A recent draft paper from ACARA (Australian Curriculum and Assessment Authority) stated that learning another language has been shown to extend students’ intellectual and analytical capabilities and strengthen their cognitive and general learning capabilities, such as creative and critical thinking. It says studying languages can also improve student knowledge of concepts across the curriculum and enhance their employment and career prospects.

You are most likely aware that in recent times, the Language program taught at Donvale was Italian. Unfortunately, this program ceased at the end of last year. High on my list of priorities was to reintroduce a Language program back into our curriculum. It is therefore with much excitement and pleasure that I wish to announce the appointment of Mrs Sheena Saw as the new Mandarin Language teacher at Donvale PS. Sheena will be taking up her position at the commencement of the 2013 school year. Sheena is an experience Language teacher who also has a very strong background with information technology. She actively incorporates ICT tools in her teaching and designs her learning activities so that they are engaging, interactive and work to meet the needs of the differing levels of our students. On top of all this, Sheena is also a very lovely person. She will be a most welcome addition to our Donvale PS staff and community. Sheena has accepted my invitation to attend our Parent Information Evening / iPad Forum coming up next week on Wednesday 31st October 7.30pm. I will look forward to introducing her to our community then.

With the end of the year fast approaching, a recent conversation in the staffroom turned to discussing Christmas activities. A small idea then sprouted to be something quite exciting. We have now planned a ‘Carols by Candlelight’ event for our families to be
held at our school on December 20th. The festivities are scheduled to begin around 6.00pm. We would love to invite all our families to come along, bring a picnic hamper, a blanket and some Christmas spirit. The children will be learning Christmas carols and entertaining us with their beautiful singing throughout the evening. As it is the second last day of the school year, it will be a wonderful opportunity for our community to join together in celebrating our kids and their achievements. Please add December 20 to your calendars. We are looking forward to a fun and relaxing evening. If we’re good, Santa may even make an appearance! More information shortly.

A reminder that Monday 5th November (day before Melbourne Cup) is our Curriculum Day – a student free day. OSCH Club will operate on this day, if the need is there.

A further reminder that planning for 2013 staffing and class structures is now underway. I ask all parents that have any requests for their child’s placement with regards to specific children, to please forward to me in writing, a letter detailing the request. I would appreciate it if these letters could please be forwarded to me no later than Friday November 22nd. We will work to ensure that all requests are met. Further to this, please note that I will not be able to consider requests for teachers.

Lena Clark

Music Count Us In 2012

Once again Donvale Primary will be participating in this annual event where schools right around Australia have been learning a song to sing together. The official date is on Thursday November 1st however Donvale students will be getting in early and singing “Different People” at assembly on Monday October 29th.

The idea of this event is to promote music education and the importance that music has in our lives and society as a whole. Even over the past weeks as each class has been learning the song I have seen a joy in every child’s face. They are involved, using brain gym activities and feeling a sense of belonging. If you’d like to learn more please visit the website: www.musiccountusin.org.au and then come along to hear the whole school singing at next Monday’s assembly.

Celebration Concert

During term four we will be kept busy with extra opportunities for performances. Notices will be sent home for students in particular choirs etc. However please make sure you keep Wednesday December 5th free for our Celebration Concert. It will be held at Doncaster Secondary theatre at 7.30pm. We will be hearing from our various instrumental groups, our choirs and also some classes will be performing multicultural dances.

Carols by Candlelight

Another date to keep free is December 20th when we will be having an outdoor Christmas Carols night on the lawn. More details soon!

Hope to see you at these events!

Anthea Keep

General News

Active After School Sporting Program

Notices went home early on Tuesday with details of the program. Students who have returned their forms are enrolled in the program. Karate is on Monday from 3.45-4.45pm. Table Tennis is on Thursday from 3.45-4.45pm (please note that table tennis will be held at Manningham DISC). Students will be walking across and returning to school to be picked up by parents.

Poppies For Sale

We are selling poppies at the office on behalf of the Doncaster R.S.L. Please support them by purchasing a poppy for $1.


Don’t forget to bring in your Paul’s milk caps.
Dear Parents & Students,

We had nice time last week learning some karate skills and cooking rainbow cupcakes and choc chip cookies. Remember we are in Term 4, so need to follow ‘No Hat, no play’ Policy. Please bring your hat with you every time you are at OSH.

We have been informed of an upcoming curriculum day and are hopeful that this will run too, however, this is dependent on numbers.

