



Wednesday Wrap

Principal's Report

September 5th 2018

What's on at DCPS

Following on from last time's Wednesday Wrap ... our 'investment' in the development of our Mathematics teaching and learning has continued. Many of you may have heard your children telling you that 'a man' came into our school to teach them Mathematics. This is true, and they certainly had so much fun with him and were excited and engaged with the work they did with him. This 'man' is Michael Ymer, an Australian educator who is a highly respected and world-renowned expert in the teaching of Mathematics. Michael travels not only Australia but also all over the world sharing his insights, wisdom and experience. He has invested the last 40 years of his teaching life, focussing on Mathematics and communicating and demonstrating his vast knowledge to teachers.

Michael worked with our teachers and children for a few days and will return next term to visit our classrooms again, and to work with our teachers on the curriculum development side of Mathematics too. He will also be conducting a parent information evening on **Tuesday, November 27th** – so please mark that in your diary – this is a MUST for all parents!

Michael is passionate about Mathematics and developing numeracy in all children. His work with us is inspirational and will certainly promote greater levels of learning in our children as the teachers adapt his ideas to create our very own DCPS style of Mathematics learning - 'striving for excellence' in Maths education - as our school values promote.

At the start of this school year, DCPS was fortunate to be selected by the Department of Education and Training (DET) to participate in a key school improvement initiative, part of a suite of initiatives to be implemented across Victoria from 2017-2021. These form part of a significant DET commitment to provide additional human and financial resources to schools to intensify their work to improve opportunities for their students.

With a strong focus on schools working collaboratively to share innovation and apply best practice, this DET initiative has supported our school to continue to improve student outcomes, with a focus on building learning confidence and providing even greater opportunities for success for each of our children. The initiative has provided an exciting opportunity for our teachers to work in partnership with other teachers on evidenced based, supported, school improvement practices. So through this DET program we have been working with another school on a joint project, focussing on learning and teaching in Mathematics. Teachers from our partnering school have joined us at our school, to share the benefits of this collaborative work, including Michael's recent work with us. What a great initiative to have so many more 'educational minds' combining to create inspirational programs and activities for students in both schools! Reflecting this excellence in practice, in addition to reciprocal visits to each school, we are conducting combined teacher meetings and joint curriculum days, and are working on data banks of ideas and activities shared between both schools. We are also planning, based on the success of this one-year program, that our productive affiliation will continue to strengthen for many years to come!

Informed by learning from international improvement efforts, in particular Ontario and London, participating schools (of which we are one) were selected by regions to be at the forefront of this new and exciting work. Schools chosen for the initiatives demonstrated that they had the foundations in place to gain the most from a new school improvement opportunity. We were very lucky to be involved in the first intake 'at the ground level', and now many schools have expressed interest in receiving this level of support in future years.

I look forward to sharing more about this work with you later in the year.

Helen Micallef, Principal

19/9
Student led conferences—no children at school

21/9
Final day of term 3

8/10
First day of term 4

15/10—17/10
3/4 Camp

5/11
Curriculum day

6/11
Melbourne cup day public holiday

11/12
Grade 6 graduation

21/12
Final day of school for 2018



CAKE RAFFLE ROSTER

7/9 Armitage
14/9 Clausen

ONLY THE BEST FOR OUR CHILDREN

In our continuing quest to ensure our children are privy to the highest possible quality in educational provision (such as with our ongoing and progressive focus on many areas of the curriculum including our focus on Spelling and Writing and now most recently in Mathematics,) we are also focussing on our methods of assessment and on the recording and reporting of our children's progress in their classrooms and in specialist programs.

For those of you who assist on the classrooms, you may have noticed the teachers using iPads as a recording tool for the children's achievements. This adds to our ever-evolving technology suite at DCPS. The teachers, as our enthusiastic and devoted DCPS teachers always do, have embraced the use of these very intuitive technological tools, and are using them to gather and organise a huge variety of learning information on each of our children in many different forms and representations. This by far surpasses the limitations of paper and pen assessment recording methods. Use of their iPads will assist the teachers to easily collect this data and to determine what the next steps in each child's learning should be, based on the real-time evidence of each child's learning that they are capturing.

The iPads are also handy devices with which we can perform many other necessary tasks, such as marking student attendance throughout each day (teachers also use their phones to do this), and in reporting progressively on student achievement, which is a feature we are in the process of developing.

LOST PROPERTY

As suggested and approved by School Council, the lost property (uniform) that accumulates at a rate of knots, will only be stored at school for approximately 5 weeks (half a term). We are simply running out of space for the huge numbers of garments that are neglectfully left around the school.

