of our students returning to school this year wearing the school uniform. The uniform helps the students develop a sense of belonging to the Mornington SDS school community. We encourage all students to wear school uniform—information about purchasing our school uniform can be obtained from Karen in the office and a copy of the price list is also on our website.

School Website
Just a reminder to everyone to check out our school website for updated information we are endeavouring to keep this up to date with the latest events of what is happening at school
School website: www.morningtonsds.vic.gov.au

Relatives or friends picking up students
Please let the office know if someone other than yourself is picking up your son or daughter on a particular day either via the communication book or a phone call to Karen in the office.

Special Assembly and Morning Tea
A special Assembly will be held on Monday 24th March to present our school leader and Student Voice Representative Badges this will be followed by morning tea. Everyone is welcome.

School Council Elections
Information will come home next week about the school council elections for 2014. There will be one parent position vacant this year. If you are interested in being part of our School Council fill in the nomination forms and return them to the school.

Staffing
We welcome new staff members to our school community Sarah our Speech Therapist is now on staff and available Thursdays and Fridays. Emily an ES will be in room 2 and Ben is our new Phys ED teacher.

Emergency Management -Transport
Information about this went out last week. If you have any questions regarding the arrangements please contact the office

Robyn Simmonds
PRINCIPAL
A big Thank you to Officeworks in Mornington for their kind Donation of stationary to our school, and a special Thank you to Jan Chapman for organizing and delivering the goodies.
Welcome to Room 6-

Teacher-Sharon   E.S. Heather

Students – Keely, Jacinta, Mavrick, Zac, Bailey, Jack,
Chris, Billy & Cameron.

Welcome back to a new school year! In Room 6 we had a great start to the year with Keely and Mavrick coming up from the Junior School. Billy is now a full time student and Cameron a new student to our school! Zac, Chris, Bailey and Jack have been very helpful showing them the Senior section of the school and Cameron is slowly becoming familiar with the other students and staff.

A warm welcome to Cameron and his family to Mornington SDS. The students have all settled in well, discovering new games, construction sets and puzzles that are in our cupboards!! At present we are establishing our program and timetable, adjusting to the daily routine and working with new class mates.

On Monday we have Music with Karen. Tuesday will be our Community Access morning to Mornington Library and to Centro Plaza for shopping. On Wednesday we have our Phys Ed lesson. Every Thursday we plan to spend some time in our Edible Garden – picking the ripening tomatoes and beans, watering and weeding and checking on the worm farm. We also have our lunch program on Thursday with toasted sandwiches and pizzas a popular choice.
On Friday we will be having a 6 week block of swimming lessons at Kings Pool. It is always pleasing to see everyone listening to the swimming teachers and enjoying themselves.

It is our summer term and we wear our hats when we go outside and our drink bottles and cups of water stay on the tables throughout the day.

The students also voted Mavrick to be our class representative at the Student Voice meetings. We look forward to hearing about the exciting ideas and plans they have for our students. Last year’s trip to the ‘Enchanted Maze’ was a Student Voice initiative and it was such a fantastic day enjoyed by all!

The class have celebrated Jack, Sharon and Zac’s Birthdays so far and Bailey’s coming up very soon too. Room 6 look forward to a busy and productive year with lots of exciting activities ahead to keep us busy.
Congratulations to the 2014 Mornington SDS Student Voice Representatives:

Our Student Voice Representatives were voted in by the students in their class to represent and be a spokesperson for their class. The Student Voice Representatives meet every second Monday morning with Sue Page and Karen Goodwin to discuss topical issues or ideas which have been passed onto them by their peers in order to make positive changes to their school environment. The Student Voice program piloted in 2013 and meant that our students were able to create some really positive changes and experiences for their school, such as voting to change the bell music, actively assisting to plan the school concert, planning our fantastic excursion to The Enchanted Maze and helping to run school assemblies, as well as some members traveling to Melbourne to represent our school at a Student Voice Conference! We are all very proud of our students and are looking forward to seeing what the 2014 Student Voice team can bring to Mornington SDS this year!

STUDENT VOICE REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2014

Skyla  Tyson  Mavrick  Joel  Ben H

A special Assembly to present the Student Voice Representatives with their badges will be held on Friday the 24th February at 9.30am in room 10.

All Welcome
Understanding which health services are important and how these services can be improved for people with intellectual disabilities is important. We want to find out about what services people with intellectual disabilities can and cannot access.

If you are a parent or caregiver to someone living with intellectual disability and are living in the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula region we would really like to hear about what services you think you and they need, how to access services, good things as well as bad things about getting health care!

**To help you can either:**

- **Go directly to the survey online:**
  
  www.surveymonkey.com/s/FMP_Survey

- **OR Contact us:**
  
  Rachael McDonald—
  rachael.mcdonald@monash.edu or
  99024473, or

  Jane Tracy— jane.tracy@monash.edu or
  99024467
We need to hear from People with Intellectual Disability about Their Access to Health Care

Dear Colleagues,

We are clinicians and researchers from the Centre for Developmental Disability Health (CDDHV) from Monash University and have been commissioned to investigate the healthcare needs of people living with an Intellectual Disability (ID) in the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula region. The Frankston and Mornington Peninsula Medicare Local (FMPML) require this information in order to plan services to support effective health care for people living with ID in the area.

**We need your help with this project.** We have developed a brief survey for people living with Intellectual Disability (aged 18-65 years) to explore their experiences and their needs in order to help plan for future health care. The survey should take the participants 5-10 minutes to complete, although some people might need help. A focus group will be formed to further expand on the information received. Participation in the survey is anonymous. We would like your help by forwarding the attached flyer to people with disabilities in your service or networks.

We have developed a modified survey in easy English that is only available in paper form. We can send that survey to you by either email or post.

**We can email or post you the survey.** If you are interested please email: talia.raab@monash.edu, rachael.mcdonald@monash.edu or jane.tracy@monash.edu. Or phone 99024467

Thank you for your assistance,

Dr Jane Tracy
Director, Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
Term Dates for 2014

Term 1: 30th January Thursday students start, to 4 April

Term 2: 22 April to 27 June

Term 3: 14 July to 19 September

Term 4: 6 October to 19 December

Curriculum Days 2014:
Tuesday 28th January 2014
Wednesday 29th January 2014
Tuesday 10th June 2014
Monday 3rd November 2014

Website News
Don’t forget to check out our website
For news photo’s and updates
Morningtonlds.vic.gov.au

Reminders:
ALL PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:
- *It is a school requirement that if your child is away for any reason that an absence note be sent to their teacher. Especially if they are going on holiday or have been ill for some time.*
Loved the new venue.
Loved the new venue.
Loved the new venue.
I thought it was so lovely that some of the students got the opportunity to choose their own acts.

Loved the new venue.