Badge Presentation
Big congratulations to our Senior School Leadership Team who received their badges yesterday at assembly. I am sure that you will all undertake your responsibilities very conscientiously as role models and leaders of our school, whether you are School Captains or School Vice-Captains, Arts Captains, House Captains and House Vice-Captains. You have a very important role to play. We wish you well on your leadership journey this year.

‘Picnic at The Pool’ Evening
What fabulous weather we were fortunate to have for the ‘Picnic at the Pool’ event. It was delightful to see so many families enjoying the pool and their picnics in the balmy evening sunshine. I don’t think that the weather could have been any better. It was great to see so many children having fun in the pool and playing cricket. Thank you to all the members of the community who attended the event. I’m sure that everyone would agree it was a big success.

GRIP Student Leadership Conference
We will be taking our Grade 6 School Leaders to a leadership conference at the Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre this Wednesday. It is an exciting opportunity that is designed to train them in their roles as school leaders. The students who are fortunate to participate remember the day for many years to come. I am sure we will have reflections on the conference in next week’s newsletter.

Three Way Interviews - February 23rd and 24th
Just a reminder to families, that the three way goal setting interviews are scheduled for next week. Parents are required to attend an interview with their child to discuss the year ahead and set some goals that can be supported both at home and at school. Interview times will be indicated on a form to go home today.

OSCH Club
OSCH Club provides a very important service to the Mount Dandenong school community, supporting many working parents and parents who use OSCH for a multitude of other reasons. Staffing at OSCH Club is dependent upon the number of students who are booked in. To appropriately staff the program it is very important that families book their children in ahead of time. Subsequently, if families need to cancel their booking, 24 hours’ notice is required. OSCH staff thank you for adhering to this policy as it enables them to provide an adequately staffed program.

Bunnings BBQ – February 20th
A further reminder that we have a BBQ booked for February 20th at Bayswater. We are still looking for some parent helper volunteers and would be most grateful for your support for what has been a very successful fundraising effort in the past. Please notify Julie in the office if you can help out. We are also taking donations of sauce, mustard and napkins to help our fundraising efforts. Thank you.

Extra Curricula Activities:
Chess Club
This year Chess Club will be offered each Wednesday at lunchtimes. Students from Grade 2 to 6 are invited to participate. Enrolment forms are available from the office.

Lunchtime Tennis Coaching
In 2016 tennis will be available to all students, from Prep to Grade 6. Preps to Grade 3 will train on Wednesday and students from Grades 4-6 will train on a Thursday. The ANZ Hotshots tennis program is a great and fun way to learn how to play tennis. For any more info please contact Lee Patrick on 0412 402 265

Thumbs Up To:
- All the members of the Community who attended the fun ‘Picnic at The Pool’ event
- The parent helpers who helped out on Pancake Day
- Shauna and her team of tireless helpers who organise Lunch Orders each Friday

Thank you, Michael Leonard and Annie Smart.
Play is the Way

For the past two weeks our school has been doing “Play is the Way”. It is where you play a game and learn to work as a team. A grade plays 7 different games in two weeks. We all try our hardest and do our best in all of the activities.

Isaac Tonkin (3/4HK)

Art News

Welcome back! We are all looking forward to lots of fun creating wonderful artworks in the Art room this year. Please take some time with your child viewing the many artworks on display throughout the school.

Please ensure your child has a clearly named art smock.

If you are able to donate the following items please leave them on the table outside the Art room.
- Old towels (for drying wet hands)
- Ice cream containers and lids
- Old costume jewellery

Wanted please…your ideas and suggestions

Each child has a cardboard A2 sized folio for storing their artworks. There are approximately 200 of these folios that need to be stored in the Art room. If you have an idea of how best to store these folios please let me know.

The creative excellence of VCE students from across the Yarra Ranges is celebrated in 3 exhibitions. The exhibitions showcase the works by 2015 graduates of Art and Studio Art.

