

## Newsletter No. 20 – Wednesday 8 December 2021

### DECEMBER 2021

- Thursday 9 My Business Rules Market Day Stalls at morning recess.  
**ALL MARC LIBRARY BOOKS TO BE RETURNED.**
- Friday 10 **Special Assembly commencing at 9.00am (last assembly for the school year).**  
Whole School Excursion to the Dunkeld Arboretum. Free sausage sizzle lunch provided by the Dunkeld & District Lions Club. 
- Monday 13 Christmas Activities Day.
- Tuesday 14 Excursion to 'A Very Merry HPAC Christmas' Concert at the Hamilton PAC. *School Lunch Orders will be available.*  
**LAST SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS FOR 2021.**  
Year 6 Graduation meal and official ceremony.
- Wednesday 15 Year 2 Grampians Retreat Camp.  
Prep and Year 1 Sleepover at School.
- Thursday 16 Year 2 Grampians Retreat Camp.  
Class Parties and Mystery Gifts.  
Students to wear casual clothes with 'a touch of Christmas cheer'.  
**Student Reports will be sent home with students.**
- Friday 17 **END OF 2021 SCHOOL YEAR. Early dismissal at 2.30pm. School buses will run one hour earlier.**

### JANUARY 2022

- Wednesday 26 Australia Day Public Holiday.
- Friday 28 **PUPIL FREE DAY.** Staff commence Term 1 2022.
- Monday 31 Student Assessment Day (families will be advised of assessment times).

### FEBRUARY 2022

- Tuesday 1 **All students commence Term 1 2022. First Whole School Day for students.**

## FROM Mrs Angela Field, Acting Principal...

As we approach the end of the school year, organisation for 2022 is being finalised and I ask parents to please let the school know as soon as possible if your son or daughter is not returning to Dunkeld next year. This information is vital to planning for 2022, as the majority of funding provided to schools is specified as per-student rates. Student based funding represents the main funding source for all schools and comprises approximately 90% of the total Student Resource Package (SRP) provided to schools. This funding is designed to cover core teaching and learning, leadership, teaching support, professional development, relief teaching, payroll tax and superannuation costs for the school.

### Week 11 events

With one week left of school we still have many events taking place next week:

- The whole school will attend a Christmas Concert at the Hamilton PAC at 11.00am on Tuesday 14 December.
- Year 6 students will attend their Graduation on Tuesday 14 December. We look forward to a wonderful evening back on-site with our first students to graduate in our new hall.
- Prep/Year 1 students will enjoy a sleepover at school on Wednesday 15 December.
- Year 2 students will attend Grampians Retreat for their school camp (Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 December).
- Thursday 16 December students will have their Christmas Mystery Gift exchange with class parties. (Year 2 will have their class party on camp).

### Staffing

Our recruitment process has finally completed, and I would like to thank Mr Ben Kelson, Principal at Gray Street Primary School Hamilton, for giving up his time to be on our selection panel. His expertise, particularly with merit and equity processes, was greatly appreciated. The recruitment process has been quite difficult across the region, with a concern in the lack of graduate and experienced teachers, a possible result of the last two years. Hence, why we are so excited to have Mrs Jackie Mibus join our teaching team for 2022, bringing her expertise and enthusiasm for teaching. Welcome, Jackie!

At the conclusion of the 2021 school year, we say goodbye to Miss Steph Thompson who has accepted a full-time role at Cavendish Primary School in 2022. We thank her for her time with us and her enthusiastic role as our PE teacher for Semester 2. We also farewell our Learning Tutor, Ms Hannah Black, who has taken on the Art Teacher role at Saint Mary's Primary School Hamilton. Hannah's teaching experience has been most appreciated by many of our students and their families. I am so pleased to announce that our new Learning Tutor for 2022 is Mrs Alyce Wilson. Alyce lives locally in Dunkeld and has been performing the tutor role at Hamilton North Primary School. We welcome Alyce to our school community and teaching staff.

