Friday 25 July, 2015
No 11

On behalf of the school community I wish to welcome Yuri M [Group 3], Epia E [Group 4], Jayda M [Group 1] and Lachlan W [Group 2] and their families to Monash SDS.

On Thursday evening many of the staff participated in a professional learning activity at one of our neighbouring specialist schools. The activity took the form of a theatrical performance capturing parents’ experiences, as portrayed by the Melbourne Playback Theatre Company. The Melbourne Theatre Company had previously worked with researchers from the University of Melbourne, in partnership with parents, in order to develop this unique theatrical performance. This production addressed the vital issue of parent/carer wellbeing and of course was quite poignant. It was very well received by the staff from the participating 12 specialist schools and I’m sure all came away with strong thought provoking messages.

The following is a message from the Department of Education and Training:

Are you the parent or carer of a child with a disability?

As part of the Victorian Government commitment to make Victoria the Education State, the Department of Education and Training has begun a review into how schools can better support students with special needs – including those with autism and dyslexia.

The review into the Program for Students with disabilities includes the opportunity for parents to tell the Department what they think of the current program and how it can be improved.

Renowned human rights practitioner and Australia’s former Disability Commissioner, Dr Graeme Innes, will lead face-to-face consultations for the review which is designed to guide and improve our Department’s approach to providing support to students with additional needs.

Continued .. P/2

Key Dates

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jul. ‘15</td>
<td>Scout Raffle Tickets due back</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. ‘15</td>
<td>Pyjama Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. ‘15</td>
<td>LAST DAY OF TERM 3 School finishes at 2:30 PM</td>
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Term Dates 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>January 29 – March 27</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>April 13 – June 26</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>July 13 – September 18</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>October 05 – December 18</td>
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Pupil Free Days 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>Friday, 5 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Monday, 2 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>Friday, 18 December</td>
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You can get involved by taking an online survey which will be available from September via: www.education.vic.gov.au/specialneedsplan

Your responses will help shape the Education State and encourage creative solutions to providing outstanding special needs education in Victoria.

Helen McCoy
Principal

REMINDER!!

Please remember to return your Scout Raffle Tickets either sold or unsold by the 7th of August 2015

Wednesday, August 19th is Pyjama Day!

Students and staff are invited to wear their pyjamas to school for the day and donate a gold coin.

All proceeds will go to the very worthy cause Beyond Blue
A big thank you to all those families who have either paid their fees in full or are paying via the instalment method. As we are approaching the half way mark for the year and in term 3, we would appreciate any outstanding amounts be settled at your earliest opportunity. If you wish to discuss a different payment arrangement please contact Deb Crawley on 9239-7431.

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

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
Dear Parents, Monash SDS has a new website up and running. Please log on regularly to find out what’s going on in our school community, easily download notices and forms and find out about upcoming news and events. The website committee are keen to get your feedback so we can improve the website to meet your needs. Please fill out the questionnaire below and return to your classroom teacher.

**Questionnaire:**
1. What do you like about the website?

2. Is it easy to find what you need?

3. What would you like to see added to the website?
**ASD TRAINING**

**GROUP FITNESS CLASSES FOR PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN WITH AN AUTISM DIAGNOSIS**

We offer a unique program designed specifically for children with Autism. Each class offers a combination of gross motor skills, core strength work, cardio, cardiovascular exercise, yoga and stretching and FUN!

Parents or carers stay with the children in the program and work out together. Parents have reported they get a good work out too, and have ideas to do with their kids at home.

Our sessions are structured and visual supports appropriate to the child are provided.

**Classes will be held on Wednesday 4pm - 4.45pm starting on Wed 29th July for 8 weeks.**

Cost: $35 per session if paid weekly or $280 for 8 weeks paid in full at start of program

Session rates at 81 Mellbrad Reserve Street Mall, Elsternwick, Ringwood North

Class sizes are capped, and minimum numbers are required to run the classes so secure your spot by booking with Fiona on either 0423 378 607 or fiona@settlement.net.au

Previous attendees feedback

- Friendly, helpful and knowledgeable staff.
- Great program for incorporating fitness, strength, coordination and balance, visual schedules are great, education at end of class everyone came.
- I would highly recommend this training. Fiona (Mum)

All training offered at a safe, accessible, engaging and fun way to increase both the fitness and core strength. Visual, parent with clear instructions and music make this the class a winner. Thank Fiona Miller…... Victoria (Mother) Mr. Kaggas (Parental Disability)

Just want to give a big thumbs up to Fiona for giving my son a great afternoon of exercise. He has come home happy and relaxed, very chilled out. He was happy to tell dad and we say "He had great session". I highly recommend other ASD parents to give this program a go... Joanna (Mother)

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**YMCA Escapes**

**Join us for YMCA Great Ocean Escape 20-24 August**

Dear Amanda,

I am contacting you regarding an amazing opportunity for people in our community that love to travel and require a little support along the way.

As community-minded organisation working with people with disabilities, we’re really grateful if you could share this information about our Great Ocean Road trip. Whether this is via your newsletters, on your website, or directly with clients.

We’ve developed an accessible trip including all the key information about the trip. Or click here to access our version for people with visual impairments.

YMCA Escapes is the adventure of a lifetime. It provides group holiday experiences that are flexible, inclusive and socially connect people through their love of travel.

