



*Respect & Care*



*Responsibility*



*Inclusion, Tolerance & Understanding*



*Excellence*

### Ryan's Ramblings

Dear parents, grandparents and friends,

It has been just wonderful beginning the year in such a positive way. I have been so impressed with the level of tenacity and enthusiasm that our students have returned to our school with. Thank you to our parents for all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes in preparing your children for school. A reminder that my door is always open for our wonderful parent community and I look forward to partnering with you in your child's learning, for 2023.

I especially welcome our new Foundation students. To the families joining our Dana Street Primary School team for the first time, I extend a warm welcome to you all. Our Foundation classes have been a hub of excitement, energy and wonder this week, as our students enjoy meeting new friends, establishing new routines and adapting to life as a primary school student. No doubt these young people will be very tired by the end of this week, so I am sure that they will enjoy some downtime over the weekend.

Our Assembly will continue to operate every Friday morning in the SLC, from 9:00am. This morning, our School Leaders did a fantastic job of hosting their first Assembly of 2023. During the Assembly, we spoke about the importance of having a good Growth Mindset and that mistakes are learning opportunities in disguise. We welcome parents and family members to our weekly assemblies to join us in celebrating our students' achievements.

I welcome our new staff to Dana Street this year. We are most fortunate to have secured some amazing practitioners for 2023, and they have already left positive impressions on our students. Jess Booth joins us from Buninyong Primary School and brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience. Jess Norris left Myrning Primary School to join our team and she, too, brings with her much experience. Emma Taylor and Sarah Schroen both join us from different schools and have already brought some energy and enthusiasm to their classrooms. Finally, Tyler Smith has been appointed as our Japanese Teacher. Tyler is a 4<sup>th</sup> year university student who has been granted permission to teach, through the Victorian Institute of Teaching. We are so very lucky to have secured Tyler and I know she had a fantastic first week here at Dana Street. I encourage all parents to please reach out to our staff via Class Dojo and make them feel welcome, if you haven't already done so.

Next Tuesday we are hosting a Meet the Teachers evening. Hopefully, you will have booked a time by the time you are reading this. I strongly encourage all of you to make a time to form a positive relationship with your child's teacher, so that we can continue, in partnership, to provide the best possible learning experience for your child across the year. If you still need to book, please do so via School Interviews, using the login code posted on Class Dojo.

Finally, I am feeling positive and optimistic about 2023. May we make it our best year, yet.

Have a fantastic weekend



Ryan

Dana Street Primary School is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.



School Values: *Respect & Care* *Responsibility* *Inclusion, Tolerance & Understanding* *Excellence*

## Meet our new staff!



Jess Booth - 1/2 Classroom teacher

Jess has taught at Invermay PS for 7 years and Bunninyong last year. She loves to teach Science and Stem and has a passion for teaching Maths. Jess enjoys being active, going to the gym, doing jujitsu, walking her dog and playing netball. Jess is committed to helping every student to achieve their potential.



Michelle Jackson—PE teacher

Michelle has been teaching for 14 years in Australia, Saudi Arabia and China. I love netball and played up to last year, when my netball career ended after snapping my achilles tendon. From now on, I will just be umpiring. I have two very sporty children, Katie and Hugh. I love teaching because of the students. They inspire me to reach for new goals and I hope that I inspire them to give everything a Red Hot Go!. The only person you are competing with is yourself. Welcome back to DSPS Michelle.



Jess Norris- 3/4 Classroom teacher

Jess has taught in school for 18 years that is a similar size to DSPS. Jess has two beautiful sons. She loves working with students and being the best roll model for them. Jess is looking forward to becoming a part of our school community. Jess has come to DSPS with a wealth on knowledge.



Sarah Schroen -F/1 Classroom teacher

Sarah is in her second year of teaching and is looking forward to becoming a part of the DSPS community. She enjoys going for walks and dancing. Sarah is committed to supporting every student to achieve their full potential and has already felt welcomed by the wonderful staff, students and wider school community.



