



**DANDENONG NORTH
PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**

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

4th October, 2022

News From the North

Calendar of Events

October

Monday 31st : Curriculum Day
(no students required at school)

November

Tuesday 1st : Melbourne Cup
Day (no students required at
school)

Monday 21st: Prep Incursion

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 fol-
low the 4Cs to keep our
school a safe and happy
place.

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

Thank you from Mr Mackay

Dear Parents and Carers,

I thank our students, parents and staff for their kindness and messages of thanks and encouragement regarding our retirements from the 4th October.

It has been a privilege and a source of great pride and satisfaction to have served as Principal of Dandenong North Primary School for the past 39 years. It is not just a slogan that Dandenong North Primary School is a great school – it truly is. I sincerely hope that Dandenong North Primary School remains a great school; and it will if our parents, students and staff continue to work together to keep it that way.

There is a complexity to our school that is not typically found in other schools – Government OR Private. That complexity has developed over many years of trial and error to a point today where DNPS is recognized around the world as a high-performing and innovative school.

Mrs. Mackay and I look forward to staying in contact with Dandenong North Primary School in our retirement and especially to hearing of the continuing success of DNPS under the leadership of Mr Hilton as Principal and Mrs Erin Scott as Assistant Principal.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Kevin Mackay

Congratulations Mr Hilton

I am so happy to be able to advise our community that Mr. Paul Hilton has been selected as Acting Principal from the 4th October 2022. I have been fortunate to have had Paul as one of two dedicated, caring and competent Assistant Principals during the years that our Leadership team worked to create the complex service-provision that I mentioned earlier. Mr. Hilton has been extensively trained and developed for the eventual position of Principal for many years. His experience as Acting Principal of nearby Wooranna Park PS was an important part of that training and pointed to his readiness for the role at Dandenong North Primary School.

I agree with the Selection Panel that Mr. Hilton is the best person to take DNPS forward as a continuing 'Great School.' I know that Mrs Ann Scott as President of the DNPS School Council – and the entire School Council – share that view.

I congratulate him on being selected from a rigorous process.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Kevin Mackay

Eyes, Ears, Heart and Mind Award for Mrs Mackay

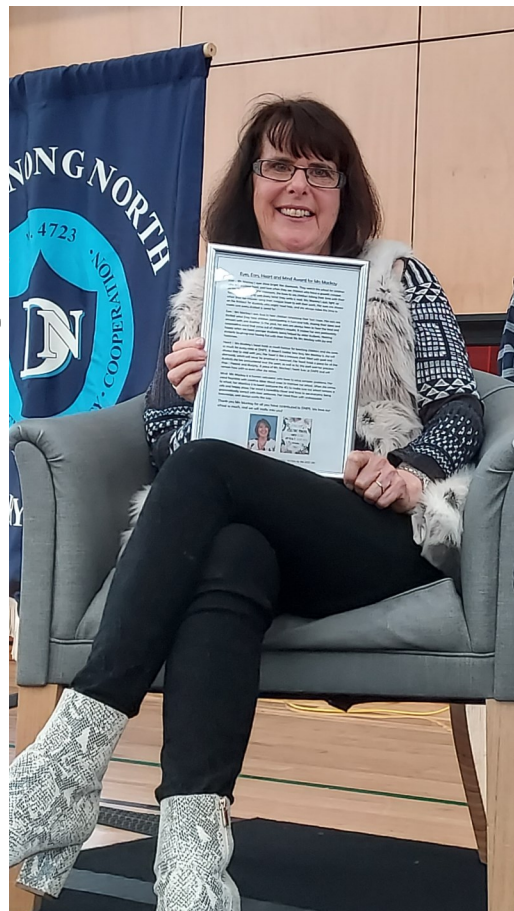
Eyes - Mrs Mackay's eyes shine bright like diamonds. They search the school for children who are working hard, and love when they see children who have a growth mindset. As Mrs Mackay scans the classroom, she loves to see children taking their time with their handwriting, making sure every letter they write is neat. Mrs Mackay's eyes light up when they see children using their magpie book to edit their work. Her eyes are always on the lookout for students who might need help, and she always takes the time to make sure every student is cared for.

Ears - Mrs Mackay's ears love to hear children rehearsing their text maps. Her ears are thrilled when they hear children participating in turn and talk, sharing their ideas and answers with one another. In the yard, her ears are always keen to hear the kind and cooperative word that come out of children's mouths. It makes her ears particularly happy when she hears younger students being helped by older students. Hearing students laughing and having fun with their friends fills Mrs Mackay with joy and happiness.

Heart - Mrs Mackay's heart holds so much honour for teaching children, and she cares so much for every child at DNPS. It doesn't matter how busy Mrs Mackay is, she will always stop to chat with you. Her heart is like a treasure chest filled with gold and diamonds, which will never be emptied or removed. Her heart holds a place for all the students she has encountered over the years, as well as for the staff and her precious dogs - Pepper and Murphy. A piece of Mrs Mackay's heart lives at DNPS and will remain here with us even after she retires.

