Meet the Teacher: Monday’s ‘Meet the Teacher’ afternoon provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to meet with their teacher/s for next year and to spend some time in their classroom with their peers for 2016. This program supports a smooth transition for our students into their new year level and helps to appease any anxieties that may be felt during the school holidays thus ensuring a positive and enthusiastic start to the new school year. As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, we will be welcoming several new staff members to our school next year. We were fortunate that most were in attendance on Monday taking the opportunity to meet with their students for next year. We welcome all new staff members to Donvale PS – I know that the skills and knowledge they will bring will continue to add to the dynamics and vibrancy of our great school.

Grade Structure for 2016: The following is the grade structure that we will commence the next school year with. We will continue with composite classes across all year levels except for Foundation.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Junior Building</th>
<th>Middle Building</th>
<th>Senior Building</th>
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<td>Foundation- FHN</td>
<td>3 / 4HW</td>
<td>5 / 6R</td>
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<td>Foundation- FRC</td>
<td>3 / 4B</td>
<td>5 / 6W</td>
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<td>1 / 2SJ</td>
<td>3 / 4G</td>
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We will continue with our Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Mandarin Language Programs - all outstanding programs. I am pleased to inform our community that we will also reintroduce a dedicated Physical Education / Sports Teacher to our Specialist program.

Our Science and Sustainability program will step up with a more structured and community inclusive approach implemented. Stay tuned for more on this early in the new year.

Mr Ian McKinlay (Assistant Principal) will be full time out of a class next year. One of his responsibilities will be to introduce and lead a Literacy intervention support program with a focus on students in the junior levels. This will provide another level of support for students who require some more intensive learning.
to allow them to achieve outcomes expected of them for their year level.

Our Computer Lab in the middle building will be updated with new computers being installed early in Term 1. This will provide up to date access to computer technologies to all our students which also includes the use of iPads and other devices across all year levels.

It is going to be another fantastic year at Donvale PS!

**Student End of Year Reports:** The end of year reports will be going home tomorrow, Friday 11th December. This 2015 end of year report is presented to you with some changes from the report format you may be more familiar with. As schools have now been given the opportunity to develop and present their own report format, we have worked to develop a more comprehensive document that accurately and concisely presents to you a thorough report of your child’s progress this year. Changes developed have reflected on feedback from parents and teachers and include a more streamlined approach in presenting your child’s academic learning, personal learning and interpersonal development.

Key features of this report are:

- children have been assessed against Australian curriculum expectations but have not been graded as previously.
- parents are clearly able to see whether their child is achieving levels that are either below, at or above expectations at each level for this stage of the year.
- teacher comments outline your child’s achievement and areas in which your child needs to be given further help or extension.
- an open and solid dot indicating current achievement and progress since December of last year.
- a chart showing your child’s level of effort and class behaviour reflective of our school values.
- specialist teachers have discussed their course content and also provided a brief report of your child’s achievements for the year.
- details of your child’s attendance to school.

We trust that our 2015 end of year report format fully informs you of your child’s progress and achievements this year. If you, however, wish to discuss this report with the class teacher, I encourage you to please make an appointment directly with them at a mutually convenient time.

As we are always on a journey of improvement, any constructive feedback on our reports would be greatly appreciated.

Some important dates for your diary:

- Year 6 Graduation Tuesday 15th December
- Carols on the lawn Thursday 17th December
- Last day term 4 Friday 18th December. Early dismissal 1.30pm with Assembly commencing at 12.45pm.

Hope you are having a wonderful week.

*Lena Clark*
Swimming:
Yesterday our 2015 swimming program began successfully for our F –Year 5 students. This is a great opportunity for our students to become safe around water and develop their swimming skills further. For our 3 – 6 students, it may be the case that at times they will be using the outdoor pool for their sessions, so we ask that they have some sunscreen and a top for protection.

