Teacher Supervision from 8:30am. No students at school before 8:30am.

**PRINCIPALS’ REPORT**

Welcome back to school to all of our families and welcome to the new families who have joined us at Moe (Elizabeth Street) Primary School this year. We have had a number of new students start with us this year and we are sure you will enjoy your time as part of our school community. All of our students look like they have had a great break and it’s great to see so many enthusiastic, smiling faces return to school. It’s also great to see that our enrolments are steadily increasing.

There are a number of ways to be involved in our school community, in particular you are welcome to join our Parents Club (Lizzies Supporters) or have a think about nominating to join School Council.

We have our first Parents & Friends meeting next Wednesday morning at 9am in the staffroom. Ivy Somerville is the president of our Lizzies Supporters team and I know she would love to see some new faces along with the small group of parents who already come along to assist.

**Assembly:**
This year we will be holding school assembly on Monday afternoons at 2:40. When the weather is pleasant we may hold it in the undercover area, otherwise assembly will be in the Performing Arts area. If you are new to the school and are unsure as to where these areas are, please just call into the office and someone will show you. During the holidays air conditioners have been fitted to rooms in the south building.

**Hats:**
Just a reminder that as it is term one, broad brimmed hats are compulsory. All students must wear one for playtimes and outdoor activities. Students who don’t have a hat are required to stay in the undercover area. Your child may also miss out on sport activities if they don’t have a hat. We do not encourage sharing of hats as it is one way that head lice is spread.

### Coming Events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th Feb</td>
<td>AASC – AFL Gr 3,4,5,6</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Feb</td>
<td>AASC – netball / ball skills (only if no stop work action)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Feb</td>
<td>Proposed Stop Work action</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th Feb</td>
<td>Breakfast Club will start 8am – 8:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th Feb</td>
<td>Breakfast Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd Feb</td>
<td>Breakfast Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th Feb</td>
<td>Breakfast Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st March</td>
<td>Breakfast Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th March</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
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</table>
Jewellery:
Please check the school policy with regards to jewellery. Jewellery needs to be safe for students and also needs to reflect a positive image of the school. Earrings need to be studs or sleepers. Please keep special jewellery, including bar earrings, for after school and weekends.

Head Lice:
Along with the start of school also comes the continual problem of head lice. Please check your children’s hair regularly and let the office know if you have treated your child for headlice. When we are notified at the office, we then do a check of other students in the class, so that we can get on top of the problem.

Helmets:
Another little reminder for the beginning of the year, that it is our school policy that students who ride a bike or scooter (basically anything with wheels) must wear a helmet. Students are given a reminder about this policy but if they continue to ride to school without a helmet, parents/carers will be phoned to collect the bike/scooter and your child will be asked not to ride to school. It’s important to us that all children travel to and from school safely.

Staff changes for this term:
Next Monday I will be taking some Long Service Leave for 4 weeks. While I am on leave Mrs Brenda Lincoln will be in charge of the school.

Ms Ellie Schulte will be taking Long Service Leave from the 25th February until the end of term 1. Ms Pat McGarry will be taking Ms Schulte’s place for these 5 weeks. Ms McGarry is known to the students and I am sure will enjoy her time with the grade 1/2’s and Miss Johnson.

School Values:
During Term 1 our curriculum for all grade levels is based around Being the Best we can be. Over the last few months we have revamped the ways of being and developed 3 key words for the school community. These are to Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Resilient. You will start to see these words around the school and should start to hear you children talking about them.

To help us all understand what is expected for each of these values, we have developed a table which explains each value in more detail. We have attached a copy of this table for you information.

We have some new pole pads ordered for the undercover area, which will be made with our school values printed on them. They are going to look great.

AASC (Active After School Communities):
The Monday afternoon program starts next week. Students taking part in this program will meet Ringo in the library straight after school for a roll call and fruit snack. Each program will finish at 4.10pm when students need to be collected by an adult. Our Monday night AFL program for grade 3,4,5 and 6 students is nearly full and our Thursday night netball (ball skills) program for grade Prep, 1 and 2 students has plenty of spare spaces. If your child has returned a note to say they would like to do AASC then they are now in the program. It is expected that unless you phone the office to say your child is unwell or has something else on, that they will participate in the program. It is important to encourage your child to commit to the 7 weeks of the program their absence is stopping someone else from having a place in the program.

Drink Bottles:
A huge thank you to Mrs O’Reilly for organising new drink bottles for all students. These have been donated by Tru Energy.
**Guitars:**
If your child was learning guitar last year and haven’t as yet returned their guitar to the office could they please do so in the next week. We have three school guitars missing and need to do a stocktake, before we re start guitar.

