Principal’s chat

Yesterday we had some very brave students and parents who ventured out into the wild weather to take part in Race the Train. Well done to everyone who made it to the end. A very big thank you to Nicole and her team of helpers on the day - I hear that you cooked a great BBQ!!

Last Friday the whole school attended the Remembrance Day service at the Maldon Cenotaph. At the service we listened as the president of the RSL remembered and recounted events in history and then the winner of our writing competition blew the crowd away with his very powerful piece of writing titled “Guilt of War”. Isaac captured the audience with his sizzling start and read his piece with emotion. Well done Isaac you should feel very proud. Isaac’s piece is published in full under What's happening in the classroom? below.

We really value our partnership with the Maldon RSL and some of the members of the Maldon RSL are working on combining all pieces of writing into a book to share with our community.

This Friday we have our second prep transition visit. We look forward to seeing the smiling faces of our 2017 preps. This week’s visit is from 9.30am to 11.30am and our social worker, Prue, will give a small presentation to parents on ‘Your child starting school – what to expect’.

Last Thursday night our grade prep and 1 students danced the night away at the late night stay and sleepover. They enjoyed games, dinner and a disco and then our grade 1 students stayed the night and enjoyed a yummy breakfast the next day. Many thanks to the parents who volunteered to help out. All the grade prep and 1 students reported that they had a great time.

It is that time of the year when our grade 6 students are counting down their final weeks and days of primary school. The grade 6 graduation date has been set and graduation will be held on Thursday 15th December. Information regarding the graduation is going home to families today.

Warm regards

Jodie
What’s happening this week?

- Jodie will be attending a Professional Development morning on Wednesday.

What’s happening in the classroom?

**Whole school behaviour:** I challenge myself to be the best I can be

**Prep late night stay/Gr 1 sleepover:**

**Wild Action incursion Prep-2:**
Remembrance Day writing competition-winning entry:

GUILT OF WAR

I jump. As I plunge into the deep, murky water, my shot gun weighing me down, I hear the terrified screams of those who never chose to do this. Suddenly anger takes over me as I sink to the bottom about to drown. NO! I thought I was not going to die yet. I tried to kick to the surface but my metallic armour weighs me down. My vision dims, water now filling my lungs. I close my eyes and with one last bubble I break to the surface. I’ve never been so happy to hear the heavy echoing gunfire. “It’s not over yet.” I scold myself. When I reach the shore I take my first glance at the battlefield. Death was everywhere, hazy mist hovering above the ground, smoke bellowing out of the guns and poppy’s scattered everywhere. I aimed my gun too terrified to fire. I didn’t know what I was thinking but shot into the unknown mist.

The worst scream I ever heard in my cruel life flows into my almost deaf eardrums. A ragged body falls before the gloomy mist, blood soaking at the neck. Guilt swarms me, tears swelling up in my eyes. Instantly I make a promise never to forgive myself. I stumble forward, frost crunching under my mud caked boots. Standing over the soulless body was another man. Blonde shaggy hair dangled over his eyes, grimy hands held a rifle, one that he will never shoot. I’m glad he won’t make the same mistake as me. I glance down at the dead soldier. My soul drops, they are twins, trying to escape the plains of death and depression. I suddenly realise the death defying scream was not from the man I shot, it came from his brother. I drop my gun, its noise rings through my ears. The man raises his rifle and I let him shoot.

By Isaac G

Friday Fundraiser:

**Young Leaders Friday FUNdraiser**

Please leave orders with your classroom teacher.

Available each Friday are: **Homemade Sausage rolls $2.50,**  
**Juice Box $1.50** and **Popcorn $1.00**

Birthdays

L to R: Dylan, Zavier and Oliver

Come along cup – 4/5D

Early birdie award - 3/4A

Whole school behaviour awards

L to R: Levi, Rex, Bailey, Abby and Laura
Fundraising news

Race the Train Fundraiser: Despite the miserable weather our intrepid volunteers cooked and sold around 250 sausages on Sunday and our hardy riders pedalled their hearts out and made it to the end! Well done to all participants and thank you for riding to raise funds for our school. It would be appreciated if participants could collect sponsorship money and forward it to the office by Friday 25th November so we can finalise this fundraiser and communicate profit results to the school community.

Maldon Shopping Spree, Thursday 24th November:

This is a fun night which supports both our school and the traders of our wonderful town. Tickets are available from the office now...get in before the early bird ticket price finishes on THURSDAY!

School community

Fresh Fruit Friday:

This week’s volunteers: Lauren Wilbern and Rebecca Hamilton

Next week’s volunteers: Shelley Carmichael and Lee-Ann Smith

Help needed with chooks over the Christmas break: We are looking for a family who is able to look after our chooks over the Christmas/ January break. This may be having our chooks at your house, or coming into the school every second day to check their water and give them food. If you are able to help please see Bernadette.

Donations of small sized clothing: Thank you to the families who kindly donated items to our spare clothes collection. We would welcome additional donations of size 6 and 8 navy blue pants and shorts and small underwear. If you have any items at home which you are willing to donate please leave them at the office.

Office info

Permission notes and payments to be returned: Kids as Catalyst excursion to Ian Grenda’s property (selected students) permission form is now OVERDUE. Please return the permission note immediately.
Dirt Crits 2016/17 Season

The Castlemaine Rocky Riders Mountain Bike Club are starting their fun summer race season in November. Join us.

- If you are aged 9-12 and want to get a permit to bring your bike along, you can join in on the next race on Thursday, 8th November, at 6.15pm.

You will need:
- A bike with good brakes and tyres
- A helmet
- A water bottle

There are a few things you need to do before you start: check the info you need and a map to the start is online at www.rockyriders.com/dirt-crits or call Col on 0402 027 118

MA56

AT STUDIO 56

NEW

WE ARE OFFERING

ON THE SPOT (SAME DAY)

DRAWING WORKSHOP

ADULTS SHOUR SESSION... $50.00 MATERIALS SUPPLIED

One on one or up to five people in the workshop drawing and painting.

CHILDREN 30MIN FUN SESSION... $20 MATERIALS SUPPLIED

Maldon Tennis Club

Everyone is welcome to join us for a hit at the tennis courts on Friday afternoons. Kylie opens the courts at 3:30pm and we are there generally until 4:30 – 5pm each Friday. We hope to see you all there!!

You are invited to the next

Tarrangower Community Forum

Wed 16 November
5.30pm - 6.30pm

The first Forum in August was a great success with over 40 groups attending. These events are to provide a forum for all community organisations and groups in the Tarrangower area to get together to share, network and collaborate, with the aim of achieving the goals listed in our Community Plan (2015).

We invite a representative from each group/organisation/club to join us at this forum to hear what others are doing and to share your current projects and goals.

Australia Day Awards 2017

Do you know any individuals or organisations making a real difference in our community?

Nominate now for the 2017 Mount Alexander Shire Australia Day Awards.

There are four categories:
- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Senior Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year

Pick up a nomination form at the Civic Centre, Visitor Information Centres or download it at www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDay

Nominations close at 5:00pm on Monday 28 November 2016.

Contact Shannon Mcitin, CEO Executive Assistant, on 5471 1705 for more information.