



Building  
strong  
foundations

# Newsletter

*'We may be small but we've got it all!'*

Term 1 – Issue 10

Friday, 8th April 2022

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**We respect and honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and future.  
We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on this land and  
commit to building a brighter future together.**

## TERM 1 CALENDAR 2022

**Thursday 7th April**—End of term  
celebration Sausage Sizzle

**Friday 8th April**— End of term 1

**Monday 25th April**—Anzac Day

**Tuesday 26th April**—Start of term 2

- ◆ Darraweit Guim Primary School is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.
- ◆ Darraweit Guim Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.
- ◆ Darraweit Guim Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where ALL students are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.
- ◆ Every person involved in Darraweit Guim Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.



## MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

What a term it has been, I would like to thank all parents, students and staff for making this term a busy, but most exciting term 1. It has been challenging, trying to go on excursions and making sure that all the students receive the full schooling experience, for the past 2 years. But this year has been jam packed with exciting experiences, including:

- **Cobaw sports;** cross-country @ Hanging Rock, Tennis @ Kyneton, and Volleyball @ Romsey.
- **VSSEC Mars expedition** at the MARS base @ Strathmore Secondary College.
- **Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show** @ the Carlton Gardens
- **Mitre 10 excursion** @ Kilmore
- **Kids Teaching Kids Program** @ Heskett Primary School.
- **Celebration BBQ**
- **Bendigo Discovery Centre** incursion— Electric Circuits

It's been a pleasure to be Acting Principal for the past week, and I just want to thank all families, students, teachers and ES staff for their great work all term. See you next term.

Mr Boxall

### Medals of F. J. Hickey Aidan & Declan's Grandfather



United Nations  
Medal—Korea



Commonwealth  
Medal—Korea



Australian Active  
Service Medal  
1945–1975



Australian  
Defence Medal

Solomon Islands  
Peace Keeping  
Medal—  
Candice Hickey  
Aidan & Declan's  
Aunt



The boys great, great grandfather  
J. Fletcher fought at Gallipoli.

We thank the Haine/Hickey families for  
sharing their medals with us.



## GARDEN-TO-KITCHEN

This week we finally received some feedback from our entry into the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary video competition we entered at the end of last year. We submitted two videos, one of our foundation to grade 2 students and the other of our grade 3-6 students. Both of our videos received second place. As a runner-up prize, we received a teacher sized apron and a copy of Stephanie Alexander's Kitchen Garden Cooking with Kids book.



We also engaged in some whole school cooking this week and made ANZAC biscuits. We discussed the significance of ANZAC day and read some special ANZAC books while we enjoyed our warm yummy biscuits.

We have a new sponsor! We are very excited to announce that Nutrien Ag Solutions - Kilmore Branch has come onboard our Yarning Circle Project and has pledged \$2100. This money will allow us to engage a Wurundjeri Elder for multiple sessions with our students and will also pay for a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony once we have our Yarning Circle built.

**Nutrien**  
**Harcourts**



## PRIZE WINNERS



1ST— Ailani B

2ND— Ailani B

3RD— Charly P

4TH— Shelby C

5TH— Sam S

6TH—Eve B

7TH—Beau K-E

8TH— Chris S

9th— Asha D



Last night, students took home dental packs from Smile Squad. The packs included: a toothbrush, toothpaste, a brochure on oral house and a permission form for parents to fill out for a free dental check up.

**Smile Squad** is a Victorian government funded program that will provide all Victorian public primary school students with free dental care.



## KIDS TEACHING KIDS EXCURSION TO HESKET PS

On Tuesday we went to Heskett Primary School for the DAL Kids Teaching Kids Program. We got to meet students from St Mary's Primary School as well as the Heskett students we already know. The students participated in a coastal erosion experiment where they had to construct a barrier to slow down the effects of coastal erosion by preserving the sand from the waves. We also got to propagate plants, paint nesting boxes and feed butterflies. We also examined wildlife found in the local creek under a magnifying glass. The Heskett Primary School students have noticed that the invasive Mosquito Fish have decimated the local water bug population. We discussed ways we could possibly help control this species and prevent any further damage. The nesting boxes will be delivered to our school and installed on our school grounds to encourage sugar gliders and small native birds to nest. We will be having a member of the Macedon Council out to install a camera into the box so we can observe any creatures who use our nesting boxes.

