LEARNING SUPPORT AT MOLONG CENTRAL SCHOOL

The Learning Support Team meets regularly to discuss the welfare of students across K-12. The Learning Support Team consists of Mrs Robyn Flood (School Counsellor), Mrs Jane Backhouse (Primary Deputy Principal), Mr Scott Taprell (Secondary Deputy Principal), Mrs Melissa Quinn (Reading Recovery Teacher), Ms Robyn Wheeler (Learning and Support Teacher), Ms Sonya Mason (Learning & Support Teacher), Mrs Audrey Brown (Primary Assistant Principal) and Mrs Janis Glasson (Principal).

There are a large number of students who are assisted with their learning at Molong Central School. These students include the integrated students who gain funding from the DEC to assist them with their learning in the classroom or playground by the employment of School Learning Support Officers. There are also students who are identified through the Reading Recovery Program and the Learning Assistance Program as needing additional support in the classroom. Last year, as part of the Resource Allocation Model in 2014, teaching and learning programs were developed to further assist students struggling academically.

Particular thanks must go to Mrs Flood, Ms Wheeler and Ms Mason who work tirelessly and complete an enormous amount of background work ensuring that all students needing help are identified and receive assistance.

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking has started up once again at MCS. All kindy students should have received a banking info pack. Other parents of students interested can leave their child’s name with Mrs Boyd and a pack will be sent home with your child. It is not hard to register your child for school banking. You can do it online or open an account at the Commonwealth Bank. If you have any problems, please contact Mary Ellen Betts at the school and she will help you. Remember, banking and saving money regularly is a good habit to develop. School Banking day is Thursday. Your child can hand their banking to Mrs Boyd or give it to their teacher. Many thanks Mrs Betts.

STUDENT ABSENCES

It is a legal requirement of parents and carers that children attend school every day that it is open for instruction. Please note that parents should not keep a child away from school for the following reasons, as they are not considered acceptable – birthdays, shopping, minding other children, routine check-ups or care such as haircuts, minor family events or regular appointments (e.g. music or swimming lessons) which require students to leave school early.

Whilst we acknowledge that not all specialist medical appointment and dental appointments can be made after school, we request that, where possible, every attempt is made to arrange these visits after school hours, or during school holidays. After each absence, a note needs to be sent to the school within two days to explain the absence. Information must clearly state the reason for absence, giving an indication of the type of illness or justifiable reason for absence which prevented the students from being at school. Alternatively parents may like to make a telephone call to the school and explain the reason for absence – please contact Mrs Barrow (Secondary) or Mrs Boyd (Primary).

EXEMPTIONS

Student exemptions can be sought if parents are aware of an event which may cause a period of absence such as – a family holiday, a hospital based treatment, a family bereavement or an infectious illness.

These exemptions need to be applied for in advance or as soon as possible into/after the series of absences. This can be put into place with a phone call to the school, or by picking up an exemption form from the Main Office or Primary Office.

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO TO HELP THEIR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK AND ASSESSMENT TASKS

The completion of homework and assessment tasks is expected at Molong Central School. It enables students to review their work at school, consolidate their learning and teaches students to become independent learners. This is vitally important as children enter their high school years and are able to work independently and with confidence.

The completion of assessment tasks by the due date is mandatory for our Year 7-12 students (unless the student presents to their teacher an illness and misadventure appeal). All Year 7-12 students have been spoken to by Mrs Glasson and Mr Taprell about assessment tasks and they have been issued with the assessment booklet which covers, in detail, the assessment process.

Parents can assist their students (K-12) by:-

1. Taking an active interest in your child’s homework.
2. Supporting your child in setting aside time each day for homework
3. Making sure that there is a designated quiet space in the house for homework.
4. Communicating with the teachers any concerns you may have about your child’s approach to homework.

Parents of Secondary student’s will find that upcoming assessment tasks and due dates will be printed in our newsletter on the second page, on a weekly basis. The newsletter is lodged weekly on the Molong Central School website http://www.molong-c.school.nsw.edu.au.

Mrs Janis Glasson, Principal
PATERSON HOUSE – SWIMMING CHAMPIONS FOR 2014!
The first event on our sporting calendar, the Secondary Swimming Carnival, was held on Thursday 6th February. Despite a slightly breezy start to the day the weather warmed up nicely, providing ideal swimming conditions. As has become tradition, there were many impressive fancy dress costumes and house decorations which added to the festive ambience of the day.

