



**DANDENONG NORTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER**

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

7th February 2024

# News From the North

## Welcome Back

### Calendar of Events

#### **FEBRUARY 2024**

- 28th - Grade 4 Students  
Excursion to Pollywood  
Side
- 29th - Grade 4 Students  
Excursion to Pollywood  
Side

#### **MARCH 2024**

- 7th - **CURRICULUM DAY  
(NO SCHOOL)**
- 8th - **CURRICULUM DAY  
(NO SCHOOL)**
- 22nd - Grade 5 Students  
Excursion to the Museum
- 28th - END OF TERM 1**

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.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the start of the 2024 School Year. I hope you all had a wonderful Summer holiday spent with family and friends. What a phenomenal start we had last week with all our excited Prep students and their families. It was great to see all their fresh faces entering the classroom for the first time with so much enthusiasm for being at school. Our returning students were just as eager to begin the year, and everyone settled in quickly, getting into the routines of school.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Dandenong North staff for all the hard work that they have undertaken to make this such a smooth transition back to school for all our students. It is great to have so many returning staff who have worked at Dandenong North Primary in the past, as this ensures that the focus on successful, happy learners will continue. We are fortunate at this moment to not be too impacted by the teacher shortage that is sweeping across Victoria and we will continue to ensure that this is the case.

As always, Assistant Principals Mrs Erin Scott, Miss Amy Forscutt, and I are always available to discuss any parent concerns. We are here to assist families with educational matters and to continue the home-school partnership that has made our school so successful.

With the hot weather we just experienced over the weekend, I would like to remind everyone that in Terms One and Four of every school year, students must wear a hat when undertaking outside play. Please ensure your child wears a hat; otherwise, play will be restricted to shaded areas only. Hats can be purchased from the office.

We are all looking forward to a fantastic year celebrating Dandenong North Primary's 70th birthday and for our students to continue to thrive in a safe and engaging learning environment.

Paul Hilton  
Principal



## New Staff in 2024

This year we welcome a number of new and returning teachers to the Dandenong North Primary School community. Please make them feel welcome if you see them around the school.



Miss Simone Lyonette has been a part of the DNPS family on the Education Support team and having recently graduated will this year be teaching in the Year 2 team in class 2L.

We welcome Ms Linda Deverson to Dandenong North Primary this year. Ms Deverson is a familiar face to students at DNPS as she was regularly replacing absent teachers in 2023. We are excited to have Ms Deverson as part of the Year 2 teaching team in 2D.



Mrs Danni-Elle Llinares is another familiar face to many students and is this year teaching part time in 2NL with Ms Nish. She is looking forward to getting to know the class.

Mrs Jessica Thompson is returning to DNPS after family leave and will be a part of the Year 4 teaching team. Mrs Thompson will be sharing 4TW with Mrs Wills.



Miss Christine Coulson may be a familiar face to many students and families as she has been both an Education Support Staff member and completed her final teaching placement at DNPS. This year she joins the Year 4 team in 4C.

Miss Emily Cole began her teaching career in Year 5 for Term 4 last year and returns to Year 5 in 2024. We hope she has a fabulous year in 5C.



Ms Isabella Wilkes completed her final teaching placement at DNPS in 2023 and has joined the Year 6 teaching team for 2024. We are sure she will have an exciting year in 6W.



Mrs Leah Farrar returns to us this year from family leave. Mrs Farrar brings lots of experience to the Year 1 team and will be teaching 1FB this year with Ms Leila Bunnett who is also returning from Family Leave.



## Back to School Reminders

- **School begins at 9am.** Before School Care is available from 6.30am at a very low cost to parents.
- Children arriving after 9am must sign in at the office.
- No glass bottles should be brought to school including glass water bottles.
- No hat, no play. During Terms 1 & 4, our Sun Smart policy states all children must wear a wide-brimmed hat outdoors. No hat means no playtime and no sport or Phys Ed.
- As we return to school routines, encourage children to read every night and be in bed early enough to get a good night's sleep so they are not tired in the morning.
- Breakfast club is open! If you ran out the door without time for breakfast, please send your child to breakfast club. Breakfast is available between 8.15am and 8.45am.
- It's not ok to be away. While at school, each day children are building on their previous learning and understanding. Every time a child is away, they miss a key part of their learning making it more challenging when they return. Unless your child is unwell, please bring them to school.
- School finishes at 3.15pm and this is when children are expected to be collected. If you are unable to collect your child, please register them with OSHClub so that they can attend after school care where they can have a snack and a play while waiting for you to collect them.

**IT'S NOT OK  
TO BE AWAY**

### EVERY MINUTE COUNTS ...

**Lost minutes mean lost learning!**

When your child misses just ....	that equals...	which is....	and therefore, from Prep to Year 12, that is ...
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning time each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ year of school
20 minutes a day	1 hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
1/2 an hour a day	½ a day of learning each week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1½ years of learning of learning
1 hour a day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year	Over 2½ years of learning

**Your child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day...**

**School starts at  
9.00 AM  
DON'T BE LATE!**



**Good time keeping means making sure that your child is at school and ready to learn BEFORE the school bell rings!**



## Foundation students settle into school life!

It has been a very smooth start for our Foundation students this year and they have settled in well to their new learning environment.

