



DUNKELD CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

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

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Find us on 

Newsletter No. 16 – Wednesday 28 October 2020

OCTOBER 2020

- Wednesday 28 MARC Library.
- Thursday 29 SAKG Kitchen and Garden Classes. Year 4/5 in the Kitchen.
- Friday 30 My Business Rules Market Day.
World Teachers' Day – "Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future".

NOVEMBER 2020

- Monday 2 Athletics.
- Tuesday 3 **Melbourne Cup Public Holiday.**
- Thursday 5 SAKG Kitchen and Garden Classes. Year 3 in the Kitchen.
- Monday 9 NAIDOC Week.
- Wednesday 11 MARC Library
- Friday 20 My Business Rules Market Day.

DECEMBER 2020

- Monday 7 **Pupil Free Day.** No students required at school today. Staff Planning Day for 2021.
- Tuesday 8 Orientation Day.
- Wednesday 9 Year 5 Day Trip to Grampians Retreat.
- Thursday 10 Year 6 Overnight Camp to Grampians Retreat.
SAKG Kitchen and Garden Clean Up Day.
- Monday 14 Year 3 Day Trip to Grampians Retreat.
- Tuesday 15 Year 4 Day Trip to Grampians Retreat.
- Friday 18 Last Day Term 4.

FROM Mrs Dee-Anne Gerring, Acting Principal...

Students have settled in very well this term and the happy faces running about the school, tell us they are certainly glad to be back! As are all the teachers! With a major focus on wellbeing, staff have been creating many fun, inclusive, teamwork activities to help students feel confident in their return to school.

Camps and Excursions

Due to missing out on so much this year, staff have discussed ways to bring our students back together and start transition processes for 2021. Although we can't hold the full camps and excursions we would normally, the school would like to create some special experiences for separate year levels at a local level. Therefore we have planned the following which was approved at School Council last night. Year 6 to have an overnight camp to Grampians Retreat, while Years 3, 4 and 5 will all have a separate day trip each to Grampians Retreat also. Years Prep to 2 students will have some local Dunkeld excursions. This is a way to give back to our students for the amazing efforts they have put in this year, encourage year level collaboration and also support local businesses.

School Operations

Strict health, safety and hygiene measures remain in place for Term 4. Staff and students will be kept up to date and reminded of school procedures at all times. Staff must wear masks when not teaching face-to-face. Students 12 years and over only need to wear a mask to and from school, but do not need to wear one whilst at school. We are still unable to have visitors on site, so ask that parents continue to follow the drop off and pick up procedures that we have in place out the front of the school and phone the office for any changes to routine or other needs. Could visitors also please phone ahead if needing to drop something off to the school and you will receive guidance from the front office.

Permanent Modular Building

Works have continued on the new building and it is all coming together nicely. We have an anticipated handover by end of November. I have now had clearance to share some photos and videos of the arrival of the building, which will be added to our

school website and Facebook page in the coming days. Please keep a lookout! It was a very fascinating process.

Kinder Transition

Now that restrictions have eased slightly, we will do some visits to Kinder and small groups of nine children can visit the school for a short time if not interacting with our school students. Information is being sent home tomorrow.

Class Structures and Staffing

Discussions and planning is being held with all staff and announcements for 2021 classes and teaching staff will be made in the coming weeks. I thank everyone for their patience as we have focussed on students' safe return to school, their wellbeing and learning over the past weeks.

Staff and Student Opinion Surveys

Staff Opinion Surveys have recently been completed, with Student Opinion Surveys to be completed next week. Information had been sent home with students in Year 4-6 regarding the survey.

Parent Opinion Surveys

The Parent Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst all parents. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

All parents will be invited and encouraged to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year, the Parent Opinion Survey for Dunkeld will be conducted from **Monday 2 November to Friday 13 November 2020**. The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones.

Please speak to the school office if you have any questions regarding the survey.

