Last week we were honoured to have a successful past Victorian Premier come to visit Dandenong North Primary. Mr Steve Bracks was one of Victoria’s most successful Premiers winning three consecutive elections, retiring from his role as Premier in 2007. During his time in Parliament, Mr Bracks spent a lot of money ensuring that Victorian education was top class! Since his retirement he has held various positions – however recently he was appointed to examine future school funding in Victoria. The review is looking at ways to achieve a funding system which supports schools and promotes excellent educational outcomes for all Victorian Government school students beyond 2017.

With this review underway, Mr Bracks came to Dandenong North to examine why we are a high performing school. He was very keen to look at the wonderful programs that we have in place to ensure that our children are provided with the best education possible.

Whilst looking around the school, Mr Bracks spoke of how impressed he was with the Reading Intervention Program that allowed our students to read and comprehend at a fast rate and the rigour within each of the classrooms, with all children engaged in their learning.

Mr Bracks spent over an hour with Mr Mackay discussing the importance of a flexible budget, which allowed educational settings to develop programs that best met the needs of their children.

We are sure that some of the processes and programs that he saw at our school and discussed with Mr Mackay, will be spoken about in Parliament to ensure that all schools across Victoria can offer every child the best education possible.

### Whole School Pyjama Day

The 2015 SRC are running the annual Pyjama Day fundraiser. This special day will be held on Monday 17th August and it would be wonderful to see all children dress in their pyjamas and come to school.

The cost to participate in this event is a gold coin donation that will go towards the children’s ward at The Dandenong Hospital. There will be prizes given for the best pyjamas, slippers and teddy.
Eyes, Ears, Heart & Mind Award

At Monday’s assembly there was another Eyes, Ears, Heart and Mind Award given out - to Joseph from 4WM. Below is what Aruzou, Florentine and Maniza had to say about their fantastic friend.

**EYES:** Joseph has eyes that can see anything even a tiny mouse or even a very little mouse that is really, really tiny.

**EAR:** Joseph’s ears are so good at listening. If someone talks that has a really little voice he can even hear them as well.

**HEART:** Joseph has a heart full of greatness and love. Joseph seems to always be thinking about other people rather than himself.

**MIND:** Joseph has a mind that can think really quickly. His mind is so fast. He is just like a robot with a computer for a brain. Congratulations Joseph!

Taekwondo Star

At Dandenong North we are always very proud of the achievements of our students - whether they are academic, social or sporting.

Mustafa 3V is one such student that deserves to be celebrated as he is a silver medal winner at the Victorian Under 12’s Taekwondo championships! Mustafa was able to compete against other boys in this highly athletic sport - placing second overall in the Championships!

Great work, Mustafa! You should be very proud of this achievement!

Special Award Winners for the week ending 31st July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep B - Shenaya</th>
<th>Prep N - Kiara</th>
<th>2L - Kesenraj</th>
<th>4M - Leroy</th>
<th>5/6S - Hussain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep H - Ushmini</td>
<td>1H - Nimisha</td>
<td>2S - Dak</td>
<td>4R - Alex</td>
<td>6C - Marium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep O - Navindu</td>
<td>1A - Sophie</td>
<td>2G - Nazery</td>
<td>4W - Tamana</td>
<td>6L - Habiba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep M - Ayden</td>
<td>1J - Elham</td>
<td>3D - Marina</td>
<td>4WM - Lucas</td>
<td>6M - Halima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S - Diya</td>
<td>1N - Yalda</td>
<td>3F - Angela</td>
<td>5H - Kishore</td>
<td>ICT - Sana (1N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep T - Hijraan</td>
<td>2C - Maysam</td>
<td>3S - Samia</td>
<td>5P - Fatmata</td>
<td>ICT - Miona (5/6S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep N - Haania</td>
<td>2G - Nazery</td>
<td>3V - Senesa</td>
<td>5M - Emilia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Year 5/6 Police In Schools Incursion

As part of Mrs Blachford’s Social Skills Development Specialist Program, she engaged the services of the Police In Schools Program. This program aims to teach children the importance of being safe on the internet as well as the importance of being good citizens.

