Snippets

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.

Phone: (03) 9842 3373
Fax: (03) 9841 7033
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Website: www.donvaleps.vic.edu.au

Snippets

Wednesday 27th February
- Curriculum Day

Thursday 28th February
- Inter School Summer Sport for Level 5 & 6
- 2.00-3.30 and 7.00-8.30pm: Parent Helpers Course

Calendar

Thursday 21st February
- 2.00-3.30 and 7.00-8.30pm: Parent Helpers Course

Friday 22nd February
- 3.00-3.45pm: Uniform shop open

Monday 25th February
- 10.00-12.30: District Swimming at Aquarena Doncaster

Principal’s Report

‘Tell me about your child’ meetings have been happening throughout this week. The teachers are all reporting that they are finding the meetings extremely beneficial and worthwhile. It’s always terrific to meet the parents of the students we are teaching to get an insight from the people that know them best. It’s also a great opportunity for our parents to ‘touch base’ with their child’s teacher. For some of our parents, it is an opportunity to introduce themselves to their child’s teacher and begin a strong collaborative relationship. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our teachers for the taking the time to meet with our parents. As part of the current industrial action, our staff are supporting the Union ban of not working more than a 38 hour week (even though the reality is that they are all working above this!) The meetings will expect the teacher to work above and beyond this. At no stage have the teachers questioned this as they strongly recognise the importance of the meetings. All the staff at Donvale Primary School understand the moral purpose. That is, they are here for the students. We all only ever want to do what is best for our students. I thank the staff of Donvale PS for the dedication to their practice.

On Monday of this week, Stephan Hitchens (our Artist in Residence) gave us a demonstration of how he creates his painting artwork. Our students were able to join him in the Senior building during lunch break to watch him begin his ‘Chinese Dragon’ painting. The children had the opportunity to get to know Stephan and ask him some inquisitive questions such as: “How do you know what colours to use?” “Where did you learn to paint?” and “How long have you been an Artist for?” Stephan will continue working on the painting next week. Hopefully it will be completed then and ready for us to hang in our school entry area.

A reminder that our first Arts Committee meeting will take place next Monday 25th Feb in the school staffroom at 3.50pm. If you are interesting in joining the Committee and supporting our Artist in Residence program, please let me know and come along on Monday if you can.

The ‘Parents as Helpers’ Course starts today. Thank you to all the parents that will be attending. We have had an outstanding response and are looking forward to working with our parent helpers and getting to know everyone a little bit more. We very much appreciate the time taken by our parents to attend the training and value the support in the work that we do.

A reminder that next Wednesday February 27th is a Curriculum Day. This is a student free day where our teachers will be spending the day participating in intensive professional learning. Our focus on this day will be the effective teaching of Spelling. We are fortunate to have Lorraine Edwards – Literacy Consultant – presenting to us on this day. Please ensure that you diary this date.

Lena Clark
**General**

**Tunstall Square Twilight Festival**  
Saturday March 2 from 4-9pm.

Come along at 4pm to support our Marimba band, Music Makers choir and our Senior choir as they perform at the opening of this local festival.

Our school will also be running a BBQ and information stand.

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**Donvale Junior Chef**

Welcome back everyone, and a special welcome to all the new families at our school.

The form was handed out today, please send it back to school ASAP if your child wants to participate in this program. The cookbook, children's groups, timetables and team helpers roster will be handed out the first week back to school in term 2.

Sessions starting in term 2.

We will be dividing the children into groups consisting of a mix of children from Foundation to Grade 6, each group will have 2 group leaders (one from Senior and one from Junior) to help out within their group.

Our theme menu will be:

Term 2 : Crispy Dumpling (to welcome the Mandarin language program to our school, we will be creating our own meat filling, learning different styles of wrapping and folding pastry such as wonton, spring roll, money bag, etc)  
Term 3 : Hamburger (we will be baking our bread rolls, creating our burgers and assembling our very own hamburger)  
Term 4 : Plated Dessert (we will be creating a restaurant style dessert on a plate using fresh fruits, our home made cakes and some cream/ sauces/ ice cream)

We need lemons, if you could please donate some to us if you have any spare. If you have any unwanted kitchen stuff, please donate to our DJC Room.

