



**DANDENONG NORTH
PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**

School Website:
www.dandenongnorthps.vic.edu.au

14th December 2021

Summer Holidays

Calendar of Event

DECEMBER 2021

16th - **LAST DAY
OF TERM 4—
SCHOOL FINISHES
@1:30 PM**

JANUARY 2022

31st - **START OF TERM 1**

School Pledge

I will do all that I can to make sure that Dandenong North Primary School remains a great school.

I will try my hardest to follow the 4Cs to keep our school a safe and happy place.

I promise to treat others as I would like to be treated.

This year has once again seen many challenges put in front of us with the COVID pandemic continuing throughout 2021. Over 70 days of onsite learning was lost, with teachers setting tasks on Seesaw and completing daily WebEx teaching sessions. Staff worked to engage children throughout this lockdown period and to continue the learning that would be occurring if children were onsite learning in their classroom.

Again, the community banded together to look after each other. Families supported each other, while staff continually “checked in” on not only the children in their class, but also their families.

In particular, throughout term 4, with many COVID cases being onsite, children and families, as well as staff members, were required to isolate. On top of this were four school closures. We understood that this was frustrating for all, however everyone was trying to look after the community. As 2021 comes to an end we all hope for a positive start to 2022, with children spending the whole year onsite. However, holidays are not a time to stop learning! Children should continue to read each day, practice times tables regularly as well as creating snapshot writing pieces about holiday experiences.

We would like to wish all of our families a very safe and happy Summer holiday break. We look forward to seeing you all again on the 31st January 2022!

Construction of Gymnasium to Begin

Earlier this year Dandenong, Member of Parliament, Ms. Gabrielle Williams informed Mr Mackay that Dandenong North Primary School had been allocated \$6 million dollars in the May budget for the provision of a full-size gymnasium, music room, canteen and a student eating area to be established at the Cleeland Street frontage.

This project would complete the “master plan” developed by Minx Architects in 2020. The allocation of \$6 million was predicated upon the contribution of the remaining locally saved \$2 million to meet the entire projected cost of \$8 million.

The great news is that the refurbishment of the hall into a flexible learning space and building of the new full size gymnasium will begin over the January holidays! Hopefully the contractors will be on site setting up the site by mid-January and beginning to demolish the multi-purpose room. If all goes to plan we hope to have use of the refurbished hall by mid-term 2 and the new gymnasium by the end of 2022.

This is exciting for the whole Dandenong North community, but in particular Mr and Mrs Mackay and School Council President, Mrs Ann Scott who have been lobbying for the gymnasium for over 20 years!

Student COVID Vaccinations

The safety of students is always our number one priority at Dandenong North primary School. It is appropriate, therefore, to recommend to parents and carers that they consider carefully the possibility of arranging vaccinations for children aged five to twelve.

During Term 4 in 2021, we experienced class disruptions on a huge scale due to more than 20 positive cases that caused whole classes to be required to be COVID tested before they could return if they had a negative result. If you were one of the parents we had to call to get your child tested and then isolated you will understand the scale of the disruption. In a number of cases this happened more than once.

This IS a safety issue because children are being easily infected by other children who are positive to COVID-19. WE have seen the evidence for ourselves that our double-vaccinated staff have resisted infections that have been present within their classrooms.

I urge all of our parents/Carers to book their children in at the earliest opportunity for the first of their vaccinations. Only if we get a high percentage of our students vaccinated will we be able to provide consistent teaching and learning in 2022 – because the COVID-19 virus will still be with us in a range of variants. Otherwise, the disruptions we have experienced since lockdown number 6 are likely to continue throughout 2022.

Kevin Mackay
Principal

School Council Vacancies

Expressions of interest are invited for three parent and one staff vacancy on School Council for 2022. Parents must have children enrolled for 2022 to be eligible to be school councillors.

