

#### Mount Dandenong Primary School

Mt Dandenong Primary has a strong sense of local community. The community has traditionally taken a keen interest in the school and been significantly involved in its day to day operation and future development. The school has established strong links with the local Kinder.

Currently at 208, enrolments have remained stable at around 200 for the past 14 years. The school has a strong values based program that underpins all subject areas. A renowned Performance Arts Program as well as Physical Education, Library and Art programs also support student learning.

Mt Dandenong provides a sequential, balanced and stimulating curriculum encompassing the VELs strands of Physical, Personal & Social Learning; Discipline- based Learning and Interdisciplinary Learning. The school's programs encourage the achievement of excellence.

The specific learning needs of individual students are identified and addressed through a range of formal and co curricula programs. Of particular note is our Literacy Support and QuickSmart Numeracy programs that offer assistance to those students achieving below expected levels.

Student Learning	Student Engagement and Wellbeing	Student Pathways and Transitions
<p>Mt Dandenong Primary School is very proud of its outstanding achievements in student learning. In 2011 and 2012, students achieved results in Literacy and Numeracy that are generally higher than statistically similar schools</p> <p>Our results in NAPLAN are excellent. The two year average for Reading results of year 3 students is considerably higher than similar schools, and the 2012 year 3 Numeracy results are in the top 20% of all government schools. Year 5 results in Reading and Numeracy are in the top 20% of government schools for 2012 and have been sustained for a 4 year period.</p> <p>In 2013 we are focusing on implementing a research based teaching model for Numeracy to further enhance results in Mathematics. We are also focussing in depth, including intensive professional learning for teachers, on planning, preparing and implementing differentiation strategies to cater for all students, including those achieving above expected levels.</p> <p>Staff coaching, peer observation and feedback programs will see teachers develop their skills further resulting in even higher student outcomes.</p>	<p>Our student attendance data for 2011 is higher than expected for similar schools with our 4 year average being similar in school comparison.</p> <p>Continuation with the 'It's Not Okay to be Away' message along with close parent and school communication around attendance should continue to reinforce the link between attendance and student success.</p> <p>Student Attitude to School Surveys indicated lower than expected levels last year for our grade 5 and 6 students. Transition into a new learning facility along with new teaching teams impacted these results. Anecdotal evidence suggests a marked improvement later in the 2012 year and we are confident of a vast improvement this year.</p> <p>Continued consideration of student voice, an emphasis on interdependence and independence in our Senior Learning Unit, coupled with a strong and vibrant teaching team will see the students' connectedness increase further this year.</p> <p>This year we are increasing the profile of our values program by integrating it into our start up program and including an awards system throughout the year for students displaying the MDPS R.I.C.H values.</p>	<p>Transition from pre-school to prep continues to be of high quality with parent feedback demonstrating that the program is effective and successful. Close links with Mt Dandenong Pre-school continue to be maintained and prep teachers visit on a termly basis.</p> <p>Information about Prep enrolment for 2014 will be available early in Term 2.</p> <p>Our Grade 5 and 6 students are able to work in an environment that caters for a range of learning styles and provides a breadth of experiences and skills in preparation for secondary school.</p> <p>Our Grade 5/6 teachers are also part of the Dandenong Ranges Network Transition Team that links primary schools with their local government secondary school.</p> <p>In Term 4 all students will visit their 2014 level areas on at least three occasions to allow them to transition more confidently into their new learning teams.</p> <p>We will again continue with our Runde program that consists of small, cross aged groups of students and a staff mentor meeting fortnightly. Through Runde, relationships and friendships are developed that aid with the strong sense of community at Mount Dandenong PS and supports students through transition each year.</p>

For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at

[www.mtdandps.vic.edu.au](http://www.mtdandps.vic.edu.au)

or view our 2012 Annual Report online at <http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/SReg>