What’s On

TERM ONE

Thursday 21st—26th February
Life Education Victoria Van

Tuesday 26th February
House Jumping Sports Yrs 3-6 only
Postponed due to rain until

Wednesday 27th February
House Jumping Sports Yrs 3-6 only

Monday 11th March
Labour Day

Tuesday 12th March
School Photo Day

Wednesday 13th March
House Athletic Sports Yrs Prep-6

Saturday 16th March
Mount Dandenong Jumble Sale

20th—22nd March
Gr. 34 Mt Martha Camp

Thursday 28th March
Bater Hat Parade and last day
Term 1, 2.30 pm dismissal

Friday 29th March
Good Friday

News and Views...

Jumble Sale News
We are still collecting toys, clothes, books, crockery, furniture and other items for our upcoming Jumble Sale. This is a great opportunity to clean out the cupboards, shed and spare bedroom and donate any unwanted but useful items to Mt Dandy PS. Donated items are being stored in the rear portable. If you have items to donate please drop into the office, let us know and pick up a key.

We will also be holding a cake stall and will send home paper plates on Wednesday the 13th of March. It would be greatly appreciated if each family could bake a cake, make some biscuits or cupcakes for us to sell on the day.

Life Education Van
Over the past week all of our students have visited the Life Education Van and been involved in what is part of the whole school Start Up Program. It is a program that develops resilience, encourages successful decision making and promotes a healthy lifestyle. The discussions and activities that took place in the van will be followed up in the classroom and should be used as a stimulus for important discussions at home.

Student Requisite Fees
In early February all families received notification of the student requisite fees. These fees are used to purchase classroom and curriculum supplies such as books, stationery, scissors, etc. that are necessary for our students. Prompt payment is appreciated as it allows us to budget effectively for this year. Payment of the fees can be made at anytime and instalments are welcome. The fees for this year are $250.00.

Lost Hats
Each week we have a number of students looking for lost hats. Unfortunately the number of lost hats does not equate to the number found. Please label your hat clearly. We recommend that you make it identifiable from the outside by sewing on a distinctive badge or using some puff paint to add your child’s name. This prevents other children from accidentally wearing it.

Vic Roads Announcements
Road closure on Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd (between Wombat Rd and Helen Rd). Vic Roads contractors will be removing some dead trees and dangerous limbs on the 5th and 6th of March and as a result the Tourist Road will be closed between Wombat Road and Helen Road from 9.30am to 3.30pm. This may affect school pick up and drop off so please plan ahead. The road will be closed to local traffic, pedestrians and cyclists. Buses will still be able to use this route.

House Athletics Wednesday 13th March
Our House Athletics day is coming up on Wednesday the 13th of March. This is a great family day. If you are available to come along and help out and also support our students we’d love to see you here. More information will be included in the next newsletter.

Parent Helpers Needed
We are looking for parent helpers who can meet regularly at school to blow away the leaves on paths and stairs and regularly sweep some areas. BYO blower vac please. It is a great way to contribute to the school and get a little exercise at the same time. Leave your name at the office if you are available to help out.

Religious Education Response - Urgent
It is important that all families return the Special Religious Instruction advice/response sheet straight away. R.E commences this week and we are required to have a response from all families indicating whether students are attending or not. If you need a new notice please collect one at the office.

Students not attending will be practicing already taught skills or may be involved in other classroom activities. We are not permitted to cover new curriculum during this time.

Thumbs Up to:

Max T for encouraging others during the Cross Country trials. A great display of community spirit

Our wonderful new Prep cohort for settling into school life so quickly

Ben D for great work and consideration as a Grade 6 buddy

Thank you, Michael Leonard and Sue Gibson.

Purpose Statement
Mount Dandenong Primary School values our unique environment and close community. It is a place for creative opportunities and academic excellence, nurturing respect, happiness and independence.
16th March 9-1pm

We still need plenty of donations
(please take to rear portable)

10 flyers will be sent home with each family could these please be distributed into letterboxes near their homes.

Are you available to help with food sales?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Drinks</th>
<th>Sausage sizzle</th>
<th>Cakes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8-10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-2pm</td>
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Are you available to help with set up/clean up?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Set up</th>
<th>Pack down</th>
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<tr>
<td>7.30-9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-2pm</td>
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If you are able to give us a hand at any time please either see Julie in the office or email me at kylieandsimongilson@bigpond.com or text on 0439 553 371.
OSHClub News
Before School / After School Care Program

It’s been a fun week making “Me” Boxes, placemats, painting self portraits, cooking rainbow cupcakes and making sculptures from salt dough!

This week we will be saying goodbye bye to Summer by doing lots of Summery activities! This will include parachute making, landscape ocean sponge paintings, making newspaper kites, sun crafts and making chocolate chip cookies!

