Week 6, Term 1

Newsletter

Friday 7 March 2025

Deanside Primary School

Important Dates

- **Monday 10th March:** Labour Day Public Holiday (School Closed)
- **Wednesday 12th March:** Grade 3 and 4 Project Rockit Incursion
- **Monday 17th March:** Grade Prep Fire Ed Incursion
- **Tuesday 18th March:** School Council Meeting and AGM
- **Friday 21st March:** Harmony Day (wear orange for gold coin donation)
- **Monday 24th March:** Grade 3-6 Athletics Carnival Excursion
- **Wednesday 26th March:** Grade 5 and 6 Menstrual Health and Pelvic Pain Incursion
- **Thursday 3rd April:** Pyjama Day for Good Friday Appeal
- **Friday 4th April:** Last day of Term 1 2:30pm finish

Principal Report

Dear Deanside Primary School Community,

It has been another busy fortnight at Deanside Primary School. I am so proud of all of our students and the way they are embracing their learning.

Parent Newsletter Feedback

We recently provided our community with an opportunity to provide feedback on our school newsletter. The feedback provided indicated that there was consensus that what the school was providing was informative and timely. The way in which we communicate is effective and meets the needs of our community. The fortnightly newsletter is a perfect frequency of communication coming out. And it would be great to see more photos of students in the newsletter. (Please note we can only include photos of students in the newsletter that have consent).

Farewell Merryn

At the end of this term, we will be saying farewell to Merryn de Livera. Merryn will be exploring new ventures in the work force outside of education. We know that Merryn will be outstanding in her new role. On behalf of the school community, I want to express my sincere thanks to Merryn for all the time, dedication and passion she has shown for every student she has educated and interreacted with. No doubt she has impacted the minds of 100s of students over her career as an educator and I am sure will leave lasting memories with many children.

Welcome Florencia Montero

With Merryn departing us at the end of Term 1, we will now be welcoming Florencia Montero. Known as Ms Montero (or Flo), she will join our staff at the beginning of Term 2 to continue the teaching of Grade 1A. Later in this term Merryn and Flo will have an opportunity to have a 'hand over' of information so that we can seamlessly enter Term 2 meeting the needs of

the students.

My name is Florencia Montero, and I am very excited to start my teaching journey at Deanside Primary School. I have over 6 years of experience teaching the junior years. I have taught grade 1/2 for 5 years and Prep for over a year. My favourite part about teaching is the positive relationships you build with students and watching them engage and grow in their learning. I also believe creating a safe place where students want to come to school and learn is super important. I can't wait to meet and work with Deanside's students and community!

Welcome Janae

This week we have welcomed our new receptionist – Janae! Please make her feel welcome when you see her at Admin.
A little about Janae....

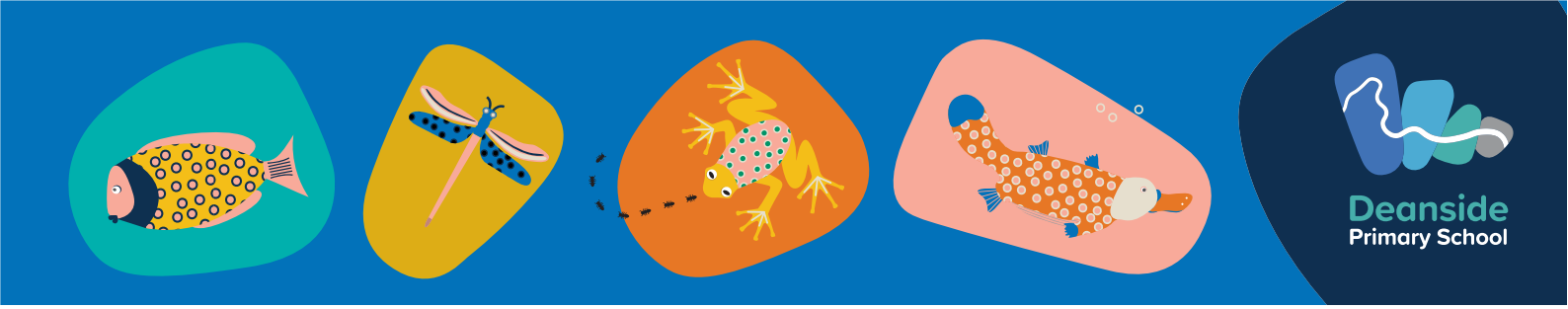
My name is Janae, and I'm excited to introduce myself as the new receptionist here at Deanside Primary School! I'm thrilled to be joining such a warm and welcoming community and look forward to meeting all of you—students, parents, and staff alike! I'm passionate about creating a positive and supportive environment, and I'm here to assist in any way I can. Whether you have a question, need help, or just want to say hello, I'm always happy to lend a hand."

