A Message from the Principal

Hi Everyone,

I want to remind you that we have the Centrelink information evening on next Wednesday evening. I am very keen for families to attend just to be sure you are accessing all the support you can. I have been assured by Centrelink that many people are surprised when they find out what they are entitled too. Also this would be a great opportunity to have your questions answered about what happens when your child turns 16 and how you go about applying for the disability pension. The staff are also going to demonstrate the new app that you can use on your tablet or phone to access Centrelink services which sounds great...much better than going and queuing.

I have sent home reply slips in the last newsletter and have sent a separate note this week too. If you have lost your copy and want to attend just please call Shirley and Michael in the office and they will put your names on the list. We would like to know numbers to help with the catering.

The meeting will be here at school starting at 7pm with supper to follow.

Our art show for education week was a stunning display of beautiful artwork from across the school. The work reflected current themes and was of an amazingly high standard.

There is an article in this newsletter about the Earn and Learn stickers from Woolworths, we are again collecting them so if you can send them in to school that would be great.

I need to end this note with a reminder.... Recently we sent student confidential information sheets home for updating and we got most back. We are required to do this every year by DEECD. We also have to have updated information in the event of an emergency. Most folk understand this. However we have some families who do not give us up to date information and have been un-contactable and had emergency contacts far out of date.

A week ago an emergency situation arose when a child had a severe Asthma attack and we couldn’t get in touch with his mother. Finally just as we were about to call an ambulance a person who had been an emergency contact got in touch with her and she contacted us. I need to warn all families to ensure your contact details and emergency back up contacts are up to date. In the event that we can’t contact you and we need to call an ambulance we will do so and you will be liable for the cost.

For the security and safety of our students would parents please hand students over to duty staff and not take them to the classrooms. The only exceptions are Prep & EEP parents.

Stay Warm!

Cheers Sue
Junior School Principal Awards

Aaron received his award for interacting well with others.

Lachlan received his award for improved swimming skills.

Nykira received her award for improved bike riding skills.

Middle School Principal Awards

Claudia received her award for leadership.

Tiana received her award for good listening & independence.

Alex received his award for good communication.

Senior School Principal Awards

Jedd received his award for great overall listening.

Jakhai received his award for great listening & participation.

Natasha received her award for looking after her belongings.
You Can Do It Awards

Mataio
Emerson
Christopher
Teagan
Nathan
Lachlan
David
Kayla
Jason

Read More In May

May is National Family Reading Month

Read Every Day. Lead a Better Life.
Dear Parents,

This year we are participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Monday 8th April to Sunday 9th June, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Points onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet (available at school or on line for you to print) and when it’s complete, the Points Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or just send your stickers in and we will stick them on the sheet for you.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our resource room.
If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

Thanks for your support!

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**NOTICE**

Judy Norton our Assistant Principal will be on leave from 15th - 30th May. All matters can now be directed to Christy Vyronis in Judy’s absence. Thank you.
Hints and Tips for Increasing Calorie Intake

Please discuss these strategies with your GP or your paediatric dietician before implementing them.

In today’s society, there is an emphasis on ‘fat free’ and healthy eating, which is important, but for children who burn calories quickly and find it difficult to maintain a healthy body weight another approach is needed.

Increasing calorie intake should be overseen by a dietician, but these strategies can easily be implemented as a short term strategy.

Offer regular ‘meals’ throughout the day (at least 5-6) – this stimulates appetite rather than reduces it. The more you eat the more hungry you become. But keep portions small and offer seconds, rather than a big serving that can’t be finished.

Offer milky drinks, made with full fat milk and maybe a dollop of full fat icecream

Offer smoothies made with full fat milk, bananas and strawberries with a teaspoon of sugar and, a couple of tablespoons of cream and some ice cream.

Provide full fat yoghurt, you can add oats or extra fruit, this makes a nice snack at mid morning or mid afternoon.

Use proper butter in sandwiches and on toast and add a topping, eg jam, nut spread, nutella, banana, cheese.

Cheese on toast makes a great snack, with tomato ketchup or mayonnaise.

In sandwiches or rolls add more than one filling, eg cheese and ham, tuna and mayo with full fat mayonnaise

Make mash potato with cream, butter and grated cheese

Serve baked beans with cheese melted on top or into the sauce, on buttered toast

When cooking meat, make a rich sauce or gravy by adding cream (if the rest of the family don’t want that, then you can put some aside)

Offer a snack before bed, eg cookies and a milky drink such as hot chocolate

Provide additional snacks for consumption at school and provide a small snack when child comes home from school but before dinner.
READ LIKE A DEMON FAMILY NIGHT

Join favourite author Michael Wagner, illustrator Craig Smith and the Melbourne Football Club Ambassadors Colin Garland and Cam Pederson in a fun evening as they talk about bringing stories to life through writing and drawing!

Date: Thursday 30 May
Time: 7-8.30pm
Venue: Hallam Community Theatre
       Hallam Senior College
       74-84 Frawley Road, Hallam

Bookings - http://mfcde.es/RLADfamilynight

Craig Smith's warm, quirky illustrations have amused kids for more than three decades. With over 360 books to his credit, award winning illustrator Craig Smith will talk about books and pictures, the role of the author and the illustrator, and about making things up by drawing.

Michael Wagner is one of Australia's most original and successful writers for children. His 45+ books successfully engage readers (even reluctant ones) with quirky humour, fast-paced action and unpredictable storytelling.

Michael Wagner  Cam Pederson  Craig Smith  Colin Garland
Student Transport Unit has requested that all schools ensure parents are aware of the following information regarding access to school bus services.