We are delighted to announce our new permanent assistant Samantha! Samantha is currently studying her 2nd year of Primary Teaching at Deakin University. She is very enthusiastic and passionate about working with children and brings lots of fun to OSHClub.

This Week’s Activities - Week 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Design your own puzzle</td>
<td>Summer Butterfly Fan</td>
<td>Summer Pinwheels</td>
<td>Holiday Postcards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brekky</td>
<td>Cereal &amp; Milk, Juice (No sugar) Toast (White/Wholemeal) &amp; Spreads, Yoghurt &amp; Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Cereal &amp; Milk, Juice (No sugar) Toast (White/Wholemeal) &amp; Spreads, Raisin Toast</td>
<td>Cereal &amp; Milk, Juice (No sugar) Toast (White/Wholemeal) &amp; Spreads, Baked Beans/Spaghetti on Toast</td>
<td>Cereal &amp; Milk, Juice (No sugar) Toast (White/Wholemeal) &amp; Spreads, English Muffins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Parachute making Giants Treasure</td>
<td>Cooking! Choc Chip cookies Soccer</td>
<td>Ocean Sponge Painting Dodge Ball</td>
<td>Newspaper Kite Fruit Salad Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
<td>Sandwiches, Fresh Fruit &amp; Popcorn</td>
<td>Sandwiches, Fresh Fruit &amp; Yoghurt</td>
<td>Sandwiches &amp; Fresh Fruit Salad</td>
<td>Corn Chips, Carrots, Celery, Sultanas, Dips &amp; Fresh Fruit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Information
Make sure your child/ren bring their hat as: No Hat = No outside play.
Ensure all enrolments are to be signed in and out when your child arrives and is collected at the end of the day.

OSHC program phone: 0419915649 OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000
Coordinator: Lina Corrone Assistant: TBA
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

Our new GREEN newsletter
To reinforce Sustainability studies and in trying to reduce our environmental footprint, we offer parents the choice of receiving their weekly newsletter via email. If you choose this option your child will not be bringing a copy home. Please complete the slip below and return to the office.

I………………………………………………. would like to help the environment and would appreciate my MDPS Newsletter being sent to the following email address/es ……………………………………………………………………...
SET YOURSELF UP FOR A GREAT YEAR...Andrew Fuller

Make this the year that you will remember for the rest of your life as the time you really set yourself on the pathway to success. There are several sure-fire ways to make this a great year.

1. **Build positive relationships with everyone you know.**
   Parents, teachers, friends, everyone! One of the ways of reducing your stress levels is to set out to have as many positive friendships this year as you can.

2. **Challenge yourself.**
   You are much, much smarter than you know. If you practice doing your best in life you will succeed because very few people ever practice doing their best.
   To do your best you have to get out of the habit of predicting that things won’t go well for you. If you look for what’s going to go wrong, you will always find it. If you look for what works, life just gets a lot easier.

3. **Prepare yourself for learning.**
   Thinking positive isn’t enough for successfully achieving goals. Implement ways to reduce distractions, at least for a few hours at a time, else learning will become a frustrating experience.
   Human nature is such that not everyone in your life will be a well wisher in your self-improvement and learning plans. They may intentionally or subconsciously distract you from your goal.

4. **Get enough sleep.**
   Getting enough sleep helps you to manage stress, stay happy and also increases your marks. You need at least 8 hours and sometimes as much as 9 and a quarter hours a night.

5. **Eat breakfast**
   A lot of people skip breakfast, but you often learn best at school in the morning and it helps to have some protein in you to feed your brain. A lack of protein can actually cause headaches.

6. **Do the most important things first**
   Get into the habit of being effective. Write a to-do list each week. Ask yourself the question, “What is the one thing I could do this week in each subject area that would improve my results?” Then do it.

7. **Use your time well**
   Many people muck around in school and then wonder why they have to do so much work outside of school. If you can focus and listen well while at school you can save yourself endless hours. Some people find if they sit at the front they are less distracted.

Teachers want their students to do well. Watch your teachers closely. Observe the things that they emphasise or repeat. Take notes of these things. It is a fair bet that these things will feature in tests and exams.

8. **From little things big things grow**
   do a little bit often. Succeeding at school can be easy if you do a little bit each day.
   The best learning occurs when you do repetitive interval training. This means do a little bit of practice every day. Interval training is especially powerful in subjects like maths and the sciences.

9. **Focus and immerse yourself.**
   For at least some time every day switch all forms of technology off and focus on whatever you’re studying. Don’t try to watch TV, listen to music or gaze at a screen at the same time as learning something. Technology is not going to be there in exam rooms so you need to be practiced at performing without it.

