



DUNKELD CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

We are a Child Safe School and we will protect all children at all times.

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Newsletter No. 2 - Wednesday 15 February 2017

February 2017

- Friday 17 House Swimming Sports at the Dunkeld Swimming Pool and Welcome BBQ.
- Monday 20 **Assembly to be held at 9:00am**
School Lunch orders commence for 2017.
- Wednesday 22 Prep students do not attend school.
- Thursday 23 SAKG Kitchen and Garden classes commence for 2017.
- Friday 24 SGSSA District Swimming Sports at the Penshurst Swimming Pool at 10:00am
- Tuesday 28 School Council Meeting @ 7:30pm

March 2017

- Wednesday 1 MARC Library
- Monday 6 Parents & Friends Association AGM to be held at 7:30pm
- Wednesday 8 Zone Swimming Sports.
- Saturday 11 School Fundraiser at Sturgeon Stampede
- Monday 13 LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- Wednesday 15 *Circular Circus* performance for the whole school commencing at 9.50am in the school hall.
MARC Library.
- Friday 24 SGSSA District Athletics Sports at Pedrina Park, Hamilton (Prep students do not attend the sports they will attend school as normal).
- Friday 31 **LAST DAY OF TERM 1 – early dismissal at 2.30pm.**

From Mr Jeffreys....

We are on a mission here at school. We want to do something extraordinary with something seemingly simple. Just imagine how brilliant it would be if every child in Year 3 up to Year 6 were able to instantly recall his or her number facts, primarily their multiplication tables. The goal we have set is, minimum that every child will know up to their 5 times tables by end of year and if we reach that goal, we would surely be the champion 'tables timesers' in Australia... maybe the world! Well... that's what I say to them.

Learning multiplication tables has been a headache for students and teachers forever and I suspect most of you mums and dads have memories of this exercise when you were at school, possibly negative. Last year we set in place a learning regime for learning our tables and through my experience as a teacher (which is a very long time) it was successful.

Our 'system' is designed so that every child is working at his or her point of learning and that they are given achievable goals each week that will reward them with improvement. Our 'system' supports the idea that we don't need to judge ourselves against others and lose faith in ourselves, rather it is one whereby we take pride and joy and satisfaction in our own incremental gains.

Not counting the one times tables and the ten times tables, there are 64 number facts to learn. Once the two times table are mastered, there remain 49 facts to learn. Once they learn their 3's then that leaves 36 facts to learn. Learn up to 5X tables, then there are only 16 facts left to learn. Children are asked to learn 2 facts every week reversible (i.e. 2 X 3 and 3 X 2). Theoretically, that would require 32 weeks to learn all the facts, but it tends to happen much faster than this.

I think we can do this. So why aim so high? Well, if we don't, then we are aiming low.

School Council Elections 2017

Dunkeld Consolidated School will be holding its annual elections for School Council during February and March in 2017. In accordance with the Department of Education and Training's (DET) requirements the election process must be concluded by the end of March. The timeline for the Council elections is given below:

Monday 20 February Call for nominations.
Monday 27 February Nominations close at 4.00pm.
(A list of candidates, nominator and seconder will be displayed at the school on Wednesday 1 March).

If an election is required:

Friday 3 March Distribute ballot papers on or before this date.
Friday 10 March Close of ballot.
Tuesday 14 March Count votes and declare the poll.
Tuesday 28 March New School Council will meet.

Nomination forms for election to School Council are available from the school office. Membership is on a two year basis (2017-2019). If you have any queries about School Council membership, please contact the school.

If Council elections proceed according to the timeline then the new Council will be able to meet during March. The proposed date is Tuesday 28 March at 7.30pm at school.

The retiring councilors are as follows:

Parent Members:	Todd Burger	DET Members:	Anne Gilbert
	Anthony Graham		Vacancy
	Vacancy		
	Vacancy		

SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS

THERE WILL BE NO ASSEMBLY HELD ON FRIDAY 17 or FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY DUE TO HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS AND DISTRICT SWIMMING SPORTS

Website and email

The school website provides information about school events and activities. The School Newsletter is also available online from the school website. It is highly recommended that parents regularly log onto the website and check the calendar of events. Visit www.dunkeld.vic.edu.au. Parents can contact the school via email at dunkeld.cs@edumail.vic.gov.au or phone 03 5577 2384 for all enquires.

Student Absences

It is important that your child attends school regularly; but if she/he is sick, home is that best place to be. If a child become ill at school he/she if rested in the sick bay. The parents are notified if the child should be taken home.

When your child has been absent from school you are required to supply the school with a note in their student diary or verbal explanation the next day the child attends. If you know in advance that your child will be absent we would appreciate this information in writing.

Student sign in and out for early departure and late arrivals

REMINDER: If you (or an authorised adult) wish to collect your child during school hours for a medical appointment etc the parent must report to the office and complete the Sign In/Out Register, as a Child Safe School requirement. If your child arrives at school late they must be signed in at the Office.

Student Medication

In the interest of safety, no medicines will be administered by teachers unless written permission and instructions are given by parents. All medication and instructions must be given to the teacher to look after. If this is necessary, please assist us by providing medication in the original packaging that indicates your child's name, the dose required and the time the medication is to be given. Signed parental permission is required.

