



Principal: Michael Koutsoukos
Deputy Principal: Melissa Mundy
Wellbeing Leader: Steve Hetherington
Senior Leader Curriculum: Victoria McKinnon
Chairperson Governing Council: Julia Mustac
Term 3 -21st August– 2020

LITERACY UPDATE - Victoria Mckinnon

At Morphett Vale Primary School, our aim is for our children to become independent, life long readers, able to read a wide range of texts for a variety of purposes with understanding and for pleasure.

Our teachers use a synthetic phonics approach. It is a technical name and has nothing to do with being artificial. The synthetic part refers to synthesizing or blending sounds to make a word. Phonics is a method of teaching children how spoken words are composed of sounds called phonemes and how the letters in words correspond to those phonemes. The process of reading involves decoding or 'breaking' words into separate phonemes, so that meaning can be gained. The process of spelling requires the writer to identify all the phonemes in a word and then use their knowledge of the phonemic code to write or 'make' the word.

English is recognised as being a complex language. We have 26 letters but 44 "speech sounds" (phonemes) in the spoken language. There are a huge number of letter combinations needed to make these. To support our junior primary students with their learning, teachers have been hard at work creating sound walls to replace the traditional alphabet charts. When you think about child development, kids learn speech (or how to talk) long before they learn to put print with their speech. The brain research is telling us that our students

need to master phonemic awareness skills before they are ready to match the sounds to print, and then they need phonics instruction to begin to decode text. Traditional alphabet charts and word walls require students to find the print and match it to their speech. This turns into a guessing game of find the word. If a student wanted to spell the word phone, they would look under the letter F, but would never find the word because phone is hiding under the letter P. Sound walls help children to learn and recognise all the representations of sounds.



BOOK WEEK

Book Week was originally to be held this term, but with Covid restrictions, the Children's Book Council of Australia have changed the dates to October 17-23. The theme this year is 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'. Our teachers will be planning some exciting activities to celebrate this special week, so stay tuned!

Diary Dates

Week 8	Friday 11 th September School Closure Wednesday 9.30 am Principal Tour
Week 9	Monday 14 th Student Free Day- School and Preschool Tuesday 15 th R-4 School Swimming
Week 10	Friday 25 th Sports Day and Colour Run

Term 4

Week 1	Monday 12 th October Student Free Day
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THIS WEEK OUR SCHOOL WAS VISITED BY THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, HON JOHN GARDNER MP.

Bayleigh, Whyett and Porsha did an amazing job meeting our esteemed guest, as well as presenting our Pathway to Powerful Learning journey. Bayleigh articulated extremely well what it meant to be a Lead Learner and the opportunities that she has had at MVPS. Porsha, as a newly appointed Lead Learner, described why she was selected and what kind of role-model she was. Whyett, who felt honoured to be selected, discussed how he aspired to be a Lead Learner and what learning goals are his current focus.

The staff and students do amazing things at MVPS, I speak very highly of all of our students, in every available channel that is presented to me.

This year, MVPS has been a standout in our community by maintaining its momentum with Sprint Cycles, a rapid response to COVID and maintaining the focus on the student's learning outcomes. We are on track to implementing and achieving great things. This was our chance to show off what we do well, the substantial changes that we are making and what we can accomplish during a fairly hectic year. Well done MVPS!



SPORTS DAY COLOUR FUN RUN

Sports Day is fast approaching and we are getting things ready for our Colour Run.

Could all students please bring in a white t-shirt labeled and give it to their teacher **by the 10th of September.**

Thank you to everyone for working so hard to raise funds for the colour run. The total we raised was **\$6,095.74!!!**

Students who raised funds will receive their prizes on **Thursday 24th of September.**

SPORTS DAY MERCHANDISE

Sports Day Merchandise will be available to order again this year.

Order forms will be sent home with each child. Please use 1 form per child and return your forms to the **Front Office by the 4th of September.**



HAVING A WIGGLING GOOD TIME IN THE GARDEN.

Spring is fast approaching and our

Reception/Year 1 classes have been busy in the school garden preparing for the new season. Last week two educators visited from Greenhill Living. They talked to our students about their gardening journey, so far. Our students were keen to talk about the cabbage butterfly caterpillars they collected from the kale, that they observed changing into butterflies late last term.

Finally our students helped set up four worm farms that will help recycle their food scraps, giving students the opportunity to actively care for their environment in a sustainable way and demonstrating that one person really can make a difference.



Jodie Smith, Tarryn Schnetler, Will Plush.



During this visit, students were read a story about the lifecycle of a potato. The visiting educator explained that when you see wattle in flower it is the right time to plant potatoes. She also talked about the role worms play in keeping our soil healthy for plants.

Soon it was time for all hands to be busy weeding, harvesting, planting, mulching and watering. Our compost bins were filled and potatoes, beetroot, lettuces, herbs, flowers and many other plants were added to our garden.





MORPHETT VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Volunteer advertisement Morphett Vale Primary School Canteen

Have a little FREE time now the kids are at school and/or really need some adult company for part of the day? Our Canteen could really use your help!

Where: Morphett Vale Primary School

When: Weekly, Fortnightly or Monthly

Hours: Anytime between 8:30 - 1:30 but especially 8:30 -11:10

Experience: Not necessary. Everything you need to know will be learnt within a short space of time.

Salary: 'A la carte' lunch, endless tea and coffee, new friendships, possibly some new skills and lots of laughs.

Bonus: Your children are happy to see you in their favourite place – school. You'll meet new people and make good friends within our school community.

Applications close: NEVER

Please complete the form below and send it back to the canteen as soon as possible.

Yes, I would LOVE to help out in the Canteen!

Name:

Telephone:Email:

Child's name and classroom:

Please circle the day/s and frequency you would prefer to work:

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly	

For further information about your school canteen please come to the canteen and talk to Tiffany Zanetic the canteen manager.

healthy food at school