Kind regards, Dee-Anne Gerring

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

School Council held an online meeting on Tuesday 27 October 2020, and items of business included:

- School Plantation on Victoria Valley Road will be retained and fencing costs are being investigated.
- Pupil Free Day approved for Monday 7 December 2020 for a 2021 Planning Day for staff.
- Funds raised to date for the Battery Fundraiser are \$485.25.
- Donation received from the Dunkeld Mosaic of Arts Committee, due to this group ceasing operations.
- Permanent Modular School Building Program, which included an update on asbestos removal process.
- Lachy Patterson has been co-opted to fill a vacant parent member position, for term ending March 2021.
- A school camp, day trips and local excursions have been approved for:
 - Year 5 Day Trip – Wednesday 9 December 2020 – Grampians Retreat
 - Year 6 Camp (two days) – Thursday 10 to Friday 11 December 2020 – Grampians Retreat
 - Year 3 Day Trip – Monday 14 December 2020 – Grampians Retreat
 - Year 4 Day Trip – Tuesday 15 December 2020 – Grampians Retreat
 - Local excursions/activities in Dunkeld and surrounds will be held for the Prep to Year 2 students (there will be no sleepover held this year) – dates to be advised.
- Students in Years 4, 5 and 6 will continue to have BYO iPads in 2021. Prep to Year 3 students will have access to school-owned iPads, which are for use at school only.
- Whole school fundraising ideas for 2021 were discussed including a Family Fun Day incorporating a colour/fun run and stalls and conducting 'big-ticket items' raffle/s.
- Five staff members attended an online Readers Workshop PD with Debra Sukarna on Tuesday 20 October 2020.
- Announcements for 2021 classes and teaching staff will be made in the near future.

BOOK WEEK AND BOOK WEEK PARADE MONDAY 19 TO FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER

On Wednesday 21 October our school was treated to a visitation of a number of book characters. A whole range of costumes from superheroes and fairies to the more classic Jim Craig, the great Australian stockman from Banjo Patterson's the Man from Snowy River. What a treat when that stockman was also very capable of cracking his whip.





A Book Week Story

As soon as I woke my only thought was to make honey for my hive. I ate my fill of breakfast honey and buzzed from the hive, my wings flapping two hundred times per second. I flew for about one hundred metres before I arrived at my favourite patch of bright yellow flowers. I wheeled above them for a few seconds before I descended and landed on a flower that looked like it contained the best pollen, just the right type to make the best honey. Just as I was about to grab some pollen, a flicker of movement in the corner of my vision caught my attention. A tall kid was striding in the direction of my hive. He wore a puffy white suit and had a sort of helmet thing over his head. I reluctantly turned away from the flower and furiously buzzed after him. Just as the kid was about to tear open my hive to grab the luscious golden honey from inside, I slid up his sleeve and stung him on the shoulder. What a horrible way to die I thought, with the stench of a kid. Up his sleeve. I was lost in darkness. Black, nothing, lost. *By Oscar Fanning, Year 5*



SCHOOL CAPTAIN REPORTS

Please don't forget that our School Captains Georgia Adams and Hayden Phillips are still posting a Monday message for students on Seesaw. If you don't have direct access to Seesaw through a child's ipad / laptop, the message can be accessed with the following link:

https://app.seesaw.me/pages/shared_item?item_id=item.afc8df4f-d92e-4c6a-b3d1-7ec4964d324e&share_token=q4VJ7NprRzO3DJGCBjBHPg&mode=share

https://app.seesaw.me/pages/shared_item?item_id=item.6ed5178a-239c-4431-a737-ec2053a40c3e&share_token=dRIX7T6oR9eHYxj_VcThwg&mode=share

MY BUSINESS RULES

Children in Year 6 have commenced a project called 'My Business Rules'. Students are asked to come up with a business idea (a product) and market it to our community with the intention of selling as many of their products as they can to make a profit after expenses. They are encouraged to think about who would buy their products, where they could market their product and how they would advertise in order to corner the market in a competitive environment. The school has provided each of the children a small loan to get them started.

Families will receive a flyer advertising the items our students will have for sale at their first **'Market Day' on Friday 30 October 2020** at recess (11.00am). A following market day will be held Friday 20 November 2020. Items are for sale to students and teachers directly on Market Day and the wider community by pre-order. Everyone is encouraged to support our young entrepreneurs by pre-ordering items. *Remember Christmas is coming!!*

After the businesses close, Year 6 students will be required to repay their loans ... hopefully. All profits from the businesses will be pooled and the students will then decide what they think they would like to purchase for the benefit of the school.