2022

The Dunkeld Consolidated School will be holding an Assessment Day on Monday 31 January 2022. This will allow for one-on-one time for your child and teacher to get to know one another and to complete some Reading and Numeracy assessment. These assessments, along with mapping tools will allow teachers to pinpoint instructional levels for each child and allow an efficient beginning to the academic year. Students will be asked to attend at a specific time. Details to be sent home next week. The first official whole school day for students is **TUESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2022.**

**Thank you, thank you, thank you!**

As this is the final newsletter for 2021, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the wonderful school community which includes staff, parents, friends and most importantly students, for their increasing resilience during these changing times. I am sure that the students of today will become strong, independent citizens, willing to adjust to life's challenges. As the school year comes to an end, I encourage families to reflect over the last two years and think about all the little things.

*Ange Field*  
*Acting Principal*



**SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS**

**ASSEMBLY - FRIDAY 3 DECEMBER 2021**

**Honour Certificates:**

**Academic Certificates: Year 4:** Max Russell and Patrick Lomas, **Year 2:** George Heazlewood, **Year 1:** Michaela Roache, **Prep:** Athena Manolas.

**School Values Honour: Year 4:** Harry McShane, **Year 3:** Zachary Lance, **Year 1:** Jackson O'keeffe and Nellie Wickens.

The Prep/Year 1 students, accompanied by Mrs Heather Macgugan, presented a small musical performance at Assembly, supported by some of the older students. Year 4 students put together a little video presentation of their camp while some Year 3 students read out a report on camp.

**GRADE 3 AND 4 CAMP IN PORT FAIRY - 16 AND 17 NOVEMBER 2021**

Firstly, we raced off to Warrnambool, we drove on a Trotters bus and our bus drivers name was Steve, the bus had curtains and arm rests. In Warrnambool we went to Flagstaff Hill and our tour guide was Jan Barkla. Flagstaff is a historical town with a museum. At Flagstaff Hill we did a scavenger hunt where we had to try and find historical things around the town. We went to school (not our school, a historical one) the ladies had to wear a white pinafore with a matching bonnet, the gentlemen had to wear a vest and a cap with a puffy spot on top. Jan was our teacher, but we had to address her by Ma'am. We learnt that if you told your parents that you got the cane at school then you would get it again at home. Charles did a demonstration of the cane, but Jan did it gently, she did it as hard as they used to get it on a pillow and it nearly broke the pillow, it was so hard! Then she told us that if we had a question we had to stand up and ask, example: Ma'am I think the answer is 28 or something like that. Then we went to Lake Pertobe, we had lunch and a little play for half an hour, and we drove to Southcombe Lodge and settled in. We figured out who was in our cabins and then we had a play before Mrs McLachlan got our dinner and we ate at Martins Playground. After that we walked wait ... whoops, I mean some of us walked and some ran back to Southcombe Lodge then we watched a movie called Sonic the Hedgehog. I was in a cabin with Millie, Elodie and Yin. It took a while for me to go to sleep!



**Day 2**

When I woke up. I felt a little bit tired, so I laid in bed until the rest of my cabin mates woke up. When all of my cabin mates were up, we headed down to the main room for breakfast. I had cornflakes with apple juice. After that we packed our bags onto the bus where Steve was waiting for us. We went to East Beach where Mimi and Raff were waiting for us for our surfing lessons. First, we put on wetsuits then headed down into the water. I caught one wave and then we swapped groups and we walked to Griffiths Island. Then we headed back on the bus and drove back to Dunkeld, where we were greeted by our parents and had some free play. *By Henrietta Patterson, Year 3*



**RED CROSS PILLOWCASE PROJECT**



On Friday 26 November 2021, the Year 2/3 students participated in the Pillowcase Project, which is a Red Cross initiative. Mrs Heather Macgugan from the Dunkeld Red Cross led the workshop. The Pillowcase Project was originally inspired by events during Hurricane Katrina in the United States. While evacuating campus, students at a local university used pillowcases to carry their cherished and basic possessions. After hearing this, American



Red Cross staff developed the concept of using a pillowcase as an emergency kit. The program quickly grew into a preparedness education program that has since become known as the Pillowcase Project.

The students learnt about natural disasters and how bad they are and how they sometimes require people to evacuate their homes. During the workshop each student decorated their own pillowcase and labelled what things they would take with them that would fit in a pillowcase, for example medicine, food and water, torch, batteries, blanket and phones. Each student was able to take their pillowcase home with them, to start their own personal emergency kit.



