There are important transitions that all students need to go through. Most of us are very aware of many of these but there are others less well known. The obvious transitions from Kindergarten to Prep and from Grade 6 to Year 7 are significant milestones where schools work hard to ensure as smooth a progression as possible. But there are others. Teachers recognise that the change from Grade 2 to Grade 3 ie Junior School to Middle School is often a very big step for some children. Many schools see the change from Early Years (Prep to Grade 4) to the Middle Years (Grade 5 to Year 8) as enormously challenging not only for students, but also for teachers and parents. The Middle Years is a major focus for us this year. We are keen to ensure we build on the successful practices of the Early Years and have our senior students develop academically and socially. Other important transitions can include a change to a new school, which can be quite daunting, and even the change to a new teacher. How do we help children with their transitions? The first step is to recognise that there can be challenges at these times. Parents can assist by talking to their children about their own experiences of transition, not simply dismissing concerns, and helping them to see that they do have the skills to deal with different situations.

Communication is always important. Teachers have a key role; their sensitivity and acceptance of all children can have a huge influence on the success or otherwise of any transition. If your child ever has any difficulty at school I would encourage you to speak with his/her teacher, our Chaplain / Well Being Coordinator, Chantelle Olafson, Mr McKinlay or myself.

Swimmers: Congratulations to our swimmers Kate, Tommy and Callum who competed on Monday in the division swimming finals. Kate obtained 4th place in freestyle, Tommy gained 1st place in breaststroke and Callum gained 1st in backstroke. An absolutely outstanding effort by all our competitors which now sees both Tommy and Callum continuing on in the next finals being held on Monday. I’m sure you will all join me in wishing them all the very best. We are very proud of you all on this great achievement.
Parents and Teachers: A gentle reminder to all our parents that should you have any queries regarding your child, the first port of call is always your child’s teacher. They are at the ‘coal face’ so to speak so this generally makes them the best person to firstly contact. On occasion, parents will contact me and whilst this is fine, I often will refer to the teacher to provide me with more information. It is also critical that should there be any issues or concerns, that your child’s teacher be made aware of this so that we can work together in their best interests. As always, I make myself available and am more than happy to help and support all parent concerns however, where appropriate, I would appreciate it that you address your concerns with your child’s teacher first. I will follow up if necessary.

Pick up, drop off zone: It has again been brought to my attention that parents have been observed to be driving in an unsafe manner through our pick up and drop off zone. I have to say that I am totally astounded by this kind of behaviour as it places our students and community lives in jeopardy. This is a very serious matter and I again ask all parents who are using this area, to use it with care and caution. I also continue to ask that parents do not use the zone as a car park as this restricts the flow of cars in and out of this area. Your consideration in the safe use of the area is greatly appreciated by all the students of Donvale Primary School.

Working Bee: DPS’s very first Working Bee for the year is being held on Friday 18th March from 3.45pm onwards. As we still have several hours of daylight available to us after school, Building and Grounds Committee decided to arrange for a Twilight Working Bee. So, get your shovels, gardening gloves, hedge trimmers and the like ready and lock this date in. The PA is again organising a delicious BBQ for all our hard workers. This is always a good time to gather, relax, have a chat and get to know each other a little more. It’s always a good time to meet some new friends. The children all have a great time helping out and playing with their friends. We would love to see as many of our parents joining us and helping us out. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Art Show: This year, DPS will again be presenting an Art Show to our school community. This is a fabulous event that joins our community together in celebration of the wonderful talents of all our students. Mrs DeStefanis, our Art teacher, is in the process of forming an Arts Committee to help drive the Art Show and all that is involved in presenting this event. The first meeting is being held on Tuesday March 15th at 3.40pm in the Staff room. We welcome all parents and friends that have some time and interest in getting involved and supporting us with this truly outstanding event. Please add this date to your diary and be a part of this team. We look forward to seeing you there. (More info in this newsletter).

Principal Conference: Mr McKinlay and myself are out of the school today and tomorrow attending a Principal conference. Mr Reiter will be leading our Assembly tomorrow. Enjoy.

