Welcome Back
Welcome back from a very warm long weekend. I hope that many of you took the opportunity to spend time with friends and family and possibly took advantage of some water sports.

Jumble Sale News
This weekend we are holding our first ever Jumble Sale and combined with this is a cake stall, sausage sizzle and coffee and tea sales. If you still have items to donate for our sale it is not too late. Pick up the key from the office and place the items in the rear portable.
We would appreciate it if each family could donate a cake, slice or biscuits for us to sell at the Jumble Sale. A plate will be sent home tomorrow and can be returned on Friday afternoon or on Saturday morning, before 9am, at the sale.

School Fees Required Urgently
A notice was issued to each family last month with a request for school fees. As a Government school we are funded on a per student basis. This funding is entirely directed at providing teaching staff and does not cover the bulk of the materials required for classroom and specialist programs. Our $250 per student fee is a very reasonable request and allows us to provide books, stationery, sporting equipment, art supplies, musical instruments and the like. We have collected approximately one third of the required outstanding fees which still leaves the school with a shortfall of approximately $35,000. The bottom line is that public education is not free, the provision of staff is. I hope that you all appreciate the urgency of this situation and can contribute to the entire school community by paying your fees.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
We would love each student at our school to participate in the PRC. If you would like to participate in 2013, please visit the office for an entry form. Successful participants will have their name and photo displayed in the foyer, will have their name published in the Age newspaper and will receive a certificate from the Premier. Attached is an article about the importance of reading at home.

Easter Hat Parade
Our annual Easter Hat Parade is back and will be celebrated on Thursday 28th of March at 9.15am. This year our categories are as follows:
- Book Inspired, Sustainability/Recycled, Moving parts, Multicultural and Judges Choice.
Every student who participates will receive a small Easter egg and has the potential to win a larger egg if their hat is judged one of the best. Please remember that although we encourage parents to support and help their children to create their hats we would like it to be predominantly student work.
We will have a small parade for toddlers or non-school aged siblings who would like to join in.

Congratulations Simone Algie
We would like to congratulate Simone who applied for the Dandenong Ranges Leaders in the Making course and was successful in her application. Simone will join a number of other outstanding teachers from the Dandenong Ranges to participate in this exceptional School Leadership course. We are sure that Simone will enjoy this opportunity and will gain and refine many skills to develop her already outstanding leadership capabilities.

Mt Dandy Community Footy Tipping 2013
This year we would like to involve as many families as possible in our community footy tipping competition. The first prize is a $50 Kmart voucher, second is a $20 Kmart voucher and third place will receive a $10 Kmart Voucher. To enter access the link below and join the MDPS Community Comp. There is no entry fee. We ask that only direct community members join. Please clearly identify yourself in the title of your username so we know who you are. http://www.victeach.footytips.com.au/join

Thumbs Up To:
* Kylie Gilson and team for counting and stapling our Easter raffle books

Thank you, Michael Leonard and Sue Gibson.
16th March 9-1pm

We still need plenty of donations

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.

School Photos

Anyone who forgot to return their envelope on photo day DON’T PANIC!!! You can ring the photographers MSP Photography on 9466 7331 to order your copies.

Library News

Two of our parents, Trish and Louise, have very kindly offered to open the library for some extra borrowing/returning times.

These are:
- Monday 3:30pm-4pm
- Tuesday 8:30am-8:55am
- Wednesday 3:30pm-4pm

Please take advantage of these to collect star reader’s and achieve your goals!

We are also collecting for the Mount Dandenong PS

Easter Raffle

If you have baskets, soft toys, chocolates or anything else suitable for an Easter present, please give it to Julie at the office. Thank you.
OSHClub News
Before School / After School Care Program

It’s been a fun week creating our Autumn Mural Tree! The children enjoyed designing and painting the tree and creating their own leaf! We also made Dr Seuss Door Hangers, animal bookmarks and started our OSHClub Children’s Profile book. Next week we will be creating twig/leaf collage frames, painting masks, cooking burritos and doing some Easter Activities. We are collecting items for our new “Dress up corner” and “OSHClub Library.” If anyone has any costumes, dresses, bags or books they would like to donate, please leave these items at the front office. P.S. Keep bringing your recipes for our OSHClub Cooking book!

Come and join in all the fun! We look forward to seeing you at OSHClub! From Lina and Samantha.

This Week’s Activities - Week 7

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<td>OSHClub Children’s Profiles</td>
<td>Autumn colouring &amp; Musical Bop Statues</td>
<td>Easter Activity</td>
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<td>Brekky</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY</td>
<td>Cereal &amp; Milk, Juice (No sugar), Toast (White/ Wholemeal) &amp; Spreads, Hot Cross Buns!</td>
<td>Cereal &amp; Milk, Juice (No sugar), Toast (White/ Wholemeal) &amp; Spreads, Yoghurt &amp; Fruit</td>
<td>Cereal &amp; Milk, Juice (No sugar), Toast (White/ Wholemeal) &amp; Spreads, English Muffins</td>
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<td>After Care Activities</td>
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<td>Autumn Twig/Leaf Collage Frame</td>
<td>Painting Day! Paper plate Masks</td>
<td>Cooking Club! Burritos</td>
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<td>Afternoon tea</td>
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<td>Inside Dodge Ball/ Bowling</td>
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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.

