Dear Parents,

Welcome back for the 2015 school year. It was with much excitement and anticipation that we began the school year yesterday and were able to celebrate the opening of our ‘Outdoor Learning, Play Space and Pathways Project’. Coolabah Commercial Landscapes were the successful tenders for this project and were able to start and complete the project during the school holidays. A special thank you to Peter Axford Managing Director of Coolabah and foreman Josh for the care they took in ensuring we could have the best possible result. I would also like to acknowledge Ivanhoe East Primary School for allowing the landscapers to access our site throughout the holidays from the car park in Robinhood Rd.

A project such as this could not have happened without the support from our whole community. The development of the Concept Plan for this space was put together with the support of the Parent Representative Council and led by Chris De Silva after consultation with students, parents and staff. Paul Doran also a member of the PRC, took on the role of supporting us with the overseeing of our maintenance needs and organised regular working bees over the past 3 years. I appreciated the support I received from Paul in helping solve some of the issues we faced in the yard over the last couple of years and consulting with me as we applied for a School and selected tenders.

Thank you to East Ivanhoe and Heidelberg Community Bank for the $5,500 grant which contributed significantly to this project.

Thank you to all our families who raised $25,000 across 2014 through fundraising and donations. I hope you join with me in appreciating that all the hard work has certainly made a difference. It is now time for us all to enjoy this space as the MOG students did today. I hope the photographs capture a little of how the children were interacting with each other and this space.

Welcome to school BBQ/Picnic

All families are invited to come and join the staff for a welcome BBQ/picnic in the MOG playground and Marian Centre on Friday 6 February between 5:30pm and 7:30pm. This is our first whole school community event for 2015. Let’s make this a year where we make the most of opportunities where we can come together as a community, supporting each other as we continue to work in partnership. There will be games for the children and adults to participate in and there will also be an opportunity to catch up with friends and make new ones too. Please bring along a picnic tea or have food provided from the BBQ. We would also like to especially welcome those families who are new to our community in 2015.

Class Masses and Student Led Assemblies

Class Masses and student led assemblies are great opportunities for parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles or friends of families to be with the students at these special times. Mass is celebrated at Mother of God each Tuesday morning at 9:15am and classes are rostered to go to Mass throughout each term. Rosters are published in the newsletter and in class term overviews. After Mass parents host morning tea for each other and this space

MOG NEWS
Newsletter for Mother of God Catholic Primary School East Ivanhoe

Friday 30 January 2015
Preps 2015
Our Prep students began school yesterday. What a special day for each of them and their families. Our Year 6 students were especially excited to welcome their buddies to school. A big thank you to these students who sent their buddies a welcome letter which the Preps received during the holidays. Thank you also to Rosemary the Prep Parent Rep who organised a play date for the Preps before school began too. We hope each day of their school life is just as special as it is now.

School Calendar and Parent Information Evenings
Included with this newsletter is the term one school calendar and other important dates across the school year such as school closure days for your information.
Our Parent Information Evenings will be held on the following dates:
Tuesday 10 February – Prep at 6:30pm – 7:15pm, Year 1/2 at 7:15pm – 8:00pm
Thursday 12 February – Year 3/4, Year 4/5 and Year 5/6 at 6:30pm – 7:30pm (please note change of date as previously advertised)
We ask that all parents attend these sessions so that you are informed of Learning and Teaching practices and build a positive relationship with your child’s classroom teacher.