Hope you’re having a wonderful week.

Lena Clark
Tomorrow, Friday 4th March is National Ride to School Day! Parents, teachers and students are encouraged to ride their bikes or scooters and commute safely to school. Ride to School Day is an initiative that encourages students to arrive at school by using physical activity rather than being driven. Being allowed to actively travel helps build a child’s independence, social skills and increases physical activity. If riding to school is not an option, students are encouraged to also walk to school. We hope you can all join us by riding, scooting or walking to school on Friday 4th March.
GENERAL

We are seeking any parents that are able to help out with the distribution of DPS promotional flyers amongst local businesses and the like. If you have some free time and would like to help out, please contact George Condos on 041 185 4789.

Thank you
Marketing Committee

Just a reminder that orders are available for Monday and Wednesday. Lunches are ordered online from the menu and delivered directly to school labeled with your child’s name, class and order details. You can order one day or as many days as you wish over the period of the menu.

You choose either a TWO Course or THREE Course Lunch. There are 30 options within each Course Menu each day.

A TWO Course Lunch costs $7.95 and a THREE Course Lunch costs $9.65 irrespective of the menu choices you make. An information sheet and menu were sent home beginning of this week. If you did not receive one please ask at the office or go to www.classroomcuisine.com.au

34 Clubs

On Tuesday the 22nd of March level 3 / 4 clubs will be starting. They will be held for 45 minutes on Tuesday afternoons from 2:30 – 3:15.

The clubs we have planned are: origami, knitting’ tinkering (maybe woodwork) book club, Lego, science and board games.

We would be happy if you could please donate anything for the clubs. We are looking for things such as old board games, knitting needles and wool and old radios for the tinkering club to dismantle.

Also if any parents or grandparents could come to help with the clubs on a Tuesday afternoon that would be great. If you are able to help us would you please send a note to your classroom teacher.

Thanks, from the resilience project team.

Jaimee, Max and Amy.
Donvale PS Art Show
2016

We are very excited to announce that Donvale PS will be holding an art exhibition in Term 4 showcasing the wonderful work of our children. It is not only an opportunity for students to celebrate their talents and creativity but it is also a way for our school and local community to support the arts and all that it offers.

An event such as this flourishes with the support and assistance of parents and friends. As such we are once again, calling for your help and support. If you have a marketing mind, a little creative flair, or some spare time to contribute either in the art room or set up time, we would greatly appreciate your help.

An initial Art committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th March at 3:40 in the staff room. Please come along to express your interest.

As the new Visual Arts teacher at DPS, I have heard amazing things about our school community. I look forward to getting to know you all and creating a memorable show for our children. Should you have any queries I can be contacted at destefanis.debora.d@edumail.vic.gov.au

Ms. Debora De Stefanis - Visual Arts Teacher

Growing Healthy Minds

I have referred to the 'A Mighty Girl' website many times over the last couple of years in my Snippets articles, as they have strong, positive messages for girls of all ages. Often, boys are able to benefit from the resources A Mighty Girl point us toward as well.

Late last year I included two separate articles on relational aggression in young people and the first article is an extension of this topic. The second piece is a link to excellent resources on children’s emotions.

Well worth perusing!

Happy reading everyone!

Lashay Cartledge
A Mighty Girl Pick of the Day: “Trouble Talk” by Trudy Ludwig. Maya’s friend Bailey has something funny to say about everyone, but when Bailey starts saying things that are increasingly hurtful -- and sometimes even untrue -- Maya begins to wonder if she’s really that funny after all. Then, after overhearing Maya’s parents have an argument, Bailey spreads a mean rumour about Maya’s family. When Maya seeks the help of her school counsellor, Ms. Bloom helps her learn how to tell when talk is just talk and when it’s trouble. With a little guidance, not only is Maya able to find friendships that make her feel safe, but she’s also able to convince Bailey of her error and help her start making amends for her mistakes.