At that time, the unclaimed uniform will be sorted. Named garments will be returned to the students who have to that point, neglected to claim it. All un-named garments (or those on which the names are too difficult to decipher) will be laundered and gifted to the second hand uniform cupboard for sale.

We would love some volunteers to oversee this process please, and some willing parents to take home the un-named garments to wash and return to school for the second hand cupboard. If you could assist in this way for these 'occasional' responsibilities, either sorting or washing or both, please let us know at the office.

HATS – SUNSMART REGULATIONS

The Cancer Council has now declared that all school children must wear sun hats from mid-August until the end of April when Victoria's UV levels are typically above 3).

Please ensure your child has a SCHOOL HAT to wear at school EVERY DAY from now onwards to ensure their health and wellbeing in this regard. As per the School Council approved DCPS Uniform Policy only official school hats are acceptable as these are certified 50+ rated.

Any child without a school hat will be restricted to play under the shade sails and may miss outdoor activities such as excursions and special outings.

COMPASS – do you have the App?

Please ensure that you have the COMPASS app on your phone and/or digital device and that you are using it. As has been broadcast to our whole school community, this will be **the** communication tool for our school and the number of features used to interact with our parents will grow. It would be a real shame that some children missed out on opportunities or school events because the appropriate information was not received by the parents concerned, due to the App not being downloaded and ready to use. As flagged in other areas of the Wrap, at some stage in the future, we may be moving to sending snippets of the children's learning straight to parents via this app, so if you do not have it you will miss this fantastic connection to your child's learning.



Parking at Diamond Creek Primary School

Please take note of all parking restrictions around our school. The following signs describe what is allowed in certain areas.



The street parking in Cowin Street directly outside the front of the school is for 5 minute parking only. Please do not use this area to wait for your child for any longer than 5 minutes.

This area is patrolled by the Nillumbik Shire and the penalty for overstaying this time is \$81.



The carpark within the school grounds is for staff parking only (as signed at the gate) Please do not use this area for parking. The dropoff zone is the only option for anyone entering this area.

Even at the end of the day please do not use this parking as we often have visitors from other schools who arrive for meetings or professional learning who require this facility.



We have noticed a disturbing increase in the number of parents who are stopping on the school crossing zone to drop off their children. Please use the drop off zone within the school grounds which is much safer. By parking in the crossing zone it impedes the vision of the crossing supervisor and makes safe use of the crossing impossible.

Victoria police issue fines for this infringement of this law - \$282. They will be patrolling.



The disabled parking space in the staff carpark is available only to people who display the appropriate disabled parking permit.

Please be thoughtful of anyone who may really need to use this facility.



P.F.T.

The Father's Day Stall went well, thanks to all our helpers. Hopefully all the dads loved their gifts....

The Diamond Creek Fair is on this Saturday, and DCPS is running a stall. If you have some free time to assist with our stall, or just drop in and say hello, we would love to see you.

To all the families who placed an order for pies, deliveries will be made Monday 10th, they need to be collected from school on this day.

Thanks to all our muffin morning tea helpers. Anyone who is able to assist with footy day lunch, contact PFT or rsvp on our Facebook page.

PFT will host a footy lunch, serving pies for lunch on the last day of term.



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR TO RECYCLE YOUR OLD CLOTHING.

HELP PEOPLE IN NEED. and HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR SCHOOL.

Over the weekend, Please fill a shopping or garbage bag with any unwanted Clothing and Accessories.

On Friday September 14th bring your bag to school and place it in the awaiting truck parked in Cowin St.

For every kilogram of goods donated Southern Cross Recycling will, weigh, sort and distribute the goods to needy Charities.

The donated goods will be weighed and our school will receive a monetary reward for our collection

PLEASE NOTE***

NO LATE BAGS WILL BE ACCEPTED

All Clean Clothing

Handbags

Footwear

Blankets etc



Bookings are now open for our latest Holiday Club – Inside Out. Full of fresh activities, Inside Out focuses on wellness inside and out that will have kids springing these school holidays.

There's something for every child including: Cooking with Jamie Oliver's Learn Your Fruit And Veg, making a working kite, planting a greenhouse, decorating yoga mats, and building Lego-compatible masterpieces.



Every session will also include a healthy breakfast before 8:45 AM and an afternoon snack.

To view what's on these school holidays and to make a booking, visit: www.campastralia.com.au/holidayfun. Or you can call our friendly Customer Care Team on 1300 105 343 - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We look forward to seeing you and your family this school holidays.

The Camp Australia Team