REMINDER – Public Holiday

Next week it is a Public Holiday on Monday 10th March. There is no school or TeamKids on this day.

Curriculum Day

The focus of this week's Curriculum Day has been the third module of Berry Street training.
The Berry Street Education Model helps educators gain new perspectives, strategies and skills to build safer, healthier and more engaging classrooms for all students. If you want to further explore the knowledge and details associated with Berry Street; please head to https://www.berrystreet.org.au/



School Council - 2025

I would like to extend a welcome to new councillors for 2025. Welcome Mitchell Johnstone (DE), Sapna Choudhary (Parent) and welcome back Harleen Kaur (Parent). Together with John Moore (Parent), Bhargavi Arjun (Parent), Leanne Dimovska (DE) and myself – we look forward to forming School Council this year to continue to maintain outstanding governance of the school.

NOTE: the recent elections only saw two of the three vacancies of school council filled by parents. If you would like to join School Council, please email the school on deanside.ps@education.vic.gov.au and I will give you a call to discuss how you can be a future candidate.

We look forward to the first School Council meeting on Tuesday 18th March 2025 @ (time to be confirmed).

Happy International Women's Day (Saturday 8th March)

TO ALL THE WOMEN OF THE WORLD.

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. International Women's Day is an important day to:
✓ celebrate women's achievements
✓ raise awareness about women's equality

As a Principal in a school with numerous female staff members, female students and a father of two girls, I believe it is so important that this day be recognised and that we maintain a collective stance on celebrating all women and their achievements and future aspirations.

Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated. Together we can forge women's equality.

School Values

Our School values are important to us. Remember to **Respect**, Be **Responsible**, Strive for **Excellence** and show genuine **Care** for others and the environment.

Stuart Telford
Principal

Deanside Primary School is committed to child safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered.

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Victoria and pay respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.

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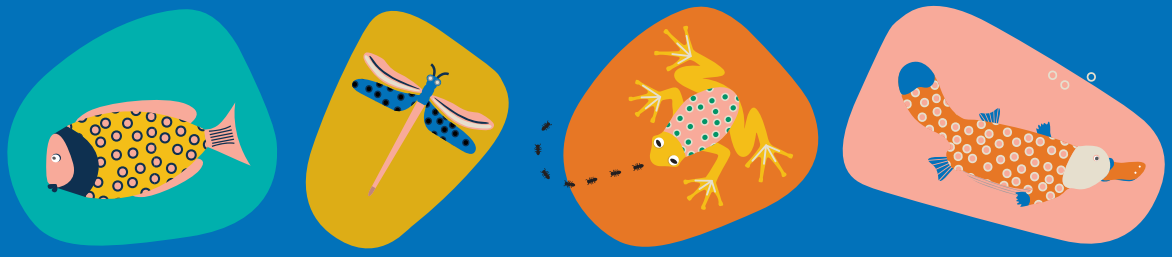


