It's wonderful to be back. I really have missed seeing the children and hearing all about what is going on in their lives. I certainly have lots of catching up to do and am really looking forward to it – particularly getting to know our new Foundation students. Thank you to all the families that sent me well wishes during my absence. It certainly helped with my road to recovery and was very much appreciated.

**Newsletter** - I have noticed there have been a few changes during my absence; the format of our Snippets newsletter being one of them. I think it looks fabulous. I hope you do too. A big thank you to Mrs Cheesman who works every week in presenting our newsletter in a timely and professional manner. Also, a thank you to all who regularly contribute to our newsletter. It is one of our major forms of communication between the school and community.

This year, I would like to minimise the amount of hard copy newsletters that the school delivers to our parents and eventually stop printing hardcopies entirely. As mentioned previously, this not only impacts on the school's time and resources but also on our environment. As a school that is significantly focused on educating our students on sustainable practices, it is very contradictory of us to be printing hard copies on a weekly basis. Many of our parents have taken up the option of having their Snippets forwarded to them via their email. The other very simple way of accessing the newsletter is via our website. If you would like to have your newsletter delivered to you via your email, please fill in the form included in this weeks snippets and forward to our office.

**Air Conditioners** - Last week, the Senior building's classrooms were fitted with much needed air conditioning. This has been made a possibility through the wonderful efforts of our Parents Association and our community who has always actively supported their fundraising ventures. Last year, the PA raised close to $12,000. Some of this money has now been very productively utilised in the purchase and installation of the air conditioners. A very big thank you to all. It is a great achievement. The Senior building is used by our school not only as our 5 / 6 classrooms but also for many other purposes such as Assemblies, performances, and fundraisers. A comfortable air conditioned area for all members of our community especially our students is now available for us all to use.
**Choirs and Marimba Band** - Last Saturday, I had the pleasure of watching our wonderful Choirs and Marimba Band perform at Tunstall Square. It is always a joy to watch our students’ confidence grow as they are given opportunities to perform to the wider Donvale community. It certainly is a celebration of our Performing Arts Program as we showcase and celebrate the amazing talents of our students. A very big thank you to Mrs Keep, Mr Gordon and Mr Reiter who lead the charge in supporting our students with such performances. Another big thank you to Kerry Gerraty who leads our Senior Choir. Kerry is a past parent of our school and continues to very kindly donate her time and expertise. She just loves us! Also, a very big thank you to Mr McKinlay and Mrs Saw who also joined us on Saturday to lend a helping hand. I know we all appreciate it when our staff give up their time to support our students and school.

**Community Fair** – The countdown is now truly on as we enter the month of March. With only a few short weeks to go plans and preparations for our Community Fair are in absolute full swing. We are almost ready to go! Please make sure you have Saturday March 29 in you diary. We would love to see as many members of our community supporting us on the day. Remember to tell all your friends to come along and join in the fun.

**Artist in Residence Program** – Last year, our school ran a very successful Artist in Residence Program with our resident Artist, Stephan Hitchins, providing his skills and expertise with the development of our wonderful wall mural that now sits proudly on our Junior, Performing and Visual Arts buildings. It really is a celebration of our school. This year, I am proud to be able to provide once again, the Artist in Residence Program to all our students. Luckily for us, Stephan Hitchins has agreed to again be our resident Artist. The parent survey conducted at the end of last year clearly indicated the strong support the community has for the program. With the upgrade of our General Purpose building commencing shortly, Stephan alongside Mrs Towan, our Visual Arts teacher, will be working with the children in developing a showcase mosaic which will be displayed on the front entrance wall of the GP room. This is another exciting project for our school and students to look forward to. Our students are indeed very fortunate to be able to participate in the Artist in Residence Program as well as also continuing with their regular weekly Visual Art class. Stay tuned for more.

**GP and Art Rooms upgrade** – An update on where we are at the moment with the upgrade of our GP and Art rooms – I informed our community last year that we have been allocated a total of approximately $140,000 in departmental funding to spend on much needed renovations to our GP and Art Rooms. The Architect has been appointed and plans for the upgrade drawn. We are now in the process of tendering for builders. Hopefully this will be a quick process and we can look forward to building works commencing shortly.

