Welcome Back:

It’s great to see all our students back at school smiling and rested after the term break. I hope you all enjoyed the change of routine and some wonderful family time together. A special welcome back to the Merton family. This term, whilst we do not have any major events planned such as production, will still be a most enjoyable one. Our whole school learning will be based on the Environment and all Levels will be undertaking Inquiry Units in this area. The Units of Study are as follows:

Foundation: Dinosaurs
Level 1/2: Forests
Level 3/4: Endangered Animals
Level 5/6: Natural Disasters

To create consistency of learning across the school all our Inquiry Units have a set of guiding Throughlines for our areas of study. For the Environment area these whole school Throughlines or understandings are:

- Our past and present behaviours impact on the environment.
- All living things depend on their environment.
- Our environment changes over time.
- Sustaining our planet’s unique natural systems provide for the needs of living things now and in the future.

By the time you have read this the Foundation students will have already visited the Dinosaur Park at Caulfield Racetrack. Will Mum or Dad get a word in tonight when they recount their adventures and did they get much sleep the night before looking forward to it so much? Our Level 1/2 students are just as excited about their excursion to Toolangi State Forest on Monday 21st July. I have a coat and scarf packed already!

Curriculum Day:

Next Wednesday 23rd July the whole staff will be involved in a day of professional learning. Jill Ridgewell a Literacy teacher from Oak Park P.S. will talk to the staff about writing strategies. Lashay Cartledge and Bec Signorini will discuss the Kids Matter program (please read the article on this program in...
today’s Snippets) and Rick Gordon will talk about the use of iPads in the classroom. The students will not be required to attend school on this day.

**NAPLAN Trials**

Our school has been selected to take part in a NAPLAN Writing trial. The purpose of this trial is to refine and improve the type of NAPLAN questions that will appear in all schools next year. On Friday 1st August our Year 3 and Year 5 students will take part in 2 Writing exercises, each of 55 mins. duration. After our students have completed their writing the NAPLAN administrators will seek their verbal feedback on the relative strengths and weaknesses of the exercise. There will not be any marking, scoring or published results from this trial. It will simply be an opportunity for the NAPLAN administrators to gain feedback from the most important element in the testing process, the students.

**Crossover Days:**

This term we will be having 2 days a week in which our students have the opportunity to access any area of the school playground they wish. The days will be Monday and Wednesday. This week it’s been great to see the care and support that our senior students have been providing our little ones with. We look forward to this continuing throughout the second semester.

Have a great term.

*Ian McKinlay*

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**July**

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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Term 3 begins</td>
<td>15 Gymnastics for Level 5/6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17 9.15-2.15: Foundation Dinosaur Adventure Excursion</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>9.00: Parents Ass. Meeting</td>
<td>22 Jnr Chef Club—Group 1</td>
<td>23 CURRICULUM DAY—Student free day</td>
<td>24 9.00-3.30: World Of Maths Incursion</td>
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<td>2.15-3.15: Gymnastics for Level 5/6</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>2.15-3.15: Gymnastics for Level 5/6</td>
<td>29 Jnr Chef Club—Group 2</td>
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## August

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<td>1.5-3.15: Gymnastics for Level 5/6</td>
<td>Jnr Chef Club—Group 3</td>
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<td>2.15-3.15: Gymnastics for Level 5/6</td>
<td>Jnr Chef Club—Group 4</td>
<td>Author Sheryl Clark Incursion</td>
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<td>Grandparents/ Special Person Day for Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>9am: Parents Ass. Meeting in Library</td>
<td>Jnr Chef Club—Group 5 Book Week Activity Day</td>
<td>2.15-3.15: Gym for Level 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Jnr Chef Club—Group 6</td>
<td>2.15-3.15: Gym for Level 1 &amp; 2</td>
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## General

### FROM THE OFFICE

**Bulk Billing** - Term 3 Bulk Billing is due. It is a requirement for excursions and incursions that the fee is paid for your child to attend the activity. Bulk Billing forms are on the website.

**SRI - Special Religious Instructions** - Consent forms went home at the end of last term. These forms must be returned and signed and both boxes ticked giving permission for your child to attend SRI at Donvale Primary School. This new form governs the way SRI is delivered in schools as per the new Ministerial Direction. Extra forms are available at the office. These forms need to be returned to school by the beginning of next week as SRI classes are commencing.

**Lost Bomber Jackets** - We have had a number of lost bomber jackets and parents are unable to find them in lost property. Can parents please check to see if the bomber jacket your child is wearing has the correct name on the label. Thank you.

**2015 Foundation Enrolments** - If you have a child starting at Donvale next year and have not handed in the enrolment form, please do so as soon as possible. Please contact the office for an enrolment form or you can print one from our school website.
KidsMatter is coming to Donvale Primary school!

We are proud of our wonderful school and the students within it.

We are proud of the care and commitment we give to each and every one of our students.