When / what / how:
Date: Monday, 5th of November, 2012. Please book prior to Tuesday, 30th of October.
Times: 8:00am to 6:00pm
Cost: $9.00 - $46.00 per child (Not including 50% tax rebate)

What happens: Loads of fun for all ages including art/craft, games, sports, drama, board games and fun with friends.
What to bring: Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Also wear/provide appropriate clothing including hats.
Please Remember: Once you have enrolled into this day there are no refunds for cancellations. All regular before and After Care bookings have been removed.
Please note: we require a minimum of 15 children to run the day, parents will be notified on Tuesday, 30th of October if the day will proceed.

Please make sure all enrolment forms are up to date and all medical action plans have also been checked and changed or updated if needed.

Remember bookings can be made right up til 12:00 the midnight before, or you can book on the Day but there will be extra charge of $2.00. If you’re ever stuck and would like your child to attend OSH After School Care you can call me or leave a message on 0402 362 443 and I will get back to you.

Jagruti Shah

NEXT WEEKS ACTIVITIES

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>Halloween pipe cleaner spider</td>
<td>Halloween spooky bookmark</td>
<td>Halloween foam cup witch</td>
<td>Halloween hang-ups</td>
<td>Halloween paper Pumpkin lanterns</td>
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<td>Silent Ball</td>
<td>Halloween colouring</td>
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<td>Halloween Chalk drawing</td>
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<td>After Care Activities</td>
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<td>Halloween Mask</td>
<td>Cooking: Halloween Biscuits</td>
<td>Halloween Bat handprints</td>
<td>Ghost craft (Halloween)</td>
<td>Pumpkin paper plate Craft</td>
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<td>Karate (AASC)</td>
<td>Relays</td>
<td>Blob tag</td>
<td>Table-tennis (AASC)</td>
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Parent Information

OSH program: 0402 362 443
Coordinator: Jagruti
Assistants: Caroline, Lekky, Athena, Laura and Jennifer
OSHHead Office: 03 85649000
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
This week's session was sweet and cool as promised. The children learnt how to crumble their biscuits to the correct texture (not too rough, not too fine) and make cheesecake mixture using only 3 ingredients in the food processor. The big hit was when they individually created a restaurant style dessert presentation using our home made cookies, fresh strawberry, lemon (from the children's garden) and mint (freshly pick from our own school veggie garden). Their creations looked fantastic and tasted yummy, it’s hard to believe that some of the children are only 5 years old. Well done everyone.

Our Grade 6 children are a bit sad as this was their last session. But all of them are very excited about our annual Christmas Party and keep requesting extra menu items to add.

Next week is Group 2's turn to create "Blueberry Cheesecake in a glass" with us. Ingredients we need are: Any plain biscuit (such as scotch fingers, etc) and Blueberry (frozen or fresh). Please donate to us if you have any spare.

Thank you to: Claire Bosdorf, Kim Merton, Irene Miller (The Eckhardt's grandma), Mrs Clark, little chef Indi, little chef Archi and Martin for helping with the program.

Also thank you to the Warner, Petruzziello, Bosdorf, Frigo, Allison and Apsey families for their donations.

We don't cook, we create food.

Liang and Jaqui

BIG THUMBS UP:
1. Jesse Y, Hamish W and Will E from 00A for looking after our new member Dante very well. Thank you boys, we are very proud of you.
2. Christopher A and Joshua A from 12C for picking lemons from their gardens and giving them to us.
3. Kiara S, Abby M and Jade M from 34A for tasting our home made cookies to make sure they were good enough to use.

FROM THE STUDENTS:
- Caitlin G 56A : I am sad because it's my last session but the cheesecake was the best I ever had.
- Rylie B 56C : It was a great way to finish off my last session.
- Alexendra N 56C : Tasted really good and I wish we didn't have to leave.
- Will E 00A : I am the best chef.
- Jesse Y 00A : Good food and yummy.
- Hamish W 00A : Love it, I am the best chef in the world.
- Scarlett H 12B : fantastic and wonderful.
- Ella M 12B : so.. delicious..

- Anise B 12B : I love it and it's fantastic.
- Josh G 12C : I am really excited about our Christmas party.
- Jackson C 12C : I am the best chef and I really enjoy creating food.
- Joshua A 12C : I am very good Junior chef.
- Mitchell L 34B : the cheesecake is delicious.
- Jayden B 34B : I like it, it's delicious.
- Chantelle F 34B : Really good.
- Nash D 34B : taste very nice.
- Dante P 00B : Very good, I am happy finally I can get into Junior Chef.
- little chef Indi : fantastic.

