



# 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. 3 – Wednesday 3 March 2021

### MARCH 2021

- Wednesday 3 School Assembly commencing at 2.45pm.
- Thursday 4 MARC Library (Mobile Area Resource Centre).
- Friday 5 First SAKG Kitchen and Garden classes for 2021.
- Monday 8 **LABOUR DAY Public Holiday.**
- Wednesday 10 Didjeribone – whole school performance commencing at 2.20pm. (School Performance Tours). Four-year-old Kinder children have been invited to attend the performance as part of the Kinder to Prep Transition Program.  
**There will be no School Assembly held today.**
- Thursday 11 Parent Teacher Interviews.  
MARC Library.
- Friday 12 Division Swimming Championships at Aquazone, Warrnambool.  
SAKG Kitchen and Garden classes.
- Wednesday 17 School Assembly commencing at 2.45pm.
- Thursday 18 **Open Morning including morning tea and a farewell ceremony for Mrs Jane Higgins.**  
MARC Library.
- Friday 19 Regional Swimming at the Horsham Memorial Swimming Pool.  
Ride2School Day.  
SAKG Kitchen and Garden classes.
- Wednesday 24 SGSSA Athletics at Pedrina Park, Hamilton.
- Thursday 25 MARC Library.
- Friday 26 Harmony Day. All staff and students are encouraged to wear touch of “orange” e.g ribbons, scarves, socks etc.
- Wednesday 30 School Council Meeting commencing at 7.30pm.

### APRIL 2021

- Thursday 1 **Funky** Hair Day supporting the Leukaemia Foundation - please bring a gold coin donation.  
RCH Good Friday Appeal Easter Raffle will be drawn today.  
**Last Day of Term 1 – early dismissal at 2.30pm.**
- Friday 2 GOOD FRIDAY.
- Monday 19 **PUPIL FREE DAY – students do not attend school.**
- Tuesday 20 **First day of Term 2 for students.**
- Thursday 29 Caulfield Grammar School visit – concert and music workshop.

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

### Acting Principal's Report

#### Parent Teacher Interviews

Our Parent Teacher Interviews will now be held next Thursday 11 March 2021. Times for interviews will be sent home tomorrow. Parents are welcome to take their children home following their interviews. We thank parents for their cooperation in making time during the day for these interviews.

#### Operational Guidelines

We are back to the same restrictions as were in place at the beginning of term. Please see reminders below.

##### Stay home when unwell

The most important action school communities can take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), is to ensure that any unwell staff and students remain at home and get tested, even with the mildest of symptoms.

##### Practise good hygiene

All staff, students and visitors to schools should undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet.

##### Ensure physical distancing

A variety of strategies to support physical distancing among all students and staff should be pursued, where possible on school grounds. When a distance of 1.5m is not practical, a mask should be worn.

## Covid-19 Tracing

**Any person who is on-site school grounds for 15 minutes or more is required to sign in at the front office.**

What this means for Dunkeld Consolidated School -

Drop off and pick up – We will continue with the same routine developed in 2020 for front of school drop off and pick up. A staff member will meet students in the mornings and deliver to the gate in the afternoons.

Parents and friends are welcome to enter the school for office matters, volunteer purposes and appointments with teachers etc, in which you may park in the car park or on the roadside past the front entrance. If parents and community members do not have a reason to enter school grounds, we ask that people do not, to avoid the need for signing in and to help with physical distancing and tracing measures, should the instance arise.

If parents are wishing to see a teacher, please place a note in the diary or send a message through Seesaw and they will arrange a time to meet.

## **Volunteers**

We are thrilled to be able to have family members and friends onsite again for volunteer purposes. This week we welcome our SAKG volunteers (Friends) this week! We do encourage more volunteers, should anyone have any time to give to this program.

All volunteers are required to sign in and out at the front office. More information on how you can volunteer at our school in 2021 will be made available soon. We appreciate our community involvement.

## **Building and Grounds Works**

We have had cement being poured around the new building this week and are getting closer and closer to being able to have full use of the building.

We also have some grounds works occurring over the coming weeks, with landscaping of the gardens surrounding the buildings and some works in our SAKG garden.

## **Open Day and Farewell to Jane Higgins**

We will now be holding a retirement farewell for Mrs Jane Higgins as well as our Open Day and morning tea to officially welcome all our families back to the school. We also welcome community members who wish to see the changes to our school over time.