Every staff member at Donvale Primary has different skill sets that assist the children to achieve and help them enjoy coming to school each day.

However, we are a staff body that are always looking to improve the opportunities, health and happiness of the students we teach.

On Wednesday next week, one element of our school curriculum day will be the rollout of KidsMatter Component 1 training, ‘Building Positive School Communities’.

The staff of Donvale Primary have put a lot of time and research into a new whole school approach to build and maintain positive mental health in our students. Kids Matter was chosen due to its proven track record in supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of school students.

KidsMatter doesn’t just support students with difficulties; it actually helps to promote a positive environment, where every person in the community is supported to be mentally fit!

The staff are excited about this new initiative and have embraced the philosophy wholeheartedly. Read below, or visit http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/ to find out more about Kids Matter.

Happy reading!

Lashay Cartledge, Rebecca Signorini and Ian McKinlay, on behalf of the KidsMatter Action Team.

Successful schools start with healthy minds

KidsMatter Primary is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference to the lives of Australian children.

KidsMatter Primary provides the proven methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents and carers, health services and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids.

It is a flexible, whole-school approach to improving children’s mental health and wellbeing for primary schools. It can be tailored to schools’ local needs.

Through KidsMatter Primary, schools undertake a two-to three-year cyclical process in which they plan and take action to be a positive community; one that is founded on respectful relationships and a sense of belonging and inclusion, and that promotes:

- social and emotional learning (including evidence-based social and emotional learning programs)
- working authentically with parents, carers and families
- support for students who may be experiencing mental health difficulties.

When schools take on KidsMatter, they build on the work that they are already doing in these areas.

Visit the following link if you would like to watch a short introductory video about Kidsmatter Primary. It explains the value of the program from participants' viewpoint.

http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/about-kidsmatter-primary
Why implement KidsMatter?

Mental health and wellbeing is vital for learning and life. Children who are mentally healthy learn better, benefit
from life experiences and have stronger relationships with family members, school staff and peers. Good
mental health in childhood also provides a solid foundation for:

- managing the transition to adolescence and adulthood
- engaging successfully in education
- making a meaningful contribution to society.

School is the most significant developmental context, after family, for primary school-aged children. Schools
play a crucial role in building children's self esteem and sense of competence. They can also act as a safety net
and assist in protecting children from circumstances that affect their learning, development and wellbeing.

Schools, working closely with families and the community, are key environments for comprehensively
supporting children's mental health and wellbeing.

As a national initiative, KidsMatter Primary, through its national and state and territory teams, provides a range
of resources and support to all interested primary schools. These are provided free of charge. KidsMatter is
funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

The benefits

KidsMatter was extensively evaluated in 2009 by Flinders University. The evaluation found clear benefits for
students, school staff and for schools.

Benefits for students included:

- Increased positive mental health (eg optimism and coping)
- Reduced mental health difficulties (eg emotional symptoms, hyperactivity, conduct problems and peer
difficulties)
- Improvements in behaviour and motivation for students already experiencing mental health challenges

Benefits for staff included:

- Increased staff satisfaction
- Professional learning opportunities
- Improved student learning and behaviour

Benefits for schools included:

- Stronger parent engagement and parenting capacity
- More effective partnerships with community
- Improved student educational outcomes

A subsequent analysis of the data found that “…KidsMatter appears to be positively associated with the level
of student academic achievement, equivalent to 6 months more schooling by Year 7, over and above any
influence of socio-economic background.”

History of KidsMatter Primary

KidsMatter Primary is an initiative that promotes student mental health and wellbeing in primary schools across
Australia. It was developed in collaboration with the Commonwealth Government Department of Health, be-
yondblue, the Australian Psychological Society, Principals Australia Institute (the then Australian Principals As-
associations Professional Development Council) and supported by the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund.

KidsMatter Primary began in 2006 with a pilot conducted with 101 schools in the government, Catholic and
independent sectors in metropolitan and country areas in each state and territory. Nearly 5,000 students were
involved in the pilot schools.

**Why? What was the catalyst?**

KidsMatter Primary was established to assist schools to address a growing concern about children’s mental health that had been reported nationally and internationally. Findings from the *2000 National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing* indicated that 14% of Australian primary school children experienced mental health difficulties. The KidsMatter Primary initiative introduced an accessible framework that would develop the capacity in primary schools for mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention and could be shaped to respond to local needs and circumstances.

During the pilot in 2007-2008, KidsMatter Primary provided a range of resources and project officers supported the selected schools. Flinders University coordinated a comprehensive evaluation that found a number of positive outcomes for those schools who implemented KidsMatter Primary.

Today the collaboration continues with *beyondblue*, the Australian Psychological Society and the Principals Australia Institute. Funding for the KidsMatter Primary initiative is provided by the Australian Government Department of Health and *beyondblue*. The number of schools implementing KidsMatter Primary increases each term.

