Greetings Melrose community!

With the year rapidly coming to an end, we are busy finalising class structures, student placements and staff roles for the 2017 school year. Enrolment numbers continue to fluctuate with many new enquiries still coming in and some families moving on, however the current expected structure is as follows:

- 2 x Foundation classes and 1 x Foundation/Grade 1 composite class (average class size is 18)
- 4 x Grade 1/2 classes (average class size is 19)
- 5 x Grade 3/4 classes (average class size is 21)
- 4 x Grade 5/6 classes (all classes at 25 students)

Our current Specialist structures will remain the same, with F-6 Visual Arts, Health & Phys Ed, and Languages Other Than English (Italian for Grades 1-6, and Auslan for Foundation)

Melrose is still currently advertising two teaching positions, so I am unable to confirm staffing teams in each unit until all positions are filled, but I am very pleased to announce that Mr Josh Thorp, Mr Kevin Williams and Miss Steph Kovacs will be continuing with us at Melrose next year. We are also excited to welcome two new members to our team, Miss Amy Musgrove and Miss Teaghan Jones, who are vibrant and skilled classroom teachers with much to offer.

Teaghan comes to us from Ardmona, over near Shepparton, where she currently teaches students from Year 3-Year 6. She is keen to move back to the Wodonga area and has particular strengths in supporting students on the Autism Spectrum and with individualised learning and welfare needs. She has a passion for supporting Literacy and Numeracy development through authentic, hands-on and open-ended tasks and she is committed to helping children achieve success in their academic learning and emotional wellbeing.

Amy has previously taught at Flemington Primary School for four years across Grades 1-3, and has been in Sri Lanka at the Thomas Gall International School for the past four years teaching across Grades 1-6, with extended periods of Leadership responsibility including Deputy Head Principal and Acting Principal. Amy recently returned to Australia and has been teaching Grade 3/4 at Woorinen District School over near Swan Hill. Amy was very excited about working at Melrose and being part of a school with an identified focus on EQ – so much so that she is relocating halfway across the state to join our team.

Stay tuned next week for more information about planning for 2017, and have a lovely week!

Kind Regards,

Kellie Thorp
Acting Principal
Christmas is fast approaching, so too is the Annual Melrose Christmas Concert. Classes will be performing Christmas Carols for everyone to sing along to, including a special staff number! There may even be a surprise visitor! The Christmas concert will be located outside the front office on the grassed area. Friends and families are welcome to bring a picnic rug or chairs to enjoy the night. Come at 5:30pm for a 6:00pm start, on Friday December 9th. There will be items available for purchase on the night:

- Songbooks
- Icypoles
- Glow sticks
- Sausage in bread
- Water
- Primas

Can’t wait to see you there!

From the Melrose Christmas Elves.

There will be a raffle on the night with tickets $2 each or 3 for $5. If you have any non-perishable donations for the Christmas Hamper, can they please be sent into the office.  

Kelsie McWilliams

Don't forget the Christmas Concert on the 9th of December!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT!

F-2 Attendance Leader Board

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<thead>
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<th>Classroom</th>
<th>Number of school days missed by students</th>
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3-6 Attendance Leader Board

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</tr>
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</table>

ENROLMENTS 2017

Enrolments for 2017 are now due and need to be lodged at the office as soon as possible.

Also, if you have a student who you know will be leaving us at the end of 2016, please notify the school office urgently.

Reminder: Student Banking every Friday
**SENIOR GRADUATION CEREMONY**
The senior team are preparing the graduation ceremony for current Year 6 students happening on **Friday 16th December**. We ask that parents of any Year 6 student who was not at Melrose Primary in prep or year one, to send your child’s prep photo into the school. The photo will be scanned in to form part of a short slide show. Alternatively, you can email a copy of your child’s prep photo to: graduation@melroseps.vic.edu.au

**YEAR SIX GRADUATION DINNER - Tuesday 13th December—Birralee Park Function Centre (Wodonga Raiders Marshall St.).**
Year 6 graduates are invited to attend a celebratory dinner with their teachers from 6.00pm until 7.30pm. The cost of the Graduation Dinner is $14 per child. Please return the permission notes and money by Monday 5th of December to allow for catering.

