Dear Parents and Friends,

It's hard to believe that Term One is already coming to an end!

This week the Year 3-6 students participated in the House Swimming Carnival and Picnic at St Albans Leisure centre. The weather was kind to us and lots of fun was had by all! A special thank you to Mr Page for organising the day and for staff and parent helpers. Congratulations to our House Captains and student leaders for assisting in making the event such a success! WELL DONE!

Next week our school & community will celebrate Cultural Diversity Week. It is a wonderful opportunity to recognise that we come from all walks of life and to promote community harmony and celebrate the many cultures that make our community so vibrant. Please come along and join in with us on Friday 18 March! All welcome!! Invitation attached to this newsletter.

This term our teaching staff has been fortunate to work with consultant Jeni Wilson who has facilitated professional learning in the area of inquiry learning and unit planning. She is a highly regarded expert in her field and author of numerous reference texts. We look forward to her continued support throughout the year. We have managed to secure her services to work with the whole staff on Monday 11th April. This will therefore be a Curriculum Day and students will not be required at school until Tuesday April 12.

A reminder that Term 1 finishes on Thursday 24 March at 2:30pm. Students will be dismissed at 2:30pm.

I wish everyone a safe and happy Easter and look forward to another exciting term of learning in Term 2. Students start April 12.

Kind regards,

Liz Balharrie

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**Calendar of Events**

**Term One**
- **Monday 14 March**: Labour Day Holiday
- **Tuesday 15 March**: Cultural Diversity Week
- **Friday 18 March**: Cultural Dress Parade & Lunch
- **Wednesday 23 March**: Parent/Teacher Chats
- **Thursday 24 March**: End of Term 1
  - Early dismissal at 2:30pm

**2016 School Terms**

**Term 1**
- January 27 - March 24
- Term 2
- April 11 - June 24
- Term 3
- July 11 - September 16
- Term 4
- October 3 - December 20

**Student Playground Supervision**
The school offers yard supervision from 8.45am & after school until 3.30pm. Children should not be sent to school before 8.45am; and picked up by 3.30pm.

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**Message from the Principal**

Dear Parents and Friends,

Week four of Term One will see our school & community celebrate Cultural Diversity Week. It is a wonderful opportunity to recognize that we come from all walks of life and to promote community harmony and celebrate the many cultures that make our community so vibrant. Please come along and join us on Friday 18 March! All welcome! Invitation attached to this newsletter.

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**CANTEEN NEWS**
The Winter menu will be returning for Terms 2 & 3. This includes Soup, Zucchini Slice and Toasted sandwiches. Breakfast Club will continue to offer the following items: Oats, Weetbix and fruit and toast each morning. Reminder: Hot Cross Buns can be ordered daily until Friday 18th of March at a cost of $1.50 each.

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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.
STUDENT VOICE
Senior School students have been anxiously waiting to discover whom the 2016 leaders will be. The fun and excitement of applying, presenting and voting has now passed. The results will come with both excitement and disappointment. All students need to be congratulated for their huge efforts and enthusiasm they displayed. Disappointments and letdowns are opportunities to teach life skills that lead to resilience, self-confidence and happiness.

We are delighted to announce our school leaders for 2016. They are listed below. School Captains have already received their badge. House Captains, S.R.C representatives and our wonderful Peer Support Mediators will be presented with their badge at our next whole school assembly on Monday 21st of March.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS
CAPTAINS Jillian Beltran Muaz Qureshi
VICE - CAPTAINS Anthony Ngo Jessica Huynh

HOUSE CAPTAINS
MAWSON CAPTAINS Betelihem Dawit Dat Le
GOULD CAPTAINS Brylee Lewis Thai Luong
TASMAN CAPTAINS Hiep Nghiem Serena Nguyen
HOVELL CAPTAINS Kyle Millsom Zena Osman

Student Representative Council (SRC)

SHE Nejat Demirovski Anastacia Avramopoulos
SVG Judy Vong Euri Amable
SKZ Serena Nguyen Joe Stewart
SSZ Taylah Ristevska James Lahnin
MHC Arun Vijayasinghmem Elena Georgiou
MCL Angel Kaur Laksh Mahajan
MTP Kyra Cassar Noah Buttigieg
MLA Sidona Dawit Mark Rabino
MJG Alessandrea Cabuyadada Gabriel Estoseres

PEER SUPPORT LEADERS

We are very much looking forward to watching our captains, S.R.C representatives, peer support leaders and all students develop into confident leaders.
Maria Micallef, Student Voice Leader

NUMERACY NEWS...
All grades have settled in for Term 1 and teachers are using the information gained from testing to inform their teaching. All students from Prep to Year 4 have undertaken the DET Online Interview for Mathematics with a focus on counting and place value. Grades 5/6 are also focusing on place value.