**Year 5/6 Camp** - I will look forward to hearing from our Year 5/6’s next week about their wonderful experiences while away on camp. What a great opportunity this is for our Senior students. Rest up everyone!

Finally, I would like to thank Mr McKinlay and Mr Gordon for taking on the roles and responsibilities of Acting Principal and Acting Assistant Principal during my absence. It is fabulous to know that the school continued to ‘hum along’ allowing me to rest and recover without any concerns for the school. Of course, Mr McKinlay and Mr Gordon were very much supported by the truly wonderful staff of Donvale PS. It is always a team effort in everything we do. THANK YOU EVERYONE!

Kind Regards

*Lena Clark*
## March

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<td>National Ride 2 School Day</td>
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<td>Tennis Trials at St Kevins P.S.</td>
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<td>2 pm: Boys/Girls Soccer Trials at Donburn P.S.</td>
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<td>4 pm: Last Day Term 1 2.30pm finish</td>
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## Term 2:
22 April to 27 June**

** Term 2 starts on Tuesday 22 April as Monday 21 April is a public holiday for Easter Monday. Please note: Friday 25 April is ANZAC Day.
From the Acting Assistant Principal to the Assistant Principal

Welcome Back Lena!

It’s been great to welcome Lena back to school this week, and we all wish her the best after recovering from recent surgery.

Permission Forms

We have sent home a collection of permission forms today to all new students at Donvale. These need to be signed, and remain in force until permission is withdrawn. Please consider each item carefully, sign and return the forms ASAP. The areas covered are: Sunscreen, Movies, Local Excursions, Head Lice Inspections, DTV, School Magazine, and Permission to publish students’ work and photographs.

Absence Notes

Please ensure that you send a note or make a phone call if your child is absent from school. New regulations make it imperative that we record an approved reason for any student absence. We wish to avoid the possibility of parents being faced with a fine for ongoing absenteeism.

Sunsmart

All students need to have a hat during terms one and four. Please make sure your child brings a school uniform hat to school. Unfortunately, if they are not wearing a hat they will be restricted to undercover play areas during recess and lunch times. Sunscreen is also available in the classrooms for those students who have permission to apply it.

Level 5 & 6 Camp

All the Year 5 & 6 students are excited to be spending four days next week at Rawson Village on an adventure camp. This will be a great time of team building and personal development as we undertake many new and exciting activities like the high ropes course, bush walking, rock climbing and abseiling.

Rick Gordon

Notice of School Council Elections

As the nominations received matched the number of vacancies for Donvale Primary School Council Elections 2014, a ballot will not be held. Congratulations to the following parents who will be joining the DPS School Council for 2014/2015: Evan Raftopoulos, Tania Smith, Russell Waycott, Marina Younger.

Thank you to Brenda Tierney, Kylie Glover, Virginia Yeoman, David Apsey and Jo Wood who will not be returning for another term on School Council. Your input to meetings and efforts to make this school wonderful are appreciated.

The following staff will be joining DPS School Council for 2014/2015 is: Victoria Erskine-Behr, John Pianta.

Lena Clark

Principal

Weird and Whacky Socks Wanted!

1/2SM are looking for the most colourful and whacky socks in your sock drawer! If you have any preloved socks that fit this description your donations would be very much appreciated. We will be decorating them for our 'mystery socks' stall at the fair. Please bring any socks that need re-homing to 1/2SM. We promise that their new home will be a very happy one!

Mrs Signorini
From The Sports Coach

Premier's Active April is a campaign to encourage Victorians to do at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April 2014.

Easy Registration: The new website includes easy registration for schools and students. Go to www.activeapril.vic.com.au for more information and step-by-step instructions on how to register. It would be great if each child at Donvale Primary School becomes registered and participates in the program.

Free Hockey Program. In second Term students from Blackburn High School (Year 10) will be coming to our school to conduct a series of 4 hockey coaching programs. The Year 10 students are part of a Blackburn High School Sport Leadership Program which involves sport coaching. The program has been endorsed by Hockey Victoria, Ausport Australia and the Victorian Coaching Council. It is also being run in conjunction with the Doncaster Hockey Club. A total of 4 sessions will be held on Tuesday afternoons from 3.30 - 4.30 on April 29th, May 6th, 13th and 20th. All sessions will be free of charge. As the sessions will be participation and instructional based, all students (Years 3-6) will be welcome regardless of whether they have played hockey before.

