From the Principal...

PUPIL FREE DAY
At last Friday’s Pupil Free Day, we met with Loxton North and Kingston-On-Murray staff to work on analysis of student writing. Together we analysed student writing samples and assessed these against an Australian Curriculum Writing Framework. Over the next few weeks teachers will ensure that every student in their class has their writing assessed using this framework. Teachers will then re-assess students’ writing using this framework in Term 4 so that we can identify progress.

We have now made a whole school commitment to collect this writing data once a year to inform our teaching practice and so that we can share and celebrate students’ writing growth with parents/caregivers.

LEADING NUMERACY IMPROVEMENT
Last Wednesday I began Module 1 of the Leading Numeracy Improvement (LNI) program designed to support leaders to improve numeracy outcomes at their sites. The program is based on current research into numeracy improvement and leadership from Australia and overseas. There are 4 modules to complete. The program outcomes are:

To enable leaders to make the best informed decisions in mathematics and numeracy where:

- Every child and young person is engaged, challenged and achieving their potential
- Every site has a data informed improvement plan and process for action
- Every leader is focussed on achieving DECD priorities, KPI’s and standards of higher achievements
- Every leader is more confident, capable and better equipped to lead whole site improvement.

MEDICATION UPDATE
Please note that there have been some significant changes in the way student medications are to be managed within the school environment. Please could you read the information attached to this newsletter, which has been taken directly from the DECD Health Support Planning in Education and Children’s Services policy and details the current procedures.

In summary, the policy explains that school/education staff are unable to administer medication to children unless they have a completed medical authority or an Interim 24 hour Parental Authorised Medication form. We have attached copies of these forms. If you need any more clarification please do not hesitate to see Brigit, Jacey or Sonya in the office.

HABITS OF MIND
This week’s Habit Of Mind that we are focusing on school wide is Striving For Accuracy.

Here are some ways that YOU can work on this Habit of Mind with your child at home:

Teach your child a process...such as making cookies. You must measure accurately, or your cookies won’t taste good. You must place the dough on the cookie sheet precisely, or you will have one big cookie instead of 20 little ones. Precision and accuracy are both important to the final outcome of good cookies!

Thank you,

Sonya Warren

Great place to GROW
At Moorook Primary School we value difference. Everyone has a place in our school community.

My Favourite colour is: Orange
My Favourite subject is: Maths
When I grow up I am going to become?: Not sure
What is your best trait?: Happy
My Favourite Food is: Scrambled Eggs
My Favourite sport to play is: Basketball
The coolest person on earth is: Lachlan
My best subject in school is: Maths
The thing I do most awesomely is: Build Lego
If I could go anywhere, I would go to: China
The last book I read was: Zac Power - Mega Mission 1
My Favourite band/singer is: Timmy Trumpet
What is your best trait?: Happy
My Favourite song is: Freaks
Three words that describe me are: Happy, clever, excited
When I was little I used to: Play with my remote control
The snack I could live on is: Icecream
When I get stuck at something my positive self talk is: “I can do it”
If I had one wish it would be: To have a Traxxas remote control

Our attendance record at Moorook is quite good, however we can always improve! This table points out how absences from school can impact on our children’s opportunities to learn and to socialize with their friends and staff.

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**At Moorook Primary School we value difference. Everyone has a place in our school community.**

**Lachlan**

- My favourite colour is: Orange
- My favourite subject is: Maths
- When I grow up I am going to become?: Not sure
- What is your best trait?: Happy
- My favourite food is: Scrambled Eggs
- My favourite sport to play is: Basketball
- The coolest person on earth is: Lachlan
- My best subject in school is: Maths
- The thing I do most awesomely is: Build Lego
- If I could go anywhere, I would go to: China
- The last book I read was: Zac Power - Mega Mission 1
- My favourite band/singer is: Timmy Trumpet
- What is your best trait?: Happy
- My favourite song is: Freaks
- Three words that describe me are: Happy, clever, excited
- When I was little I used to: Play with my remote control
- The snack I could live on is: Icecream
- When I get stuck at something my positive self talk is: “I can do it”
- If I had one wish it would be: To have a Traxxas remote control