Counting
Prep students are learning to count to at least five and understanding all there is to know about each number. When I say 2 it means I have counted two objects. There is a numeral, a word and objects that I can use to represent that number. We want the students to know that 2 comes before 3 and after 1. Two elephants is the same number as two ants. Year 1 and 2 are extending their counting ability to 100. Firstly by ones (1, 2, 3…), from different starting points (56, 57, 58…) and backwards (23, 22, 21……) and then learning to skip count. The easiest patterns to learn are counting by 2s, 5s and 10s and then other patterns are introduced. This is then extended beyond 100 up to 1000 and from a range of different starting points. 46, 51, 56, 61…… Do you know what I am counting by?
Year 3 and 4 students will further their understandings of counting with a focus on odd and even numbers, why this is important and how this can help us with other areas of maths. How do you know if a number is odd or even? Do you know what happens when you add two even numbers or multiply an odd and even number? Are there rules and patterns to help us?
Year 5 and 6 students will then extend their knowledge of counting to investigate factors and multiples of numbers and investigate prime, composite, square and triangular numbers. Next time we will look at place value and what that means to our students.

Daryl Bowen, Teaching and Learning - Mathematics

PREP
In music, the Preps have been learning the song ‘Watermelon’. They have been busy creating the movements to match the words, sing together and use the egg shakers during specific parts of the song.

During Physical Education, catching is the Preps current focus. They are practising using their eyes and two hands whilst catching different equipment such as scarves, balls, beanbags and balloons.

Ms Auld-Callinan
**POSTIVE SCHOOLWIDE BEHAVIOURS: UPDATE NO.2**

Many thanks to those parents and students who have sent along their thoughts regarding our school values. It was interesting to confirm that with a changing population we see some changes to those values which we hold in highest regard. After collating all the data we have decided DPNPS will work towards upholding the following values.

Be ... Respectful
Empathetic
Your Best
Resilient

The staff is currently working on a matrix which will clearly explain the behaviours that we would expect to see when those values are being displayed. These will be distributed to all families in the near future.

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**Physical Education**

Term 1 has been action packed with sports happening throughout the whole school. The Grade 5/6’s have been competing in the District Inter school sports in various sports including: Softball, Basketball, Rounders, Bat Tennis & Cricket. We have seen some fantastic team and individual performances in all teams furthermore the Grade 5/6’s were lucky enough to have Felise Kaufusi and Will Chambers from the Melbourne Strom come to the school to chat to the students about sport and healthy wellbeing.

Starting next week Thursday 17th March and Wednesday 23rd March the Grade 3/4’s will be involved in a coaching clinic provided by Sporting Schools Victoria playing Softball this is a free program to the students and will provide students with the opportunity to experience new and exciting sports. The Grade 1/2’s will also be involved in the program run by Sporting Schools Victoria but will be experiencing Gymnastics on Tuesday 15th March and Monday 21st March.

Finally the schools swimming sports at the time of reading this will have been run and won a full report will be in future newsletters.

*Aaron Page  Physical Education Teacher / Sports Coordinator*

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**INQUIRY UNITS OF STUDY  What's happening this term in INQUIRY?**

D.P.N.P.S. students are involved in some VERY interesting inquiry units this term. Here is a snapshot!

The 1/2’s are undertaking a shared inquiry on ‘Celebrations’. The corridors of Building B are buzzing with talk about different celebrations. Students have also been bringing in artefacts from home to teach others’ about special celebrations in their family and culture.

The 3/4’s are involved in a shared inquiry in the rather BIG question, ‘What does it mean to be Australian?’ They will soon be visiting the local creek to try and imagine what it would have looked like 200 hundred years ago.

The 5/6’s are undertaking a personal inquiry into an area of science - chemical, physical or biological. Students have selected their preferred area and have participated in related science activities.

