Snippets

18th August 2011

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Donvale Primary School provides students with a positive educational experience to achieve their potential in a comprehensive learning environment that is caring, secure and stimulating.

WEEKLY DIARY

Monday 22nd August
• CURRICULUM DAY - Student Free Day

Tuesday 23rd August
• 2.15-3.15pm: Level 3 Gymnastic Program

Wednesday 24th August
• 9.00-1.30pm: Book Week rotation activities
• Book character dress up day

Thursday 25th August
• Student banking day
• School nurse in for preps

Friday 26th August
• School nurse in for preps
• 2.00-3.00pm: Leapfrog program
• 6.00-8.00pm: Scholastic book fair night

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Reminders

• THIS MONDAY IS A CURRICULUM DAY. NO students at school.

NOTE: Due to minimal interest, OSHClub will not be running the whole day program.

• NEXT WEDNESDAY is Book Week Dress up day. We invite all students to dress up as a book character. A parade will be held at 9:15-9:45am which you are most welcome to attend.

• Whole School Production tickets are now on sale from our school office, order forms are on our website at www.donvaleps.vic.edu.au or see Wendy or Ricarda. There is a limited number available so I would encourage you to book asap to ensure you get as many tickets as you want. Show rehearsals are looking sensational!!! so we would encourage you to bring along family and friends to see and support our great students. Look forward to seeing you there.

• Our friendly School Nurse will be visiting our school next week. She will be testing our current Preps and any referrals. If you require any further information, please come and chat to Wendy in our office.

• Could parents please make a BIG effort to complete and return the DPS whole School Survey which was sent out last week. There are boxes placed in each building to return the surveys. We do value your input very much and this allows us to improve in highlighted areas. Please have your say, both positive and constructive criticism.

• It is with disappointment that I have to inform our school community that Sarah Muncha, our very much valued, OSHClub co-ordinator is leaving us to travel overseas. Sarah, has unexpectedly been offered an opportunity to spend 6 months in USA, while continuing to complete her studies. Sarah has been a wonderful coordinator for our Out Of School Hours Program, respected by students and staff, while providing a very safe and enjoyable OSHClub program. We all wish her a safe and rewarding trip, and hope to see her back at some time at DPS. A new coordinator is currently being organised, and will start in the next week.
Special thanks this week to:

- The 25 + families who attended our working bee last Sunday. It was a very focused and spirited group who did some fantastic work around our school. Especially pleasing to see a few new faces as well as the stalwarts. Please take time to look at the landscaping achieved around the front of the school and our Veggie Patch which is happily growing lots of veggies.
- Thanks to the Barnes family for their kind support.
- Ms. Vicky Cassidy, who kindly tidied up our uniform supplies in the sick bay.

2012 Enrolments:
If you have a child who is coming to DPS in 2012, please collect an enrolment pack from Wendy or Ricarda at our office, or call to arrange a personal tour of our school on 9842 3373 with either myself or Mr McKinlay. If you know of friends or neighbours who are considering DPS, please personally invite them to give us a call!!

NEWSFLASH
Don’t forget to check out our Website at www.donevaleps.vic.edu.au, as some exciting highlights and new features have just been added. Take a look.

Have a great week everyone and let’s hope we see the sun soon.......
Next Tuesday 23 August 2011 is group 3’s turn to
create “Donvale style Malaysian Char Meehoon” with
us.
Please bring your drink bottle with you when you come
to our kitchen.
Mr Briggs will walk level 3 to the DISC after we finish
our session.
Some of the ingredients we need for next week are:
cabbage, any green vegies, onion, garlic, carrot and
egg.

