



**DANDENONG NORTH
PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**

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

3rd August 2021

News From the North

Calendar of Events

17th August— NSW English Test
25th August—Book Parade
30th August - School Council Meeting
30th August - English speaking Parent/Teacher interviews
31st August - Interpreter Parent/Teacher Interviews
31st August—NSW Maths Test

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.

Back On-site

Welcome back to Onsite Learning. These rolling lockdowns, certainly keep our community on their toes! We are again, highly appreciative to our families, staff and students who entered remote learning 5.0 with a minimum of fuss. By now, we are all getting used to the moments notice to move everything from onsite to remote.

These continual lockdowns take a toll on everyone's mental health and it is important that we continue to remain positive. It was nice to see the students interacting with their teachers via webex and we can not stress the importance of having children connecting with their teachers and classmates throughout all online learning situations.

To keep our school COVID free, there are always rules that need to be followed when entering school grounds. These include:

- The wearing of masks by all adults and any student over the age of 12. That means that any secondary school children must also wear a mask.
- Our classrooms and school buildings are closed to all visitors and we ask that if you wish to speak with your child's teacher, you can do so by contacting the office by phone and arranging a return call.
- We ask that parents move directly to drop off their child and after school, collect them at the allocated times. Please do not linger at school for a chat with other visitors - move directly in and out of school grounds as quickly as possible.
- Our office is open, but visitors must check in with our QR code system.

We ask that all parents and carers pay attention to these rules, to keep our community safe.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

The most recent school closures forced the postponement of the half yearly Parent Teacher Interviews.

As it is important for parents to have the opportunity to speak with their child's teacher about academic and social growth, we have rescheduled these interviews to the dates below.

30th August - English Speaking Parent/Teacher Interviews

31st August - Interpreter Parent/Teacher Interviews

Your interview times will remain the same as previously arranged and you will be notified by teachers in the coming weeks.

Internet Safety Tips

As we emerge from Lockdown 5.0, back into the classroom setting, we have noticed across the school that our students ICT skills have continued to develop and that they have become more comfortable with these technologies.

However, the negative impact of this increased confidence means that online safety of our students has never been more important. Our children are selecting to interact with online games such as **Roblox, Fortnite, Among Us, Discord** etc which allows them to chat and play online with people that they know. However, some children are also interacting with unfamiliar people, which can include adults. There have also been instances where students have been exposed to inappropriate movie or game content which they then discuss at school with their peers – which is unacceptable.

While some games have educational content, many of the most popular games emphasise negative themes and they can have elements which are inappropriate for primary aged children.

Studies of children who have been exposed to violent video games for long periods of time have shown that they may become numb to violence, imitate the violence, or show more aggressive behaviours.

Children and adolescents can become overly involved with videogames and they may have difficulty controlling the amount of time they spend playing online games each day. Spending excessive time playing these games can impact on the time that students spend with their family and friends and makes social situations difficult. The manner with which video games stimulate the brain, can also lead to poor sleep patterns which have a wider impact on student's everyday lives, in particular educationally.

Tips for Parents

There are many educational games that students can access at any age - however it is important that parents regulate their use - the use of a timer to limit the amount of screen time that students are exposed to - is one suggestion.

Ensuring that if children are playing online - parents should know who the gamers are that their child is interacting with. It is always best to play against local friends - and not invite strangers into online games or virtual worlds.

It is also vitally important that parents only allow video game playing or movie watching in the public areas of the home - **no devices** (xBox, Play Stations, I-pads, tablets or phones) should be accessed in a child's bedroom without an adult present. This would ensure children are getting the necessary hours of sleep to ensure they are ready for school each and every day.

Checking the age rating on the game, app, film or social network is a great guide as to whether they're suitable for your child. The minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites and these should be adhered to.

If parents want more assistance with this they can log on to :

<https://sites.google.com/aetinet.org/lea-forest-primary-academy/pupils/e-safety>

Weekly Special Awards

Prep A - Pariza	4B - Daania	5D - Kasmia	5L - Fatimah
Prep H - Joshua	4MD - Vibhish	5FC - Ibrahim	6F - Saalih
Prep MP - Mahdi	4N - Setaish	5H - Lexi	6G - Ayden
Prep O - Farwa	4P - Vigashni	5K - Christian	6L - Eshana
Prep Y - Umar	4SN - Azaan		

2022 Prep Enrolment Now Open!

Looking forward to 2022, we are keen to ensure that all of our current families have been able to enrol their children into Prep classes. As usual, we aim to keep these class sizes as small as possible in order to give children the best possible start to their education. Therefore it is highly important for us to have an idea as to how many students may be enrolling at our school for next year.

Whilst we are no longer able to undertake school tours in person due to current COVID19 restrictions, we have access to a wonderful **online virtual tour** at <https://www.dandenongnorthps.vic.edu.au/> which highlights all of the key programs that our school provides our students.

If you know of a neighbour or a relative who has a child that turns five before the 30th April 2022, please ask them to come to the Office to complete an enrolment form.

Parents are asked to bring a Birth certificate or Visa for proof of age and an Immunisation History Statement from Medicare in order to enrol their child at our school.

Early enrolment also ensures children are included in our Prep Transition Program.

Prep Transition Program Dates:

Wednesday 13th October, 2021

Wednesday 20th October, 2021

Wednesday 27th October, 2021

All sessions begin at 9:30am and they run until 10:45am.

We look forward to meeting all of our new families enrolling at DNPS and making them a part of our community.



Footsteps Returns

Footsteps Movement to Music Program is back!

As we try to continue to keep everything as normal as possible in these uncertain times, it was wonderful to see the ladies from Footsteps back in the hall, teaching students some gross motor movements.

This program is very popular with the children and is highly engaging for all. The ability to observe and mimic movements provided by the instructors is not easy to do and requires a lot of cognitive focus in order to be able to keep up with the routine being taught.

As usual, the children work up a sweat whilst having fun!

Thank you to Mr Fenby, Mr Gould and Miss Conway for organizing this wonderful event for our students.

