It is with pleasure that I congratulate the following people on their election to School Council for a term of two years: Tom Philbin and Jade Canavan [parent members] and Patty Boggia [DET employee member]. The next School Council meeting and Annual General Meeting is on Monday March 21. Thank you to all three, for their willingness to continue in this important role, to support of the effective administration of the school.

Now that we have passed the half-way mark of this short term and we are all back in the swing of the school year, I felt it was timely to remind families that if transporting your school aged child to and from the school, the official hours are 9 am to 3 pm. It will be extremely helpful to the smooth operation of the school, if families can be mindful of these times and as much as possible adhere to them when delivering and collecting their children. Of course for any variations to these times, you need to come through the office of the school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

As mentioned in the media and our first newsletter for 2016, a number of schools across Victoria and Australia have recently received threats via automated telephone calls. Schools that have received threatening phone calls have had to enact their emergency management plan.

Monash SDS regularly conducts drills as part of our emergency management plan, including evacuations and lockdowns. Staff and students have consistently conducted themselves very well during these practice runs.

Monash SDS has recently subscribed to the State Government schools emergency SMS service.

This service will enable the school to alert parents and carers to an emergency. To help us contact you in an emergency, parents and carers should ensure contact details on the school’s administration system are up to date; this includes email addresses, phone and mobile numbers.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Helen McCoy
Principal

Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. ’16</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Every Tues</td>
<td>My Time Group Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 14</td>
<td>Public Holiday - NO SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 16</td>
<td>Early Ed/Jnr Primary Coffee Morning with Dan Petro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur. 24</td>
<td>Last day of Term—SCHOOL FINISHES 2 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr’16</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 11</td>
<td>First Day Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 25</td>
<td>ANZAC Day - NO SCHOOL</td>
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Term Dates 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>January 28 – March 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>April 11 – June 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>July 11 – September 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>October 03 – December 20</td>
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Pupil Free Days 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>Tuesday, 14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>Monday, 31st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>Tuesday, 20th</td>
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</table>
Invoices for the 2016 year have now been forwarded to you in the post.

Thank-you to those families who have made their payments. Payment in full is required by 18th March 2016.

If paying your account via direct deposit please ensure that the highlighted Reference Code is included so the amount can be allocated to the correct account.

Should you require a payment plan please do not hesitate to contact Deb Crawley to discuss this matter.

Please remember to label your child’s clothing appropriately so they can be identified and returned when they are mislaid.

!!! Attention !!!

In our first Newsletter for 2016 we published the student free days for the year. Unfortunately these dates were incorrect. Our sincere apologies for this error. The corrected dates are this circulation.

A gentle reminder to those parents whose children go to respite care: due to limited space on the buses, please make sure your child’s bags are no larger than a carry-on size.

Thank you

Unsure what Centrelink payments are available to you? Visit www.humanservices.gov.au and select the Payment Finder.

**On June 25th, we will have a representative from Centrelink visiting as a guest speaker for our Parent Coffee Morning. Further details to follow!**
In accordance with the National Immunisation Program, all Year 7 students will be offered the following vaccinations:

- A single dose of Chickenpox
- A single dose of Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (Boostrix)
- Three doses of Human Papillomavirus vaccine (HPV).

Consent cards will be sent home to Year 7 students (born 2003). These will need to be completed and returned to school by the date specified. The following are the confirmed dates for the Monash council to visit our school for the above immunisations.

1. Monday, 29 February 2016
2. Thursday, 12 May 2016
3. Friday, 9 September 2016

**Health alert**
You may be aware that Victoria’s Chief Health Officer has confirmed cases of measles at a Victorian Primary School.

Measles is a contagious viral illness that causes a skin rash and fever. Serious and sometimes fatal complications include pneumonia and brain inflammation. Children and adults (but not pregnant women) can be immunised against measles to protect against the infection and the possible serious complications. Serious side effects or allergic reactions to the vaccine are rare.

It is important to be aware of the symptoms and any child showing symptoms should see their GP as soon as possible.


**Head Lice**
We are endeavouring to win the fight against nits at our school. We request that you take a few minutes at home to inspect your child’s hair for any signs of head lice or their eggs.
Dear Parent/Carer/Guardian

As you may be aware, there has recently been a measles outbreak in the Brunswick area of Melbourne, including cases at a primary school.

In light of this, we are seeking your co-operation in ensuring we have a record of your child’s immunisation status on file. This will ensure the school can respond quickly should a member of the school community contract a vaccine-preventable disease. In the event of a disease outbreak immunisation status certificates help us quickly identify the immunisation status of each child and implement the advice received from the Victorian Chief Health Officer and the Department of Health and Human Services, which may include sending your child home until the risk of infection has passed.

All primary schools are required to request an immunisation status certificate for each child prior to enrolment and to keep a copy of this certificate on record. Even if your child has not received any vaccinations, it is still expected that parents/carers/guardians provide a certificate.