VISIT:
- Red Earth Gallery – Mooroolbark Community Centre 5th February - 26th March 2016

Thank you, Liz Kennedy, Art teacher

Parent Volunteer Roles 2016

This year we require a number of volunteers to support our programs and facilities at Mt Dandy. Please tick the box/boxes of the roles that you are able to help with and indicate your availability and return the form to the office. We’ll then pass on your details to the relevant person to contact you.

- Classroom helper – This may mean supporting the literacy/numeracy programs, classroom displays etc.
- Gardening Club – Required to do some regular gardening to keep our grounds looking beautiful.
- Reading Support – We are trying to implement a reading support program to support some of our students with extra needs. Volunteers for this will be trained in the requirements of the program.
- Newsletter – We require a volunteer who has a sound knowledge of Microsoft Publisher to edit and collate the weekly newsletter.
- Merits – A volunteer is required to upload the weekly merit awards and produce the certificates.
- Working Bees – These are periodically held to beautify and maintain our grounds and buildings.
- Sausage sizzles and Chestnut festival – Volunteers are required to prepare food and sell to the public.
- Library – Volunteers would be much appreciated to regularly file, catalogue and tidy the library.
- After School Basketball Co-ordinator – After many years of service, our fantastic After School Basketball organiser has retired and for this extra curricular activity to commence we need a replacement.

I …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………… am available to help!

Contact no …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Mt Dandenong OSHClub: week 1 - newsletter
5th of February 2016

First week back at OSHClub and we had a lot of fun. It was good to see both new and familiar faces as we reflected on what we did over the summer break.

The students were given the opportunity to share some of their favourite moments of their individual holidays, which included camping, visits to the zoo, sleepovers with friends and family, and of course Christmas.

Children were also given the opportunity to get creative, as some students used balloons to reconstruct a hot air balloon and used recycled materials to create spaceships. It was also good to see the children having fun and creating both dance and acting performances to show in front of the group.

This week in OSHClub we are celebrating all things summer. We are going to design a colouring in, create holiday postcards and make a summer collage to display in our OSHClub room.

So come along and join the fun!

FRIENDLY REMINDERS: To cancel an ASC session please do so on the internet by 3pm on the day before, send us a text on: 0419 915 649 or let an educator know you are collecting your child. There is a $2 a minute fee for each child that is picked up after 6:15pm. Please book children in online. This is important as we need to staff appropriately for children attending.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)
School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION
For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Application Forms available from the Office
MOUNT DANDY’S
BUNNINGS
SAUSAGE SIZZLE

We would love you to add your name to the roster below for our BBQ at Bunnings Bayswater on Saturday, 20th February. This is a great opportunity to kick off our fundraising for 2016. Please see Julie in the office.

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<th>12 noon – 2 pm</th>
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<td>Tony Rowe</td>
<td>Geordie Ferguson</td>
<td>Rachael Hutchin</td>
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If you are unable to be there on the day but would still like to help, we also need donations of the following: Food handling gloves, hand soap, tomato sauce, BBQ sauce, mustard, serviettes, foil trays, paper towel, rubbish bags, alfoil and washing up detergent.

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Mt Dandenong Primary School Music Program
Classroom Music: Teacher Claire Somerville

All students receive a one 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 as part of ‘Music Count Us In’.

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 Wednesdays 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 8.45 am. 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 and Busking Night.

Jammin’ with the Juniors for Grade 1—3 children. This is a fun, casual singing group which introduces children to a singing choir. They meet occasionally during lunchtime.

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 McIvor 0415 705 616 email ljmcivor@gmail.com
- Guitar for Gr 2-6-contact Jed Rowe 0437 741 851 email jedrowe@gmail.com
- Piano and/or singing-contact Sarah-Rose McIvor 0402 413 169 email sarah.rosey@gmail.com
- Violin, cello-contact Keryn Lietschnig-0408 566 423 email keryn_ml@yahoo.com.au
- Brass—contact Craig Smith 0419 144 455 email thesmiths1253@bigpond.com

Thank you, Claire Somerville
Part time work from home

Really interesting part time job available, very flexible hours. In a nutshell it involves researching to find particular contact details within local government councils throughout Australia. You would need to have an exceptional phone manner, excellent record keeping, and ability to think laterally. Hourly rate, all expenses covered. The job will run for around 10-12 weeks with possibility of similar projects after this.