This brightly illustrated picture book offers an excellent introduction for young children to the idea of "trouble talk" or the tendency to gossip about others or spread rumours in order to gain attention or raise one’s social position. Ludwig is an active member of the International Bullying Prevention Association, and she brings many years of bullying prevention work with kids, parents, and educators to her writing. This engaging story realistically captures the challenge of relational aggression between friends and helps children learn how to connect with one another in healthy and constructive ways. Highly recommended for ages 6 to 9.

To learn more or order "Trouble Talk," visit http://www.amightygirl.com/trouble-talk

For two more excellent titles from this author that address bullying, check out "My Secret Bully" for ages 5 to 8 (http://www.amightygirl.com/my-secret-bully) and "Confessions of a Former Bully" for ages 8 to 11 (http://www.amightygirl.com/confessions-of-a-former-bully).

For resources for parents and educators on childhood bullying and how best to respond to it, check out the post "Leading the Way: Bullying Prevention Books for Parents and Educators," at http://www.amightygirl.com/blog?p=10259

You can also find many bullying prevention books for children and teens in the two blog posts: "The End of Bullying Begins With Me": Bullying Prevention Books for Young Mighty Girls" (http://www.amightygirl.com/blog?p=10255) and "Taking a Stand Against Bullying: Bullying Prevention Books for Tweens and Teens" (http://www.amightygirl.com/blog?p=10257).

Emotions

Understanding and managing emotions can be challenging at every age but this is often especially true for children and teens. Whether you have a pre-schooler struggling to name how she feels, a tween wrestling with newly complex emotions, or a teenager who needs to find ways to incorporate her emotional life into adult decision-making, parents can do a lot to help kids navigate their emotional world. But sometimes, it’s hard to know where to begin.

Fortunately, there are many great books available to help kids learn about their feelings — and how to express them appropriately.

Some of ‘A Mighty Girls’ favourite books that help kids name, tame, and manage their emotions, along with recommended reading for parents on understanding children’s emotions, are in the link below. These books for toddlers to teens are funny, poignant, and heartfelt, but most importantly, reassuring that no matter what you’re feeling, you can come out the other side.

Dear Parents and Students,

Donvale Primary School can proudly say that it will soon have its very own Science and Technology Lab! There are not too many schools around the area that can boast this! The staff is very excited and enthusiastic to get on board this exciting journey. Both Mr. Garcia and Mr. Chigros have been working to gather resources from all areas of science from biology to astrophysics. We now have a range of science kits, experiments, information and posters to kick start our science program here at Donvale. Please stop by the main building to see our lovely dedicated science room.

Some Background:

Mr Chigros - I studied science in university and learnt many things from the big bang to evolution. I am very interested in physics and astrology. In 2014, I applied my knowledge to aviation and became a private pilot qualified to fly light aircraft. I look forward to sharing my knowledge with the students and fostering a passion for all things science!

Mr Garcia - I began my science journey firstly at high school with chemistry and then moved onto study science at university. I studied at Victoria University and obtained a major in chemistry and biology. I really enjoyed taking part in analytic science and using the great lab equipment. I also participated in a program that ran science workshops for high school students throughout the duration of my university years. I can’t wait to share my knowledge with the students of Donvale and continue building this remarkable room that we are so lucky to have at this school.

We are also looking for any parents or guardians who may be able to donate resources for the room including…

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cinnamon</th>
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<td>Standard pins</td>
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<td>Coconut</td>
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<td>Soda water</td>
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<td>Popping corn</td>
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<td>Steel wool</td>
<td>Pepper corns</td>
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<td>Toothbrushes</td>
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<td>Life savers</td>
<td>Cloths</td>
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<td>Bottles of Vinegar and Oil</td>
<td>Plastic seal bags</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honey</td>
<td>White sugar</td>
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<td>Golden syrup</td>
<td>Baking powder</td>
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Any support would be very much appreciated. Please just drop off any items at the office.