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### Junior Chef Club

Welcome back everyone. The timetable for this term has been handed out earlier this week. Please contact us if your child didn't get one or you can check them out on the wall of the Junior Chef room.

This term's timetable is:
- Group 1 : Tuesday 22 July 2014
- Group 2 : Tuesday 29 July 2014
- Group 3 : Tuesday 5 August 2014
- Group 4 : Tuesday 12 August 2014
- Group 5 : Tuesday 19 August 2014
- Group 6 : Tuesday 26 August 2014

Next week is the turn of the group 1 to create chicken curry with coconut rice and pickled vegetables with us. Hopefully we'll have enough time to also create roti flat bread.

Ingredients we need are: potato, tomato, spring onion, onion, garlic and ginger. We don't need much, any amount is a help, thank you in advance.

Looking forward to being busy with our little chefs in the Junior Chef kitchen.

We don't cook, we create food.

*Liang Dimitroff*
Welcome back from a well-earned break from Basketball by all players. The grand finals were very intense with two teams bringing back Grand Final winning flags and two runners up flags. Congratulations to The Dolphins” and “The Daisies” for their very exciting wins. Commiserations to “The Delights” who had a few sick players so they weren’t in top form and “The Demons” who lost due an umpire missing a travel call and that player scored a goal in the last second of the game!

The real winners however are all the players of our 9 teams who have tried their best, played hard, fair and with enthusiasm.

**MEDALS PRESENTATION TOMORROW AT ASSEMBLY**

**Times for this week are as follows:**

- Diamonds: 11 am Leeds St
- Demons: 11.50 am Disc 1
- Daffodils: 10.10 am Disc 2
- Dinosaurs: 2.20 pm Disc 2
- Delights: 9.20 am Disc 1
- Dolphins: 1.30 pm Disc 1
- Daisies: 9.2 am Disc 2
- Dragons: 2.20 pm Disc 1
- Dreamers: 8.30 am Disc 2

**Training Roster for GP room Tuesdays**

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<tr>
<th>Tuesday, 22 July 2014</th>
<th>Delights</th>
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**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

**UNIFORMS**

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

Before School / After School Care Program

Program Update

Dear Parents & Student,

Welcome back everyone. Hope you had good relaxing short break.

OSHClub will be running a program on the scheduled Pupil Free Day, 23/7/2014 at Donvale.

If you have not booked online yet, please log on to book for the Pupil free day under the ASC tab.

A $10 late booking fee applies for any casual attendances on the day.

Just a reminder to ensure your children bring along morning, tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

It should be a fun day for the children.

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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<tr>
<td><strong>Before Care Activities</strong></td>
<td>Loom bracelet &amp; Fruit salad</td>
<td>Footy catchers &amp; Silent ball</td>
<td><strong>CURRICULUM DAY</strong></td>
<td>Recyclable Tank &amp; UNO</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>After Care Activities</strong></td>
<td>Loom bracelet &amp; Octopus</td>
<td>Footy catchers &amp; Backyard cricket</td>
<td><strong>CURRICULUM DAY</strong></td>
<td>Recyclable Tank &amp; Children choice game</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.
sushi sushi TUESDAY lunch orders will recommence Tuesday 22 July (2nd week of term 3)
Hand in your order Monday 20 July.

Sorry – the Mobile Food Van has been cancelled.
Unfortunately the range of hot food options are unavailable at the moment.
Sushi and Subway will still be offered this term, as well as some great Meal Deal Days!

Don’t forget to clean, clear, gather your unwanted green uniform this week!

Bring any good condition; clean items to school.

PA has organised a charity to provide the clothing to needy communities.

Before they are shipped off, we are having a Green Uniform Swap Day.
Any Senior school students that need a size up or a replacement item, can bring in unwanted green pieces, and swap them for a donated green piece.

Don’t forget to use your Croydon Cinema Loyalty Reward coupons throughout the term whenever going to the movie. We earn points, & get free tickets for the school.

COME ALONG TO THE NEXT PA MEETING –
MONDAY 21 JULY AT 9.00AM. ALL WELCOME.
Birthday Wishes To
Eva S, Karaj S, Ruby Y, Aaron J, Kate B, Jayden K

Who are celebrating birthdays from 18th to 24th July

Adult Dance Classes
Beginner Adult Ballet Classes starting Wednesday 30th July @ 7.30pm - 8.30pm.
Beginner Adult Tap Classes starting Saturday 2nd August 12pm - 1pm in Mitcham.
Contact Renae 0412 192 546 (Parent from the school)
Web site: toptapsdance.com.au

GET YOUR SNIPPETS BY EMAIL
Fill out below and return to the office. Thank you.

DONVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Name:___________________________________________

Name of eldest student and class: __________________________________________

I would like to receive my Snippets Newsletter online via our website.

My email address is: ________________________________

(please print)