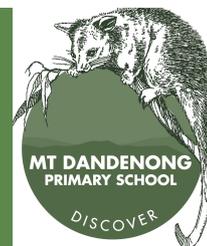


16TH JUNE 2020

Mt Dandy News

Discover



Message from Sally...

It has been wonderful to finally have all of our students learning on-site again over the past week. I am very pleased to say that everyone has returned settled, happy to meet up with friends and eager to get back into their classroom routine. Our “new normal” is working well, including drop-off and pick-up, and I thank you all for your continued support of the procedures we have in place.

As I have said a number of times before, we are very proud of the remote learning program and support we provided to our students and families during this challenging time. While we had not previously used G Suite (and of course there were some teething problems in the beginning) I firmly believe that our use of these tools in combination with strong communication between teachers and families, meant that our students were very well supported throughout the remote learning period.

Thank you to all the families who provided feedback on our remote learning program. This is being considered and evaluated in terms of how we can continue to leverage the new technology and skills gained to enhance learning opportunities and maintain a strong connection between school and home. If you have any further feedback on the remote learning program that you would like to share with us, please email it to:

mount.dandenong.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Semester One Reports

Information regarding Semester 1 reporting has been sent via Compass. Please note that reports will outline the curriculum areas taught, include a comment on student achievement and a statement on how your child adapted to remote learning. There will not be teacher judgements of achievement using a five-point scale due to the difficulty in teaching and assessing student learning during Covid-19. Reports will be sent electronically via Compass on Thursday, June 25. If you have any questions about your child’s report, please contact their teacher.

School Reports

Unwell Students

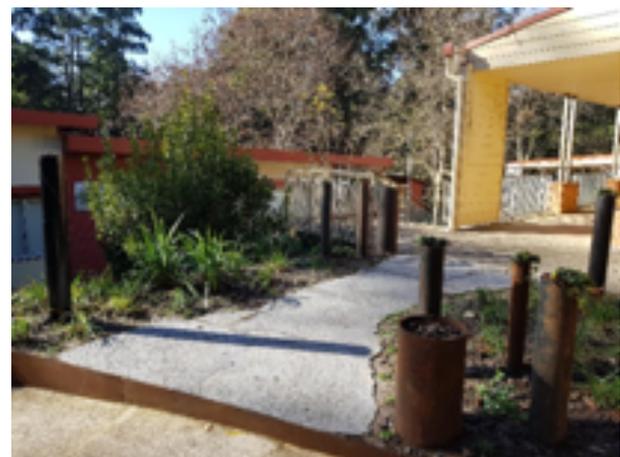
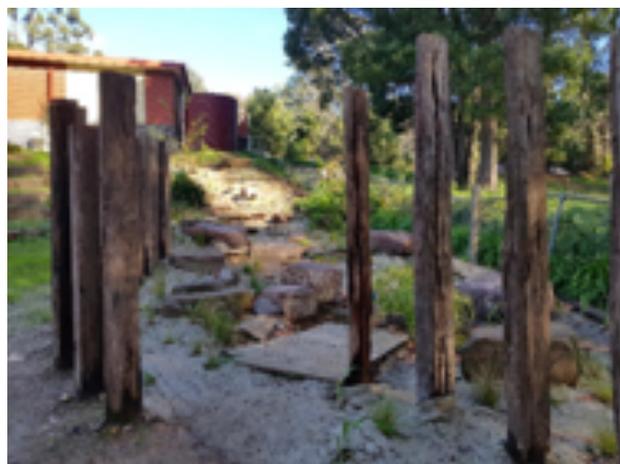
Thank you to everyone for respecting our community by keeping sick kids at home. I really appreciate your support with this essential safety measure. I know that a number of students are currently home with cold-like symptoms, and I appreciate your respect by keeping them at home. When a child has cold or flu-like symptoms, please follow your doctor’s advice on whether to test for Covid-19. If your child is home sick, please inform us via Compass or the office, noting the illness and outcome of any testing completed. Children must not return to school unless all symptoms have cleared up or a doctor’s certificate is provided to inform us that the symptoms are not from Covid-19. If your child is away for more than 2 days, his or her teacher will give you a call to check-in on their well-being.



Frog Bog and Terrace Garden

At the very end of last term RB Landscapes finished work on our frog bog that was funded via the Landcare biodiversity grant. The 5/6 students helped to plant out the vegetation, learn about the types of plants and how they help in maintaining the right habitat for our indigenous frogs. We look forward to getting the students out there to investigate the water quality over time and monitor the frog population as it grows.

We also had some works done to the grass and terraced area outside the main building near the 3/4 rooms and canteen. This area has been revamped with new pavers and lovely plantings in recycled tubular planters. Thank you, RB Landscapes for your creative and beautiful work in our school grounds.



More Upcoming Building Works

Do you remember the Maintenance Blitz funding the state government announced for our school last year? Well, I am pleased to say that the funds have been allocated to upgrading many of the ageing timber retaining walls around the front and the back of the school. The new designs are to be completed in rock that will last forever, and will mesh well with other recent works completed around the school. While we are still waiting for official endorsement from the DET, we are hopeful that some works may begin as soon as the school holidays or early next term. Watch this space for more details!

Child Safety at Mount Dandenong Primary School

The Child Safe Standards are compulsory minimum standards for all organisations that provide services to children including Victorian schools. The aim of the Standards is to ensure organisations are well prepared to protect children from abuse and neglect.

