

DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 1 February 2022

Welcome to the 2022 School Year

Welcome to the 2022 school year at Dandenong Primary School.

This year we're home to around 360 students across Foundation (Prep) to Year 6. We look forward to working with all families to bring about the best possible learning and wellbeing outcomes for every child.

Acknowledgement of Country

Our school is located on the traditional lands of the Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We pay respect to elders past, present and emerging.

Our School in 2022

Welcome to or welcome back to Dandenong Primary School where we very proudly serve Australia's number one most culturally diverse community.

Our school offers a rich history of excellence in teaching and learning that extends from before 1881 through to today. In 2022 we are home to around 360 children from Foundation (Prep) to Year 6. The school is made up of three Foundation classes, five composite Year 1/2 classes, four Year 3/4 classes and four Year 5/6 classes.

We offer specialist classes in physical education and sport, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics), visual art, library and performing arts. We have a specialised English as an Additional Language (EAL) class and we provide further literacy and language learning support across the school.

In addition to our highly experienced learning and teaching staff we have a team of highly dedicated wellbeing staff to support the health and wellbeing of our children and families.

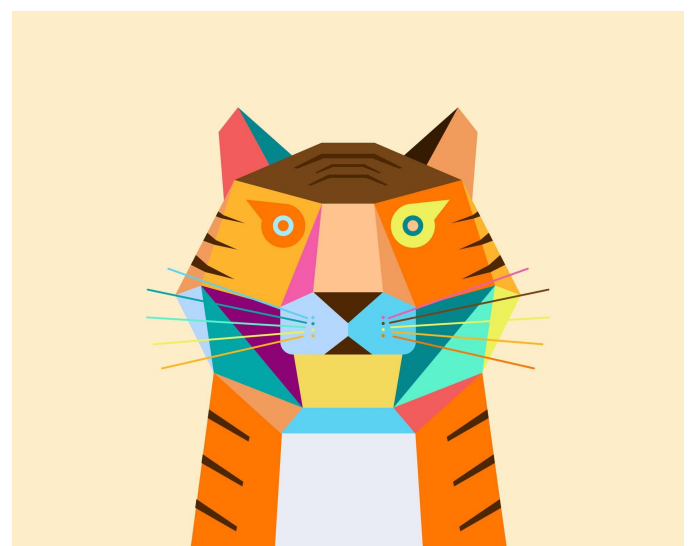
Our highly dedicated school staff are almost as diverse as our student population. Our staff speak a range of languages including Dari, Hindi, Spanish, French, Serbian, Albanian, Greek, Turkish, Cantonese, Mandarin and English.

For parents and carers, we have a welcoming, award-winning Community Hub space which brings local information and services around education, health and community in to a friendly and familiar place.

Happy Lunar New Year

Today marks the beginning of a new year on the lunar calendar and this year is the Year of the Tiger.

The tiger symbolizes strength and, according to Chinese folk tales, the power to ward off disaster. Happy new year!



tel. 9792 2743
174-182 Foster Street Dandenong 3175
www.dandenongps.vic.edu.au

 [Facebook.com/DandenongPrimarySchool](https://www.facebook.com/DandenongPrimarySchool)
 [Instagram.com/DandenongPS](https://www.instagram.com/DandenongPS)

Child Safety at Dandenong Primary School
Dandenong Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This continues to be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Our school has zero tolerance for child abuse.

We are committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

To this end, this first newsletter of the school year contains a number of important safety messages from Page 2. We encourage all families to discuss some of the safety messages together.

Emergency Contact Information

It is very important the school has your most up-to-date emergency contact telephone details and home address.



If you change telephone details or home address at any point, we ask that you update the school with your accurate contact details as soon as possible.

بسیار مهم است شماره تماس اضطراری و آدرس دقیق خانه شما را ما در مکتب داشته باشیم.

اگر شما شماره تلفون یا آدرس خود را تغییر می دهید لطفاً هر چه زودتر مکتب را اطلاع دهید.

Supervision of Students

Our entry gates are open from approximately 8:30am each morning but it is important to note that children should not be left unsupervised at this time.