Adult supervision will be provided at all sessions. Please return the Hockey Program Registration Form and return it completed to your child’s classroom teacher ASAP.

John Pianta

WOOLWORTHS ‘EARN & LEARN’

Look at our lovely new ‘Measurement Box’ given to us for all those dockets we saved up last year as part of the Woolworths ‘Earn & Learn’ program. It includes 6 trundle wheels, 6 measuring tapes and many other measurement goodies. The students and teachers will love this set all in one box. Thank-you to all the families who assisted in collecting theses dockets plus Marina Younger and Kim Merton, who collated all the data.

Let’s get ready for this year!

Luanda Pianta
Music Matters

Our Senior Choir, Music Makers Choir and Marimba Band presented an excellent musical repertoire for the Tunstall Festival last Saturday. The weather was perfect and a good number of students were able to attend, bringing with them an appreciative audience.

A special thank you goes to all those parents who made the effort to have their children at the venue on time; to Kerry Gerraty, Pete Reiter and Rick Gordon for their on-going assistance and most of all to our enthusiastic choirs and band members for their wonderful performances.

Our next major event is the DPS Fete on Saturday March 29th where each of our three choirs as well as the Marimba Band will be performing from noon onwards. Students may wear casual clothes. Please mark your calendar and invite your family and friends along for a fun afternoon!

There will also be a debut performance from the staff and parent band: “The Write Staff”, and entertainment from a dance troupe and past students. Don’t miss out on this special day!

Anthea Keep
Basketball

This week is the first week we kicked off playing with two under 9 teams. Here is the line-up of both teams.

**Demons Coach** = Brian Vaughns, **Players**: Darcy B, Lachlan H, Marcus V, Josh Mc, Hamish W, Lachie M, and Connor P

**Dolphins Coach** = Bailey Thomas, **Players**: Alex B, George T, Nathan G, Cooper R, Harrison S, Callum S, Daniel W, Zac T

With Two U9 boys team, Two U11 Girls teams and Two Open Girls teams we will be seeing some Donvale teams playing against each other. This week saw the Daffodils team up against the Daisies both teams played very well. Go Donvale!

The Dreamers had players sick and injured so the girls did a great job and stepped up and put in 110%. Huge effort! Thank you to Kate B who stood in at the start of the game.

The Delights had an easy win with Gemma G finding her confidence to several shots and scoring an amazing 8 points! Well done Gemma we are so proud of you.

No games this Saturday so players and parents can enjoy a lovely long weekend.

**Training Roster for Tuesday**

This Tuesday 11th March is “The Delights” turn to train at school however they will be at Camp so need to worry about training. Hope they can fit in some training at camp!

**UNIFORMS**

For any questions about uniforms speak to your team manager or contact Charmaine at charmaine.neal@bigpond.com

**CONTACT**

For Information and registration forms please contact Diana at dianamcn@tpg.com.au or 0434 027 144

**SPORTS INTERVIEW – Emma W - Daisies**

**Q. How old are you?**
A. Nearly 10.

**Q. How long have you been playing b’ball for the school?**
A. Since Grade 1 so more than 3 years

**Q. What is your favourite or funniest moment in b’ball?**
A. when I scored 3 goals in the first 2 minutes - in grade 2

**Q. Do you have a favourite sports hero &/or team?**
A. Ellyse Perry, Torah Bright and Lauren Jackson

**Q. What do you like to do for fun?**
A. Ballet, playing basketball and swimming

**Q. What do you want to be when you grow up?**
A. A Zoologist
Junior Chef Club

For children on the waiting list, we will contact you as soon as a spot is available.

Thank you to the Raftopoulos, Krstic and Wijaya families for their donations.

We need 2lt and 4lt square ice creams containers with lids and lemons, please send them to the school if you have any spare.

We don't cook, we create food.

Liang Dimitroff

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Birthday Wishes To

Tiffany L, Laura V and Holly O’S

Who are celebrating birthdays from 7th to 13 March
Dear Parents & Student,

Welcome to week 7 of Term 1. This week children were busy working on the Autumn tree. They all enjoyed pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. On top of that grade 3’s and 4’s volunteered being OSHclub staff serving breakfast and taking care of the kitchen and are also working on OSHClub Imovie.