Staff News
I would like to publicly acknowledge our 2015 staff for all the preparation they have done to begin our school year in such a positive way. All learning spaces across the school were set up ready for the 2015 school year to begin. Throughout January staff were both at school and at home putting in a number of hours preparing for the start of the school year. Rebecca Hoolahan attended a Professional Learning day for administration officers last week and Miranda Montalti spent a week at the Catholic Leadership Centre completing units towards a Masters in Education. Jane Gough is also enrolled at ACU and will be completing studies in Religious Education across 2015 and 2016. We are very fortunate to have a staff who are committed to ongoing professional learning.
Student Well Being Leader: I would also like to acknowledge and thank Vicki Gualano for leading us for the past four years in Student Well Being. During this time Vicki has taken us through the implementation of a number of whole school strategies which have become embedded in our practices. Strategies such as Restorative Practice which includes circle time and School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS). SWPBS has given us a consistent language that we can use with our students across the whole school in every situation. Our 3R’s (Respect, Responsibility and Ready to Learn) is our mantra and is in all that we do. In 2015 Vicki is stepping down as Student Well Being Leader but will continue to be a valuable member of our Student Wellbeing Core Team. Vicki will be at MOG for four days each week (Monday to Thursday) as Reading Recovery teacher and Librarian. Thank you Vicki for all that you do and enjoy your Fridays.
Jane Gough will be taking over the role of Student Wellbeing Leader and will be replaced in the classroom for one day each week by Melanie Johnson. We welcome back Melanie who has been on maternity leave for the past 18 months and look forward to having her working with us at MOG.

Staff Professional Learning
Last year we received a Bully Stoppers grant from the Department of Education and Training. This grant has enabled the staff to be trained in the Respect Ambassador Program (RAP) which will support and deepen School Wide Positive Behaviours across the school community. This program is being delivered by NIRODAH who also provide a counselling service to our school community. RAP is designed as a violence prevention program that educates young people in how to behave respectfully and compassionately towards others. It will provide students with the skills and language that they can utilise to build a safe and respectful school community. Staff had their first training session this week and will complete the training next Tuesday. Delivery of lessons will begin this term targeting especially students in Years 3 to 6.

Parenting Ideas
Throughout this year we will be publishing articles from Michael Grose from his Parenting Ideas Resources. The first one is in today’s newsletter ‘Helping your child achieve at school.’

Maintenance
During the holidays Andrew Lawlor and his team from Bhellium Cleaning services completed maintenance and cleaning throughout the school. The Marian Centre floor was polished and the decking was restained. The cubby house steps were replaced and made more secure. We also engaged Coolabah Landscapers to build a retaining wall along the fence line that faces the Mother of God Church. I would like to thank Andrew and his team for the care they take in ensuring our school is clean and well maintained. They do a fantastic job.

Extra Curricular
Please take note of the extra curricular programs that we offer at Mother of God.
Advertisements for these programs are in the newsletter. We appreciate the services offered to our school community by Creative Melody’s Music Program, Jim Cannon’s Chess Club for Year 1 – 6 and Anne Carrick Dance School.
Melody’s Music Program will commence on Monday 9 February.
Chess Club is held on Thursday during 2nd recess and will commence on Thursday 12 February.
Anne Carrick Dance is an after school program held in the Marian Centre on a Wednesday.

TIQBIZ
By the end of this term we are hoping that all our families will have access to this APP which will become our main means of communication. Newsletters are uploaded onto this APP and classroom teachers will be able to share
some of their class news through the APP throughout the year. The calendar will be uploaded and you will be sent reminders through this APP on your mobile device. Year 5/6 parents in preparation for the Canberra Education Tour please download this APP as teachers will be using it to communicate with you throughout their time in Canberra. Details as to how to download the APP are in this newsletter.

**UNIFORM** – Our school uniform is to be worn with pride. We ask parents to support us in ensuring that students are wearing the correct uniform. School hats are to be worn every day between September and May. Please see the Uniform policy which is included in this newsletter.

Sports uniforms are to be worn on the following days for each class:
- Monday – Year 4’s to Year 6 are asked to bring their sports shoes to school on a Monday in their bag for training.
- Tuesday – Year 1 to Year 6
- Wednesday – Prep
- Thursday – Year 1 and Year 2
- Friday – Prep and Year 3 - 6

The staff and I are looking forward to working with you during 2015
Louise McGrath
Principal

**UNIFORM POLICY**
School uniform is compulsory at Mother of God Primary School. The appropriate sport/physical education uniform is to be worn for sport and physical education activities.

Track pants/ runners are only to be worn on sport/physical education days and not as part of the normal school day uniform.

