Welcome back! I hope that you all had the opportunity to have a relaxing break enjoying the time with family and friends. I took the time to unwind and spend time doing all those jobs around the house that have just been put off time and time again. I’m pleased to say that I worked through my checklist and achieved much including setting up a couple of raised garden beds in my backyard. I thoroughly enjoyed planting the Autumn / Winter garden and watching it begin to establish. I’m hoping now that the crop of beetroot, spinach, broccoli, potato, garlic, snowpeas and herbs that I planted grow heartily so that my family and I can enjoy them over the coming months. As I now consider myself somewhat of an expert in gardening ...mmmmmmmm.... I can’t wait for our school garden beds to also be planted out for a winter harvest. Stay tuned for more on this.

It has been terrific chatting to our students this week hearing and reading about all their holiday activities. Playing with friends, going to the movies, swimming, camping and eating lots of chocolate Easter eggs were the most popular activities. It’s great to see the children back at school and raring to go with what is shaping up to be yet another fabulous term of learning at Donvale PS.

Parent Newsletters: Year level Term 2 Parent Newsletters have gone home this week. Please be sure to read them as they are full of information of events planned for the term with important dates that should be added to your diaries. It’s going to be another busy term at Donvale PS!

Curriculum Day: Each year, the Education Department grants all government schools four Curriculum Days for the purposes of staff professional development. We have currently used two of our days at the commencement of the school year; as such we have two days remaining. These two days have been set and approved by School Council. Please ensure that you add the following dates to your diary and a reminder that all Curriculum Days are student free days.

- Tuesday 26th April 2016 (Day after Anzac Day).

This Curriculum Day will be used by staff to consolidate all our teaching and learning documents ensuring that they align with the new Victorian Curriculum and that we have a consistency of practice across our school.

Please note that this Curriculum Day is only 2 weeks away. I apologise if the short notice has caused any inconvenience.
Our final Curriculum Day for the year is scheduled for…

- **Monday 31st October 2016 (Day before Melbourne Cup Day)**

**Attitudes to Schools Survey:** Our school is conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The DET 2016 ‘Attitudes to School’ survey will be conducted with our Year 5 and 6 students over the period of Monday 18th April to Friday 29th April. The anonymous survey is designed to assist us in gaining an understanding of our students’ perceptions and experience of school so that we can continue to plan programs and activities to improve your child’s experience at school. It provides us with valuable data on our students’ views of their wellbeing, teaching, learning and school in general. The survey only takes 20-30 minutes to complete and occurs during your child’s class time. If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or the Year 5 / 6 teachers.

Some important dates for your diary…

- **Anzac Day** – Monday 25th April (Student free day)
- **Curriculum Day** – Tuesday 26th April (Student free day)
- **Cultural Diversity Day** – Wednesday 27th April
- **School Photos** – Thursday 28th April

**SCHOOL COUNCIL DATES FOR THIS MONTH**

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<th>School Council</th>
<th>Finance Sub-committee</th>
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**Some interesting reading:** On the next page is an article I came across last week from ‘The Educator’ regarding the use of Digital technologies in the classroom. Please take the time to read it.

Hope you’re having a wonderful week.

Kind Regards

*Lena Clark*
Last week, a NSW principal claimed that laptops in many classrooms were proving to be more of a distraction to students than a helping hand.

Sydney Grammar School headmaster, John Vallance, said that the billions of dollars being spent on providing students with laptops was a "scandalous waste of money" as grades gradually dropped across the country despite the investment.

However, some schools are seeing dramatic improvements in student learning as a direct result of implementing technology – in a considered and practical way, that is.

One such school is Saint Stephens College, located on Queensland’s Gold Coast. Its head of e-learning, Peter West, says he has embarked on a long but ultimately rewarding journey of blended learning.

However, West told The Educator that the issue of schools adopting technology without having a cohesive plan to improve student learning was both under-discussed and carried with it huge consequences.

“You can’t just throw laptops into a classroom and expect change,” he said.

“We need to stop looking for the quick fix and start creating environments for long-term change. This requires a lot of time, effort and expertise. However, to not do it – to lock students into the past – would be a crime against their future.”

West said that organisational change and having the right ICT infrastructure in place were paramount if students were to benefit from the use of digital devices like laptops and iPads in classrooms.

“It’s a gradual process, but it’s the biggest disruption in education for over 100 years, so we have to ask what we are preparing kids for,” he said.

“Are we just preparing them for a good ATAR? In that case, let’s get rid of all the distractions and board classroom windows up so kids can’t look outside and daydream.”

Saint Stephen’s College has now expanded its laptop program to Year 6 students, a move West said was working well. He attributed this to the school’s patient and considered approach to what worked and what didn’t before implementing its Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program.

“It’s true that many schools have rushed into this [the adoption of devices], but I don’t think there are enough people out there who know how to use the devices they’ve got to improve learning.”

