Curriculum Day on Monday of this week was extremely productive. Teachers spent much of the day working in teams moderating to begin the reporting process. This is very time consuming and so the opportunity for us to work together over a full day is extremely valuable. Planning continued for 2013 with teachers also taking the opportunity to work in their teams for next year.

As you are aware, the Education Department is currently involved in enterprise bargaining with the Australian Education Union in relation to its log of claims covering teacher and support class employees. As part of its industrial campaign, the Union has imposed a series of rolling stop-work actions as well as bans and limitations that serve to bring attention to teacher workloads. One of the bans imposed and supported by our teaching staff is to not write comments in the end of year student reports. The reports will still indicate your child’s level of achievement in the various curriculum areas, however, they will not be supported with the usual teacher written comment. In light of this, should you feel that you would like to have a chat with your child’s teacher regarding your child’s progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher to arrange for a mutually suitable time to have this conversation.

You may also be aware of a recent review on Education funding called ‘The Gonski Review’. The Gonski Review was the most comprehensive investigation of the way schools are funded in Australia in almost 40 years. It was commissioned by the Federal Government and conducted by an expert panel headed by senior businessman David Gonski. The final report was released in February 2012. Gonski found Australia is investing far too little in education and, in particular, in public schools. As a consequence, too many students are missing out on the resources they need and there are growing gaps in the achievements of students from different backgrounds. Gonski recommended a $5 billion a year injection of funding into public and private schools (75 per cent to public schools) and an overhaul of the way the money is distributed to ensure it is going where it is most needed. In September the Federal Government agreed to act on the findings of the Gonski Review. But all the state and territory governments are yet to come on board and agree to contribute at least part of the extra funding required.
Money would be invested in local schools in ways that help students learn such as:

- Smaller class sizes
- Extra specialist teachers in areas such as literacy and numeracy
- Greater support for students with higher needs such as those with disabilities
- Additional training and classroom support for teachers

If you wish to assist in the campaign for better funding for public schools like ours, there is a great opportunity coming up. As part of the national ‘I Give a Gonski’ campaign, parents, teachers, principals and education support staff from schools across Australia will be letterboxing in their local neighbourhoods between November 10 and 17. They will be letting people know about the Gonski Review, and the urgent need for an increase in funding for education and public schools in particular, across the nation and an overhaul of the way funding is delivered. Extra funding would make a real difference, allowing schools like ours to invest in ways that will benefit students like additional teachers and more support for students in the classroom. It would be great if you could assist to help keep the pressure on the politicians to deliver for our children.

A reminder that we have a Working Bee planned for Sunday 18th November commencing at 9.00am. We would love to see a huge turn out for our final Working Bee for the year. We will need support in general tidying up of the school grounds so bring along your brooms, blowers, shovels, pruners etc, so that we can ensure that our school grounds remain the envy of many schools. The Parents Association will prepare a sausage sizzle lunch for all the hard workers. It’s a lovely way to finish off as it’s a great opportunity for all of us to relax, have a chat and get to know each other a little more.

**Lena Clark**

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### Strong Student Voice

The Manningham Public Speaking Competition was held yesterday at Warrandyte Primary School. Ten schools from the Manningham district were required to send one representative from each level of their school. For each level there was a topic that the students were required to write a short speech on. The Donvale P.S. representatives and topics were:

- Level 1 Kirra Webber Topic: ‘I wish…..’
- Level 2 Kate Brown Topic: ‘If I met an alien from another planet I would…..’
- Level 3 Angelina Tomasi Topic: ‘How would we survive without technology…?’
- Level 4 Hrishi Thatiot Topic: ‘If I could fix one thing in the world it would be…’

This was a wonderful opportunity for these students to practise their public speaking skills in front of an audience. I was extremely proud of the way our students delivered their speeches clearly, confidently and passionately. The hard work they had put in beforehand meant that any nerves they may have been feeling were quickly overcome and they were able to enjoy the experience. Well done to all the students in the school at each level who wrote a speech. Although we could only send 4 students to the competition all students benefitted from presenting their speech to their peers. Yes we’ve come a long way from the days when children were ‘to be seen and not heard!’

**Ian McKinlay**
Good luck to our “Future Stars” Basketball Team (Donvale Devils) who play next Thursday in the next level of this championship (Regional).

Level 3 Bike Ed will begin on Wednesday 21st November during each class of Phys Ed session. Bikes/scooters and helmets must be in very good condition. The program will continue after the Level 3 camp, resuming on Wednesday 5th December.

Level 4 children will be involved in their final sports day on December 6th. Sports include Netball, Soccer, Basketball, Cricket, Rounders and Softball. All sports are played at Donvale Primary School or Donvale Reserve. This is an annual event that’s been happening for many years and involves schools in our District.

Mr Pianta

Christian Religious Education

At this time of year we are starting to think about Christmas, and all the celebration and fun that goes along with it. Christmas is the time we celebrate God’s wonderful gift to us of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. He came as a helpless babe to show us what God is like and to eventually die for us. This is truly something worth celebrating, and thanking God for. We will be looking into the different aspects of the celebration of Christmas. The children will hear how the angels brought good news to Mary and how this event was foretold by prophets long ago. We are going to look at how Christmas is celebrated, both locally and in other countries, and consider the significance of giving gifts. We will think about ways we can bless others at Christmas with gifts that cost us effort and time rather than money.

Have a good week, especially as we all look forward to celebrating this wonderful event.
God bless,
Judith Grayden

Poppies For Sale — $1
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.