## **Staffing**

I wish to inform our school and community, that I have made the decision to step down from the Acting Principal position from the beginning of Term 3 2021.

This is not a decision come to lightly, as I have truly relished the opportunity to lead this great school. Although I have enjoyed my time in the role and am very proud of what we have managed to achieve at Dunkeld in the past two years, I need to take a step back and prioritise time for my young children.

I feel our school is in a great position and set to continue thriving with a new leader. Our School Council will work with the Department of Education in moving forward from Term 3 onwards.

I will continue at Dunkeld Consolidated School in a teaching capacity from Term 3 onwards, which I am very excited about, as I love being with our students.

Mrs Anne Gilbert will be taking a well-earned break for all of Term 3 as Long Service Leave, as will Mrs Ann Howard taking Term 4 off. I will therefore step into these roles in 2021 to provide as little disruption to classes and staffing as possible. I will also be able to provide support and handover to the incoming Leader.

I thank you all for your support and will continue to provide a safe and supportive environment for your children to thrive over the coming months.

Thank you, Dee Gerring

## **CLASS REPORTS**



### **Prep and Year 1/2 Inquiry**

The Prep, Year One and Two students have been learning about families this term during Inquiry. We are learning about the similarities and differences between our families, how families have changed over time and the different family roles. Here are Grace and Minu's family from Grade 2.



### **House Swimming Sports Day**

On 19 February 2021 Grade 3, 4, 5 and 6 students all participated in the Dunkeld Consolidated School swimming sports. It was Wannan vs Sturgeon. It was a warm summer's day great for swimming, but the day started off a bit bad (for me). First I left my swimmers on the bus and then I needed a red polo shirt to represent Wannan. After that we hopped on the bus and drove to the Dunkeld pool. I had decided to do Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle in that order. I swam with Charlie, Ben and Darcy. Darcy had joined in Backstroke and then we all did the rest. We started Butterfly, I came last then we did Backstroke and almost came third but lost, the worst was in Breaststroke I came last and was an extra minute behind them!!! In Freestyle I finally got a ribbon and came third! It was lime-green with gold writing that read 'Third' and it had a spiked bottom. When we were at the pool we were in, out, in and out of the water also it was

on, off, on, off with our shirts and hats. I put the ribbon on my shirt but then moved it to my hat.

On 24/02/2021 the school announced the winning team from the sports and Sturgeon won and received the trophy.

By Sean Bird, Year 5

### **Fun Friday**

Last Friday was our first Fun Friday of the year. We did Tabloid Sports. Some of the activities we did were hula hoops, hockey, soccer and sack races. The year 6 Student Voice group is extremely proud of the effort they put into the activities. Everyone had a spectacular time.

We can wait to do another Fun Friday this week!

By Claudia Cochran on behalf of Student Voice

## SWIMMING SPORTS REPORT

### HOUSE SPORTS CAPTAINS REPORT

On Friday 19 February we had the Swimming Sports. We all did a lovely job, and we all tried our very best. Thank you to Lea McArthur, Jen McArthur and Leonie Schurmann for all the hard work you put into the whole two weeks. It was a fun day and the weather was perfect.

Well done to both teams and to all the teachers for assisting with the swimming sports.

Congratulations to Sturgeon for winning the House Swimming Sports. Well done to the Age champions: Claudia, Louis, Charlie, Charlotte, Jack, Phoebe, Edward and Elodie.



**Winning Sports House for 2021: Sturgeon**

**2021 House Swimming Sports Age Champions:**

AGE CHAMPIONS	GIRLS	BOYS
9 Years	Elodie Cochran	Edward Alderman
10 Years	Phoebe Lazzari	Jack Oldfield Mann
11 Years	Charlotte Alderman	Charlie Linke
12/13 Years	Claudia Cochran	Louis Lazzari



**Record broken at the 2021 House Swimming Sports:**

**12/13 Year Boys:**

Sebastian Aarons                      Sturgeon                      Breaststroke 50m                      53.40

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council held a meeting on Tuesday 23 February 2021, and items of business included:

