I would encourage all Grade 1-6 parents to make a time to see their classroom teacher next Wednesday, as it provides you and your child’s classroom teacher an opportunity to discuss any initial observations on how your children have settled into their new Grade.

For those of you that haven’t used our online booking system, here are some commonly asked questions and answers:

*My child didn’t bring home the letter on Monday.*
If you do not have the letter, please contact the office and we will print off another one for you. Each family has their own unique identification code that will be used for different things over the year.

*I don’t have access to Internet.*
If you ring the office we can book in a time for you. It is a very easy process and very easy also to change times or make multiple bookings for the one family.

*My child is with the same teacher as last year.*
It is still worth having a parent teacher interview. Children change over the holiday period and a teacher’s learning focus with a child also adjusts from Term to Term.

We look forward to catching up with all our Parent Community next Wednesday, with the exception of our Prep parents. Please contact the office if you have any further queries regarding Parent Teacher Interviews.

**Parents Club Meeting**
Last week we had a very successful Annual General Meeting of Parents Club. I would like to thank the work of the 2016 Parents Club led by Casey Hocken. Their fundraising efforts led to over $7500 being put towards new school computers and library books for the 2017 School Year. They also purchased our Shade Tents which will come in extremely handy for upcoming school and district sporting events.

I would like to congratulate our new office bearers of our 2017 Parents & Friends Club.

President: Bridie De Kunder
Vice President: Jess Lambourn
Treasurer: Andrea Germaine
Secretary: Chenara Hunt

We look forward to another exciting and successful year ahead.

**Buses**
As mentioned earlier in the year, Maffra PS is now recording all students who catch afternoon buses from our school. If your child catches an afternoon bus, their name must be on the roll, or a written note must be provided by the parent. As of the 1st March no students will be...
permitted on an afternoon bus who are not on the bus roll. Thanks for your support in this.

School Fees
Essential Item Fees are now overdue and payable at the office. The cost is $70 per student. All students have been provided with their required books, pens, pencils, paper, photocopying and art supplies. This equates to under $2 per week to support your students learning outcomes for the year.

Music Fees
Instrumental Tuition Fees are due and payable at the office. The cost is $80 for Semester 1, (Term 1 and 2). This program is a terrific way for students to improve their learning of a musical instrument, and often the skills obtained in these lessons transfer into other curriculum areas.

Matt Currie
PRINCIPAL

Celebrating 150 Years!
Maffra Primary School is celebrating 150 years of educating Maffra children and any successful celebration a lot of planning and thought must go in to it. With this in mind a planning group needs to be established to make MPS 150th birthday celebration a huge success.

If you can spare some time at 6.30pm on Wednesday 1st March at the school, to assist in the beginnings of what will be a trip down memory lane for some, a reminder of childhood achievements for others, and perhaps some memories of misspent adventures for a few of you. We would love to have you on board to create a moment in Maffra time that will be remembered for another 150 years.

Please contact the school on 51471236 if you would like to be involved in any way.

Parents and Friends News
Our parent retreat room will be open on the following days:
Monday: 9.00am – 10.30am and 2.20pm – 3.20pm.
Thursday: 9.00am – 10.30am and 2.20pm – 3.20pm.

Parents and Friends
Bingo Night at Sale Greyhounds
Monday March 6th – eyes down at 7pm!
To make this night a success, we need a lot of donations. Example: chocolates, vouchers, pot plants, home baking, hand creams / body lotions.

Mardi Gras Helpers Needed
Next Thursday in the Parent Retreat Room at 9.00am, there will be a meeting for anyone interested in helping out at the Maffra Mardi Gras. All welcome!

Maffra Lions Club / Stretton Park Aged Care
Maffra Lions Club Bike Ride or Fun Run
Sunday March 26th 2017 in aid of Stretton Park Building Fund
Commencing at 10.30am at Maffra Apex Park, McMahon Drive, Maffra.
Bike Ride and Back to Tinamba on the Rail Trail or Fun Run on the Stratford Rail Trail.
For more information, phone Geoff Higgins on 0428 812 341.
Would you like to join one of our MyTime groups?

MyTime groups provide local support for parents and carers of a young child under 16 years with a disability or chronic medical condition.

MyTime groups are for parents and carers who want to have time out to connect with others and share their experiences. Groups provide unique support from other parents who have "been there" or are "there right now". MyTime gives parents the chance to share ideas with others and find out about available community support in our area. The program has research-based parenting information available at all group meetings. We have a variety of guest speakers who visit our groups eg service providers with information on the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

How MyTime works

Each group is supported by workers - a facilitator for the parents and play helpers for the children. The facilitator works with the parent group, helping them get to know each other. The play helpers lead the children and siblings in play activities that are suited to the children’s ages and interests. This enables parents to spend time focusing on catching up with others for support to gain information about their child's disability and service access. Our groups meet once a week for two hours.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the group parents/carers must have a child under 16 who is eligible for the Carer Allowance. MyTime groups are free for parents and carers.

How to join MyTime

We have two groups which meet on Fridays at the Uniting Church, 710 Lanes Road Bairnsdale. A 10 am - 12pm group and a 12.30-2.30pm group. If interested please contact Rose McKenna (MyTime Facilitator) 0427576219.

MyTime is your time!
Welcome to our new children in Prep S, 2017!