For more information regarding this program please contact Mrs Lena Clark or Liz Brown (Darcy FHW) or myself (Nash 34MP).

We don't cook, we create food.

*Liang Dimitroff*

**BIG THUMBS UP:**

- Mr Gordon for his early bird donation to our program, Thank you Mr G.
- Emma W 34 MP for explaining to new students about DJC, well done Emma.
From The Sports Desk

Our Swimming Trials (12th Feb) were most successful. A District Swimming Team has been selected for the District event on Monday 25th Feb at Aquarena Doncaster. Children involved have been notified. I encourage all children to practice their event/events as often as possible. All events are 50 metres. Permission/payment forms need to be returned by Friday 22nd Feb.

Summer Inter-School Sport

Our first round of Inter-School Sport is Thursday 28th Feb for our Level 5 & 6 children. The sports are Bat Tennis, Cricket, Rounders, Softball and Basketball. Children playing Softball and Basketball will travel by bus to their venues. Permission/Payment forms must be returned by Wednesday 27th Feb. Bat Tennis and Rounders will be played at D.P.S. Softball will be played on Donvale Reserve.

Fundamental Motor Skills

The role of Physical Education and Sport in the school curriculum is to help students develop the competencies and beliefs necessary for incorporating regular physical activity into their lives. An important part is the instruction in Fundamental Motor Skills (catch, kick, run, jump, throw, ball bounce, dodge and hitting). All these motor skills form the building blocks which underpin the learning of more complicated sport skills. Fundamental Motor Skills competence has been shown to influence students in many ways. Students who have achieved fundamental motor skill competence have been found to successfully participate in a range of sports movement activities and maintain involvement during childhood and adolescence. Regular involvement in sport and movement activities leads to gains in health-related physical fitness. How students feel about themselves can be influenced by their physical skills. Students who have achieved fundamental motor skill competence have been found to perceive themselves as being competent, socially accepted and to have a positive attitude towards physical activity. In essence, fundamental motor skills and competence assists in preparing students for a healthy lifestyle.

Sequence of Instruction:

During the early primary school years (Foundation - Level 3) students are given the opportunity to learn the essential motor skills upon which later learning is dependent. They include the throw, watch, kick, hitting, ball bounce, run and jump). During the later years (Levels 4 - 6) students are taught a range of transitional, or lead-up motor skills/activities. Examples of skills and activities include basketball dribble, netball, tennis, cricket …) During these years, students receive physical education that enables and encourages them to further develop their motor skills such as throwing, catching and hitting learned earlier into the more complex and specific sports common to the community.

A Modified Tennis Environment

With the arrival of modified tennis equipment from Tennis Australia, all students at Donvale will be introduced to tennis as part of their Physical Education this term.

Foundation

Students are introduced to tennis through learning basic Fundamental Motor Skills which will assist them in grouping the key skills required to play tennis.

Years 1-2

Students are introduced to the general principals of tennis through participating in a range of challenging activities.

Years 3 - 4

Students will learn the basic strokes, volley and serve skills required to rally the ball and play games.

Years 5 - 6

Students will refine their skills through games which focus on tactics and court play. Activities that will promote these outcomes may require modification. These modifications commonly involve adapting equipment (eg. Smaller racquets, low compression balls, court size and tennis skills (eg, Substituting a drop and hit for an over arm serve) to promote greater success.

The Premiers Active Families Challenge

This begins on March 4th and ends on the 14th April 2013. Families/students participating in the challenge are asked to do at least 30 minutes of physical activity each day for the 30 days. We have been involved in this program for the last 2 years and has proven to be most successful. Registration for the challenge is now open at www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/challenge. Posters will be on display around the classrooms/school. Children will also be given individual information regarding registration and types of physical activities that can be completed. If you don’t have access to a computer, registration forms are available at the office.
Weekly titbits from last Saturday starting with a couple of wins this week, Delights have some new players but not new to basketball we would like to welcome Ingrid Barnes, Jessica Gurrera, Gemma Gould and Sarita Neil.