Call David Sleightholme 0414 642 800 anytime except school drop off/pickup!!

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School Council Elections 2016

**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 on Tuesday, 23rd February 2016.

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 –

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<th>Membership category</th>
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<td>DEECD employee member</td>
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If required the ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Tuesday, 15th March.

**Timeline**

Call for nominations - Tuesday, 16th February
Nominations close - Tuesday, 23rd February – 4pm

*If an election is required*
Ballot papers distributed – On or before Tues, 8th March
Close of Ballot – Tuesday 15th March – 4 pm
Vote Count - Wednesday 16th March
Declaration of Ballot – Thursday, 17th March
School Council Meeting to elect office bearers—Monday 21st March, 7:15 pm

**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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Saxophone, Flute, Clarinet Lessons at Mount Dandenong PS
Classical, Jazz, Contemporary
Fully qualified teacher. V.I.T. Registered.
B.Ed(U.Melb)A.Mus.A.
Dip. Music(Melba)
rosiers12@bigpond.com
or ring Geraldine on 0407 383 575

Olinda Auskick
Olinda Recreation Reserve
Starts Sat, 16th April at 9:00am
Contact Darren – 0400 470 290
Join Our Team AFLAUSKICK.COM.AU

Mount Dandenong Primary School Farndons Road, Mount Dandenong 3767 www.mtdandps.vic.edu.au
Telephone—03 9751 1136 Fax—03 9751 2332 mount.dandenong.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Enjoy a break with a Massage or Natural Facial
It’s a fast & effective way to relax and unwind
Call or text Melinda 0411 622 445
at Elle Naturale Olinda
Shop 11 1606 Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd, Olinda
www.elinnaturalcoelinda.com.au
Open every day!
Join us for free meditation every Wednesday morning
at 9.15am

World’s best social skills program for all children 8-12 years old!
Beginning - Tuesday 12th April at 4-6pm
at Best Me I Can Be Psychology in Sassafras

Enrolments are now being taken for the world’s best social skills program for children with social and emotional difficulties. The program has shown to be highly effective in improving social development of children with Autism even more effective for non-autism children!
The SAS program uses animated technology, spy gadgets and games to teach social and emotional skills to children who struggle with friendships and feelings. SAS gives children step-by-step examples of how to make and keep friends, cope with bullying and deal with emotions such as anxiety and anger. It also uses a highly interactive spy-themed computer game with different levels of challenges and adventures so the sessions feel like fun, not therapy.
The program will operate for 9 weekly sessions with a follow-up session in September 2016. Parents will also attend 9 weekly sessions. Teacher tip sheets, home missions, and a system to reward and monitor progress at home and school are required components of the program.
Small group sizes will be offered with a maximum of five children in a group with those children limited to ASD specific groups (subject to enrolment numbers).

COST: $2400.00 (including SAS Family Kit with computer game)
(A Medicare rebate of $1604.00 can apply)

Contact Jenny Farrell on Ph: 0419 323 304
or info@bestmepsychology.com.au

Lunch order menu
WEEK 3 FRIDAY 19 FEBRUARY

- Minestrone soup and roll $4
- Lamb and mint sausage roll $5
- Two homemade Hawaiian pizza scrolls $5
- Quiche with pumpkin, spinach & feta (v) $4
- Black rice, cranberry and roast veggie salad with grilled chicken (GF) $4

Add a fresh side salad $2 or fruit salad $3

Canteen snacks available:
- Frozen 100% fruit ice cream $2
- Choc bliss balls $1 • Pumpkin Scone $2
- Corn on the cob $1

Each week there will be new food to taste for the adventurous. Join us at the canteen on Friday lunchtimes for your free taste!!
## February 2016

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