If you have not done so, please provide this certificate to the school as soon as possible. The most commonly provided immunisation status certificate is an Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Childhood Register (ACIR). You can get a copy of your child’s Immunisation History Statement:

- through Medicare online accounts or the Express Plus Medicare mobile app
- by requesting a statement to be posted to you in the mail
  - Email acir@medicareaustralia.gov.au
  - Telephone ACIR on 1800 653 809
- by visiting a local Medicare service centre

Please be aware that your child may be excluded from attending school for up to 14 days if there is an outbreak in the school community and the school does not have evidence showing your child has received two doses of a measles-containing vaccine. Further information on primary school immunisation requirements can be found at [www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/immunisation/vaccination-children-adolescents/primary-school-immunisation-requirements](http://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/immunisation/vaccination-children-adolescents/primary-school-immunisation-requirements)

Reliable information on measles symptoms and measles vaccine is available at www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

If you think your child may require immunisations or you have questions or concerns about immunisation or particular vaccines, see your doctor or contact your local council. Immunisations are provided free to children under the National Immunisation Program.

If you are not sure if the school has a copy of your child’s immunisation certificate on file please contact the school nurses Judy or Elise to clarify.
Early Education/Junior Primary Coffee Morning

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT with DAN PETRO

Dear Parents/Carers,

We invite you along to our first Coffee Morning of the year and a dynamic information session with Dan Petro. Dan is an Educational Specialist, Behaviour Analyst and Director of Behavioural Resources Australia Pty Ltd where he utilises his extensive professional history of developing custom behaviour management and intervention programs. Dan has worked at length with Monash SDS over the past 3 years and is highly regarded by both staff and families. We are sure you will find this session both engaging and informative.

When: Wednesday, March 16th 2016
Where: Monash SDS Staff room
Time: 9.00 – 11.30 AM

9-9.30 - Enjoy a free hot drink catered by students from the Monash SDS Café program.
9.30-11.00 – Dan Petro’s presentation with Question and Answer session.
11-11.30 - Social time with Monash SDS families.

If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Tonner, Social Worker on 9239 7400.

Please confirm your attendance by THURSDAY MARCH 10th. RSVP to tonner.yvonne.mail@edumail.vic.gov.au with your name and child’s name or return this section to your child’s teacher.

(Teachers return this form to Yvonne Tonner)

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT WITH DAN PETRO

☐ Yes, I am able to attend.
☐ No, I am NOT able to attend.

My Child’s Name: _______________________

My Name: ____________________________

Helen McCoy, Principal
Email: monash.sds@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.monashsds.vic.edu.au
On Friday 26th February, we had a very important and proud day for our Student Representative Council. The student leaders were presented with their student leader badges.

Families of all 6 student leaders came to watch as our Principal Helen McCoy congratulated all leaders on this significant accomplishment. Our 6 Student Representatives are:

- Ben Mazzeo
- Bryn Holland
- Sarah Fox
- Jalen Aughterson
- Joshua Stirling
- Shaun Dowell

Congratulations!!!
MyTime at Monash Special Developmental School in 2016

EVERY TUESDAY at 9.15 in the Library

All parents and carers are welcome.

- MyTime is open to anyone caring for a child with disability, developmental delay, or chronic medical condition. Groups are open to everyone, regardless of the condition of their child. Children below school age may also attend groups with their parent or carer.
- MyTime groups provide a space to socialise, to discuss, to get information, and to support and be supported by other carers.
- Facilitators work with group members, helping them to know each other and learn more about the services and supports in their area. Members choose what they would like to discuss in their groups, with help from the facilitator. Depending on what the group wants to do, the facilitator might guide group activities or provide resources.
- Facilitators are workers from local organisations. They have qualifications and experience in disability, parenting or family support and bring to the MyTime group a good understanding of local resources and support services.
- Play helpers keep children, including under school aged siblings, busy and active in activities so members can spend time catching up with one another.
- MyTime is free.

ASD Training

SUPER SPECIAL

Want to try out ASD Training?
Don’t want to commit to a term?

We are offering a 4 week pack for $70, with an extra discount of $10 for first time attendees.

Classes are targeted at primary age children with a diagnosis of Autism, however we can accommodate children with other intellectual disabilities. All programs are visually supported, and include a combination of games, strength, cardio and core work.

Classes are held 4-4.45 in North Ringwood. Contact Flona on 0423378607 or flona@asdtraining.net.au for more details and to book in.

*Friendly, helpful and knowledgeable staff, great program that incorporates fitness, strength, coordination and balance, visual schedules are great, relaxation at end makes everyone calm. I would highly recommend this training. Feedback from a Carer.

The Cerebral Palsy Education Centre (CPEC) and DET are pleased to present

Enabling Inclusion in School Communities
2016 Workshops: Term 1

A series of free workshops for people working or caring for students with cerebral palsy including those with complex communication needs in mainstream settings.