West said there was a mixed sense of foreboding and opportunity prior to his school implementing its laptop program.

“When our school first introduced laptops into the classroom we thought ‘this is either going to be the biggest distraction and everything will come crashing down – or it will be the biggest advantage we’ve ever had,” he said.

“The teacher in the classroom is the one who determines which one of those is the case – and that’s why this issue is so important.”

West said most teachers already know which of their students are likely to be distracted, adding that most children do the right thing and use their devices for classwork and not leisure during lessons.

“For every one of those distracted students there are 20 other kids who do the right thing, so why should we disadvantage them by restricting this technology in class?” he said.

West said the conversation needs to be changed from teaching to learning so that students can be educated with technology in a way that enhances learning.

He suggested that teachers adopt collaborative learning tools that students can personally engage with.

“Powerpoint is designed for teachers – not students. Teachers use this to stand at the front of the classroom and talk to students, but it’s not really a learning resource,” he said.

“However, if you use Office Mix and narrate from it and draw on it while you’re talking, then your students can watch it and get full understanding of what’s being explained. That’s a learning resource.

“What we need to do is flip the switch in people’s heads and move away from making it all about teaching resources to learning resources and enhancing learning.”
### April

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### May

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- **2 May**: Naplan
- **9 May**: All day: Grade 1 & 2 on an excursion: 'Me & My Melbourne'
- **12 May**: Fire Brigade visiting Foundation students
- **19 May**: District cross country
- **26 May**: Winter Inter-school sport
PLAYGROUP STARTS TOMORROW

Here at Donvale

Playgroup is a great place for parents and children to meet new people and enjoy new experiences. Our playgroup includes free play, indoor and outdoor activities, art and craft activities, singing, dancing and story times. We cater for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers.

For more information or to organise a free 'come and try' session contact Cathy on 0412 968 899 or email cathyfarrell02@gmail.com.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. $125 per year will be paid for eligible primary school students, with $225 per year paid for eligible secondary school students. Payments will go directly to the school and be allocated to the student. Following a recent government announcement, Foundation students who receive CSEF will now also receive a winter uniform pack consisting of a windcheater and tracksuit pants, or a bomber jacket.

If you think you might be eligible, please complete the application form at the end of this newsletter, or visit the office to receive one, and return it to the office with a copy of your valid concession card. We are happy to make copies for you at the office. If you have any questions regarding CSEF please contact Samantha in the office.

TERM 2 BULK BILLING

Term 2 bulk billing notice payments are now due for most year levels. The bulk billing notices handed out for each term cover the costs of what activities and excursions your child will participate in during that term. Each excursion and activity must be paid in order for your child to attend. Foundation and Grade 3/4 students both have excursions on Monday the 18th of April which must be paid by end of day tomorrow.

If you are experiencing any financial constraints, or would like new copies of the bulk billing notices, please come to the office. We are happy to work out a payment arrangement that works within your means.
Year 1 and 2 students have been learning about PITCH. This week they learned a new dance called “Reach up high” and played high and low notes on tuned instruments.
Name: .................................................................  Class: ........................................

Patterns

1) Tick the pattern below that looks like the one above.

- BC, BC, BC, ……BC  
- BCC, BCC, BCC, ……BCC  
- ABC, ABC, ABC, ……BC

2) Tick the pattern below that looks like the one above.

- BC, BC, BC, ……BC  
- BCC, BCC, BCC, ……BCC  
- ABC, ABC, ABC, ……ABC

3) Tick the pattern below that looks like the one above.

- BC, BC, BC, ……BC  
- BCC, BCC, BCC, ……BCC  
- ABC, ABC, ABC, ……ABC
Celebrating Cultural Diversity:
Donvale Primary School Asian Cultural Day

The Donvale Primary School Asian Cultural Day taking place on 27th April 2016 will give students an opportunity to participate in activities to gain a deeper insight into and celebrate Asian customs, traditional and modern games and sports, to explore different components of historical significance and various foods and drinks.

Students will participate in different arts and craft, performing arts, sports, food and drink exploration and other traditional cultural activities on the day which are aimed to further develop students’ understanding and interest in the many cultures that make up our communities today.

The day will conclude with a special interactive performance for the whole school in the Senior building from 2.35pm. The school community are warmly welcomed to attend!
Dear families,

Welcome back to Term 2!! We hope you have had a rested and fun full Easter break. Next week at OSHClub we have an Italian themed week full of all things Italian.

**Pupil Free Day**

We have been informed of an upcoming Pupil Free Day and we are planning to run a full day of care on this day however this is dependent on the number of bookings received. **Date:** Tuesday the 26th of April. **Times:** 7:00am to 6:00pm. **Cost:** $13.56 - $52.50 per child (depending on your CCB/CCR entitlements). **How to book:** Please log in to your account online at www.oshclub.com.au and book in under the After School Care bookings tab. **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 note:** we require a minimum of 15 children to run the day. Parents will be notified by the end of business on Tuesday the 19th of April if the day will proceed.

