From the Principal

The school experienced a power outage last Friday which affected most of the school and our servers. It highlights just how dependent we are on our network of computers and copiers etc. As a consequence, the fortnightly newsletter did not materialise last week!

The Christmas Concert last Wednesday was well attended and enjoyed by families and friends! Following the entertaining class performances, all classrooms were open to our visitors. Students were very proud and excited to share their work and talk about their achievements over the year. A morning tea was held in the staffroom for a community get-together. It was the perfect opportunity to meet and talk about the many successes of which the DPNPS community can be proud. Thank you to all our visitors for coming along and also to students and teachers for their wonderful efforts!

Our Year 6 students graduated at a ceremony last Thursday evening. On behalf of the DPNPS community, I congratulate them on the completion of their primary years of schooling and wish them every success in their future endeavours.

It’s not goodbye, it’s just au revoir!

The end of the school year usually means some staffing changes. As 2013 comes to an end, we bid farewell to the following teachers and ES staff: Ms Louise Chalmers, Mrs Quyen Thai, Ms Liz Yankos, Mr Jayden Andrea, Mrs Gail Nesbit & Mrs Trish Rae who will be moving on to pursue new and exciting challenges in 2014. Ms Brenda Alexander and Mrs Beris Rickhuss will be retiring! We extend our sincere gratitude to each of them for their valued contribution to the life of the school and acknowledge the difference they have made to the lives of children with whom they have worked and supported. We wish them every success in the future.

Next year we will have 17 classes. The structure again includes straight Preps with composite classes across the remainder of the school. Today students will be visiting their 2014 classroom and receiving notices providing information about their 2014 teacher and classroom. Please keep this in a safe place for the start of next year.

Specialist programs next year will include Physical Education, Visual Arts and Environmental Science. We are very excited to offer the Environmental Science program to all classes P-6 where students will learn about sustainability practices. This program is supported by Sustainability Victoria - Resource Smart. Library sessions will form part of class programs with classroom teachers.

We can all feel proud of the achievements of our students and the continued success of our educational programs over the year. The school is incredibly fortunate to have a strong & dedicated team of professionals & a supportive school community.

On behalf of the School Council and Staff I would like to thank the community for the support received throughout 2013.

We wish everyone a safe & happy Christmas.

Liz Balharrie

End of Term 4 - Dismissal

December 20 - Students dismissed at 1:15pm
School Office Hours
8:30am -1:45pm.
The Brimbank Active Kids Summer program will run from the Westvale Community Centre. Please contact the centre for information as to dates and times.

2014 School Terms

Term 1:
January 28* & 29  Student-free days
January 30       Year 1 - 6 Students start
January 31       Prep Students start
4 April         End of Term 1
Term 2:
22 April to 27 June**
Term 3:
14 July to 19 September
Term 4:
6 October to 19 December

* The first day of Term 1 is a student-free day in all government schools to allow for appropriate planning to take place for the arrival of students. Each year government schools are provided with four student-free days for professional development, school planning and administration, curriculum development, and student assessment and reporting purposes. The remaining three student-free days are determined by each individual school. January 28 & 29 are student-free days at DPNPS. The dates for the remaining days will be finalised early in 2014.

** Term 2 starts on Tuesday 22 April as Monday 21 April is a public holiday for Easter Monday.
Please note: Friday 25 April is ANZAC Day.
The following timetable will be implemented from the start of the school year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>Session 1 (Fruit &amp; Veg. 10:00 am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 - 11:30</td>
<td>Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 - 11:45</td>
<td>Students eat in classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>Session 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45 - 1:45</td>
<td>Session 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45 - 2:15</td>
<td>Recess (Nude Food)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 - 3:15</td>
<td>Session 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fruit and veg break during the morning session has become a regular part of the school day routine and will continue in 2014. Teachers have found it provides students with energy and assists concentration. Students are encouraged to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable from home each day. Also all students need to have a drink bottle for water. Students are required to bring their lunch from home in the first week of school in 2014. It is envisaged that the canteen will be open from Monday, 3 February.

Student dismissal in 2014 will be at 3:15 pm. Teachers will supervise students in the playground until 3:30pm.

FUNDRAISING

The Christmas raffle was drawn at our final school assembly on Wednesday! Congratulations to all the prize winners. All money raised will go towards the purchase of iPads for student use in the classroom.

A HUGE thank you to our Fundraising Committee for their hard work and the school community for the wonderful support of our fundraising efforts over the year.

ZIPTALES WINNERS

Ziptales is an online reading resource offering high quality stories, graphic novels, poems, videos, puzzles, writing lessons, skill building units and all related work activities. Deer Park North Primary has been using Ziptales to complement their English program for the last ten years. As such we are now members of the Ziptales Ten Year Club and have been offered four home subscriptions for 2014. The four lucky children who will receive the Ziptales subscriptions are:

- Yanek Rustambekov – Year 5
- Duncan Lopez – Year 3
- Carly Micallef-Orr – Year 1
- Lizzi Sacop – Prep

Congratulations!

Mrs. Gray

SCHOOL CHARGES FOR 2014

STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Through the EMA, eligible families receive $150 (Prep-$200). This money may be paid directly into personal bank accounts, or by cheque collected at the school or held by the school in credit for payments to be made over the year for your child’s educational expenses e.g. excursions.

Some schools, including Deer Park North, receive some additional funding in the school budget to support with educational costs.

FAMILIES NOT ON EMA

Families not in receipt of EMA will be required to pay $120. This charge will cover the educational costs of books, supplies and educational resources.

