Learning For Life
School Mission
Deer Park North Primary School promotes a community of life long learners. The school strives to develop responsible and resilient individuals who work towards achieving their personal best.

School Values
Respect
Care
Honesty
Responsibility
Trust

Student Supervision Times
The school offers yard supervision from 8.50am & after school until 3.40pm. Children should not be sent to school before 8.50am; and picked up no later than 3.40pm.

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From the Principal
Last Friday we welcomed the Police Pipe Band and all classes enjoyed a fun-filled performance in the gymnasium. It was wonderful to see the students highly engaged and joining in with well known songs, even “Bob the Builder”!

Next term, keyboard & guitar lessons will be offered to our students through Primary Music Institute. It is envisaged that lessons will take place during the school day. Details of the program are in this newsletter. If you would like your child/children to participate in the program please express your interest by phone or via the email address provided.

Over the coming holiday period the Building B toilets will be receiving a much needed make-over! As with the toilet block in Building A, the cubicles will be replaced, new taps fitted and the floors resurfaced. The existing ramp in the breeze-way will be finished in a dark grey hard-wearing surface. The work is likely to be completed early in Term 4. We can also look forward to the Gymnasium floor being recoated to protect the surface and ensure durability.

Congratulations to all of our students on their achievements over the term and thank you to our dedicated and hard working staff for yet another productive school term.

We thank Ms Donna Hill for teaching Physical Education and Health this term and providing a highly engaging and varied program. Thank you also to Mrs Gorman for her contributions to the Year 1/2 teaching team this term.

Very best wishes to Ms Ebony Davis on her coming nuptials. Next term we are pleased to welcome Ms Kloss and Mr Dixon back to DPNPS!

Term 4 is nearly here and with it comes the need for all students to wear their school hat as part of our SunSmart policy for all outdoor activities. I encourage all students to have their school hats ready for the first day of the coming term.

I wish everyone a happy and safe holiday and look forward to the final term of the 2013 school year.

Liz Balharrie

Dates for your diaries...

September
20 Sports Fun Day
End of Term 3 (2:30pm Dismissal)

October
7 Start Term 4
11 Year 1/2 Swimming Lessons begin
23-25 Year 5/6 Camp - Coastal Forest Lodge Anglesea
28 House Colour Fun Day

November
4 Pupil Free Day - Curriculum Day
5 Melbourne Cup Day Holiday
20 Multicultural Celebrations/ International Children’s Day

December
10 Year 6 Orientation Day
12 Year 6 Graduation
20 End of Term 4

Holiday Program

The Brimbank City Council will be running the Brimbank Active Kids – Spring Holiday Program on the following dates at DPNPS:

Tuesday 24 September 2013
Wednesday 25 September 2013
Tuesday 1 October 2013
Wednesday 2 October 2013

Mawson Avenue, Deer Park Vic 3023. Tel: 03 9363 4600 Fax: 03 9363 6243
Email: deer.park.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Web: www.deerparknthps.vic.edu.au
Wheel of Choice

No doubt many parents will have seen “The Wheel of Choice” displayed on walls around the school. This is a tool that we have introduced to our students to give them the power of choice when dealing with a situation. Children are encouraged to refer to the Wheel of Choice to determine how they might go about rectifying a situation. By having a choice of options the children can choose the option that best suits each situation.

Therefore class teachers have spent time helping children to understand some respectful alternatives for expressing anger or disappointment. When children are angry or upset we encourage them to choose an action from the Wheel of Choice which might help them achieve a better outcome.

It is much more powerful if the student is able to work through and solve a problem than if we adults interfere and sort things out for them.

Perhaps the next time your child is experiencing a problem you might refer to the Wheel of Choice and discuss which options might be the best to address the situation.

THE Grade 1/2's have been working very hard in Term 3. Students have been learning how to read new words and how to think deeply about what we are reading and writing. In Maths, students learned about addition and subtraction and lots about shapes. Students were also lucky enough to visit the Melbourne Aquarium as part of their inquiry studies. Well done everyone!

Year 1/2

PREP News

OUR Prep students have been learning about being healthy and enjoyed a Healthy Day on September 12. They had lots of nutritious foods and participated in games and activities. In the Life Education session they learnt about different foods that they should eat every day and food that they should only eat sometimes. They met Harold the Giraffe and he taught the Preps about being safe in different ways.