Thanks,

*Ian McKinlay*

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### December

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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9 Whole school swimming program</td>
<td>10 Whole school swimming program</td>
<td>11 Whole school swimming program</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Final School Council meeting</td>
<td>Reports go home</td>
<td>3.30-5.30: Snr Choir Breakup in the Senior Building</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 Whole school swimming program</td>
<td>17 6.30pm: Carols on the lawn</td>
<td>18 Last day Term 4: 12.45: Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole school swimming program</td>
<td>Gr 6 Graduation night at Whitehorse Centre</td>
<td>Whole school swimming program</td>
<td>1.30 dismissal</td>
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Our annual **Carols on the Lawn** will be held in the final week of term.

**Thursday December 17, 6.00pm**

Bring along your rugs/chairs and some food to eat (picnic or takeaway) and enjoy a relaxing evening on the senior lawn with all our school families.

The program will commence at 6.30pm and all children will be participating, each grade level will present some songs together and we'll also hear from our three choirs.

We are hoping that Santa may even arrive towards the end of the evening!

Students may wear casual clothes and in particular Christmas colours/t-shirts/hats etc. if they wish.

Please keep the date free and come along for this fun evening.

(If the weather is inclement we'll hold the event indoors)

Regards,

Anthea Keep

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**General**

**TERM 1, 2016**

Wednesday 27th January - School year commences for staff

Thursday 28th January - Curriculum day (student free day)

Friday 29th January - Students start (except Foundation)

**FIT CLUB**

Tomorrow is our last day training for this year. Thanks to Laura for organising the program every week, Martin for the music, Alex and Vicky for being our contact people. *Mens sana in corpore sano* ("a healthy mind in a healthy body").

**SOME REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE:**

- **SUBWAY LUNCH** - There will be NO Subway orders next week.
- **STUDENT BANKING** - NO banking next week.
- **2016 PARENT PAYMENTS** - Have been distributed to students today, please keep an eye out for them. Remember if paying by QKR you must select the grade level menu for the grade that your child will be in for 2016 (ie 2015 Foundation students will need to pay using the Grade 1/2 menu).
- **LOST PROPERTY** - The lost property rack and tub in the Middle Building is overflowing with jumpers, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc. PLEASE check if anything belongs to your child. We will be clearing it all out next week. We have at the office, lots of bits and pieces (toys, etc).
  If these items are not claimed by next week we will be throwing these out too.
Basketball

Congratulations to all the Donvale Primary Basketball Teams,
Great teamwork, excellent commitment & terrific performances!
Come & celebrate the basketball year.........

DIARY DATE
Basketball Presentation Night - Monday 14 December – 5.30pm
RSVP ASAP!
End of year celebration/presentation for all teams in the Senior Building.
Complimentary sausage sizzle for players and their families.

Invitation to basketball break up is extended
to all families who are joining in 2016.
Please rsvp via txt to Kim Merton 0407447434.

RHSports Ringwood Retail Shop Xmas Closure times

Christmas Closure
RHSports will be closed from 1pm on the 23rd December 2015 and will reopen again from the 4th January 2016.

Deliveries
Last day for delivery is Tuesday 22nd December 2015.
Junior Chef Club

Many people have asked me about how this program started.

So here is the short version.

I used to help out in the class room cooking simple food when my oldest boy was in prep about 10 years ago. It was fun but not good enough for someone like me who enjoys eating so much.

Three years later, after my youngest settled in well at this school, I approached Mr Briggs (principal back then) and asked if I could teach cooking.

The answer was yes, so I started a cooking club with only 10 children in the "Before and After School Care" room making simple food. But so many children missed out so we needed to expand the club.

I didn't want to teach them simple food, I wanted them to create restaurant style food including food presentation. That's when Donvale Junior Chef was born. I picked the "Junior" word because the children are primary school children and "Chef" as we do real food.

We had nothing, so I just used whatever we had with about 60 children at that time. We had to rush in and rush out, there was no permanency as the OshClub staff needed to also use their room.

