



News from the North

9th June, 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

June

- 11: Yr 5 Excursion
- 16: Pizza Lunch
- 22: Movie Day (**Marsh**)
- 23: Interviews (Interpreter)
- 24: **Curriculum Day & Interviews** (English speaking)
- 26: Last day of Term 2

July

- 13: First day of Term 3
- 27: Year 6 Incursion

Enrolments for 2027 are now due



Semester One Student Reports

Student reports for Semester 1 will be sent home on Friday 19th June. The reports will continue to provide important details about student learning attainment, but full descriptive comments will not be included as a result of industrial action taken by the Australian Education Union. We will, of course, be pleased to discuss your child's progress with you at our next parent-teacher interviews, scheduled for Tuesday 23rd June - Interpreter Interviews, or Wednesday 24th June - English Interviews. If you have not booked a parent-teacher interview, please do so as soon as possible.

Congratulations Mrs Jenny Mackay OAM



Dandenong North Primary School is proud to congratulate Mrs Jenny Mackay on being awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the King's Birthday Honours List for her outstanding service to education.

Jenny commenced at Dandenong North Primary School in 1986 and became Assistant Principal in 1997. Throughout her 36 years at the school, she played a pivotal role in developing the high performing and inclusive school we know today.

Her many achievements include developing an innovative EAL program, establishing a multidisciplinary wellbeing team to support students and families and contributing significantly to the school being recognised as the No. 1 ranked school in Australia by the Grattan Institute in 2013. Her leadership also helped secure the Leadership Team of the Year award in the same year.

Jenny's expertise was widely sought across Victoria and beyond through school reviews, professional learning, conference presentations and her work with graduate teachers through Deakin University. In recognition of her service, she received the John Laing Award in 2017, was named a City of Greater Dandenong Living Treasure in 2023 and in 2022 the Mackay Gymnasium was named in honour of Jenny and her husband, former Principal Kevin Mackay. The OAM is a fitting recognition of Jenny's lifelong commitment to education, her dedication to the Dandenong community and the profound impact she has had on generations of students, staff and families.

Congratulations Jenny, on this well deserved honour.

Curriculum Day

Wednesday

24th June

End of Term 2

Friday 26th June

Start of Term 3

Monday 13th July

Squishy toys in the classroom

Recently, we have noticed a significant increase in the use of squishy fidget toys during learning time across our classrooms.

While we recognise that fidget tools can play an important role in supporting some students to regulate their attention and engagement, we have found that, for many children, these items are becoming a distraction rather than a support. Squishy fidget toys have impacted students' concentration, reduced engagement and disrupted the learning environment for others.

We have also experienced several incidents in which squishy toys have burst, damaging school property.

As a result, squishy fidget toys will no longer be permitted during learning times unless their use is supported by a specialist recommendation to address an identified student need. Where a squishy fidget tool is required, it must be approved by both the school and the classroom teacher.

If your child wishes to bring a squishy toy for outdoor play, we ask that it be made of foam rather than filled with gel or other liquids.

We appreciate your support in maintaining a positive and productive learning environment. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's individual needs, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Paul Hilton
Principal

2027 Foundation Enrolment now open

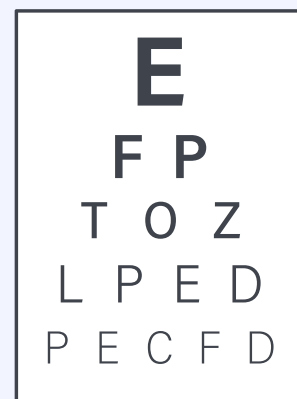
Do you have a student attending 4yo Kinder? If yes, school enrolment is now due. Collect a form from the office as soon as possible.



Enrolment is now open for students who will be starting Foundation (Prep) in 2027. We encourage you to enrol as soon as possible. Visit us at school with your child's identification and immunisation.

Enrolment of siblings is not automatic and an enrolment form must be completed for each student starting next year.

FREE Foundation Vision and Hearing Checks



A health assessment is offered to all children in their first year of primary school. Your child's school will provide you with an envelope containing information about the School Entrant Health Questionnaire (SEHQ). **A paper copy can be collected from the office.**

The SEHQ provides important information about your child which the nurse will use to understand any concerns and to conduct appropriate health assessments. If your child needs a brief health assessment, such as a vision or hearing test, the nurse will see your child at school.



Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held on **Tuesday 23rd June** (Interpreters available) and **Wednesday 24th June** (English speaking). These meetings are a valuable chance to meet with your child's teachers to review their progress and consider next steps in their learning.

This year, we are trialling using the SENTRAL APP to book English speaking interviews. If you have yet to download the SENTRAL APP, please do so prior to booking. In order to provide parents with the most convenient time possible with their child's teachers you can book your times through our portal. Select the timeslot that suits you best.

Interviews run for 10 minutes. You will need to make one booking per child.

Please do not book consecutive time slots for your children as this will not allow you time to walk between classes and may result in your interview being missed or your allocated time being reduced. If you miss your interview, visit the office to reschedule for a later time however rescheduling due to late arrival cannot be guaranteed.

With over 500 interviews already booked, we urge all parents to book their appointment time as soon as possible. If you require support, please contact the office or your child's teacher.



For more information, see the flyer on the next page.



Year 3 visit Edendale Farm

On Wednesday the 20th May, the Year 3 students visited Edendale Farm as part of our Integrated Studies unit, Sustain the Chain. Throughout the term, we have been learning about the important roles of producers, consumers and decomposers within habitats, and how food chains represent relationships within ecosystems.

During the excursion, students participated in several engaging activities focused on sustainability and environmental responsibility. In 'Consumption Down!', we explored ways to reduce waste by making smarter choices, such as reducing single-use items and reusing materials. Students also enjoyed a tour of the farm where we fed chickens, sheep and goats, helping us understand how animals and plants depend on one another within a habitat.

In 'Food Footprint', students investigated how food production, packaging, transport and waste impact the environment. During 'Soil Matters', students learned how decomposers such as worms play a vital role in breaking down organic waste and returning nutrients to the soil through composting and worm farms.

The excursion was a wonderful experience that deepened our understanding of the environment, the importance of making conscious choices, and the connections between producers, consumers and decomposers in maintaining healthy ecosystems.



Year 4's STEM Egg Drop Challenge

This week, Year 4 students have been busy designing and constructing their very own egg drop crafts as part of our exciting science learning challenge. Students have been exploring how different materials, shapes and structures can help protect a fragile object during a fall.

The Egg Drop Challenge encourages students to think like engineers by planning, testing and improving their designs. Working in teams and independently, students carefully considered how to cushion and protect their egg while still creating a craft that could safely travel from the top balcony to the ground below.

Next week, the real test begins! Students will gather outside to watch their creations take flight as each design is dropped from the balcony to see whether the egg survives the impact. There is already lots of excitement and friendly competition between the Year 4 classes as students predict which designs will be the strongest and most successful.

At the end of next week, all Year 4 classes will compete to find the ultimate winning design. Stay tuned to hear which egg craft survives the big drop and takes out the title of 2026 Egg Drop Champions!



Parent Teacher Interviews

BOOK NOW



**Dandenong North
Primary School**

PARENT & TEACHER INTERVIEWS



INTERPRETER SUPPORTED INTERVIEWS



TUESDAY 23RD JUNE



2pm - 6pm

Return provided interview
request paper form ASAP

ENGLISH SPEAKING INTERVIEWS



WEDNESDAY 24TH JUNE



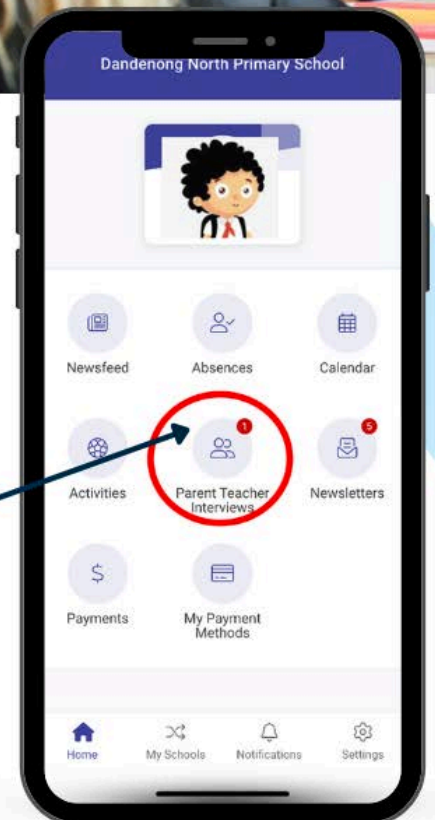
2pm - 6pm



Bookings via Sentral App



Sentral is our main form of communication between school and home. If you have yet to download and activate your account visit the office for support.