We don’t cook, we create food.
Liang, Stacey and Jaqui

Production Update
It’s full steam ahead with rehearsals, costumes, sets and props for our upcoming
production of ‘Lights, Camera, Action!’ It promises to be a colourful and entertaining
show, with the whole school involved in the one complete performance.
Our chief choreographer, Tamblyn Smith, has been
working each week with every class in
the school, and the results are amazing.
Anthea Keep and Bec Clarke have
assisted the teachers to train the
children with the singing, and the songs
are sounding great. The
music will be familiar to
everyone, with excerpts from such well
known movies as The Blues Brothers, The
Wizard of Oz, Charlie & the Chocolate
Factory, Mary Poppins, The Jungle Book
and Grease!
Your child will prepare some personalised invitations
over the next week. Please pass these
on to relatives, interested friends or
neighbours and encourage them to
come and support your students and
the school. They will be guaranteed of
an enjoyable show,
and every seat in the house has an excellent view at this magnificent
theatre. Seats are not numbered, so if
you have already purchased tickets,
you can still get some more, and sit together as a group
on the night.
Dates: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept & Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September
Time: 7.30 pm
Place: George Wood Performing Arts Centre, Yarra Valley Grammar, Kalinda Rd Ringwood.

Rick Gordon—For the Production Committee

Brad Wolff
Resources Committee
FREE APPLE SLINKY
Grade 3, 4, 5 & 6: 22nd – 26th August, 2011
Bring in an apple and have it slunked for FREE at the canteen at recess or lunchtime. You can purchase an apple from the canteen for 50c.

Winter MEAL DEALS – ALL $5.00
Valid until end of Term 3, 2011
Monday's Party Pie Deal
Party Pies x 3
Mini Muffin
Quench Drink
Tuesday's Toastie Deal
Ham & Cheese Toastie
Large Muffin
Just Juice
(Apple or Tropical or Orange)
Wednesday's Fried Rice Deal
Fried Rice
Dim Sim x 1
Ice Cream Cup (Vanilla)

Keep Healthy, Keep Warm
Angie (cookie) - Canteen Management Services

We have been looking at the life of Jesus and discovering that He lived God's way: Showing love for all people regardless of their station in life and empowering them to live their life for the good of others. And because we are all equal in God's eyes, that encourages us to use the gifts that God has given us to build strong community.

We have talked about love, God's love, of seeing loving as life from another's point of view, and about bringing out the best in others through what we can be and do for them. We have focused on 1 Corinthians 13: Love is patient and kind, it is not jealous, it is not rude, it is not selfish, it is not hot-tempered, it does not keep remembering wrongs, it is happy to hear the truth (but not lies), it is loyal and gives support, it is full of hope, and it never fails.

If we don’t show love, what we say is like a clanging gong, and even if we do good works without love, we achieve nothing.

May you know God's love this week,
Judith Grayden

Maintaining Spacers
Personal spacers should be cleaned in the following manner at least once a month:

- Dismantle the spacer and wash in warm water with detergent
- Remove the spacer and components from the water and do not rinse
- Allow the spacer and components to air dry

Spacers should not be rinsed after washing in detergent, as the soapy water leaves an anti-static coating inside the chamber. This coating prevents medication from ‘sticking’ to the inside of the spacer when the ‘puffer’ is used. More medication is then able to be breathed into the airways where it is needed. Spacers should always be replaced if they become cracked or broken.

Spacers are easy for any person to purchase and use in order to treat their asthma and manage symptoms as effectively as possible.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au
Maths Fun For Everyone

Magnetic Code

You will need
A card with a magnetic strip on the back (library card, ATM card, etc.)
Sheet of paper
A lamp
Tissues

Plus
Pigment that contains ferromagnetic particles (from art supply stores)
Or
Fine grade sandpaper
An old, rusty iron object

What to do
This activity requires a small pile of tiny magnetic particles. The easiest way to get these is to buy pigment from an art supply store, making sure it contains magnetic particles (take a magnet to the store to check before buying it). To make your own, however, you can place a rusty object on a sheet of paper and rub off some rust dust with fine grade sandpaper.

Collect the rust dust or a small amount of pigment on a sheet of paper. You will only need about a quarter of a teaspoon.

Carefully spread the pigment or rust dust along the card's black magnetic strip. (This won't ruin the card.)

