Following a generous donation from the Lions Club Forest Hill and District, a safety fence has now been erected between the students’ bike track and the gravel car park. With this fence now in place, the track area behind the pool can be more readily used by our students. We are extremely fortunate and very appreciative of this support provided by the Lions Club.

I am pleased to announce that this fortnight’s lucky winner of the Waverley Cinema gift voucher is James B’s family in Group 17. Congratulations to this family. At this stage this is the last winner of the cinema gift vouchers.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the new way of providing individualized support for people with disability, their families and carers. The NDIS provides eligible people a flexible, whole-of-life approach to the support needed to pursue their goals and aspirations and participate in daily life.

- NDIS is a scheme for Australian citizens, permanent residents and New Zealand citizens with Protected special Category visas
- It covers ages from 0-65 and beyond if eligible and required.
- With NDIS all different funding systems will be streamlined into ONE system

**5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NDIS IN VICTORIA**

**WHAT?** The Commonwealth and Victorian governments have agreed on how the NDIS will be rolled out across Victoria - by July 2019 the NDIS will be operating state-wide.

**Key Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. ’16</td>
<td>Every Tues. My Time Group Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. ’16</td>
<td>Tues. 06 Seniors &amp; Pathways Coffee Morning with Dan Petro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri. 09 Year 7 Immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri. 16 LAST DAY TERM 3 School finishes at 2.30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. ’16</td>
<td>Mon. 03 FIRST DAY TERM 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon. 31 Curriculum Day—NO SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term Dates 2016**

- Term 1 January 28 – March 24
- Term 2 April 11 – June 24
- Term 3 July 11 – September 16
- Term 4 October 03 – December 20

**Pupil Free Days 2016**

- Oct Monday, 31st
- Dec Tuesday, 20th

**Public Holidays - Victoria**

- Nov Tue 1 - Melbourne Cup

---

**WHAT’S IN THIS NEWSLETTER….**
- Message from the Principal
- From the Office
- From the Nurse
- Father’s Day Stall
- CUA Community Care 2016 Grant
- My Time Group Meetings
- Seniors & Pathways Coffee Morning with Dan Petro

**OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST….**
- Helping Parents Become NDIS Ready
- Mindfulness for Carers Training
- Angelman Syndrome 11th National Conference
- 10th Annual Disability Expo
- Twylight Disco
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 date is confirmed for the Monash council to visit our school for the above immunisations.

3 Friday, 9 September 2016
From the office....

Statements for outstanding school fees for the 2016 year will be forwarded to you in the post. It would be appreciated if all outstanding fees could be paid prior to the end of this term.

Thank-you to those families who have made their payments.

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.

Thank-you.

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

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

Unsure what Centrelink payments are available to you? Visit www.humanservices.gov.au and select the Payment Finder.
We will be holding a Father’s Day Stall at school from Monday, 29th August to Friday, 2nd September.

Cost of a gift will be $5.00. Please enclose $5 into a sealed envelope and return it to your child’s teacher before the 29th of August. Your child will be taken to the stall and be able to choose a gift for Dad.

Thank-you.
Senior and Pathway Parent Coffee Morning
POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT with DAN PETRO

Dear Parents/Carers,

Dan Petro will be visiting Monash SDS later this term and we invite you along for a coffee and information session with him regarding Positive Behaviour Support. 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 our school 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: Tuesday, September 6th 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 or need to arrange an interpreter, please contact Yvonne Tonner, Social Worker on 9239 7400.

Please confirm your attendance by WEDNESDAY AUGUST 31st. RSVP to tonner.yvonne.m@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
Greetings Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to those who have voted, in the hope that we are successful in obtaining a community grant to build a sensory garden in the upper school. Voting closes in less than a week, and at this stage we still require a number of additional votes to remain competitive. Please inform friends and family members of our plight – the more votes increase our chances significantly. It only takes a minute to register a vote, but if successful, will make a world of difference to our students. Please see the advertisement in this newsletter for more information.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support – Grant Committee

CUA Community Care 2016 Grant
Help Us Win $5,000 to Improve Our School Environment

At Monash Special Developmental School we think it is very important to encourage our students to lead active and healthy lifestyles. Through our participation in the School Fun-Run – a healthy alternative to the traditional chocolate fundraising drives – we are eligible to enter a program called ‘CUA Community Care’ that gives us the chance to win $5,000 for a school or community project of our choice.

This program is a community-focused initiative from CUA, Australia’s largest customer-owned financial institution and our project proposal is to build a sensory garden for our Senior and Pathways students to enjoy. The garden will be full of a range of sensory experiences including sand play, a rock garden and a sensory board painted by the students.

We are up against 19 other schools in the area to take out the $5,000 prize and as the winner will be determined by community voting - we need your votes!