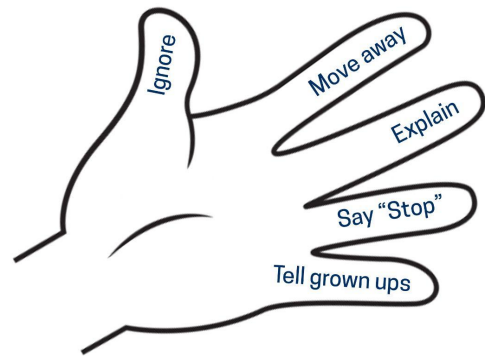
Our school grounds are supervised by school staff between 8:45am - 3:45pm each day.

Arriving Late to School & Leaving Early

If your child is late to school (after 9am) or if they need to leave school early (before 3:30pm) for an appointment, parents and carers must first report to the school office to collect a late arrival or early dismissal pass.

اگر طفل شما در مکتب دیر بعد از ساعت ۹ صبح می آید و یا به دلیل وقت ملاقات با داکتر مکتب را قبل از ساعت ۳:۳۰ ترک میکنند باید اول به دفتر مکتب مراجعه کنید و مکتب را در جریان بگذارید.

Dandenong Primary School's 5 Finger Strategy



How to deal with conflict...

Ignore - If someone is not behaving well, try your best to ignore them

Move away - Move away from them and play somewhere else

Explain - Explain to them how you feel

Say "Stop" - Ask them to please stop, because you don't like it

Tell grown ups - If you feel unsafe, tell a trusted grown up

Dandenong Primary School is a Hands Off! School



This means no punching, no hitting, no slapping, no pushing, no kicking, no tripping and no hurting. **No excuse.**

Everyone has the right to be safe and to feel safe.



Zero Tolerance for Violence

Our school is a *Hands Off!* school which means we have zero tolerance for violent or aggressive behaviour.

At our school, everyone has the right to be safe and to feel safe.

We all encounter circumstances that test our limits from time to time and therefore at Dandenong Primary School we use tools such as the [Zones of Regulation](#) to recognise and manage our feelings in a safe and healthy way.

We encourage and teach the use of tools such as the 5 Finger Strategy when faced with potential conflict.

School Staff Car Parks

For the safety of all, our school car parks are for the use of staff and drivers with a disability access permit only.

Parking Restrictions

Please also take note of the parking restrictions around the school as these are heavily enforced by the City of Greater Dandenong with fines of \$160.



The 'no parking' sign means you can stop in the area for a maximum of 2 minutes to drop off or pick up a passenger but

you must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.



The 'no stopping' sign means you are **not allowed to stop or park your car in, or partly in, that area for any reason.**

Dropping off or picking up passengers or goods in a 'no stopping' area is not permitted.

All parking and stopping rules apply even if your vehicle has broken down or if you have your hazard warning lights on.

Unfortunately we are not able to assist drivers should they receive an infringement notice as this is a matter between the driver and the City of Greater Dandenong so please pay close attention to the parking restrictions around the school.

نحوه جلوگیری از جریمه های پارکینگ

به عنوان بخشی از الزامات بهداشت و ایمنی شغلی، اخیراً ما یک برنامه جدید برای مدیریت ترافیک تهیه کرده ایم تا از امنیت همه اعضای جامعه ی خود اطمینان حاصل کرده باشیم

توجه به این نکته ضروری است که پارکینگ های مکتب (ورودی از سرک فاستر و سرک نیو) فقط برای کارکنان مکتب و

پارکینگ اداره دولتی است. تنها استثنا در این مورد مربوط به وسایل نقلیه است که دارای مجوز معتبر پارکینگ معلول هستند

پارکینگ در اطراف مکاتب برای اکثر مکاتب کلانشهر ملبورن مسئله ی بزرگ است. برای ما در دندنونگ توجه به موارد زیر مفید است

علامت "**بدون پارکینگ**" به معنای این است که شما نمی توانید پارک کنید ، اما می **✓** **توانید بدون ترک وسیله نقلیه خود مسافر یا وسایل خود را رها کنید یا وسایل و مسافر بگیرید** (یعنی شما باید در فاصله سه متری وسیله نقلیه خود باشید). شما باید بی درنگ (در طی دو دقیقه از توقف وسیله نقلیه خود) به مشاغل خود شرکت کنید.

