It was another emotion packed assembly on Monday as the shortlisted 8 students presented their speeches for the 2013 School and Vice Captaincy positions. These eight students were selected out from the group of 56 children who showed the initiative and courage to present to a panel of teachers. Every staff member commented on the high calibre of applicant who gave their best efforts in presenting themselves as to why they should be given this prestigious position and explaining what they would do if they were lucky enough to hold the position of 2013 Dandenong North School Captain.

During Monday’s Assembly, Mrs Mackay spoke about how students needed to not only use the 4C’s but to show that they display the standards of behaviour which sets the tone for our school. The roles of School Captain and Vice Captain require students who can clearly articulate their thoughts to impart information to visitors of our school in an impromptu manner. These students will also need to be able to complete formal public speaking events such as the Year 6 Graduation and leading Monday morning assembly.

Despite the nerves, our eight applicants did their very best to clearly articulate their speeches in a confident manner. There were a lot of proud parents watching these speeches, along with a lot of teachers who have watched these students develop from a young age.

Mrs Mackay gave high praise to all the nominees and expressed what a difficult choice it will be to select Dandenong North’s 2013 Student Leadership Group. School Captains and House Captains will be announced at Monday’s assembly.

Good luck to all of the nominees.
The educational year is well under way with students attending school in 2013 for over 4 weeks now. However, teachers have already reported a number of student absences that are creeping up over 5 days. It is vital that students attend school everyday, unless they are unwell, as studies have shown that any absences over 20 days during a school year, have a negative impact upon a child’s ability to develop at the required rate.

Mr Lodge, our school Welfare officer, is regularly reminding students about the importance of regular school attendance and he provides 100% attendance certificates to children who have attended every day of the term and he also awards Good Attendance certificates to those who have had less than five days absence. Students who have a 100% attendance record for the year receive a cloth badge to celebrate their achievements.

We celebrate students regular attendance, however we are aware that some times illness will force children to be away from school. However, if it is necessary for your child to miss school for two days or more in a row, please contact the school to get any work they might be missing and follow this up at home.

A note explaining why your child is absent is essential as we are required to record all student absences, so please use the proforma below or write a note each time your child is absent from school. Each school day starts at 9 o’clock and it is anticipated that students would have arrived at school prior to this time and be ready to start their learning. We understand that on occasion children will be late for school and it is important that they feel comfortable in knowing that its better to be a little late than to not attend at all!

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**It’s Not Ok To Be Away**

The Booklist payments are now due, the cost of the 2013 Booklist is $100 per student.

Please send cash/cheque to the school to cover the cost of the booklist or an EFTPOS facility is available at the school office.

**Parents who have a CURRENT HEALTH CARE/PENSION CARD as of 29th January 2013 and have not applied for the E.M.A (Education Maintenance Allowance), please come to the General Office to complete an application form.**

THE CLOSING DATE FOR EMA APPLICATIONS IS THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2013.

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**School Photos**

School Photos will be take on **Tuesday 5th MARCH 2013**.

All envelopes and payment **MUST BE** returned by Monday 4th March.

No late orders will be accepted.

Please ensure that you enclose the correct money in the envelope as no change is given.
Hats Reminder:
As part of the Government’s Sun-smart Schools Program, all students are required to wear a hat whilst playing outside during Term Four. The blue broad brimmed hats are part of the school uniform and can be purchased from the uniform shop for $12.00. If children forget their hats, they may borrow one before school from the EAL rooms.

GOAL!!!

The students were all abuzz on Thursday as they began to see the astro-turf being laid for the new soccer and osh-rounders play area. At the moment, the students have limited play space and the arrival of the work men to start laying the turf is signalling to students that they will soon have a new area to play on. Since the loss of our oval, students have been accessing Dandy High’s oval during recess time, however at lunch, there has been little available space to kick a soccer ball. This new play area is hopefully going to be able to be used by the start of next week, with the fencing to separate the two areas going being erected early next week as well. I am sure that our children will take great care of their new play area as it has been a long time coming!

University of New South Wales Testing

Every year students at Dandenong North Primary are given the opportunity to participate in the Australasian Schools Competition run by the University of New South Wales. The subjects offered in this competition are English and Maths and it is open to all students in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 if they wish to enter. Participation in this competition is optional and require a payment from parents of $8.00 for each of the two subjects. The competition is a multiple choice test paper with up to 60 questions, depending on the year level.

All students who participate, receive a certificate and a detailed letter that indicates which questions they answered correctly and identifies the skill tested in each question.

Students who would like to practice for the Mathematics Competition may do so online at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/practice-online

Below are the entry forms that must be returned to the office along with the $8.00 for each test by Friday 21st June.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
MATHMATICS COMPETITION

I would like to enter my child ............................................. in grade ....... to enter the University of New South Wales Mathematics Competition.

Please enclose $8.00 and return to class teacher by Friday 21st June

UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
ENGLISH COMPETITION

I would like to enter my child ............................................. in grade ....... to enter the University of New South Wales English Competition.

Please enclose $8.00 and return to class teacher by Friday 21st June
Last week we showcased the Preps from Prep O, Prep L and Prep S. This week it is the students from Prep N and Prep M who have taken their opportunity to explain what it is that they are enjoying about their time at school. It is always lovely to read what excites the Preps as they begin their educational journey!

I like drawing pictures and reading books at school. By Devasena Prep M

I like playing outside with my friends and drawing. By Mozaab Prep N

At school I like playing in the playground with my friends. By Asude PM

I like playing with my new friends and learning my letters watching ‘Storybots’ By Patrycia Prep N

I like using the computers at school. By Shavin PM

I like playing outside with my friends on the monkey bars. I liked painting in art. By Joly Prep N

At school I like drawing and playing on the slide in the playground. By Mohammad PM