Tyler Smith—Japanese teacher

Tyler will be teaching Japanese this year at DSPS. She enjoys music and playing video games. Tyler has many pets including 4 cats, 4 rats, 1 dog, 2 turtles and 3 birds. Tyler is grateful to have the opportunity to be teaching at DSPS.



Emma Taylor—3/4 Classroom teacher

Emma has moved from Geelong. She loves all sports and the outdoors. Emma is building her own home herself. She has 3 dogs Pumba, Oreo and Baxter. Emma has a passion for mental health and wellbeing. Emma loves helping students to flourish.

Please help our new staff to feel very welcome in our school community.

## Back-to-School Transition: Supporting Your Child for Success



As the new school year begins, it can be a time of excitement, but also of uncertainty, especially for children. A smooth transition back to school is crucial for academic success and emotional well-being. It won't come as a surprise, but students who experience a positive transition to school are more likely to have better attendance, higher rates of academic success, and a more positive outlook on education.

Here are some tips and insights from experts on how you can support your child during the back-to-school transition:

1. **Establish a routine:** A regular routine helps children feel more secure and confident in their daily activities. Encourage your child to establish a consistent sleep schedule and set aside time for homework and after-school activities. Drawing up a calendar with them can help in this space.
2. **Get involved:** Show your interest in your child's education by asking about their day, helping with home reading, and attending parent-teacher conferences. It is also strongly recommended that parents connect with teachers in positive and productive relationships. Our staff are always willing and able to partner in a child's learning.
3. **Be positive:** A positive attitude towards school can have a lasting impact on your child's academic experience. Encourage your child to focus on the opportunities and experiences that lie ahead.
4. **Open communication:** Encourage open communication with your child to address any concerns or stress they may be experiencing. Allow them to talk about their feelings and offer support and solutions to any problems they may encounter. As a parent, it is quite challenging to mitigate our own emotional responses when we see our children upset; however, children often look to us for guidance on how to respond emotionally, so it is important to think about how we're reacting to stress.
5. **Encourage social connections:** Building strong social connections with classmates and teachers is essential for children's success. Encourage your child to make new friends and participate in school events. Outside of school, we are lucky to have access to a plethora of community groups and organisations.
6. Try to reduce the amount of screen time your child has; especially just before bed.,

According to educational psychologist Dr. Michelle Borba, "Starting the school year off on a positive note sets the tone for the entire year and helps children feel confident and successful." By implementing these tips, parents can help their children have a smooth and successful transition back to school.

## ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR CSEF?

### DO YOU HAVE A HEALTHCARE CARD?

#### Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a **Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent**, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

The payment amount this year for eligible primary school students is \$125. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

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

**If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office and ask for an application form.**

Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.



## Important information sent home this week with your child

- *Photography permission form* – signature required for **each** child. Please return to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible.
- *Local excursion consent-* signature required for **each child**. Please return to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible.
- *Digital Technologies Acceptable Use Agreement-* signature required **by and for each child**. Please return to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible.
- *Information regarding asthma plans where appropriate*

Please contact our office if you did not receive one of these documents

### **Dates: Tuesday 7th February**

Parent Teacher Interviews 2pm-6pm

### **Wednesday 8th February**

No school for Foundation (prep) students

### **Monday 13th, 14th & 15th February**

Somers Camp

### **Wednesday 15th February**

No school for Foundation students

### **Monday 20th February**

Staff Professional Development day -

No Students

School Council Meeting

### **Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd February**

Grade 5 Sovereign Hill experience

### **Wednesday 22nd February**

No school for Foundation (prep) students

### **Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th February**

Grade 5/6 camp Wyuna

### **Wednesday 1st March**

No school for Foundation (prep) students

### **Wednesday 15th March**

Whole school sports day

### **Thursday 6th April**

Last Day Term 1 2.30pm Finish



### *NUDE FOOD at DANA ST*



We encourage "Nude Food" at DSPS. This is where students are asked to bring food in reusable containers or bring snacks that don't have wrappers at all. The purpose of this initiative is to encourage healthy eating and to reduce the amount of rubbish in

the environment.

