



# DUNKELD CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

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

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## Newsletter No. 1 – Wednesday 5 February 2020

### FEBRUARY 2020

- Wednesday 5 **Prep students do not attend school.**  
School Swimming Program.
- Thursday 6 School Swimming Program.
- Friday 7 School Assembly commencing at 9.00am.  
School Swimming Program.
- Monday 10 School Swimming Program.
- Tuesday 11 Welcome Breakfast and Parent Information Session commencing at 8.00am at the school.  
School Swimming Program.
- Wednesday 12 MARC Library.  
**Prep students do not attend school.**  
School Swimming Program.
- Thursday 13 School Swimming Program.
- Friday 14 Book Club orders and payment are due in today.  
House Swimming Sports at the Dunkeld Swimming Pool (Prep and Year 1 students come back to school after lunch. Parents are welcome to take their Prep or Year 1 children home from the swimming pool after lunch but they are not able to stay at the pool to watch older siblings).  
No School Assembly will be held today.
- Monday 17 **School Lunch Orders commence for 2020** (available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays).
- Wednesday 19 Parent Teacher Interviews.  
**Prep students do not attend school.**
- Thursday 20 SAKG Kitchen and Garden classes commence for 2020.
- Tuesday 25 Year 6 Transition Day at Baimbridge College (open to all Year 6 students regardless of the Secondary School they intend to apply to for 2021).
- Wednesday 26 **Prep students do not attend school.**
- Friday 28 SGSSA Swimming Sports at Penshurst Swimming Pool.

### MARCH 2020

- Monday 2 P & F Association Annual General Meeting, followed by a general meeting.
- Monday 9 **LABOUR DAY Public Holiday.**
- Friday 13 Division Swimming at Aquazone, Warrnambool.
- Wednesday 18 **PUPIL FREE DAY – Students do not attend school on this day.**
- Thursday 19 Year 6 Excursion to GRIP Student Leadership Conference in Ballarat.
- Friday 20 Regional Swimming at the Horsham Memorial Swimming Pool.
- Monday 23 SGSSA Athletics at Pedrina Park, Hamilton (back-up day 25 March).
- Friday 27 **Last Day of Term 1 – early dismissal at 2.30pm.**

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

Welcome to the new school year! It has been lovely to see the bright faces of all our students back and excited to get into their classes. We hope everyone had a lovely, relaxing break and look forward to the year ahead. I'd like to extend a warm welcome to new families to our school community: Kate and Robin Wickens with daughter Nellie; Jean and Tony Roache with daughter Michaela; Sarah and Nick O'Keeffe with son Jackson; Dee and Ryan Gerring with daughter Dempsey; Jemimah Kendall with son Owen; and Clare Myers with daughter Grace.

Welcome again to our teaching staff for this year: Prep/Year 1: Mrs Jackie McShane and Mrs Jayne Greig; Year 1/2: Mrs Jane Higgins and Mrs Ann Howard; Year 3: Mrs Anne Gilbert and Mrs Dee Gerring; Year 4/5: Miss Mary-Ellen Evans; Year 5/6: Mrs Naomie Phillips. Thank you for all your preparation so far and all the best for a wonderful year with your students.

Welcome back to our hard working staff in Terrie Nicholson, Business Manager and Christy Lazzari, Administrative Assistant in the front office, along with our Education Support and MiniLit staff in Helen Trahar, Angus Lean and Clare Kennedy.

Welcome back to Clare Kennedy and Lisa McIntyre, our wonderful Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden ("SAKG") specialists. Thank you for providing our students with the wonderful experiences you do. How lucky our children are!

Mr Paul Jeffreys has extended his leave, so we wish Paul well and I will therefore continue on as Acting Principal in the meantime. I thank staff who have increased their time fractions to again provide a seamless transition for students. I look forward to working with students, staff and the community to continue to strive forward with our wonderful school.

**ASSESSMENT DAYS:** I'd like to thank all students and parents for their cooperation in attending the assessment days to start the year. This has been an invaluable task in providing teachers and students one-to-one time to get to know to know one another and set the academic year off to a flying start.

**NEW LOOK LEARNING SPACES:** It was certainly a busy end to 2019 with preparation for Review and all teachers and classes moving classrooms. I must say the hard work has paid off, with all classrooms, the hall/library/music room and the new look open learning space in the Year 3 - 6 building looking fantastic. The children have already begun enjoying the flexible seating options with excitement. The Year 5/6 class were also tasked with the job of assembling the 'chill out' chairs for the open space. I must say this was a great team building task of following a 'mediocre' instruction booklet and fitting two large shapes into a seemingly impossible case. They tried once, twice and many more times however, showing persistence, determination and above all else, cooperation, to assemble them. Well done teams! Students look forward to showing their families their school at our Welcome Breakfast and Information Session morning on Tuesday 11 February.

