IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29th to 3rd May</td>
<td>10th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Work experience</td>
<td>Curriculum Day (pupil free)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th to 16th</td>
<td>14th to 16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAPLAN testing, Yr 3, 5, 7, 9</td>
<td>P-12 assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st</td>
<td>15th April – 28th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th July – 20th September</td>
<td>7th October – 20th December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember: You can access the newsletter online at www.murtoasc.vic.gov.au.

Curriculum Day
Please note that next Friday 10th May is Curriculum Day and no students will be attending school. The staff will be completing their Youth Mental Health First Aid training after a three hour after school session on the Tuesday night.

Secondhand uniform items
We are desperately in need of secondhand uniform items in good condition. If you have any items at home that you would be willing to donate, please drop them into the office. Thank you. Primary and secondary are both needed.

Parenting Insights
Teenage drinking: this week’s Parenting article is attached to the newsletter.

ANZAC Day
Well done to all our school representatives at the various ANZAC Day ceremonies. Particular congratulations to Nathan Murphy for his speech at Rupanyup. I have received many positive comments about Nathan’s speech.
**Primary News**

**Diary Dates**
There are a number of important new dates to put in your diary in the table above.

**P-6 Assemblies**
From this week we will commence P-6 assemblies on **Thursdays at 2.45pm**. The classes will rotate presenting the assemblies. All welcome.

**Cross Country**
Well done to all our Year 4/5/6 runners on Friday, all the students did a great job. Special congratulations to our first place getters, Cleo Baker, Paddy Newell, Emmy Dingwall, Nic Ballagh. A number of students will now be going on to the next round on 21st May.

**Learning Journeys Day**
On Tuesday 21st May the primary students P-4 will be dismissed at 1.30pm to enable parent-teacher-student interviews to be held. These interviews will enable parents to see the work their son or daughter has been doing, hear the students describe their work and talk to the teacher about the learning. The interviews will be scheduled for 10 minutes in length. Class teachers will send home appointment times. If children are not able to go home we will supervise them at school. The Year 5/6 class had interviews with Mrs. Shaw last term. If there are any Year 5/6 parents who have a specific concern they should ring the office to make an appointment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/5</td>
<td>Curriculum Day, no students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/5-16/5</td>
<td>NAPLAN week for Yr 3 and Yr 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/5</td>
<td>Murtoa College Pie Drive orders DUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/5</td>
<td>Learning Journeys Day 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31/5</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/6</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/6</td>
<td>CEP performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/6</td>
<td>Pet Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/6</td>
<td>Grandparents Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25/6</td>
<td>P-6 trip to Swan Hill</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Term 2

Fri 10/5 Curriculum Day, no students
14/5-16/5 NAPLAN week for Yr 3 and Yr 5
Thurs 16/5 Murtoa College Pie Drive orders DUE
Tues 21/5 Learning Journeys Day 1.30pm
Fri 31/5 Whole School Assembly
Tues 4/6 School Photos
Wed 5/6 CEP performance
Thurs 6/6 Orchestra visit to Rupanyup Hall, P-6
Thurs 13/6 Pet Day
Wed 19/6 Grandparents Day
Tues 25/6 P-6 trip to Swan Hill
**Grandparents Day**
Book up the grandparents for Grandparents Day on 19\(^{th}\) June. An afternoon tea will be served and all classes will be on display.

**Year 5/6 Trip to Canberra**
We are disappointed to announce that we have had to cancel the proposed trip to Canberra in December. The dates that had been organized clash with Mr. Collin’s wedding day. We have decided to join OLHC seniors for a trip to Robe, October 23-25, where students will investigate the Chinese who travelled from Robe to the goldfields.

**Traffic safety**
Teachers spoke to each class last week about crossing the road safely. We have had feedback that some children are rushing across the pedestrian crossings without looking. Please remind your children frequently about how to cross the road safely, particularly if they walk to school without an adult.

**Footy Season**
With the onset of footy season, once again we have needed to speak to the students about safe tackling. If your child is a footy player, please remind them about not tackling other students roughly.

**Uniform – second hand items needed**
We are desperately short of spare uniform items; if you have some second hand items in good condition that you would be happy to donate, please drop them to the front office. They are always needed to help out new families and for accidents.

**Colder Weather**
Please check that your child’s school jumper is named,
Warm ups need to be wrapped in foil, named and placed in the bucket each morning.

**School Tracksuit Pants**
We are currently taking orders to purchase Navy Double Knee tracksuit pants. If we have enough interest we will purchase these. They will be $15.
Please see Mrs Noonan if interested.