Deanside Primary School

Student of the Week 5 Term 1

Prep A – Chloe

Prep B - Mele

Prep C - Eshan

Prep D – Jayson

Prep E - Nadia

1A – Amber

1B - Zorawar

1C - Abdulrahim

1D – Grace

1E - Lucious

2A - Lala

2B - Mareta

2C – Agam

3A – Kirat

3B - Oluwakorede

3C - Essa

4A - Uzochi

4B - Fateh

4C – Mercy

5A – Namidu

5B – David

5C – Arshgun

6A – Mannat

6B – Yuvraaj

Principal Award – Deeya 1A

AP Award Ms Lina- Raicarl 6B

AP Award Mr Johnstone – Avreen 1B

Wellbeing Award Ms Gavin – Rosalie Prep E

PE with Mr Laiton – Nirvaan 3A

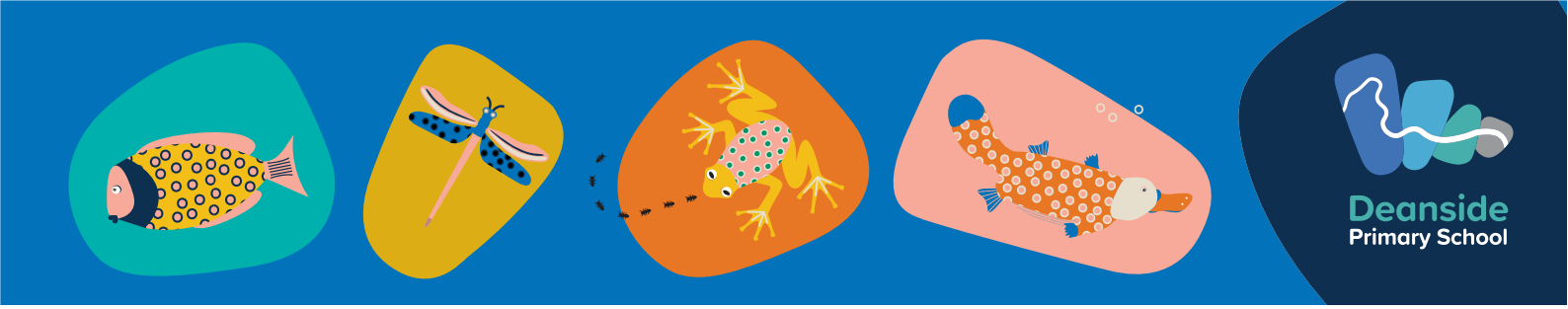
PE with Ms Jess – Archer 4A

STEM – Kyran 2B

Visual Arts – Tegh 6A

Performing Arts – David 5B

Kitchen Garden – Rosalie Prep E



NEWS FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS....

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to our families who attended a very successful Open afternoon and Meet the Teacher information sessions.

We had a great turn out and we are hoping each family has walked away more informed of the practices and routines of their child's classroom. As always, we will seek feedback from you all, so please look out for a feedback survey over the next week.

Thank you to our teachers who always go above and beyond to support our students and families, we appreciate you.

NAPLAN Dates

Just a reminder for our Year 3 and Year 5 families that NAPLAN will be held over the next 2 weeks. We acknowledge that this time might be stressful for our student's, as standardized testing doesn't always show their true abilities, however we believe that our students will show Excellence in trying their very best and giving everything a go.

Our NAPLAN schedule is as follows:

Wednesday 12th – Writing

Thursday 13th – Reading

Monday 17th - Conventions and Grammar

Tuesday 18th- Numeracy.

It is important that all Year 3 and 5 students attend on these days.

The Writing Test will be held at 9:30 am for both Year 3 and Year 5 students.

Our Year 3 tests will take place at 9:30 am for each test.

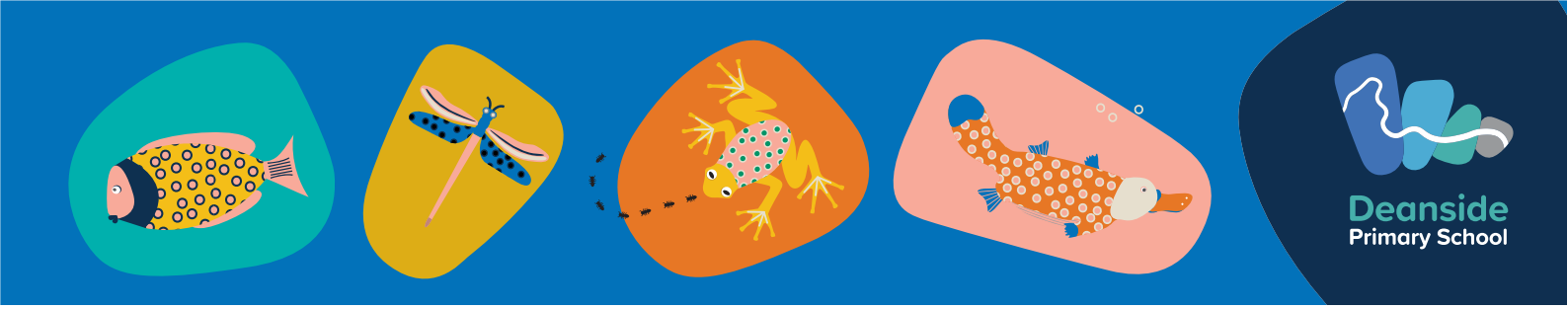
Our Year 5 NAPLAN tests will take place at 11:45am for each test.

We appreciate your support.

Lateness Process

Please note that if you drop your child off **AFTER the 9am bell**, students must be taken to the front office for a late pass, even if you find our gates still be open.

It is imperative that we maintain this process, as we have done so over the last few years, to ensure there are no errors in attendance and marking the roll.



Below are the times of our morning bells:

8:45am – Gates open

8:55 – Students enter the learning community

9:00 – Roll is marked

Early Pick-Up Times

We understand that at times, students must be picked up early for several reasons. For this to happen, the office must locate the student and ask for them to collect their bags and belongings and make their way to the office. This process can sometimes take up to 10-15 minutes.

We are asking that if you need to collect your children early, please ensure this is done **outside of our play times**.

Our recess is from 11am – 11:30am & our lunchtime play is between 1:40pm – 2:30pm. We would appreciate it if you could please collect them before or after our break times. This will ensure that the process will be quicker and will lead to less frustration for our families who are in a hurry.