Prep students are thinking about and exploring “What makes me healthy?”

*Alana Stathoulis*

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**WORD WALLS**

As you walk into each classroom, you will notice words which are displayed under large visible letters on a wall. The ‘Word Wall’. The Word Wall is designed to be an interactive tool for students and teachers to use on a regular basis, and will contain a range of words that can be used during reading and writing. The words that go up on the word wall differ in each classroom as the words on every word wall are personal to the class. Word Walls may contain students’ names, words that authors use a lot, interesting words stumbled upon during reading, words that the class can spell, words associated with the inquiry unit studied and more.

*Donna Smith  Literacy Coordinator*

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**More on our Website...**

www.deerparknthsps.vic.edu.au

*Our Purpose: To engage each child’s curiosity, build on their strengths and preferred learning styles to develop healthy, socially responsible, capable and resourceful life long learners.*
“Hub is the word…”
Grandmother Supports Community Hub

It was 15 years ago when Deer Park local, Margaret O’Donnell, began her volunteer journey with Deer Park North Primary School. She was introduced to the school by her son who was a teacher there. Initially Margaret volunteered her time in the classroom twice a week listening to children read. Overtime, she became involved in a diverse range of school activities, including the parent and friends group, student banking program, school stalls…

Since the inception of the Deer Park North Primary School Community Hub two years ago, Margaret has been a regular participant of activities and a key support person. In 2015, Margaret assisted the Hub Leader to start up a parent craft group, and through her connections with the Deer Park Club and Lady Lionesses (in Deer Park) obtained funding and in-kind donations of craft materials. Margaret has noticed an increase in the number of parents coming to the school and participating in Hub activities that include playgroups, computer classes, craft, Zumba, English & ‘back to work skills’ courses, afternoon tea chat sessions…

In the Hub you learn about other cultures and you realise that even though we are from different countries, we share similar values. It’s also about meeting people and having fun!

CULTURAL DIVERSITY CELEBRATIONS
Friday 18 March, 2016

We invite families and friends to join us in celebrating Cultural Diversity Week

At DPNPS, we encourage all families to participate in the wonderful celebration of our background, traditions, and embracing the many cultures that make our school and community such a wonderful place to live and learn in.

To celebrate our many cultures, we have the following activities planned and encourage everyone to participate:

**Dragon Decorating – Monday 7 to Wednesday 9 March from 9.30am – 11am:** parents are encouraged to join in on the fun and help us decorate dragon heads for our Multicultural Parade. Join us in the Community Hub during these morning sessions

**Multicultural Parade - Friday 18 March 9:15:** children will participate in a parade showcasing their culture. Students can bring flags, hats, costumes – anything symbolic that represents their culture or background. Parents can also bring a copy of their national anthem to be played as part of the parade

**Carnival of Cuisines – Friday 18 March 11:30:** families are encouraged to bring and share a traditional dish which represents their culture over lunch. Please see your child’s classroom teacher for more details on how you can help.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact Carolyn or Phuong or the school office.

Mừng Lễ hội đa văn Hóa.
Kính thưa phụ huynh/ hoặc người giám hộ,
Tại trường Tiểu học Deer Park North, nhà trường sẽ tổ chức những sinh hoạt tuyệt vời dành cho các em và gia đình để mừng tuần lễ đa văn hóa.

Với chiều hướng đó, nhà trường sẽ có những sinh hoạt như: làm và trang hoàng lân, phụ huynh được yêu cầu mang những thức ăn được tượng trưng cho sự sủ của quý vị và mặc những quần áo sắc tộc đại diện cho quê hương của mình. Đồng thời phụ huynh cũng có thể dem theo cổ, nhạc…. Xin vui lòng gặp Thầy Cô của các cháu để biết thêm chi tiết. Chương trình được tổ chức như sau:

- Làm và trang hoàng lân (bởi 1 số phụ huynh VN)
- Trình diễn múa lân : từ 9 giờ 15 (Thứ sáu 18/3/16)
- Thức ăn trưa: ngày 18/3/16 (tại phòng của các cháu)

Kính mời tất cả phụ huynh cùng nhau đến trường tham dự và hy vọng sẽ gặp tất cả quý vị trong ngày này
Chúng ta hãy cùng nhau ăn mừng trong Lễ hội đa văn hóa này