بدون توقف یا "**بدون ایستادن**" به معنای متوقف کردن به هر دلیلی به جز پیروی از علائم راهنمایی و رانندگی یا جلوگیری از متوقف **No Stand** برخورد با وسایل نقلیه دیگر در منطقه نشوید.

Parent & Carer Participation

Children love to see you helping out at our school.

Here are just some of the ways you can get involved with the Dandenong Primary School community:

- Become a regular classroom volunteer assistant
- Nominate for School Council (information in school newsletter in February)
- Assist with school fundraising
- Attend our fortnightly whole-school assemblies
- Attend school excursions and special events as a parent helper
- Attend parent functions
- Volunteer in the Community Hub
- Share your unique skills (e.g. craft, music, cooking) in some way across the school

اطفال خیلی دوست دارند که شما در مکتب کمک کنید. در پروگرام های ذیل میتوانید کمک کنید

میتوانید در شورای مکتب خود را کاندید کنید .

برای جمع کردن بودیجه در مکتب کمک کنید .

در گردهمایی مکتب که هر دو هفته یکبار اتفاق میفتد شرکت کنید .

در سیر علمی و دیگر مراسم خاص کمک کنید .

در صنف کمک کنید .

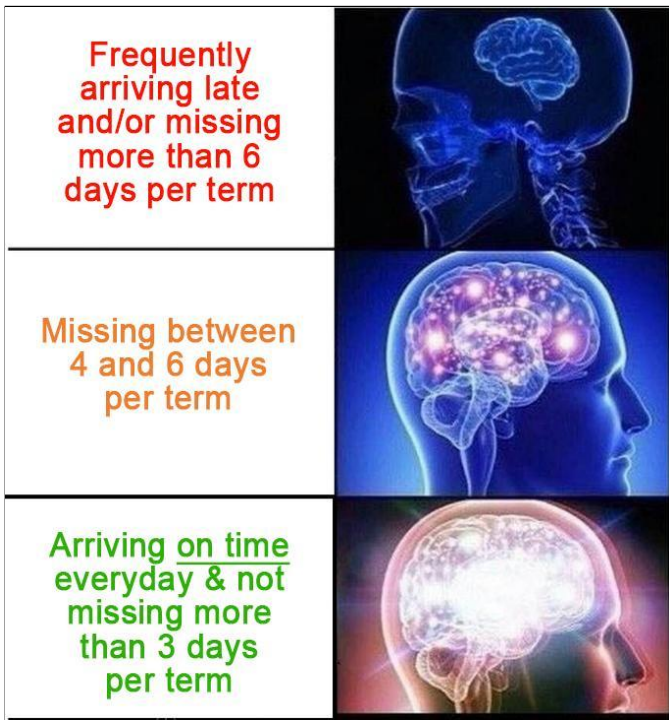
در محافل شرکت کنید .

در Community Hub.مکتب منحیث رضا کار کمک کنید

مهارت های منحصر به فرد خود را (مانند صنایع دستی،

موسیقی، پخت و پز) در برخی از راه در سراسر مکتب به

اشتراک بگذارید



Stay Tuned for Some Exciting Toilet News!

We're not usually that flush with excitement about toilets but we'll soon have some not-so-crap news to share...



Anaphylaxis, Asthma & Other Medical Conditions

All students with a diagnosed medical condition such as [anaphylaxis](#), [asthma](#), [epilepsy](#) or [allergy](#) must provide the school with a formalised management or action plan.

These management plans ideally should be provided to the school on enrolment. Each year we require that existing management plans be updated and provided to the school by 28 February.

If you require support with this process, please contact the school as soon as possible.