Tap the card lightly onto the sheet of paper to remove excess dust and repeat the process until you're fairly sure a section of the black stripe has been covered with it.

Turn on a lamp and hold the card beneath it. Tilt the card to catch the light's glare on the dust.

What does it look like? Can you see any stripes?
Clean the dust off with tissues when you're done.

What's happening?
Most of the particles in rust are made from a dark orange chemical called iron (III) oxide (or Fe$_2$O$_3$). Iron particles present in the dust or pigment will stick to magnetic zones on the back of the card, making those areas look less shiny than the smooth plastic.

If you take a close look at the pattern made by these zones, you'll notice there are some thick stripes and a number of thin ones.

These stripes represent lines of magnetic particles that run down the length of the black plastic. You may even notice one, two, or three lanes of stripes.

These lines encode information which is read by a scanner. Such information might be your name, a serial number, or a code. To make it easier for different scanners to read this information, it is arranged according to international standards; a bit like common languages for magnetic stripes.

Applications
The magnetic stripe on the card works like the old magnetic tape used in cassettes. The hard drive in your computer also uses a similar process.

A tiny electromagnet in the scanner detects every single line, sending a code to the reader. The pattern of this code is interpreted as a signal by the recorder's machinery or by the computer.

By Mike McRae

More information

Luanda Pianta - Numeracy Co-ordinator
Finding Our Way to Mindful Teaching and Learning:
Meeting the Educational Challenge of the Technological Revolution
Professor Dennis Shirley
Lynch School of Education, Boston College
www.dennisshirley.com

Technology has given us everything from the complete works of Shakespeare free of charge and the exact topography of South Africa to dozens of archived films of the Chilean New Song Movement and interviews with winners of Olympic Games of years past. Educators who know how to access these materials, and who can guide young people to embed them in artfully designed classroom presentations, now have a world of resources at their fingertips. Advocates of technology rightfully want to help educators capitalize on these materials, believing that the technology itself will engage young people turned off by the bureaucracy and boredom of too many schools as they now exist. Their impatience is understandable—but also often one-sided and without due recognition of the problems that come along with new technologies. We have an abundance of data to indicate that the sheer number of hours youth are spending in front of their handheld devices, iPads, and desktops is correlated with all sorts of negative outcomes, including everything from depression, the inability to adapt to delayed gratification, and an underdeveloped ability to empathize with others in real time. Teachers find themselves competing with social networks for students’ attention—and losing, with the result that students’ ability to master traditional school curricula is compromised.
Yet even the fiercest critics of new technologies recognize the difficulty of going back to an age before the Internet and cell phones. The access to exact information is too convenient, the security in being able always to contact friends and family members too reassuring, and the excitement about hearing from a long-lost friend or receiving an invitation to a social engagement too enjoyable to return to the past. The challenge is rather to find ways to honestly acknowledge the distortions of the new culture of technology use and to develop correctives so that our quest for knowledge and our longing to reach our full potential can be actualized.

Given the range of technological possibilities opened up in recent years, how can educators adjudicate which approaches to take to its integration in the years ahead? Educators need to draw upon their philosophies of education, new research findings, and their accumulated professional repertoires to mediate new technologies, just as they would any other innovation entering into the lives of schools. To do so requires educators to take the time to work out their core values in communities of inquiry and practice that are open to novelty and debate, encourage respect for dissidents, and promote lifelong learning that is not just targeted and measurable but also ambiguous and unsettling. With such a philosophical compass to investigate and filter emerging social trends, educators can both consolidate professional convictions while supporting purposeful growth through the assimilation of new forms of information. Schools cannot make it their task to identify all potential problems that arise with Internet use; they are too vast and labyrinthine. But schools can espouse philosophies of education that aim to promote the self-regulation of the young. They can help young people to recognize the pleasures that are to be found by slowing time down to attend to the subtleties of a sunset, the nuance in a jazz improvisation, and the modulation in an opera singer’s interpretation of an aria. It may be that given the accelerated pace of life today that an explicit curriculum in stopping, observing, and reflecting should be designed. Such a curriculum could expose young people to research on the dangers of excessive Internet use and the need to balance time online with an active social life offline as well as time for physical exercise and the pleasure of solitude in nature. With such a curriculum, educators can encourage students to explore ways of being in the world that need not be technologically mediated, such as a solitary walk in the woods or a quiet conversation with a friend. Educators could help students to move beyond surfing
and browsing to promote stopping and thinking. Technology alone cannot address all of the problems of education today, and it would be mistaken to contend that technology does not exacerbate issues related to the privileging of mere information over thoughtful analysis and reflection. But technology does not equate with technocracy. Technology refers to the study and use of tools. This can be done in a mindful and measured manner. When done so, technology may help to modify and alleviate the problems our schools are experiencing today. It may introduce play and creativity into education in ways very much attuned with our highest principles.