Mind - Mrs Mackay is a human calculator, who loves to solve complex problems. Her mind flourishes with creative ideas about ways to improve our school. When she comes to school, her objective is to teach everyone the 4Cs to make sure our school remains a safe and happy place. Her mind is incredibly clever and loves to see everyone being grammatically correct with their sentences. Her mind flows with unstoppable knowledge, and always works like cogs.

Thank you Mrs Mackay for all you have contributed to DNPS. We love our school so much, and we will really miss you!



Presented to Mrs Mackay on Monday 3rd October. Written by the 2022 SRC.

Eye, Ear, Heart and Mind Award for Mr. Mackay

Eyes - Mr. Mackay's eyes are always on the lookout for ways to improve our school. His eyes are like an eagle's eyes when it comes to spotting rubbish. Fortunately, Mr. Mackay's eyes pay special attention to children who might need help on the yard, and he always helps them to resolve their problems. His eyes are often looking through a camera lens, while he takes many photos of our wonderful school to keep as precious memories. Mr. Mackay's eyes love to see high results on tests, because it tells him that the students are progressing in their learning, which for him is a beautiful sight to see. His eyes can't wait to come back to school and see us playing a huge range of sports in our new gymnasium, which he has worked tirelessly to achieve for us.

Ears - Mr. Mackay's ears love to hear the laughter of students, who are playing happily in the playground. They listen intently whenever he hears students recite the DNPS song and he loves listening to people resolving their own problems. As he wanders around each classroom, he loves to hear students asking questions. His ears are excited when they hear children using excellent vocabulary as he loves learning new words. He is a perfect and optimistic principal, who loves hearing great reviews of his school.

Heart - Mr. Mackay's heart is always open to students' opinions and feelings. It is full of love for his exciting and beloved pets - the fish and Murphy. Mr. Mackay's heart really cares about what people think about DNPS, so he is always thinking of ways he can up level it. Without a doubt, he cares about every individual student, and has made us feel like one big family.

Mind - Mr. Mackay's mind is smart and intelligent. He has taught us life lessons by embedding the 4Cs into the culture of our school. He creates interesting lessons that keep students entertained. His mind flows with creativity both in and out of the school. In his free time, he wonders what he can do to continue to improve our school. Over his many years at our school, he has created lots of ways to engage students and ensure that we get the best possible education.

Thank you so much for everything you have done for your students, Mr. Mackay. We love DNPS, and we will miss you so much!



Presented to Mrs Mackay on Monday 3rd October. Written by the 2022 SRC.

Term 4 Reminders

No hat, no play

As the weather warms up, it is important to be Sun Smart. Wearing a wide-brimmed navy school hat is an important part of our summer school uniform to protect our children from the sun so please take the time to dig out the school hat, check it has a name on it and pop it in the school bag ready to go.

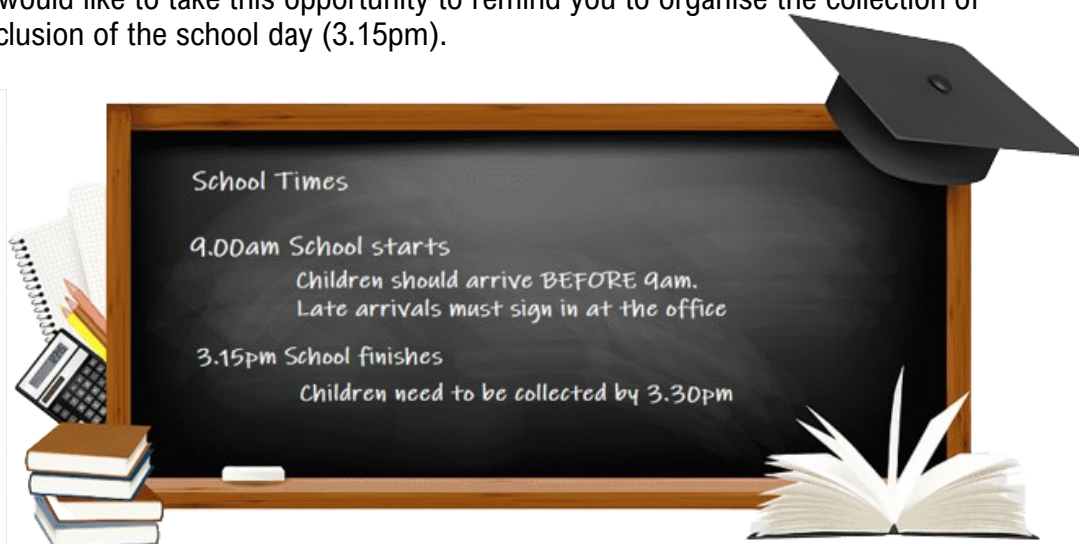
Curriculum Day - Monday 31st October

On Monday 31st October, the day before Melbourne Cup Day, we will be having a Curriculum Day off site. There will be no staff at school on this day. This means no children will be required at school on Monday the 31st of October (Curriculum Day) and Tuesday 1st November (Melbourne Cup Public Holiday). Please make a note of these dates.