At Mt. Dandenong Primary School, we have zero tolerance for child abuse and are committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. We strive to pay particular attention to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability, as we know they are more vulnerable. Every person involved in Mt Dandenong Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role they play individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.



What are the standards?

The child safe standards require schools to consider all aspects of child safety and put measures in place to protect children from all forms of abuse, including:

- *sexual or grooming offences;
- *physical violence;
- *serious emotional or psychological harm; and

*serious neglect.

Below are the seven child safe standards. The Minister for Education has set out in Ministerial Order No. 870 what specific actions schools need to take to meet the child safe standards.

- 1) Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety.
- 2) A child safety policy or statement of commitment to child safety.
- 3) A child safety code of conduct.
- 4) School staff selection, supervision and management practices for a child-safe environment.
- 5) Procedures for responding to and reporting allegations of suspected child abuse.
- 6) Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse.
- 7) Strategies to promote child empowerment and participation.

MDPS has clear policies and procedures to ensure we protect the young people in our care from potential abuse, as well as to promote child empowerment and participation. Firstly, all members of the MDPS community are expected to behave in accordance with our RICH values, this includes staff, students and parents/carers, as well as any volunteers or contractors who participate in school life. This sets a positive tone for safe and supportive relationships, articulating clear boundaries and supported pathways for students.

We deliver social and emotional learning through Respectful Relationships and the Bounce Back programs that educate students on healthy and respectful relationships and resilience. In addition, we educate students on sexuality in accordance with the curriculum and are a 'Safe School' for all LGBTIQ students and their families. Students are empowered to have input into decisions that affect their lives at school via their involvement in groups such as the SRC and Enviroknights, and we continue to work on ways to strengthen student voice and agency at MDPS.

For further information on how MDPS embeds a culture of child safety at school, please see our policies on the school website at http://www.mtdandps.vic.edu.au/?page_id=73

Further information on the Child Safe Standards can be found at <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/childsafestandards.aspx> and at <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/safety/Pages/child-protection.aspx>

End of Term

A final reminder that Term 2 ends at 2:30 pm on Friday 26 June. We return to begin Term 3 on Monday, July 13. Have a safe and enjoyable winter break. As always, if you see anything suspicious at our school please contact the police and feel free to send me an email.

Warm regards,

Sally

TERM 1 CALENDAR

Monday 22nd June - Friday 26th June - World Refugee Week

Thursday 25th June - Semester One Reports distributed via Compass

Friday 26th June - Last day of Term 2. School finishes at 2.30pm.

Monday 13th July - Start of Term 3

A Note From Mt Dandenong Primary School Council

At the May School Council meeting, the councillors formally acknowledged the extraordinary effort that Sally, the teachers and support staff have made in order to provide a supportive remote learning environment. The Council particularly wanted to acknowledge the effort made to maintain daily contact through Google class meetings which were extremely valuable for the children. On behalf of the school community, the Council offers its gratitude and thanks to the staff of Mt Dandenong Primary

Discover...



ENROLMENT INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

**Mount Dandenong Primary School
Enrol Now for Prep 2021**

www.mtdandps.vic.edu.au
mount.dandenong.ps@education.vic.gov.au

13-15 Farndons Road, Mount Dandenong 3767
Ph: 9751 1136



WALK TO ULURU

**Thanks to those who have been sending in their walking/riding/
scooting kilometres as part of our collective effort to Walk to Uluru - a
whole school initiative to recognise Sorry Day and National
Reconciliation Week.**

**A reminder that you can continue to send through your distances to
the SRC until the end of the end of the school holidays, so be sure to
keep a tally and email your results to Neve at
wal0004@mtdandps.vic.edu.au.**

**And don't forget, the Walk to Uluru is also for house points with each
member of the winning house receiving an icy pole!**

Thanks everyone and see you in Uluru!



Bessy Blake

Our dear friend, Bessy Blake, peacefully made her way over the Rainbow Bridge last week.

Bessy was the adored friend of our entire school, and played an especially important role in the Prep room where she had a special gift for bringing happiness, soothing worries and snuggling into tiny laps.

But her work didn't stop there! Bessy would often be found pottering between all classrooms in search for more cuddles and, let's be honest, stray snacks!

Thank you, Laura and Matt, for sharing your beautiful girl with us. We love you Bessy, rest in peace dear little friend.

Curiosity in the Garden

A Remote Learning Enquiry

Works produced by Senior School Students



Enrolments NOW OPEN for 2021

Belgrave - Chirnside Park
Colchester Park - Coldstream - Fernhill
Hansen Park - Joy Ave - Lancaster
Launching Place - Montrose - Millgrove
Mt Dandenong - Sarah Court - Sassafras
Upwey - Upwey Sth - Warburton
Woori Yallock

Enrolments closing 30th June 2020

enrol@yrkinders.com

YRKI

Yarra Ranges Kindergartens Inc

9726 0439

www.yrkinders.com



Form & Practice

Olinda & Mt Evelyn
Physio & Reformer Pilates

- Sports Physio
- Reformer Pilates
- Clinical Exercise & Strength Classes
- Back / Neck Pain
- Headaches & TMD
- Post Operative Rehab
- Knee and Hip OA + GLA:D
- Women's & Men's Health Physio
- Orthotics
- Massage & Myotherapy

9751 0400

for timetable and pricing
formandpractice.com.au

We've rebranded
Physio