Kind Regards

Mr Garcia and Mr Chigros
Reflections: Making Tāng Yuán

What did you like about making tāng yuán?
Rolling the dough into balls (Peter, Brody, Hima, Christopher, Mycah) 1/2V
Eating them. They were yummy. The dough was yummy. (Zahara) 1/2V
Putting food dye into the dough (Tiffany) 1/2V
Mixing the flour (Amelie) 1/2V
I liked rolling them and putting them on the plate (ready to be cooked). (Cooper) 1/2V
Eating it. It was delicious. The sugar was nice. (Jedd, Jonathan, Bryce) 1/2V
Eating. Because it was yummy, squishy. (Len) 1/2V
Kneading the dough because I could practise kneading. I like doing it. (Elise) 1/2V
Fun to make! (Paul, Adam, Lucas) 3/4B
It tastes amazing. (Aysha) 3/4B
It’s squishy and fun to make. (Ava) 3/4B
They are soft and squishy. (Cooper) 3/4G
Yum, I thought it was delicious. (Ashleigh) 3/4G

1/2C Photo Reflection
What’s going on in the photo?
Jasmine – He is mixing up the dough. Mixing the flour with oil and water (Jasmine)
He’s pushing his hands into it and mixing it (Ebony)
They’re mushing it up (Sebbie)
They were making the tang yuan balls (Oliver)
They’re making it into a dough (James)
They’re using their hands and squeezing the dough (Cyrus)
He is squeezing the dough and making it soft and nice (Naysa)
They’re mixing the flour (Chloe)
It reminds me of:
- the mixture turning really white (Simon)
- making dough (Abi)
- squeezing the dough into balls (Ashleigh)
- making it into different colours (Joseph)
- punching the dough into flat bits (Gabriel)
- when Gabriel said there was blood all over his hands (food dye) (Luca)
- people squeezing (kneading) the food dye into the dough (Matin)
- rolling the dough into little balls (Ava)
- when I was rolling dough into circles (Rosana)
In the following weeks, students’ reflections on making tāng yuán will be on display in the corridor. Please feel free to have a read. It was certainly a different experience for all the students and as expected, it was tasty for some and not so much for others! It was a great learning opportunity for all of us. Well done to all the students for their efforts!

Another year of New Year celebrations is now over! Wishing everyone a fantastic Year of the Monkey once more!

Serina Lee (李老師 lǐ lǎo shī)

MATHS FUN AT HOME

Level 1

Which one is different?
In each square one number is different. Color that number.

Puzzles 3 - 4

Triangle Patterns!
Study the first two triangles in each row and complete the last one.

Copyright www.mathinenglish.com
Last week, Mrs Clark wrote a great article for Snippets about our wonderful annual Wellbeing Day and evening family BBQ. Mrs Clark mentioned all the visitors, the helpers, the awesome activities and the happiness on the student’s faces. To sum up how much fun was had, I have included a few examples, written by the students, below.

In her piece, Mrs Clark offered many well deserved words of thanks and praise to staff and parents. Even though I appreciate every moment of time given by every volunteer to ensure the kids, who are the reason we all work so hard, had a great day, I won’t mention every single person by name again. However, it would be remiss of me not to mention a few wonderful key people.

Firstly, we need to say a big thank you to Mrs Clark and Mr McKinlay for allowing the school community to have a special day away from regular ‘work’. Wellbeing Day offers the school community (in particular the students) an opportunity to grow their brains, but in a really different way. The day is all about having fun, working together, learning to look after ourselves and others, and being grateful for what we have. Thank you to Mrs Clark and Mr McKinlay for the opportunity to do just that!

Lawrie Spooner once again outdid herself in terms of the ground work she put in behind the scenes to make Wellbeing Day such a success for everyone. What a star!

Thank you to Jaqui Frigo for consistently working tirelessly behind the scenes to help students, staff and other parents in any way she can.

Thank you to Chris Johnson, AFL legend, wellbeing ambassador and all round good guy, for imparting a wonderful message to the students about looking after yourself, not giving up and being a good person to those around you.

Thank you to Jason, for returning with the most beautiful and placid Ruby, who happily gave out cuddles all day.

Thank you to Nicola Leyh for running awesome Scout activities for the 3/4’s and Renae Spiroch for running fabulous dance sessions with the Foundation students.

A big thank you to all of the other parent helpers that assisted behind the scenes, and on the day to bring everything together.

