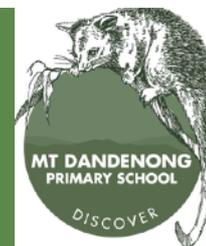


12TH DECEMBER 2019

Mt Dandy News

Discover



Message from Sally...

This week Mount Dandy was in the news to recognise our wonderful tree planting work that has been taking place throughout this semester. Our students did us proud with their insightful thoughts and articulate contributions about their learning and how they have discovered that small acts can make a difference to our environment. I'd like to congratulate our learners, teachers and wonderful parent helper, Mary, who have worked so hard to make plant science so meaningful and real for us. Please stop by to have a look at our display outside the staff room and see if your oak tree has made it onto our map of the local area. And if you haven't seen the story on Channel 9 News, the link is on our school Facebook page!



2020 GRADES AND STAFFING

Yesterday the children met with their 2020 teachers and classmates. On my visits to classrooms I saw engaged and settled students, eager to learn with their new teacher and classmates. I am confident that each student has been given the best possible chance to shine in 2020. Our 2020 Prep students enjoyed an extended session in the classroom as well as a Picnic in the Wominjeka Garden with their parents and teddies. It was a lovely day and a wonderful opportunity for our new families to meet one another.

As your children may have told you, some familiar faces will be seen in different areas of the school next year. I am pleased to announce the following classes for 2020:

CLASS	TEACHER	ROOM NUMBER
Prep A	Alison Allison	2
Prep L	Laura Blake	4
1/2C	Christen Anderson	1
1/2JS	Simone Algie/Janet Gertsakis	3
3/4A	Anne Boal	7
4/5M	Michelle Lawrence	SLU
5/6AL	Anna Francis/Liz Kennedy	SLU
Art	Liz Kennedy	
Music	Penny Somerville	
P.E.	Sarah Lawson (Term 1)	
Japanese	Mariko Hioki-Walker	



Our specialist program for 2020 will be enriched by the addition of Mariko Hioki-Walker, a Japanese language teacher who has taught students from kindergarten to secondary school in mainstream LOTE classes, as well as in the Japanese Bilingual program at Huntingdale Primary School. Mariko is currently teaching Japanese at Kallista Primary School. We are thrilled to have Mariko on board and look forward to getting to know her in 2020.

Anne Boal is returning full-time to the classroom and Alison Allison is increasing to full-time for 2020. Liz Kennedy is grade sharing with Anna Francis in the SLU, taking the 5/6 students one day a week on Fridays. Sarah Lawson will stay with us for most of Term 1, teaching specialist P.E., before she leaves to have her baby. Krista Carpenter will be saying goodbye to us at the end of this year. We wish Sarah and Krista all the best for their next adventures.

BELL TIMES

Next year we are returning to one hour sessions and therefore our bell times will be reverting to our previous hours as follows:

- 9:00 – 11:00 – Sessions 1 & 2
- 11:00 – 11:30 – Morning Recess
- 11:30 – 1:30 – Sessions 3 & 4
- 1:30 – 1:40 – Lunch Eating
- 1:40 – 2:30 – Lunch Play
- 2:30 – 3:30 – Session 5

From 2020 our classroom doors will be open in the morning from 8:50, allowing students 10 minutes to prepare for their day and settle into class. The music and bell will sound from 8:50-8:53 and then our bell to indicate that Session 1 is starting will sound at 9:00. **It is expected that students be in their classrooms ready to learn between 8:50 and 9:00am. The roll will be marked right on 9:00am.**

This 10 minute window also gives parents a quick opportunity to say hello to the teacher and have a chat. It is not time, however, for an interview or meeting. If you want to discuss an issue or something specific related to your child, you will need to make a time for an appointment with the classroom teacher. I also ask that you say goodbye to your child and move off before the 9:00am bell so that the lesson can begin right away. We want to maximise our students' learning time and the morning session is when they are fresh and ready to learn best.

REPORTS

Next Thursday the 19th of December your child will bring home their school report. All government schools are required to issue student reports to parents twice a year. Student reports show achievement against the expected Victorian Curriculum, indicating if a child is above, at or below the standard expected at the time of reporting. The report card also includes information about your child's social and emotional progress, as well as their behaviour and work habits.

We hope that the reports give you the information you look for, that the written format is easy to follow and that you understand what your child does well and what areas should be a focus for 2020. Please celebrate the achievements of your child and talk about some possible goals for their education in 2020.



School Reports

ANOTHER LANDCARE GRANT!