We also request that you call the office to notify us if you are picking your child up early. This helps us to speed up the process.

Also, once our gates are open at 3:20pm, we will ask that parents please wait until our bell (3:30pm) as most times, children don't get to the office until after the bell.

Please note that our assembly takes place on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. If you need to collect your child early on a Friday afternoon we ask that you do so at the end of lunch on this day (2:30pm) to avoid disruptions to the assembly.

If you have any questions, please come, and see me.

Thank you,

Lina Stephens

Assistant Principal (Curriculum and Innovation)

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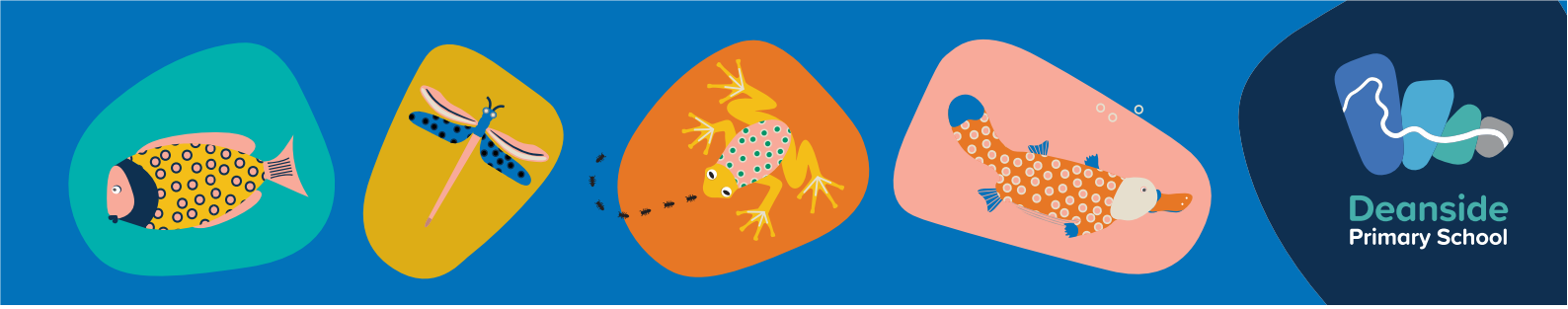


Hello Deanside!

We're already beyond the halfway mark of term, which is simply incredible! Students have settled well into their classes and forming wonderful connections with each other and with their teachers, which is very pleasing to see.

I sent out some correspondence via Compass last week in relation to the various lunch time clubs on offer at Deanside. Have a discussion with your child about any clubs that may peak their interest as a way of breaking up their usual recess and lunch routine, as well as providing a platform to make new friends.

The Year 3/4 students are eagerly anticipating the Project Rockit 'Belong' workshop, which introduces students to the important role that they play in building inclusive school communities, empowering them with foundational strategies and empathy to combat social exclusion and increase awareness of diverse perspectives.

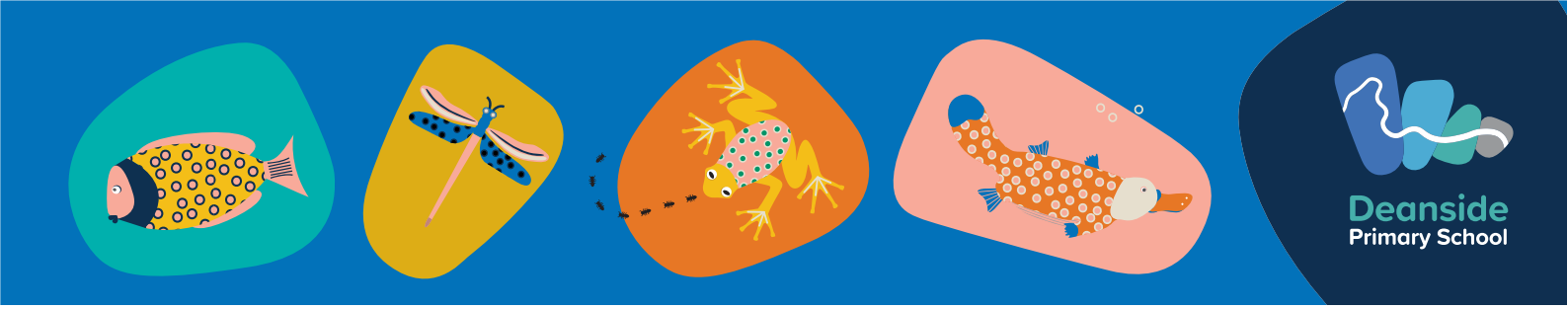
The big idea of the workshop is that "each one of us matters, and we all have the power to make everyone feel like they belong."