The 2024 Foundation teachers have spent many hours organising their rooms to make them as inviting and as stimulating as possible for our littlest learners.

Already, concentration levels of students are expanding as they join in on circle time, listen to stories and sing songs together.

The smiles on children's faces as they walk into their classroom each day is a great indication of the fabulous start to their school year.

Thank you to parents and guardians who have ensured children arrive at school before 9am and are collecting children from their classroom promptly at 2pm.

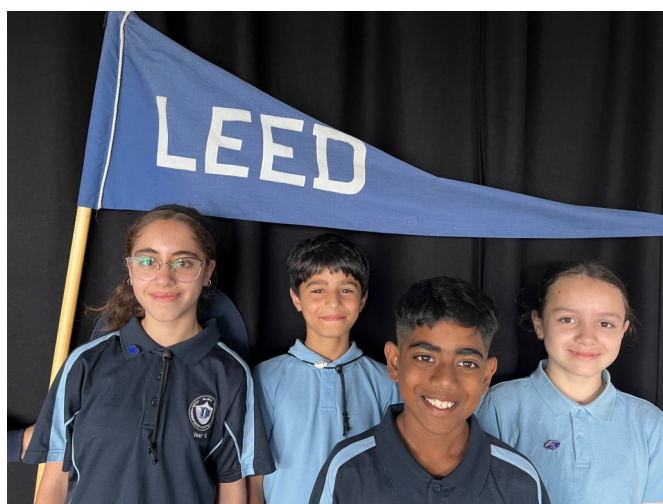
We encourage all Foundation parents and carers to attend the Information session at 2pm on Monday 12th February where many relevant things will be discussed along with an opportunity to ask questions. A member from the Out of School Hours Club will also be available to answer questions and support enrolment to ensure those students who need care before school starts or after school finishes have the option of attending.





## Year 6 Student Leaders

At DNPS we appreciate the huge contribution our student leaders make at school each day. As expected, our student leadership team are already making us proud! On Monday, School Captains Lea and Reem hosted our first assembly and were confident when speaking to all the students and teachers present. They were supported by the SRC President, Saffat who will play a major part in our weekly assemblies. House Captains are already involved in organising and lending out sports equipment, ensuring students have access to balls, skipping ropes etc at recess and lunch time. We look forward to helping our Year 6 Leaders to grow and develop throughout the year.



## Special Awards

This week teachers have been very impressed with the excellent behaviour of all students. Our school values of Care, Courtesy, Cooperation and Common Sense are evident in every classroom and outside in the playground. A big congratulations to the following people for receiving their class award this week. Please note, as we are just starting the year off, only students in Years 1-3 received their award at assembly (as reflected in the below photo). Students in Years 4-6 will attend assembly next week.

FA: Naila	1T: Onsa	2NL: Khatima	3J: Akilan	5G: Nihal	6CA: Daksh
FH: Quinn	1KN: Salihah	2D: Madhavi	3G: Kyna	5K: Mustafa	6W: Munib
FK: Niruthan	1YN: Aryan	2S: Saqlain	3V: Maryam	5C: Qadreya	6KG: Marzia
FN: Eknoor	1P: Agalvizhi	2L: Zenana	4C: Thanvika	5H: Zaiden	6EC: Zain
FO: Elina	2N: Habil	3O: Swathi	4M: Zain		6PG: Faiza
FS: Ahil	2T: Aco	3A: Miji	4TW: Sally		



**Congratulations to all recipients!!**



Prep A - Sommer	1T - Anmay	2T - Nyabiel	3A - Eileen
Prep O - Ashleigh	1C - Jala	2AN - Sara	3P - Yasna
Prep N - Agalvizhi	1F - Everyone!	2NG - Areesha	3O - Leo
Prep R - Emerson	1N - Everyone!	2P - Kyna	3V - Hafsa
	1H—Everyone!		3J - Everyone!

## School Hours

**Children are required to arrive at school between 8:45 and 9am.** If children arrive after 9am, they must first go to the Office to be given a “Late Pass”. Students are dismissed from school at 3:15.

Each day, teachers are on duty from 8.45am until 3.30pm. Children who are at school outside these hours are not supervised.

After 3:30pm it is considered the parents/carers duty of care to ensure children are safe and under their supervision unless they have phoned to inform the school that they will be late.

The school will ensure all students have been collected by parents/carers before the school is closed for the day, however, **the expectation is that children will have left the school grounds by 3:30pm.**

If your child has an appointment throughout the day, please write a note for their classroom teacher, so the children can be waiting at the Office to be picked up. Parents are still required to come to the Office to sign their child out.



## CSEF

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provides money for eligible families to be used for camps, sporting events and excursions. For families who hold a current Health Care Card as of the 30th January 2023 you will be eligible for this fund.

