

The Mount Dandy News

Top of the mountain, top results.



Issue 239

3rd February 2015

What's On

TERM ONE

February

- 2nd —First day of Term 1
- 9th-13th—Grade 56 camp
- 9th-11th—Grade 34 camp
- 10th—School Council Nominations submitted—4pm
- 27th—House Jumping Sports
- 28th—MDPS Barn Dance—6-9pm

March

- 6th—House Athletic Sports
- 18th—School Photos
- 27th—Last Day Term 1
- 28th—Bunnings BBQ

**CANTEEN
WILL RESUME
FRIDAY,
20TH FEBRUARY**

News and Views...

Welcome back

Welcome back to all of our returning families and a special welcome to those families who are new to our community. I hope you have all had a wonderful break and managed to stay safe and sound. Over the Christmas break I went camping with my family and spent a great deal of time fishing and playing cricket. It was wonderful to spend an extended period of time in the company of family and friends.

Welcome Anni

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and let you know how excited I am to join the staff here at Mount Dandenong Primary School and become a part of your community. I have already met many of the students and parents during my first few days and you, together with the staff, have made me feel very welcomed.

I have spent many years teaching at Weeden Heights, teaching across many areas of the school including all grade levels, Languages (French, German and Indonesian), Literacy Enhancement and Intervention, Reading Recovery, P.E. as well as having many leadership roles in the school. I also have a background in nursing which can come in very handy from time to time!

I look forward to bringing the experiences and skills that I have to my new role at M.D.P.S. as well as gaining new experiences and learning new skills from the fabulous teachers you have here.

Please feel free to come and introduce yourselves to me whenever you are around. I am looking forward to an exciting year together with the staff, students and community, of achieving great things.
Ms Anni Smart

Welcome to our new Prep Families

Our Prep students begin their primary school journey this Thursday and we would like to wish them well. We are excited by the journey ahead and are sure that they will love being at Mt Dandy. Please make our new students and their families very welcome. Our upcoming barn dance is a great opportunity to welcome new families to our school.

Leadership Team at Mt D

This year we have planned and implemented a structure that has allowed us to reshape our leadership team to offer more support and time to staff, students and families.

Anni Smart is our new leading teacher and as such she will perform the roles of Student Welfare Coordinator, Junior School Learning Team Leader and Curriculum Coordinator. She will also be teaching grade 1/2 every second Wednesday and each Thursday and Friday.

Trish Becker is once again our Senior School Team Leader and this year has each Thursday out of her class to complete leadership tasks.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either one of them.

School Fees – 2015

This week you will all receive an invoice for our school fees. It is crucial that every family pays their fees which are a reasonable \$250 per student for the year. I am aware that some people believe that education should be free and choose not to pay. Unfortunately this is not the case. Tuition is free, however we are required to raise money from other sources, such as fees, to ensure that we have adequate supplies and resources for our students.

Deliberately choosing not to pay is unfair to the majority of people who make their contribution and more importantly means there are fewer resources available to our students. **Continued on page 2...**

**Fresh Eggs
\$2.50 Per 1/2 Dozen -
Our Girls Are Laying**

If you would like your name added to the list for fresh eggs please fill your name in at our office. When your turn comes we'll send home a half dozen eggs with your child and you return the carton with \$2.50 the next day. This money will be used to keep our chooks well feed and our garden beds flourishing.

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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.

News and Views... Continued from page 1

Some families have chosen not to pay for a number of years, which is very disappointing. We understand if you are having financial difficulty, so please consider the payment program or contact me for a confidential discussion to see how we can help. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Car Park reminders

Please remember to drive slowly around the school and surrounding roads. Parking can be difficult and we ask everybody to be patient and careful. The parking area at the front of the school on Farndons Road is a 'drop and go' zone and parents are requested not to exit their cars. Thank you

School Council 2015 – We need you!

Our School Councillor nomination process starts today. If you are interested in becoming a councillor and can attend two to three meetings per term and would like to help around the school please complete the attached nomination form by 4pm Tuesday the 10th of February. Nomination forms are also available at the office.

Thank you to Brendan Fenton, Ralph Gailis, Kirsten Vernon, Megan Fergusson and Mark Roberts who are all school council members whose tenure has concluded. We appreciate your time and contribution.

Uniform Expectations

At Mount Dandenong we have high expectations and are proud of our culture and reputation. School uniform is an indicator of school pride and creates a sense of belonging. We ask that all students are in the correct uniform each day. Black or green long sleeve t shirts are permitted if worn under a green school shirt. Whilst we understand that from time to time a student is unable to wear a uniform, we do ask that you supply a note explaining the reason. Teachers will send a note home to the parents of students not in the correct uniform.