Playgroup News

Playgroup is only running on a Wednesday morning for the rest of this term as the two groups have decided that they would be better running as one big, happy, noisy group! We had our first session together this week and had a great time blowing bubbles outside in the wind and reading some great stories in the library. Next week we are all dressing up for Halloween and making some Halloween themed crafts. We are always happy to see new members – pop in and say hello if you are interested. Next year we will definitely run at least one playgroup session a week but we will hopefully have the numbers to run two groups.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
26th Oct - 1st Nov
Shadia I, Holly M, Coco C, Khian N, Lachlan O, Jasmine B, Megan Y
Uganda Trip

On the 23rd of September myself and Kerry Gerraty headed to Uganda for two weeks of volunteer work with the African Children’s Choir with 50 other Australians. We were travelling as volunteers and as a performing choir. It was an amazing experience. In the first week we spent much of our time in one of the slums of Kampala working in a primary school. We took workshops with the children teaching them Australian songs, dance and drama and making craft and art items. Our group also constructed fences around the school and planted trees and plants to provide shade and beautify the school. We also participated in a clean up of this slum area. The school were delighted to have us visit and we were then guests of honour at their Parent’s Day – an 8 hour long celebration concert where we were the guest act. Fortunately we were not required to sing for 8 hours! The second week saw us working at the African Children’s Choir boarding school. Once again, we conducted workshops but we also painted and covered library books and spent lots of time getting to know the students. They were fantastic kids to get to know and loved spending time with us and smothering us in hugs. The money raised by the DPS community at our Koncert for Kwaya and the jeans and shoes we collected went primarily to the African Children’s Choir. The ACC has just formed their 40th choir consisting of children selected from slum areas and other areas of need. This choir was formed from the money we raised as a group and we were lucky enough to spend an afternoon playing and singing with them and having them hijack our camera’s to take photos of everyone! Every child that is taken into the choir is not only trained as a chorister but is fostered by the choir and has their educational costs covered for their entire school career through primary, secondary and tertiary education. A life changing opportunity for not only the children but the communities they come from. It was great to be working with such an influential organisation.

We also spent some time in a couple of orphanages who were thrilled with the copious amounts of knitting from the Stitch-Me-Warm project that Kerry had so successfully co-ordinated. We were immediately smitten with the beautiful babies and toddlers and were more than happy to help feed, bathe, dress, play with and wash clothes for these gorgeous kids.

We were lucky enough to finish off our trip with a short safari to the Queen Elizabeth National Park where we spotted many elephant, water buffalo, hippo, warthogs, mongoose, crocodile and chimpanzees.

It was such a rewarding experience and both of us have already expressed interest in going again in 2014.

I would like to invite anyone who is interested to see some photos and hear some more stories in a short presentation after school next Thursday (1st November) in the Senior Building. We will commence straight afterschool and will be finished by 4pm at the latest.

Thank you to all who supported us with donations to take with us on this trip. Everything you did was greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Rebecca Clarke

A child at Bukoto School playing with a kookaburra puppet.

A choir from the African Children’s Choir School and Brutus the Chimp climbing out of the fig tree.
Parents Association News!

Parent Association Meeting

Our next PA Meeting will be held on Monday, 29\textsuperscript{th} October, in the library. This meeting is scheduled to start at the earlier time of 9.00am. 
All welcome.
Hope to see you there!

Halloween Disco
Tomorrow night - Friday 26\textsuperscript{th} October
Preps, 1 & 2 - 5.30-7.00pm
3, 4, 5, 6 - 7.30-9.00pm

- Entry by ticket only. No ticket sales on the night!
- Parents must drop off and pick up there child/ren. No child will be allowed to leave without a parent or guardian.
- Snacks and drinks will be for sale on the night.
  * Chips (assorted flavours) 50c each
  * Popcorn 50c each
  * Lolly bags $1.00 each
  * Assorted chocolates $1.00 each
  * Pop Top drinks (assorted flavours) $1.50 each
  * Bottled water $1.00 each

A special thank you in advance to the parents who have volunteered their time to assist on the night. Your support ensures our disco will run as planned and the Parents Association appreciates you offering your help for this special event.

Thank you.
Kathryn Soterales

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

Zumba Classes at Donvale - Come and join us in keeping fit and having fun at the same time. Only an hour every Tuesday evening in the G.P. Room from 7.00-8.00pm.

Manningham Community Health - Various programs been held during October to December.

CMA - Mental Arithmetic. Creating great minds with revolutionary methods. At the Pines Learning Centre.

Victorian Youth Theatre - Children's performing company of Australia. Two yearly intakes. Classes starting Semester 1 February - March. Semester 2 July to August.

Optometrist Association Victoria - Children’s eyes should be checked regularly throughout their school life, and immediately upon noticing any problems with their eyes or vision. You can see an optometrist without referral from a doctor, and most consultations attract a Medicare rebate. Visit www.optometrists.asn.au for more information on the things you can do to protect your eyes and to search for an optometrist in your area.