Special thanks to Leo for donating his spare hat to OSHClub.

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. Drink lot of water and stay hydrated.

Online bookings for Mitcham and Blackburn Holiday Program are open. To avoid last minute rush or disappointment book in the children in advance.

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 until 12pm the night before, or you can book on the day by calling or leaving the text message but there will be an extra charge of $3.00 for bookings within 24 hours. 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. For some reason if you need to cancel the child from attending the after school care session you can cancel online if it is before 24 hours or leave a text message on the program phone (0402362443/98422261) if it is on the day.

Jagruti Shah

Next Week’s Activities

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<td><strong>Before Care Activities</strong></td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>Paper flowers &amp; Twister</td>
<td>Clay animals &amp; Musical chair</td>
<td>Movie making &amp; Line tiggy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>After Care Activities</strong></td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>Carrot cake &amp; Zombie tiggy</td>
<td>Tennis (AASC) &amp; Restaurant play</td>
<td>Caramel popcorn &amp; Doll’s house</td>
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OSH program phone: 0402 362 443/9842 2261
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.
Parent’s Association

Donvale Primary School Fair
Saturday 29 March

Information Packs have been sent home.

it’s time ..........
to clear out the cupboards and drawers

WE NEED;
Pre-loved quality toys, second hand books
CDS, DVD's
Groovy odd socks – all colors & sizes

New “Prize” donations for boys & girls – 2-6 years and 7-12 years

sushi sushi

MEAL DEAL DAY – A great response!
Donvale Primary munched through 283 sushi rolls.
Our school has a healthy appetite for healthy food with over 150 orders & heaps of extra icypoles sold.

Thanks to the mums who helped on the day!

Mmmmmmm – Cadbury Chocolate Drive coming......

Freddo Frogs Rock – especially the green ones .........
DONCASTER HEIGHTS AUSKICK
Rieschiecks Reserve
(cnr George Street & Victoria Street, Doncaster East)

Pack Collection
Saturday March 22nd 9am – 10.30am
Register and pay online www.aflauskick.com.au
Click on Doncaster Heights Auskick

Clinics START SATURDAY APRIL 26th
9am – 10.30am
Coordinator Glenn Powell 0421012845
Partner Club D.H.J.F.C & Fremantle FC
New kids always welcome (for boys and girls aged 4-12)

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Advertising Material
The Department of Education & Training, Donvale Primary School its Management, and teachers do not endorse the products or services of any advertiser listed in this publication. No representation, warranty or undertaking is given or made in relation to the accuracy or completeness of the information presented in this publication, or any claims made by the advertisers.

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

Deanne Fordham School of Dance  - Ballet/tap/jazz/hip-hop and more (Rosella Str, East Doncaster)
Norwood S.C.  - Open Night, Wed 7th May at 7pm. Enrichment Program, entry by application.
Warrandyte High School  - Self guided tours: Tuesday 25th March, join anytime between 4pm and 8pm.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS:
- OSHCare 4 Kids: 7th-17th at Doncaster Gardens P.S.
- Coach & Horse, Ringwood: Kids Karaoke and Dance Party Wed 9th April, 2nd July & 24th Sept 11.30am - 1.30pm.
- Extend: Autumn School Holiday Program, 4 April to 24 April
GET YOUR SNIPPETS BY EMAIL

Currently, our Snippets newsletter is available to our families in two forms; hard copy which is printed at the school and sent home weekly to each family; and online via our Donvale Primary School Website. We are very keen to cease sending home the hard copy version of our newsletter. The administrative costs and environmental issues in printing copies each week are our justifications in wanting to do this.

We also have had many new families join our school community this year. We ask that all our new families as well as other families who wish to add their name to our data base, to please consider these options and reply by returning form ASAP.

We thank you for your consideration and hopefully, in doing things this way, we can minimise the cost to our school and environment.

________________________________________________________________________

DONVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Please add my name to your data base to receive Snippets by email.

Name:________________________________________________________________

Name of eldest student and class: __________________________________________

My email address is: ____________________________________________________