

MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL: Mr S Jenkins, BA (Hons), Dip.Tchg, PGDipEdLeadership



17 February 2023

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Today we held our Swimming Finals and it was an outstanding afternoon full of competition and House spirit. The attendance today was the highest we have seen in recent memory for the swimming finals at almost 25% higher attendance than usual. I want to thank parents for encouraging their sons and daughters to attend and embrace our theme of participation.

Next Thursday 23 February, we will be holding our annual Octathlon Day. All students and staff will be involved in the day. Each student will rotate around various athletic events with their House members.

Since the beginning of the school year, the Post Primary Teachers' Association (PPTA) has been instructing their members to follow industrial action as they work through their wage and conditions' negotiations with the Government for a new contract. At this point, this includes all PPTA members being unable to provide relief for their colleagues in their non-contact periods. This is a difficult situation to negotiate for schools at this time of the year when they hold their swimming, athletics and other school events in the summer months. We will be able to hold our Octathlon and comply with the requirements of the industrial action by providing a non-contact period for all of our teachers the following day, Friday 24 February. This means that we will finish school early at the end of Period 4, which is 1.20pm on Friday 24 February and students will then go home. Without this arrangement, we could not staff the Octathlon Day and it would not be able to take place.

Our school buses will run as usual at 3.05pm.

Our Athletics' Finals Day is scheduled for Friday 10 March, and at this stage I want to wait until nearer this date to see if the PPTA industrial action continues before considering the programme for that day, which may also require that we close the school early to comply with PPTA's requirements. Parents should be aware that already the PPTA has signalled a potential one-day strike on Thursday 16 March. We will confirm this closer to the time if it goes ahead.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Jenkins', written in a cursive style.

Scott Jenkins
PRINCIPAL