



**DANDENONG NORTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER**

School Website:  
[www.dandenongnorthps.vic.edu.au](http://www.dandenongnorthps.vic.edu.au)

8th March 2022

# News From the North

## Vaccination Hub at DNPS

### Calendar of Events

#### MARCH 2022

**10th - CURRICULUM DAY  
NO SCHOOL**

**11th - CURRICULUM DAY  
NO SCHOOL**

**14th - PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

18th - House Cross Country

22nd - Grade 6 Students  
Excursion  
Discovery Dandenong

- Grade 2 Students visit to  
Dandenong Market

24th - Harmony Day

28th - School Council

29th - Pizza Lunch

31st - Grade 6 Students excursion  
Rock Climbing

### 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.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Most people are aware that masks are still mandated for primary school students in Years 3 – 6. Teachers and Support Staff are also required to wear masks unless they are teaching or speaking directly to a student. Our staff find wearing masks something that most of us would prefer not to have to do. In secondary schools, students and teachers are no longer required to wear masks simply because most students in that age-group are double or triple vaccinated.

The take-up rate of vaccinations among 5 to 12 year-old children is currently too low to convince the Chief medical Officer that mask-wearing for primary schools need not be mandated.

Vaccinations are the way out of this pandemic. They are not the total answer but the evidence is irrefutable that vaccinations contribute to “herd immunity”.

We know that there are some within our community who do not believe that vaccinations are worthwhile. However there are also plenty of cases where people who thought that way became seriously ill – some even losing their lives – from COVID-19 virus.

Monash health is setting up a vaccination hub in the hall, here at the school to make getting a vaccination for parents and/or their children more convenient than trying to arrange an appointment at a local clinic. Monash health will be here at the school from 17<sup>th</sup> March until the 24<sup>th</sup> March. The “Pop-Up Clinic” will be open in the school hall from 2.00pm until 7.00pm for seven days including the weekend of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of March.

More information will be available soon from Monash Health .

I need to stress that this is NOT THE SCHOOL vaccinating children.

The only thing we have to do with this is that the vaccinations will be available to children and adults from our community who VOLUNTEER to be vaccinated.

However, we strongly support the need for as many children as possible to be double vaccinated simply to help protect each other and , more particularly, parents and grandparents who are much more likely to suffer extreme reactions if they contract the virus.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Mackay  
Principal

## Curriculum Days

Dear Parents/Carers,

This notice is to advise you that Dandenong North Primary School will be closed on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March for two Curriculum Days.

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March is a Public Holiday, meaning children return to school on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

All schools in Victoria are allocated four days a year for planning and training purposes for staff. The first day of the school year is a student-free day and Thursday and Friday are student-free days and the last of the four days for 2022 will be on 31<sup>st</sup> October – the day before Melbourne Cup Day.

After such a long time away from school during lock-downs, I know many parents/carers might be wondering why curriculum days are needed in 2022? Well, our staff were largely working from home during lock-downs and we rarely had time when we could consider the effectiveness of programs or consider recent research findings that might signal that there are better educational ways. The point being that time for our staff to meet together to train and plan is critically important.

The ultimate benefits to our students outweigh the short disruption to their learning. So, we are sorry for any inconvenience and hope you understand the need for these two curriculum days.

Yours sincerely,  
Kevin Mackay  
Principal



## Gymnasium Update

The Gymnasium, Hall refurbishment as well as the movement of two MOD5 classrooms is still progressing, even though it may not look like much has occurred over the last two weeks

Unfortunately, the builders Allmore have had a couple of set backs which has delayed the delivery of the build, but they are still confident that all construction works will be completed by the end of the 2022 school year.

Dandenong North when built in 1954 was built on swamp land, like many of the schools built at this time, as it was cheap land for the Victorian government to purchase. Allmore have had to remove a substantial amount of soil, as the ground was full of soft spots, as though the ground is one big trampoline.



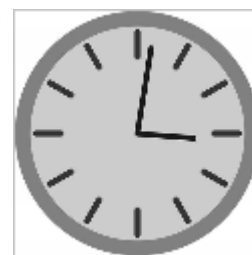
Where the MOD 5 classroom is to be moved next to the current Year 5 double storey building, the soft surface was required to be taken away and filled with clay to stabilise the ground. As some parents and children may have witnessed the crane then became bogged in the soil where the bitumen and Multipurpose room had been previously. Currently there are piles of soil filling the site which needs to be transported away. Once this has been completed, Allmore are hoping to make the remainder of the site fit for construction very quickly.