We hope you are able to help our students in this endeavour.

HOUSE ATHLETICS TRACK EVENTS MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2020

This year our athletics will be divided up over a number of days with our first day on Monday 2 November covering our track events. Students are to wear their respective House colour polo shirt (red for Wannon and royal blue for Sturgeon) to the Sports Day on Monday 2 November 2020. **The school day will begin as normal at 9.00am.** As soon as possible all children will attend House Meetings. This is a valuable time for our House Captains to work on the day's program of events with their team members.

- The sports will commence at approximately 9.15am with the Long Distance events – 800 metres and 200 metres respectively, followed by our shorter distances.
- **Please ensure** students have sunscreen, water, hat, snacks and lunch for the day.

Other field events such as discus, high jump, long jump etc. will take place over the coming weeks during P.E classes. Further information will be provided shortly through Seesaw.

Unfortunately as parents are unable to attend and provide we hope our students will be prepared to yell twice as loud to give courage and support to their co-competitors.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (SAKG)



From the Kitchen

With health and safety a priority, just a quick reminder that ALL students with long hair must have a head band / hair tie to ensure their hair can be tied back during cooking lessons. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this.

From the Garden...by Lisa McIntyre

It is so so good to have everyone back in the garden again - and what a perfect time of year to come back into it!

We have been really busy working in our garden beds - each child is responsible for their own garden bed, and you can just imagine the growth of weeds over the last few weeks...so they have been very busy. In amongst the ryegrass and capeweed, we have found garlic, lettuce, silverbeet, thyme, peas, oregano, lemon balm, leeks, rainbow chard, kale, celery, broad beans, chives, grapefruit, potatoes, oranges, lemons, mint, french sorrel, broccoli, parsley.....the list goes on. Luckily we have some really tough plants growing here!

Our sincere thanks goes out to the Hall construction crew - as they cared for the chooks over the school holidays. Now, the chooks - I am sure - are glad to see us back, as they get to roam free on Thursdays!

We have been very busy sowing seeds to germinate in our greenhouse. We make the seed raising mix ourselves using sifted compost from our heaps. Smaller particle sizes in the mix means better soil/seed contact, and leads to better germination. There are a few weed seeds that germinate too but that is just teaching us how to identify different plants.



ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION FOR 2020

WELCOME

In Term 4 we are pleased to welcome the following new students and families to our school: Logan Saunders (Year 3), Audrina Robertson (Year 4), Lily Robertson (Year 6) and Sophie Halliday (Year 6).

CELEBRATING VICTORIAN CHILDREN THIS CHILDREN'S WEEK

Children's Week is a national celebration that recognises the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children. It will run from Saturday 24 October to Sunday 1 November, with thousands of Victorian children taking part in the festivities.

More than 90 COVIDSafe virtual and in-person events will be held across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria.

All Children's Week events are free to families with children aged from birth to 12 years.

Families can search the list of [free activities](#) to find out what events are happening in their community or online.

For more information, visit the [Children's Week website](#) or contact the Early Childhood Team via email: childrens.week@edumail.vic.gov.au

Greater Hamilton Library will be hosting the "Larrikin Puppets" online this year to celebrate Children's week.

Larrikin Puppets' popular puppet shows are colourful and exciting theatre performances for children and their families featuring intriguing characters, catchy original songs, funny skits, jokes, games and live interaction. The puppeteers have received training in the USA under Jim Henson puppeteers from The Muppets and Sesame Street. Highly entertaining and captivating, Larrikin Puppets' fast-paced, feel-good puppetry celebrates fun, kindness and play while nurturing child development, encouraging audiences to talk, dance, sing and play along with wide eyed wonder, joy and laughs from beginning to end.

The virtual event, supported by the Victorian Government, will run over three days, Monday 26, Wednesday 28 and Friday 30 October at 11am on the Greater Hamilton Library Facebook Page.