COST TO PARENTS/CAREERS

An important element in maximising student learning opportunities is the provision of a range of shared experiences planned throughout the year. These include such educational experiences as visiting artists and experts, excursions to relevant sites, sporting events and activities & school camps. In organising such activities the school looks for best value for money. Costs are kept to a minimum to enable that every child has the opportunity to participate in all the activities on offer.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The School Council recently sought feedback via a survey of our school community as to the preferred school uniform. The final tally of the surveys did not provide a clear indication one way or the other - to change or to maintain the existing uniform. After consideration, it has been recommended by School Council that each family has input into any considered changes early in 2014.

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Email: deer.park.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Web: www.deerparknthps.vic.edu.au
Welcome everyone to the 2013 Graduation Ceremony. My name is Muhammed and my name is Gauri, and we are the school captains of Deer Park North Primary School.

The role of being a School Captain has been very important for both of us and has changed us in many different ways. First of all, only 2 people actually get the chance to become school captains, and Gauri and I were lucky enough to get that opportunity. Like I said before, the role of being a school captain has changed us and has made us more organised, responsible and most importantly, much more confident than before. An example to show how my confidence has improved in the last year, I applied for the role of Blue House captain, and when the time came to present our speeches I had a lack of confidence, which is why I did not present my speech. Now look at me, I am up here and giving a speech and I am feeling very confident.

This year has been an astounding year, that we will never forget and some memories that stand out are, competing against friends on House Fun Day, the experience of being in inter school sports and hanging out and joking around with friends.

Over the years the school and the students have changed a lot and we are most proud of how the students help each other in class time and in the yard, for example when someone is in need of help other students will help them out. We have also noticed that students respect each other’s ideas and don’t judge other people’s thoughts and opinions.

We have many hopes for Deer Park North Primary School’s future and future leaders. We hope that the future leaders of Deer Park North can acquire all the skills that Gauri and I have acquired throughout our role as School Captains, and that they use these skills in their life. Our hope for the school’s future is that it becomes a great learning environment with good facilities available. We also hope that it is a place where we can learn lifelong skills, which will help us in the future.

All in all, we would like to say to our peers to follow your dreams, try your best and never stop learning.

Congratulations to the following Graduation Award recipients:

Sports Awards : Lance Beltran & Rebecca Dominic
Leadership Awards : Gauri Aerry & Sulaiman Mohd Izlani
Academic Awards:   Dalia Osman & Kenny Huynh
Art Awards :    Bawi Tin Thangeng & Kristy Nguyen

In Art lessons, our students have been working on a project with The Arts Centre Melbourne called 'Play me, I’m yours'.

We have been given a piano to paint and decorate which will be in an exhibition from 9-27th January 2014. All pianos in this exhibition will be located in and around the city streets of Melbourne. The pianos are available for any member of the public to play and enjoy. All pianos in this exhibition have been decorated by different groups in the community of Melbourne. Our students have been working very hard on this project and we are very proud and excited to be involved. Our school website will be updated with the location of our piano for you to visit during the school holidays. The piano will be returned to our school in February, once the exhibition is over.

LITERACY

Procedure Expo—Year 3/4

MSR learnt about procedure writing through investigating what authors do when they write "How to" texts. They learned a lot about the structure and the language features through reading a range of procedures as well as following some of them such as how to play games, how to make crafts and also following a recipe. The students decided to apply the learning through a Procedure Expo. They worked in groups to plan, write and present a procedure to the Prep students. They also published the procedure as a flyer for the audience members to receive. I was lucky enough to work with MSR as they learned about procedures as well as being a member of the audience on the day of the expo. I was extremely impressed with each of the presentation. Some of the procedure presentations included; making smoothies, spider shakes, making origami stars, learning iPad games, and hairstyling.

Well done MSR for sharing your learning. Your are thinking and working like authors!

Donna Mizzi  Literacy Coach

MSR were learning about procedural texts. It was all done in 3 weeks. There were 5 teams. Some showed us how to make drinks and how to play mine craft. PDJ were invited to watch MSR present their procedural texts. It took 2 days to present all of our work. MSR had fun.

Noami MSR
Google Apps for Education

Deer Park North Primary School, have signed up to Google Apps for Education. Google Apps for Education is a free, web based application.

As with any educational endeavour, a strong partnership with families is essential to a successful experience. With this letter we are sharing information regarding the use of Google Apps for Education at Deer Park North.

The following services are available to students and hosted by Google as part of Deer Park North’s online presence in Google Apps for Education:

- **Docs** - a word processing, spreadsheet, drawing, and presentation toolset that is very similar to Microsoft Office
- **Drive** - a cloud storage area where files can be stored securely
- **Mail** - an individual email account for school use managed, monitored, and filtered by the Deer Park North Primary School.

Using these tools, students can collaboratively create, edit, and share files and websites for school related projects and communicate via email with other students and teachers. These services are entirely online and available 24/7 from any Internet-connected computer or device.

Examples of student use include showcasing class projects, building an electronic portfolio of school learning experiences, and working in small groups on presentations to share with others.

Whilst introducing Google Apps, the school will continue to focus on Cyber-safety and refer to our Acceptable Use of Technology policy that students have signed.

*Some classes have started their Google Apps learning whilst others will begin more exploration next year.*

To find out more, here is a link to the Google Apps for Education site:

If you have any questions or queries, please see the office to arrange a meeting or email me at my new school email address:
[clehane@deerparknthps.vic.edu.au](mailto:clehane@deerparknthps.vic.edu.au)

Sincerely,

*Carly Lehane*

eLearning Co-ordinator