First term has come to an end and everyone is looking forward to the holidays. I assisted in the swimming pool last week and was really impressed at how much progress our students have made in just a few short weeks. I would like to thank our staff, volunteers and the Kings Swim School Instructors for conducting an extremely successful program.

I have also spent quite a bit of time over the last week reading everyone’s ILPs. The goals set for our students are challenging and assist our students to become more independent and able to take their place more fully in the community.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has introduced new guidelines for student attendance at school. These guidelines have been introduced in order to support every child having the opportunity to succeed in education.

The guidelines include the following information:

- Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6 – 17 years unless an exemption from attendance or enrolment has been granted.
- Daily school attendance is important for all children and young people.
- Parents are required to ensure their child attends school and to provide an explanation for their child’s absence from school.
- Parents should inform the school of the reason for their child’s absence so that the school can:
  - Determine if the child’s absence needs to be excused by the principal, in line with school policy and these guidelines.
  - Determine the appropriate follow up to ensure the child’s education and wellbeing is supported.
  - Record if the parent has a reasonable excuse for not meeting their obligation to ensure their child attends school each day.
  - Where possible, parents should inform the school in advance of upcoming absences.

Cold and Flu Season next term

Traditionally term 2 is the beginning of the flu season. Many of our students are more susceptible than the wider community to flu infections. If you happen to be visiting your local doctor during the holidays it might be a good opportunity to discuss with your doctor whether your child would benefit from getting a Flu vaccination to assist them to remain as healthy as possible during the winter.

Education Week 18-24th May 2014

Please make a note in your calendar for Education week. Once again we will be having an open morning, this will take place on Wednesday 21st May. The theme this year is “Scientists do amazing things” and we have already begun planning a special Science Experience morning. More details will follow next term.

I wish everyone a happy and relaxing break.

Robyn Simmonds
PRINCIPAL
Making Pizza’s with Room 7

First we looked after the vegetable garden by watering, tidying up and weeding

Then we picked the ripe tomatoes and herbs

We cut up our produce and cooked our tomato sauce

And made our pizza bases from plain flour and Greek yoghurt

It was great! Yum!
The Life Education Van visited Mornington SDS. Our students learnt how to make safer and Healthier lifestyle decisions, through a fun and interactive educational program.
Environmental Week @ The Briars

students from Mornington SDS had the opportunity to get up close and personal with some different animals at Environmental week at the Briars
Mornington SDS will be having a Dental Hygienist from Hastings Dental Clinic visit our school in term 2.

This program is offered **FREE of CHARGE** to all students at Mornington SDS.

The Junior groups will learn through interactive play, storytelling and songs, how to take care of their teeth and also what to expect when visiting the Dentist, in a friendly environment.

The Senior groups will learn about dental hygiene, what foods to eat to promote a healthy lifestyle, and what to expect when visiting the Dentist.

All students will have the opportunity of sitting in the Dentists chair.

This programme is educational only, and there will be no dental work done on any students.

As a follow up to this programme the Dental Van will be visiting our school later in the term.

Parents are welcome to attend.

**MONDAY 28th APRIL**
SENIORS— 11.30
SENIORS – 12.30

**MONDAY 5TH MAY**
JUNIORS—ROOMS 1 & 2— 11.30

**THURSDAY 8TH MAY**
EEP’S ROOM 5— 9.30

PLEASE FILL IN FORM ATTACHED
Daylight Savings Ends
INVITATION

A special Invitation to our Open Day

WEDNESDAY 21st MAY 2014

Mornington Special Developmental School

Will celebrate Education Week 2014 with a

Open Morning - Science Exhibition

Followed by a Morning tea

Come and join us in the fun of a Science exhibition!
See things that Erupt! Feel things that are slimy! Hear things that are strange!

The Exhibition will be followed by a morning tea.
Visitors can tour the school and visit classrooms to view students work and achievements.

WHAT:  OPEN MORNING - SCIENCE EXHIBITION
WHEN:  9.30 – 10.30 Science Expo Room 10
        10.30 Morning tea
WHERE: MORNINGTON SDS

Please come and join us, to celebrate our students.

ALL WELCOME!
RSVP by 16th May
For further information contact:
Mornington Special Developmental School
Robertson Drive, Mornington 3931

Phone: 03 59 756 111 Email: mornington.sds@edumail.vic.gov.au

Thank you to Bakers Delight in Carnegie for supporting us with our Hot Cross Bun fundraiser, your support is greatly appreciated.
SENSORY FRIENDLY
LUNA PARK
MELBOURNE

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

Sunday 6th April 2014

HELP RAISE AWARENESS...
and show your support for families and individuals living with Autism Spectrum Disorder

9am-11am Luna Park, tickets $10 each includes entry & unlimited rides

- Sensory friendly; sound & lighting reduced, quiet area available, understanding staff, rides stopped if necessary
- Lots of fun activities, rides & entertainment!
- Shirts and awareness merchandise for sale on the day
- Food, caps, music, magicians, entertainers and much more
- Don’t forget to wear blue to help raise awareness!

TICKETS AT
WWW.AMAZE.ORG.AU/WAAD

Independence Through Learning