Students are reminded to bring healthy snacks and a nutritious lunch to school each day.

All students are asked to bring a water bottle to school every day.

Please ensure that all containers and water bottles are clearly named.

Thank you for your support in helping to make our school a healthy and clean environment for everyone to enjoy.



## Parent/Carer Helper Program



Are you interested in helping out in the classroom or on excursions?

A parent helper is someone who can help in the classroom or around the school. Our parent helpers assist with specialist programs, and day to day learning at school. You will need to hold a current working with children's check and sign our Volunteer's Code of Conduct.

All new volunteers need to attend an induction session to become a registered helper. I will be running the induction session on **Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February, 9:00-10:30 in the library.**

Reading, writing and the requirements for being a helper will be covered in the session.

Please fill out the [2023 Volunteer Program Questionnaire](#) if you would like to attend.

If you have previously participated in the induction session you don't need to attend another one! If you are still available to be on our register, you will need to make sure your working with children's check is current and let me know what days you are available this year through DOJO messages or the

[Questionnaire](#).

With thanks,

Louise Brown

Volunteer Program coordinator



## THE EASY WAY TO BOOK **SCHOOL INTERVIEWS**

Dear Parents,

We believe that the parent/teacher partnership is vital for student wellbeing and learning. It is important that parents get to know their child's teacher so that communication throughout the year can be maximised.

Parent/Teacher meetings for students in grade 1 - 6 will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The purpose of the meeting is for parents to share information about their child and to discuss any issues and questions with the classroom teacher. This year, we will again use an *online* booking system to make meeting times. Bookings must be finalised the day before interview day.

The interviews will be held in your child's classroom. Your child will be in class as normal until 3.30pm, as we are releasing the teachers for these important meetings.

**\*\*If you do not have internet access, please call the school office on 5332 1301 to arrange a meeting time.**

Meetings will be held from 2:00pm-6pm on the following day:

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Now you can book meetings for the times that suit *your family*.

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

Simply enter the code and press "Go"

Enter code...

Go

The code is **ncncr**



Enter your details



Select the teachers you wish to see



Select the appointment times that suit your family best



When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately –

**Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelled your email address correctly**

You may change your bookings any time prior to 6pm the day before your interview, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking.

## Piano Lessons

For Students who have enrolled with Myrtle piano lessons will commence on Tuesday 7th February.



## PARENT PAYMENTS

Our parent payments for 2023 are as follows. Please remember that you are able to make payments in a lump sum or instalments throughout the year.

The payment covers the costs of all excursions, incursions, camps, learning resources and class programs for the 2023 school year. A breakdown of costs will be sent home.



### FOUNDATION:

Curriculum Contributions	\$ 77.00
Extra - Curricular Items and Activities	\$113.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$190.00</b>

### GRADE 1 AND 2

Curriculum Contributions	\$ 77.00
Extra - Curricular Items and Activities	\$113.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$190.00</b>

### GRADE 3 AND 4

Curriculum contribution	\$ 77.00
Extra—Curricular Items And Activities	\$ 78.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$155.00</b>

### GRADE 5

Curriculum Contributions	\$ 52.00
Extra- Curricular Items and Activities	\$441.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$493.00</b>

### GRADE 6

Curriculum Contribution	\$ 52.00
Extra - Curricular Items and Activities	\$395.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$447.00</b>



### KELLY SPORTS TERM 1 AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT DANA ST PS

Tuesdays: Multi-Sports 3:35pm-5:05pm (10 weeks - starting Tue 31st Jan)

Tennis, Cricket, Basketball, Soccer & Kids Choice!

Thursdays: Crazy Games / Kids Choice 3.35pm-5.05pm (10 weeks - starting Thur 2nd Feb)

Boys & Girls, Preps to Grade 6

\$220 + GST per program for the 10 week term

Enrol: [www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat](http://www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat)

Queries: Please call Dom 0417 967 621



### AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM VICKI:

**Have you got a new phone number?  
Can you please share that with us!**

If any of your family information changes, can you please let the office know immediately. **This includes email addresses.** If you require any further information please contact me.