Still, beyond the customization and personalization of education through technology may lie something grander: schools that help our young people to find their personal passions and cultivate them in a manner that takes them deep into the core of what it means to be human. Schools can help our young to learn the ultimate challenge of the human adventure: how to live in peace and dignity with our fellow homo sapiens, cognizant of their uniqueness and grateful for their dazzling singularities. Schools are not just about the transmission of facts or about immersion in a technologically-mediated present moment. Schools can help our young to be separate from and yet connected with others in these transient, unpredictable, and ultimately ephemeral journeys we call our lives.

More information on the following advertising is available from the office:

MANNINGHAM UNITING CHURCH: Andersons Creek Road (Formerly Doncaster East Uniting Church) will be holding a "Giant Garage Sale and Food Market", on Saturday 3rd September from 9am to 2pm. It will include trash and treasure, cakes and sweets, jams and preserves, Asian food, sausage sizzle, fresh vegetable stall etc. All proceeds to local and international outreach projects.

YARRA VALLEY GRAMMAR: Open morning Saturday 27 August from 9am to 12 noon.

WHITEHORSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY: FREE Heritage Open Day - Sunday 11 September 12 noon to 5pm at Schwerkolt Cottage Museum Complex. Lots of attractions.
Parents Association News!

**Annual Scholastic Book Fair**

*Only 1 week to go!*

*Friday 26th August*

*6.00pm – 8.00pm*

A separate notice is coming home tonight outlining our Scholastic Book Fair opening night. The roster for this event will accompany this newsletter. Please note your time slot and let me know if you need to change your roster time or cannot make it for whatever reason.

**Woolworths “Earn and learn” fundraising event**

The “Woolworths Earn and Learn Program.” Is going very well with over 800 points being raised for our school already! It is a very simple program for families to participate in. Just shop at Safeway/Woolworths, bring your docket into the school and deposit into the shopping docket collection box (located in the office) It’s that easy!

Dockets need to contain the “earn and learn” code located on the bottom of each docket. If cutting off the item section, please make sure you leave the special code so the numbers can be entered to receive our points.

For further details regarding this fundraising event, families can log onto the website: Woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

For every $10.00 spent our school receives one learning point. At the end of the collection period the school can redeem points for over 7,000 items from “Modern Teaching Aids” the biggest source of educational resources in Australia.

**Happy Shopping!!**

**Scholastic Book Fair Colouring Competition**

Children wishing to enter our annual Scholastic Book Fair competition need to return their entries back to school by Monday 22nd August.

Each year level has a separate colouring sheet which came home last week. Additional copies can be found on our website or at the office.

**Father’s Day Breakfast 2011**

*Friday 2nd September*

Order forms for our annual Fathers Day breakfast are coming home tonight.

**Production Raffle 2011!!!**

Raffle tickets will be sent home soon with some great prizes to win.

- Mystery Flight
- Photography package
- Teenage bike
- iPod Nano
- Tickets will be $2.00 each

**Parents Association Meeting**

*Monday 29th August*

9.30am after assembly

All parents are invited to attend our monthly meeting. This is a special meeting with a visit from our schools Educational Psychologist.

Come along to learn more about the services she offers for the students of our school and their families.