Parents must notify the school of any asthma attacks their child has had and an Asthma Plan is provided. The school must also be notified of any allergies that their child may have.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors; excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be \$125.00 for Primary School students (and \$225.00 for secondary school students). Please find attached a CSEF application form which must be completed and returned to the school **BY TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2017**. (The school office will also need to photocopy the relevant concession card for our records).

Conveyance Allowance Program (CAP)

The conveyance allowance is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus. The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public transport, private car and private bus.

To be eligible a student must:

- Be a Victorian resident;
- Be school aged and enrolled three or more days per week at a school;
- Attend their closest government or non-government school/campus, appropriate to their year level, at which admission is permissible, and is located outside the Melbourne metropolitan conveyance boundary, and
- Reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended.

If approved the allowance payable is based on the one way distance to make the journey to and from school.

(Students who are privately transported 4.8km or more to a public transport or government funded school bus stop may be able to claim a private car conveyance allowance as well to cover this distance.)

If you are eligible for Conveyance Allowance, please complete and return the attached application form to school **by Friday 24 February 2017**. **Families who have received the Conveyance Allowance in the past must submit a new application form.**

Student Accident Insurance/Ambulance Cover arrangements and private property brought to school

Parents are reminded that the Department of Education and Training (DET) does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. Insurance policies may be purchased from commercial insurers.

Personal property brought to school by students, visitors or staff including iPads, electronic games, mobile phones, personal computers, calculators, toys, musical instruments, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises are not covered by insurance. The DET does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. Students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

Book Club Orders

If you would like any items to be held for gifts, birthday etc please make a note on the book club order or if you have any queries please contact the Book Club Co-ordinator, Mrs Sarah Crawford on 5577 8272.

School Fundraiser on Saturday 11 March

The Dunkeld Consolidated School and School Council have been given a wonderful opportunity to help raise funds for our school at the Sturgeon Stampede Rodeo, which will be held at the Dunkeld Racecourse on Saturday 11 March. Barry and Tania Lowe have kindly offered to assist the school with organising a Pizza and Coffee Stall at the rodeo. All funds raised will go to one or more projects, as decided by the School Council.

Assistance will be required on Saturday 11 March with making pizzas, setting up, serving on the stall and packing up. School Council is mindful that parents may be assisting other community groups on this day and any assistance would be gratefully appreciated.

A request for helpers form will be sent home with students on Thursday (16 February).

The Dunkeld Consolidated School would like to thank Barry and Tania Lowe for their generosity and support with this school fundraiser.

SPORT

School swimming program and swimming sports



The school swimming program is quickly coming to an end. Fortunately we have been blessed with mostly warm summer days for the past two weeks, and with the heating in the pool, the students' eagerness to get in and get wet has been fantastic. We look forward to seeing our students in action at the HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS on FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY. The Swimming Sports Program and volunteer roster will be sent home on Wednesday 15 February.

FOUND: Girls Skort and school shirt left at the pool. Please see the office.

Left: Year 1 student Darcy Potter is showing he can "pose" and still continue to be confident underwater.

AFL Clinic

On Monday some of the Year 4, 5 and 6 kids went to an AFL football clinic in Hamilton. Chris Grant was the only representative from Western Bulldogs because the players couldn't get off the plane. We did handball and kicking targets, I got 2 targets. We ran and climbed up a slide and then slid down. The other activities were markers up on a bag, kicking drills and fun on the specky ramp! We played rob the nest too. *By Charlie Adams Yr 5*



Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (SAKG)

From the Kitchen... by Clare Kennedy

SAKG classes begin on Thursday February 23. Year 3 will be harvesting, preparing and sharing together on the first Kitchen class and will need to bring \$3 to cover any costs for lunch. The students will not need to bring any lunch on the days they are in the Kitchen. Classes and the volunteer roster will be finalised this week and be sent home with your child. I look forward to welcoming the Year 3 students in 2017 and welcome any new families to the kitchen program who may wish to come in for a visit on a Thursday to witness the culinary magic that happens. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate in coming in for a chat prior to 11.30 on a Thursday morning or after school.



Notice Board

Class Captains

It is with excitement that we announce the class captains for Term 1, 2017. The class captains will be presented with their badges and certificates at an assembly on Monday 20 February at 9:00am. (Their roles may include delivering notes and diaries etc to the Office, Class Captain reports at Assemblies, welcoming visitors to their classrooms etc).



Patrick Lomas
Prep



Bonnie Peters
Year 1



Libby Herrmann
Year 2



Georgia Trotter
Year 3



Jonah Morganti
Year 4



Rachel Hasset
Year 5/6

Welcome new Preps



Our school welcomed 15 new preps on Tuesday 31 January. Miss Jayne Berry and the Preps have been busy settling into a routine which has included the swimming program and having a 'day off' on a Wednesday for the month of February.

Lunch Orders

The external school lunch provider is Izzy's Mountain View Café, Dunkeld. Lunch orders are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. **Students are responsible for placing their orders, written on a brown paper bag with money enclosed, in a specially marked box in the school library. Please send correct money if possible.** The menu and pricelist are also available on the school website: www.dunkeld.vic.edu.au

Student Banking is Tuesday. Student bank books are brought to school and handed to the classroom teacher.

Forms attached to the Newsletter

Please find enclosed forms as listed below. Could you please complete and return by the indicated dates.

- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) to be returned by Tuesday 21 February
- Conveyance Allowance Program to be returned by Friday 24 February
- School Lunch Order Menu
- House Swimming Sports – program of events