



DANDENONG NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

7th March, 2023

Calendar of Events

MARCH 2023

9th Curriculum Day NO SCHOOL

10th Curriculum Day NO SCHOOL

13th Public Holiday NO SCHOOL

15th NAPLAN Writing

16th NAPLAN Reading

17th NAPLAN Conventions of
Language

20th NAPLAN Maths (Yr 3)

21st NAPLAN Maths (Yr 5)

29th Year 3 Zoo Excursion

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.

Celebrating fantastic NAPLAN results

As NAPLAN 2023 quickly approaches (commencing 15th March), staff and students at Dandenong North Primary were thrilled to be recognised as having “the best NAPLAN results in Victoria” (The Age, 22/02/23). We are very proud of all our students and staff who work together each day to create a learning environment that allows everyone to grow and learn to the best of their ability.

The NAPLAN 2023 testing period begins on Wednesday the 15th March for students in Years 3 and 5. We encourage all students to get plenty of sleep each night and start every day on time. If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please enter the absence into the Sentral Parent Portal App as soon as possible so that teachers are notified.

[To watch a short video explaining NAPLAN, click here.](#)

An information brochure about NAPLAN has been included in the newsletter. Any parents or carers with questions or concerns should contact their child's classroom teacher.



CURRICULUM DAYS

**Thursday 9th March & Friday 10th March -
NO SCHOOL**

**Monday 13th March - Public Holiday -
NO SCHOOL**

Children return to school, Tuesday 14th March

Special Awards

PA - Bilal	2AN - Grace	4AD - Christian	6CA - Adesa
PH - Zahra	2B - Kendrick	4S - Gol	6C - Fatema
PN - Kriishnaa	2P - Mahdi	5AL - Trinabh	6PG - Rubab
PO - Ellyana	2T - Sai	5G - Maevis	6KG - Ashwarya
1C - Ananyah	2NG - Umar	5KL - Mahdi	6K - Chudiar
1F - Hedia	3P - Tarik	5P - Sediqa	
1H - Arham	3O - Noyan		
1N - Zoya	3V - Muska		
1T - Riyana			

Sun Smart School



A reminder to all children and parents that during Terms 1 and 4, all children are required to wear a hat when outside. *Children with no hat will not be able to play at recess and lunch or participate in sport*—instead they will be sitting in the shade. All children should have their own hat and it should be brought to school everyday or they can be left at school. It's important that you name your child's hat to ensure that it is returned to them if it is lost. Bucket hats can be purchased from the Office.

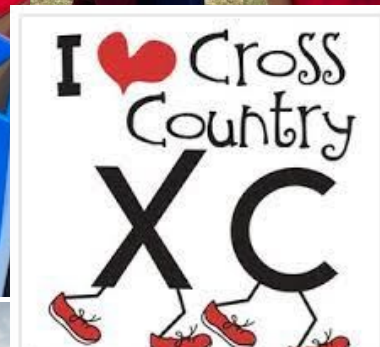
Mobile Phones at School

We would like to remind parents, carers and students that as per our Mobile Phone Policy (a copy can be obtained from the school office), students are not to use mobile phones before, during or after school whilst on school grounds. We understand that some students have mobile phones in order to contact parents after school and request that these be handed in at the office each morning where they will be securely stored during the day and collected each afternoon. If students need to be contacted by parents or carers during the day, this can be done through the school office.

If you believe your child *needs* to have a mobile phone at school, we request that parents and students complete a 'Parent Request for Student to bring a Mobile Phone to School' form. This agreement between parents, students and the school acknowledges the guidelines around which students must adhere to in order to bring a mobile phone to school. Forms will be available in the school office or from your child's teacher.

Cross Country

News From the North



PAL Training - Student to Leader

Congratulations to the new year 6 Peer Activity Leaders of DNPS who completed their training on Thursday 23rd of February 2023!

Through team building tasks, they identified the benefits of a peer-lead activity program for both the leaders and participants, including, strengthening confidence in young people, building social skills and growing a love for being physically active! “Nobody is left out,” “It’s a safe way to make new friends” and “it helps children become confident” were some of benefits highlighted by our new PALs.

Great ideas were put into practice when the year six students facilitated sports activities while being inclusive and attentive to the needs of all participants. Here they learnt that a smile, a positive attitude and a helping hand is enough to inspire others.