We have our NAPLAN assessment period coming up over the next fortnight for our Year 3 and Year 5 students. From a wellbeing perspective, consider how additional rest, encouragement and positive reinforcement of effort may allow your child to demonstrate their wonderful capabilities during the various NAPLAN assessments.

In the coming weeks, we will be introducing a prize at assembly each Friday for the class with the highest attendance for that week. This is an area that the Wellbeing team will be really targeting across the school in 2025. Encourage your child to get to school each day in order to help them and their class get the winning prize each week!

Mitch Johnstone

Assistant Principal (Wellbeing and Inclusion)



NEWS FROM OUR WELLBEING AND INCLUSION LEADING TEACHER....

Hello Deanside!

As we settle into Week 6 I have had many teachers come to me asking for tips around students who are not getting enough sleep, and are coming to school tired and disengaged.

Getting enough sleep is crucial for children's growth, development, and overall well-being. School-aged children (6-12 years old) need 9-12 hours of sleep per night, while teenagers require 8-10 hours. However, busy schedules, screen time and inconsistent bedtimes can make it challenging to get adequate rest.

Lack of sleep can significantly impact a child's ability to learn and succeed in school. Studies show that sleep-deprived children struggle with concentration, memory retention and problem-solving skills. Poor sleep is also linked to lower academic performance, increased stress and behavioral issues in the classroom.

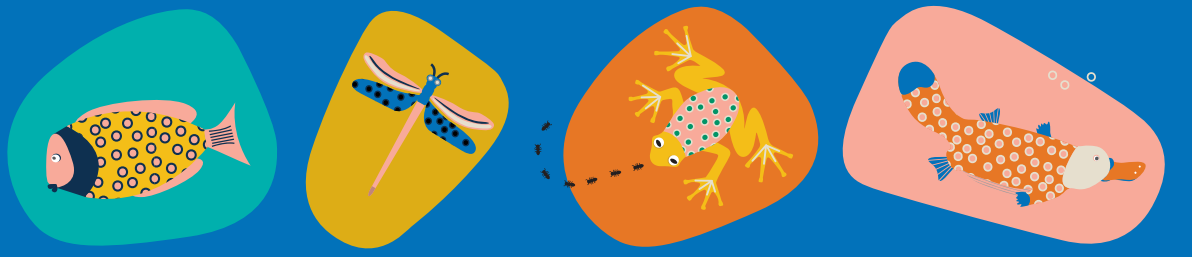
To promote healthier sleep habits, consider these tips:

- **Set a Consistent Sleep Schedule:** Maintain the same bedtime and wake-up time, even on weekends.
- **Create a Relaxing Bedtime Routine:** Encourage calming activities like reading or listening to soft music before bed.
- **Limit Screen Time:** Reduce exposure to screens at least an hour before bedtime to improve sleep quality.
- **Ensure a Comfortable Sleep Environment:** Keep the bedroom cool, dark, and quiet for restful sleep.
- **Encourage Physical Activity:** Regular exercise during the day promotes better sleep at night.

A well-rested child is more focused, performs better in school and enjoys improved mood and overall health. Help your child develop good sleep habits.

Bianca Gavin

Leading Teacher (Wellbeing and Inclusion)



Deanside
Primary School

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $154 for primary school students
- $256 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments**: your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure

Deanside Primary School

News from Grade Prep

The Prep students have been outstanding in following the school's routines and expectations since starting school. The Preps engaged in our Start Up Program and participated in a range of fun and engaging activities designed to support their smooth transition into school life. From team-building exercises to hands-on learning experiences, these activities have allowed the Preps to familiarise themselves with school expectations and routines, develop important social skills, and enhance their teamwork abilities.

In Reading and Writing, the Preps have explored letters, words, Concepts of Print, as well as creating a classroom library. They have engaged in various texts and sorted them based on similarities, making it easier to find Just Right Books when borrowing books for their readers satchels and readers toolkit.

In Numeracy, the Preps are learning Patterns and have utilised a variety of numeracy resources to copy and continue a pattern, as well as creating their own. The Preps will move into Counting and learn the fundamental skill of counting accurately.

We couldn't be prouder of how the Prep students are embracing their new school experience. We look forward to seeing all the wonderful things they will achieve this year!