10. **Don’t try to predict the future.**
    Most students are really bad at predicting how well they are going to do. In fact, they are hopeless at it. So don’t spend the year thinking how awful your results could be. Just do the most important things first and do them regularly.

11. **Be curious.**
    Think of someone you know who always seems to know interesting things- weird facts, strange occurrences, funny jokes, and whacky stories. Try to be one of these people. Look out for and learn things that are fun and interesting.

12. **Play more**
    Get active, break out into a sweat now and then. Lack of blood flow is a common reason for lack of concentration. If you’ve been sitting in one place for a while, stand up and stretch or bounce one of your legs for a minute or two. It gets your blood flowing and sharpens both concentration and recall. Even if you are really busy three twenty minute bursts of exercise a week makes a massive difference to your stress levels, happiness and sleeping.

13. **Decide to be happy.**
    Lots of people wait to be happy. They wait for the situation to be right. Or they wait for the right friends to show up. Some people spend their entire lives waiting to be happy.

Decide to be happy now. Have a look at the things in your life you can feel lucky that you have. Appreciate the people who like you and love you. Make the most of the moment and seize the day. Have a fantastic year.

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Canteen 2013

We would like to start offering lunch orders to children every Thursday, but it can’t happen without lots of volunteers to help. Please consider giving up a couple of hours once or twice a term on a Thursday; the children will be very grateful and you will discover just how friendly the parents of Mt Dandenong Primary School are. To show your interest and availability, please complete the tear off slip below and leave it with Julie in the office.

Thank you, Victoria Clarke

I am able to help in the canteen (please circle):

- Each week
- Fortnightly
- Monthly
- Once a term

Name ………………………………………………………………….………
Contact no ……………………..…………………………………..………..

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education — whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting austral-ia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink — either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Chocolate Day

Q and A

Where At Farndons Hall
When Monday 4th March at 2 p.m.

Please ring or email to book your seat.
Jean 97284431
0408 843342
jiblenx@westnet.com.au

Come along and hear how the local chocolate
making business Harndorf’s
Began and how the luscious chocs.
are made.

SEE the range of goodies
TASTE a free sample
HAVE a cuppa
Farndons Hall Committee of Management
and Mt. Dandenong & District U3A
WAKAKIRRI 2013

93473- MAKING CONTACT

Wakakirri is back for 2013!

I would like to offer the opportunity to join our Waka team to any students in Grades 1-5. Joining the team is a big commitment and is a decision that needs to be made with both the child and parent as it involves lunch time rehearsals, a full day at a competition and then another one if we make it to the finals!

There is also a financial commitment to consider.
$45 - covers a T shirt, costume (which the school keeps), lunchtime rehearsals, bus to the heat and competition entry.

It is also important to know that the tickets to the heat (either 8th, 12th-14th August at Frankston Arts Centre) are approximately $25-$30 each. The finals tickets (if we make it through!) are approximately $35 (held at Hamer Hall on the 13th of September)

We will hire buses to take students to the heat however they will need to go home with a parent (or a friend if parents are not attending).

And now for the story….

A city is filled with busy workers caught up in the hustle and bustle going about their daily routines until… they are shocked at the arrival of aliens!

The aliens come out to greet the humans, however the humans feel under attack. The aliens are captured for quarantine and placed behind bars to keep them away from the humans.

A small group of humans sneaks back to the aliens late at night bringing them food. One human makes contact with an alien and suddenly understands why they are here.

Off the humans go to find the mayor to let him know this message. The mayor (and rest of the city) head to the aliens, contact is made and finally the humans and aliens understand each other. The code of their spaceship is solved. 93473 is turned around revealing the aliens message... PEACE.

Thank you, Jody Howell.

I give permission for my child to participate in Mount Dandenong Primary School's Wakakirri, 93473· Making Contact.

We have discussed what being part of a team means and are willing to commit to attending lunchtime rehearsals.

Childs signature

Parents signature
Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationary, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of $250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment Amounts - 2013:</th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instalment One</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instalment Two</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
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*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2013.
MARCH AGAINST MACCAS
Saturday 2ND of March 12PM

Come along and enjoy a family friendly day and show your support for the Hills way of life we hold so dear. The peaceful march will begin at Hayes car park (near the Cameo) at 12pm and end at Tecoma Primary School where there will be Kid's Activities, local musicians, the fabulous River Tribe band, guest speakers, BBQ and much more. Come and enjoy the creative, healthy living and passionate community we live in.

We are expecting large media coverage on the day.

Stand up and be counted, enjoy the day and have your say!

Please bring sun hats, sunscreen, sensible walking shoes, water bottles, banners and your singing voices.

9/10 Tecoma Residents Say No to McDonalds in Tecoma. For further information please visit www.burgeroff.com

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