From the Principal

Our 2014 school year has got off to a wonderful start with students quickly settling into their new classes!

Parents/Teacher Chats are being held in coming weeks to provide the valuable opportunity for information sharing and to work together in partnership to support the best learning outcomes for students. Parents and carers are invited to make a time to meet with their child’s teacher/s in late February. I strongly encourage parent/carers to attend. Further information is included in this newsletter.

It is pleasing to see the majority of students observing our SunSmart Policy and wearing their maroon broad-brimmed school hat or legionnaire hat when outside. In line with our SunSmart Policy, students who do not have a hat are restricted to the passive play area and will be excluded from outdoor activities in the sun.

I would like to warmly welcome Bree Campey to DPNPS in the position of Business Manager. We are most fortunate to have Bree join the school’s administration team.

School Council Elections

The Department of Education has advised schools to proceed with their School Council elections. The composition of the Deer Park North Primary School Council is as follows:
- School Principal (Executive officer)
- 5 parents representatives
- 3 community representatives (co-opted)
- 3 DEECD staff members

The following councillors have a second year to run: Parent Category: Jenny Quirk
Staff Reps: Teresa Woods, Daryl Bowen, Donna Mizzi

On behalf of the Deer Park North community we thank our 2013 School Council members for their terrific commitment and wonderful support.
Ellen Arnott, Julie Smith, Annette Lawrence, Tanya Bramwell, Tepuna Ngaue, Sharon Cachia, Jenny Quirk, Amanda Tran, Teresa Woods, Daryl Bowen & Donna Mizzi.
EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES FOR YOUR CHILD IN 2014.
Parents who hold a valid Health Care Card and are concerned about not being able to pay for camps, excursions, swimming program and other activities for their Child can have their EMA Payment of $200 for Prep Children or $150 for Grade 1-6 Children, paid directly to the school and this money is then kept in credit on your account to cover these costs.
Please consider this option as the EMA is provided to assist in covering educational costs for your child/children. This means that you do not have to find money during the year for your child’s participation in educational activities.
EMA forms are due back to the school by 28th February 2014. If you haven’t already completed your form, please do so by this date.
Parents who do not hold a Health Care Card and would like to place funds on their school account to pre-pay for excursions and other activities, can also use this service.
At the end of the year any unspent money can either be refunded to you or kept in credit in your account to be used for the following year.

Bree Campey
Business Manager

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club program is up and running every school day at 8:30 am in the canteen area!
Thank you Bakers Delight at Brimbank Central for your continued support and the generous donation of bread each day.
The school would be grateful for any donations of vege-mite, honey and strawberry jam for the toast. These donations can be left at the office or brought into breakfast club before school.
Parents wishing to help with the breakfast are also most welcome!

Chair Bags

We are most grateful for the help of some very obliging and capable volunteers last year in sewing chair bags for some of our classes.
This year our Prep teachers would like to use chair bags for our Prep’s reading books and are seeking helpers who would be willing to make them. We will provide the material and the pattern. If you are willing and able to assist, we would be most appreciative.
If you are able to help by making some chair bags please contact the school office on 9363 4600. Thank you...

On Tuesday, it was International Safer Internet Day. Classes completed various activities to help students learn about being safe online.

Do you know what your child is doing online?
Please refer to the information that was sent home with your child earlier in the week about being safe online.

It is important that we all work together to educate our students/children about safe technology use and online practices.

Acceptable Use of Technology at Deer Park North

Deer Park North Primary School has an Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement that we require all parents to read through with their children, sign and return back to school. It is very important that this agreement be returned to school ASAP. If it is not returned, your child’s use of technology at school may be limited.

Thanks,

Mrs Lehane
eLearning Co-ordinator
Prep Information

A reminder to parents that our Prep children are not required to attend school on Wednesdays during the month of February. Wednesdays have been set aside for Prep entry assessments. This week our Prep students attended school for full school days!

Well done!

Parent Teacher Chats

Our 2014 Parent/Teacher chats will be held over three afternoons/evenings from 2:15pm. All students will finish school at the usual time of 3:15pm.

♦ Year 5/6 Parent/Teacher Chats - Monday February 24
♦ Year 1/2 Parent/Teacher Chats - Tuesday February 25
♦ Year 3/4 Parent/Teacher Chats-Wednesday February 26

Notices have been sent home for families to request a time to chat with the teacher. Interpreters will be booked where requested. A time will be made available for all parents/carers to see their child’s teacher/s.

An Information Session for PREP parents & carers will be held on Thursday February 27 from 9am - 10 am.

Asthma Management

If your child suffers from asthma, please ensure that the school has been provided with an updated Asthma Action Plan in line with the Asthma Foundation and DEECD requirements. All medication should be brought to the school office where the required medication authority form can be collected and completed.

Science & Sustainability

In Science this term the children will be studying the concept of ENERGY. Via a series of experiments the children will investigate the transforming and transferring of energy.

DPNPS has started a sustainability program this year supported by Sustainability Victoria, Resource Smart Program. Sustainability is a cross curriculum priority of the Victorian curriculum AusVELS. This term the students will be involved in the process of composting (fruit and vegetable scraps), designing and building garden beds and becoming water smart.