2022 is going to be a very exiting and busy year for Dandenong North Primary School. This will be the year when the final piece of our building “jig-saw” will be put in place. The full-size, competition-style gymnasium is going to take up most of 2022 and there will be disruption and problems to be solved – but we are looking forward to all of it.

We need School Councillors who are interested in volunteering their time to help solve problems, develop any required policies and help manage the budget that will be required.

School Council meets mostly on the last Monday of a month at around 6.30 pm depending upon the availability of School Councillors.

Nomination forms for school Council can be obtained from the office. Nominations will close on 15th February. If there are more nominations than vacancies to be filled it may be necessary to arrange an election.

Kevin Mackay
Principal

New Uniform Supplier - State Schools' Relief

Our new supplier **State Schools' Relief** will have ordering online from 20th December 2021 until 9th January 2022. You can then visit their store to purchase from 10th January onwards.

Business hours: 8:30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday

Location: 1/8 Johnston Court, Dandenong South VIC 3175

Mailing address: PO Box 4528, Dandenong South VIC 3164

Phone: 03 8769 8400

Email: contact@ssr.net.au

Year 6 Certificate Ceremony

The Grade Six Certificate Graduation Ceremony was held yesterday in the hall. This will be the final Graduation in the hall as refurbishment is set to begin early in the new year. This ceremony is a celebration of the achievements of our Year 6 students and it marks the beginning of the next chapter in their educational journey.

Due to COVID19 restrictions, we were not able to have parents attend this event as we have in previous years. To compensate for this, the ceremony was professionally filmed and a copy of the event along with highlights from today's Graduation Luncheon, will be given to every Year 6 student on the last day of the year.

Mrs Colaci opened the ceremony congratulating all of the students on their achievements, and then the School Captains Ishani and Adem, presented an emotional speech to their peers, sharing memories and highlighting their growth as students.

Next, each individual student was called up by their classroom teacher to receive their certificate and a DNPS Year 6 Graduation badge.

Mrs Mackay then presented the Mackay Medallions, which are named in Mr Mackay's honour. These medallions have become a tradition at DNPS and they signify

amazing educational, social or emotional growth made by an individual student over

the course of the Year 6 school year. The following students received a Mackay Medallion at today's ceremony:

Alena 6C, Sulaiman 6C, Aiden 6F, Kavya 6F, Adem 6G, Sherothi 6G, Fathima 6L & Brinthan 6G

Congratulations to all of the Mackay Medallion winners!

Next, Mr Hilton presented the academic awards to the top performers on the PAT Reading and Mathematics tests. The award for Literacy went to Akshaj (6G). Akshaj was tested as working at a Year 10 level. For Mathematics the award went to Owen (6G) who achieved 98% on a PAT Year

10 test. Congratulations to both of these students - an exceptional effort.

Mr Fenby presented the Malone Medallions. These children live by the motto "Fitter, Faster, Stronger, Further" and have been recognised for their fantastic sporting achievements. The recipients were:

Durva 6C, Sulaiman 6C, Ave 6C, Bhavesh 6C, Kavya 6F, Elaha 6F, Janusha 6F, Kaia 6F, Saalih 6F, Shekib 6G, Tania 6G, Haadi 6G, Fathima 6L, Murtaza 6L, Mutagara 6L

Congratulations to all of the Malone Medallion winners!

Mrs Mackay closed the Certificate Day Ceremony by telling the children to take care, look after one another and that they are always welcome back at Dandenong North.

Good luck to all of our 2021 Year 6 students.



Akshaj - Literacy Award & Owen - Numeracy Award



Mackay Medallion Winners.



Malone Medallion Winners.

Departing Staff

As the year draws to a close we need to thank and farewell staff who are leaving Dandenong North to continue their teaching profession at other educational settings.

Mrs Stacey Wells began at Dandenong North in 2008. Mrs Wells started as an ES Staff member while completing her teaching qualifications. Once qualified she taught most year levels as well as working in various specialist roles. Mrs Wells is taking up the role of Year 3 Area Leader at Great Ryrie Primary school in 2022. We thank Mrs Wells for her many years of service and wish her all the best in her new role!