- Financial Commitment Summary, Balance Sheet and Operating Statement for 2020 school year were approved.
- 2021 indicative cash budget and Annual Implementation Plan were approved.
- Funds raised by School Council in the 2020 school year included:
  - Used Batteries Fundraiser                      \$ 868.25
  - Firewood Fundraiser                              \$4 390.00
  - Woodchip Mulch Fundraiser                      \$ 575.00
- Parent Payment Arrangements document and amended Student Dress Code Policy were approved.
- The following Pupil Free Days were approved:
  - Monday 19 April 2021 (first day of Term 2)
  - Monday 7 June 2021
  - Monday 7 December 2021
- Open Morning, morning tea and farewell ceremony approved for Thursday 18 March 2021.
- Didjeribone performance approved for Wednesday 10 March 2021.
- Approval for the State Under 19 Boys' Cricket Championships to be held at the school from 6 to 15 April 2021, with the Grampians Cricket Club to source portable toilets for this event.
- Update on the building and grounds work provided by the Acting Principal.
- Approval for school to finish at 12.00 noon on the last day of Term 4 on Friday 17 December 2021.
- Mrs Dee-Anne Gerring has informed School Council that she has made the decision to step down from the Acting Principal role from the beginning of Term 3 (11 July 2021), due to personal family circumstances. School Council will investigate with the Department of Education and Training (DET) possible options moving forward.

### School Council Elections 2021

After calling for nominations for School Council, four have been received filling all our parent member vacancies and two have been received for the DET employee member vacancies, therefore a ballot is not required.

The four parent school councillors for the two-year term (2021 – 2023) are Lachy Patterson, Rachel Blackwell, Brad Kyle and Jackie Mibus. The elected DET members for the same two-year term are Anne Gilbert and Dee-Anne Gerring (with one casual vacancy).

The first meeting of the new Council will be held on Tuesday 30 March in the school staff room commencing at 7.30pm. Election of office bearers will occur at this meeting.

### WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

All volunteers at the Dunkeld Consolidated School require a Working with Children Check (WWCC), as per the school's Policy. Volunteers may fill in an online application form via the following website: [www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/](http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/). The application is then finalised at a participating Australia Post retail outlet (e.g. Hamilton Post Office). You may participate in child-related activities e.g. SAKG Kitchen and Garden classes at our school while your WWCC application is being processed. Volunteers do not have to pay a registration fee for their WWCC, the only cost involved is the cost of the photo, which may be reimbursed by the school.

## ASSEMBLY



Acting Principal Dee-Anne Gerring congratulating Sturgeon's Sports Captains, Mia Russell and Sebastian Aarons.



Year 4 presenting a display of guess whose silhouette?



Year 2 and Year 3, Vision Statements

Our swimming instructors Jen McArthur, Lea McArthur and Leonie Schurmann, were presented with gifts for their outstanding dedication to our swimming program. Thank you, ladies.



## Medication

### SCHOOL MEDICATION, ASTHMA AND ANAPHYLAXIS PLANS

**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 a current Asthma Plan/Anaphylaxis provided at the beginning of each school year or if medication changes etc. The school must also be notified of any allergies that their child may have.**

## Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (SAKG)

We wish to welcome you to the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) Program at Dunkeld Consolidated School for 2021. Classes will be held on a Friday this year, commencing on 5 March:

<b>Garden:</b> 10.00am – 11.00am	Year 2/3
11.30am – 12.30pm	Prep/Year 1
12.30pm - 1.30pm	Year 4/5/6 Group 1 or 2

**Kitchen:** 11.15am – 2.00pm (Year 4/5/6 students will be split into two groups and will be in either the Kitchen or Garden on a fortnightly basis).

**Students who have a Kitchen class will not be required to bring lunch.**

All students will participate in growing and harvesting produce in our Garden classes and Year 4 to Year 6 students will participate in preparing and sharing lunch together in our Kitchen classes. Prep to Year 3 students will have an introduction to Kitchen classes throughout the year.

**All Friends require a Working With Children Check**, applications may be completed online: [www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au)



### SAKG Kitchen Classes 2021

Year 4/5/6 students will alternate in weekly cooking lessons in the home-style kitchen with our Kitchen Specialist, Clare Kennedy. Students have a shared meal at the end of their Kitchen lesson and contribute \$4.00 each to help cover the cost of ingredients (students do not need to bring lunch on their Kitchen day).

The school office will include this charge on your family statement for each Kitchen class.

### Garden Sign Competition

**Towards the end of the term, the Kitchen Garden captains will be holding a sign competition.**

**RULES - The wording 'Dunkeld Consolidated School Garden' must appear.**

- All materials must be recycled or scraps such as, wood, old bottles tops and whatever else you can find.