**HOUSE ATHLETICS SPORTS – MONDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2021**

We had perfect weather conditions for our House Athletics Sports Day on Monday 29 November. It was a memorable day of fantastic fun, sensational sportsmanship and camaraderie. Students shone not only on the track and field but also by their actions, in their genuine support for one another. Thank you to everyone that supported and contributed to the success of our House Athletics, including staff, students, parents and spectators!

Special mention to Sturgeon House for winning the day. Sturgeon House Sports Captains, Sebastian Aarons and Mia Russell are proudly holding the winning trophy.



**Age Champions:**

Congratulations to this year's House Athletics Age Group Champions:

- 6 Years: George Phillips and Ruby Mibus
- 7 Years: Lochie Bird and Xavier Macgugan (tie) and Michaela Roache
- 8 Years: James Manolas and Grace Macgugan
- 9 Years: Edward Alderman and Elodie Cochran
- 10 Years: Jack Oldfield Mann and Phoebe Lazzari
- 11 Years: Jack Jones and Phoebe Ross and Indi Mibus (tie)
- 12/13 Years: Louis Lazzari and Cadence Huf



**Sportsmanship Awards:**

The following students received Sportsmanship Awards for this year's House Athletics, the certificate wording reads as "Congratulations on demonstrating excellent sportsmanship throughout our carnival. You are an excellent role model and we are proud to see you demonstrating the 'Play Is The Way' values."



- 6 years & Under Edwin White and Abigail Welsh
- 7 years Jed Russell and Nellie Wickens
- 8 years Angus Jones and Minu Sutherland
- 9 years Tyson Riddle and Clementine Blackwell
- 10 years Mac Jackson and Heidi Burger
- 11 years Ben Peters and Ava Balkin
- 12/13 years Mitchell Gordon and Isabella Jury

**YEAR 5/6 CAVE HILL CREEK BUSH CAMP OUT ADVENTURE**

**Years 5 and 6 Cave Hill Camp from 1 to 3 December 2021:**

On arrival we parted ways with our bus because it couldn't travel down the bush tracks. All our luggage was transported to camp via a trailer. A lovely lady named Lizzy greeted us and tracked us through the bush for about half an hour to our campsite. We unzipped our tent bags and opened them up and out popped instant sleeping quarters. All we needed to do was peg them down and our tent city was all set up. Lizzy was our camp instructor and she stayed at the camp with us and was with one of our groups all the time. Lizzy took care of all our camp needs and was extremely kind and accommodating to all of us.



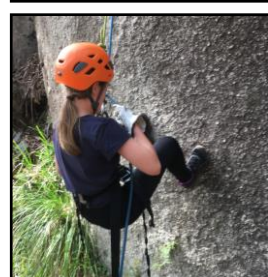
That afternoon we split into two groups. Group 1 did Archery, while Group 2 walked down to the lake for canoeing, then we did a swap. Luke was our leader, and he gave us instructions on how to use the paddles and not to both lean to one side of the canoe or it would capsize. This advice was taken on board by most, apart from three teams that ended up in the drink. Luke showed us two games to play in the canoes, these were really fast and kept us paddling most of the time, except when we were splashing each other. The canoeing was so exciting and



cooling because it was 28 degrees, and the water was very refreshing. After we had finished canoeing, we got to splash around in the water. Luke also navigated us up the mountain, where we got to abseil down a five-metre rock face. Scary, yet so exhilarating and we wished we could do it again. Thank you,



Luke, for your patience, support and encouragement to get us over the edge. Thank



you for getting us safely past the snake on the way down the mountain and back to camp. In the evenings we got to fill in our camp booklets and chill playing cards and board games. The last morning, we were up and packed and after many tries to get the tents folded the right way, easy when our camp leader Lizzy showed us. Looking easy and doing, was very different. We finished our morning off with tug a war against numerous teams. After all the gear was packed onto the trailer Lizzy led us back through the bush to meet our bus. Steve our bus driver was there when we arrived and so were our salad rolls that we had prepacked earlier that morning. Delicious food for every meal and plenty of it. Students' description of food - *The best. Healthy but also really yummy.*



During our stay we had a competition to see who could find the longest leaf. Lizzy announced Mia Russell as the winner and her prize was a t-shirt with the camp's name on it. Lizzy asked the students to vote on the activity they enjoyed the most and the canoeing was the overwhelming favourite.