**Staffing:** Please note that Harry will be coordinating the first few weeks of Term 2 as Kate will be on teaching placement. We also welcome new staff member, Jeremy Stoll to the program. Jeremy has worked at various OSHClub programs and we look forward to having him at Donvale.

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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<tr>
<td><strong>Before Care Activities</strong></td>
<td>Italian Mask Night at the museum</td>
<td>Paper plate Pizza Fruit Smoothies</td>
<td>Penne pasta necklaces Dodge Ball</td>
<td>Italian Flag Silent Ball</td>
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<td><strong>After Care Activities</strong></td>
<td>Soccer Hama beads</td>
<td>BasketBall Healthy Pizzas</td>
<td>Pasta necklaces Medic Dodge Ball</td>
<td>Honey Joys</td>
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OSHC 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 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

Hang on to Summer – Treat Friday
Icy poles $1.00 at Recess from the Canteen window.

So be part of the A Team & get to the PA meeting
Friday 22 April @ 1.30pm
All welcome, we would love some new ideas for Term 2!!
This term things to get involved in include Mothers Day Stall, Meal Deals, Entertainment Books, Ivan’s Pie Drive, & Open Day BBQ.
More ideas welcome!

Thought for the week......

Basketball

The Donvale Primary Basketcases – News & Views!
We are pumped for the season. Go Donvale!!!
Birthday Wishes To
Mehar L, Kirralee G, Indi M, Maxwell T, Jason W,
Aysha Mc, Ella C, Jaymes M

Who are celebrating birthdays from 15th to 21st April

say cheese
School Photo Day is
28 April 2016

Have your child’s school memories captured forever

Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Don’t seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day
- Family envelopes are available at the school office upon request
- Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Payment options are cash, credit card and on line.

For any enquiries, please feel free to contact us

e data.nm@nmsp.com.au
p +61 3 9466 7331
f +61 3 9466 7332
www.nmsp.com.au

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State Schools’ Relief
Prep CSEF uniform support

Fact sheet for parents

Program background
As part of the Victorian Government’s Affordable Uniform Program, every Prep government school student who is a recipient of the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) automatically qualifies for a uniform pack voucher. Each year, State Schools’ Relief (SSR) provides tens of thousands of children with school clothing, shoes and other essential items. For the first time SSR has received government funding so that it can help more families needing financial assistance, and ensure no one is left behind.

Eligibility requirements for CSEF can be found at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

What uniform support is provided?
SSR will provide:
- A basic windcheater and tracksuit pants
- OR one of the following
- A bomber jacket, rugby top, hoodie or zip jacket

How can parents apply for the uniform?
Parents must apply for CSEF by the closing date listed at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef before they approach the school to apply. Primary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents at www.ssr.net.au/schools.

Once approved, the voucher will be dispatched electronically to the school, uniform shop or uniform supplier. The school will provide the voucher to the parent/student to present at the uniform retailer (and not at SSR).

What if parents have already purchased their child’s uniforms?
Eligible parents who have already purchased their child’s uniforms for the year can select items of a larger size from the retailer.

Can parents who are ineligible for CSEF or, who have children in other year levels receive assistance from SSR?
Yes. Applications for parents requiring financial assistance for uniforms, text books or shoes are encouraged via the regular SSR services – www.ssr.net.au/schools. SSR only responds to requests from schools (not from parents directly). Parents are encouraged to talk to their school principal, assistant principal or student welfare coordinator about their situation and they will assess their eligibility.

Terms and conditions
- Only CSEF recipients are eligible for the uniform packs.
- Each student is eligible for a single uniform pack.
- A voucher is dispatched electronically to the school, uniform shop or uniform supplier on approval. The school will provide the voucher to the parent/student to present at the uniform retailer (and not at SSR).
- The order is valid for 45 days from date of issue.
- Once expired, a new application must be lodged.
- Expired vouchers cannot be redeemed.
- Each voucher specifies the individual items funded by SSR.
- No change to the items can be made unless through the school.
- Changes made in store will not be honoured by SSR.
- The maximum voucher value is $57 and any short fall will not be covered by SSR.
- The value of the voucher is a maximum value rather than an entitled amount. Should the value of the item be less than $57 the difference will not be credit towards other items.

More information
Parents: For CSEF application details please visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Schools: For SSR applications please visit www.education.vic.gov.au/ssr

State Schools’ Relief
Telephone: 03 8769 8400 Email: contact@ssr.net.au Website: www.ssr.net.au
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname

First name

Address

Town/suburb State Postcode

Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

☐ ☐ ☐ - ☐ ☐ ☐ - ☐ ☐ ☐ - ☐ OR

☐ Foster parent* OR ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

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<tr>
<th>Child’s surname</th>
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I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

* DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
* this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
* I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
* if I withdraw this consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
* Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant __________________________ Date / /