Next term the Preps are learning about Construction. In the second week back there will be an incursion to build billycarts!! Wow!

Year 3/4

THIS term in Year 3/4 our topic is space. In writing we learnt how to edit, write poems and write explanation texts. In reading we have been learning about decoding strategies, inferring and what makes sense. In maths we have been learning about time, division and length and perimeter.

Our top 5 moments were:

* When we went to Star Lab.
* Going to the Life Ed Van
* Doing space activities like making papier mache planets
* Compliment bags
* Learning how to write different types of poems.

Noami and Betim MSR
Clocktower Performance

ON Monday the 9th of September, the students participating in performing arts went to the Moonee Ponds Clocktower. We rehearsed with other schools and really enjoyed watching their performances. We then went back home and got ready. That night we performed our singing and dancing items in front of a huge crowd.

MY favourite part was when we were back stage and we were getting ready. I was really excited and I had a lot of fun! Dalia

MY favourite part was getting ready for the dance and performing our dance to a huge crowd. I really enjoyed it! Rebecca

A big thank you to Mrs Daly and Leah for helping us and making the night possible.

The School Council is considering modifying or altering our school uniform. As part of the process we would like the school community to consider 2 options. Both options keep the current school logo design, black pants and shorts, maroon skirts.

Any changes would be brought in over a 2 year period.

Option 1 - Keeping the current school colours and logo
Bomber jacket – all maroon, including sleeves with stripe detail.
Keeping the polo shirts – both the short and long sleeve (removing the t-shirt from the clothing list)
These would be the only major changes

Option 2 - A Colour change
Maintaining the Maroon as the main colour and the current logo but instead of the Gold we propose Sky Blue
The bomber jacket would be maroon with detail blue stripes on the ribbing.
The polo shirt would be sky blue – long and short sleeve
There is a variation to the school dress and girls tunic colour.
There will be a display of both Option 1 and Option 2 at the school for the school community to view.
Next term we will be asking for feedback via a survey. We encourage the whole school community to participate in this process.
Annette Lawrence – School Council President

We are inviting all parents interested in having their children participate in group keyboard and/or guitar lessons to please register ASAP using the below options. The program will be offered from Term 4 subject to parent / student interest levels.

Lessons will be run once per week in small groups – 30 minutes (5 students) or 20 minutes (3 students). Cost will be just $11.90 per lesson. Lessons will likely occur during school hours (on school campus) and keyboards are provided by Primary Music Institute for keyboard lessons.

To register your interest for Term 4, please email us (admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au) or call us directly (07) 3102 7357.

In addition to the enjoyment of music, numerous scientific studies have found a number of other ACADEMIC BENEFITS from participating in an instrumental music program – including in areas such as math and computers (University of California), English (University of Kansas study), developing fine motor skills (Harvard Medical School) and increases in overall IQ.

Wishing you all enjoyable school holidays and hoping to see you in Term 4!

Primary Music Institute
PO Box 7313 Bondi Beach NSW 2026 Fax 1300 764 674
Email admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au

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Melbourne’s Western Region Life Education Parent Information

Background to Life Education: Life Education is a community-based, independent organisation at the front line of positive and preventative drug and health education. Approximately 200,000 children and 18,000 families take part in the preschool and primary programs each year. Helping young people make informed decisions about drugs and their health is at the heart of the program, which is driven by the popular Life Education mascot Healthy Harold the giraffe.

Life Education Vision: For all Australian’s enjoying life free from the effects of drug misuse.

Life Education Mission: To empower the young to make the best choices for a safe life, through our leading drug and health education programs.

A range of topics covered: (visit: www.lifeeducation.org.au for more information)

Early Years (Prep – Two) – body knowledge, personal safety (sun/syringe), feelings and friendship, and healthy behaviours (eating/exercise/sleep).

Middle Years & Upper Years (Three – Six) – more on advanced body knowledge, safe use of medicines, resisting pressure, the effects of smoking, alcohol and caffeine and related social issues, bullying & cyber-safety.


Everyday foods: grain & cereal foods - vegetable and legumes foods - fruit foods - milk, yoghurt & cheese foods – lean meats, poultry, fish, eggs, tofu, nuts & seed foods. Drink plenty of water.

Sometimes foods/drinks: sugary, salty & fatty foods (chips, lollies, cakes, chocolate, processed meats, soft drink, ice-cream, burgers, sports and sweet drinks) have oils, fats, butter & margarine in small amounts.

