Montague Continuing Education Centre

NEWSLETTER

19th July 2012

Principal’s Report

It is with great sadness that I convey to our school community Stephen Franziford, CEO of Association of School Councils in Victoria, passed away suddenly on 6th July. Stephen was a member of our School Council and a great friend to us all here at Montague over the past 5 years. Stephen often called in, just to chat to staff and students, ‘taste test’ goodies made in the cooking programs, joined our support team for the Around the Bay bike ride on a Sunday last October and genuinely cared for us all. We will miss Stephen.
Stephen’s funeral is Monday 23rd July, details are in today’s Herald Sun. Erika, Peter and I will be representing the school.

As mentioned in the last newsletter the new policy regarding mobile phones, was implemented fully before the school holidays. This term students have not been required to hand in their mobiles, however, all other conditions of the policy remain. As per policy if there are any breaches we will implement the policy fully again, that is handing in mobiles each day.

Unfortunately, we have only had a few registrations for the 100km Around the Bay Bike Ride on Sunday 21st October, so Montague may not be represented this year which is most disappointing.

Dates

As mention previously, this year our school is undertaking a Continuous Improvement Review. Our reviewer Julie Hardiman will be visiting the school again on Thursday 16th August to speak with students, staff, Peter Molloy, School Council president and myself.

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 23rd October.

The school formal will be held at MSAC on Dec 13th

Wishing you all a warm and healthy winter.

Kind regards

Geri
Performing Arts at Circus Oz
Term 3, 2012

SUNDAY 22 JULY to SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

Performing Arts continues to liven up Sundays in Term 3. From clowning, drama, hula hoops, character to rope walking and dance, there is always something new to try and fun for all!

Location: Circus Oz Headquarters
Bay St, Port Melbourne
(enter via laneway behind building)

Classes: 10.30am to 12.30pm
(includes a 15 minute break)

Cost: $135 for 9 week term

Contact Anne at JCAAA on 9209 6159
Living Well with Asthma: Advice for Parents and Carers

1 in 10 people in Australia have asthma, and people with asthma often rate their health a lot worse and report a poorer quality of life than the general population. Children and adolescents with current asthma are more likely to miss days of school/preschool due to asthma and a key aspect of improving quality of life is ensuring that your child or teenager is able to engage fully in physical activity and social aspects of life and learning.

Good asthma control is:
- Symptom free during the day and during physical exercise, reducing the need for reliever medication
- Symptom free at night, allowing for a good night's rest
- Rarely experiencing asthma attacks or exacerbations
- Preventer medication and devices are being used correctly and as prescribed (eg. on a daily basis)
- Having an asthma action plan to follow, both for the school/preschool and at home, and promptly acting on the plan when asthma symptoms occur

Asthma symptoms are not a normal aspect of life and should be taken seriously. Children and teenagers with poor asthma control should be encouraged to seek assistance, and should visit their GP or respiratory physician for an asthma review as soon as possible.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au

Spacer Use in Schools/Preschools: Advice for Parents & Carers

As of the 1st July 2012, schools and preschools in Victoria will be implementing a new policy in regards to single person spacer use.

This means that schools and preschools will no longer be able to wash, sterilise and re-use spacers and face masks from their asthma emergency kits when assisting students and children with asthma symptoms.

Spacers should always be used when administering reliever 'puffer' medication because:
- Using a spacer with a 'puffer' ensures that more medication reaches the airways
- Spacers are much easier for children to use than a 'puffer' alone, and allows school and preschool staff to help students/children during an asthma attack, often in an emergency situation
- Spacers are an essential part of the Asthma First Aid procedure that Victorian schools/preschools are instructed to follow

Asthma first aid kits should only ever be used as a back-up for when a child with asthma does not have their own spacer available, or if it is a first asthma attack or the cause of breathing difficulty is unknown. Your child's school/preschool may implement a policy where parents/carer's are responsible for the cost of the spacer if one must be used from the asthma emergency kit.

Even if your child has mild asthma, it is essential that their medication and spacer (and a compatible face mask if under 5 years old) is always available to school/preschool staff. To ensure that a spacer is not left at home, we would recommend that parents/carers purchase a second spacer for their child to have with them at school/preschool at all times if possible.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au
Support

Parents of Port Phillip - info that helps!

your teen

Elwood College and City of Port Phillip present an ongoing series of free evening forums for all parents of school-aged children from Grade 5 to Year 12.

'Becoming Cyber Savvy – A guide to promoting responsible internet use'

Presented by psychologist Tena Davies.
Wednesday 15th August 2012 6.30pm for a 7pm start.
Elwood College, 101 Glenhuntly Rd, Elwood.

Also mark this date in your calendar now!
Wednesday 14th of November 2012 – Party Safe

Bookings are open through Elwood College.
T: 9531 9566 or email: elwood.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

Elwood College