Mr Mark Hickey is leaving Dandenong North Primary for a tree change. Mr Hickey and his wife are moving to Sale to teach at the local primary school. Mr Hickey has been at DNPS for four years mainly teaching year 4 until changing to year 5 this year. We thank Mr Hickey for his work with our children and wish him all the best for his new country adventure!



Miss Leah Farrar is heading home to England for 12 months to spend some time with her family. Miss Farrar has made an impact on Dandenong North Primary, playing a major role in the continued implementation of the Talk For Writing Program and initiating the Talk For Reading process into the year 3 area. We hope Miss Farrar enjoys her time in the UK and look forward to her return in 2023.



Mr Thomas Vincent has been working at Dandenong North since half way through 2021. Mr Tom as he is affectionately known, began as a CRT, before quickly moving into the Tutoring Program and teaching 4SN on a Friday. We thank Mr Tom for his flexibility and efforts with teaching our children this year. We wish him all the best as he embarks on a working holiday around Australia!



Miss Angie Lapatas taught the Prep - Year 2 Visual Arts Program in Term 4, replacing Miss Lumsden who went on maternity leave. Miss Lapatas has stepped seamlessly into the role this term. We wish Miss Lapatas all the best for the future with her teaching endeavours.



**Term 4 ends Thursday 16th December -
School finishes at 1:30 pm.**

Term 1, 2022 begins on Monday 31st January

End of Year Reports

Teachers have completed the end of Year Reports for students to take home on the last day of the school year. These reports will be in line with what the June Reports looked like. Due to students returning in early Term 4, children have been able to complete testing requirements, enabling classroom to provide an assessment of each child's learning.

Unfortunately, specialist staff have not been able to complete any form of reporting due to the length of remote learning.

The end of year reports will consist of:

- An English and Mathematics overview
- An assessment of the students learning. in English and Mathematics.
- Specialist class overviews
- An assessment of the children's efforts during remote learning and the work habits they displayed.
- A General comment.



2022 Student Leadership Positions Announced

At our final Virtual assembly for the year, Mr Mackay will announce the student leadership positions for 2022. The 10 nominees presented at last week's Assembly and they all presented very clearly, making it very difficult to select the School Captains. After much discussion the leaders were selected. We are very confident that we have selected a dynamic Student Leadership team for 2022.

Congratulations to the following students:

School Captains - Sumeyye 5L & Shivesh 5L

SRC President - Anagha 5L

School Leadership Team Members: Sahana 5K, Samaana 5H, Zahra 5K, Swetha 5FC, Yuhan 5L,

Manonith 5K, Aamir 5K

The House Captains were also announced:

Keys Captains: Hafez 5H & Thenumi 5FC

Keys Vice Captains: Jinston 5L & Penny 5D

Verey Captains: Yousuf 5D & Lily 5FC

Verey Vice Captains: Athar 5H & Sidra 5K

Marsh Captains: Max 5L & Rocine 5D

Marsh Vice Captains: Sedrick 5H & Sanam 5FC

Leed Captains: Wahab 5FC & Aleej 5D

Leed Vice Captains: Carlo 5H & Haya 5L



Sumeyye 5L & Shivesh 5L -
2022 School Captain

Term 4 School Spirit Awards

At Monday's Virtual Assembly, the Term 4 School Spirit Nominees and winners were announced. Once again it was fabulous to hear about the exceptional progress and outstanding qualities these children demonstrate.

Congratulations to the winners and nominees!