Thank you to Gus from Tunstall Fresh fruit shop, for providing the delicious fruit for our yummy skewers, with a marshmallow on top (care of Jaqui Frigo!)

Thank you to Alison Burton from Simply Natural Therapies, Tunstall Square, for her excellent free talk on Keeping Calm with Kids.

A huge thank you you must go to my main wingman and wingwoman, Mitchell Leyh and Abby Merton. These two awesome past Donvale ambassadors gave up their morning to help me run a practical Mindfulness Meditation talk for the parents. As expected, they did a brilliant job!

Thank you to the entire staff for so willingly taking on board Wellbeing Day. I think all the kids at Donvale are lucky to have such wonderful teachers, who care about them a lot!

I saved the best ‘til last… Bec Signorini.

Bec is an amazing teacher, ambassador for children’s positive mental health and an exceptional colleague to work alongside. She put in hours of work behind the scenes to make Wellbeing Day such as success. Thank you, Bec!
I have so enjoyed working with Bec over the last 10 years, particularly sharing our love of recycling and wellbeing with everyone around us. It is with some sadness, though with no uncertainty of her supreme capability, that I hand over the full reigns of Student Wellbeing Coordinator to Bec. I know Bec will continue to give of herself tirelessly to make sure the students, staff and parents benefit from her passion and kindness.

I am hoping to waddle along to the final assembly for the term to say goodbye in person, though not forever, to all the staff, students and parents before my new journey begins. Fingers crossed!

However, before I take leave from Donvale Primary, I can’t help but share two more important resources I found with the school community. Please take the time to read the ‘Growing Healthy Minds’ section of Snippets, as there may be a link to something that will benefit your child.

Also, make sure you keep your eye on this Monday’s Manningham Leader. Hopefully the ‘Donvale Primary KidsMatter Annual Wellbeing Day’ will be featured.

Kindest regards to you all, Lashay Cartledge.

From the students...

Scamper
Mrs Wright did a really fun and relaxing activity called ‘Scamper’.

You had to listen to what Mrs Wright was reading and imagine it in your head. For example: think of the interesting features of one animal and then the main feature of another interesting animal and then mix them together. You also had to make a new name for it and draw it on a small piece of paper!

This was a really fun activity and I hope it is here next year!!! By Ava 3/ 4 B

Massage class
On Wellbeing Day one of the activities that we did was massage. In 5/6C, we learnt from Mr. Chigros and listened to videos about massaging our own pressure points. I really enjoyed it. We learnt to massage the web in between our thumb and pointer finger, which takes away a headache. It actually works! Overall, I really enjoyed Wellbeing day. It was the best one yet! By Maggie 5/6C

Boot Camp
Last Thursday we had Wellbeing Day. It was really fun! I want to tell you a bit about the activity that Mrs Wallis held called ‘Boot Camp’. It was an exercise one. We did boot camp because exercise can make you feel better about life and yourself. After that, I was really tired. Don’t know about anyone else though. Thanks. Ben, Level 5/6

Badminton
Badminton was a fun activity to finish up with for 5/6W. Most of us needed more practice but it was fun anyway. It was good for our fitness and wellbeing. Gemma, Level 5/6

Smiling Mind Meditation
On Donvale’s Wellbeing Day, one of the activities was meditation with Mr Reiter.

I’m sure that everyone loved the chance to relax and zone out, I know I did. We talked about seeing the cup as half full, not half empty. Then we lay down on the floor, and did two Smiling Mind sessions to ‘drop anchor’ and breathe. I found it calming and relaxing. Sophie, Level 5/6
Wellbeing Day was filled with fun activities
We started the evening with a ‘Welcome’ BBQ.

Interactive music with Big Samba

‘The Write Staff’ band got everybody up and dancing.
Program Update

Dear families,

**Updating enrolments:** please ensure that you take the time to update your child’s enrolment in the next few weeks. This ensures that we have current information on your child’s grade, health/medical requirements and necessary contact details. Thank you in advance!

**Next week:** We are celebrating the arrival of Autumn next week through various crafts, cooking and fun activities. We are also testing out some new healthy muffin recipes including carrot muffins, healthy pizzas and oatmeal raspberry muffins! Take a look at our schedule below.