Home pick-ups and drop-offs

Over recent years the Student Transport Unit (STU) has worked closely with schools and bus operators to increase the number of students who are picked up/dropped off at common points.

Many students now access the bus services at common points and this has reduced the travel time for some students and enabled larger buses to be used on some routes. However, for some families a home pick-up/drop-off is the only practical way their children can access the bus. The Students with Disabilities Transport Program policy provides guidance about the circumstances where home pick-up/drop-off arrangements can be supported.

These circumstances are:

If a student is unable to access a designated pick-up point to meet a bus service, an alternative arrangement may be available.

Individual transport arrangements are usually approved quickly in the following circumstances:

• The nature of the student’s disability may prevent them from physically travelling to a pick-up point.
• A family has multiple students with diagnosed disability attending the same specialist school.

Requests for individual transport arrangements other than the above will require the completion of a special cases application form, which will then be considered by an expert panel.

Special transport arrangements cannot be approved by the STU when it extends the total service beyond policy time-frames, when it would significantly affect other student travellers, or where there would be significant financial implications.

Student behaviour and access to school buses

As our enrolments increase, so does the pressure on our school buses and many of our buses are now operating at full capacity. Students granted access to school buses are allocated one seat on one bus. In this situation, the bus staff no longer have the luxury of allowing vacant seats adjacent to students who find the close proximity of others a challenge. In these circumstances, if a student’s behaviour puts their own safety or the safety of others at risk, they will be denied access to the bus service and it will become the parents’ responsibility to transport the student to school. Families may be eligible for a conveyance allowance to assist with the cost of transporting students. We do appreciate that this could place many families in a very difficult position but as with everything, the safety of all our students is of paramount importance.

If you have any concerns or require further information about this or any other transport matter, please feel free to contact the school or Student Transport student.transport@edumail.vic.gov.au

PHOTOS

Photo packs should arrive at school in the next 4-5 weeks. Parents can still order online from online at www.arphotos.com.au. Orders can be made by forwarding your payment directly to Arthur Reed Photos. An additional fee of $9 applies per order for this service.
22nd April 2013

No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS Loans)

Please share this information with your school.

Do you need to buy a new item for your home, but are finding it difficult to save the money? Do you want to avoid expensive credit card bills, rental agreements or store loans?

Women who receive Centrelink benefits or are on a low income can apply for a No Interest Loan of up to $1000. Repayments start from $20 per fortnight through Centrepay.

The loan can be used to buy a fridge, washing machine, TV, furniture, computer or other approved items. The items must be new and come with a warranty. The loan can also be used to pay for other items such as car registration, medical or dental expenses (including dentures, asthma pumps, sleep apnoea machines) or course fees. It cannot be used to pay for household bills or debts.

Applicants need to get a written quote from any reputable store. They need to complete a budget with the NILS Worker to see if the loan will be approved. Applications take 2-4 weeks to complete. Women who live in the City of Greater Dandenong and City of Casey can apply.

We can refer men to other local organisations who also offer the NILS loans.

Please note that Wellsprings is closed during school holidays.

Further Information

Contact Bernadette (NILS Coordinator) on Ph 9701 3740.
“My Time”
Dandenong Valley

Venue  Term 2, 2013
Oatlands Primary School
79-93 Kurrajong Road
Narre Warren, 3805

Time
Mondays Fortnightly
10.00am - 12.30pm (2.5hrs)

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For details please contact:
Lynne Wood 0459 517 558
DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN ACCESS

UP TO $7,000

The Electronic Communication Devices Scheme provides up to $7,000 for specialised communication devices for people of all ages who have no speech or who have difficulty being understood.

UP TO $7,000 FOR THE PROVISION OF:

- An electronic communication device (ECD) also known as a speech generating device (SGD)
- Voice output software
- Switch
- Including $1400 available for a mounting system

SEE BACK FOR MORE DETAILS

Download further information and relevant forms:

Contacts:
Phone: 9362 6111
Email: a&ep@yooralla.com.au
Dear Parents,

Due to the outbreak of the Cryptosporidium infection (also referred to as ‘crypto’) in the southern and eastern metropolitan regions of Melbourne (including in some swimming pools), the Health Department has issued the following information.

- Do not swim if you have diarrhoea or for 14 days after the diarrhoea stops. Crypto can still be spread easily through water up to 14 days after diarrhoea stops
- All swimming pool patrons should shower and wash thoroughly with soap before entering the pool
- Please note the importance of preventing ill patrons from entering the pool. Even if the pool is properly chlorinated crypto is highly resistant to chlorine and can be spread easily through the water


Michael Weston
Assistant Principal
Dandenong Valley SDS
Victoria Road
Narre Warren Vic 3805
PH: (03) 9704 9411
FAX: (03) 9796 6298

FOR SALE

The Occupational Therapy (OT) have several 'Safe n Sound' booster seat covers (full sized to cover the Styrofoam booster seats). They are clean, in great condition and are $5 each (a steal)! It's a first come first serve sale, so if you want one pop $5 in an envelope and mark it for 'OT Booster seat cover', and drop it into the office, or in your child's diary and we will send one home.
Dandenong Valley’s Basketball region is looking for basketball players!!

We train every Sunday at Dandenong Basketball Stadium from 12pm-2pm (located 270 Stud Road, Dandenong - $5.00 each week to cover court hire)

Games are held at Dandenong Basketball Stadium each Friday night ($7.00 per week) and there will be monthly tournaments against other regions (Ballarat, Melb inner east, Gippsland to name a few!)

Come down and try it out - the first 3 weeks are free (no obligations/expectations to join)!!

Contact Barbara Guest on - 0409 009 018 for more information