Miss Anna, Miss Milan, Mrs Georgiou, Miss Richelle & Miss Santos

News from Grade One

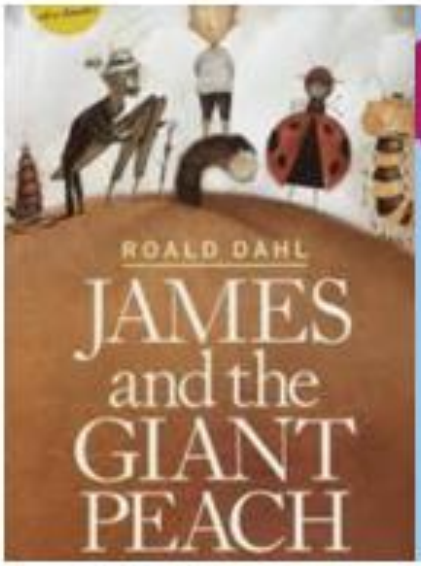
This term, Grade 1 students have been exploring emotions, personal strengths, and the impact of our choices. Through role playing and thoughtful discussions, we have learned to recognise different feelings and understand how they affect us. We have also explored how our choices, both safe and unsafe, can influence our wellbeing, from making healthy food choices to being aware of the environment around us. One of the fun highlights was creating our own "Colour Monsters," inspired by *The Colour Monster* story. Students worked hard on their creations, using colours to represent different emotions, and shared how they manage their feelings. It has been an exciting journey into understanding emotions and making choices that support our wellbeing at school and at home!

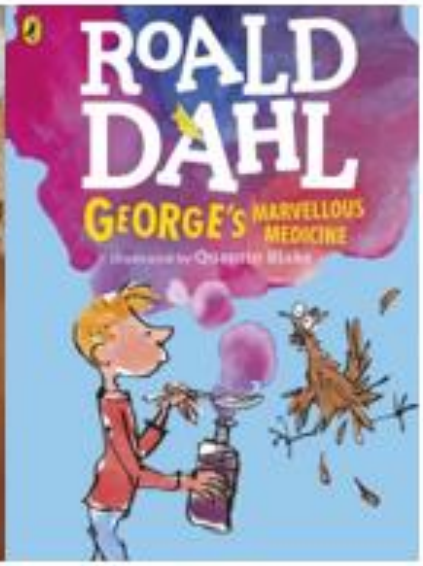
Miss Merryn, Miss Meagan, Miss Emma, Miss Marchione & Miss Mary-Grace

News from Grade Two

This week in Reading, each class has begun a new read aloud. This allows us to model fluent and expressive reading to the students and help them to focus on thinking about what is happening in the book. We have begun with predicting and using words to describe the characters.

Ms Dimovska, Ms Danielle & Miss Ceyda





Deanside Primary School

News from Grade Three

We have been working super hard since we began all of our units for the term.

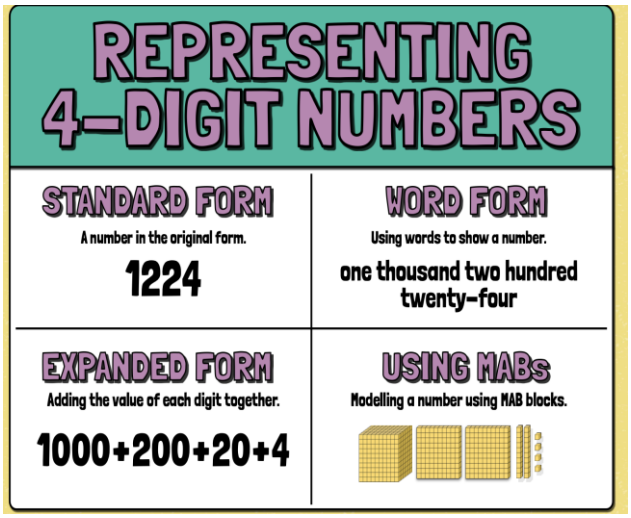
For numeracy, we have been investigating place value, how to name, expand and order numbers from 3-6 digits. This means we are almost ready to move on to additive thinking.

In reading, we have been unpacking features of a fiction and non-fiction text. Next up will be inferring and visualising texts.

In writing, we are finishing up our narrative unit where we explored how to write detailed paragraphs about our characters, setting, problem and solution. Next, we will be creating persuasive texts.

For inquiry, we continue our unit on building positive, happy and sustainable relationships.