Sustaining Our Future – Leading Healthier Lives and Reducing Waste at Mt Dandy

This year we have introduced a new initiative to reduce the amount of waste our school community contributes to landfill. We are encouraging all families to supply 'Nude Food' for their children. Nude food is food that has no packaging. Avoiding packaged food such as chips, muesli bars, chocolate bars and yoghurt and replacing them with fresh fruit and vegies is a good start. It saves on packaging, is healthier and is generally cheaper. Sandwiches and the like can be put into containers that can be washed and reused, rather than disposed of. Buying products in bulk is also cheaper. If you must have potato chips, it is far cheaper to buy a bulk bag and put some in a container each day rather than purchase the multi packs that also have a much higher amount of packaging. The same goes for items such as dried fruit and cheeses. Students will be expected to take any packaging from snack and lunch home with them at the end of each day. Hopefully if we all band together we can help support the needs of our environment.

Staff Professional Learning

Last week all of the Mt Dandenong staff attended a presentation by Mr Wayne Craig. Wayne is an educational specialist, former regional director and currently works for education specialist McCrel. As a staff we heard about the importance of teacher/student relationships, having high expectations of students, ensuring work is challenging and engaging and providing effective feedback and positive outcomes for our students. From this we made a list of what resonated with each of us and have agreed to focus more closely on our teaching practice. The work from this morning will continue throughout the year. The professional learning session allowed me to reflect on how lucky we are at Mt Dandy to have a team of excellent teachers who are committed not only to the education of our students but also to continually improve their own practice.

Marion Martin

Over the holidays the community lost a very valuable past staff member. Although before my time at MDPS, Marion Martin was the school bursar for 20 years until 2000. I have heard of her kindness, warmth and outstanding capabilities. She will be sadly missed.

Thumbs up

👍 To the Harkness (Ross), Fergusson, Dillon and Rae (Higgins) families who helped keep our chooks health and happy over the holidays.

Thank you, Mike Leonard and Anni Smart

Can you help out at the Barn Dance?

We aim to raise money towards \$300 for each classroom teacher

Saturday 28th Feb 2015

If you are available please let Julie know at the office

or email me at kylieandsimongilson@bigpond.com or text Kylie on 0439 553 371.

	BBQ (6-7.30pm)	Bar (6-7.30pm) or (7.30-9pm)	Dinner serving (6.30-7.30pm)	Dessert serving (8-8.30pm)
1				
2				
3				

OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program



Welcome to 2015



On Behalf of everyone at OSH we want to welcome all the students, parents and community back to OSH for another year. Last year we left off with a bang, with our FIRST EVER OSHClub disco! It was such a success with everyone having a ball. Keep your eyes and ears open for up and coming events planned by OSH.

There will be one once a term!

This week we will be focusing all our attention on redesigning the room and re decorating the walls. So come along and help create a little piece of you in the OSH room for this year.

This Week's Activities - Term 1, Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before Care Activities	Colouring in	All about me	Photo story books	Holiday recount	Story writing
Brekky	Cereal & Milk, Juice (No sugar), Toast (White/ Wholemeal) & Spreads, yoghurt	Cereal & Milk, Juice (No sugar), Toast (White/ Wholemeal), Spreads & Milk & Milo	Cereal & Milk, Juice (No sugar), Toast (White/ Wholemeal), Spreads & Raisin Toast	Cereal & Milk, Juice (No sugar), Toast (White/ Wholemeal) & Spreads, Fresh fruit	Cereal & Milk, Juice (No sugar), Toast (White/ Wholemeal) & Spreads, Milk & milo
After Care Activities	'Construction Day' 4:15 – 5:15pm Room signs & ABC Basketball	'Get Creative' Art/Craft Club! 4:15pm – 5:15pm Shared expectations poster & Hopscotch	'Cooking Club!' 4:15pm – 5:15pm Program signs: all about me posters & Table tennis	'Active After school sports games' 4:15 to 5:15pm Place signs and birthday stars & octopus	'Friday Fun Day' 4:15pm – 5:30pm Welcome sign & Role ply
Afternoon tea	Chicken noodle soup and fresh fruit	Fresh sandwiches and fresh fruit	Nachos and fresh fruit	Toasted ham and cheese sandwiches & fresh fruit	Vegetables, crackers and dip with Fresh fruit