**BOYS – SUMMER**
- Short sleeved printed polo top
- Navy shorts (longline)
- Navy anklet socks
- Black shoes

**GIRLS – SUMMER**
- Check school dress
- White anklet socks
- Black shoes

**BOYS – WINTER**
- Long sleeved printed polo top
- Long navy pants
- Maroon school jumper
- Navy socks
- Black shoes
- Navy Japara (waterproof jacket) is also available

**GIRLS – WINTER**
- Maroon tunic
- Navy pants (students in Year 5/6 have this option.)
- Long sleeved printed polo
- Navy sock/tights
- Black shoes

**SPORTS UNIFORM**
- White short sleeve school polo
- Maroon sports shorts
- Track pants
- Rugby school top
- Sports school socks or anklet white socks.
- Hats are compulsory in 1st & 4th terms.
- It is also recommended children wear hats on other warm days throughout the year.

**THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE HAT IS A SCHOOL HAT.**
There are two choices of hats – maroon school legionnaires hat or maroon school slouch hat. There is a maroon school bag.

**Jewellery/nail polish**
Students are allowed to wear watches. Necklaces and rings should not be worn and can be dangerous in game situations. Silver or gold studs are recommended as ear rings.

Students should not wear nail polish to school.

**Hair** – Hair that is below the shoulder should be tied back at all times. Maroon, white or blue ribbons/head bands are recommended.
SCHOOL FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2015
Mother of God School fee increases are based on the Average Government School Recurrent Costs (AGSRC) index. The AGSRC are based on state and territory government recurrent expense data over 12 years. The AGSRC movements are irrespective of CPI changes. A school fee letter and account will be sent home during week 3 of term 1.

The schedule of school fees and charges for the 2015 academic year are as follows:-

- Tuition fee $2455 per family
- Levy fee $492 per student
- Technology levy $70 per Student
- Maintenance Levy $150 per family (attend one working bee to receive a rebate)
- Canberra Education Tour $925 per Senior School Student

RE NEWS
Welcome back to the new school year. Next Tuesday 3rd February we will be celebrating the Mother of God Beginning of the School Year Mass for the children.
Mass begins at 9:15. Parents are most welcome to attend. The focus of the mass is about Building Friendships. We will be using the story of the Good Samaritan who crossed the road to help the man who had been attacked by the robbers unlike the priest and Levite who chose not to help the man.
As a community this year our focus will be to be like the Good Samaritan and choose to help others. On a more adult level it is really about us as a community being mindful and choosing to respond with understanding and compassion for all.

This year at Mother of God we are the host school for the combined CPI School events. On Tuesday 10 Feb we will be hosting the beginning of the school year Mass with St Bernadette’s and Mary Immaculate Schools. Mass will commence at 10:15. The church is very crowded on this day but parents are still most welcome.

Reconciliation
For parents of year three children the Sacrament of Reconciliation is on Tuesday 24 March at 11:45. It is great if each student can have at least one family member present on this day. There is a family night for students and parents on this sacrament on Tuesday evening of 11th March commencing in the Marian centre at 6:30pm.

Sacrament Dates
Reconciliation: Tuesday 24 March at 11:45am
First Eucharist: Sunday 13 Sept at 10:30
Confirmation: Sunday 31 May @ 2:30 at St Patrick’s Cathedral

Family Masses – families are invited to attend this Parish Mass to celebrate with your community and build relationships with each other and our Parish.
Sunday 22 February – Prep, Years 1 & 2
Sunday 1 March – Years 3 – 6

Whole School Mass
Sunday 15 March – Whole School Mass celebrating Catholic Education.

Looking forward to a great year.
Brian Anderson

LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS
Welcome back to learning and teaching at MOG for 2015. It was wonderful to catch up with many of you yesterday morning. There was such a great buzz in all the classrooms and the students were ready to learn!
Over the next few weeks students will be completing literacy and numeracy assessments. These assessments in addition to teacher observations will provide essential information which will inform teacher planning in order to cater for individual learning needs of students. We look forward to discussing the results of the assessments and how your child is achieving in their learning during student/parent/teacher chats.