**Parents and Friends**
Please note the P&F meeting has been changed to this Wednesday 1\(^{st}\) May at 3.30pm.

**Pie Drive**
We are conducting a Pie Drive from Sharp’s Bakery.
All Pie Orders along with money need to be back to Mrs Noonan by Thursday 16\(^{th}\) May.
Please support the Murtoa College Pie Drive.
An order form has been attached to this newsletter.

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**Thelma Retires**
After 22 years of working at Murtoa Kindergarten, Thelma Petschel has announced her retirement. The Kinder and Shire would like to acknowledge Thelma’s dedication to Murtoa Kindergarten by hosting a morning tea on Wednesday 1\(^{st}\) May @ 10.30am at the kindergarten.
Please feel free to drop in and extend your best wishes to Thelma and thank her for all the years she has cared for our children.
It would be most appreciated if those who attend could please bring a small plate to share.
**Sausage Sizzle**

Tomorrow Tuesday 30th April the Primary students will be having a sausage sizzle at school in support for the “Tour De Cure”. This is in conjunction with the sausage sizzle that is being held at the Commonwealth bank. Money raised will go to support Childhood Cancer. Sausages are $2.

An order form went home today.

Thanks Mrs Noonan

**Little Lizards**

The Murtoa College Little Lizards have been working hard to improve their writing this week; this focus will continue as we familiarise students with common words through use of word walls, repetition and explicit teaching. Our learning about 'The Good Old Day's' has been exciting and engaging, we are so impressed with the students bringing in historical artefacts and sharing their thoughts, ideas and knowledge about them. As the term progresses, we will be interviewing our Grandparents, visiting the Murtoa Museum and Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement. We thank you for your continued support as we together strive for the best outcomes for your child.

**Year 5/6 report**

Firstly congratulations to all students who competed in the cross country last Friday; behaviour and effort were excellent. Results will be published once the organising school advises us, but some great results for our school were recorded. From our class both Paddy Newell and Emmy Dingwall won their age groups.

This week our focus will be on fractions – proper, improper, mixed numbers and equivalent fractions. In writing we will concentrate on persuasive writing. Year 5 will also practice Naplan testing and the class will begin a new integrated topic titled “Australia: Building a Nation.”

Mrs. Rutherford

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From the Herald Sun, Sunday, April 21, 2013 - Letter of the Week

Parental Guidance Essential

I was in school at a time and place when there was little money.

My learning at school was about reading, writing and arithmetic, but my education happened at home with my parents.

Over the years, I had good and bad teachers, yet I came out fine - literate, in higher education and an excellent job - and I lay that success squarely at my parents' feet.

Parents, take responsibility for your children.

Good teachers help in learning, but more involved parents are an advantage, too.

Encourage your children, share in their learning, support their skills and help them in overcoming weaknesses.

Stop treating a school as the only place of learning.

I am sick of hearing money always being offered as the solution to any problem.

Vesna Pavlovic, Deer Park
"The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May, students will take the 2013 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

All students are expected to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for reasonable adjustments that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. Some students with very specific circumstances may be exempted from participating in the tests. For information about participation in NAPLAN, you can go to: [http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html)

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)."

### Junior Golf

Murtoa Golf Club is offering **Friday afternoon clinics and competitions** for any students year 3 and above, wishing to try the game of golf.

*From now onwards, each Friday in term 2, students will be given the opportunity to learn the basics of the game of golf and play modified competitions.*

- Golf club members will supervise the sessions from 3.45 to 5.15pm.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own equipment but some clubs and bags will be provided.
- A bus pass for the Lubeck bus may enable students to travel out to the golf club.
- For $2: students will be provided with a drink and snack.

**If you are interested please contact Phyll Loeliger on 03 596283 so we can cater for the right numbers.**

Thanks to Victorian Golf Foundation for supporting this initiative.

**Starting date is Friday 3rd May.**

### MMFNC Football Information

**Training in Murtoa this week**

**Under 17’s**  
White Shorts - We have stock, for those that don't have any yet $30 a pair.

Mark Schache 0429 433 688  
[markschache@bigpond.com](mailto:markschache@bigpond.com) – U17 Team Manager

**Under 14’s**  
Training this Thursday  
Wayne Robbins 0427 857 367  
[wnrobbins@optusnet.com.au](mailto:wnrobbins@optusnet.com.au)

**Auskick/U 12’s**  
Training Thursday 2nd May 5pm. There will be no U12’s game on 4th May vs Ararat as they don't field a team.

Any questions please contact:  
Tim Petering 0428 852 322  
[timncar@bigpond.com](mailto:timncar@bigpond.com) – Auskick Team Manager
House Athletics Sports 2013

2013 Final Results TEAM SCORES
1st MEIER 2,864
2nd WATERSON 2,827
3rd DEGENHARDT 2,565

CONGRATULATIONS MEIER HOUSE!