Drop-off and pick-up times

School starts at 9am every day and it is important that every child arrives at school prior to 9am to give them the best opportunity for learning. When students arrive after 9am, they are missing out on crucial teaching and learning and often feel like they are trying to 'catch-up' for the rest of the day. Please support us in helping your children thrive by dropping them at school before 9am.

School finishes at 3.15pm. It is important that your child is collected from school on time as the school yard is NOT SUPERVISED after 3.30pm. This means there are no teachers outside and with safety as our number one priority, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you to organise the collection of your child/ren at the conclusion of the school day (3.15pm).



Term 3 School Spirit Award Winners

Aiden - PN



Aiden is an honest and reliable student, who is consistently caring and courteous to his peers, inside and outside of the classroom. He uses his initiative and common-sense to make sensible and thoroughly thought-out decisions and encourages his peers to do the same too. Aiden is a valued member of both Prep N, and the Dandenong North Primary School Community. He always takes on the feedback that is given to him, committed to being the best version of himself that he can be. Aiden is a perfect example of a student modelling the 4C's at Dandenong North Primary School. Well done, Aiden. Keep up the fantastic effort!

Tanvir - 1M



This term Tanvir has thrived in both our classroom and the Reading Room! He always positions himself at the front of the room during class discussions, to ensure he remains focused and can contribute his many valuable thoughts and ideas. Tanvir thoroughly enjoyed our trip to the Moonlit Sanctuary where he learned about Australia's incredible wildlife, returning from our excursion busting to share his newly learnt facts with his family and peers. He is leaping through levels in his reading and applying all his new phonics knowledge during our spelling and writing lessons! I couldn't be more proud of you Tanvir and I can't wait to see what the next term will bring!

Adrina - 2B



Adrina overflows with enthusiasm for learning, and is filled with excitement when considering even the simplest tasks. Adrina derives joy from learning and is quick to identify and acknowledge others doing their best. She gives every interaction her full attention and treats others with kindness and gentle consideration. Adrina strives for excellence in all that she does and just by being a part of our class, she makes our team and environment a better place. Adrina knows the school pledge off by heart and demonstrates that it truly is in her heart, as she stands tall and believes in every word she recites. DNPS is a great school, and Adrina is a shining example of why.

Kriti - 3V



Kriti's love and care for the school has been inspiring this term. She is constantly seen picking up rubbish around the school for no reward but to simply keep our school clean and for a better environment. To add, her informative speech at Assembly has also helped influenced others to do the same. What a super star you are Kriti!

Reem - 4P



If you were to look up the 4Cs in the dictionary you would definitely see Reem's name. She is an exceptionally polite, respectful and caring student, who is always encouraging and supportive of others. Reem always puts in 100% effort with all her 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 Reem so far this year and I can't wait to watch her learning journey continue. Congratulations Reem!

Dhattatray - 5FM



You are one of the most thoughtful and generous students at DNPS! In your own discrete ways, you provide genuine support and encouragement to those you have noticed needing help. We appreciate how honest and respectful you are when responding to the different opinions shared in the class and when you speak your mind about an issue you are dealing with. To add to the reasons why you are a remarkable role model at our school, you consistently apply yourself to enrich your knowledge and skills, even though you are already very capable and intelligent. You understand that success is earned and it requires hard work.

Enayat - 6F



Enayat is an exemplary student who models the DNPS school spirit like no other. He has already developed the commitment and attitude of a life-long learner and amazes his teachers every day with his thirst for knowledge. Enayat also has a heart of gold. The way he supports, values, and encourages his peers is inspiring and heart-warming. Enayat has the ability to read his peers emotions and is then able to act accordingly. He believes that kids should have the opportunity to be the prime minister, and if he was up for election, he would have my vote!

Farewell from Mrs Mackay

Being part of the Dandenong community has been one of the true joys of my life. Arriving at Dandenong North Primary School in 1986 as a year 3-4 teacher I found myself in a place I just knew I was meant to be. I remember saying to Mr Mackay at the end of my first term, "I'm in heaven, I'm never leaving here'. There was a sense of community that I had never experienced at my previous schools. True to my word, I resisted offers of promotion to other schools and became well and truly welded onto DNPS for 36 years.

During these years I have been lucky enough to teach hundreds of children, work with great teachers, be part of the school council alongside many parents until finally changing my role by becoming assistant principal. I have had the joy of seeing the wonderful careers my students have pursued and even working alongside them as many returned to Dandenong North as teachers or education support staff.

I have been fortunate to learn the stories of thousands of newly arrived families as they have arrived in Australia and made Dandenong their new home. Being immersed in a school with up to 60 different cultural backgrounds is something I feel very privileged to have experienced. One of the joys of this school has always been how well our students respect each other's belief and cultural backgrounds yet embrace the common culture and values of Dandenong North Primary School as a way of understanding the Australian way of life.

I will miss not being here sharing your lives and your children but the time has come to let others continue the great work that Dandenong North Primary School has a wide reputation for providing. A quieter and slower life beckons but I will always be connected with this community in some form.

With love and thanks to you all,

Jenny Mackay

