Dear Parents and Friends,

This term, as you would be aware, each student will receive a Semester 1 report. Assessment tasks are conducted over the year in each area of learning to assist teachers in planning for the learning needs of each student, assess students against the learning standards and to evaluate the programs delivered.

Periodic assessments are conducted in all Victorian Government schools such as NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy).

**NAPLAN:**
This term students in Years 3 & 5 will participate in the NAPLAN assessment. NAPLAN testing will be held on May 10, 11 & 12. Information will be sent home to parents of Year 3 and 5 students with this newsletter.

We will again be holding student-led conferences on June 23 for all students.

**What are Student-led Conferences?**

Last year we held student-led conferences. These are an integral part of our reporting process and are part of the school’s mid-year reporting process. They differ from the teacher-directed parent teacher interviews, as the student is actively involved in the learning and the reporting process.

Student-led conferences take the form of a conversation between the student, their parents and their teacher, allowing students to demonstrate their individual growth and any particular achievements that they are proud of.

**Why do we run Student-Led Conferences?**

The benefits of these conferences include:

- students taking responsibility for their own learning
- setting their own learning goals
- monitoring and sharing their progress through self, peer and teacher feedback
- evaluating their progress through teacher directed assessment and self and peer evaluation
- helping to direct future learning
- fostering a home-school partnership
- providing students a chance to show parents direct improvement in their own learning
- allowing parents, students and teachers to celebrate the student’s success together!
- Developing and applying real-world skills such as self-reflection and evaluation, organisation and communication.
- development in self-confidence

An appointment time will be made for each student to come to school with their parents/carers for the student-led conference on June 23. Students will be required to attend school at the arranged time of their student-led conference with their parents/carers and teacher. Student reports will be available for collection at the school office immediately prior to the appointment time on the day.

More information will be available in the weeks to come.

Kind regards,

Liz Balharrie

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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.
Science and Sustainability
Deer Park North is striving to become sustainable school. We have already put in place systems to reduce our energy and water usage. We are also in the process of cutting down on the amount of waste we produce and creating a more biodiverse environment. We have recently been awarded our first star as a resource smart school! Resource Smart Schools is an initiative of the state and federal governments. It is the aim of our school to become a five star sustainable school in the coming years.
Mr Ross Dixon

Prep
The Prep students have more exciting learning this term with the topic - 'What Can We Build?' The students will explore different materials and use their imaginations to design and alter existing objects. To successfully do this we will need a lot of different materials, such as boxes, cardboard, fabrics, wool, bottle tops, old jewellery, clothing and anything else that may be suitable for the students to explore and use their imaginations to make wonderful creations. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.
Thank you in advance, The Prep Team.

Banking
Thank you to Susan, the Commonwealth Bank Co-ordinator, Prue and Jenny for introducing our new school banking program.
Students can bank personally at school in the Gym on Wednesday’s mornings 8.30 -9.am

Menu
“Great lunchbox ideas”
Quiches, vinaigrette dressing, salad

1st Session Tuesday May 3
9- 11am

2nd Session Tuesday May 10
9 -11am

More on our Website...
www.deerparknths.p.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.
**Staffing news....**

This term we welcome Mrs Ebony Pane and Mrs Theresa Djukicin returning from leave. Mrs Pane is teaching the Year 3/4 students in MHC on Thursday and Friday each week. Mrs Djukicin is working to support the students in Year 1/2 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The productive garden/cooking program is up and running this term with Sonia Budde, a qualified chef, working with Mr Dixon and classroom teachers in the recently updated cooking room (old canteen). Sonia is currently working on Tuesdays this term with the Year 3/4 students.

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**MLA’s cooking session**

On Tuesday 26/04/2016 MLA had a cooking lesson with Ms Sonia. Miss Sonia is a chef.

First Miss Avdyl separated us into two groups. One group went with Mr Dixon. Mr Dixon showed us the herbs that we will be using in the cooking classes with Ms Sonia. We were able to try some of the herbs. The herbs we tried were called mint, parsley, sage, chives and thyme.

In the cooking classes we got to wear aprons and make a dish called ‘San Choy Bau’. Most of our ingredients came from our school vegetable garden. The dish was very tasty, very healthy and was full of vegetables. We had fun eating the San Choy Bau and we got to eat more than one!

by Mark and Sidona