Important Reminders from Dandenong Primary School

Everyday:



Mondays & Wednesdays before school:



Negative = come to school

Positive = stay home for 7 days



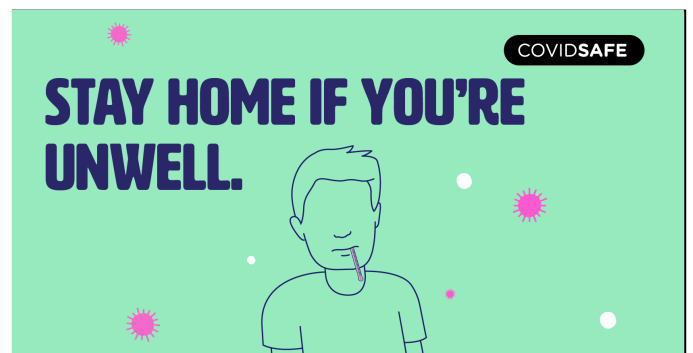
Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs)

Families are encouraged to test each child before school on the following dates:

- Wednesday 2 February
- Monday 7 February
- Wednesday 9 February
- Monday 14 February
- Wednesday 16 February
- Monday 21 February
- Wednesday 23 February

If your child returns a positive result, please:

1. Inform the school, and
2. Ensure your child isolates at home for 7-days.



Summer Playground Improvements

We have had a productive summer with the installation of tiered rock seating and shade trees between the school oval and our 'Vague Square' synthetic turf area.

We've dubbed this space the *Anne Pereira Amphitheatre*, much to Mrs Pereira's chagrin.



Thank You Mrs Pereira & Team from Mr Riley

For much of last year, Mrs Pereira took on the role of acting principal at Dandenong Primary School to allow for me to take on the role of acting principal at Wooranna Park Primary School in Dandenong North.

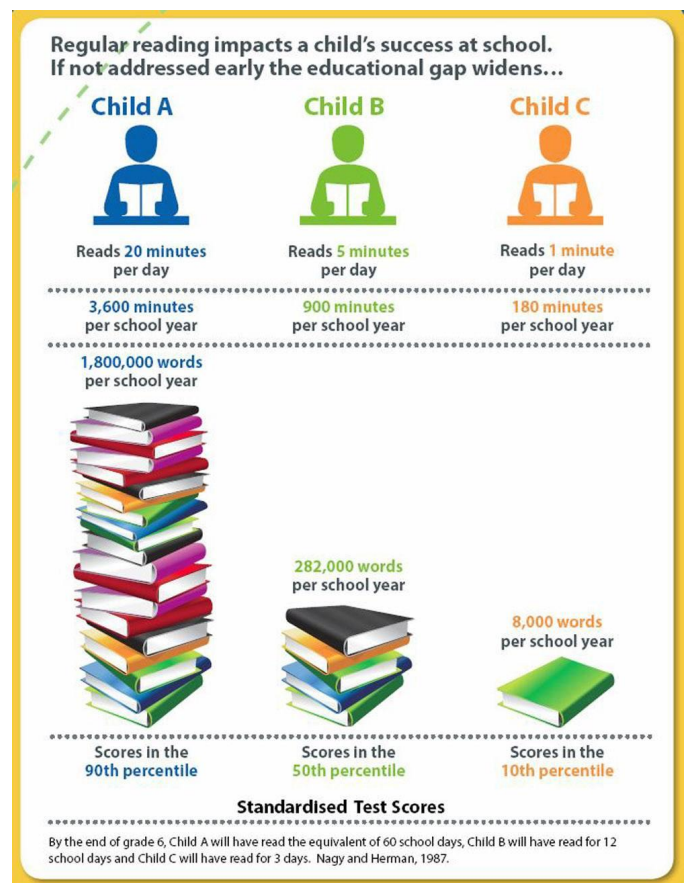
During this time, Mrs Pereira, and her leadership team, led the school community through one of the most challenging years for Victorian schools as we continued to confront the challenge of limiting the spread of coronavirus.

Mrs Pereira and the staff and families of Dandenong Primary School did an outstanding job of working together to support the best possible student learning and wellbeing outcomes through another very challenging year. For this, I am very grateful to Mrs Pereira and the staff and families of this wonderful school.