Prep A - Zuhair	1LH - Kayla	2T - Tanay	4MD - Marziyeh	5K - Suryadev
Prep H - Diya	1M - Hossein	2V - Lishana	4N - Mushab	5L - Muwahib
Prep MP - Shaheer	1O - Thameera	3A - Narges	4P - George	6C - Bhavesh
Prep O - Areesha	1T - Abdul	3F - Mirah	4SN - Madina	6F - Elaha
Prep Y - Adan	2C - Humza	3N - Reem	5D - Yousuf	6G - Tania
1F - Fariha	2M - Alina	3V - Mia	5FC - Hania	6L - Mitchell
1H - Yashree	2N - Vida	4B - Raihana	5H - Hajra	

The winner from Prep:

Diya (Prep H)

For being absolutely amazing this year! She is a beautiful, caring classmate and is always inviting her peers to play with her so they are not playing alone. Diya always takes pride in her work, making sure her writing is neat and since writing on the dotted thirds, she is always making sure her work is up to a grade 1 standard. Diya loves to help her classmates and is always the first to offer her things when they need them. She is polite and positive and always demonstrates the 4 C's! Diya you are an incredible classmate and even better friend!



The winner from Year 1:

Thameera (1O)

This school spirit nomination goes to Thameera. She absolutely deserves an award this week! She is an excellent role model in the classroom. She is always eager to help others - whether it is sharing her ideas or assisting with packing away class items, Thameera loves taking on responsibilities. She consistently contributes to class discussions and cooperates with everyone. She brings joy to the classroom and lights up our day with her lively personality. Well done Thameera on an excellent year!



The winner from Year 2:

Vida (2N)

Vida has a fantastic attitude to learning and is a lovely student to have in your classroom. She is curious, has an open mind and is willing and ready to learn something new every day. Vida is always asking questions and taking on challenges to extend her learning. Vida also demonstrates the 4C's daily. She is a kind, courteous and thoughtful young girl who cares for those around her. Vida has not let the challenges of the last two years slow her down and she is more than ready for grade 3. Well done on a terrific year Vida. Thank you for your hard work and kindness in the grade. 2N and Mrs Nish wish you the best for next year!



Term 4 School Spirit Wards Continued

The winner from Year 3:

Reem (3N)

Reem sets a great example of DNPS values through her actions and she follows the 4C's daily, she is respectful to her peers and teachers. She always tries her best and takes pride in her presentation and completes set tasks at a high standard in the allocated time. Reem thrived in all her learning areas, but this term in Talk For Writing, she was confident at learning the text map, planning and writing a procedure independently. Despite the challenges that remote learning has provided, Reem has made fantastic progression due to her growth mindset.



The winner from Year 4:

George (4P)

If you were to look up the 4Cs in the dictionary you would definitely see George's name. He is an incredibly polite, respectful and caring student, who is always encouraging and supportive of others. George always puts in 100% effort with all his work, which is constantly presented beautifully, and frequently applies teacher and peer feedback to improve it even more. It has been an absolute privilege to teach George this year and I can't wait to watch his learning journey continue. Congratulations George!



The winner from Year 5:

Hania (5FC)

Despite the fact that Hania is a quiet achiever, her efforts and hard work have not gone unnoticed by us this year. Hania goes about her business without too much fuss and fanfare. Throughout the whole year she has consistently met every challenge head on, never complaining or letting this get her down. She always takes time to do everything she can to produce her best work, and give herself the greatest opportunity to learn. She has worked well with Miss Maddie, accepted help and feedback, and made some great progress in her maths. We think you are a superstar Hania, and you very much deserve to win this award for our class!



The winner from Year 6:

Tania (6G)

Tania, you have been an amazing role model for the students at DNPS. You consistently demonstrate the DNPS 4 C's, showing Care and kindness for others, and you exhibit Courtesy at all times with your excellent manners and polite and considered approach to everyone you come into contact with. You consistently Cooperate with your peers in group activities, listening carefully to others opinions and always support those who require assistance. Common Sense is demonstrated every day as you think about your actions by making smart choices. You demonstrate a mature attitude towards learning and life and confidently approach any difficult situation with measured thoughtfulness. Well done Tania!