Miss B, Mr Radford & Miss Babic



Warm	Calm	Glittery
Salty Breeze	Salty Water	Clear water
Chirping	Shallow	Bright
Waves crashing	Deep	Vivid
Pleasant	Golden	Sandy

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Excellence Respect Responsibility Care

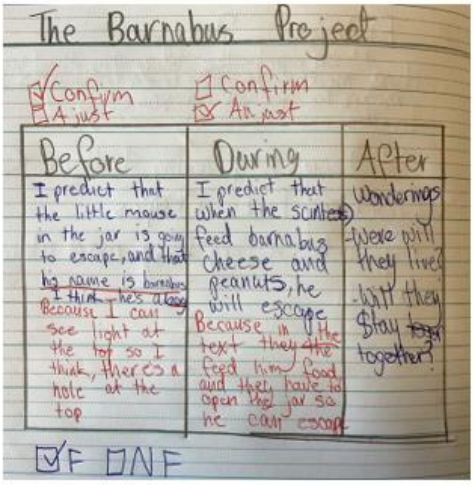
News from Grade Four

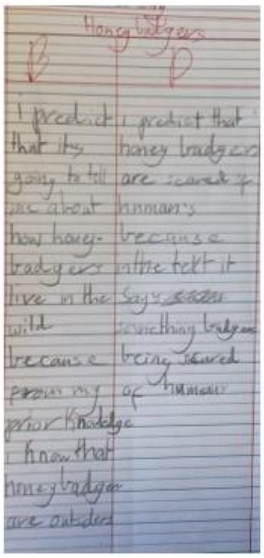
Our Year 4 students have spent their first few weeks of Term 1 participating in the set-up of our Reader's Workshop. They have sorted through and familiarise themselves with our classroom libraries and learnt how to choose Just Right texts.

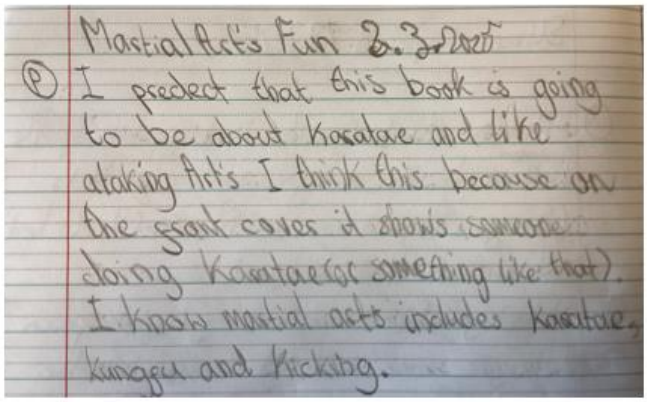
We have started to look at our comprehension strategies to support us to monitoring our comprehension. We have started exploring how to make Predictions with both Fiction and Non-Fiction texts. We have focused on using evidence from the text and our prior knowledge to make deep and meaningful predictions.

Miss Sacco, Miss Heidie & Miss Markovic

Below are some predictions from Fatimah (4C), Olivia (4B) & Samah (4A).







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Deanside Primary School

News from Grade Five

The Grade 5 students at Deanside Primary School have been incredibly busy this term, participating in a range of exciting activities that not only showcase their talents but also help them grow academically, socially, and culturally

In their inquiry-based learning sessions, Grade 5 students have been diving deep into cultural diversity in our Personal and Social Health Unit. This unit is all about understanding the richness of different cultures around the world and celebrating what makes each of us unique. The students have been exploring various aspects of culture, including food, language, traditions, and beliefs.

One of the highlights for Grade 5 this week has been their preparation for interschool sports. The students have been preparing for the last two weeks, practicing their skills in various sports such as Soccer/AFL, T-ball and Netball.

Ms Lanie, Ms Maddi & Mr Kelly

News from Grade Six

Over the past few weeks in Year 6, we have dived into new units of learning and begun to cement some of our newly developed routines from our Start Up Program.

We have participated in provoking investigations about our identity through our Unit of Inquiry, explored the place value system in Numeracy and refined our grammatical knowledge of sentence structure in Writing. As readers, we are drawing together comprehension strategies to help us understand books we are reading.

Most of all, we are loving spending time together and laughing with one another. Especially throughout Circle Time games which you can see in this photo. We were playing 'Duck, Duck, Goose' and had an absolute ball doing so!

Mr Linton & Miss Jade

News from PE with Mr Laiton

Recently, the Grade Three students have started to explore Athletics. During the Athletics unit, the students will explore the different movement skills used in Athletic events such as Long Jump, Triple Jump, Discus and Shot Put.

Students will practise these events over the coming weeks to prepare them for the Grade 3-6 Deanside Athletics Carnival!

Details for the athletics carnival are on compass for families.

Payments are due on Monday, March 14.

News from PE with Miss Jess

In Prep, during week six of Physical Education with Miss Jess, the focus has been on practising safe running techniques during games. We've been learning how to run in a way that keeps us balanced while being mindful of others around us. We've worked on moving our arms and legs to help keep our bodies steady as we run, and we've learned to look forward while running to stay on track and avoid obstacles. We've also practiced moving carefully around the space, making sure we don't bump into others.