After a brief lane rope malfunction, the day ran smoothly with many students participating well, clearly enjoying the challenge of racing their fellow peers. All students are to be commended on their behaviour with particular congratulations to those students who participated in events to the best of their ability. Once again there was enough time remaining for novelty events and the staff versus student race, which resulted in the staff team just edging out the students. (Once again, there was no video evidence presented to the judges of cheating by the staff, negating all cries of protest 😊).

With only 35 points separating the four houses at lunch time, it took a strong effort from eventual winners Paterson House in the remaining individual events and team relays, to successfully defend their title from 2013. It was also very pleasing to see that there were just 25 points separating the remaining three houses, suggesting that the competition will be even closer in 2015. Congratulations to all of the age champions (listed below) on an outstanding effort!! Well done also to Sophie Weekes who managed to break two records throughout the course of the day.

Thank you to all of the pool staff and volunteers who assisted throughout the day. Thanks also to Mrs Williamson for the additional shade shelters provided. Thank you to the M.C.S. staff for their professional assistance throughout the day. Well done to all involved in the carnival in what proved to be yet another fun-filled day in the sun.

AGE CHAMPIONS
Sub-Junior Boy Champion (12-13 yrs) - Brendan Card
Sub-Junior Girl Champion (12-13 yrs) - Aaliyah Wright /
Grace Weekes
Junior Boy Champion (14-15 yrs) - Tyler Palamo/
Toby Collins
Junior Girl Champion (14-15 yrs) - Sophie Weekes
Senior Boy Champion (16+ yrs) - Toby Parry
Senior Girls Champion (16+ yrs) - Ellie Bryce

RECORDS
New Record
Sophie Weekes – Girls 14 yrs 100m Butterfly - 1.29.30
(Old Record – 1.41.86 Rachael Peffer)

New Record
Sophie Weekes – Girls 14/15 yrs 33m Butterfly - 22.25
(Old Record – 25.37 Rachael Peffer)
Primary Swimming Carnival
This Friday our Primary Swimming Carnival will be held at Molong Swimming Pool starting at 9.15am. Students will meet at school for roll call and then walk from school from 9.00am. They will return to school by 3.00pm. Students will need to bring $2.50 for entry to the pool. Children are to wear their house colours where possible, otherwise they will need to wear their sports uniform. Students will also need plenty of sunscreen and their hats. The canteen will only be serving snacks and drinks throughout the day. If your child has not pre-ordered their lunch, they will need to bring their own on the day.

Shade structures for Swimming Carnival
Due to the extreme heat lately, I am asking parents if they have any shade structures that the school can use during the Primary swimming carnival. If you are able to help out please contact Jane Backhouse prior to the carnival. Any help would be appreciated.

Gifted and Talented Program – 2014
This year we have two separate GATS groups operating (Gifted and Talented Students).
On Tuesdays, a group of Stage 2 students will work with Mrs Eccelstone on problem solving, higher order thinking skills and research based on Mathematics.
On Fridays, starting Week 5, a group of Stage 2 and 3 students will work with Mrs Quinn on independent projects involving a range of higher order thinking skills and multiple intelligences. These students will present some of their projects at an assembly early next term.

P&C Membership
Next month the P&C will be holding their AGM. If you would like voting rights and would like to be a member of the P&C you will need to pay a small fee of $2. Please pay at the Primary or Main Office by this Friday if you would like to be a part of our wonderful P&C. P&C meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday at 7.00pm each month.

Congratulations
PLATINUM AWARD
Carter Kirby
PRINCIPAL’S BADGE
Connor Linde

★ STUDENT OF THE WEEK ★

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K Sapphire</td>
<td>Rose Kelly – For neat and careful presentation of work</td>
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<tr>
<td>K Pearl</td>
<td>Imogen Nancarrow – For working sensibly with all tasks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>K/1 Opal</td>
<td>Dylan Duncan-Dystra – For working well and trying his best.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Quartz</td>
<td>Claire Murdock – for an amazing effort during Literacy Groups.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Topaz</td>
<td>Mykahah Dive – For working well in reading groups.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3 Ruby</td>
<td>Delta Rodwell – For an enthusiastic and hard working start to the year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4 Garnet</td>
<td>Taylah Hobbs – For an enthusiastic approach to her learning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Diamond</td>
<td>Oscar Mullins – For always working well and asking for assistance when needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6 Emerald</td>
<td>Bridie Dive – For commitment and enthusiasm to all aspects of school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6 Zircon</td>
<td>Rebecca Geddes – For an amazing effort during literacy groups.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Katelan Philpott – For participation in Library lessons</td>
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Uniform Award – Week 3 Term 1 – Friday
Stage 1 - Robert Heath
Stage 2 - Ella Fowler
Stage 3 - Samuel Gavin

Active After School
Just a reminder that Active After School begins this week. It will be held every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. This term students will be participating in Hockey skills.
The coaches are Tarryn Miles, Shaun Paterson, Victoria Miller and Ryan Treavors.