Some words from Year 5 and 6 students to express how they felt about camp: EPIC, DAMP, MARVELLOUS, NERVE WRACKING, STORMY, FANTASTIC, STICKY, EVENTFUL, TERRIFIC, AWESOME, TREMENDOUS.

Your children participated in all activities - canoeing, archery, games, bike riding through the bush, bush walking, abseiling, bush cooking and team games. They encountered - thunder, lightning, torrential rain, leeches, a snake, wet shoes, wet bedding and being drenched. There wasn't a complaint from any of them. Staff were extremely proud of every one of them.



### KINDER TO PREP TRANSITION PROGRAM - ORIENTATION DAY – TUESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2021



A happy (but slightly nervous) group of Kinder/Prep 2022 students walked through the Prep/Year 1 classroom door on Orientation Day this week to work with Mrs Gilbert for their first whole day at school. The theme for the day was 'Bears' based on Michael Rosen's book – 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. We iced Teddy Bear biscuits, cut out bears, traced bear tracks and words from the story, created a sensory map of the story and played with Lego. We took our bears out onto the playground to explore location words – beside, under, above, over, next to, between – and wrote about the experience. We watched Michael Rosen perform his poem. We had a PE lesson with Mrs McShane and interacted with our 2022 Year 6 Buddies. What a busy day!

### SPECIAL ASSEMBLY ON FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER 2021 – 9.00am START

A Special Assembly will be held on Friday 10 December 2021, commencing at 9.00am, in the school hall.

The running sheet will include:

- Presentations to departing staff members
- Honour certificates
- Class Captain reports
- 2022 Leadership announcements
- Year 5/6 Cave Hill Creek reports and movie trailers

## This will be the final assembly for 2021.

All parents and visitors will be required to check-in at the school Admin office, using the QR Code and show proof of COVID-19 vaccination status.

## MYSTERY GIFTS, CLASS PARTIES AND CASUAL DRESS DAY – THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER 2021

To help celebrate Christmas and the end of the school year, we are going to enjoy a MYSTERY GIFT activity in each classroom.

**Please send a wrapped Christmas gift to school by Tuesday 14 December** worth no more than \$5.00 and suitable for both boys and girls. *Please keep it a secret from your own child!*



On Thursday 16 December 2021, these gifts will be opened, and your child will receive a different gift to take home. To receive a gift your child will need to bring one to put under the Christmas tree.

### Class Parties and Casual Dress Day on Thursday 16 December

On Thursday 16 December 2021, we will be having end-of-year class parties at lunchtime (students will sit in their own class groups). It would be great to have a variety of savoury and sweet foods for the children to enjoy.

Year 2 students will have their class party on camp on Thursday 16 December, they are not required to bring any food.

Each child is to bring a VERY SMALL PLATE of food to share as this reduces any wastage. **There will be no School Lunch Orders held on Thursday 16 December.**

*Students are also encouraged to wear casual clothes with 'a touch of Christmas cheer'.*

## CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS

School Council has approved the following Camps and Excursions:

- Subsidy for the Year 2 Grampians Retreat Camp being held from Wednesday 15 to Thursday 16 December 2021 – Year 2 students will leave for camp on Wednesday morning, accompanied by Mrs Mary-Ellen McLachlan and Ms Helen Trahar, and return to school on Thursday afternoon for the Mystery Gifts activity.
- Prep/Year 1 Sleepover (at the school) on Wednesday 15 December 2021 – students will stay at the school and enjoy a myriad of fun activities and be ready for pick-up from school on Thursday afternoon.
- Dunkeld Arboretum Excursion on Friday 10 December 2021 (SAKG Program)
  - Grades 4, 5 and 6 will be carrying out research on some river red gum trees at the Dunkeld Arboretum.
  - Prep to Grade 3 students will be undertaking a flora and fauna survey.
  - All students, accompanied by staff members, will walk to and from the Dunkeld Arboretum.
  - Dunkeld & District Lions Club members will generously provide a free sausage sizzle lunch for our students, staff and SAKG Friends.
  - All helpers will be required to have a WWC Check and have proof of COVID-19 vaccination status.
  - **Students to wear full school uniform.**
  - Students will need to bring their fruit snack, morning tea and drink bottle as per a normal school day.
- Excursion to Hamilton and Tarrington on Tuesday 14 December 2021 (School Council will cover the costs of bus hire and entry fees):
  - Students and staff will travel by bus to and from Hamilton.
  - Have Morning Tea in the Hamilton Botanical Gardens before attending the Christmas Concert (students to bring their own morning tea).
  - Attend the Hamilton PAC's 'A Very Merry Christmas Concert', led by star Australian tenor Roy Best - a mixture of traditional and contemporary Christmas music.
  - Travel back to school after the concert, via Tarrington, to view the Hay Bale Art.
  - **Students to wear full school uniform.**
  - Students will need to bring their fruit snack, morning tea, lunch and drink bottle as per a normal school day.
  - **School lunch orders will be available. This will be the last School Lunch Order Day for 2021.**