**SCHOOL REVIEW:** Our School Review is now fast approaching, with the majority of reports written and evidence gathered. The Review will take place over three days throughout Term 1, with a Reviewer, our Senior Education Improvement Leader, two other Principals, our School Council President and some parents being part of the process at different times. They will visit classrooms, talk to staff and students about the teaching and learning taking place and review our practice and data at Dunkeld Consolidated School. From there, new goals will be established that will form the emphasis of our next three-year Strategic Plan and yearly Annual Implementation Plans. Although a demanding task, it has been extremely valuable in self-assessment of teaching and learning, as well as making sure we have all correct Policies and planning procedures in place for the betterment of our school.

**SUN SMART:** A timely reminder that we are a Sun Smart school. It is compulsory for students to wear hats when outside until the end of April. If students forget their hat, they do not miss out on play, but rather need to be in the undercover area. It is also important to wear hats to and from school when walking. Students may wear their school hats to and from school, but it must be their responsibility to remember their hat for the following day. Alternatively, a spare hat from home can be worn before and after school. Also if students could have sunscreen on prior to arriving at school please; they are able to reapply during the day.



**DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES:** A reminder that students may be dropped off at school from 8:45am and picked up at 3:25pm. If a change in pick up arrangement is made, please write a note in your child's diary or let the School Office know. If students have sport around on the cricket oval, parents are expected to pick up from outside classrooms or the front gate and supervise from there on please.

**PUPIL FREE DAY - WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH:** In evaluating Staff, Student and Parent Community feedback received in 2019, 'Wellbeing' was one area which was recommended for development, which we as staff agree and would like to develop further skills and knowledge in. Staff have looked at programs to begin to address this area. With a few having personally attended a two hour talk by Hugh van Cuylenburg of 'The Resilience Project' previously, we believe in the importance of the program pillars of Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness. The Resilience Project is running a full day Teacher Seminar at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre that provides practical activities and strategies to: Develop positive mental health habits and build resilience; Build resilience in students through simple daily activities; and Help parents to support their children to become more resilient. We are therefore holding a Pupil Free Day on Wednesday 18 March for all teaching staff to attend this once a year Professional Development opportunity and look forward to bringing back many ideas to the classroom. I thank you in advance for supporting this opportunity for staff and students.

**ASSEMBLIES:** Whole school assemblies will this year take place on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. Due to swimming this week however, we will be holding the first Assembly at 9:00am on Friday 7 February. Class Captains will be announced, as well as School Leaders presented with their badges. There will be no Assembly on Friday 14 February due to the House Swimming Sports, then normal assemblies to run weekly thereafter.

Thank you, Dee Gerring

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

The school will be hosting a Welcome Breakfast (light breakfast) and Parent Information session for all families on Tuesday 11 February 2020, commencing at 8.00am. Dunkeld & District Lions Club and P & F Association members will be kindly assisting with cooking, setting up and cleaning up.

School Council has approved a Pupil Free Day on Wednesday 18 March 2020 for all teaching staff to attend The Resilience Project Teacher Seminar in Melbourne.

The Sheep Drive fundraiser raised a total of \$8,295.84 in December last year, for the school's Camping Program and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) projects. A sincere thank you to our President, Luke Balkin, in co-ordinating and organising this fundraiser on behalf of School Council.

The School Review will be conducted during this term.

The next School Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 February 2020 commencing at 7.30pm.

## SCHOOL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS 2020

Congratulations to the following students on their appointments for 2020:

**School Captains:** Georgia Adams and Hayden Phillips  
**Wannon House Captains** Lucy Fraser and Angus Frost

**Sturgeon House Captains:** Grace Potter and George Field  
**SAKG Captains:** Lillian Glazebrook, Leah Morelli, Oliver Falla, Myles Alderman  
**Student Voice:** Connor Gordon, Bonnie Jackson, Ryan Murcott, Jemima Ross, Georgia Trotter, Alisha Cross, Grace Myers  
**Mirranatwa School Bus Captains:** Ryan Murcott, Myles Alderman, Lucy Fraser  
**Woodhouse School Bus Captains:** Hayden Phillips, Georgia Adams, Alisha Cross, Jemima Ross

## FUNDRAISING AMOUNTS FROM 2019

### Social Service and My Business Rules

During 2019, the students (with their families' amazing support) have raised \$1,555.50 through the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal, Funky Hair Day, Casual Dress Days and Social Service Stalls.

This is a fantastic result, from a small school. Even more special is that the senior students decide which charities/organisations to donate to, and why. They have demonstrated a great deal of knowledge and compassion, and we are very proud of them. Thank you all for your support of this very worthwhile activity.

