MORNINGTON SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL

Newsletter No: 17  
15th November 2013

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

100 years of Special Education

This year in addition to our school celebrating it’s 25 years as Mornington SDS, Victoria is also celebrating 100 years of Special Education. You may have noticed a banner highlighting this in our school foyer. As part of this 100 year celebration PASS (Principals Association of Specialist Schools) have asked all Special Schools in Victoria to send in a summary of their school’s history.

Over the past few months Suzanne Smith in addition to her teaching duties has been compiling our school history. Suzanne has written two articles for our newsletter and has also completed a summary of our history for the PASS publication. Suzanne has had to read through old minutes of School Council meetings, contact previous Principals and staff to verify many of the dates and events as well as drawing on her own extensive knowledge of the school. Suzanne has been teaching at Mornington SDS for over 30 years and has seen many changes during that time. Suzanne’s input into compiling our schools history is indicative of her dedication to the students and families of MSDS.

On behalf of the school community I would like to thank Suzanne for undertaking this huge task.

Robyn Simmonds 
Principal

Suzanne Smith

DATES TO REMEMBER:

26th November—EEP’s Orientation Day
3 December—The Enchanted Maze, whole school excursion
5 & 6th December—Junior Swimming
6th December—Family Christmas BBQ
12th December—Variety Club Christmas Party
12 & 13th December—Junior Swimming
17th December—Senior Graduation Night
20th December—End of Term 4—1.30pm Finish

Students Birthdays

November—Christian
Welcome to Wonderland

The Enchanted Adventure Garden is an award winning natural attraction nestled in the beautiful hinterland of Arthurs Seat. From humble beginnings, the Enchanted Gardens have grown into a wonderland of family adventure with mazes, gardens and adventure activities that is designed to enliven the senses and challenge the mind.

We spend a lot of time getting things just right and we see the creation of a quality experience as our own living and breathing work of art.

Because we also believe that adventure is a key ingredient to having fun, we’ve created a host of exciting activities for people of all ages within our park. Our Tree Surfing Courses, Tube Slides and Bushland obstacles offer thrills and adventure for adults and kids alike!

Our Enchanted Adventure Garden is a place where you can lose yourself in the colours of a seasonal garden or marvel at the formal structures of hedge topiary. You can be transported by giant sculpture, get tangled in a maze, or you can just set up a picnic next to the Tube Slides and listen to the laughter.

It’s a place where you can reconnect with the people you care most about and have a whole lot of fun while you’re at it.

We hope you enjoy the experience as much as we do and invite you to discover your own Enchanted Adventure!

Tree Surfing

Surf the ultimate green room at The Enchanted Adventure Garden:

Go Tree Surfing!

This thrilling high ropes adventure has over 50 aerial obstacles and 5 different levels of difficulty. It’s an action packed tree-top adventure designed for adults and children alike (over 135cm in height).

Tube Slides

Australia’s First at The Enchanted Adventure Garden

- They’re fast, furious and plenty of fun

Tube Sliding is the newest craze in kids adventure activities: a snow-free ski run and a fabulous ride for all ages. Just grab a coloured Tube, climb to the top, sit on board and away you go! There’s no need for extra equipment or expensive lift tickets: it’s just good old-fashioned fun. Listen to the laughter and watch the delighted faces, as Tbers get the thrill of a lifetime on our giant slides.

We’ve created four unique slopes to choose from: 2 Big Twisters and 2 Straight Giants. Parents and families can relax and soak up the hinterland views at one of our sheltered picnic tables while the kids take to the slopes. Don’t forget the camera!
**MSDS Visit to the Enchanted Maze**

MSDS students, staff and parents are invited to our end of year fun day at The Enchanted Maze

*Tuesday 3rd December*

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Students from MSDS have voted to have a special end of year learning activity at The Enchanted Maze, Arthurs Seat. We ask parents to support this student driven initiative and, if possible, join us for the day.

Students will be able to explore a variety of indoor and outdoor mazes, ride the tube slides, go tree surfing (if eligible) and enjoy a picnic lunch in the beautiful enchanted gardens. (See [http://www.enchantedmaze.com.au/](http://www.enchantedmaze.com.au/)).

The total cost of this excursion, including hire bus transport is:

- **Student Maze Entry and Tube Slide**: $20
- **OR**
  - **Student Maze Entry, Tube Slide + Tree Surfing**: $37
- **Parents and helpers Maze Entry**: $23 (Free if you have a companion card)

*(Please note: we have limited capacity to transport parent helpers by bus, so if you would like to come and can provide your own transport this will be much appreciated)*

If your child would like to go tree surfing please consider the following eligibility criteria:

Your child needs to be:

- over 135 cms in height and under 120 kilograms weight
- agile, flexible and able to stretch and reach
- able to climb **unaccompanied**
- able to **independently** finish a level once started (there are five levels of increasing difficulty and height above the ground. Students do not need to complete all levels but they need to be able to complete the level they start. Although we will have some teaching staff available to assist, they will do so from the ground, so **ALL** tree surfers need to have a reasonable degree of independence)

**AND**

I have signed the **Indemnity Release Form** (see attached.)

