What’s On

TERM ONE

February
28th—MDPS Barn Dance—6-9pm

March
6th—House Athletic Sports
12th—Three Way Interviews
18th—School Photos
20th—House Jumping Sports—Yrs 3-6 only (NEW DATE)
27th—Last Day Term 1
28th—Bunnings BBQ

April
13th—First Day Term 2

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News and Views...

Music News
Unfortunately for our community we are losing the services of our wonderful and passionate music teacher, Deb Leticq-Cromb. Deb has worked particularly hard to continue teaching during her illness and has performed admirably despite health concerns for the past few years. We wish her extremely good luck for the next stage of her journey. We will celebrate Debs career and her contribution to our community during term 2. Deb has included a letter to the community in this edition of the school newsletter.
We have employed an interim teacher to cover music classes until term 2 and would like to welcome Michael Mietzke (Yes another Michael!) Michael is an experienced music teacher who is currently teaching at the Boronia K-12 College.
We will advertise for a permanent music teacher during term 1 for a start in term 2. Unfortunately Vocal Ensemble and Orchestra practice will not take place during term 1.

Barn Dance – Tickets Available from the office
Our upcoming Barn Dance is a great way to welcome our new prep families and is great fun as well. This year we again have the services of bush band ‘Eat Ya Greens’ who were magnificent in teaching all of us the moves. Our fundraising committee are aiming to raise approximately $300 for each class teacher to purchase materials for their class to use from this event.

School Council News
This year we had exactly five nominations for the five available positions for parent representatives on School Council. We would like to welcome Kirsten Vernon back for another tenure and welcome our newest members, Rachael Hutchin, Lilly Markovic, Steve Fallon and Tony Rowe. Our new leading teacher Anni Smart will replace Rosie Brehaut as a staff representative.
We are looking forward to working together in what is promising to be an exciting year for Mt Dandy.

Lunch Orders start Friday
Once again we will be utilising the services of the Mount Dandenong Bakery to supply student lunches each Friday. A lunch menu is included with this newsletter or can be printed off from our website or collected from the office notice rack. Orders are due in by 9am on Thursday mornings. We are currently researching the possibility of reducing the waste from this program and would appreciate and suggestions.

Welcome Back Campers
Our grade 3/4 campers and grade 5/6 campers have all come back from their camps excited by the activities and adventures that they participated in. We are looking forward to reading some of their recounts and seeing some photos. I’d like to thank the parent helpers who attended each camp for their support of the teachers and students. Their assistance is vital to our camping program and without them we could not conduct these camps. Thank you also to our dedicated teaching and educational support staff. They give up a great deal of personal and family time to go on camps which, although are great fun, are also very demanding and exhausting. Please remember that teachers do not get paid extra or overtime to attend camp and do so because they are professionals and value the experiences that the camping program offers our students.

Helping Our Students Solve School Based Issues
In this week’s newsletter we have included an article by parenting expert Michael Grose. Although we ran this last year we believe it is a great blog that can help families to support their children to develop resilience and model problem solving techniques.

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.

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 1/2 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.
Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

It is with sadness that I write to you all to say farewell. As some of you were aware, I have been struggling for the past couple of years with Multiple Sclerosis with a Neuro Myelitis Optica variant, which is a very rare but unpredictable, chronic disease of the central nervous system. My decision has been sudden and unexpected but with my weakened muscles, especially my diaphragm and a suppressed immune system, It was increasingly a challenge to complete my teaching day.

I commenced at Mt Dandenong back in 1999 as the Teacher-Librarian for 9 years, developed and taught a Healthy-Living Program, including a drug education component and a sexuality education program. For the past 6 years I was delighted to teach music and what fun we have had kids! My teaching career has spanned over 30 years and I started teaching in the Northern Territory as a classroom teacher back in the 1980's, where students would walk to school in their bare feet and we would finish school early to beat the heat! I am so very fortunate to have had a diverse and happy teaching life, which I will miss enormously, especially Mike and the staff, who have been so very supportive with my illness and of course the wonderful, caring students.