Many children still missed out, as it was just too hard to do the sessions with no dedicated room. Lucky, the school had 1 empty classroom, and we were able to use it for our program.

So with the help of a small grant from Manningham Council and the school community on board, we managed to set up a beautiful Jnr Chef Room.

Every single item in that room has a history such as being donated by this family or fixed by that family and so on. It's not a fancy kitchen with expensive appliances, but good enough for our little chefs to produce magnificent creations.

Some children have never tasted food from other cultures. In our class they don't just enjoy eating them but actually cooking them.

It's our own program, it's unique. Only available at this school.

It was a big ambition, yes. But as I always say, "we can do anything if we work together."

Many many people helped me along with this program, I can't name them one by one as there are so many.

Not just parents, also staff, some adult siblings and grandparents. So thank you so much everyone for helping out in this program. I couldn't have done it without your support.

But a special thank you must go to Martin and Jaqui Frigo who have helped me since day one.

I feel privileged to be a part of such a great community at this school. Throughout the years up to and including the Christmas party last week I have had huge support. This has allowed us to deliver a great experience for the children.

So thank you everyone.

We don't cook, we create food.

Liang Dimitroff
Dear families,

Highlights from this week: We have had a fantastic week filled with lots of Christmas crafts and fun activities. On Wednesday night we were lucky enough to have Jayne, from the Salvation Army visit the program and talk to us about what the Salvos do and how we can help out. The children had lots of interesting questions for Jayne and were enthusiastic helpers in donating our old toys and games. Thursday night we had a little party at OshClub to celebrate the end of the year and to farewell Mrs Collins from OshClub.

What’s on next week?: Next week we will be continuing with our Christmas activities including crafts, cooking and a Santa hat relay race!

Last Day of term: Just a reminder that the last day of school is Friday 18th with an early finish time of 1.30pm. OshClub will be extending its hours to accommodate the early finish and will be running from 1.30pm – 6pm.

As the year draws to a close we wish everyone a happy, safe and relaxed holiday period. Looking forward to seeing everyone in the new year and hearing about your holiday adventures.

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.

Please remember to update the contact details (Especially the phone numbers and address) on the enrolment form if there is any change. This can be done online at www.oshclub.com.au

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<td><strong>Before Care Activities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christmas Origami</strong></td>
<td><strong>Movable Santas and Reindeer</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reindeer Headband</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christmas stockings</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Christmas cards</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dodgeball</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tricky Tiggy</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fruit salad</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Hide and seek</strong></td>
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<td><strong>After Care Activities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Craft Stick Reindeer</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wooden Christmas decorations</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christmas biscuits</strong></td>
<td><strong>Crystal snowflakes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Game: Santa Rush</strong></td>
<td><strong>Santa hat relay</strong></td>
<td><strong>40 40 home base</strong></td>
<td><strong>Red letter</strong></td>
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OSH program phone: 0402 362 443/9842 2261
Coordinator: Kate
Assistants: Caroline and Emily
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.*
Parent’s Association

Icy pole City @ the Canteen – Friday Recess - $1.00

Christmas Carols on the Lawn – Thursday 17 December.
B.Y.O delicious picnic & good Christmas Cheer.
Bring on Christmas!!

It’s a sad farewell this year……
Bon Voyage & see you around to
Liang & Martin Dimitroff –
who have mentored the cooks, bakers &
foodies of the future.
Thanks for your inspiration, dedication & the
love that you put into the Jnr Chef Program. You will be very missed by the whole school.

PA Lunch morning tea
Friday December 18th – 9.15am
Peddlers Café – Springfield Rd Doncaster East.
Everyone who has helped out during the year is welcome.
Attendees must RSVP to Kim Merton – 0407 447 434
to ensure seating arrangements are
Birthday Wishes To


Who are celebrating birthdays from 11th to 17th December

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

KELLY SPORTS  Vermont Summer Holiday Program 11th Jan - 22nd Jan.

ACADEMY OF DANCE VICTORIA  - Providing high quality dance training.


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