Athletics Age Champions
Congratulations to the following students who won their age group championships for Athletics. These students were presented with their medallions at the relay events last week at the Murtoa Oval.

Age champion is calculated on performance in an individual’s age group. If an individual competes in a higher age group their house receives the points but not the individual.

The following students achieved the highest scores in their age groups:

12-13 years boys
Runner up
David Horvat
Harris Sudholz
Watson
Degenhardt
Meier
Meier
12-13 years girls
Runner up
Emma Schache
Sheridan Baker
Watson
Degenhardt
Meier
Mieier
14 years boys
Runner up
Jayden McQueen
Aaron Evans-Halligan
Watson
Degenhardt
14 years girls
Runner up
Jessica Boan
Erika Ritosa
Watson
Watson
15 years boys
Runner up
Nick Kelson
Justin Hourigan
Watson
Watson
15 years girls
Runner up
Lauren Drum
Georgie Taylor
Watson
Meier
16 years boys
Runner up
Baillie Batchelor
Adam Schache
Degenhardt
Meier
16 years girls
Runner up
Gemma Morgan
Caitlin McQueen
Watson
Meier
17 years boys
Runner up
Geoffrey Bellenger
Zac Taylor
Meier
Meier
17 years girls
Runner up
Dannae Woolman
Claudia Schodde
Meier
Meier
18-20 years boys
Runner up
Healy Hammerton
Blake Young
Meier
Degenhardt
18-20 years girls
Runner up
Tayla Morgan
Leesa Drum
Watson
Degenhardt
New records

Congratulations to the following athletes who broke records:

13 year male 400m  David Horvat (Waterson) 1:16.19min  Jake Ballagh, Waterson 2009
13 year female Discus  Sheridan Baker (Degenhardt) 18.8m  Jessica Boan, Waterson 2012
15 year female 1500m  Georgie Taylor (Waterson) 5:51.80min  Georgie Taylor, Waterson 2012
16 year male 200m  Baillie Batchelor (Degenhardt) 27.40s  Geoffrey Bellenger, Meier 2012
17 year male Shot Put  Geoffrey Bellenger (Meier) 11.40m  Ben Schmidt, Meier 2012
18 year male 1500m  Healy Hammerton (Meier) 4:30.7min  Glen Devers, Wimmera 1981

Newman Award

The Newman Award is presented to Healy Hammerton for the most outstanding performance at the athletics carnival. Healy competed in six events winning all six and breaking a 32 year old record in 18 year male 1500m. Well done Healy. Special mention must also be made of Jayden McQueen and Tayla Morgan who won all six of their events as well. Great achievement Jayden and Tayla.

Outstanding Performers

There were a number of students who competed outside their age groups against much older competitors to help their houses score points. Well done to all those students for their efforts, they form the backbone of their houses and truly display the meaning of dedication and sportsmanship for each house.

Absences

Well done to all students who attended! Any student who did not attend the carnival needs a written note explaining their absence. Involvement and support of school carnivals influences selection in school sporting teams.
House Standards

Before the House Teams are decided all students are expected to try out in the Athletics Standards. Points are given to students based on their participation and performance. 1 point given for an attempt, 2 points awarded if a student is under the standard, three points if they meet the standard and 4 points if they better the standard.

Degenhardt Dragons 12.01 points per student
Meier Leprechauns 11.91 points per student
Waterson Pirates 11.01 points per student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points per student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degenhardt Boys</td>
<td>12.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degenhardt Girls</td>
<td>11.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meier Boys</td>
<td>11.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meier Girls</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterson Boys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterson Girls</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Black Ranges Athletics

Students who placed first in their event and the first FOUR places for 100m events have automatically been put into the Black Ranges squad to compete at Ararat, Monday 7th October (First day of Term 4). Relay teams have been selected from the 100m events, with the four fastest students qualifying for the team. These students will receive information soon about the Black Ranges Athletics. It is likely to cost $20 to attend, regardless of whether students are travelling with their parents or not. If a student selected in the squad does not wish to attend, they must see Joanne Baker by April 30 so emergencies can be put into place. If students pull out at the last minute then they will not be permitted to attend any other inter school sport event later on in the year.

Students please remember to bring your consent form to the GENERAL OFFICE and money asap (after you get them) for the Black Ranges Athletics at Ararat.
THANK YOU...
I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in this year's athletic carnival;

The students: for their participation, sportsmanship and competitive house spirit displayed throughout the day. There were many students involved behind the scenes helping with organisation, set-up and pack-up. For those students who competed outside their age groups to fill up the team for their house, a huge thank you!

The House Captains: for organising, encouraging and supporting their teams.

The Dudley Cornell Park Committee and Horsham Little Athletics Club: for accommodating us with their wonderful facility and Little Athletics equipment. Jeremy Bush for marking the lines on the oval and David Panozzo for organising the athletics equipment.