Mr Dixon
Prep - Year 6 Science and Sustainability Teacher & Coordinator

Physical Education

Dear Parents and guardians,

I am excited to join the wonderful team of Deer Park North Primary School. I am looking forward to getting all children active in sport, having fun and teaching lots of new skills. The year has started off with the Preps and Grade 1-2 focusing on minor games, locomotor movements including running, hopping and skipping as well as ball handling- throwing and catching.

Grades 3-6 have begun the year looking at basketball, focusing on dribbling, passing, shooting and game play.

Grades 5-6 Interschool sport in is full swing and begins this week playing away at Kings Park Primary. We have representative teams in Softball, Bat tennis, Cricket, Rounders and Basketball. Sport club students will be doing a range of different activities each week building skills and fitness.

The Grades 3-6 Swimming and Picnic Carnival will be held on Wednesday the 12th March at St Albans Leisure Centre. If anyone is interested in being involved on the day please feel free to assist or even just stop by for a visit. It would be a great chance for me to meet you also!

Looking forward to a great year ahead in P.E.

Regards,
Miss McIntyre

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is with great pleasure that I join the school community at Deer Park North Primary School working with students in the Art Room. To start the year off we have been learning about celebrations, in particular, Chinese New Year, creating lanterns and dragon puppets.

This term the grade 1/2s will be combining patterns and colours to create more ‘Celebrations’ themed artworks, the grade 3/4s will be exploring Australian landscapes and nature, and the 5/6s will be learning about nature, sustainability and environmental art, while the preps will be focusing on creating artworks based on their own interests, exploring different ways of creating.

If you have a particular interest or can share a skill in the art room, please contact me. I welcome offers for visits in the art room.

I would like to build up our collection of magazines for cutting out/ collage activities. If you have any old magazines around the house I encourage you to bring them in to the art room! These could be weekend newspaper magazines, travel brochures, cooking, interior, animal or weekly women’s magazines.

I am looking forward to an exciting year in the art room!

Warm regards,
Miss Fleur Sadlier
DPNPS Canteen News

We are pleased to announce the opening of our school canteen!

Those in our school community involved in the food service industry would be aware of the regulations and requirements that must be met under the national Food Standards Code and the Victorian Government Food Act and the time it takes to put these programs and practices in place. Last week several staff members were trained in food handling and supervision and have been very efficient in establishing the structures and routines to meet all requirements of the legislation. Well done!!

Last week the students completed a survey of the foods they would select to eat from a list of options. Thank you to all the students who completed the DPNPS Canteen Menu Survey. The selections on the survey were helpful in developing our healthy **START-UP MENU**.

At this very early stage, we are offering a limited menu to get the canteen service up and running. The menu will be developed over time and will be regularly revised and refined in response to popular choices and requests in line with the healthy food guide.

All items on the menu will offer healthy choices for DPNPS students based on the DEECD ‘Healthy Canteen Kit’. As with any new initiatives, it takes time to implement and constructive feedback from our school community is always beneficial and welcomed.

We thank school community members who have sought clarification from school council members, school administration staff and canteen staff around the operation of the school canteen. We will continue to provide information through the school newsletter and website as we work to ensure that we offer a healthy school food service.

Once again, constructive feedback and suggestions are most welcome!

### Canteen Start-up Menu

| Sandwiches – Wholemeal bread (Prices are the same as 2013) |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Ham             | $2.80           |
| Cheese          | $2.50 (Lite)    |
| Ham and Cheese  | $3.30           |

**Seasonal fruit:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruit</th>
<th>Price</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bananas</td>
<td>$1.00 ea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>$1.00 ea.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Yoghurt tubs - Lite (small)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flavour</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strawberry</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanilla</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Vegetable Snacks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Snack</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carrot sticks</td>
<td>$0.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cucumber sticks</td>
<td>$0.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Orders are to be made on a paper bag and put into your child’s class lunch order bag at 9am.

Thank you,

Kim Fortune
Canteen Supervisor

### WHY IS HEALTHY FOOD IN SCHOOLS IMPORTANT?

For many students who use the canteen regularly, the food purchased there makes a significant contribution to their total food intake and nutrition. For those students who do not use the school canteen or food service regularly, the canteen still plays an important educational and modelling role for healthy eating habits.

In addition to the provision of nutritious food, the canteen has an important role within the broader school environment in complementing the knowledge, skills and behaviours about healthy eating and lifestyles that are taught in the classroom. The food provided within the school environment has a considerable influence on the development of children’s long-term eating habits, food preferences and attitudes towards food.

The school canteen can play an important role in promoting healthy foods and creating a school culture of healthy eating. This can extend beyond the school environment and influence food choices within the family and community and enhance the social and multicultural aspects of food and eating.

Some nutritional issues that affect children include:

- growth
- bone health and development
- dental health
- weight management (overweight and obesity)
- eating disorders and body image
- mood, concentration and learning
- development of food preferences, tastes, eating habits and skills
- promotion of heath and prevention of lifestyle disease
- nutritional adequacy.

Source: DEECD Website

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/management/Pages/canteenschools...