Below is a recount given by Prisha and Harini (6C), which highlights the key parts of the message given.

On Tuesday 28th July two police officers Senior Constable Leanne Cooper and Acting Sergeant Jason Dickinson came to talk all the Grade 5 and 6 students about Cybersafety.

All the students gained safety knowledge for future internet usage. They informed us about the different applications and websites we use that can harm us and our computer.

The Year 5 and 6 students learned a new technique 

RTSR.

Respect – towards others online,

Think – before they post or send anything,

Stand Up – to cyberbullying that they witness and

Report – anything that scares them or makes them feel uncomfortable.

This is to ensure that children are not victims of cyberbullying or being the bullies themselves.

Students learnt new safety tips on how to be safe on the internet such as the importance of using difficult passwords and pseudo names so strangers have limited information on children’s accounts and information. They also learnt to be careful with what is posted and the effects of those posts later in life when applying for jobs.

The 5 & 6 students all listened and interacted respectfully with these special visitors.

To celebrate Book Week - we are having a whole school Book Week Dress Up Parade. The parade will take place on Tuesday 25th August and will start around 9:30 am.

It would be great if all students could dress up as their favourite book character for this parade. Prizes will be given for the best dressed boy and girl in each year level.

So come along on Tuesday 25th August, dressed as your favourite book character!
The Year 1 & 2 students had a wonderful incursion last week called “Hands On Science” and that’s exactly what the children were able to do!

Laura showed the children about different types of materials and how things as simple as bubble mixture can be called a chemical.

This fantastic incursion is all a part of the theme “The Wonderful World of Science”, which aims to give students a better understanding of science.

The students in 1A had a wonderful time and here are just a few of the recounts written!

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**I had a great time at the incursion.**

Let me tell you a little bit about it. To begin with 1A went in and took a seat. Laura talked about recycling materials and re-using materials. She gave us a container full of materials that you can recycle and re-use.

As soon as we finished doing the materials experiment, Laura had three cups that said potato starch, tablet and plastic. In the first cup there was a little piece of paper in it. We had to put water in it and mix, but in the last cup, Laura put a tablet in the cup and we waited. Suddenly some little bubbles came out. I liked the smell because it smelt like Pepsi. Lastly Laura explained that oil and water didn’t mix together. We looked at lots of test tubes.

I enjoyed watching Laura put a tablet in the cup and seeing the tablet make little bubbles!

By Julie

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**I can’t wait to tell you all about 1A’s science incursion!**

To begin with, all of 1A walked in and sat down on the floor. Laura showed us how to make rain drops. Later on, Laura talked to us about materials. It was a little bit hard to classify the materials. Then we had to put the materials into a re-use pile and a re-cycle pile.

As soon as we finished, Laura came around and she put some green liquid in a cup and we took turns mixing the liquid. We poured some liquid onto lids. On the first lid, we only put liquid. On the second lid we put bubbles and liquid. On the third lid we only put bubbles. We also had to take a straw and blow bubbles.

Lastly, we tried to dissolve plastic, potato starch and a tablet. The plastic did nothing and the potato starch dissolved. The tablet fizzled in the water. Then we took a test tube and we used magnets to get the metal to stick to the top.

My favourite part was playing with the magnets.

By Sophie

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On July the 29th 1A went to the science incursion. Let me tell you a little bit about it.

To begin with, I ate lunch and then we went to the science incursion. We sat on the floor and Laura told us what we had to know about materials. We used liquid, water and potato starch. I put the potato starch inside the cup and we all mixed the potato starch at our table.

After that we lined up in a straight line and then we went back to our class.

In the end, we all went home.

My favourite part was when I mixed the potato starch in the water.

By Fatima