I am very excited to be back! I have now notched up a little over 5 years at Dandenong Primary School and I am happy to announce that I have signed on to lead Dandenong Primary School for another 5 years from the beginning of 2022.

Thank you to Mrs Pereira and to the staff and all families of this wonderful community!

*Daniel Riley
Principal
Dandenong Primary School*



EVERYONE
BELONGS
HERE



What can I do if my child is bullied or excluded at school?

From:

<https://allplaylearn.org.au/primary/parent/parent-guide-to-bullying-and-exclusion/>

Listen. One of the most important things you can do for your child if they are being excluded or bullied at school is listen to them. Your child may be worried about your reaction, so it can be helpful to listen calmly and openly rather than becoming upset and angry. Empathise with how they are feeling (e.g. It's okay to feel sad about that. It sounds like it has been really tough for you), and affirm that they have a right to feel safe and included at school. Warm and positive support from a parent can help a child be resilient in situations where exclusion or bullying occurs.

Support your child with their emotions. Your child may experience a range of emotions in response to being excluded or bullied at school. You may be able to provide support through helping them identify what emotions they are feeling, and helping them express those emotions in a positive way. Help them engage in self-care (e.g. doing things they love or that make them feel relaxed). Coping statements may also be helpful for them (e.g. "This isn't my fault, and this isn't about me"; "This isn't easy, but I can get through this").

Problem solve with your child. Help your child to come up with possible solutions or supports that might help them. For example, maybe they can come up with a list of 5 people (one for each finger) who they can approach for support at school, or maybe they could join a lunchtime program. It is important to decide when you will contact the school for more support. Your child may be fearful or worried about school/teacher involvement. Talk to your child about the importance of addressing exclusion or bullying, and decide at which point you will speak with staff (see next point for more on this). Access AllPlay Learn's [problem solving](#) guide.

Talk to your child's teacher/school. The sooner you talk to your child's school, the sooner they can put supports in place for your child. For exclusion, initially this may just be alerting them that your child is struggling to make friends so that they can provide support where appropriate. For bullying, active intervention and strategies may be needed to keep your child safe at school, and to protect their emotional wellbeing. Keeping communication lines open with teachers about what is working and where more support is needed can help you and your child's teacher partner in supporting your child at school. You can access more information [here](#).

Help your child access further support at school. Some schools have wellbeing staff who can provide further support to your child if they are experiencing emotional distress or loneliness. Some wellbeing teams may be able to support your child with developing skills (such as starting a conversation with other children) that can help them to develop friendships.

Activate other supports for your child. If your child has a range of friends or family who care about them, their support and encouragement can also play an important role in helping your child feel safe and cared about. Provide opportunities for your child to spend time with people who can encourage and affirm them, whether that be in person, over the phone, or as letters/emails. Other social settings such as sports clubs, drama/dance clubs or similar can also provide your child an opportunity to develop friendships with children with similar interests.

Support your child with developing friendships. Invite other children over or create other opportunities for your child to build friendships when possible. In some cases, learning some conversation starters might be helpful if your child is unsure how to approach other children to ask to join in. Some ideas include practising different ways they can ask to join in or practicing using open-ended questions when talking to other children (e.g. Asking "what are some of your favourite books?" instead of "do you like reading?").



BULLYING. NO WAY!

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly and get the full story.
2. **Reassure** your child that they are not to blame.
3. **Ask** your child what they want to do about it and how you can help.
4. **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies.
5. **Contact** the school.
6. **Check in** regularly with your child.



KEEPING SAFE & OPEN AT DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL

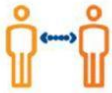
MEASURES TO LIMIT VIRUS TRANSMISSION:



Face masks compulsory when indoors for students in Year 3 to 6 and all staff (exemptions apply in limited circumstances)



Free twice-weekly voluntary testing at home



Physical distancing & limits to indoor cohort mixing apply (e.g. staff and students to maintain year level 'bubbles')



Air purifiers, open windows & doors, outdoor learning (where practicable)



No entry to classrooms for parents & carers for the time being (exceptions apply). Students and staff must stay home if unwell

RESPONDING TO CONFIRMED CASES:



If a student tests positive, parents & carers must notify the school as soon as possible

Students who report a positive result must isolate for 7-days and must not attend school during that 7-day period.