Classroom Parent helper training sessions will be held over the following dates:
Thursday 19 February
Thursday 26 February
Wednesday 4 March
Wednesday 11 March

Each session will run from 9am-10am. If you were a parent helper last year but did not attend the training sessions, please come along to the sessions this year. If you are unable to make these sessions please contact me to discuss other options. For all parents who were trained last year and are interested in helping out this year, keep an eye out for the next newsletter for more information. Please return the slip at the end of this newsletter if you will be attending the classroom parent helper training sessions.
Welcome to 2015!

Library classes commence next week and once again, we're looking forward to another year of great literature related activities throughout the year. Research shows that school libraries have a positive impact on a range of learning areas including reading, literacy development and broader learning areas of the curriculum. School libraries can also make a positive difference to student's self esteem, confidence, independence and a sense of responsibility in regards to their own learning. Our students are fortunate to be able to participate in a weekly library session to help support the curriculum programs in the school. During their sessions the students experience a range of literature, develop skills and have the opportunity to browse and borrow books and other materials.

This year we will again have a host of author visits, performers and Book Week, of course! The theme in 2015 is... Books light up our world. More details about this week will be published in newsletters closer to the date. Could you please encourage your child(ren) to return their books every week and ensure that they have a library bag to protect books?

Library classes are as follows:-

MONDAY – 1/2 HM
TUESDAY – PREP, 1/2S and 4/5W
WEDNESDAY- 3/4O and 5/6G

The Library is also open at lunchtime on Wednesdays 1:50 – 2:15 and after school on Thursdays until 4 o’clock.

Students must be accompanied by a parent on Thursdays after school.

Looking forward to another exciting and literature filled year!

Vicki Gualano

CDF STUDENT BANKING
Teach your child the good habit of regular saving...with a CDF Student Account.
A welcome gift to all students who open an account.
Bankbooks are collected on Monday morning and returned on Thursdays each week.
Application forms are available from the office.

UNIFORM SHOP
The uniform shop will be open next Thursday 5 February from 8.45. Second hand uniforms are also available. Uniform order forms are available at the office, if paid in full items will be sent home via the tote system.

Thankyou- Lisa & Lucy

Classroom Helper Reply Slip
I will be attending the parent helper training sessions:
Name:
Child’s name and class:
If you have any questions please write your name and number below and I will contact you.
Name:
Phone number:

Newsletter email address reply slip
The school newsletter is also available on the school website and TIQBIZ
If you would like to receive the school newsletter via email please complete and return the tear off slip.

Family Name__________________________________________________________________________
Child’s class/es _____________________________________

Email Address________________________________________________________________________
TIQBIZ APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
Please follow the downloading instructions below. The login for the app is mog.
If you have difficulty downloading the app and require technical support please contact team@tiqbiz.com

We're using an app to communicate with you.

You'll be notified of our news, messages, events and other communications.
Simply download the tiqbiz app to your phone or tablet.

Search in your app store: tiqbiz

- Android Device
- iPad & iPhone
- Windows Phone (Version 8.1 and above)

IMPORTANT NOTE TO APPLE USERS:
Click ‘Allow’ notifications when asked.

Don't have a smartphone or tablet?
Download tiqbiz on your PC or Mac at www.tiqbiz.com

Find and tick

- Log-in
  Open tiqbiz and register/log-in.

- Find
  Click the ‘Find Boxes’ and type our name into the search box. Select us from the results.

- Tick
  Click the grey tick on the boxes that apply to you. When the tick turns green, you're connected.

- Inbox
  Click on the inbox icon. This is where you will receive our instant messages, newsletters, notices and calendar events.

For technical support, please email our friendly team.
Email: team@tiqbiz.com

www.tiqbiz.com
COMMUNITY NEWS

YEAR 7 2016 ENROLMENTS AT MARCELLIN COLLEGE

Applications for Year 7 2016 and beyond are now being accepted. Please note it is the responsibility of each family to submit an application form, including families who currently have sons enrolled at Marcellin. Applications will not be submitted by the primary school.

The closing date for Year 7 2016 applications is Friday 27 February 2015.