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**Tessie**

- My favourite colour is: Pink
- My favourite subject is: Maths
- When I grow up I am going to become?: Athlete
- What is your best trait?: Persistent
- My favourite food is: Pasta
- My favourite sport to play is: Soccer
- The coolest person on earth is: Myself
- My best subject in school is: Maths
- The thing I do most awesomely is: Sport
- If I could go anywhere, I would go to: Philippines
- The last book I read was: Fantastic Mr Fox
- My favourite band/singer is: Lucas Graham
- What is your best trait?: Happy
- My favourite song is: 7 Years
- Three words that describe me are: Happy, kind, nice
- When I was little I used to: Play on the playground
- The snack I could live on is: Fruit
- When I get stuck at something my positive self talk is: “Keep going”
- If I had one wish it would be: To have a million wishes

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**ATTENDANCE DATA**

It is a requirement by DECD that we record our school attendance rate for the fortnight in our newsletter.

The **DECD target is 95%**

Our **attendance rate** for the fortnight was **93%**

Please remember to inform the school of any planned or unplanned student absences. This may be a written, verbal or phone explanation. We appreciate your help in keeping our records up to date.

Thank you.

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**Our attendance record at Moorook is quite good, however we can always improve!**

This table points out how absences from school can impact on our children’s opportunities to learn and to socialize with their friends and staff.

**1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but........................................**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses ...</th>
<th>That equals ...</th>
<th>Which is ...</th>
<th>And over 13 years of schooling that’s ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 1/2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 1/2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won’t affect my child?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just ...</th>
<th>That equals ...</th>
<th>Which is ...</th>
<th>&amp; over 13 years of schooling that’s ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 mins per day</td>
<td>50 mins per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1 1/2 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 1/2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 mins per day</td>
<td>1 hr 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2 1/2 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 mins per day</td>
<td>1 1/3 hr per day</td>
<td>1 week per year</td>
<td>Over 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 1/2 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This week we were lucky enough to have a visit from Valerie our Spanish teacher. The students enjoyed learning family names and greetings with Valerie and were able to create some interesting role plays and conversations in Spanish. This was a great opportunity to reinforce some of the learning the students have already been doing in Spanish whilst also learning some new vocabulary in an authentic context. We look forward to Valerie visiting again.

What we liked most about Valerie’s visit...

“Making the plays in Spanish” by Taylor
“Making the puppets for the plays” by Sarah
“Making a storyline with Olivia” by Lily
“Having her here instead of on the screen” by Olivia
“We got to do more interesting and fun stuff” by Tessie

Valerie also visited the Junior Primary Class

What do children need to succeed in life, in work, as future parents and as community members?

Essential are long term relationships with many positive adult role models, caring schools, opportunities to serve, and a community of people and places that value young people. These things are called Developmental Assets. They are concrete, positive experiences and qualities that are essential to raising young people. Research has shown that there are 40 essential developmental assets and that most young people in Australia experience less than half of them. Over the next few newsletters I will talk about these Assets that children need to have the best opportunity to succeed in life.

In the meantime here are 25 Ways to show kids you CARE by building their assets.

1. Notice them.
2. Ask them about themselves.
3. Be yourself.
4. Cheer their accomplishments.
5. Go places together.
6. Introduce them to new experiences.
7. Expect their best; don’t expect perfection.
8. Catch them doing something right.
9. Laugh at their jokes.
10. Suggest better behaviours when they act out.
11. Hug them.
12. Be curious with them.
13. Play outside together.
14. Delight in their discoveries.
16. Create a safe, open environment.
17. Daydream with them.
18. Make decisions together.
19. Magnify their magnificence.
21. Let them make mistakes.
22. Inspire their creativity.
23. Have play days.
24. Listens to their favourite music with them.
25. Love them, no matter

How many did you score? Have a great week!

Brenton Poole - Pastoral Care Worker
On **Monday 21st March** Moorook Primary SRC are asking for your support in celebrating **Harmony Day**

**Our message:** At Moorook Primary we value differences.

**Our Request:** Bring along a plate of food to share at lunch time that celebrates your family heritage and culture. Wear something **ORANGE** on the day to show that while we are all different we come together as one.

Any **traditional costumes** are also a welcome idea!