## YEAR 6 GRADUATION – TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2021

Year 6 students and their parents, together with staff and official guests, will share a light meal together at the Dunkeld Consolidated School on the timber deck, 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start, on Tuesday 14 December 2021.

Then at 7.15pm, extended family and friends are invited to join us for the official ceremony and presentations in the school hall. Presentations will include the Myers Family Dunkeld Scholarships, Williams Family Sports Scholarship, School Council Citizenship and Dux Awards. Year 6 families who are leaving the school will also be formally acknowledged.

Year 6 students are to wear their full summer school uniform, including black shoes.

A friendly reminder that all parents, guests and visitors will be required to check-in at the school Admin office, using the QR Code and show proof of Covid-19 vaccination status.

Thank you to the Year 5 parents and students for their generous support and assistance with decorating, setting up and serving for the Year 6 Graduation.

## MY BUSINESS RULES – MARKET DAY STALLS – THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER 2021

**The next Market Day will be held on Thursday 9 December, at morning recess.** Items are for sale to students and staff directly on Market Day and by pre-order. Could children please remember to bring small change (coins are most welcome) to pay for their items and a bag to place their purchases in. 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.



*Garden Report:*

I want to say thank you to all those generous people who have helped in the SAKG Garden, in any way this year. Your help, donations and advice have been very much appreciated, and is one of the things that I really love about this program - these connections and friendships that really make this garden flourish. I hope all you have a Happy Christmas and a lovely summer holiday, and may your sunflowers grow tall, strong and beautiful, just like the children you are helping.



*PS, but one last thing!* If anyone is available to help feed and water the chooks over the summer, please let me know (with your preferred days and dates) so I can draw up a roster - thank you! Contact details – email: [advancel@bigpond.com](mailto:advancel@bigpond.com) or phone: 5574 92 35 or 0428 749 235.

Lisa McIntyre

**LOST PROPERTY**

As we near the end of the year, remember to look in the lost property box for items you may have misplaced throughout the year. The lost property box is located in the school sickbay. Any items in the box at the end of the year will be donated to the school's second-hand uniform stall or charity.

**- REMINDERS -**

**Permission Form for Whole School Excursions to be returned by Thursday 9 December.**

**All MARC Library books to be returned to school by Thursday 9 December.**

*Merry Christmas and a Happy  
New Year to all.*



**The Dunkeld Consolidated School wants your Used Batteries!**

The Dunkeld Consolidated School Council has been conducting an ongoing Battery Collection Fundraiser.

Kelly's Dunkeld have kindly offered to be a central collection point for used batteries for the Dunkeld Consolidated School (Jason Linskens was instrumental in organising this). Any unwanted car, truck, tractor, boat batteries etc may be dropped off at Kelly's Hardware Store, 101 Parker Street, Dunkeld.

Components of used batteries e.g., metals, acids and plastics are reclaimed, recycled and put back into the manufacturing process to build more batteries and household products, 98% of the battery is recycled.

If you require any assistance with the pick-up of your used batteries, please contact Simon Ross on 0408 984 499. Thank you for your continued support!

The Dunkeld Consolidated School Council would also like to thank Mr Nathan Hinkley and Mr Terry Schultz, Grampians Tyre Service, Hamilton for their generous support of our Used Batteries Fundraising project.