A big part of our learning has been about taking turns during games, ensuring that everyone has a fair chance to play. We've also focused on playing fairly by following the rules and respecting everyone involved. Through teamwork, we've learned to help and support each other, making sure everyone has fun and does their best.

News from Kitchen Garden with Mel

The Prep students have enjoyed their first Kitchen Garden classes, where they have been working through the Start-Up Program. During this time, the students have been learning the expectations of the space and demonstrating the school values of Respect, Responsibility, and Care while using garden tools. This term, we will continue developing skills in the kitchen and garden, with students working towards their Tool and Knife Licence.

News from Visual Art with Ms Popczyk

Wominjeka Everybody!

This week in art, our junior artists have been practising routines that keep us safe in the art room. We've also been learning about how our school values help us to maintain a safe and creative workspace where artists try their best and use their mistakes. Prep self-portraits are now complete and have been added to our Deanside community display. Many students have also contributed an amazing piece of art to a collective display for each School Value using the animals that represent each the value, and their habitats. Look out for it in the office area.

Always proud of all our artists,

Ms. Popczyk ☺

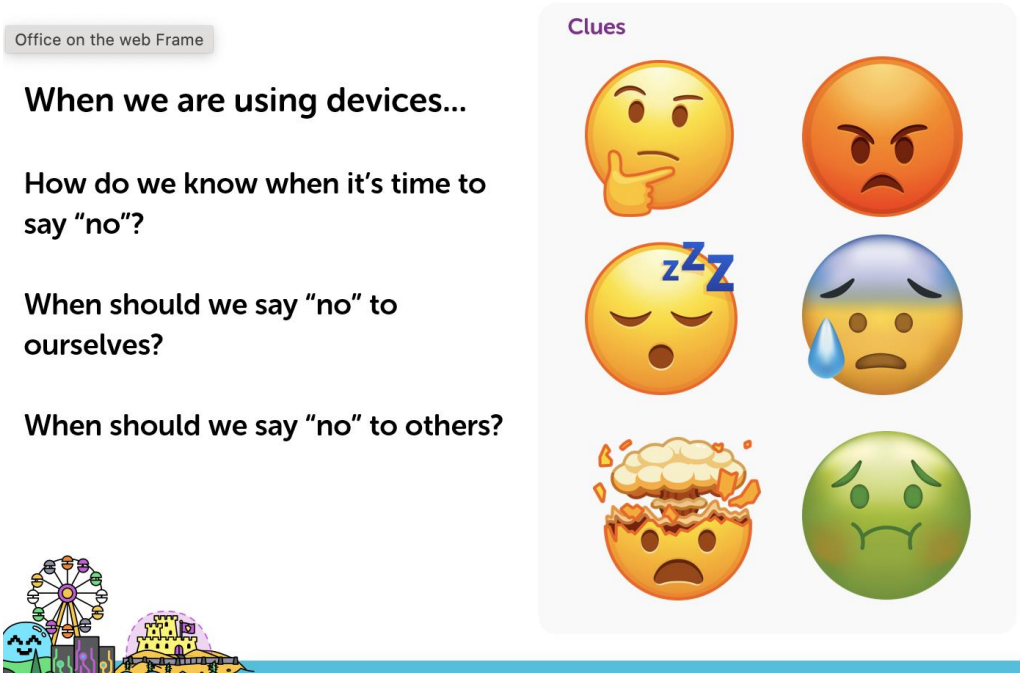
News from Performing Arts with Ms Mamo

Last Thursday the DPS Choir had their first rehearsal for an upcoming performance at assembly on Multicultural Day (Friday 21st March 2025)

Congratulations to all the students who have been committed to weekly rehearsals. We look forward to seeing you perform in three weeks time.

News from STEM with Mrs Lay

Our Year 3/4 students have been focusing on responsible online learning. They created essential agreements for using iPads and received their iPad licenses. Year 3 students explored the importance of saying no in different online scenarios and discussed the emotions they might feel when making safe choices online.



READING TAILS

Help your reluctant reader build their confidence with the support of a furry friend! In this 8 week program, primary school aged children (Grade 2+) will have the opportunity to choose, read, and talk about books at a gentle pace with plenty of encouragement from our reading dogs.

Places are limited. Please email libraryschoolyears@melton.vic.gov.au to express your interest.

The Reading Tails program runs during term 2 and term 3, for 8 weeks, beginning from week 2 of term.

TERM 2 | THURSDAYS | 4PM TO 4.50PM | CAROLINE SPRINGS LIBRARY
TERM 3 | THURSDAYS | 4PM TO 4.50PM | MELTON LIBRARY

CANINE COMPREHENSION DOG ASSISTED LEARNING

MELTON CITY LIBRARIES

CITY OF MELTON

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