Dandenong North Primary School

2027 Foundation Enrolment

Enrolment is now open for students who will be starting Foundation (Prep) in 2027. As you have a child already attending Dandenong North Primary School, we encourage you to enrol as soon as possible.

Enrolling your child is as easy as visiting the office with:

- birth certificate or passport
- medicare immunisation certificate

By enrolling your child during Term 2, we are better able to plan for our 2027 Foundation classes. Thank you for your understanding and support.

**Important
Dates**

20th April:

Enrolments open

31st July:

Enrolments close



 9794 7899

 dandenongnorthps.vic.edu.au



SPRINGVALE WINTER FEST



FREE
ENTRY

Sunday 21 June
11am - 6pm

Buckingham Avenue,
Springvale

Winter themed activities
Food stalls
Live performances
Amplify Youth Zone and Stage
Amusement rides
Lion dance

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/winterfest



Dear Parents / Guardians,

Within our school community there are students who shine brightly, displaying exemplary dedication and academic talent. They deserve to be recognised and this year we are giving them the opportunity to showcase and celebrate their talents in the world-renowned ICAS competition.

What is ICAS?

ICAS is an online academic competition that gives students the opportunity to challenge their higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in English and Mathematics and is open to Years 3,4,5 & 6 if they wish to participate.

ICAS results are in-depth and meaningful, and ICAS evaluates student performance against other competition entrants across the state and nation. The data reveals student strengths and weaknesses and can help you recognise and support your child's academic journey.

Learn more about ICAS [here](https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas/): ([icasassessments.com/products-icas/](https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas/)).

ICAS results and certificate

Every student who participates is celebrated and recognised with a printed certificate in each subject area, and an online results report to track development each year. Top performers are eligible for one of the highly coveted ICAS medals.

Your child's ICAS certificates will show their results and the login details, "TAP ID and Pin". - Use these to enter the [Results Portal](https://orti.icasassessments.com/ortiStudent) (<https://orti.icasassessments.com/ortiStudent>).

How to participate in ICAS

If you wish for your child to participate in ICAS this year, please go to the Parent Portal to register for your chosen subjects.

You can do this in one of two ways:

1. Direct login link – faster!

Use this link to log directly into the shop and start registering:
<https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/parent-payment/GCY990>

2. Log in using the PPS code

Visit our shop and use our PPS code to log in:

Shop link: <https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>

PPS code: GCY990

*Registration for all subject areas closes on **Monday 27 July at 11:59pm.**

This year, our students can elect to sit the following assessments:

Subject	Sitting Date	Cost (AU\$)	SITTING DATE
English	10-14 Aug	\$21.95	Tuesday 11 th August
Mathematics	24-28 Aug	\$21.95	Tuesday 18 th August

Please note, we cannot facilitate refunds or make alterations as all money is paid directly to ICAS Assessments.

Read the terms and conditions [here](https://www.icasassessments.com/icasa-terms-and-conditions/#icas-parents): (<https://www.icasassessments.com/icasa-terms-and-conditions/#icas-parents>).

Privacy collection statement

The following information is a privacy notification about how your child's data is kept private and secure.

ICAS Assessment is owned by Janison Solutions Pty Ltd (We, Us, Our).

To deliver assessment products, Janison will require your child's School to obtain your consent to provide Janison with certain personal information of students. Janison will collect, store, use, disclose and otherwise deal with such personal information in accordance with its privacy policy (below). We are aware of our responsibility to protect personal information related to children and students from being disclosed when we deliver an ICAS Assessments product. Unless you, as the child's legal guardian consents, we will not:

- collect any personal information or data of children other than the information we need for the successful completion of an assessment, test, or exam.*
- transfer any personal information we obtain from a child in the delivery of assessments and tests to any jurisdiction outside of Australia.*
- share any personal information relating to children with any third parties (except for those third parties necessary for us to carry out our Services or provide our Products e.g., medal engraving).*
- use any personal information or data relating to children for marketing purposes.*

You can view our full privacy policy at <https://www.janison.com/privacy-policy/>.

We may retain personal information and data relevant to a child for their future purposes or for research purposes by Janison for the duration of the school life cycle of the child. However, if you or your child at any time wish to have their personal information or data removed from our systems, they or you may opt out by simply contacting our Privacy Officer at privacy@janison.com or by contacting icasassessments@janison.com.

We are proud to be offering ICAS to our students this year and encourage you to consider entering your child. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Marcela Varas