Welcome back to another school year. This year we welcome 8 new preps starting school for the first time. They have all had almost a week at school now and have all settled in very well. We have approximately 25 new students at various year levels starting throughout the school. Welcome to all of our new students and families. We hope that you enjoy being part of our school community and watching your children learn and grow with us.

We also welcome several new staff to our school. Emma Grigg, is teaching in room 3 and Heidi Vanweynsberge who is teaching in room 6, have joined our Primary section. Natasha Little and Vicki Hornstra have joined the Secondary team as teachers in room 5 and 11, and Rachael Middleton is a new ES in room 15. Welcome to all of these staff, we hope you enjoy your Baringa experience.

As we farewelled Judy Blomeley as our Chaplain and PWO last year, we have employed a new Chaplain through Access Ministries once again. We welcome Suzanne to our school. Suzanne will be at school every Wednesday and every second Thursday. If you would like to make contact, or would like her to see your child, please contact the school and we can arrange a time. Tania Del Busso, one of our Secondary staff, has stepped into the Primary Welfare role. Tania will be working with students and families on a variety of levels based around student welfare.

We are very excited to have started our swimming lessons program this week. Four of the primary classrooms began their lessons this Thursday at the Newborough Leisure Centre under the instruction of Donna Lothian, our ES, who is a qualified instructor. The program will then be staffed by the classroom teacher and ES to ensure maximum supervision. The program will focus on water safety as well as learning to swim. Every class will have between 6 -8 swimming lessons for the year. Due to complexity booking the pool, the lessons are scattered throughout terms 1,2 &3 to ensure everyone has a minimum of 6 lessons.

Another exciting program that we have been invited to join is a Trade Training program through the West Gippsland school network. The four students selected to join the program will learn trade skills based around the trades of Carpentry, Plumbing, Mechanics and Electrical. This is an exciting new pilot program aimed at giving students experience at more hands on learning. The program will run over the next 2 years, one day per week, with Ary Van Loon as the supporting staff member. The boys started last Monday and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

We are looking forward to another exciting year.

Jenny

If your child is absent from school please remember to let us know why. Please call the office or send an SMS (0428 937 348) explaining why your child will be absent and how long you expect them to be away. Thank you!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to everyone who celebrated their birthday during the past 8 weeks!

We hope you had a FANTASTIC day!

School Council Nominations

We have a number of vacancies for parent representatives on our School Council for this year. Please give some consideration to joining school council. A meeting is held at the school twice per term where you will get to know how the school runs and have a chance to contribute to the decision making of the school. We would love to hear from new families in particular willing to assist. Details regarding vacancies and the timeline for this year’s election is attached to this newsletter. If you have any question regarding the role of School Council or would like to nominate yourself please contact Kate in the office for further information.
What an exciting time it has been in room 1! We have had a full week at school now and already we are learning and making friends. We have learnt the names of our new friends and we are beginning to write our own name too - all by ourselves. We have done lots of activities and we already know a lot about how things work at school, we even set some expectations of how we behave to stay safe at school. We decided that it was important to listen to the adults, keep our hands and feet to ourselves and don’t hurt others. We know to let an adult know if we are hurt or upset, and use quiet voices inside because it hurts our ears when it’s too loud. The students of Room 1 helped determine these expectations.
Since returning to school the students in Room 2 have been settling in to their new classroom and enjoying getting to know each other. We have been focusing on creating a friendly classroom environment. It has been a lovely start to the year and we look forward to having a happy and productive 2017, full of lots of learning and fun.

Room 3

Room 3 students have made a great start to the year. This week students enjoyed reading the book ‘We’re going on a Croc Hunt’. We went on our own Croc Hunt in the primary yard where students went through a wet waterhole, across hot sand, over rickety rocks, through the spiky scrub and across the spooky swamp to find a big green crocodile! We took photos of our Croc Hunt adventure and made our own Room 3 class book.
At the beginning of each year classes decide their class rules. Here are the class rules for....

**ROOM 4**

We put up our hands to ask a question or say something.

We line up outside classroom after play time.

We walk inside.

We listen to the teachers and Principal.

We sit at our tables and listen.

We stay with our class.