This is not the way I expected to possibly end my teaching career but life throws some unexpected curve-balls and I have always lived a happy, fulfilling life, travelled the world, was a volunteer firefighter for 15 years and raised a beautiful family. So I will continue to live my life as fully as possible. If you see me around in the local community, don't be shy, come some hi!!

Best wishes,

Debbie Leticq-Cromb
Music Teacher
Mt Dandenong Primary School
phone:9751 1136 email:leticqcromb.deborah.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

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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.

THANKYOU!!!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BBQ</th>
<th>Bar</th>
<th>Dinner serving</th>
<th>Dessert serving</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(6-7.30pm)</td>
<td>(6-7.30pm) or (7.30-9pm)</td>
<td>(6.30-7.30pm)</td>
<td>(8-8.30pm)</td>
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OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program

This week in OSH we celebrated the holiday of love, valentine’s day. All week we created fabulous presents to give to the ones we love! We started of the week with arts and craft with beautiful cards. The children’s favourite activity was during cooking club. The children made chocolate truffles and wrapping them into gift bags. All in all it was a lovely week and the children really spread the ‘love’.

This week in OSH, back by popular demand is Games week. Every day this week we will all participate in some amazing and adrenalin rushing games.

They are great for team building and cooperation for the students. Not to mention impossibly fun! So come along and join the fun!

Note: for all families who have any 2nd hand rugs or mats OSH would love to give them a new home. As it is a new year we are looking to create new play spaces. All donations from the community are welcome and extremely appreciated.

This Week’s Activities - Term 1, Week 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before Care Activities</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brekky</td>
<td>Lego</td>
<td>Giants tresure</td>
<td>Poison ball</td>
<td>Heads down thumbs up</td>
<td>Colouring in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>‘Construction Day’ 4:15 – 5:15pm Capture the flag &amp; Hama beads</td>
<td>‘Get Creative’ Art/Craft Club! 4:15pm – 5:15pm Tail tidy &amp; Box construction</td>
<td>‘Cooking Club!’ 4:15pm – 5:15pm 4 square &amp; Art workshop</td>
<td>‘Active After school sports games’ 4:15 to 5:15pm Wii challenge &amp; octopus</td>
<td>‘Friday Fun Day’ 4:15pm – 5:30pm Dancing &amp; Table Tennis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
<td>Nachos and a plate of oranges, watermelon and apple, Mango</td>
<td>fresh vegemite and cheese sandwiches and a plate of watermelon, Apple and kiwi fruit.</td>
<td>A plate of cherry tomatoes, carrot and cucumber with savoys and dip, along with a plate of Watermelon, apple and orange.</td>
<td>Fried rice &amp; pineapple, watermelon and apple</td>
<td>Frozen fruit sticks, crackers and a plate of oranges, watermelon and apple.</td>
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</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.

OSH program phone: 0419915649
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.
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.

Upwey High School Festival Day 2015

The Upwey High School Festival will take place on Saturday 14 March. The day begins with a free Volleyball Coaching Clinic for all Primary school students from 11am to Midday in the Upwey High School Stadium. Featuring elite level coaches, this clinic caters for all levels of participants, from those new to the sport or just trying it out, all the way to regular players. There will also be exhibition games with local high schools, a sausage sizzle and refreshments available.

Following the Volleyball, a Market featuring local traders with products from new and second hand clothes to art and crafts will be held at the school. A range of food vendors and coffee will also be available for visitors. At the same time the Streeton Art Show and a Music concert will be held at the school. The music concert will feature a number of bands from Upwey High School, Dandenong Ranges’ ‘New Horizons Band’, bands and groups from local primary schools as well as bands from the local community. It is also not too late to be a performer at the concert, so if interested, check out the website at www.upweyartsfestival.com.