The \$125 per student per year is paid directly to the school and is linked to the child and can be used to pay for excursions or sporting events.

The forms needed to apply for this fund were sent home earlier this week and we urge all of our parents to fill in the necessary pieces of information and return these forms to school as soon as possible. If you have a valid Health Care Card, fill in the required information and return it to the office as quickly as possible.

**If you have applied for CSEF 2023 – you will still need to complete a new application form for 2024.**

All forms must be returned by **28th February 2024.**

If you require new school uniforms, please visit State Schools' Relief in Dandenong South.

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

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

**Phone:** 03 8769 8400

**Email:** [contact@ssr.net.au](mailto:contact@ssr.net.au)



## School Council Vacancies

Expressions of interest are invited for three parent vacancies on School Council for 2024.

Parents must have children enrolled for 2024 to be eligible to be school councillors.

2024 is going to be a very exciting and busy year for Dandenong North Primary School, particularly as we celebrate our 70th birthday this year! 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 is required to operate our amazing school.

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 16<sup>th</sup> February. If there are more nominations than vacancies to be filled it may be necessary to arrange an election.



## School Crossing

There has been a slight change to the crossing supervision of David and Cleeland Streets.

Mornings: 8.15am—9.15am

Afternoons: 3pm—4pm



Please note, this means if your child is late to school, the crossing will be unsupervised.

## Annual Privacy Reminder for 2024

Dandenong North PS collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website

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

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages:

Amharic, Arabic, Dari, Gujarati, Mandarin, Somali, Sudanese, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese.





Australian Muslim Women's  
Centre for Human Rights

# Mother's Group

Discussing topics on:

- Mothers' role in their community
- Understanding children's behaviours
- Healthy Relationships
- Communication skills
- Or any other issues of your concerns

**Every Monday**

**9am - 11am sharp**

**Dandenong North Primary School**

**Language: English and Dari**

**Childcare Free**

**Morning tea provided**

To join us contact

Aalia Hussain or Fatima Baigh on

97947899

# connect. reflect. protect.



Safer Internet Day 2024 | Tuesday  
6 February



## Understanding how to safely use the internet.

We use the internet in almost every aspect of our lives, so it's important for everyone to know about online safety. Children are using the internet and accessing social media from a very early age so it is important that we support them to do so safely. The Victorian Government have some fabulous resources to support parents and carers to understand Parental Controls, Online Gaming and Social Media (TikTok, YouTube, Instagram etc) which are available by [clicking here](#) as well as free webinars (see below) that you can [register for here](#).

We encourage you to speak openly with your children about the internet and social media and actively supervise what they are doing online.

As always, children who bring mobile phones to school need to hand them in at the office when they arrive at school.



Term 1, 2024

## eSafety parent and carer webinars

Join eSafety for a free live webinar designed for parents and carers.

### Term 1 topics:

- **eSafety 101: How eSafety can help (30 minutes).** For parents and carers of children and young people in primary and secondary school.
- **Understanding how to support your child with online gaming (45 minutes).** For parents and carers of young people in primary school.
- **Understanding parental controls to safeguard your child (30 minutes).** For parents and carers of children and young people in primary school.
- **Online safety and social media: TikTok, YouTube and Instagram (30 minutes).** For parents and carers of children and young people in primary and early secondary school.



For more information and to register now: [eSafety.gov.au/parents/webinars](https://esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars)



# 5 tips to keep your family safe online



Parents and carers can use a combination of strategies to help young people build their digital technology skills and have safer experiences online.

## 1. Start the chat

Get into the habit of talking about online safety as a family, so your child feels comfortable coming to you if they ever need help working out an issue. It's never too early to introduce [good online habits](#) such as respect, empathy, critical thinking, responsible behaviour and resilience. As your child grows older, eSafety's advice about [hard to have conversations](#) will help with some of the tricky topics like sending nudes, online pornography and contact from sexual predators.

## 2. Create a family technology agreement

Creating a Family Technology Agreement can help you and your kids decide together when and how digital technology will be used at home. As a family, brainstorm easy-to-follow rules and display them where everyone will see them. Your agreement could cover things like: time limits, apps your kids are allowed to use and online behaviour. Families with younger children can [download](#) a template to guide the conversation.

## 3. Set up parental controls

Parental controls let you monitor and limit what your child sees and does online. It's best to use them in combination with the other online safety strategies listed here. [Taming the technology](#) can help you understand your options. Grab a device and get started with our guides to setting up parental controls on [devices and accounts](#) or in [social media, games and apps](#).

## 4. Choose games and other apps carefully

Use eSafety's [App checklist for parents](#) to think about the positives and negatives when your child asks to download a new game or other app. The checklist covers things like age ratings, managing privacy settings and reporting abuse in-app. You can also use [The eSafety guide](#) to check and set up safety features with your child.

## 5. Use digital technology together

Exploring or playing on devices or online with your child can be a positive experience that promotes learning and development. Ask questions, be curious and get involved. To learn more, read our blogpost [How to encourage good screen practices for your child](#).

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