Next Tuesday 13 November 2012 is Group 3's turn to create “Orange and Chocolate Cheesecake in a Glass”. Ingredients we need are: Oranges and Strawberry. Please donate some if you have any spare.

Thank you to the Fankhauser family for their donation.

The children have already made menu requests for next years sessions.
Some of the menu request are:
- Dimsim (it was a big hit last year and they want to do them again, also the menu will be tied in with the 2013 school curriculum so definitely Dimsim will be considered).
- Chicken curry (including Mrs P’s chicken curry, yes P is for Pianta, please ask her why).
- Souvlaki, Hamburger, Trifle, Milkshakes.
Wow... our little chefs are not just great but they are the best, we are really proud of them all.

We don’t cook, we create food.
Liang and Jaqui
Maths fun For Everyone

Salvo

You will need
Someone to play against
Two copies of the target sheet. You can download the sheet here
Pencils

What to do
Look at the target sheet. There are two grids and five types of vessel. Without your opponent seeing, draw one of each vessel anywhere on the largest grid. They can be placed running up and down or left and right. They can’t overlap each other, and they aren’t allowed to fall off the edge of the grid. The largest one is five boxes long and one box wide, and the smallest is two boxes long and one box wide.
Once you have both placed your fleets, take turns firing. Take care to keep your map hidden from your opponent’s view. Use the smallest grid to keep track of your attacks.

If you are firing:
Choose a square that you want to fire at on the small grid.
Find the letter above and the number to the left of your chosen square.
Call out the letter and number to your opponent.
Wait for your opponent’s reply.
If they say ‘miss’, mark the square with a single diagonal on the small grid.
If they say ‘hit’, mark it with a cross.

If your opponent is firing
Find the letter and number they call out on the large grid.
Mark the box that is in that column and row.
If part of your ship is in that box, say ‘hit’.
If there is no ship in that box, say ‘miss’.
When every box of one of your ships is hit, that ship is sunk. Tell your opponent what type of ship it was.

The end of the game
If you sink all your opponent’s ships, you win! If your opponent sinks all your ships, you lose.

Strategies
At first, this game seems to be a game of chance, with no skill at all. However, there are a few strategies you can use to get an advantage. Firstly, some squares are more likely to have a ship on them than others. There are only two ways to put the smallest boat in the top left corner square – pointing down, or pointing right. There are four different ways of putting it on most of the other squares – pointing up, down, left or right. There are only two ways of putting the longest boat in each corner, but ten ways of covering a given central square!
In order to hit every boat, you don’t need to look at every square. If you imagine the grid is a chessboard, every boat will be on at least one black and at least one white square. So you only need to look at the white squares to find all the boats. You’ll still need to hit some black squares to sink them, though.

Cheers –
Luanda Pianta Numeracy Co-Ordinator

More information
Play salvo online - http://www.mathplayground.com/battleship.html
Dear Parents & Students,

I hope you all had a good relaxing break. Children are busy with Mexican activities this week and next week we will be exploring India as India's biggest festival ‘Diwali’ falls next week.

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 Week’s Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before Care Activities</strong></td>
<td><strong>After Care Activities</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooking: Indian dal</td>
<td>Indian corn Napkin rings</td>
<td>India paper Blanket</td>
<td>Teepees and Indians</td>
<td>Ribbon Hats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All on one side</td>
<td>Bobbing for apples</td>
<td>Sharks and Islands</td>
<td>3 Bounces</td>
<td>One touch</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian corn Napkin rings</td>
<td>Cooking: Indian apple Oats</td>
<td>Coconut Biscuits</td>
<td>Tissue paper Indian corn</td>
<td>India paper Blanket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASC (Karate)</td>
<td>Balloon race</td>
<td>Red letter</td>
<td>AASC (Table tennis)</td>
<td>Piggy in the middle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Information

OSH program phone: 0402 362 443
Coordinator: Jagruti
Assistants: Caroline, Lekky, Athena,Laura and Jennifer
OSHClub Head 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9th - 15th November

Parents Association News!

### Vision Portraits

A reminder that the Vision Portraits fundraiser will be held tomorrow, Friday 9th November. Only $15!!! You receive a 10" X 13" portrait of just the kids or the whole family with a timber frame in either full colour or black and white, and it only takes 15 minutes of your time. Money raised is going directly back into our school.

For further details please contact Kathryn Soterales at kcsoterales@bigpond.com

### Buy one, get one free Book Fair!

It is November, so we are once again running the Scholastic book fair. For every book that is purchased, you receive a second book of equal or lesser value FREE!

**When:** Thursday 22nd November and Friday 23rd November, before and after school. 8.45am to 9.30am and 3pm to 4pm.

**Where:** The library conference room.

Please note that only books that are supplied to us will be sold. We will not be able to re order any books.

A leaflet is coming out today with further information, or contact Karin on 0419 583 990.

### Book Fair helpers needed

We are still looking for a few parent helpers to assist with book sales. If you can offer your time on one of the days mentioned above, please fill out the form that came home last week and return to school, or contact Karin on 0419 583 990.

### Parent Association Upcoming Events

Here are a few dates to put into the diary.

**November**
- 9th Vision portraits.
- 22nd & 23rd Scholastic book fair.
- 26th Last PA meeting of the year.

**December**
- 10th PA Lunch.
- 12th Walkathon
- 14th Christmas stall.

Further details will be advised as events draw closer.