Venue
The workshops will be held at CPEC located at The End of Beacon Street, Glen Waverley Melbony Ref 71.01

How is the series designed?
The workshop series has been designed to provide opportunities for school leadership teams, inclusion support teachers, educational and therapy personnel in mainstream schools and parents to gain information, share examples of quality practice and network. Relevant workshops will be offered over three school terms. Some workshops are whole day and some are held after school hours. Participants are invited to register for those workshops that best suit their professional learning needs. Presenters include service therapy staff from CPEC, educators, and students with Cerebral Palsy.

Audience
The workshops are designed to be of relevance to personnel in school leadership teams, class teachers, support staff, school assistants, therapists, parents and any others who are responsible for the education of students with cerebral palsy (or similar conditions), including those with complex communication needs.

Cost and Registration
All workshops are free. A registration form can be found at the end of this flyer. Attendance will require a workshop manual, certificate of attendance and refreshments. Lunch is supplied for full day sessions as please remember to bring your own.

Parking
Free on-site parking is available.

Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 30</td>
<td>9:30-10</td>
<td>Undergraduate (TUC)</td>
<td>Learners with CP and Sensory Processing Challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 16</td>
<td>4:30-6:30</td>
<td>Undergraduate (TUC)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Happiness and Autism

Supporting People with ASD & Their Families Towards a Happy Life

With Prof. Ali Bajwapeare (UK)

How do you balance the health needs of ASD with everyone else’s well-being? How can increased quality of life improve the overall outcomes for those on the spectrum and their families? Book a seat today to explore this new paradigm for ASD.

A fresh paradigm is emerging internationally in the field of Autism intervention. The focus is shifting from a negative depiction of well-being, where the past has been to promote an “absence of distress”, towards a more positive outcome of promoting the "presence of happiness". This pioneering training equips international clinical psychologist Assistant Professor Ali Bajwapeare with workshops that may interfere with the study of the international context. The training is based on scientific observations and on the ability to generate happiness and to make a difference in the lives of people who are on the spectrum.

Maturationally many interventions have focused on trying to "normalize" these on the spectrum, so that the only way to be successful and accepted would be to be somewhere between "normal". Finally, these alternative have been largely inaccessible and the process has often led to further issues on children and their families and to many adults on the spectrum being isolated and rated. This is not to recommend the techniques and methods of the spectrum, but to work towards happy people, happy families, and a happy society.

Key topics to be discussed include:
- the development of happiness and its role in well-being
- the principles of happiness
- the importance of wisdom and the power of speech
- the need for professionals to develop a skill in developing and supporting happiness
- the importance of happiness in the lives of people who are on the spectrum

For registration or any further details please contact Flona on 0423378607 or flona@asdtraining.net.au
Developmental Play Group

An educational program for you and your child facilitated by an Educator, Psychologist and Speech Pathologist

- Music and Movement
- Physical Education
- Educational Toys
- Story and Art
- Connecting and interacting with other children

Our developmental playgroup is an innovative program for toddlers and preschoolers who require additional support in developing language, play, following routines, social initiation and gestural communication.

This program begins parents’ care give and child together in a friendly, supportive and nurturing environment.

Our highly trained professional team including educators, psychologists and speech pathologists will facilitate the weekly sessions where you and your child can connect and interact with other families. The program incorporates fun and educationally sound activities to enhance the development of each child. Parents will also have the opportunity to discuss any concerns with the team. Activities include:

- Music, rhythm and rhyme
- Singing & percussion
- Stories and storytime activities
- Body awareness, movement and finger play
- Drama, playacting

What will my child gain?

- The program focuses on building secure attachments, developing trustful relationships, taking risks, beginning to understand fun, taking, memory and concentration, early numeracy, language development, social experiences, gross and fine motor skill development. Repetition ensures that children enjoy and learn from the program.

What will parents gain?

- Further develop understanding of their own child and child development.
- Regular opportunity to liaise with professionals about their child.
- The opportunity to be part of a highly inclusive group that embraces differences and diversity. The group process is based on the differing needs of these children.

When & where?

Every Friday morning at 10.00-11.00 am starting every school term at On Track Therapy Group, 158 Malvern Road, Glen Iris

Cost

$35 per session

Funding: Brawar of Bendigo, Better Start or funded through Medcare or Mediam Scheme

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Aspect Positive Behaviour Support

REVISED WORKSHOP CALENDAR

January - June 2018

Aspect Victoria is pleased to offer our highly successful, contemporary, evidence-based, three (3) day Autism Specific Positive Behaviour Support Workshops across Victoria in 2018. Aspect PBS workshops are for parents and carers of children and young adults diagnosed with Autism, aged between 3-25 years and living at home.

Due to current program demands and restructure within Aspect, workshops previously scheduled to occur between April & June 2019 will now take place over July - November 2019. Our state-wide flyer for July - November workshops will be issued by the beginning of May.

What participants may offer Aspect Positive Behaviour Support Workshops:

- Brooklin information and concrete strategies to use, thank you. I have learnt very important reflection, being able to slow down and really look at and understand behavior, so valuable. I really value the focus on being positive and improving my skills, my own self and my family's quality of life. Great workshop – will highly recommend to others.