



Deer Park North Primary School Newsletter

Learning for Life

Edition 2 - 12th February, 2015

Respect

Care

Responsibility

Honesty

Trust

Principal - Liz Balharrie

Assistant Principal - Teresa Woods

General Office Contact Details

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

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Calendar of Events



Term One

Friday 13 February

Year 5/6 Sport Program Starts

Wednesday 18 February

Year 3/4 Incursion - Little Devils Circus

Wednesday 24 February

Prep Incursion - Mind and Body

Thursday 26 February

Parent Teacher Chats Year 1-6

Early Dismissal 2:00pm

Tuesday March 10

Prep Information Morning 9-11am

Thursday 12 March

Swimming Carnival & Picnic Years 3-6

Tuesday 17 March

Year 5/6 Excursion - Parliament House

Monday 16 March

Harmony Week starts

Wednesday 18 March

Launch of Building Healthy Communities

Friday 27 March

End of Term - Early dismissal

2015 School Terms

Term 1

January 30 - March 27

Term 2

April 13 - June 26

Term 3

July 13 - September 18

Term 4

October 5 - December 18

Student Playground Supervision

The school offers yard supervision from 8.45am & after school until 3.30pm. Children should not be sent to school before 8.45am; and picked up by 3.30pm.

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is wonderful to see how well the students have settled into their classes and school routines this year. The focus in the first weeks is on establishing an orderly, supportive and positive learning environment through our "Learning to Learn" classroom programs.

New & Returning Staff Members: We warmly welcome the following staff members: Jodi Woodward (Prep-2 Team Leader), Brent Reichenbach (Year 3/4 teacher), Mary Psaila (Year 1/2 teacher), Sylvia Wright (Year 1/2 teacher), Andrea Hill (Social Worker) and Carolyn Black (Community Hub Leader). We also welcome Zoe Haahes back after Family Leave to DPN for one day a week in MSH.

Parent/Teacher Chats Years 1-6 are being held on Thursday February 26 to provide the valuable opportunity for information sharing between home and school and to work together in partnership to best support the learning outcomes for students. An information notice has been sent home inviting parents to make a time to meet.

School Council Elections

School Council election process is held each year at this time. The composition of the Deer Park North Primary School Council is as follows:

- School Principal (Executive officer), 5 parents representatives, 3 community representatives and 3 DET employee members.

On behalf of the Deer Park North community we thank our 2014 School Council members for their commitment and wonderful support.

This year there are 2 parent representative vacancies. Positions are generally two-year terms.

Nominations are now invited for the parent council positions. Forms are available from the office and must be received by 4.00pm on Friday 20th February 2015.

Please consider getting involved in School Council to support the provision of the best possible educational outcomes for our students!

Liz Balharrie

Deer Park North Primary School Newsletter - Continued

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT CHATS

Teachers are busy planning for Parent-Teacher-Student Chats for students in Years 1 -6. This year we have decided that we would like to include the students in reporting meetings. We believe that they can contribute a lot to the discussions about their learning.

Notes have been sent home to parents to indicate their time preferences for an appointment on Thursday 26th February. Please return these as soon as possible to assist us with the organisation of these chats. Interpreters will be arranged if requested. On this day all students will **be dismissed at 2:00** with chats commencing shortly after.

Prep parents can look forward to an Information Session which will be held in the near future. This session will explain the Prep teacher's plans for the school year and also give parents some ideas as to how they can help their children at home. Details of this event will be sent home shortly.

Teresa Woods

NUMERACY NEWS

The year has started and everyone is actively involved in new learning in numeracy. Each Prep student is having a session with their teacher to find out what they know about numbers to help the teacher plan a program to move them forwards. The Year 1 to 6 students have been working on telling time on clocks and calendars to help them settle into school routines. In Year 1 this might involve knowing o'clock time and in Year 6 planning a personal timetable for the school week. The classes have also been investigating graphs and charts and being able to follow directions to find their way around the school or finding hidden treasure in their classrooms. The Year 1 to 6 teachers are also starting to collect important information about each student to ensure their learning needs are being catered for.

You can assist in the development of your child's maths by recognising and maximising every day, real life situations. Maths makes sense to your children when they can experience its connection to their real world. This could involve telling the time, day and month, handling money, helping to cook in the kitchen, following directions and counting. We use maths all the time in our daily lives!



Hello, parents and friends,



My name is Carolyn Black; I am the new Community Hub Leader at Deer Park North primary school. I am at the school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursday's.

My role at the hub is to work with the parents and local community to provide training courses, groups, workshops and playgroups at the school. I am very keen to hear from parents about the sort of activities the community would like to have happen in the hub.

Parents Ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Here are some of their thoughts so far on activities: Computer classes, Fitness group, Craft group Playgroups, Parenting group, Personal Trainer course
An information session on child safety on the internet.