**SWIMMING PROGRAM - MIDDLE SCHOOL**
Group 1: Leave Melrose: 12.30pm - 2.10pm Lesson at 1.00pm - 1.45pm A04 & A07
plus some A03 - year 4s
Group 2: Leave Melrose: 1.15pm - 3.00pm Lesson at 1.45pm - 2.30pm A05 & A06
plus some A03 - year 4s
Lessons from: Monday 12th December to Friday 16th December. Students will travel by bus to Waves Swimming Pool Wodonga and must be in school uniform, bring their swimmers, towel and school hat on swimming days. Permission notes have been sent home and $30 must be returned no later than 8th December. Note: To those Parents who qualify for CSEF, this cost may be covered.

**FOUNDATION—INFLATABLE FUN HOUSE**
Students in Areas 14,15 & 16 will be travelling by bus to Inflatable Fun House in Wodonga for their end of year celebration.
Leave Melrose: 12 noon Return: 3pm
Please return the permission note and payment to your child’s teacher by Friday 9th December.

**NOTE TO ALL MELROSE PARENTS**
On Friday 16th of December, **ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF** will walk across to Wodonga Catholic College McAuley Arts Centre to celebrate the Year 6 Students’ Graduation Ceremony. Students must be in full school uniform including school hat. Please return the permission note to your child’s classroom teacher **BEFORE MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER—STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND WITHOUT PERMISSION.**

***Parents, relatives and friends are welcome at the Ceremony.***

**YEAR 6 TO YEAR 7 HEADSTART PROGRAM**
Monday 28th November to Tuesday 6th December
From all reports, Year 6 students are enjoying their transition days into their chosen High school for 2017.

**WALKATHON RAFFLE WINNERS**
1st: Kourtney Smart—Opal Pendant
2nd: Teresa Booth—Photography voucher
3rd: Pat Pooley—Tyre Power voucher

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 6TH—9.15AM—12.30AM**
This is the State Wide Transition Day. Students will be dropped off by parents in the morning and will complete a range of activities, aimed to introduce them to the year ahead. Parents are invited to return to school at 12.30pm for a picnic outside the Foundation classrooms.
This gives parents another, informal opportunity to ask any questions before school commences in 2017.

**ATTENTION BUS TRAVELLERS**
Please note that school finishes at 1pm on the last day of term, Tuesday 20th December.
We have been notified that buses will not run until 2.30pm, therefore alternate arrangements for collecting students at 1pm will need to be made. There will be no teacher on bus duty Friday afternoon, nor staff supervision available after 1.15pm.

**REMINDER TO PARENTS AND CHILDREN**
Please be vigilant around pick up /drop off time in the areas of Silva Drive and Schultz Court.

**The school crossing is to be used at all times** when crossing Silva Drive to ensure everyone arrives and leaves school safely.
COMMUNITY NEWS

2017 Victoria Term Dates
Term 1
Students start: 31 January - 31 March
Term 2
18 April - 30 June
Term 3
17 July - 22 September
Term 4
09 October - 22 December

* Know Yourself
* Choose Yourself
* Give of Yourself

MUSIC LESSONS 2017
If you are interested in your child having private guitar, keyboard, piano or piano accordion lessons in 2017, please complete the reply slip below so we can pass your details on to the private tutor. Lessons are held at school during school hours. If you wish to speak to her direct you can contact Heather Wilson on 60256480.

Parent Name: ..............................................................
Student Name: ..........................................................
Contact Ph: ..............................................................

Acting Principal: Kellie Thorp
Acting Assistant Principals: Darren Clough, Heidi McKay
School Council President: Paul Barker