Once the ground has been prepared the MOD5 in the corner of Cleeland and David Street will be moved into place.

Thank you to all of our community for their understanding while we go through this building period.

## Early Leave Pass Notification

Dear DNPS Families, Just a reminder that the school hours at Dandenong North P.S. are 9:00am - 3:15pm. When students are required to attend a medical appointment or leave the school for an urgent matter earlier than 3:15pm, you should send a message to the teacher at least two hours before the time you need to pick your child up, or provide a note for the child to give to the teacher in the morning. Please inform the teacher of the time your child will be collected from the Reception area. This allows students to complete their work, pack up and be ready at the time required. We are unable to place announcements through the speakers due to the disruption this causes to the learning in all other classes.



## Management Plans Required

Parents who indicated on their child's enrolment form that their child has one of the following medical conditions:

- Asthma
- Epilepsy
- Diabetes
- Allergies or Anaphylaxis

A new Management Plan is required from your doctor for 2022.

Please email a copy to [Dandenong.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Dandenong.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au) or provide it to the office.

## School Assembly & Special Awards

Over the last two weeks Mr Mackay has been trialling with the Year 6 students the reintroduction of the School Assembly. Last week, the Assembly was held in the Agora Area and on Monday we used the Hall as the refurbishment has not yet began. The Year 6 students all agreed that they would like to continue to have an Assembly in person and to not watch the online version. We will continue to trial and investigate ways that we can have an Assembly with both teachers and students present as it is an important component that makes DNPS the great school it is.

Prep Y - Dadfar	2N - Aliyah	4P - Neda	6CA - Uday
1C - Benyamin	2T - taha	4P - Mojgan	6F - Enayat
1H - Levi	3O - Aryaan	5AL - Saba	6G - Jaylen
1M - Dania	3V - Ashar	5FM - Tasbeeh	6S - Hikmat
1T - Sara	4DW - Rima	5K - Delun	Maths - All of 1T
2AN - Mehdi	4H - Tasneem	5L - Mathews	
2B - Bhanuri	4M - Qasim	5P - Zinat	

## Sun Smart School



The Victorian Government has encouraged schools throughout the state to sign up to a Sun Smart policy, and our School Council agreed that we should be one of those schools. So, we are!

Being a Sun Smart school, means that we are ALL committed to all students wearing a hat for outside play in both Term One and Term Four. Even though the weather has not been as extreme as in previous years, dangerous ultraviolet rays continue to be high, even when it is cloudy - and it is these rays that can cause skin cancer. Kids being kids they get involved in games and can easily “forget” to wear, or they will take-off their hats during a game because they don’t really understand the possible danger of skin cancers in 10 to 15 years time. There are still a number of weeks left in Term One, so we would ask that all parents check whether their child has a hat and if not, they can be purchased from the office. Even in Terms 2 and 3 when the sunlight hours are less and the ultraviolet rays are less intense it makes sense for children to keep wearing hats when outside.

## Mathletics

As Thursday and Friday are curriculum days, it is a great opportunity for our children to access the Mathletics Program.

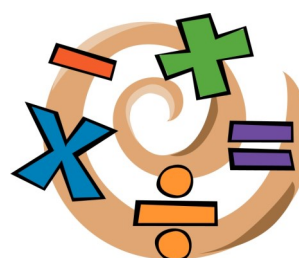
Mathletics is an online maths program that is offered free to children in Years 1 to 6. This program can be used both at home or at school for all children who have access to a computer and the internet at [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au).

Children have their own individual passwords and can complete tasks relevant to their educational development, which have been set by their classroom teacher. They can also improve their fast mathematical recall times by competing in a live mathematical game against other children all around the world.

This program is a fantastic way to improve your child’s Mathematics progress, while enjoying the use of the computer and competing against other children from around the world.

The Mathletics password also allows the children to access the on-line program Rainforest Maths at [www.rainforestmaths.com](http://www.rainforestmaths.com)

If you have any questions regarding your child’s access to this program, please see their teacher.



## Harmony Day Celebrations

Harmony Week celebrates Australian multiculturalism, and the successful integration of migrants into our community. Dandenong North Primary is made up of many cultures and it is this wonderful mix which is one of our greatest strengths and it is at the heart of who we are and makes our school a unique, vibrant educational setting in which to learn.

We will be celebrating Harmony Day on **Thursday 24th March** and students are encouraged to wear something inspired by their own culture. If you don’t own anything that matches with your culture please wear something orange as this is the colour of Harmony Day. We will be having a **whole school parade from 9:30am to 11am**.

