Dear Parents & Friends,

What a wonderful week we have had celebrating Book Week ending today with our Book Character Parade! It was fabulous to see students and staff members dressed in their creative book character costumes and so many parents and friends at school for the event. Thank you all for joining in with the fun!

Next week some of our Green team members and Mr Nav are involved in the Kids Teaching Kids Conference at Derrimut PS. They have been working hard to prepare their presentation which is all about water catchments. They will explain the nature of a catchment and compare that with our model catchment in our school grounds involving harvesting of water, water tanks, which feed a wetland habitat and productive garden. Also they will examine the issue of litter and pollution which can affect a natural catchment and our model wetland. Other schools participating will be making presentations over the day i.e. Taking Care of Chickens, Water in Fashion: Chemistry of Water, Water in Plants: Water System Models, Junk Percussion, Eco-footprints, Exploring people’s attitudes to different types of foods & eco footprints, Growing Plants Sustainably and Wonderful Worms, Wicking Beds – Building Wicking Beds & Growing Plants. It is sure to be a day full of exciting learning activities.

The NAPLAN results have been received by the school and reports are available at the office for parents and carers of Year 3 and 5 students. In the first year of our new Strategic Plan it is encouraging that the data shows improvement in students making expected and above expected learning growth between Year 3 and Year 5.

Kind regards, Liz Balharrie
Learning about the Environment

In the next few weeks Grade 1/2 students will have the opportunity to handle museum animal specimens borrowed from Museum Victoria, to develop their animal identification and classification skills. Students will be able to examine the specimens close up and attempt some scientific drawings, an opportunity which they cannot get otherwise. In the last few weeks Grade 1/2 have been learning about animal habitats especially, water habitats after their visit to the Melbourne Sea Life Aquarium. This is a very exciting time as we can witness the development of a wetland garden at our very own school. In the next few months and years this will develop and we can go on an excursion without leaving the school grounds! Students have been considering what wildlife our school wetland will be home to, such as birds, lizards and frogs. Even now the students have been learning about and observing the wildlife that do live in and visit our school yard, such as ravens, magpies and insects.

In other environmental education news, the Grade 3/4 students have been learning all about where food comes from, in particular how it is grown. They are learning about the life cycle of plants, how plants germinate from seeds and will research the plants we are growing in the school’s productive garden. Students will experiment with ways to display this information in time for the official opening of the School As Catchment garden project here at DPNPS.

Environmental Education Teacher

Physical Education

On August 21st selected students from Grades 3-6 participated in the interschool Athletics competition. With gale force chilly winds swirling around the track all day a huge well done to all students who participated and put in a superb effort. Well done for all the training in the cold and tryouts. All students should be very proud of themselves.

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the regional competition:
Anastacia SAS  Betelhiem SAS  Tilo MMK  Walter SJE
Jerry SML  Judy SAS  Emi MJG  Nigel MMK

In sport grade 1-2 students have been involved in a hockey-coaching clinic from hockey Victoria.
Grade 3-4 students are finishing off their Athletics unit with shot put and Discus and will begin a new sport/activity soon.

Grade 5-6 students have begun their unit on European handball and have been learning the rules, skills and general play of the sport. This week they will play mini games focusing on all skills of European handball.

More on our website

Thank you to our school community for collecting Earn & Learn stickers.

We can purchase educational equipment with the points collected: 1 sticker for every $10 spent.