



Montague School

03 9690 3535

montague.ec@edumail.vic.gov.au

Issue No. 5

School Newsletter 2019

Term One, Newsletter

Dear Parent/ Caregiver,

The start of the New Year is always a busy time for staff and students. It is also an exciting time when new students start.

The end of year celebration was held on the school grounds, we were able to utilize the hall for speeches, the gym for dancing and the grounds for a BBQ. There were many emotional speeches from students who were leaving and remembering all the great experience's they had at Montague School. I would like to thank staff, students and parents for another successful end of year.

2018 was the first year that Montague School enrolled all students into a VCAL level. VCAL has enabled students to focus on literacy, numeracy, personal development and work related skills. VCAL gives the student the opportunity to complete a VET (Vocational Education Training) course. Most students started a VET in 2018 with many completing their course. All students received great results in VCAL. Every student made excellent progress with many students completing a full level, representing 12 months progress in 12 months.

This year we have enrolled many students into VET courses. Students at Foundation level are not required to complete a VET course. Students who are enrolled in Intermediate or Senior VCAL will need to complete a VET course during their enrollment. Four students are returning to their hospitality VET courses they began in 2018 and will undertake Structure Workplace Learning (SWL) placements. Structured Workplace Learning gives students one credit point towards their VCAL certificate. One student is undertaking a horticulture SBAT at Berendale School and we also have students studying acting, animal care, tourism and auto repair, with many other students currently exploring possible options for later in the year.

Montague School focuses on Teaching and Learning. This year we have a literacy goal for reading and writing where all students will engage with explicit reading and writing strategies to improve literacy. The school has also implemented an Instructional Learning Model that will support teachers and students in the classroom. The Instructional Model will increase student engagement with their learning and improve learning outcomes.

Gym classes will continue this term. Every Tuesday and Thursday each class will have a 30 minute session. The students will be able to decide what kind of work out they want to do, for example: cardio or strength training. Many students have already chosen cardio as they want to build their stamina. If students do not feel comfortable in a group setting, there is also an option for one-on-one gym training. Some students have already taken this option and are enjoying the opportunity.

We look forward to a productive year ahead, here at Montague.

Paul Newson,
Principal
Montague School

Daily Timetable

8:30am	School opens
9:00am	Period 1
10:00am	Recess
10:15am	Period 2
11:15pm	Period 3
12:15pm	Lunch
1:45pm	Period 4
2:45pm	School Ends

Please note:

Students are to arrive from **8:30am** and be prepared and ready to start class at **9am**.

Term Dates 2019	Start	Finish
Term 1	29 January	5 April
Term 2	23 April	28 June
Term 3	15 July	20 September
Term 4	7 October	20 December

Sign In:

Students are required to sign in and out at reception every day.

If a student is absent for any reason you will need to call the office on: **9690 3535**

The absent voicemail system has been set up for your convenience.

Calls will be made home after 10am if no explanation has been received.

School Council Dates: 6PM

Tuesday 12th Feb

Tuesday 12th March

Tuesday 7th May

Tuesday 11th of June

Tuesday 13th August

Tuesday 10th September

Tuesday 12th November

Tuesday 10th December

Important Dates

Labour Day – Student free Day	Monday – March 11 th
ANZAC Day – Student Free Day	Thursday – April 25 th
Queen’s Birthday – Student Free Day	Monday – June 10 th
Melbourne Cup – Student Free Days	Monday – November 4 th Tuesday – November 5 th

Sport:

After a well-deserved Christmas break the SSSSA Sports is in full swing again for students of Montague. As part of the school’s Personal Development (PDS) program, students have the opportunity to participate in team sport, on a Friday, against other participating schools. Staff and students decided that this year we would participate in the SSSSA, beach volleyball instead of the usual, basketball. The students were introduced to the sport at Port Melbourne, beach volleyball courts. After a 2.5km bicycle ride from Montague to the beach as a warm up, the student’s practised the three basic shots in volleyball and were then able to test their newly learnt skills in a short game. The first week of competition saw Montague up against Berendale at Dandenong Sports Stadium. Montague did very well with the game ended in a draw at 15 all. The afternoon’s activities were run by Beach Volleyball, Victoria and before any match play, Montague students had a short skills session. They were shown how to correctly strike the ball and how best to position themselves on the court for gameplay. The student’s skills improved immensely and they demonstrated excellent teamwork on the day. Well done Montague.



School Council Elections 2019

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.



Montague School

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Tel: 03 9690 3535 | Email: montague.ec@edumail.vic.gov.au

School Council Elections 2019

Schedule 5A Self-Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the

..... school council.

Name.....

Residential address

.....
.....

Home phone:

Business phone:

Email:

I am the parent/guardian of,
who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development:

Yes / No (please circle)

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above named school council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate: Date:

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

SCHEDULE 4: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of

Montague Continuing Education Centre

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on

15/02/2019

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on

22/03/2018

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2021	4
Community	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2021	3
DET employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2021	1

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.



Paul Newson
Principal