**STOPWORK**
There is a stop work day planned for next Thursday the 14\textsuperscript{th} of February. As yet we have been unable to make a decision about stopping work as the government is working to prevent the action from taking place. Unfortunately this means you won’t have a lot of notice if the staff will be taking stopwork action. A note will be sent home Tuesday afternoon letting you know if any of the staff are taking stopwork action. Previously all of our staff have taken stopwork action, meaning that no school programs have been running and the school has been in effect closed. Based on this, it would be a good idea to have plans in place should the union action go ahead. We will let you know as soon as we possibly can.

**School Council:**
Very shortly we will begin the process for School Council elections. Please think about if you would be interested in working with the school as a School Council member. Further information with the timeline for election will be included in next week’s newsletter.

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### School council involvement

1. **Do I need special experience to be on school council?**
   
   No! What you need is an interest in the school and the ability to work cooperatively with others to help shape its future.

2. **Why is parent membership so important?**
   
   Parents on councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

3. **How can I become involved?**
   
   The most obvious way to become involved is to vote in the elections that are held in February or March each year. Since ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council, or suggesting to another person that they stand for election.

4. **What do I need to do to stand for election?**
   
   The principal arranges and conducts the elections. Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do. The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations in the second half of February or early in March. For parents, this notice will probably be given to your child so you may need to check with them whether it has been sent home.

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**Education Maintenance Allowance**

A reminder that all Health Care Card Holders must apply for their EMA before Friday 22\textsuperscript{nd} February 2013. We cannot process your form after this date so please don’t delay in filling this form out at the office. Thank you.
School Requisites
Your school requisite payment is now due. People not on a Health Care Card need to send $120.00 per student to school at your earliest convenience. Those parents who are on a Health Care Card you need to apply for the EMA allowance before 29th February 2012.

Breakfast Club:
Breakfast club will start next Friday the 15th February at 8:00am to 8:30am. Last orders will be taken at 8:20am. Breakfast Club will then run on a Wednesday and a Friday. Hope to see lots of smiling happy faces to start the day of right with a healthy breakfast. If any parents could spare half an hour on a Wednesday or a Friday morning to help with Breakfast Club we would greatly appreciate it. Could you please let the office know. Thanks

Lizzie’s Supporters - Parents & Friends Group:
We are looking forward to Lizzie’s Supporters starting up again this year. Our meetings will be held at 9am on the first Wednesday of each month. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday 13th February to start the new year, the every month after that.

School Photo Day
School Photo Day is being held on Tuesday 12th March 2013. Students need to be at school on time as photo sessions will start at exactly 8:45am. Students need to be in full school uniform for their photo. Envelopes will come home in the next couple of weeks.

Sunsmart
Moe (Elizabeth Street) Primary School has a Sunsmart policy that we fully support and enforce. All students are required to wear our approved hats everyday in terms 1 & 4 and we recommend the wearing of hats all year. Caps are not approved and students will be asked to sit in the shade if they do not have an approved hat. Hats are available for sale at $10.00 each at the office. Sunglasses can also be worn if parents wish. Caps are not sunsmart so are not suitable they are not part of school uniform.

Art Smocks
Students will be painting in Art next week so could parents please provide an artshirt or protective clothing for their child to wear to protect school shirts and dresses from paints. An old flannelette shirt is ideal as it is a little thicker than normal shirts as the paint doesn’t seem to soak through as much. This is greatly appreciated.
Miss Celima.
The Growing Together Gardens Network is inviting you to join a bus tour of schools and community gardens to stimulate your school garden ideas as you move into the new school year. The tour will include two schools and one community garden. This will be a great opportunity to see other gardens in action and interact and network with other schools who are establishing or have a functioning garden.

Registration form available from office.

Please register by Friday 15th February. For further details contact Beth Sheffield. Ph 56332868 or E: bsheffield@ozchild.org.au

Cost: $30 per head
BYO lunch. (Esky provided)
Light refreshments and drinks provided.
Giveaways and fun activities.
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.

Bus pick-ups will be flexible to need as much as possible. (Details on registration)

Time: Bus will leave Morwell at 9am and return by 5.30pm

“A school and community garden’s project in Latrobe”
Supported by
Latrobe City Community
Grant
Dear ………………………,

As the parent/guardian of ……………………………. Grade ………
I wish to advise that the absence on ……………………………. was due to:

- illness ☐
- appointments ☐ Dentist ☐ Doctor ☐
- other ☐ Please specify _________________

Yours sincerely,

………………………………….

/…./……
Signature of Parent/Guardian Date