Daffodils had one player down on Saturday with Abbey Gould having a broken a toe hope you are on the mend and ready for basketball real soon.

Donvale Derby game went down with two Donvale teams playing each other! – Dreamers and Daisy’s had a great tussle. It was great to watch a game of high skill and fantastic enthusiasm Well Done Girls! Special Congratulations to Elise Harrison who shot a PB of 16 points. Fun had by all.

Want to have a look at our basketball to see what it’s all about then come cheer on your friends and check it out at the same time.

This Saturday games times are:

U11 Boys - **Dinosaurs**: Bye
Open Girls - **Delights**: DSC Court 1 @ 9.20am
U9 Girls – **Daffodils**: Leeds St, @ 10.10am
U11 Girls – **Daisy’s**: DSC Court 2 @ 11am
U11 Girls – **Dreamers**: DSC Court 2 @ 10.10am

For any enquiries please contact Diana McNaughton on 0434027144 or dianamcn@tpg.com.au. Registration forms are available by contacting Diana or on line via our website www.donvaleps.vic.edu.au under extra curriculum

Cheers from your Basketball reporters - Stacey Browne and Diana McNaughton
**OSHClub News**  
**Before School / After School Care Program**

### Program Update

Dear Parents & Students,

We had nice time last week learning some yoga and basketball skills and balloon painting. Unfortunately we could not run the program on teacher’s strike, stop work day due to less number.

Remember we are in Term 1, so need to follow ‘No Hat, no play’ Policy. Please bring your hat with you every time you are at OSH. We have got couple of new children at OSH. I hope they are enjoying their time 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:** Wednesday 27th February, 2013.

**Times:** 8.00am to 6:00pm

**Cost:** $9.00 - $46.00 per child (Not including 50% tax rebate)

**How to book:** Please log in to your account online at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au) and book in on the aftercare site.

**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 $3.00. 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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Seahorse Bookmark</td>
<td>Seaside bingo</td>
<td>Duck paper Plate craft</td>
<td>Building boats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fruit salad</td>
<td>Relay</td>
<td>Chain tiggy</td>
<td>Catch it Drop it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Seahorse Bookmark</td>
<td>Water Environment</td>
<td>Duck paper Plate craft</td>
<td>Make a paper Boat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Badminton game</td>
<td>Yoga (AASC)</td>
<td>Basket ball</td>
<td>Cricket (AASC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Parent Information

OSH program phone: 0402 362 443  
Coordinator: Jagruti  
Assistants: Caroline 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](http://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.*
Parents Association

CADBURY CHOCOLATE DRIVE
Thanks to everyone for supporting this major fundraiser for the school. We have had a positive response and the chocolates are selling like hotcakes All money and any unsold chocolates can be returned to the office or the PA STOREROOM.

DPS FOOTY TIPPING COMP
A Footy Tipping Competition has been organised for this AFL season. The comp is open to all families (as individuals or groups) and staff. $30 per entry in a marked envelope. All entries must be IN and PAID by Friday 22nd March.

Tips are done for the whole season up front – that’s where the fun comes in 😊

CROSS OUT LOSING TEAM. Any blanks or illegible tips will be allocated to the away team. If a draw occurs, no point will be awarded.

A bonus point will be awarded to those who tip all 9 winners. 50% of the total money taken, goes to the PA and the remaining 50% will be the prize money. Prize money will be allocated as follows:

55% 1st place
25% 2nd place
15% 3rd place
5% last place

If there are multiple winners for any place, the prize money will be pooled and split. Weekly results will be published in Snippets. NO RESULTS will be published for the last 4 rounds. Winners will be announced at an end of season social gathering to be advised.

Extended family and friends are welcome to join in. Extra entries and fixtures will be available to download on the website. Try and beat the MYSTERY TIPPER ???????

