

Celebrating 150 Years

1874 - 2024



Acknowledgement of Country

Dandenong Primary School acknowledges the Bunurong people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we celebrate today. In the spirit of reconciliation Dandenong Primary School acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

A Brief History of Dandenong Primary School

Dandenong Primary School, a cornerstone of education in the region, has a rich history dating back to 1874. The school's story began when, on 18 April 1873, Dandenong residents convened a public meeting chaired by Mr. H. Sutherland, drafting a letter to urge the Minister for Public Instruction to establish a State School in the township. In response to the request, the government allocated a site on the corner of Robinson and Foster Streets, and Dandenong State School 1403 officially opened on Monday, May 4, 1874.

In 1881, the school relocated to its present site on the corner of Foster and New Streets, prompted by the opening of a railway line in October 1877. The 1881 building, likely designed by Henry Bastow, initially consisted of two rooms and a cloakroom. The opening on March 4, 1881, attended by Mr. Collard Smith, the Minister of Public Instruction, and M. Montmahou, Inspector-General of Schools in France, marked a new chapter in the school's history.

Over the years, Dandenong Primary School has grown and nurtured numerous notable alumni, including the 18th Prime Minister of Australia, Sir John McEwan; former Deputy Premier of Victoria, Francis Field; 2011 Australian of the Year, Simon McKeon AO FAICD; and the current Member for Bayswater, Jackson Taylor MP, among many others. Today, Dandenong Primary School remains steadfast in its commitment to providing excellence in learning and teaching, shaping the leaders of tomorrow.

For a comprehensive, year-by-year historical timeline spanning 1874 to today, visit the school's website at www.dandenongps.vic.edu.au

Order of Official Proceedings

12pm Saturday 4 May 2024

Smoking Ceremony & Welcome to Country

Bunurong Elder

Principal's Welcome

Daniel Riley

School Captains Address

Hamsini Karthik • Hasan Mujtaba • Mahzyar Ahmadi • Maria Khan

Guest Speakers

Jackson Taylor MP • Simon McKeon AO FAICD

Notable Alumni

Opening of 1999 Time Capsule

David Crozier

Principal 1994 – 2011

Cutting of the Cake

Member for Dandenong The Hon. Gabrielle Williams
& City of Greater Dandenong Mayor Cr Lana Formoso

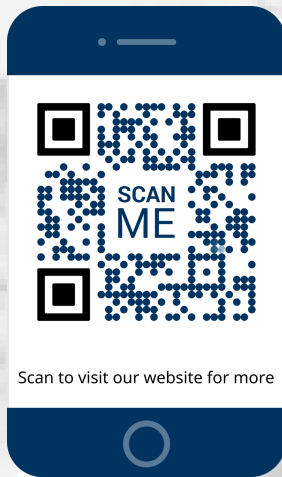
Group Photo

Acknowledgements

As we celebrate our 150th anniversary, the school recognises that we would not be where we are today without the invaluable contributions of those we want to acknowledge.

We solemnly acknowledge the sacrifice made by our students who served in World War I and II. Their courage and dedication will always be remembered. Lest we forget.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the current and former staff, students, and parents, the school council, Knowles Tivendale and Alan Mersin, likely our longest-serving school council presidents and both staunch advocates for the learning and wellbeing of our community, The Honourable Gabrielle Williams MP, the City of Greater Dandenong, and our many friends and partners, including Community Hubs Australia, The Smith Family, Ardoch, and St Martins Youth Arts Centre, among many others.



Artefacts & Anecdotes

Scan the QR Code to find:

- Timeline 1874-2024
- Oral History Audio Archive
- Notable Alumni
- Yearbook 1965, more!



Support Our School

Merchandise & Commemorative Bricks

As part of our 150-years celebrations, we are selling commemorative bricks and a number of souvenir products.

Tax-Deductible Building Fund Contributions

Donations are deposited into the Dandenong Primary School 'Building Fund' account and all donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. By donating to Dandenong Primary School, you contribute directly to enhancing our educational programs, upgrading facilities, and providing resources that empower our students to thrive. Every contribution, big or small, plays a vital role in fostering a nurturing environment for their growth. Donate today and be a cornerstone of education at Dandenong Primary School!

Bequests

By remembering Dandenong Primary School in your Will, you are helping ensure a lasting legacy that will benefit generations of students. A gift in your Will can take many forms – cash (either a set amount, a percentage or residual) or assets, and can be directed as you wish. Leaving a gift in your Will can be done easily and simply. To ensure that your Will fulfils your intentions it should be drawn up by a solicitor or trust company. If you already have a Will, a solicitor can simply add an appropriate codicil. Contact the school for a confidential conversation.



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