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

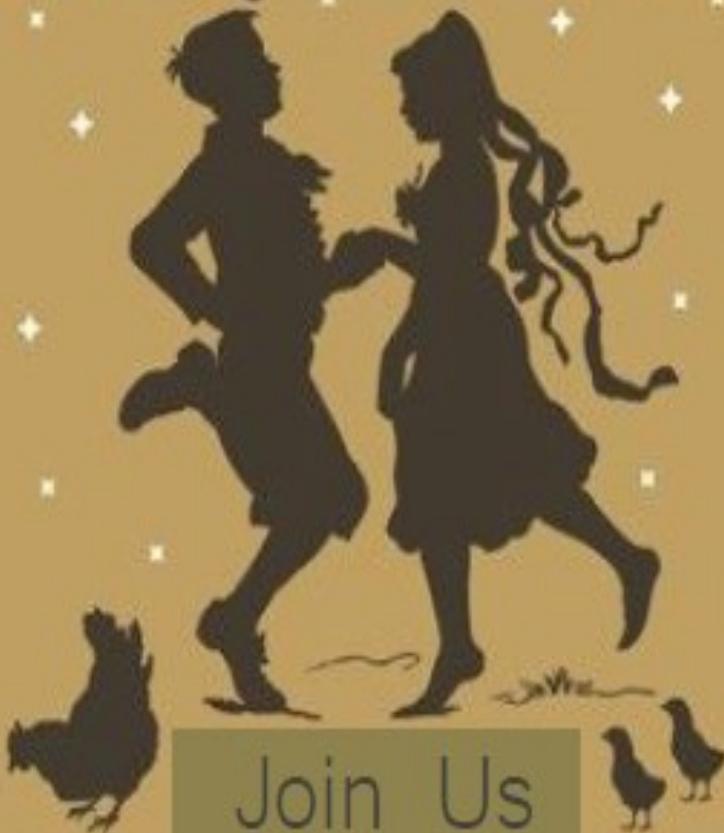
OSHClub Head Office: 03 8564 9000

Coordinator: Samantha Clarke

Assistant: Kerrie Jones

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.

BARN DANCE



Join Us

Saturday 28th February

Tickets need to be purchased by 20th Feb at the office.

Food and drink available for purchase on the night.

Lively dancing - Featuring bush band 'Eat Ya Greens'

Dancing kicks off at 6pm-concludes 9pm

Tickets:

\$5 per child/\$10 per adult/\$30 per family

Student Banking 2015

We are ready for another big year in student saving and are continuing to encourage good saving habits by making available the school banking program offered by the Commonwealth Bank which provides incentives for regular savers.

Parent, Siobhan Grant, is kindly co-ordinating the program at present and has requested that bank day, when students leave their deposit books and savings at the office to be taken to the bank, be changed to

MONDAY

Anyone wanting information on the program can pick up an application from the office.

Art News

Welcome back to another exciting year in the Art room. If you would like to assist in any way please see me in the Art room on Tuesday and Wednesday each week or leave a message at the office.

Creating artwork can be messy so please send to school a **CLEARLY NAMED** art smock. Art smocks are available for purchase from the uniform shop or you could make one, buy one from a shop or use an old shirt.

I would appreciate donations of old towels to dry wet hands and clean up spills. Please leave them at the art room.

Thank you
Liz Kennedy,
Art teacher

Mt Dandenong Primary School Music Program

Classroom Music: Teacher Debbie Leticq-Cromb

All students receive a 1 hour classroom music lesson each week. They will learn over the course of their 7 years at school to read music, play a variety of instruments, create, sing, dance and join in drama activities. The aim of the program, whilst having fun, is to give **all** children the opportunity to participate in music making and develop musical skills. Each year, **every** child has the opportunity to perform in various concerts/assemblies throughout the year and to sing as a whole school choir during the year.

School Performance Groups

Vocal Ensemble is a group of talented singers from Grades 4-6. Children are selected by audition, as we have a limited number that can join each year due to its popularity. Rehearsals are Tuesdays before school at 8.30am.

Orchestra performs the National Anthem in Monday morning Assemblies, so they will need to be available to assist with setting up on stage at 8:45am. Any child who has been learning an instrument for at least a year is welcome to join. Rehearsals are Monday lunchtimes. Students also perform at the annual Soiree Concert.

Jammin' with the Juniors for Grade ½ children. This is a fun, casual singing group which introduces children to a singing choir. They meet occasionally and learn the songs during class-time.

Instrumental Music Program

We have an exciting private instrumental music program at Mt Dandenong Primary School which is currently in place. If your child is interested in having a private/group lesson during school time, please contact teachers directly to make an enquiry or a booking.