FIXTURES, ENTRIES AND MORE DETAILS NEXT SNIPPEIS
Any queries you can speak with Soraya Van Eyk (staff) and Stacey Browne (PA)

EASTER RAFFLE
Each family will be receiving 10 raffle tickets to sell. These will be sent home next week. The tickets are $1 each. Ticket stubbs and money can be returned to the office and if you require more tickets, these will also be available at the office. We want to make up prize baskets and ask if every family can donate items for the baskets. In the past we have had an overload of chocolate items so maybe this year we can be inventive and supply some items like, small soft toys, biscuits, home wears, gift vouchers, stationary? All donations are very much appreciated and can be given to Mrs Lillis or Mrs Cheesman at the office.

TUNSTALL SQUARE TWILIGHT FESTIVAL
Donvale Primary School will have a marketing table setup at this year’s festival which will showcase our school and provide enrolment information to interested families. We were also asked if we would like to run a separate Sausage Sizzle as a fundraiser…….of course we would!

So, if you can spare an hour of your time as part of a roster system to help on Saturday 2nd March between 4pm and 9pm please contact Jo Wood on 0407 547 454 or email to jo@pizeng.com

UPCOMING EVENTS THIS TERM
* Footy Tipping
* Tunstall Square Twilight Festival
* Easter Raffle
* Come and have a cuppa at the next PA Meeting Monday 4th March @ 9am in the OSHC Room-Middle School Building. We invite all new families to the school – we value your input and support. Toddlers are welcome 😊
Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of $250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

Payment Amounts - 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instalment One</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instalment Two</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2013.
Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Donvale Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Thursday 28 February 2013

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Thursday 14 March 2013

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lena Clark
Principal
## Donvale Primary School
### School Council Election Process and Timetable 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Notice of election and call for nominations</td>
<td>Thursday 21 February 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Closing date for nominations</td>
<td>Thursday 28 February 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted</td>
<td>Friday 01 March 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed</td>
<td>On or before Thursday 7 March 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Close of ballot</td>
<td>Thursday 14 March 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Vote count</td>
<td>Friday 15 March 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Declaration of poll</td>
<td>Monday 18 March 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Special council meeting to co-opt Community members (the principal will preside)</td>
<td>Wednesday 27 March 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)</td>
<td>Wednesday 27 March 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School Council Elections … 2013

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

- **A mandated elected DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- **An optional Community member category.** Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.
What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do

Consider standing for election to council this year

Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.
Advertising Material

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

Manningham Council - Promoting Manningham Healthy Lifestyle Week which is taking place between 28 February to 10 March 2013.

Boys & Literacy - Greg Griffiths - Full day session.

Billanook College - Tours, 23 February 10.30am

East Doncaster S.C. - Applications open for ALPH Year 7 2014.

Norwood S.C. - Dates for proposed tours.

Junior Strings of Banyule - Are now accepting new members for 2013.

The Premier’s Active Families Challenge provides a great opportunity for all Victorians to get active and enjoy the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Registrations are now open! You can support the Challenge by encouraging your students and their families to register and complete 30 minutes of physical activity for 30 days from 4 March to 14 April 2013.

Participation is free and there are great incentives just for signing up including:
- 20 free YMCA passes per family or team
- 15% discount at Rebel Sport
- One hour free tennis court hire at Melbourne Park or Albert Park Reserve
- One free child entry to the Melbourne Aquarium
- One free child entry to the National Sports Museum and MCG Tour

Students will also have the opportunity to nominate their school for the chance to win between $350 and $1000 in Rebel Sport vouchers.

Participating schools are also eligible for coaching clinics from VIS Challenge Ambassadors. Clinics are on a first-come, first-served basis and run from 18 February – 15 March 2013. To discuss the opportunity for an athlete to visit your school contact Jasmine Foulsum at Jasmine.foulsum@sport.vic.gov.au

An information pack has been sent to your Principal containing resources to assist you to promote the Challenge and an activity booklet. Commissioned by Sport and Recreation Victoria and authored by ACHPER Victoria, this resource contains fun ideas to incorporate the Challenge into your work plans and class activities to get your students involved.

For more information and to sign up visit www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/challenge or contact 1300 463 684.