I am thrilled to announce that Mt. Dandy won another grant this term for our **From Waste to Wonder** project. This will see the installation of a green waste recycling system using composting and a worm farm to turn our food scraps into garden soil. It will involve both an educational and hands-on approach with every child at the school being involved and have ongoing responsibility to manage our waste and composting systems. Well done Mt Dandy!



Now growing the next generation
of environmental champions



COMPASS

By now you should have received a letter with your Compass login information. This allows you to access your child's information via our portal. A parent booklet explaining how Compass works was emailed last week. To begin we are only using the attendance functionality. You can add any attendance notes via Compass rather than calling the office if you would like to. This information will automatically be accessible to the classroom teacher and office staff. At the start of 2020, we will host an information evening to provide support and assistance in getting started with using Compass. In the meantime, if you would like any help or further information, please see Sally or the office staff.



COMPASS
School Manager

ESSENTIAL STUDENT SUPPLIES & VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS 2020

Book packs have arrived. You may collect your items to take home for naming from the office once you have paid. Please remember to bring them back at the start of the school year!



SEALING OF FARNDON'S ROAD

Over the January break, the Council will be undertaking the sealing of Farndon's Road from Farndon's Hall up past the school. Also included will be the parking area at the prep end of the school and construction of footpaths outside the school fence. This is a great outcome for the school. Please be mindful of the works if you are using the school and environs during the January break.

FAREWELLS AND SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

On our last day of school, Friday the 20th of December, we will farewell our current Year 6 group – this is always a very sad occasion for staff and some families who have enjoyed a long association with the school and will now be bidding us goodbye. Our Year 6 leaders have provided outstanding leadership throughout the year and we have many lovely memories of the Year 6s of 2019. **Please join us for our final farewell assembly at 1.00pm.**

As the term draws to a close, I'd like to say thank you to our wonderful community for entrusting your children to our care. We love working with them and thank you for all you do to support us in our work as their educators. I have absolutely loved becoming a real part of the school community this year and getting to know so many of you.

On students last day of school dismissal is at 1:30pm. OSHClub is available from 1.30 for those that need it. Stay safe these holidays, have a wonderful Christmas and New Year's and we will see you back at school on Wednesday the 29th of January (New Preps on the 30th!)

Warm regards, Sally

UPCOMING CALENDAR

Thurs 12th Dec - Presentation Night, Yarra Valley Grammar, 7pm (doors open 6.45pm)

Mon 16h Dec - Grade 6 Graduation

Fri 20th Dec - 1pm Grade 6 Farewell Assembly, 1.30pm school finish

Weds 29th Jan - First day back at school for Term 1

Thurs 30th Jan - First day of school for Preps!

WANTED: WAKAKIRRI COSTUME TRANSPORT

We are looking for parents to help with transporting Waka costumes to George Wood on Thursday. They also need to be collected at the end of the night, brought home, and then returned to school afterwards. Thanks!



WANTED: CHICKEN MONITORS

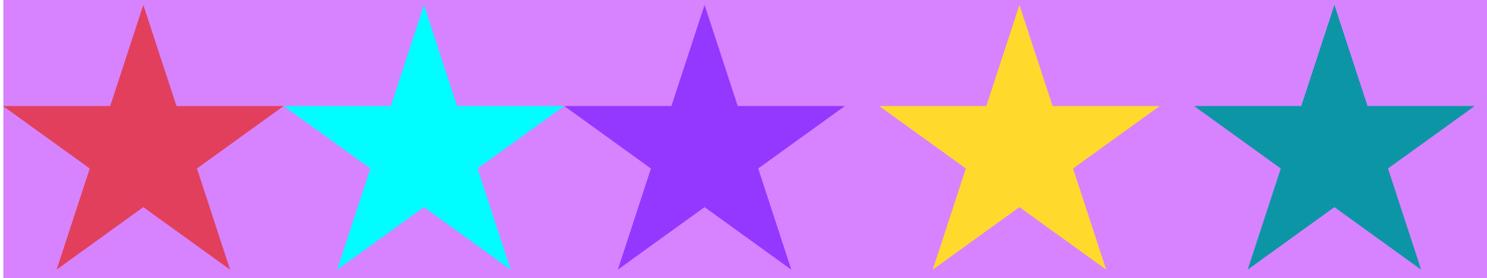
We are looking for chicken helpers over the school holidays. If you are able to care for the chooks for one week, please let Christen know. Thanks!



WANTED: GARDEN WATERERS

We also in need of people who are able to come and water the Wominjeka and veggie gardens over the holidays. Please see Sally if you can help.





2019 Presentation Night Concert

Thursday 12th December, 7 pm

At 'George Woods Performing Arts Centre'

Yarra Valley Grammar, Kalinda Road, Ringwood

This evening of entertainment is an end of year celebration when **every grade** performs their own unique musical item and we have a chance to farewell our graduating grade six students. We will also be treated to a performance of our award winning Wakakirri routine. Award winners and next year's school captains and house captains are also introduced.