Voting is open from 26 July – 23 August and you can register your vote online at www.cuacomunitycare.com.au and in CUA’s Eastland branch. Each person can make one online and one in-branch vote. Also, voting is open to anyone so please feel free to get friends and families involved and voting. Please give us your support and help us win $5,000 to improve our school!

Thank you for listening and thank you for voting – at the end of the day, all students will benefit as they progress through the school.
Helping Parents Become NDIS Ready

Australia's leading parenting website — Raising Children Network — and the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIS) have partnered to produce free online videos and articles to help parents become NDIS Ready.

The free resources cover many common queries including: what is the NDIS, how parents can access it, how to go about choosing services, early intervention and transitioning from Better Start and Helping Children With Autism to the NDIS.

The NDIS national rollout begins on 1 July 2016. The Scheme will grow to support 140,000 Australian children with disability aged 0 to 14. The NDIS is being introduced in stages over the next three years to ensure it is successful and sustainable.

The Raising Children Network website is visited by over 40,000 Australians each day and contains more than 2,200 resources on parenting from pregnancy to teens.

The new NDIS resources are freely available at www.raisingchildren.net.au. Click on Disability and click on NDIS.
Mindfulness for Carers Training

Interchange Outer East and EACH invite you to join our FREE mindfulness for carers training; a series of sessions focusing on learning to be mindful in our day-to-day lives.

The art of looking after oneself is often overlooked by carers. There are simple things that can be done in a short space of time that can help calm your racing mind and help you get through the day in a more peaceful and pleasant way using a strategy called mindfulness.

Mindfulness involves learning to pay attention to the present moment, instead of worrying about the future or dwelling in the past. It focuses on developing an attitude of friendliness towards yourself, as opposed to criticism or judgment.

There are many benefits to mindfulness with research showing that mindfulness can;
- Reduce levels of stress, anxiety and depressive symptoms
- Improve overall wellbeing
- Improvements in relationships
- Increase resilience and peace of mind
- Enhance cognitive performance e.g. concentration, memory

This training will run over three consecutive Wednesdays and sessions are two hours long. Register for our evening sessions in October in the outer east, or our daytime sessions in November in the inner east. Morning tea is provided (just $3.50). Please see the back pages for locations for each session, or to be sure to confirm your attendance ASAP.

Generously supported by:

Each

MyTime

supporting parents of children with disabilities

An initiative of the Parenting Research Centre

MyTime at Monash Special Developmental School in 2016
EVEY TUESDAY at 9.15 in the Library

All parents and carers are welcomed.

- 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 place to socialise, to discuss, to get information, and to support and be supported by other carers.
- Facilitators work with group members, helping them get to know each other and learn about the services and supports in their area. Members choose what they would like to discuss in these groups, with help from the facilitator. Depending on what the group wishes to do, the facilitator may run group activities or provide resources.
- Facilitators are volunteers 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.

mytime.net.au

11th National Conference
Angelman Syndrome Association Australia
Pullman & Mercure Melbourne Albert Park
7-9 October, 2016

Conference Program:
Friday October 7
- Professional invited Sessions
- Welcome Reception
Saturday October 8
- Family oriented Sessions
- AGM
- Conference Dinner
Sunday October 9
- Family Fun Day

Accommodation:
Pullman & Mercure Melbourne Albert Park

3 Queens Road, Melbourne 3002
Phone: +61 3 9054 2518
Email: 11thasa@aoar.com
http://www.pullmanmelb.net.au

Contact Us:
Laura Greco, secretary@asa.org.au (Conference Organiser)
Kailie Widdowson, kailiew@asa.org.au (National ASA President)
Kevin Kennedy, kevin.kennedy@asa.org.au (National ASA Treasurer)

Keynote Speakers:
Professor Bernard Den
Professor of Neurochemistry at the Free University in Brussels (ULB) and the Editor in Chief of "Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology", international patron of the Angelman Syndrome Association of Australia.

Professor Chris Oliver
Professor of Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Director of the Cerebral Palsy Centre for Neurodevelopmental Disorders. His main research interests are biochemical, cognitive and emotional disorders in people with severe Intellectual Disability, genetic syndromes and autism spectrum conditions.

Professor Ingrid Scheffes
Professor at the University of Melbourne and Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health. She jointly runs the Melbourne Angelman Syndrome clinic and the Royal Children’s Hospital.

Mary-Louise Bertram
Early Childhood Educator from Perth, Western Australia, with special qualifications and training in the areas of communication, AAC, sensory processing and therapy supports for children with complex disabilities.

Conference Information:
http://www.angelman.org.au/conferences/indexed

Online Registration:
http://angelmansyndromeconference.eventbrite.com.au