We have welcomed the new school year with enthusiasm and an eagerness to learn in Room 6. Our focus has been on building positive relationships with our classmates and teachers, practising new routines, and displaying our school values (be a learner, be respectful and be responsible). It has been so exciting to hear our students declare, ‘we always try our best in Room 6’!

Students have also tackled new learning experiences with great persistence and effort (even when they found these experiences challenging).

We are off to a flying start in Room 6!
We’re ready to learn in Room 7!

Students in Room 7 have been settling in well to the new school year, showing already that they want to learn and try their best! This week we have been working very hard on our writing. Students have been listening for initial sounds in unknown words, using full sentences, and working on adding extra information to their sentences.

Well done Room 7! Thank you for coming to school with such an eager attitude to learn!

A Wonderful Start in Room 8!

The students in Room 8 have made a great start to 2017! This week we started reading Roald Dahl’s book – George’s Marvellous Medicine. The students have brainstormed some great adjectives to describe George’s cranky grandmother. I was super impressed to see all students in Room 8 having a go and getting involved in classroom discussions. Fantastic effort!
The Moe Junior Football Club are looking forward to the commencement of the 2017 season with the upgrade of their clubrooms at the racecourse oval. The facility has been totally refurbished with some exciting upgrades including the canteen, toilets, showers and the players changing areas.

Moe is hoping to have 2 teams in each of the grades this year – under 10’s, 12’s and 14’s. They would encourage past or new players to their first training run that is scheduled to commence at 4.30pm on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} March 2017 at the Racecourse oval Moe. The games are open to boys and girls. Players are not only graded on their age but there ability and size as well.

Auskick commences 23/04/2017 and families can register their child now at www.aflauskick.com.au, you simply need to search for the Moe Auskick Centre. We will also be holding some school clinics in the coming months.

The club has updates on the their Facebook site Moe Lions Junior Football Club or down load Team APP and search Moe Lions Junior Football Club.

Kind Regards,
Barry Hawkett
MLJFC President
COMMUNITY EVENTS

LATROBE VALLEY
‘ALL-ABILITY’ TENNIS
TERM 1, 2017

‘All-ability’ sports are about fun and participation for EVERYONE! The local All-ability groups are parent-run and driven, so cater directly to the needs of kids with special needs in the local area. During the sessions a variety of games and activities are played to learn and develop new skills, activities are modified so that everyone can ‘have a go!’ Participants can also benefit socially by making new friends and feeling part of a team. We currently run four sporting programs locally, Term 1 – Tennis at Pax Hill Tennis Club, Term 2 – Basketball, Term 2 & 3 – Footy at West end Junior Football Club and Term 4 – Cricket at Traralgon West Cricket Club.

All school aged children with special needs are invited to join us for ‘ALL Ability’ Tennis, the sessions will run weekly during Term 1, 2017.

Registrations are now open for All Ability Tennis. The tennis sessions will be held at Pax Hill tennis courts in Traralgon, with coach, Sally Kirstine, every Thursday evening from 5.30-6.15pm, during Term 1. The cost will be $20 for the term, payable by the 4th session, which includes a shirt. Siblings welcome to participate but must also be registered. Tennis will start on Thursday 9th February, 2017.

A parent/carer must attend and be willing to participate with the child if necessary.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

All Abilities Dance Group

Do you like to dance? Do you like to meet new people? Do you like to have fun?

We are local Mums’ currently seeking interested parents, participants & carers, to help start up a new all ages and all abilities dance group, in 2017, for South Gippsland/Bass Coast area. [Location yet to be confirmed.]

We will be a new location group for the ‘BAM Allstars dance crew’, which currently runs dance groups in Brighton, Frankston & Seaford, and performs throughout Melbourne and surrounding areas. You can find them on Facebook – BAM Allstars or YouTube – BAM Allstars.

Gippsland Groovers Dance Morwell

Featuring D.J. Mick

People who require support or supervision must be accompanied by a carer or parent

Friday 24 February 2017

Time: 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Where: Morwell Bowling Club, 52 Hazelwood Road, Morwell

Admission: $10.00 for members & Non-members

Why not come along and have dinner before the Dance,

Meals are available from 6:00 pm