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 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](http://www.oshclub.com.au)

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<td><strong>Before Care Activities</strong></td>
<td>Autumn colouring</td>
<td>Autumn acrostic poems</td>
<td>Autumn memory match</td>
<td>Oatmeal and raspberry muffins</td>
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<td>Hula hoop competition</td>
<td>Game: protect the president</td>
<td>Block soccer</td>
<td>Chinese wall</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>After Care Activities</strong></td>
<td>Autumn pinwheel</td>
<td>Healthy carrot muffins</td>
<td>Autumn fingerprint tree</td>
<td>Autumn leaf puzzle craft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child initiated group games</td>
<td>Blind Playground trail</td>
<td>Skipping</td>
<td>Poison ball</td>
<td>Drama games</td>
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OSH program phone: 0402 362 443/9842 2261

Coordinator: Kate

Assistants: Marie

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.
Feels like Christmas has just finished but it’s time for more deliciousness!

$1 Hot X Buns sold at Friday Recess as well as
Icy Poles for $1.00 this Friday @ the Canteen.

Also 6 packs of Hot Cross buns on sale at the spider web
after Friday Assembly. $4 for Traditional or Chocolate 6 pack.

Please support the fabulous baker boy – the delightful Tom
@Bakers Delight James St Templestowe.
Thanks for his ongoing support of Donvale Primary.

A big hug for all the wonderful souls that helped make the Wellbeing Day on Thursday 25 Feb such a lovely event. Thanks to PA for the BBQ, the teachers, staff & parents for the activities, &
everyone for supporting the day & evening.
Another successful Meal Deal Day on Wednesday 2 March with 155 kids munching down on Pizza Breads.

Thanks to the helpers & organisers for rising to the occasion. Big pats on the back from the kids as it’s the yeast they can do for such a great munch!!

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**PA MEETING**

Lots of great activities planned this Term but we need more ideas!

**Meeting Friday 4 March @ 1.30pm in the Library.**

Add your creative juices for 2016, volunteer to help with an event, or just listen to discussions.

Everyone welcome. New families encouraged.

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DPS is going the mecca of all chocolate labs – the Cadbury Factory!!

Friday 18 March @ 1.30pm. To reserve your spot, contact Kim Merton on 0407 447 434. Places are limited.

Those with a golden ticket must wear closed shoes & if accompanied by an ‘Oompa Loompa’, they must be in a pram (the child not the parent).
Open Boys - The Dinosaurs trailed all match until a sensational block by Samuel inspired a comeback. They grabbed the lead in the last minute to go on to win by one point. Fantastic determination boys!

Under 9 Girls - Dolphins - The girls won their third game in a row and it was fantastic to see all seven of them try as hard as they did. Allie E scored the only basket for the match, which saw the girls win 2-0. The "Dolphin of the Week" award went to Bani K who fought hard all game and put up three shots.

U9 Dribblers: The boys continue to show improvement - this week working much better as a team. We’re sure a win is just around the corner!

U9 Daredevils - Great game against school mates. It is wonderful to see the team coming together! A big congratulations on your first basket to Jedd who celebrated in style. Go Daredevils!

Under 11 girls- Donvale Diamonds - Thank you Den Merton for being the substitute coach and leading the girls to another win. Ella "Magic" C scoring her first basket and then becoming the highest scorer of the game with a total of seven points. "What’s the number one rule in basketball?" - "HAVE FUN!!!"

Congratulations to the Donvale Dreamers on their very first win of the season! It was a very exciting and evenly matched contest, with all the girls putting in an extra special effort this week - especially Ella T, who scored the match-winner with only a couple of minutes left in the game!
More information on the following advertising is available from the office:

Warrandyte Tennis Club - FREE Tennis trials for kids and adults.

The Salvation Army - Campfire and Cricket Night. Calling all dads, grandfathers and father figures. Friday 18th March 6pm to 7.30pm Doncaster East

Birthday Wishes To


Who are celebrating birthdays from the 4th to 10th March