**Any questions please ask Jake Linskens, Maxi Graham, Oscar Fanning and Isabella Jury - they will be happy to help you.**

## NATIONAL RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY ON FRIDAY 19 MARCH

Dunkeld Consolidated School are excited to be celebrating National Ride2School Day on Friday 19 March 2021.

National Ride2School Day is the perfect opportunity to kick-start new healthy habits and promote the many benefits of active travel. We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home and give riding, walking, scooting or skating to school a go. It is sure to be a fantastic day and we look forward to seeing you there!



## ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL RAFFLE

Each year the Dunkeld Consolidated School supports the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. One book of raffle tickets (books of 10 tickets @ 20 cents each) will soon be sent home to each school family. If children wish to sell more than one book of tickets could they please contact the school office. Raffle tickets and monies will need to be returned to school by **Monday 29 March 2021**. The raffle will be drawn on **Thursday 1 April 2021**. All raffle proceeds are forwarded to the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. Donation envelopes are also available from the office.



## FUNKY HAIR DAY ON THURSDAY 1 APRIL 2021



Staff and students are encouraged to wear a "funky hairstyle" on **Thursday 1 April 2021** and **give a gold coin donation for participating**. Funds raised will go to the Leukaemia Foundation. *Some crazy hair ideas: Spike it up! - brightly coloured ribbons, scrunchies, wild wigs, waves, curls, coloured hairspray. \*Children please ask your parent's permission before you do anything to your hair.*

## MOBILE AREA RESOURCE CENTRE (MARC) LIBRARY

As we settle into the new school year, I would like to take this opportunity to update you all on the latest news from the MARC van. As many of you already know the MARC van visits a range of schools in the Hamilton region and offers your children regular library lessons and access to a large range of books from which they can borrow. This year, Dunkeld's MARC Library day is on a **THURSDAY**. The theme for this term is *Australian Authors* and we have begun the year exploring new and classic picture books written by Australian authors such as Jackie French, Margaret Wild, Philip and Laura Bunting and Matt and Bec Stanton.

Last year we moved our library catalogue online. You and your children can now browse our collection of books by visiting <https://hamiltonmp.functionalsolutions.com.au> and utilising the quick links and search functions.

By now all children have had the opportunity to borrow from the MARC van and I would really appreciate it if you could help your child properly care for their MARC library books at home:

- Keep books clean and dry.
- Turn the pages gently from the corner.
- Read with clean hands.
- Keep away from little children and pets.
- No food or drink around your books.
- Do not colour or draw in the books.
- **Please return your library books on time.**

Unfortunately if your child does not return their book they are not able to borrow again until the book is returned. Your school will receive a \$15.00 replacement fee for any badly damaged or lost books, which may be passed on to your family.

Thank you, Bree Porter

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION FOR 2021

- Congratulations to Kate Fanning, Tim Wilson and family who welcomed a baby son, Clancy, on Wednesday 24 February 2021.
- Congratulations to Miss Mary-Ellen Evans and Mr Ash McLachlan on their forthcoming wedding and our very best wishes to you for the future.
- Ava Balkin misplaced her named beach towel on House Swimming Sports Day. Could you please check that it wasn't picked up by accident?



## FORMS

If you have not returned your Student Enrolment Information forms to the school office, could you please do so by Friday 5 March 2021. Could you please ensure you check all the details on the form and note any changes before signing and returning to school, even if there are no changes. **It is extremely important that the school has accurate information on file.**

*Dunkeld Consolidated School invites the community to attend a*  
**Retirement Farewell for Mrs Jane Higgins  
and Open Morning on Thursday 18 March 2021**

Dunkeld Consolidated School will hold a special assembly to farewell and thank Mrs Jane Higgins who retired from the Department of Education from the beginning of the 2021 school year. Jane has given many years of service to both Dunkeld Consolidated School and the Glenthompson Campus. The Assembly will take place at 9:30am and be open to all school and community members.

Following the assembly, we invite all visitors to our Open Morning from 10.00am to 11.00am. Our senior students would love to take visitors on a tour of our school, where you are welcome to wander through our classes and grounds between 10.00am and 11.00am, seeing the many changes that have taken place over the years.

**We also invite visitors to stay for morning tea on the deck at 11.00am.**

The school would especially love to see grandparents along with our parents and interested members of the community attend. Parents of pre-school aged children who may be considering joining our school community in the future are also warmly invited to meet us.

COVID-19 procedures and social distancing rules will apply.

*We look forward to seeing you there!*