**Join us for a five day trip along the Great Ocean Road**

- **WHERE**: Queenscliff, The Great Ocean Road, VIC
- **WHEN**: 20-24 August 2015
- **COST**: $1,325
- **WHAT’S INCLUDED**: Everything, all meals, shared accommodation and all activities, tours and entry costs, access to our free social skills.

Our group sizes are generally between 10-15 travellers. So places are limited. Reserve a place today.

For more information please don’t hesitate to contact Anthea Wieland, the YMCA Escapes Program Manager.

E: Anthea.Wieland@ymca.org.au
P: 03 962 380
W: www.victoria.ymca.org.au/escapes
AUTISM HEALTH & WELL BEING Expo

Education. Empowerment. Everyone.

The very first Expo of its kind in Melbourne!
We have exhibitors covering the areas
- Psychology
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Pathology
- Teacher training
- Anti-bullying organisations
- Fitness and Self care
- Natural therapies
- Calming and education equipment supplies
- Clubs and sports groups
- Community, Government and Adult support organisations
- And many more!

Competitions, special guests for the kids, a soccer clinic for teens and presentations throughout the day. A Quiet Room to retreat to when needed and there’s something for all ages, for all people whether they have autism, are carers, educators or just want to know more!

Tickets available at www.autismhealthandwellbeingexpo.com

$15 Adult
$10 Student
$10 Concession
Children under 12 years old FREE!

Tel: 1300 665 602
facebook.com/autismhealthandwellbeingexpo

10% of profits will be donated to Aspergers Victoria.

Thank you for supporting Monash Special Development School

There is still time to order your 2015 | 2016 Entertainment™ Membership

BUT HURRY BECAUSE STOCKS ARE LIMITED!!!

The new Melbourne Entertainment™ Membership features many of the most popular businesses in the area like...

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Email Address:
**LIONS CLUB BOOK SALE 2015**

* Saturday 1st AUG
  8 am ~ 4 pm
* Sunday 2nd AUG
  9 am ~ 12 noon

- Fiction Sorted By Author A to Z
- 9,000 Books; 25 Non-Fiction Categories

* At the Black Flat Community Centre
  Cnr. Springvale and Waverley Roads, Glen Waverley

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**Our School Raffle 2015**

_First Prize_

**TOYOTA PRIUS C HYBRID**
Valued at $29,033
Including on road costs

Photos used for illustration purposes only

PLUS MANY MORE PRIZES!

- **2nd - 11th Prize:** 1 Night Stay in a suite at S300, The Breeze, Mornington Peninsula
- **12th - 16th Prize:** Get Your Scooter - Value of $180
- **17th - 20th Prize:** GoPro Camera - Value of $350
- **21st - 25th Prize:** E-GoBoat - Value of $500
- **26th - 30th Prize:** SCUZ Scooter - Value of $500
- **31st - 35th Prize:** Cycle Park - Value of $500

School prizes for this year:
- **4 x Seller Prize Draws**
  - **1st Prize:** Assorted Assorted Assorted Assorted - Value of $1000
  - **2nd Prize:** Assorted Assorted Assorted Assorted - Value of $800
  - **3rd Prize:** Assorted Assorted Assorted Assorted - Value of $600
  - **4th Prize:** Assorted Assorted Assorted Assorted - Value of $400

**Tickets to be returned by Friday 7th August**

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**Start collecting for your school now**

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program gives schools and Early Learning Centres around Australia the chance to earn new educational resources.

**Make a difference for your local school**

- Simply shop at Woolworths and you will receive one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent.*
- Stick the Woolworths Stickers onto the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet inside.
- Once it’s complete, pop it into a Collection Box at your school or local store. You can download more Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets from our website woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

*Including Ignite or School Rewards cards.

Last year more than 14,500 schools and Early Learning Centres benefited from the program, boosting supplies in classrooms, libraries, music rooms, gymnasiaums and science labs.

It’s easy to earn valuable resources to help your local school, so start collecting your Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers today.

Go to woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn for more information, terms and conditions and answers to frequently asked questions.
CLINIC NOW OPEN
FOR PLAY THERAPY REFERRALS

Location:
Wellness on Wellington,
1/1101 Wellington Road
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P: 9780 8900
www.wallenwell.com.au

www.playtherapycollective.com

To make a referral enquiry or for more info about the Play Therapy Collective email us today:
playtherapycollective@gmail.com

"It is through play that we reach the whole child" (V. Gowan)

ENHANCING CHILD PARENT RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH PLAY

A group for parents and carers of children with emotional and behavioural difficulties

Do you find yourself yelling more than laughing with your child?
Do you feel you have lost touch with your child and/or don’t feel as close as you would like?
Are you worried about your child?

If you answered ‘yes’ to any of these questions this group is for you!

10 weekly sessions
Wednesdays
10:30 - 1200 or 12:30 - 2:00
Cost: $60 per session

Sign up today for support in:
• Reducing difficult behaviours
• Creating happier children and families
• Helping your child understand and express their feelings

To enquire about the start date contact us today:
playtherapycollective@gmail.com
Laura West – 0407 091 438
Jenny Lord – 0404 128 781

Address:
Wellness on Wellington,
Suite 3 1101 Wellington Rd, Rowville 3178
www.wallenwell.com.au