Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term. Being only 9 weeks, strap yourself in for a busy term. A term planner is included to use up some of those fridge magnets and help keep you up to date with school events.

**MPS Cross Country:** Our school carnival will be held this Friday starting at 1pm. All students are encouraged to dress in house colours - Kookaburras RED, Lorikeets GREEN and Magpies YELLOW. Races will be held in the following age groups 5/6 years, 7 years, 8/9 years, 10 years, 11 years and 12/13 years. This is a great opportunity to warm up for next weeks district carnival at Corndale.

**NAPLAN:** Please find attached to the newsletter and letter to Parents regarding the NAPLAN Tests that will be undertaken by Year 3 and Year 5 students on Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday of week 3 this term. It is vital that all year 3 & year 5 students at Modanville participate in all three tests. Some parents may feel that their child will be too nervous do a test, and elect for them to stay at home on test day.

The school is very aware of which students may be lacking confidence and will be very supportive of these students to ensure they do their best and are not upset by the process. Our Learning Support Funding is based on the results achieved by individual students in these tests. If a student who finds literacy or numeracy challenging does not attempt the test, it is likely that the school will not receive additional funding to support their learning needs in the future.

**Midginbill Hill Excursion:** Attached to the newsletter is an update note and camp program for our excursion.

**Pumpkin Patch Progress:** This is our pumpkin at 7 weeks

**Fuel Voucher:** Congratulations to the Cook Family winning the $50 fuel voucher for payment of all the school fees by end of term.

Regards,

Barry

**Visiting Mobile Library**
The mobile library comes to the school on a regular basis and community members are welcome to make use of this service. The dates are:

- May 6, 20
- June 3, 17

It is here between 2pm and 3:30pm
Chess Teams Challenge: Ryan & Cameron are planning a Big Scrub Chess Teams Challenge for later in the term.

Our Senior & Junior Chess Players

Stewart House: Attached is an envelope for the Stewart House Donation Drive. By making a $2 donation you will go into a draw to win a $4,000 holiday to a destination of your choice. Please return your envelopes to school by Friday 9th May to go into the draw. Your donation helps support the 1,800 children who attend Stewart House each year from public schools across NSW and the ACT.

Working With Children Declaration for Volunteers: Just a reminder that if you do any volunteer work at the school, we require these forms completed and returned to school with your 100pt ID. We will take a photocopy of your ID and keep it in a file here at the school.

We value and appreciate everything that parents and community members contribute to enhancing what is offered to our students.

A Special Thankyou: to Ian, our GA who has been working on upgrading our lunch tables. It has been a big job and has saved the school a lot of money.

NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014: The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9, in government, independent, Catholic and home schools. Participation by schools and students is voluntary. The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read to read more and to read more widely.

The PRC runs from the 3rd March to the 29th August, 2014. Miss Kerr is coordinating the challenge at our school and has distributed personal reading logs to interested students. These logs are also available from the school office and from the website http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au

Students in years K-2 need to read 30 books to complete the challenge (25 PRC books and 5 personal choice books). Students in years 3-6 need to read 20 books to complete the challenge (15 PRC books and 5 personal choice books). Many of the books in our school library are marked with PRC stickers. Lists of books can be found on the website. Please see Miss Kerr if you have any questions about the challenge. Get reading!

Easter Fun: On Wednesday April 9th our school participated in some Easter fun activities. The Easter Raffle was again a great success raising $730.

A big congratulations to all our winners and to the Noonan Family for selling the most tickets receiving the book sellers prize.

Text Messages: The school uses text messaging to communicate last minute changes that parents need to know about for their child’s school day.

Please do not send text messages to the school, eg: for after-school travel arrangements or absences. It puts too much responsibility on the person receiving the text message to remember to give it to the school.

Messages are best dealt with by a note to the office or a phone call to the school.
Canteen News

Lunches available Monday and Friday only
The Canteen Menu is on our website

Please keep in mind that staff do not have a lot of time during their break and it imposes on them to have to heat up food for students brought in on days that are not canteen lunch days.

