**Principals Report**

**Enrolment Plans and Class Placement for 2014**
The demand for places at Moonee Ponds West continues to be high. If you are leaving the school during term 4 or at the end of 2013 please let the office know at your earliest convenience. This will greatly assist our forward planning and also the transition of those students leaving at the end of the year into their new schools.

If you have some information that your child’s teacher is unaware of that may assist with your child’s class placement please put your request in writing and forward to Jenny Crowle by Monday 1st of November. This request will then be registered for consideration.

**Importance of Walking to School**
Last week I was fortunate enough to hear Dr Paul Tranter, Associate Professor in Geography from the University of New South Wales. Paul’s research and teaching interests are in transport, geography and global changes. Paul has made pioneering contributions to research in child friendly environments, active transport and health and sustainable cities. An important theme in his research is how child friendly environments can make cities more resilient in the face of challenges such as energy stress. This issue is examined in a recent book by Paul co-authored with Claire Freeman – *Children and their urban environment: changing worlds*.

Paul spoke at length about the speed paradox. By hopping in the car and driving to school many people think they get here faster. The question is, do they? By the time they park and then consider the cost and environmental factors in the use of a car including purchase price, maintenance and fuel, maybe the speed of travel is not all it’s made out to be. Paul cited research by Goodyear (2013) which details the benefits of walking to school including:

- Further developing a sense of place and community in children. Children are great at breaking down the learned reserve of adults. By being driven around children are becoming less independent, their mobility is being replaced with often adult dependent mobility.
- Walking to school shows a link to increased academic ability quite similar to that which is attributed to eating a healthy breakfast prior to the school day.

In the month of November we are joining with the Moonee Valley Council to promote walking to and from school. Bree White is leading this initiative. It should be great fun as well as beneficial for all. Look out for announcements through the newsletter.

*Principal’s Report continues on next page...*
Principal’s Report continued..

**Soundhouse Concert**
On Monday night the Soundhouse concert for Singing and Performance (SAP), guitar and rock band students took place in the performance space. A BIG well done to all the students for their hard work across the year and in rehearsing for the performance. It was just delightful to see such a vast array of student musical talent shared with such confidence and fun. We had a great turn out of families to watch the concert in our new performance space. This wonderful facility was intimate and the acoustics very impressive. Thank you to Sue O’Brien, Ken Owen, Vernice Petty and Patrick O’Brien for all their work preparing the students for the performance. A thank you has also come from the Soundhouse team to the classroom teachers for their support of the program. A forward reminder for families that the Soundhouse keyboard concert will take place from 7pm on **Tuesday 19th November** in the Performance Space. There will be more information with specific times closer to the date.

**School Uniform Working Party**
Last week a note went home from the School Uniform Working Party asking the community to submit questions or comments around the dress code at MPW. Please return these to the school office by Friday 1st November.

**Target 200**
Just a reminder of our target to have 200 people who ‘Like’ us on Facebook. Presently we are at 166. We look forward to having you join in.

**Pre-service Teachers**
Over the year we have had a number of pre-service teachers from the Graduate School of Melbourne University and Victoria University. As we near the end of their placements we would like to extend a huge thank-you to the staff, students and families who have supported their time with us. As a profession it is very important for us to support our new teachers coming into service.

Have a great week everyone,
Jenny, Helen and Randal.

### Sports News

**Summer Sport**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>MPW Gold v St Mary’s</th>
<th>Flemington v MPW Blue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Handball</td>
<td>1 - 27</td>
<td>16 - 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>0 - 11</td>
<td>1 - 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rounders</td>
<td>54 - 27</td>
<td>18 - 39</td>
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</tbody>
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As part of our Sport Program some Gr 5/6 students will be participating in Lawn Bowls and Volleyball this term with the help of Maribyrnong Park Bowls Club and Maribyrnong Sports Academy.