After sharing thoughts about what great leadership looks like, students explored ways to identify when a student is in need of guidance. They came up with great communication techniques to help little ones get active, including; giving praise, modelling good behaviour, using a positive speaking voice and using facial and body expressions to engage students who are learning to speak English.

The most impressive event of the day was when the year sixes were joined by excited grade two students for some fun in the sun. Our new PAL leaders displayed the utmost care and tenderness as they guided the smiling participants through various games. Afterwards, leaders beamed with confidence and pride while reflecting on the joy they created with their younger peers.

The PAL program will run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during recess time and students of all ages are welcome to participate!

Mrs Tresnjic



Peer Mediation Program

What is Peer Mediation?

Peer Mediation is when students help other students by using mediation approaches to find solutions to conflicts. Student to student conflicts are handled by the disputants themselves with the assistance of our trained mediators. It follows a structured process that assists students to work through immediate problems, work together to generate their own solutions and reach a practical and mutually acceptable resolution. In doing so, it enables children to develop a basis for future problem solving.

Twenty-nine of our Grade 6 students have been trained to act as Peer Mediators.

The students trained are:

6C	6CA	6K	6KG	6PG	6R
Aleena	Ahmed	Arnav	Apshara	Afomia	Aleeza
Ashvik	Daania	Azaan	Ekjot	Akashiya	Alona
George	Nimalan	Donna	Hannah	Keertan	Jixon
Jarrood	Rhoda	Isaac	Taha		Kavein
Khizar		Oneesha			Mathews
Sayeeda		Ranjana			Meena

We would like to congratulate these students on successfully completing their Peer Mediation training. They were active listeners during this learning process and were keen participants. Well done!

Mrs Wilhelm & Miss Keane
Peer Mediator Co-ordinators



NAPLAN

Information for parents and carers

2023

Why do students do NAPLAN?

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Schools have transitioned from paper-based to computer-based assessments. All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are more engaging for students. One of the main benefits is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test presents questions which may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for everyone. ACARA supports inclusive testing so all students have the opportunity to participate in the national assessment program.

Adjustments are available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs.

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN. Adjustments should reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), or our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

What if my school is closed on NAPLAN days?

Schools with compelling reasons may be given permission to schedule tests after the 9-day test window.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some familiarisation and explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site.

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 15 March and finishes on Monday 27 March 2023. Schools are advised to schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. This scale indicates whether the student is meeting expectations for the literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at myschool.edu.au.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 3 students do the writing test on paper (on day 1 only)• Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations)	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the writing test• To be completed before the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the reading test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability



WORLD ORAL HEALTH DAY 2023

Information for New Migrants, Refugees
and People Seeking Asylum



ARE YOUR TEETH IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Come and learn how you
can look after your teeth
properly to reduce mouth
problems!

BE PROUD OF YOUR MOUTH

Let us know you're coming !



25th March 2023, 11am
Noble Park Community Centre
Ross Reserve, Memorial Dr,
Noble Park VIC 3174

Come get some free
toothpastes and toothbrushes!

****FREE AND OPENED TO ALL AGE GROUPS****

contact us at contact@dhaa.info



Could \$500 help with next year's back to school costs?

Learn tips and tricks to grow your budget and saving skills. Save for 10 months. Get up to \$500 of matched savings for school expenses. Just in time for 2024.

Must meet all eligibility criteria:



Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card AND an eligible Centrelink payment*



Be studying yourself OR have a child in school (can be starting school next year)



Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)*



Be 18+ years old

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible



For more info, visit [saverplus.org.au](https://www.saverplus.org.au) or call 1300 610 355.
To fill in an online enquiry form, [CLICK HERE](#).

Saver Plus – helping take the stress out of back to school time

The Saver Plus community program has helped over 55,000 Australians take the stress out of back to school time. It's free for eligible people to join.

At Saver Plus, we pair you with a savings coach while you budget and save over the next 10 months. You attend online workshops to learn tips, tricks and information to grow your budgeting and savings skills. Once you reach your agreed savings goal, ANZ matches your savings dollar-for-dollar, up to \$500. You can use that money towards education costs such as uniforms, text books, laptops or extra-curricular activities such as sport or music.

You could be eligible to join Saver Plus if you:

- have a Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- are at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work (you or your partner) including casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal (we also accept child support and carer's payment as income)
- have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

If you're eligible, start now and we'll help take the stress out of next year's back to school.

To find out more, or to apply, go to www.saverplus.org.au or call 1300 610 355