Dear Families and Community Members,

It’s hard to believe we are already in the penultimate week of Term One. A term full of highlights and exciting experiences for our students.

A highlight for me has been the growing number of parents volunteering their time at our school. It seems like every day we have helpers in to hear students read, attend information sessions, assist with sports training and help out with the grounds. This is something that is hugely valued at our school and is greatly appreciated by our staff. Parents choosing to spend their time here sends a powerful message to our students that our school is welcoming, friendly and a great place to be. I hope this is something that continues throughout the course of the year.

Last week was our school council AGM. Our school council constituting order consists of 12 parent representatives and three DET representatives. This year there were six parent vacancies, which have been filled by Dominique Sparks, Rob Richardson, Neil Robertson (all re-elected) and three newly elected members (Jess Tucker, Kate Bibby and Kelly Gellie). Dom has been re-elected as school council president for another year and I look forward to working with her closely over the next 12 months. Dom will always include a report of school council meetings in the following week’s newsletter.

Over the last few weeks, we have been making a big effort to minimise the amount of rubbish that is brought to school each day. I am pleased to report that we have recorded a total of eight pieces of rubbish across the whole school for the last fortnight, an amazing result! Keep up the good work, students and families.

During the Term One holidays, we will be taking our collection of batteries to R&J Batteries to sell. If anyone has batteries still lying around please drop them at the Tatyoon Store before the end of term. Money raised from the sale of these batteries will be used to subsidise our camps and excursions this year.

Preparations are being made for a busy end of Term One. Events to look forward to include the athletics sports, the group day at Moyston and our end of Term Learning Expo and Assembly. Information has been sent home about the events however please feel free to contact a member of staff if you have any questions.

Warm Regards

Darren Beer

beer.darren.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
School Council News

You are probably aware that we had the school council AGM last week. I’d like to welcome our new councillors, Jess Tucker, Kate Bibby and Kellie Gellie.

Executive for 2019:

President: Dom Sparks
Vice President: Jane King
Secretary: Angela Reynolds
Assistant Secretary: Andrea Hamilton
Treasurer: Kellie Gellie
Other Councillors: Rob Richardson, Ian Armstrong, Jayne Drum, Susie Day, Jane Fraser, Neil Robertson, Kate Bibby, Jess Tucker, Darren Beer, Jacqui Eastick

At the general meeting, Darren presented the 2018 annual report to council. It gave a detailed account of everything that happened at Maroona Primary School in 2018 with specific information about student achievement, levels of engagement, wellbeing and the school’s financial position. This document can be found on the school’s website.

In general school council news, we are hoping to finalise our battery drive in the next few weeks. If you have any batteries lying around, please drop them in to Tatyoon Rural ASAP, so we can send them all off, and put these funds towards subsidising our school camps this year.

Our school generator is set to arrive, as soon as we have the concrete poured. Thank you very much to Barry Rees for coordinating and researching this for us, and to the Maroona Wind Farm for the funding.

As always, please feel free to contact myself, another school councillor or Darren directly if you have any issues.

Cheers,
Dom

Uno club

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Max Tucker (7) 15th of March
Leanne McCready 20th of March
Kiora Day (6) 25th of March
**Upcoming Events**

**March/April**

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**Food Program**

Tammy has done a great job leading our food program this term. Students have all had a turn at making some delicious and nutritious lunches for staff and students. Next Tuesday, we will be using some of the left over mince for burritos—there will be no cost. There will also be a BYO BBQ on Thursday from 1:15, with salads and a dessert provided. Next term, we hope to get our vegetable garden going. Any donations of chook, cow, or horse manure would be greatly appreciated.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

Please let us know if you can assist with any of the following jobs:

- removal of nets from apple trees
- Fencing on the northern side of the school; about half a dozen of the fence posts have rotted and need replacing
- Gum trees near the netball court area are scratching the solar panels and need to be pruned
Dear Families,

Please join us next Thursday between 1:15 and 2:15 for a ‘world tour’.

We have completed research projects on the five continents (excluding Australia) and are looking forward to sharing our work with you.

Yours Sincerely,

Grade 3-6 students

Congratulations Hamish, Freddie, Greta, Millie, Sophia, Julianne and George on reaching the 25 nights of reading milestone.

Senior School Shoutout

Senior School Learning Expo

Foundation, 1 & 2 - Blurb No. 4

This will be our final blurb for Term One- what a hectic and busy term we have enjoyed. Many thanks to all those mothers who have come in for reading with the students- this is a valuable experience for both yourself and your child and it is also most appreciated my me.

Foundation ‘People’

We finally have the cut-outs of our Foundation students completed, clothed and up on display- come and see them as they look fantastic. Thanks to the mums who sent along the clothing to dress them in.

Student Of The Fortnight

This fortnight’s terrific, well-mannered student is William Jarrett. William has matured from a shy little boy who was reluctant to speak just 2 months ago into a more confident person who not only greets everyone he encounters but he now looks them in the eye when he addresses them. Congratulations William J!

Maroona P. S. Fence Construction Business

Several of the F-2 boys seem to have set up a new fence building business in the back sand pit. They are having a wonderful time finding sticks and pieces of wood to build amazing fences in the sandpit. This is Play-Based Learning at its very best. Keep building boys!

Reading Milestones

Congratulations to Thomas, Millie, Grace, Emma, Archie, Eddie, Will, and William J, who have all read for 50 nights this year. Well done to all you super readers and your parents!

V.C.O.P. Big Write

Last fortnight’s Big Write was a recount of ‘My Best Present Ever…. Our Foundation students had a great scaffolding to assist with their illustrations and dictated stories and did a wonderful job of this task. Likewise the grades 1 and 2 students came up with some great writing on what was a very popular subject. Please remember to do the Talk Homework as it is integral to the students’ writing- the children need to have a good chat about what they would like to write about because they need to be able to talk about it to write about it!