**If there are any parents who can help out with Interschool Sport this Friday 25th October, going to Lawn Bowls & Soccer can you please see Bree ASAP.**

**Girls Football**
On the 25th October the first MPW Girls Football team will be taking part in an Introduction to Girls Football. On the day, the students will tour AAMI Park (Melbourne Football Club), meet players from the Women’s AFL Draft (including no.1 pick, Daisy Pearce), and participate in a football game.
Thank you to all the girls who have been participating in trials & to Jac Crow, Jackson Crook, Liam Poulier, Matt McLellan, Daniel Priskas and Stuart Purves who have been assisting with coaching.
**Count Down to Music: Count Us In... 8 days to go!**
*Thursday 31st October*

"Build a bridge, fly a plane, make somebody smile again.
Play guitar, be a star, doesn’t matter who you are."

Don’t know the words to this year’s song, Keep On?
Check out the video link on the MPW website and join us at assembly next week when we will be putting the finishing touches on the song in preparation for the FINAL COUNTDOWN.

... can we count you in???

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**Salvation Army Drive**
*Friday 11th – Friday 25th October*

The Salvation Army needs your help! Moonee Valley relief centre (corner of Buckley and Mount Road) has experienced a massive surge in demand this year. With Christmas approaching, things will get even harder for them to meet demand. We are asking families here at Moonee Ponds West, to please help out in any way you can. We will be accepting donations for Salvo’s until Friday and if you have anything you would like to donate, please hand these in to us in the office.

The types of items Salvo’s need are:
- Crockery
- Cutlery
- Pots and Pans
- Rice cookers etc..
- Warm blankets
- Fans
- Bedding
- Books and items to assist in learning English

There is also a large demand for items such as:
- Sugar
- Sauces
- Tinned Meals E.g.: Spaghetti, Baked Beans etc..
- Pasta Sauce, Pasta Bakes, Kantongs etc...
- Salad Dressings
- Sweet Biscuits
- Tinned Fruit, Fish, Veggies etc...
- Lunch box fillers such as muesli bars, fruit tubs

All items need to be non-perishable or have a good number of months left until the expiration date. So please, help out your local Salvo’s this term and donate what you can.

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**Walk to School in November**

Moonee Ponds West has signed up for VicHealth’s Walk to School 2013, a month-long activity that encourages children to walk to and from school every day in November. Walk to School encourages children to make walking part of their daily routine to improve fitness, friendships, the environment and their confidence. Children can keep track of their walks, with the help of a parent or teacher, using the Walk to School website and app. Children can play an interactive game on the app and earn items for an imaginary Walk to School journey with each walk they complete. The app is available for free from the App Store and Google Play. Walk to School is free, it’s fun and there are fantastic prizes for families and schools up for grabs. Ask your child’s teacher for an information sheet and consent form, or register your child at www.walktoschool.vic.gov.au.
THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

MPW families and friends are warmly invited to join in the fun of the final countdown to Music: Count Us In 2013.

WHEN: Thursday 31st October

WHERE: MPW Gym

TIME: Join us in the gym at 12.10 p.m. when we will cross to live webcasts of the event from the Melbourne Arts Centre with Harrison Craig (winner of The Voice) and from Surfers Paradise where Darren Percival will sing from the top of the Q1 building.

At 12.30 p.m. we will join with the rest of Australia in the final countdown and performance of the song, ‘Keep On’.

We hope to see you there.

....can we count you in???
This term in Room 11 we have been learning about *Fractions, Decimals and Percentages*.

- The bottom part of a fraction is called the **Denominator**.
- The denominator of a fraction tells you how many **EQUAL** pieces it is cut into.
- The top part of a fraction is called the **Numerator**.
- The numerator tells you how many pieces you get out of the whole object. We show this below by shading the parts in.

Here is a circle cut into quarters.

We have coloured it in to show 3/4.
Local Couple Seeking temporary Rental Home
A local couple (aged in their 50s) working overseas are returning to Melbourne for November and December and looking to rent a fully furnished home with 2 or 3 bedrooms. If your home is free during this time (can be a little flexible with dates) they would love to rent it. It would be extremely well cared for. References can be supplied.
Please contact Maryann McIntyre on 0412 124 784.