**Lunch and morning tea is NOT** provided so students, staff, parents and helpers need to bring their own morning tea, drinks and picnic lunch.

If you would like your child to participate in this whole school activity please return the permission form below with the appropriate money in the sealed envelope provided.

Please feel free to call the Sue Page or Robyn Simmonds (59756111) if you have any questions or queries.
MORNINGTON SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL

Whole School Excursion to
The Enchanted Maze

I give my permission for ________________________________ to attend, The Enchanted Maze Excursion at 55 Purves Road, Arthurs Seat 3936, (Melways Ref 159 E12) Phone (03) 5981-8449 on **Tuesday 3rd** December, 2013 from 10.00am – 2.00pm.

I have enclosed **$20** in the envelope provided for bus transport and entry into the maze  * (please tick)

I understand the eligibility criteria for tree surfing and have enclosed **$37** in the envelope provided, for bus transport, maze entry and tree surfing  * (please tick)

I/we ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….(please include names)

will be attending the Enchanted Maze and have enclosed **$23** per person for Maze entry  * (please tick)

Where the teacher-in-charge of the excursion is unable to contact me, or it is otherwise impracticable to contact me, I authorise the teacher-in-charge to:

Consent to my child receiving any medical or surgical attention deemed necessary by a medical practitioner.
Administer such first-aid as the teacher-in-charge judges to be reasonably necessary.

My emergency contact number on the day is: ____________________________

Signature of Parent/Guardian ____________________________________________ Date: ________________

*Please return Permission Form, Indemnity Release Form (if tree surfing has been nominated) AND money by: 25TH November 2013*
It was great to have volunteers from Deloitte Australia at our school on Friday 15\textsuperscript{th} November for the Deloitte Impact Day. The Impact Day is a global initiative where 190,000 staff from Deloitte (6,000 from Deloitte Melbourne) volunteer their services for community projects around the world. This is the second time we have had a volunteer group from Deloitte, Melbourne, at our school and it is fantastic to have some new soft fall in the play area, a new look garden at the front entrance and some much needed weeding completed in the school gardens. Thanks once again guys and gals for your
Mornington Yacht Club welcomes you to come and participate in Discover Sailing Day on Sunday the 17th of November. The day is running from 10am to 2pm.

This is a wonderful day to take the opportunity to try out your sea legs experiencing sailing with our members. There are Keelboats, trailable boats and dinghies to be tried so there are options for everyone in the family. We also have our boats for people with disabilities.

How do you get involved?

Registration: Upstairs in the clubroom of MYC. Access via the stairs at the front of the yacht club. There is also a disabled lift if required near reception.

Once you have completed the required forms you are able to try as many types of boats that you would like.

What to bring along.

- Dress for the weather. It is generally cooler on the water than on land so a wind proof jacket is always good.
- Non-marking shoes for boats. No heels please
- MYC will provide lifejackets where required

Plenty to do

Bring along some gold coins for a sausage in bread or enjoy a coffee from the Rocks.

There will be plenty of information on training programs available and membership options for the club.

Come and enjoy!
**MORNINGTON S.D.S FAMILY CHRISTMAS BBQ**

Please join us for our Family Christmas BBQ which is a wonderful way to finish the school year, come and share in the Christmas cheer.

**PERFORMING ON THE NIGHT**

- **KAREN’S JAZZ BAND**
- **THE MORNINGTON S.D.S CHOIR**


When: Friday 6th December from 5.30pm – 7.00pm

Where: MORNINGTON S.D.S – Robertson Drive, Mornington

**GARDEN ART EXPO DISPLAY**

The students have worked together designing and creating our wonderful garden murals—To be unveiled on the night

**BBQ SAUSAGES in BREAD and CORDIAL DRINKS**

will be provided for everyone.

We would appreciate it if families could assist with the following:

- **NIBBLES** – provided from **EEP’S, ROOMs 1 & 2**
  - Chips, dips, biscuits, carrot & celery sticks, kabana, cheese etc.

- **SALADS** – Provided from **ROOMs 3 & 6**
  - Green, coleslaw, pasta, potato, bean, rice etc.

- **SWEETS** – provided from **ROOMs 7 & 8**
  - Slices, cakes, scones, buns, pavlova etc.

- **BYO – EVERYTHING ELSE**
  - Including: plates, cutlery, soft drinks, glasses, blanket, chairs & tables etc.

**RSVP by MONDAY 29/11/13**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student/Family name: ____________________________ Room ____________________________</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes we will be attending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No we will not be attending</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family members attending</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adults ________ Children ________</td>
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**Valerie Beckett**

SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

**Robyn Simmons**

PRINCIPAL

Produce from our edible garden will be on sale

Come and See The Worm Farm

Our special fertilizer will be on sale

A Christmas Hamper will be raffled on the night; tickets will be $1.00 you can purchase them from the office and on the night.

Christmas cards

Will be on sale, featuring your Child’s art work, always a big hit!

I heard a whisper that SANTA might pop in
Fantastic Show Loved Every Minute

I thought it was so lovely that some of the students got the opportunity to choose their own acts.

Loved the new venue.