The Streeton Art Show

Thanks to the wonderful sponsorship of the Yarra Ranges Council, the Upwey Arts Festival Art show returns for 2015. This year’s Art show has been renamed the Streeton Art Show and prize money has increased. Again this year there is no set theme or medium for the entries. The categories and prizes are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Main Prize</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower Primary (Prep- Yr. 3)</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Primary (Yr. 4-6)</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary (Yr. 7-12)</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Category (all ages)</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, or to make an individual entry, check out www.upweyartsfestival.com.

Entries into the art show can be made by individual students of the school, or a bulk entry from the school will be taken.

Upwey High Festival Day Market Stalls

If you are interested in running a market stall on Saturday 14 March at Upwey High School, please contact Andrew McNeil at mcn@upweyhs.vic.edu.au.
When things go wrong at school. Submitted by Michael Grose

Every parent wants the best for their children, and that includes having great experiences at school.

Despite best teaching practice things do go wrong at school. Most kids experience learning difficulties from time to time. Conflict and peer rejection are a normal part of school-life. The developmental nature of childhood means that there will always be some turbulence, particularly around key transition ages, such as the start of adolescence.

During these times young people frequently experience a dip in their learning as well as significant relationship difficulties. Kids will often come home from school with grievances, and call on their parents for assistance.

Your approach as a parent when your child has difficulty at school makes huge difference to their resilience, and their future relationships with teachers and peers. Anecdotal evidence suggests that there’s been a significant increase in aggressive incidents at schools involving parents reacting to their children’s grievances. This not only presents a danger to teachers but harms the all-important teacher-parent relationship.

Here’s a six point checklist to help you stay focused and be effective if your child experiences difficulty at school.

1. Stay calm and rational
It’s natural as a parent to protect, or defend your children, particularly when you think that they’ve come in for some unfair or poor treatment. But acting when you are full of emotion is not always smart. Rather than getting on the phone straight away to organise a meeting at school, take your time to think through how you might assist your child.

2. Get the all facts
Once you’ve calmed down, then get the facts about the situation. Kids are faulty observers and often only see one side of a story when there’s a problem with a teacher or a fellow student. They sometimes can’t see that perhaps they may have contributed inadvertently to a dispute at school, or perhaps said something that may have upset a teacher. It’s the job of parents to help kids process what happens in an incident, so that all the facts emerge and understand their place in any problem. Ask good questions to help the full story emerge.

3. Assess whether to go to school or not
Kids, like adults, like to vent and will benefit from having told their side of a story to trusted source. Often problems can be dealt with at home, simply by talking through an issue, and giving kids some common sense tips to help them cope.
If your child has a recurring problem that he can’t solve himself, or you think adult intervention maybe needed to sort out a relationship issue with a teacher or peer, then consider meeting with your child’s teacher or year level coordinator.

4. Go through the right channels
Approach the school calmly, going through the school office, or directly to your child’s teacher if that is the usual protocol. If you have already established a relationship with the teacher concerned, then it’s often easier to approach them directly.

5. Look for solutions rather than blame
Parent-teacher meetings usually get nowhere when either party blames the other. State the problem as you see it and view your child’s teacher as an ally, not a foe. “I’m really worried about Jeremy. He’s been acting strangely lately and I need some help” is the type of approach that will elicit a helpful response. Talk about your concerns and keep the discussion focused firmly on what’s best for your child. Listen to your teacher’s viewpoint, valuing a different perspective.

6. Stay in touch
Be realistic with your expectations, remembering that some problems can’t be solved to your satisfaction, nor will they be resolved straight away. Be prepared to work alongside your child’s teacher over the long-term, which means you need to keep communicating with each other.

Parenting is easy when things are going well, but testing when your children struggle or experience difficulty. Stepping back and taking a long-term, reflective view is often the best approach when your child experiences difficulty at school.
Curriculum Day Program

Due to the school 3 way interview day OSH will be running a curriculum day program with lots of fun activities.