The Staff: for all their assistance, support and encouragement with the planning and running of the Carnival.

Gary Bourke: for his help and assistance in transporting equipment and for the PA system both at the first sports day and for the relay catch-up day.

Andrew Vague, John Gerdtz & VCAL students: for their help and assistance in marking the lines for the relay catch-up day.

Marie Davis & Tina Baker: for catering and operating the canteen.

Our bus drivers: Mel Boschen, Bruce Midgely & Shannon Argall for getting our students across and back on time and safely.

The parents, families and friends: Janine Eagle and other parents and friends for volunteering to help with events, those who came along to support the sports, and those who ensured a good turnout of students on the day.

Joanne Baker
Sport Co-ordinator
LILY WINS OVERALL GIRL CHAMPION AT BLACK RANGES SWIMMING

Lily Williams was presented with her Black Ranges medallion at our relay catch-up afternoon last week. At the Black Ranges swimming carnival at Warracknabeal during term one, Lily won three events; 14 years girls freestyle, backstroke and butterfly.

A fantastic achievement Lily!

SPORT 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>P 5-6</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Black Ranges Cross Country (Murtoa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Region Cross Country (Dimboola)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Senior AFL Football Group B (Horsham)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Senior Netball Group B (Horsham)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Inter AFL Football Group B (Horsham)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Inter Netball Group B (Horsham)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Girls AFL Football</td>
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<tr>
<th>Term 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Black Ranges Athletics (Ararat)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(First day of term 4)</td>
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</table>

TEN YEAR REUNION – HELD ON SATURDAY 27TH APRIL

Back: Alexander Munro, Brodie McKay, Brad Rushbrook, Nat Cooke, Grant Greenaway, Rachel (Cramer), Allyssa Wilson (Maxfield), Jenna (Hill), Steven Dixon, Christina Papst

Front: Clinton Young, Shaun Childs, Chris Walsh, Brody McIntyre, Melissa Niewand
## Varieties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Varieties</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>$9.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curry</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potato</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg &amp; Bacon</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curry</td>
<td>Single</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Pastie</td>
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<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Party Pie ½ Dozen</td>
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<td>Party Pastie ½ Dozen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sausage Rolls ½ Dozen</td>
<td>Mini</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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Cheques Payable to Murtoa College

Total Amount Due: $
Teenage drinking

Discouraging teens from under-age drinking takes strong adult leadership involving schools, parents and community groups.

It’s a parent’s job to teach their kids about alcohol use or, at the very least, to make sure they have some impact on their kids’ thinking and behaviour. It helps to think about your approach before they reach middle adolescence and then be prepared to modify your plan according to the situation.

Here are some guidelines:

1. Delay drinking until the legal drinking age. The evidence is clear that developing teenage brains and alcohol shouldn’t mix. Brain research conducted over the last few years leaves little doubt that those who begin drinking under eighteen years-of-age are susceptible to developing dependency problems in their twenties. The younger kids start the greater the potential risk.

   Young people can consume more alcohol than adults before it has a sedating effect. So teens can be drinking at harmful levels and they don’t know it. Under-age drinking is linked to a variety of risk-taking behaviours, particularly sexual activity, violence and anti-social behaviour.

2. Don’t buy them alcohol to take to parties. Most Australian states have secondary supply laws in place making it illegal for adults to purchase alcohol for people under eighteen that’s consumed outside the family home. Interestingly, many under-age drinkers who take alcohol to parties claim that part of their supply was given to them by their parents. Research reveals that parents supply alcohol to young people because they believe that are going to drink anyway, so parental supply will have a limiting effect. The evidence doesn’t support this view.

   Location is a factor in the quantity of alcohol young people consume. Alcohol consumed at parties occurs at higher and riskier levels than when it’s consumed at home. Parents should make it hard, not easy, for kids to drink, particularly outside the family home.

3. Examine your own drinking habits. Genetics and environmental factors play a part in problem drinking. There is little you can do about the former, but parental modeling is something you can control. Parents who drink heavily and have permissive attitudes about alcohol are more likely to have teenagers who drink at risky levels.

4. Talk with your kids about drinking. While many fifteen- and sixteen-year-olds seem to think their parents’ sole job is to spoil their fun, your expectations do affect the way they behave. Parental disapproval is still a strong deterrent for teenage risk-taking, particularly if you have a strong relationship. In the long-term discuss safe drinking habits such as eating before consuming alcohol, not drinking alone and looking out for friends if they drink too much.

   There is no evidence that frank and open family discussion about safe drinking behaviour encourages young people to drink at a younger age. On the contrary, it can have a modifying effect on young people’s drinking.