Community feedback is always appreciated.

What's happening at the Hub

Jobco Training

Would you like training in

Cert111 Early Childhood Education and Care

Diploma Early Childhood Education and Care

Certificate 111 & 1V in Aged Care

(Level 2 First Aid included)

An information session on Thursday 19th February, 9am, at the school

Playgroup starts on Tuesday 17th February 10am -12pm in the Beehive

Community Hub PMP

As part of Deer Park North Primary Schools Community Hub, we invite you and your pre school age babies and children to join in our Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) on Monday mornings. PMP is an activity that engages children in movement activities combining perception and movement. This program has been tailored for younger children and babies.

When: Monday mornings 9-10am

Where: Gym foyer

We look forward to seeing you and your children there!

Sarah Auld-Callinan



Every Monday is Coffee 'n chat for Parent's in the canteen from 8.45am.

Looking forward to meeting you soon – Carolyn...

Deer Park North Primary School Newsletter - Continued

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES IN MELBOURNE'S WEST

The health & wellbeing of students at Deer Park North is always a priority for teachers and families. To support this priority in 2015 the school has been successful in securing a grant that will not only support student health but we hope will support an improvement in the health & wellbeing of our whole community.

The grant will mean that DPNPS receives \$25 000 to go towards building facilities at the school to promote Better Community Health. Plans are underway to redevelop the BBQ area into a peaceful space which will support student wellbeing. A special event is currently being planned for the Deer Park North Primary School Community to celebrate this. An afternoon of celebrations will be held on **Wednesday 18th March from 2:00pm – 6:00pm**. Families are invited to come along and join in the festivities as well as learn more about ways that we can all improve our own personal health and wellbeing. Please mark this date on your calendar so that you can come along and participate in the planned activities.

During Term 1 students will be participating in Jump Rope for Heart. Jump Rope for Heart is all about teaching our children about how to keep fit and healthy. It improves their strength and confidence in physical activities and builds healthy bones and muscles. The students will have fun with the class mates and play lots of skipping games too. At the same time they will be helping save Australian lives by asking their family and friends to sponsor them for begin part of this fun program. Funds raised go towards research to help fight against heart disease and stroke.

The Art program will also have a Healthy Living component. Students will be using a variety of Visual Art mediums to demonstrate their understandings of what contributes to a Healthy Lifestyle. Some artworks will be exhibited during our launch on March 18th.

A number of community agencies will be contributing to our day. Clinics will be offered by the Derrimut YMCA, Suns of the West, Victoria Police, Quit, Heart Foundation, Beyond Blue, Nutrition Australia, City West Water

Brimbank City Council and numerous others.

FREE HEALTH SCREENS are also being offered to parents.

These will include:

- ◇ Blood Pressure
- ◇ Blood / Sugar Testing
- ◇ General Health & Wellbeing

Health Screens are already underway and parents are invited to come along to school on Wednesdays during February or on the 18th March. These screens only take a few minutes but provide a wealth of information that can support each of us to have a healthier life. These tests will be offered to parents free of charge with referrals and information provided for parents to follow up with their GP or other health care professional.



Gong Hei Fat Choy

Chúc mừng năm mới

Year of the Sheep, Goat or Ram

Thursday the 19th of February brings in a New Year for the Chinese and Vietnamese Community who celebrate the beginning of the Lunar New Year.

Deer Park North Primary School wish all families good health, good luck and much happiness throughout the year!



Deer Park North Primary School promotes a community of life-long learners. The school strives to develop responsible and resilient individuals who work towards achieving their personal best.

Reading at DPNPS

It has been a great start! Students in all classes have been focusing on the very important **First 20 days of Reading** by establishing classroom systems and setting up the habits of mind we want readers to use throughout the year.

As you walk around the school you will see;



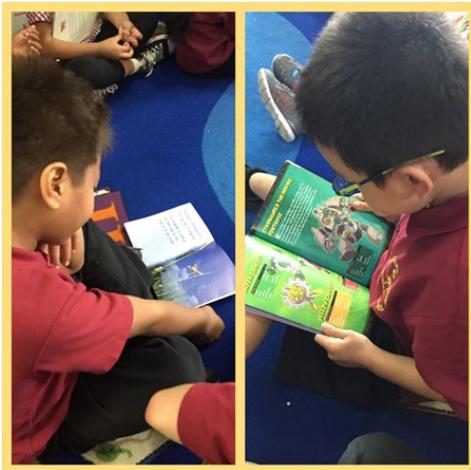
Classroom Libraries

set up and organised by students and teachers together.



Word Walls

that include high frequency words and words that are special to each class.



Children reading their '**Just Right**' books **independently**.



Children working **one-on-one** with the teacher and in **small groups**.

And lots of learning **together**.



Donna Smith

Literacy Coordinator