OSH program phone: 0419915649
Coordinator: Lina Corrone

OSHC program phone: 03 8564 9000
OSHClub Head Office: 03 8564 9000
Assistant: Samantha Clarke

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.

Bills of Belgrave
Quality Free Range Meats
1667 Burwood Highway, Belgrave. Ph. 9754 2371
Proud sponsor of the MDPS
Jumble Sale Sausage Sizzle.
READ DAILY TO KIDS - THE PROOF OF ITS BENEFITS  Posted by: Michael Grose

Recent research quantified what we’ve intuitively known about children and reading. That is, the more adults read to children from an early age, the greater the impact on their reading and thinking skills.

It was reported in The Age (3rd March 2013) that a longitudinal study by The Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research measured the link between the frequency of reading to a child and his or her development.

The study followed 4,000 children, aged four to five years in 2004 through to ages 10 and 11 and found that reading to a child six to seven days a week puts him almost a year ahead of a child who has not been read to. The study also found that children who were read to every day from a young age also have better numeracy skills in primary school.

The benefits don’t stop at reading to pre-school aged children. The study found that kids who are read to more often keep doing better as they age than other children.

The finding send a clear message to parents, and other adults such as grandparents – reading to children goes beyond a simple fun, bonding experience. It is perhaps the single most important activity you can do to give a child a head start in literacy.

As a former primary teacher and literacy consultant I’ve seen the benefits first hand of children who come from language and reading rich environments. Anecdotally, these children are streets ahead of those who come from language and reading deficient environments.

So, how can you help?

Stock up on your children’s book library at home. Establish a comfortable reading spot so that your kids associate that place with reading and books.

Make reading to your kids a habit. If you’ve wriggly boys who don’t sit still, keep the reading time short and make sure the books are of interest to boys. The grubbier and gorier the content the better, usually!

Make reading time interesting and fun rather than laborious and boring. That way your kids will always look forward to their reading time with you.

Make sure your kids take plenty of books on visits and sleepovers with grandparents, and other relatives. Let them know how important reading daily to children is.

Books make great presents so pass the word around that it would be most welcome for your kids to receive books that you can read to them.

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'HEART KIDS' Charity fundraising class
'Perfect Balance' a fusion of Tai Chi, Yoga, Balance & Relaxation.

Sunday 24th March 9.30am-10.30am
$10pp all going to Heart Kids Light.
A healthy breakfast available afterwards just $10.

Class at The Wild Oak Olinda by Jilly Sime-Higgs
Bookings are essential
Jillypr@gmail.com mobile 0431970522
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- which covers a Tshirt, 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 busses 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

ROAD CLOSURE
Mt Dandenong Tourist Road
Tree maintenance will be undertaken along Mt Dandenong Tourist Road between Inverness Road and Browns Road Montrose. The works will occur between 9.00 am and 3.30 pm from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd March 2013.
Traffic detours will be in place and local traffic delays may be expected during these times.
For further information contact DSE
Customer Service on 136 186
Email: customer.service@dse.vic.gov.au

Yarra Ranges Business Directory.com.au
Accommodation & Tourism • Activities & Sports
Auto & Marine • Community Resources • Eating Out & Food
Entertainment & Going Out • Health & Well Being
Home Based • Professional • Retailers • Services • Trades
Business Advertising - Run by Locals, for Locals.
Free Listings for Community Groups.
The Mount Dandy News

All advertisements placed in this newsletter are placed in good faith. The school however is not responsible for the quality of goods and services offered. The placement of advertising is provided as a community service and the school does not endorse any products listed.

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**Back/neck pain**
**Sprains/strains**
**Sports injuries**
**Falls & balance**
**Headaches**
**Post-surgical rehab**
**Overuse injuries**
**Women’s health**

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**Kirsty’s piano and keyboard lessons!**
Come help your child explore their musical creativity with lessons at $20 per half hour. Classically trained, with grade 7/8 and VCE music performance experience, I seek to teach not just technical knowledge, but encourage a long term love for music! References available upon application. Contact Kirsty Peterson on 9755 2244 or 0433 445 103.

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**A good ol’ time COUNTRY FAIR**
St. Pauls Primary School, 59 Moores Road Monbulk
**MARCH 16th—12pm-6pm**
Great entertainment, live auctions and fun for all the family

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**ZUMBA® fitness**
COME JOIN THE PARTY!
Every Monday & Thursday at 7:30 pm
Mt. Dandenong Primary School
FIRST CLASS FREE!
Call Josie 0403 316 433 or just come along with a friend.