Have a wonderful week!
Jane Backhouse
Deputy Principal - Primary
**From the LIBRARY...**

**Week 4 Term 1**

**JUNIOR FICTION**
- *On the day you were born* – by Margaret Wild, illustrations by Ron Brooks (a Premier’s Reading Challenge selection for Stage 1)
- *The things I love about School* – by Trace Moroney
- *Shrieking Violet* – by Emma Quay (a Premier’s Reading Challenge selection for Stage 1)
- *The 39-Storey Treehouse* – by Andy Griffiths, illustrated by Terry Denton (a Premier’s Reading Challenge selection for Stage 3 & Stage 4)
- *The Rescue Princesses series* – by Paula Harrison
  - *The stolen crystals*
  - *The secret promise*

**JUNIOR NON-FICTION**
- *The great global puzzle challenge with Google Earth* – by Clive Gifford, illustrated by William Ings
- *Scholastic discover more series: Puppies and kittens* – by Penelope Arlon and Tony Gordon-Harris
  - *Yoo-hoo ladybird!* – by Mem Fox, illustrated by Laura Jungkvist

**SENIOR FICTION**
- *Cloudstreet* - by Tim Winton
- *Raven Lucas series – 3: Chinese whispers* – by Christine Harris (a Premier’s Reading Challenge selection for Stage 3)
- *The Gallagher girls series: Out of sight, out of time* - by Ally Carter

**SENIOR PICTURE BOOK**
- *The adventures of Tintin series* – by Hergé (Premier’s Reading Challenge selections for Stage 3 and Stage 4)
  - *Tintin in America*
  - *The black island*
- *The day the crayons quit* – by Drew Daywalt, pictures by Oliver Jeffers
- Hi Everyone,
  - I wish to commend the senior students on their efforts over the past weeks. They have been very focused and organised during study sessions in the library.
  - I am once again using Class Dojo to reward students this year. When students receive enough points they will bring a new password so they can change their avatar. Passwords from last year won’t work. I hope the students enjoy the rewards as much as last year.
  - Just a reminder that if parents could put a plastic bag inside their child’s library bag, it will be helpful to avert the possibility of drink bottles leaking and damaging library books.
- Thank you to parents who have returned their Premier’s Reading Challenge permission notes.
- Students may then record the books they have read since the closure of the 2013 Challenge.
- Also, a reminder that the Scholastic Book Fair will be held from 10th – 14th March. We hope to see you there!
- Have a good week.
- Mrs Hall

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**Molong District Soccer Club**

**2014 Registration**

Register Online At


& go in the draw to WIN a soccer ball

See our website for more information: [www.molongsoccer.org](http://www.molongsoccer.org)

**or come & see us at**

**Molong Street Stall**

**Bank Street, Molong**

**on Sat 22nd Feb or Sat 1st March 2014**

between 9:00am & 11:00am

**U6, U7, U8 - $80**

**U9, U10, U11 - $85**

**U12, U13, U14 - $90**

If you require help registering online please feel free to email our registrar

Roland Hill at email: roland.hill@fourwindstechnology.com.au

All Other Enquiries: Tania Bohringer – 0408 604 711

**TUTORING AVAILABLE**

**FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-9. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CALL 0403 295 556**

**HELPING WITH HOMEWORK**


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**CANTEEN 20/2/14 – 28/2/14**

**HELP IS DESPERATELY NEEDED ON THIS ROSTER. Please give one morning per month to the Canteen—that is all it takes. Ring the Canteen on 6366 9009 from 8.30am-1.45pm. If you can’t work on your day just call Tina. Thank you, Tina McGovern, Canteen Manager.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>20/2/14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3RD THURSDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>3RD FRIDAY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>LISA BURGESS</td>
<td>SARAH LEISK</td>
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<th>24/2/14</th>
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<th>27/2/14</th>
<th>28/2/14</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4TH MONDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>4TH TUESDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>4TH WEDNESDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>4TH THURSDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>4TH FRIDAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATE HAZELTON</td>
<td>LISA GARLICK</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>DONNA TAPRELL</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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M.C.S. Newsletter Term 1/2014 Issue Number 4 19/2/14 Phone: 6366 8224 Fax: 6366 8220 email: Molong-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au