**Our thanks:** Together we can enjoy the different foods that make Australia a multi-cultural society.

**On Behalf of the Moorook Primary SRC**

P.S. Please clearly label the ingredients of your plate of food to share - no nuts would be appreciated

Parents / family / community members are welcome to join us for lunch at 1pm

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**COMMUNITY NOTICES & INFO**

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**Congratulations**

A big congratulations to **Katie, Nigel, Kayla, Krystal and Emma Arnold** on the birth of their beautiful little baby ‘Jesse.’ We know he will bring lots of joy to your family!

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**Thank you**

Our school relies on the support of our wonderful families, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Heath Hera-Singh and Nigel Arnold for their recent help around our school. Heath did a wonderful job helping to clear out our furniture shed and also fixed up our table tennis table for the students. Nigel spent some time cutting and trimming our very sick orange tree to see if it can be brought back to life - thanks boys!

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**QUELCHES FOR SALE**

**Monday, Tuesday & Friday 50c each**

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**Riverland Primary School Festival Assisting Artists Auditions**

to perform on Tues 2nd Wed 3rd Thurs 4th August 2016 at the Chaffey Theatre

Due Friday 15th April - no late entries accepted.

DECD Health Support Planning in Education and Children’s Services policy

Medication management

Requests for storage and supervision of medication

Education and childcare staff should store and supervise only medication that has been prescribed by a doctor for the individual child or student, for the period of time specified. This ensures the medication is medically warranted. Analgesics and other medications which can be purchased over the counter without a prescription should also be prescribed if staff members are to be asked to supervise their use. It should be noted that analgesics can mask signs and symptoms of serious illness or injury and should not, therefore, be used by education and childcare workers as a standard first aid strategy.

Storage of medication

It is reasonable for education and childcare workers to accept and agree to supervise only medication required during their period of supervision or care (for example, medication required three times a day is generally not required during a school day: it can be taken before and after school, and before bed). This minimises the quantity of medication held on site.

Medications must be stored strictly in accordance with product instructions (paying particular note to temperature) and in the original container in which dispensed. Some families supply thermal carry packs to maintain safe temperature storage and for ease of transport on excursions. Storage should be secure with clear labelling and access limited to the staff responsible for medication storage and supervision. Safe storage of medication requires, therefore, as a minimum standard, that the medication is: prescribed by a doctor, provided by the parent or guardian, within the expiry date of the product delivered to staff as a daily supply (or a week’s supply at the most, except in long-term continuous care arrangements). This might require the family to organise a second labelled container from the pharmacy for safe storage at home, provided with written instructions from the parent, guardian or doctor.

These instructions must match those printed on the product packaging.

Supervision of medication

Education and care workers are generally trained to supervise oral and measured dose inhaled medication. They are generally not trained, and so cannot be expected, to routinely administer medication taken by other routes, for example eye and ear drops and ointments.

Everyone supervising medication needs to ensure that: the right child has the right medication and the right dose by the right route (for example, oral or inhaled), at the right time, and that they, write down what they have observed.

Education and childcare workers can ask for a medication authority to be provided by the prescribing doctor to assist them with safe supervision of medication. This can be requested for over the counter medication as well as prescription-only medication. If a medication authority is not provided, staff should have written instructions from the parent or guardian. In all cases the instructions must match those on the pharmacy label.

The only exception is where medication is included in a first aid kit for use in a standard first aid procedure. At the time of writing, this is the case for asthma first aid. Asthma first aid training is part of basic first aid training recommended for education and childcare workers. In South Australia this includes administration of reliever asthma medication provided as part of an asthma first aid kit, for use by trained personnel. A child or student should not take his or her first dose of a new medication at school, preschool or in a childcare setting: the child or student should be supervised by the family or health professional in case of an allergic reaction.

Monitoring the effects of medication

Education and childcare workers can observe and document behaviour. In some cases—for example, attention disorders or epilepsy—such observations can be used by health professionals in determining care plans. It is not the role of education and childcare workers to interpret behaviour in relation to a medical condition. Nor can they be expected to monitor the effects of medication. If workers are concerned for any reason about a child’s or student’s health, their first aid training requires them to enact standard first aid emergency procedures.