A Parent Information Evening for Year 7 in 2016 will be held on Tuesday 17 February at 7.00pm

Please contact the College Registrar on 9851 1589 to obtain an Enrolment Application Form or visit www.marcellin.vic.edu.au

MARCELLIN COLLEGE
1950-2015
65th Anniversary Luncheon
Tuesday, March 31, 2015, 12.30pm at Marcellin

Bookings essential: www.marcellin65th.squarespace.com
Cost: $50 per person

Did you (or do you know anyone who did) attend Marcellin in the 1950s & 60s? The ‘Canterbury Roaders Committee’ would love to hear from you! Call or email Prue.
Any leads or tips to whereabouts of Old Collegians and ex staff also gratefully accepted.

DE LA SALLE COLLEGE

Key Dates
Year 7, 2016

Applications are now being accepted for Year 7, 2016 and beyond.

Tuesday 10 February 2015
College Tour - 9.15am

Friday 20 February 2015
College Tour - 2.00pm

Friday 27 February 2015
College Tour - 9.15am

Friday, 24 April 2015
Applications for Year 7, 2016 Close

If you would like to receive a College Prospectus and Application Pack, or have any questions about the enrolment process at De La Salle College, please contact the College Registrar, Rachel Cusan (9808 2186), or by email: info@delasalle.vic.edu.au

LEARN. LIVE. LEAD.

Hook in2 Hockey

This is a great 6 week program for beginners to learn and develop their ability to play hockey. Your first session is FREE!

Start Date: 21st February 2015
When: Saturday mornings 10am
Where: Yarra Valley Hockey Club
Contact: Rachel Watson
Mobile: 0438 315 757
Email: bha@yarravalleyhockey.com.au
### Term One

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28th Jan</td>
<td>Teachers return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th Jan</td>
<td>Students return to school Preps 8.50am – 12.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th Jan</td>
<td>Preps 8.50am – 12.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Feb</td>
<td>Preps (all day for next 4 weeks except Wednesdays)</td>
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<td>4th Feb</td>
<td>Anne Carrick Dance School begin Wednesday afternoon in the Marian Centre</td>
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<td>6th Feb</td>
<td>Welcome to School BBQ/Picnic – 5.30pm – 7.30pm</td>
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<td>10th Feb</td>
<td>Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe Beginning of School Year Mass at Mother of God Church</td>
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<td>10th Feb</td>
<td>Prop, Year 1 and Year 2 Learning and Teaching Information evening</td>
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<td>12th Feb</td>
<td>Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Learning and Teaching Information evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th – 20th Feb</td>
<td>Canberra Education Tour – Year 5 and Year 6 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Feb</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>Goal Setting discussions – Parent, student, teacher – students dismissed @ 1:00pm</td>
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<td>9th March</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
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<td>10th March</td>
<td>School Open Day – Enrolments for 2016 9:00am – 1:00pm</td>
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<td>11th March</td>
<td>FIRE Carrier Day – Amberley (4 Year 5 students)</td>
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<td>11th March</td>
<td>Family Reconciliation Workshop – 6:30pm at Mother of God</td>
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<td>12th March</td>
<td>School Photo’s (children to wear summer school uniform)</td>
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<td>15th March</td>
<td>Beginning of the Year School Mass – 10:30am Mother of God – Celebrating Catholic Education</td>
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<td>15th – 20th March</td>
<td>Catholic Education Week</td>
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<td>16th/17th March</td>
<td>School Open Days – Enrolments for 2016 – 9:00am – 1:00pm</td>
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<td>19th March</td>
<td>Mass of St. Patrick for Schools and Concert – Student Leadership – St. Patrick’s Cathedral</td>
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<td>24th March</td>
<td>Year 3 Reconciliation – 11:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th March</td>
<td>Twilight Sports – children dismissed @ 1.00p.m. Chelsworth Park 3.15p.m. (TO BE CONFIRMED)</td>
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<td>27th March</td>
<td>End of Term for students at 1:30pm</td>
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<td>29th March</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
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<td>3rd April</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>5th April</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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### Sacramental Dates for 2015

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<tr>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Year 3 Reconciliation – 11:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st May</td>
<td>Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Patrick’s Cathedral at 2:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th September</td>
<td>First Eucharist at 10:30am at Mother of God Church</td>
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MOG CHESS CLUB 2015

Think! Concentrate! Gain Confidence! Have FUN!

