Melton Primary School is a Sunsmart School.
During Term 4 all children are required to wear a school hat. The school hat is a plain navy blue hat, either in a bucket style, wide-brim or legionnaire style. Hats are available at the office for students to purchase either before school or at recess. Hats are $5 each.

Reminders:
All late children must visit the office for a late pass before going to class.
All visitors to the school must sign in at the office and then sign out when they leave.
No child is to be removed from the school without a sign-out permission slip being completed by an authorised person at the office.

School Absent Notification Message Bank
Our phone system now allows parents, when calling the school to report their child absent, to DIAL 1 and leave a voice message for the office.

Konnective initiative
Melton PS has begun using this App, available for iPhone and Android smart phones as well as a web version for other phone types and for users without a smart phone. The application is free to use and will mean that all families will be able to stay even more connected with their child’s activities and events at school. To start using the service, we have previously asked for your email address. All personal information is handled in accordance with Konnective’s Privacy Policy. If you have not already done so, please return the email request or visit the office to collect a new form.
Once you have supplied your email address to the office, you can then go ahead and download the App to your smartphone and be well informed.

Student Absence Letters: All families who have previously supplied an email address to the school, either with their child’s enrolment or for Family Statement notifications, will in future receive their student’s unexplained absence dates emailed out on a regular basis. This letter is to be printed off, signed by the parent and returned to the office for processing.
If you have not previously supplied the school with your email address, please contact the office.

School Newsletter: Does your child lose the newsletter at the bottom of the school bag? You don’t need a paper copy? Would you like a notification emailed out? Please visit our website and sign up for our newsletter notification. Usually the email is received the night before the newsletter comes home with your eldest child.
If you have not previously subscribed to the newsletter with your email address, please contact the office.

Both Student Absent Letters and Family Financial Statements have been either sent home via the child or emailed out via the school email system last week.
If you have not received your email, please check your Junk Items or check that you have sufficient space in your inbox.

OSHClub
Before & After School Care
0432 018 557

*IMPORTANT* When you need your child to attend OSHClub it is very important that you book them in online 24 hours before hand. If you ring up or msg on the day and it is an emergency we understand, but if you have prior notice could you please book them!

Remember, all families must be enrolled to attend the program. It is Free to enrol!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au. All bookings and cancellations should also be managed via your online account.
Dates to Remember: During Term 4 all students are required to wear a navy school hat.

Please check both the excursion date & the deadline date. Late payments will not be accepted.

December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10</td>
<td>Step Up Day (Orientation Day), Gr 6 students to Secondary College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16</td>
<td>Reports go home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation Event, Tabcorp Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18</td>
<td>Silver Pass activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19</td>
<td>Gold Pass activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20</td>
<td>Last day of term 4 (early dismissal 1:00pm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and other dates as per previous notices given directly to children.

January, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22</td>
<td>Book Collection Day (Office open 8.00am - 5.00pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 23</td>
<td>Book Collection Day (Office open 8.00am - 6.00pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 24</td>
<td>Office closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 26</td>
<td>Australia Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27</td>
<td>Australia Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 28</td>
<td>Curriculum Day (No students) Office open 12noon to 2:00pm only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 29</td>
<td>Curriculum Day (No students) Office open 12noon to 2:00pm only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 30</td>
<td>All students resume (8:45am bell) Foundation students 8:50am and finish at 12:20pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents and Friends Association

Last month students, parents, siblings, grandparents, friends and teachers braved the cool weather to attend the first ever twilight movie event held at Melton Primary School. We would like to thank everyone that helped to make this event a great night that was enjoyed by all.

A BIG thank you to the following businesses that donated goods and services:
Asthma tips for Parents and Carers
Please ensure your child’s asthma is well-controlled; this will help them to bounce back quicker from a cough or cold and will help prevent asthma attacks when they are unwell.
Contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462) or www.asthma.org.au.

Due to the number of children that are medically diagnosed with Asthma, the office requests that any spacer left at the office be the smaller tube design, rather than the old-fashioned over-sized design.

We would appreciate it if all current spacers be updated to the smaller design by the end of 2013. Parents concerned will be notified.

5 minute parent survey for your chance to win an iPad!
On behalf of the Ride2School program, we would like to invite you, as a parent of Melton Primary School, to participate in their travel to school survey.

Your responses will help us better understand the concerns of parents of school aged children across Victoria. We are keen to hear from all parents, whether your children are driven, walk, or cycle to school.

For your chance to win an iPad, simply complete the following 5 minute survey by 24 December 2013: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R2Sparent

The winner will be notified by email and announced on the Ride2School website in January 2014.

School Captains At Parliament House
On the steps of Melbourne Parliament House.

On Monday 18th November our two school captains Jemma Tanti and Ben McIntosh attended the Junior School Congress Forum at Parliament House, Melbourne with Mr Danny Roberts. While there, our school captains had the opportunity to participate in a ‘mock parliament’.

They began the day with a tour around Parliament House. They made opening statements based on surveys taken in our school and workshopped ideas with students from other schools to solve local issues. They had the opportunity to debate issues raised by other schools and participated in voting on some very important issues such as littering, graffiti, sustainability and other environmental issues.

They even had the chance to sit in the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, where they learnt about how laws are passed in state government. This was an important opportunity for our school captains and they will be discussing what they learnt with their class and the wider school. Melton Primary School is very proud of our school captains and we would like to give particular thanks to them for their hard work and preparation for the day.