Date  Thursday 12th of March 2015
Times  7:00am – 6:15pm

Cost (per child, per day) from $11.00

Full price $46.00. Full fees for OSHC will apply to families who do not apply for and are not eligible for CCB and the CCTR (50% Tax Rebate). All fees are approximate only.

How to book: An OSHClub online enrolment form must be completed (if not already done). Enrol online at www.oshclub.com.au. Once enrolled with OSHClub, log in to your account and choose the Pupil Free Day option.

What happens: Loads of fun for all ages including art/craft, games, sports, drama, board games and fun with friends.

What to bring: Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Also wear or bring appropriate clothing including a hat.

Please remember: Unfortunately Once you have enrolled into this day there are no refunds for cancellations unless we decide not to run the program due to lack of enrolments.

Activities: A detailed program of the daily activities will be but up 1 week prior.

www.oshclub.com.au  Ph: 03 8564 9000
**MUSIC LESSONS**

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*Fully qualified teacher, A.M.E.B & V.C.E Solo*

*V.I.T. registered, Classical, Jazz, Contemporary*

*B. Ed (U. Melb) Dip. Music (Melba) A. Mus A (Flute)*

*Contact: H. 9755 1760 M: 0407 383 575*

*Email: rosiers12@bigpond.com*

Sheet Grace - Piano & Flute Duo available for Weddings & Functions

French & English - Tutoring Dip. Languages (Monash)

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PASSES AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

**FOR $20**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO MDPS.**

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**Free to Good Home:**

Single car bed

Call Jayce on 0499 073 466

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**Yarra Ranges Athletics presents:**

**Family Fun Night Fundraiser**

**Saturday 28th February 2015 6-9 p.m.**

**Morrison Reserve Athletics Track, Burdip Drive, Mt Evelyn**

Heaps of activities for the whole family!

Free entry - ticket prices for some activities

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**NATIONAL RED BALLOON DAY**

The Real Thing Craft Centre together with Olinda Rural Fire Brigade are hosting an event as part of

**National Red Balloon Day**

Join us for Face painting and a Sausage sizzle from 11am to 1pm on the main street of Olinda

**On Saturday 28th February**

**ALL PROFITS GO DIRECTLY TO OLINDA CFA**

You can support National Red Balloon Day, by making a donation, buying ‘THANK YOU FIREYS’ merchandise or hosting an event go to www.nationalredballoonday.org

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**DANDEMONG RANGES Physio**

*Pilates* *Orthotics* *Remedial Massage*

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

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OLINDA - 9751 0400 - Opposite Mt Dandenong Hotel  www.drphysio.com.au

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Mount Dandenong Primary School  Farnrons Road, Mount Dandenong 3767  www.mtdandps.vic.edu.au
Telephone—03 9751 1136  Fax—03 9751 2332  mount.dandenong.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Canteen Menu 2015

Please write your order on an envelope enclosing correct money if possible and leave in your grade’s lunch order basket on Thursday morning.

ORDERS MUST BE IN ON THURSDAY MORNINGS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hot food</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sausage roll</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plain pie</td>
<td>$3.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Party pie</td>
<td>80c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Party sausage roll</td>
<td>80c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegetable pastie</td>
<td>$3.60</td>
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</tbody>
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| Sauce                            | 20c    |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandwiches (white or w’meeal) or rolls</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roll</td>
<td>20c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham, cheese and tomato</td>
<td>$4.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken, lettuce and mayonnaise</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salad</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegemite</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pizza roll</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheese and bacon roll</td>
<td>$2.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plain croissants</td>
<td>$2.20</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treats</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cinnamon donut</td>
<td>70c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iced donut</td>
<td>80c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chocolate cookie</td>
<td>$1.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornflake cookie</td>
<td>$1.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gluten free cookie</td>
<td>$1.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cup Cake</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<th>Drinks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple Juice</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange Juice</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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Orders are from the Mt Dandenong Bakery and Patisserie.
Cnr Ridge and Mt Dandeong Tourist Rds, Olinda 9751-2303