Canteen Roster:
1/5, R. Smith
2/5, A. Sattler
5/5, H. Gosper + Fruit
6/5, J. Joseph
9/5, S. Barnsley 9am-2pm, A. Sattler 12-2pm
12/5, V. McIntosh + Fruit
13/5, J. Joseph
15/5, R. Smith

CROSS COUNTRY MODANVILLE
5/5, H. Gosper + Fruit

Cooking Roster:
1/5, R. Smith
2/5, Cooking Please
6/5, E. Robinson
9/5, S. Barnsley
12/5, V. McIntosh
13/5, J. Tandy
15/5, R. Smith

When on canteen roster you may notice the recording sheets for the fridge and freezer thermometer readings if you wouldn’t mind just checking the temperatures’ and writing them in the correct date, we would really appreciate it. There is also a cleaning roster that we need to sign off on when on canteen on Mondays and Fridays.

We had an audit through the Lismore City Council and these are a couple of the requirements that they requested we do.

As it is the beginning of another term, it would be appreciated if all donated goods could be sent in at your earliest convenience. Please see attached donations list.

Many thanks
Rose Smith
Canteen Coordinator

Uniform News

We have a new school hat available for purchase - they are $10. It is a microfiber material and there is a draw string around the head rather than under the chin.

Celebrating Our Students

Work of the Week - Week 10
Connor, fantastic handwriting
Christiaan, a wonderful “Dog” watercolour
Jack, neat presentation of his writing
Brock, full marks for BTN presentation

Week 11
Eddie, a great ‘Triangular’ Portrait
Padi, great independent writing
Asha, impressive art work
Elijah, beautiful simile writing

Student of the Week - Week 10
Lily D, brilliant work in Mathematics
Joshua Mc, fantastic work in problem solving
Lucas, excellent effort learning letter/sounds
Jayden F, always producing quality artwork
Amy, excellent ideas during Ms Best’s literacy groups
Jessica Gi, great improvement in her reading
Georgia, fantastic application during Mrs Best’s maths groups
Bailey, great participation in drama lessons

Week 11
Solomon, being a cheerful member of our class
Chelsea, being a helpful member of our class
Michael, his great attitude to his school work
Charlie, trying his best during Literacy
Stella, being a mature and responsible class member
Paul, improvement in his classroom behaviour
Bella, having a great term
Bowen, excellent maths results
Insights by Michael Grose - parenting educator

“language of resilience”

“You could be right. But have you thought about…”

**Strategy:** flexible thinking

**Good for:** kids who catastrophise; experience extreme feelings; who exaggerate.

Many children and young people talk in extremes - 'awesome', 'the best', 'the worst' and 'gross' roll off their tongues easily these days. Unfortunately, their extreme language leads to extreme emotional responses. Develop the habit of winding back their language by introducing shades of grey, rather than black and white. Replace “I’m furious” with “I’m annoyed”. “It’s an absolute disaster” with “It’s a pain”. “I can't stand it' with "I don’t like it". Realistic language leads to realistic thinking, which helps kids handle many ordinary situations that they have blown out of proportion.”

**Live Life Well Message**

**Can Breakfast Make Kids Smarter?**

Last year the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing published findings from their research that says it does. The research found that children who regularly have breakfast on a near-daily basis had significantly higher full scale, verbal, and performance IQ test scores.

Why? After a whole night of fasting, breakfast serves as a means to supply “fuel” to the brain. Meanwhile, social interaction at breakfast time with others may promote brain development. Mealtime discussions may facilitate cognitive development by offering children the opportunity to expand their vocabulary, practice synthesizing and comprehending stories, and acquire general knowledge, noted the authors.

So the advice is eat breakfast - it may make you smarter.

http://www.nursing.upenn.edu/sia/Pages/Can-Breakfast-Make-Kids-Smarter.aspx