HOW CAN I GIVE MY CHILD THE BEST START TO SCHOOL?

READ TO YOUR CHILD EVERYDAY

CAN WE VISIT THE SCHOOL?

Yes, come and meet the Principal, Wendy Britt and see any school day in operation. Phone the school to make an appointment.

All welcome. See Special Tours during Education Week 19th May

HOW DO I ENROL MY CHILD?

• 1. Complete an enrolment form obtainable from the school.
• 2. Please start collecting your documents now to provide proof of the child’s birth date and an immunisation details.

Immunisation Certificates are available from your local council office.

WHY ARE ENROLMENTS COMPLETED SO EARLY IN THE YEAR?

Our school structure, staffing and organisation for the next school year 2008, depends very much on the number of Prep enrolments, it is most important that enrolments with accompanying documents are presented at the school office by Friday 27th June 2008

If you have difficulties collecting supporting documents, please contact our school office. See Timeline for Prep 2009

WHAT TIME DO THE CHILDREN USUALLY START SCHOOL?

Prep children usually start school on the first school day between 9.30 and 10.30 a.m depending on the number of new children enrolled. More information will be given at a later date. After the first day of school, all the children commence school at 9.00 am daily.

SCHOOL TIMES:

School starts - 9.00am

Morning Recess- 11.00- 11.30am.

Children eat lunch- 12.30-12.40pm.

Lunch Play- 12.40-1.30pm.

All children are dismissed at 3.30pm.

IS SCHOOL UNIFORM COMPULSORY?

Yes. School uniform fosters a sense of pride and identity with Mt. Dandenong students.

School uniform and all requirements can be purchased from the uniform shop at Mt. Dandenong Primary School.

DO THE CHILDREN STAY AT SCHOOL ALL DAY?

For the first few days of school, the children go home at 2 pm daily.

During February and March, Prep children will attend school for four days per week from 9 am until 3.30 pm. with A REST DAY every WEDNESDAY. Each Wednesday some children will be asked to attend school for one hour to assess their individual understandings in Literacy and Numeracy. Our Wednesday at home program will assist the child to ease into the school routine.

CAN THE CHILDREN BE CARED FOR BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL?

Before and After School Care Programs operate daily. The program is very well organised and offers a stimulating range of activities for all children. This fully supervised program is available for parents who work or for parents who would like to have their children cared for before and after school. The program is available for occasional or emergency use as required.
HOW WILL I KNOW HOW MY CHILD IS PROGRESSING AT SCHOOL?

-ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING.

Parents will be encouraged to keep in close contact with the class teacher especially during the first weeks. An information night is held at the beginning of each year. An interim report will be prepared for parents before the end of Term 1. Parents will receive written reports in June and December and will be offered an interview in June as well. Teachers will notify parents, if they have any concerns or for special achievements throughout the year.

Parents are welcome to make appointments with their child’s class teacher throughout the year.

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

Parents are encouraged to participate in the following activities.

Class parent Program
Working Bees- garden, covering books, classroom duties
Help in the classroom –Maths workshops, Literacy activities, Share special skills.
Accompanying excursion groups/swimming programs
School canteen
Fundraising for the school

DO PREP CHILDREN HAVE SWIMMING LESSONS?

All Prep children participate in an intensive two-week swimming program at the Monbulk Aquatic centre. Regular swimming programs continue on through each year level to Year 6.

DO PREP CHILDREN USE COMPUTERS?

The school has a networked computer system, which children use regularly as part of their classroom activities. Children use a variety of programs as tools to enhance and reinforce their learning in all areas of the curriculum.

HOW WILL MY CHILD BE SUPERVISED IN THE PLAYGROUND DURING RECESS AND LUNCHTIME?

Our staff are always on duty in the playground during recess and lunch times. In the first few weeks of school, the Prep staff are also available to make sure all children are supervised and happy.

All children will be introduced to a special Year 6 child student for support and friendship at school. All new Preps will be closely monitored by staff in the playground, until they are ready to play happily and confidently with their friends.

THE BUDDY SYSTEM. Preps and Grade 6.

All Prep children enjoy having special Year 6 friends to help them settle into the routines at school. The school year begins with regular contact with their buddy in the playground or having lunch, sharing stories and playing games. Cross-age activities and Sharing time continues throughout the school year to develop responsible young leaders in our school.

WILL MY CHILD BE IN A CLASS OF ONLY PREP CHILDREN?

Class combinations depend on the numbers of children enrolled at each year level. Some years we have one or two Prep classes and a Prep/One class. It all depends on numbers of children enrolled. We will not know the composition of the classes until the end of this year. Our staff organise innovative programs for teaching children at their individual levels. Individual assessments on entry indicate there is a vast range of understanding at each grade level. Come and talk to us if you have concerns.

WILL MY CHILD BE IN A CLASS WITH HIS/HER FRIENDS?

As parents enrol their child, please notify us if there are any special needs for your child. While we cannot guarantee to meet all of these requests, we do our best. We can only make informed decisions, when we have information about your child.

WHAT OTHER SPECIAL THINGS SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT MT. DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL?

All children are given the opportunity to develop and extend their skills and interests in many different areas of the curriculum.
* WEEKLY MERIT CERTIFICATES.
Children are rewarded for exemplary work and attitudes exhibited throughout the school by the presentation of these special awards.

* FRIDAY MORNING SCHOOL ASSEMBLY.
Children from classes at all levels are given the opportunity to organise, participate or perform individually or in a group on Friday mornings at a whole school assembly.

* MUSICAL PERFORMANCES
Older children in the school have the opportunity to participate in Percussion Ensembles, musical groups and choir which regularly perform for the school and the Local Community. Our Percussion groups, "The Bushytails" and "The Leadbeaters", under the direction of Mrs Taylor are well known for their excellent musical performances. The highlight of the year is a Musical Performance Evening held annually in October/November to showcase our musical talents.

Preps are invited to join the Junior Choir.

* PRESENTATION NIGHT.
All children perform a group item on this special evening in December, to complete the school year and say farewell to the Year 6 students.

* CAMPS PROGRAM, Yrs 2-6
Children in Years 2-6 have the opportunity to participate in a school camp program. Camps vary from overnight in Year 2, to 5 days in Year 6.

HOW MUCH ARE THE SCHOOL FEES?
School fees are set per year to provide all required books, reading and writing materials, photocopying, art and library materials, sporting equipment and other items necessary to resource our programs for the year. All parents are asked to support our various fundraising activities throughout the year. This enables us to keep our school well-resourced to meet the needs of all students and to maintain our pleasant surrounds.

WHAT OTHER COSTS ARE THERE TO CONSIDER?
The school organises an excursion and some visiting performers to complement the class programs. Every effort is made to spread these across the year, one per term where possible. Sometimes we do take advantage of a special program, but we try to give you notice in advance. The Swimming program costs about $60 for 2 weeks including the bus fare. A typical excursion costs about $20.