Drug Education:

Definition – drugs are any substance other than food, water & oxygen that when they enter the body change the way the body works.

Many legal items in stores contain drugs such as caffeine - energy drinks, black tea, coffee. Medicines are also classified as drugs yet they usually change the body in a good way. Nicotine & alcohol are also referred to in senior sessions with students.

Take a harm minimisation approach to reduce the risks associated with drug misuse.

If students lead a healthy life and make good choices in their day-to-day living this can carry over into situations if faced with risky situations or social dilemmas where tough decisions have to be made.

Refusal Strategies – These skills are taught with upper students – they practice via role play to refuse a drug. A range of strategies are encouraged – Say NO, walk away, change the subject, provide a reason or excuse, suggest a better idea plus more.

Other topics:

Bullying: The most common type definition of bullying used in schools is one like this:

Bullying is when a student (or group) with more power repeatedly and intentionally uses negative words and/or actions against another student that cause distress and create a risk to their well-being. Bullying can be...
physical, verbal, emotional or social and can be carried out in person, through technology or by indirect means (Prof Helen McGrath 2010).

For practical and relevant information on various topics including bullying & cyber-bullying visit www.raisingchildren.net.au - ideas for coping with bullying are provided, signs and signals if a child is being bullied, building your child’s resilience, strategies to cope or minimise the impact, and much more. Clips are also available to watch.

Cyber Safety: Possible rules to support a healthier cyber home.
All technology devices are to be used in shared space in the home
Have a cut off time for technology in the home at a set time (i.e. 7 or 8pm), leave the devices in a set area after this time.
Limit screen time to only two hours per day or less (5 – 18years of age). With reasonable breaks from looking at a screen (eg. every 15 minutes).
Encourage homework to be completed first before recreational screen time
Educational games and activities, avoiding violent sites.
See more www.raisingchildren.net.au

Useful resources and services for parents & families:
Australian Drug Foundation – www.adf.org.au – a leading body committed to preventing alcohol and drug problems in the community. From this site a Drug Info section can be accessed with fact sheets on various drugs. They also have links for parents to have discussions to children about alcohol see www.theothertalk.org.au
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development – www.education.vic.gov.au – A for parent section/programs available, one in particular is Bully Stoppers with information for parents, students and school staff.
Victorian Continence Resource Centre – bladder and bowels - www.continencevictoria.org.au
Life Education – www.lifeeducation.org.au -
Triple Zero Kids Challenge – kids.triplezero.gov.au - kids can play games and solve problems. They learn about safety message and hear what happens when they call triple zero.
Nurse-on-call – Call 1300 606024 for the cost of a local call – a Victorian government initiative, it is a phone service that provides immediate and expert health advice.
Dear Parents/Carers,
We are currently updating our student enrolment records. Please complete all sections of this supplementary enrolment form and return it to the school office by Friday 11 October 2013. Accurate information about parental occupation has become an increasingly important component of government allocation of resources to schools. We would greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that these details are up-to-date.

Thank you

PRIMARY FAMILY DETAILS

Name of Student/s ________________________________________________________________

MOTHER’S SURNAME: ______________________________ FIRST NAME: ____________________

HOME ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: Home ___________ Mobile ___________ Work ____________

COUNTRY OF BIRTH: ________________________________________________________________

LANGUAGE/S SPOKEN AT HOME: _____________________________________________________

OCCUPATION/S: ___________________________________________________________________

EMPLOYER: ________________________________________________________________________

If you are not currently in paid work but have had a job in the last 12 months, please list your last occupation. If you have not been in paid work in the last 12 months write ‘N’.

HIGHEST LEVEL OF SECONDARY OR TERTIARY EDUCATION: ______________________________

FATHER’S SURNAME: ____________________________ FIRST NAME: ______________________

HOME ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: Home ___________ Mobile ___________ Work ____________

COUNTRY OF BIRTH: ________________________________________________________________

LANGUAGE/S SPOKEN AT HOME: ______________________________________________________

OCCUPATION/S: ____________________________________________________________________

EMPLOYER: ________________________________________________________________________

If you are not currently in paid work but have had a job in the last 12 months, please list your last occupation. If you have not been in paid work in the last 12 months write ‘N’.

HIGHEST LEVEL OF SECONDARY OR TERTIARY EDUCATION: ______________________________