- Drum kit-contact Luke Mclvor 0415 705 616 email ljmclvor@gmail.com (see below)
- Guitar for Gr 2-6-contact Jed Rowe 0437 741 851 email jedrowe@gmail.com
- Piano and/or singing-contact Sarah-Rose Mclvor 0402 413 169 email sarah.rosey@gmail.com (see page 8)
- Violin, cello-contact Keryn Lientschnig-0408 566 423 email keryn_ml@yahoo.com.au (see below)

Thank you, Debbie Leticq-Cromb



My name is Luke Mclvor and this year I will be teaching drums at Mt Dandenong Primary School. As an experienced teacher and performer I aim to inspire and encourage students, making learning a fun and rewarding experience. There are performance opportunities through out the year where students will have the chance to showcase what they have been learning for their family and classmates. Lessons with me will be tailored to a student's ability and musical interests. Students will also have the opportunity to learn all theoretical aspects of drumming including notation and technique.

Should your child be interested in learning the drums, or if you require more information please feel free to contact me.

NEW STRING TEACHER AT MDPs. DIS-COUNTED INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL!

Keryn has many year's experience teaching beginners through to advanced students. She teaches 'cello at a couple of schools and has taught violin, viola, 'cello & 'bass to Degree students at Box Hill TAFE. She performs on 'cello with the Melbourne Opera Orchestra, the Nicholas Chamber Orchestra and other groups, small classical ensembles and as a session musician.

Keryn can help students prepare for AMEB (Australian Music Examinations Board) exams, with past students having gone on to complete VCE 'cello and further study at university. She is a member of the Victorian Music Teachers' Association, the Victorian Institute of Teaching and the Australian String Teachers' Association.

[Keryn can assist with purchasing/hiring instruments.](#)

[For further information please email:](#)

dandenong.ranges.strings@gmail.com

Mount Dandenong Primary School

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 ABN 50 930 393 390



February 2, 2015

School Council Elections 2015

What is a school council and what does it do?

All Government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to: stand for election as a member of the school council
 or

encourage another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. Nomination forms are available from the school office and can be submitted until 4.00 p.m. on the 10th February.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal by 4.00 p.m. on the 10th February.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do

Consider standing for election to council this year

Be sure to vote in the election if it is required.

Contact the principal for further information.

Continued on next page...

School Council Elections 2015 *continued...*

Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Mount Dandenong Primary School. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office and must be lodged by 4.00 pm by Tuesday, 10th February 2014.

If required the ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Tuesday, 25th February.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

Membership category	Term of office	Number of positions
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017	5
DEECD employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017	1

Timeline

Vacancies – 1 DEECD representative (school staff)
4 Parent representatives

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS AND TIMETABLE		
Mount Dandenong Primary School		
EVENT	DATE	
a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Tuesday, 3rd February 2015
b)	Closing date for nominations	Tuesday, 10th February 2015
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Monday 16th, February 2015
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Tuesday 17th, February 2015
e)	Close of ballot	Tuesday, 24 th February 2014
f)	Vote count	Wednesday 25 th February 2015
g)	Declaration of poll	Thursday 26 th February
h)	Special council meeting to coopt Community members (the principal will preside)	Monday 2 rd March 2015
i)	First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Monday 2 rd March 2015

Nomination Forms can be collected from the office. Please note that the dates and times will be strictly followed.

Mike Leonard
Principal

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www.ellenaturaleolinda.com.au

Open every day!

Join me for free meditation every Wednesday morning at 9.15am

PIANO & SINGING LESSONS WITH SARAH-ROSE

Book your place now for lessons at Mt Dandenong Primary in 2015

- 30 minute private lesson
- 20 minute private lessons
- Groups of two students (assigned according to capability)

Contact sarah.rose@gmail.com
0402 413 169 for details & a quote
Sarah-Rose is Level 1 & Level 2 Estill qualified with over fifteen years experience in the music industry as a performer, composer and teacher.

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Contact. H. 9755 1760 M. 0407 383 575

Email: rosiers12@bigpond.com

Sheer Grace Piano & Flute Duo available for Weddings & Functions

French & English Tutoring Dip. Languages (Monash)

Player Registration for 2015

Sassafras Ferny Creek Netball Club is open for registration for our Winter Competition 2015 and welcomes any new players.

You don't need to have any experience, just the will to join in and become part of a team!



Registration: 7th February 2015, 10am - 12pm, Olinda Netball Court
Age: 8 years old to open.

Training: Teams train at the netball court in Olinda

Matches: All matches are on Saturdays at Mountain District Netball Complex, Ferntree Gully for all matches.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Give us call and we will get you started!

Questions? Contact Ann-Maree Baker on 0418 395 070



30 Day Train-

ing Experience
Passes available

at the Office
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go to MDPS.