Tickets for this fabulous event can be purchased through the booking agency

Eventtixx at <https://www.eventtixx.com.au/mdps>

Ticket cost is \$15 for adults and \$5.50 for children
(no charge for Mt Dandy students or pre-schoolers)



The Wishing Tree



The Wishing Tree is a great way to learn about our school values of respect and community and thinking of others, especially those less fortunate.

This year we contributed a wonderfully generous 86 gifts to “Steps Outreach Service” (Concern Australia) which provides support for young homeless people.

Thank you for your fantastic support!



A REMINDER TO PLEASE
RETURN ALL LIBRARY
BOOKS AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE PLEASE!

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
DECEMBER
BABIES!



Art Folios

This week each child will be bringing home an Art folio containing their artworks. Some of the work will not be included as it formed part of a whole school art installation or has already been taken home.

The children have worked hard and are very proud of their work. Consider displaying a piece of their artwork in a frame or on a special shelf at home for everyone to appreciate (I know of parents who use their hallway as an art gallery space to exhibit their child's art). The artworks also make beautiful Christmas and birthday gifts particularly if they are framed or wrapped in paper the child has decorated. We hope you enjoy discussing and sharing the work with your child.

Thank you

Liz Kennedy, Art Teacher

GREAT NEWS

**We've just received a
Woolworths Junior
Landcare Grant!**



We've been successful with our application for a Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant for our 'Waste to Wonder' project! As mentioned by Sally, this will see the installation of a green waste recycling system using composting and a worm farm to turn our food scraps into garden soil. It will involve both an educational and hands-on approach with every child at the school being involved and have ongoing responsibility to manage our waste and composting systems.

Mt Dandy is one of 617 primary schools and early learning centres throughout Australia receiving a Woolworths Junior Landcare grant to help grow our next generation of environmental champions.

The grants are being funded with money made from the sale of the Woolworths recyclable Bag for good™ which was launched in 2018 when the supermarket stopped using single-use plastic bags.

The children and teachers are looking forward to working and learning from this project and we'll keep you updated on the results.



The end of the year is fast approaching and it is a wonderful time at OSHClub. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be doing many Christmas craft activities. We will also be doing some Christmas cooking, as well as our usual experiences that allow the children to follow on with their own interests in a safe and homely environment. Bookings for next year can now be made online, and please remember that with school finishing at 1.30pm on Friday December 20th we will be running an extended After school care session. This day will be a celebration of a wonderful year with an end of year afternoon tea which will feature a few treats.

I would like to thank all the parents that have entrusted me with the care of your magnificent children, it has been a real privilege. Have a fantastic holiday period with your loved ones and I look forward to seeing you all again in the new millennium, Charla

OSH Club
Outside School Hours Care

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SCHOOL CARE**

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We have a few exciting new things up our sleeve for 2020 - stay tuned!

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Child Care Subsidy may apply.



MERIT AWARDS



Indiana R – for showing kindness and care for other members of her class during a very busy time of the year.

Rahni N – Thank you for all of your extra help with props for Presentation Night and for your support with the dance. You have helped our class SO much.

William D – William, I love the way you are always so considerate of others by being honest! Well done.

Lexi L – Showing incredible enthusiasm and creativity during our Maths theme park unit.

Maeve G – Thank you for all of your extra help with props for Presentation Night and for your support with the dance. You have helped our class SO much.

Hohun C – Hohun, I have been so proud of you for completing your work! Well done.

Maya B – for working hard to improve her written work. I love the effort you put into using punctuation correctly. Well done.

Noah B – Noah, your writing and illustrating is fantastic! I am so proud of how far you're come.

Liam B – for his ability to always show respect towards others. Liam also completes all set classroom tasks with enthusiasm and high standards in mind. You're a STAR Liam!

Olive K – for your ability to solve division equations in Mathematics. I loved that you challenged yourself to complete the 'Polygon Puzzle' tasks. Keep up your wonderful efforts Olive!

Lara P – Lara you were a wonderful example of a respectful Mt Dandenong P.S. student at our Junior School Zoo Excursion. Lara, well done!

Miki McM – Thank you Miki for all of the contributions you've made in our school. You will be missed by all within the M.D.P.S. community. We wish you the best future adventures.

Taylor H – You showed magnificent community spirit on your 'Blindness' information report. Your guidance and support is to be commended!

OLINDA COMMUNITY POOL

SOLAR HEATING  **BOTH POOLS**

30TH NOV - 15TH MAR

NEW

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