The following not-for-profit organisations received support from our school in 2019:

Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal	\$186.05
Do It For Dolly Foundation	\$ 90.10
Leukaemia Foundation	\$158.00
Camp Quality esCarpade	\$926.80
Mental Health Foundation Australian Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund	\$194.55

The Year 6 students raised a total of \$1,060.85 through their 2019 My Business Rules project and they decided to donate the proceeds to the following charities/organisations:

Dunkeld Rural Fire Brigade	\$500.00
Royal Children's Hospital Foundation	\$250.00
RSPCA Victoria	\$250.00
Mental Health Foundation Australian Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund	\$ 60.85

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION FOR 2020

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a number of school policies for your perusal, which may also be viewed on the school's website: [www.dunkeld.vic.edu.au](http://www.dunkeld.vic.edu.au)

- Mobile Phones - Student Use Policy
- Implementation of the DET Schools' Privacy Policy and Dunkeld Consolidated School's Collection Statement (our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the DET Schools' Privacy Policy. Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website: [www.dunkeld.vic.edu.au](http://www.dunkeld.vic.edu.au))
- Statement of Values and School Philosophy
- Digital Technologies Policy (*Sign and return Agreement and Permission Page*)
- Photography, Filming and Recording Students Policy (*Opt Out Form page 6*)

You will see that some policies require your acknowledgement by returning a form while others are for information purposes only.

### CAMPS, SPORTS, EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports, Excursions fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend activities like;

- School camps and trips
- Swimming and school-organised sport programs
- Outdoor education programs
- Excursions and incursions

**Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply.**

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. Your child's school will apply for the CSEF on your behalf. **You will only need to submit an application form in 2020 if any of the following changes have occurred:**

- New student enrolments: you child has started or changed schools in 2020 or you did not apply at the same school in 2019.
- Changed family circumstances
  - Change in custody
  - Change of name
  - Concession card number
  - New siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

**Please contact the office if you require a form and return it to us by Friday 14 February 2020.**

### 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.

(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 contact the school office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE as forms need to be completed and returned by Friday 14 February. Families who have received the conveyance allowance in the past must submit a new application form.**

### SCHOOL BUS TRAVEL – TERM 1

Just a reminder that non-school bus travelers who occasionally may wish to travel on either of the school buses are required to complete and submit an “Application for Adhoc Travel – Student” form to the School Office prior to the event, for approval.

If students are attending activities after school on a regular basis e.g. hockey training, cricket etc parents may make a note in the diary advising that their child/children will not be travelling on the bus on a specific afternoon. For example ... *“Tony will not be travelling on the bus on a Friday afternoon for Term 1 as he will be attending hockey training.”*

### VISITOR AND STUDENT SIGN IN AND OUT REQUIREMENTS

All visitors to our school, including parents and relatives of our students, are required to sign a Visitors Book at the school administration office upon arrival. Upon signing in, visitors will receive a lanyard stating their purpose as either a visitor or volunteer. Similarly, visitors are required to ‘sign out’ in the Visitors Book at the end of their visit and return their lanyard to the school office. As a Child Safe School, this is a requirement of Ministerial Order No. 870.

Under the Summary Offences Act 1966 and subsequent amendments, the Principal reserves the right, and has the authority to prohibit any potential visitor from entering or remaining within the school, and also has the authority to invite or exclude people from using or being within the school boundaries outside school operating hours.

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.

### WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES FOR 2020 WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAYS AT 2:45PM

Whole school assemblies will this year take place on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. Due to swimming this week however, we will be holding the first Assembly at 9:00am on Friday 7 February. Class Captains will be announced, as well as School Leaders presented with their badges. There will be no Assembly on Friday 14 February due to the House Swimming Sports, then normal assemblies to run weekly thereafter.

### PARENTS AND FRIENDS

The first meeting for 2020 will be the **AGM on Monday 2 March** time and place to be confirmed. A General Meeting will follow.

There is no better way to become involved in your child’s school than to become a P & F member. If you require any further information about the P & F Association please contact Ruth Kyle, President on 0428 954 248.

### SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAM AND SWIMMING SPORTS

The Dunkeld Consolidated School Swimming Program (supported by Lea and Jen McArthur) for this year commenced on Monday 3 February and will run for two weeks.

After two weeks of lessons, students will take to the pool to compete for their respective Houses at the annual House Swimming Sports on Friday 14 February at the Dunkeld Swimming Pool.

The Program of Events will be sent home with students in the near future, please ensure you bring this with you on 14 February, as there will be no programs available on the day.

\* HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS. The school is looking for people to assist at the swimming sports. Tasks will include judging and timekeeping. We will also require assistance with setting up marquees and banners at the pool. If you are able to assist please complete and return the attached form by Monday 10 February.

### SPORTS HOUSES FOR PREPS AND NEW STUDENTS

Each year it can be difficult placing students into houses. New students automatically go into the same sports houses as their siblings then the remainder of students are allocated to either house.

**STURGEON House** (House Colour: Royal Blue): Bobby Blackwell, Dempsey Gerring, Jackson O’Keeffe, Sybil Patterson, George Phillips, Jed Russell, Nellie Wickens, Owen Griffiths and Grace Myers.

**WANNON House** (House Colour: Red): Xavier Macgugan, Anieka Ryan, Ruby Ryan.

### FORMS

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

- Statement of Values and School Philosophy
- Mobile Phones – Student Use Policy
- Implementation of DET Schools’ Privacy Policy
- Digital Technologies Policy – *return by Monday 10 February*
- Photography Permission Form – *(if opting out) return by Friday 14 February*
- Volunteer helpers House swimming sports – *return by Monday 10 February*
- School Lunch Order Menu and Pricelist