Coach: Jim Cannon, PhD, UMelb, Dip Ed, UMelb  Email: jimphd2000@gmail.com

New to Chess? Try two classes OBLIGATION FREE. Parents welcome to sit in.

---

I would like my child(ren)  1.___________________ in Year  1 2 3 4 5 6
2.___________________ in Year  1 2 3 4 5 6
to participate in Chess Club in 2015. I enclose $50.00 per term.

SPECIAL OFFER (TERM 1 ONLY):
PAY FOR 4 TERMS AND RECEIVE A FREE COMPETITION CHESS SET AND BOARD!

Direct deposit (JF Cannon, Westpac, BSB + A/C#: 037-138 56-4211) with name, school and
term eg “J BROWN MOG T1”, cash or cheque (to “J.F.Cannon”) accepted. Thank you.

Signature of parent / guardian ___________________________ Date   /   /
Name of parents / guardians 1._____________________________ 2._____________________________,
Phone: Home___________________ mob____________________________

*Email ____________________________________________________________

✔ Please tick “Term enrolling”

MOG
Lessons: Thursdays Lunchtime

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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Help your child ACHIEVE!

One way to help your child achieve at school is to work together with your child’s teacher. The parent-teacher partnership takes work from both sides to become a reality. Here are some ideas that will help.

1. **Know what your child’s teacher is trying to achieve**
   Like children, every teacher is different with their own specific expectations, goals and interests. Get to know your child’s teacher and gain an understanding of their approach and aspirations for your child’s class.

2. **Keep your expectations reasonable and positive**
   If your expectations are too high your teacher may give up. Too low and they will meet them! The trick is to keep your aspirations for your child in line with their ability and their interests. Also be realistic about what your child’s school can deliver. Sometimes our expectations of schools are not in line with their capabilities or their roles.

3. **Support your teacher’s expectations & activities at home**
   One practical way of supporting your child is to take a real interest in their home-based learning tasks and follow the guidelines laid out by teachers.

4. **Send kids to school ready to learn and on time**
   Maximize your child’s chances of success by sending them to school in a good frame of mind, with plenty of sleep and a good breakfast. Also make sure they get to school on time. It’s estimated that many kids miss up to two weeks of school a year when they are routinely late by just five minutes a day.

5. **Inform teachers of your child’s challenges and changes**
   Life is not always smooth sailing for kids. Family circumstances can alter. Friends move away. Illness happens. These changes affect learning. Make sure you keep your child’s teacher up-to-date with significant changes or difficulties your child experiences, so he or she can accommodate their emotional and learning needs at school.

6. **Skill children to work with others**
   Schools are social places requiring children to work and play with each other much of the time. Teaching manners to kids, as well as encouraging them to share their time, space and things with others is practical ways to help kids with their social skills. Talk through any social challenges they may have, helping them develop their own strategies to get on with others.

7. **Respectfully seek joint solutions to problems and difficulties**
   Resist the temptation to solve all your children’s problems or think you have the only solution. Most learning and social problems can be resolved when teachers and parents work together. In the best interest of the child.

8. **Participate in class & school activities**
   There is a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent involvement in a child’s schooling and their educational success. Quite simply, if you want your child to improve his learning then take an interest in his learning, attend as many school functions as you can, and follow the lead provided by your child’s teacher. This simple strategy will have a massive, long-term impact.

9. **Trust your teacher’s knowledge, professionalism and experience**
   Your child’s teachers are your greatest allies. Their training, their experience around kids, and their objective professionalism puts them in a strong position to make judgment calls about your child.

10. **Talk up what happens at school**
    Your child will take their cues from you about how they see their school. If you want your child to value learning, and enjoy their time at school, then you need to support your school and make sure he or she hears positive messages about learning, teachers and the school itself. You can set a strong educational agenda at home by talking up your school.

This type of 10-point plan is easy to read but hard to put into practice, particularly when you get busy or your child has significant difficulties. Choose two or three ideas from this list to really focus on in the coming year and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place. Good luck and nurture the partnerships you have with your child’s teachers.