Dear Parents /Carers

Musical Festival – Senior Students

Once again our students put on a fantastic performance at the annual SMR specialist school Music festival. This year it was the senior student’s turn. Over the last few weeks there have been lots of rehearsals and preparations. If you didn’t get a chance to get up to see the live performance, you will have a chance to see it on our concert night. Thank you to our Music teacher Karen Goodwin for coordinating this years item, Susan Spruce for organizing the costumes and all the staff and volunteers who helped out.

New Staff

I am pleased to welcome two new teachers Danielle Cooper(Rm 1 Mon) and Sean Griffin (Rm 3 Fri) to our school for the remainder of the year. Danielle and Sean are replacing Anna Bryne who retired last term. Both teachers are keen to be part of our school community.

We also welcome two ES staff Gale Peters and Emma Jing who will be replacing Chris Brown and Julie Finch while they are on leave and also to provide some extra support in the Senior area for the remainder of this term.

School Photo next week

Just a reminder that we have school photos next week and that these will take place in the morning between 9 o’clock and 11 o’clock

Robyn Simmonds
Principal
Hi everyone!

I thought I would give you a brief overview of what I do as the school speech pathologist at Mornington SDS!

An important part of my role is working closely with the teachers to train them in successfully using and implementing different strategies to target communication skills within the classroom. To do this I support teaching staff by:

- Providing/supporting development of resources to aide students in achieving their communication goals
- Troubleshooting when particular strategies/methods are not working
- Conducting assessment of students’ communication skills to better support development of communication goals and implementation of appropriate strategies
- Offering advice regarding concerns from home/assist in communicating strategies being used to families to ensure consistency across different learning environments
- Providing professional development to staff on a particular communication topic (e.g. use of an augmentative communication device)
- Demonstrating and teaching activities/techniques to be used as a whole class
- Demonstrating and teaching activities/techniques to be used in a small group
- Demonstrating and teaching activities/techniques to be used for an individual

Another important part of my role is being available to families to discuss any communication concerns and assist them in working towards solutions/identifying strategies to address these. This could involve families coming in to school to observe the use of a strategy that has been successful in managing a particular concern, working with myself to learn how to use a communication aide/strategy or, as another example, participating in discussion and gaining information on where to access appropriate support.

I hope to be able to meet you all throughout my time at Mornington SDS!

Sarah
NEWS FROM THE RDA PROGRAM

On Tuesday 29\textsuperscript{th} July the students from the MSDS RDA program attended a special birthday party. All the horses at RDA Peninsula Horse Riding were having a birthday, and although we didn’t get to go riding because of the bad weather, the students did get to bake cakes, make cards and sing happy birthday to their four legged friends. The students also enjoyed some nice birthday treats of their own!

**Interesting Fact** – Did you know that all horses celebrate their birthday on the 1\textsuperscript{st} August each year?
ONLY THREE WEEKS TO GO!

Please send back your ticket stubs.

Mornington Special Developmental School
**AWARDS**

**PRINCIPAL’S AWARD:** Jacob C for polite enquiry into the well being of others

**MUSIC AWARD:** Jemma for playing the keyboard during music lessons. Well Done Jemma

**PE AWARD:** Jemma first time ever to jump on the mini trampoline and climbing independently on the oval play equipment

**ROOM 3 AWARD:** Maggie for joining in with morning circle. Well Done Maggie

**ROOM 1 AWARD:** Sophie riding around the oval on her bike three times independently

**ROOM 2 AWARD:** Tyson for working really hard on spelling and writing The Golden Word “the”. Well done Tyson
REMINDER:
School Photo’s next Wednesday 13th August
Please return your photo envelope before or on the day
With Payment

WANTED!
Succulent plants wanted for our entry into the Red Hill Garden Festival.

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

Exciting News!
Mornington SDS is entering the Red Hill Spring Garden Festival

The Red Hill
Spring Garden Festival
Grow For Life
September 13, 2014