Where a student is a household contact of a positive case (that is, they have spent more than 4 hours with someone who has COVID-19 inside a house) they must inform the school and isolate for 7-days and not attend school during that 7-day period



The school will keep students, families and staff up-to-date with any relevant information when a student or staff member that had attended school has returned a positive COVID-19 test result

Important Dates for 2022

January

- Curriculum Day 28/1 (Induction)
- Curriculum Day 31/1 (First Aid Training)

February

- **Term 1 Starts 9am Tuesday 1/2**
- Lunar New Year - Year of the Tiger 1/2
- Welcome to Country Ceremony - TBC
- Mother Language Day Sunday 21/2
- Updated **Asthma & Anaphylaxis Plans Due 28/2**
- Enrolment Census 28/2

March

- [Pancake Day/Shrove Tuesday](#) 1/3
- International Women's Day Tuesday 8/3
- [Labour Day](#) Monday 14/3 - **School Closed**
- [National Day of Action Against Bullying](#) 19/3
- [Harmony Day](#) Monday 21/3
- Meet & Greet - To be confirmed

April

- [Ramadan](#) Begins Evening 1/4
- [Autism Awareness Day](#) Saturday 2/4
- **Term 1 Ends 2:30pm Friday 8/4**
- [Good Friday](#) 15/4
- [Easter Sunday](#) 17/4
- Orthodox Easter Sunday 24/4
- [ANZAC Day](#) Sunday 25/4
- **Term 2 Begins Tuesday 26/4**
- [Mother Earth Day](#) Friday 22/4
- [Ramadan](#) Ends Evening 30/4

May

- Mum & Me Friday 6/5
- Mother's Day Sunday 8/5
- [NAPLAN](#) 10-20/5
- [International Day of Families](#) Sunday 15/5
- Education Week
- [Australia's Biggest Morning Tea](#) 26/5
- [National Reconciliation Week](#) 27/5 - 3/6

June

- Queen's Birthday Holiday 13/6 - **School Closed**
- [Refugee Week](#) 19-25/6
- World Refugee Day 20/6
- Semester 1 Reports Published 20/6
- Learning Conferences 22/6
- [CSEF](#) applications close (TBC)
- **Term 2 Ends 2:30pm Friday 24/6**

July

- [Eid al-Adha](#) Begins Evening 9/7
- **Term 3 Begins Monday 11/7**
- [Eid al-Adha](#) Ends Evening 13/7
- [Schools Tree Day](#) Friday 29/7
- [International Day of Friendship](#) 30/7
- [Schools Tree Day](#) Friday 31/7

August

- [National Science Week](#) 13-21/8
- [CBCA Book Week](#) 20-26/8
- Year 6 [City Camp](#) 22-24/8
- [Daffodil Day](#)
- Teacher Aide Appreciation Week (TBC)

September

- Indigenous Literacy Day
- Father's Day Sunday 4/9
- International Literacy Day 8/9
- R U OK Day 8/9
- Year 5 [Malmsbury Camp](#) 12-14/9
- **Term 3 Ends 2:30pm Friday 16/9**

October

- **Term 4 Begins Monday 3/10**
- Swimming Program Begins (TBC)
- World Mental Health Day 10/10
- Dad & Family Night Thursday 13/10
- Diwali Thursday 24/10
- Walk Safely to School Day (TBC)
- [Birth of the Báb](#) 25-26/10
- Prep 2022 Enrolments Due 28/10
- Teachers Day Friday 28/10
- Halloween 31/10

November

- Melbourne Cup Tuesday 1/11 - **School Closed**
- Coach Approach 3/11 (TBC)
- [Remembrance Day](#) 11/11

December

- Community Picnic 5/12
- Year 6 Graduation 15/12
- Semester 2 Reports 16/12
- **School Year Ends 1:30pm Tuesday 20/12**

This list was updated 31 January 2022.

If you have an important community date to add to our calendar, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your suggestion.