Great job Ben and Jemma!
Numeracy Update.  Numeracy Coach: Michael Portaro

A number of international studies into children’s knowledge loss over the long summer break have shown that the consequences are cumulative and long lasting, often having a powerful influence on learning. It is harder to close the gap once it has opened so I’ve come up with some ways you can help to ensure your child’s progress doesn’t decline from their almost six week absence from school.

Open Questions
Open questions are those that require a child to think more deeply and to give a response that involves more than recalling a fact or reproducing a skill.

In 2014 at Melton Primary School all year levels will focus on the learning of number. This will be integrated across many other mathematical content areas including perimeter, area, measurement, volume & capacity to name a few. However a solid understanding of number will help children develop comfort and fluency in mathematics.

While attempting to solve the questions below children will develop a feeling for the ways numbers work. They will develop an understanding of estimation and mental calculation skills.

Junior Questions
- I bought something at the supermarket and got five cents change. What did I buy and how much did it cost?
- I have two coins in one hand and one in the other hand. Each hand is of equal value. What could the coins be?
- We went to paint the top half of the room. How could we find out where the half-way mark is?
- Draw a shape. If the shape is cut into two halves what might it look like?
- What numbers can you make that are below 100 and have a 6 in the tens place?
- What numbers can you make using 6, 5 and 8?

Senior Questions
- I bought an item at a shop and got 35 cents change. What did I buy and how much did it cost?
- I gave change of $1 using 20 cent, 10 cent and 5 cent coins. What might the change have looked like?
- I picked a handful of Smarties. One-third of them were red. What might a drawing of the Smarties look like?
- My big brother has received six tests results so far. On five of them he scored half marks. What might his results have been?
- Two numbers multiply to make 360. One of the numbers has a zero on the end. What might the two numbers be?
- A number has been rounded off to 1200. What might the number be?

The web is a great tool when attempting to source more of these questions. Enjoy the break ☺️
GLEE CLUB encourages as many students as possible to have an opportunity to share their performance skills with their peers and the local community. Recently, I was fortunate enough to experience a meet and greet with Jerry Hall and her fellow cast members from the production of The Graduate in Melbourne. Here is the encouraging message they had for the MPS Glee Clubs:

“Glee Club, keep going! You can do it!”
This term, our grade 2 students explored the classification of animals, animal features and their environment. They have been focussing on the development of their research skills – using iPads, laptops and books to form their investigations. We produced a range of procedural texts and created maps, animal cards, 3D animals, new Australian coins, collages and fact posters. We are looking forward to attending Melbourne Zoo this coming Thursday as it allows us the opportunity to see the animals that we have been studying in real life. It has been a wonderful year in grade 2 and we wish you all a Merry Christmas!

Ingredients:

- 200g Mars Bars, chopped
- 2 tbsp of pouring (thin) cream
- 2 tsp cocoa powder, sifted
- 3 cups Rice Bubbles
- Canola spray
- 100g white chocolate
- 24 red Smarties or M&Ms

Method:
Spray a little Canola spray into 2 x 12 cup mini-muffin trays.
Melt the Mars Bars, cream and cocoa in a glass bowl over simmering water. The bowl should not touch water. Stir the mixture until smooth.
Put the Rice Bubbles in a separate large bowl, pour in the chocolate mixture and stir until well mixed.
Spoon the mixture into the muffins tray and press down gently.
Refrigerate for 2 hours and turn out onto a tray to decorate.
Melt the white chocolate in the microwave checking and stirring it at 30 second intervals. Pour it into a piping bag while warm and snip the tip off.
Turn the crackles upside down and pipe the chocolate on. Finish with a red Smartie on top of each one.
How does a volcano erupt?

Volcanoes are dangerous, here is how they explode.

First, high temperatures cause rock to melt down, turning into magma.

Next, the magma oozes through the Earth’s crust (called a magma chamber).

Then, pressure builds up between the liquids and gases in the magma. If there is not enough gas it won’t explode. It will explode if there is enough gas.

So watch out and don’t go near a volcano, they are dangerous.

By Hayden Cromberge

How to do a cartwheel

Cartwheels are very easy to do and I’m going to show you how it is done.

First, you lift one leg up high and straight in front, with your toe pointed.

Secondly, bend down and put one hand on the floor as your back leg moves up.

Thirdly, bring your hips over the top and place your second hand on the mat.

Next, keep your body straight so that your hips travel above your shoulders.

After that, push off the floor with your first hand as your front foot comes down.

So that’s how you do a cartwheel. Try one for yourself.

By Tara Quarman

What is snake’s venom?

If you’re looking for what snake’s venom is used for, you have come to the right place.

First, venom is produced in the glands in the snake’s mouths. When a venomous snake bites, muscles squeeze the venom out each fang, injecting deadly venom into victims.

There is a wide variety of venom among different snakes. However, most contain proteins that can cause animals to go into shock, cause damage to muscles or affect the functioning of their nerves. This can lead to paralysis, including your heart stopping or not being able to breathe, which may lead to death.

Unfortunately for people these venoms have the same affect on us. To counter bites, venom can be milked from snakes to produce anti-venom.

So now you know about venom. So don’t surprise a snake, or it might bite. Hard!

By Lachlan Rethus