We will have the opportunity to present our Kids Teaching Kids project in September to other schools in the Macedon area. We are really excited to be a part of the Kids Teaching Kids program and look forward to having an opportunity to present our Yarning Circle.

Thank you very much Mrs Buffone for coming along on the excursion with us and a big thanks to Heskett Primary School for hosting us.





## ANZAC SPEAKERS

On Thursday at 2:00pm, the whole school was lucky enough to have school 2 visitors– Tony Gill & Noel Petersen. Tony and Noel talked to the students about their experiences of being in the army and the history of ANZAC Day and why we celebrate and commemorate such a special day. Tony and Noel discussed; The Last Post, 1 minute silence, what ANZAC stands for, the reveille and the meaning behind the red poppy. All students were engaged and asked many questions– even about Tony & Noel’s hair cuts. Jude and Kaesha were chosen to hold and wear, what soldiers during the war would have to wear– it was very heavy.

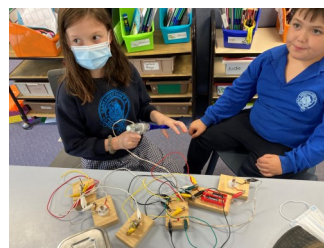
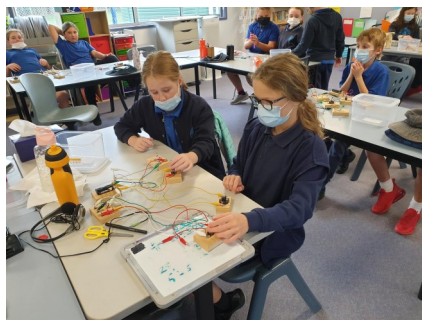
DGPS would like to thank Tony, Noel and all other servicemen and service women for their service to our country.

We can’t wait to see everyone at the ANZAC Day march at the Wallan war memorial, wearing your DGPS uniform and family ANZAC medal.



## DISCOVERY INCURSION

On Wednesday, Bendigo Discovery Centre’s staff member Kendall, visited the Grade3-6 students and discussed what electrical circuits were. Students then had to see if they could make a lightbulb light up! Once they achieved that task, students then had to see if they could add in switches and different light up different coloured lights. All students had an amazing time.



## CELEBRATION BBQ

I would like to thank everyone for coming to our ‘Celebration BBQ’. I appreciate the parents and School Council members, being in control of the sausage sizzle and making sure that everybody was fed. Ms Schier started the festivities off with – what can only be seen as an explosion battleships game. Parents and students had a blast! I saw that everyone was mingling well with each other and having a great time. I would like to reiterate my speech by saying, that with the school community, teachers, and the all important school aides all working hand in hand to make Darraweit Guim Primary School a great place to be, all students will build strong foundations for the rest of their life.



## JUNIOR CLASS NEWS

The last week of term was full of so many different things. This week was jam packed with learning about Easter and ANZAC day.

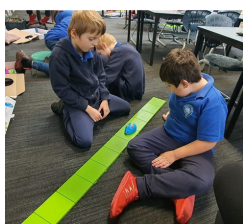
To wrap up our week, the junior grade all worked together to make our very own wreath for us to display in the classroom.

I just want to say a **BIG** thank you to all the students in the Junior Grade. I really hope this term was as awesome for you as it was for me and I cannot wait to have another great term in Term 2.



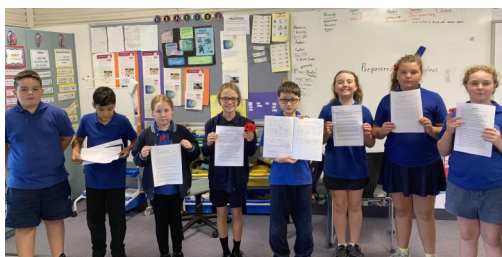
## MIDDLE CLASS NEWS

Over the past 3 weeks student in the middle classes have been learning about location. They have practised right, left, forward, back and using grid references. Here is an example of the students using the Location robot mice.



## SENIOR CLASS NEWS

What a busy week, besides having all the visitors and different activities running this week, the senior class were able to publish their narrative writing pieces. I will be turning their stories into a class book, that other students may want to read. Well done everyone!



## ESSENDON FOOTBALL CLUB TALK

On Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup>, some players from the Essendon Football Club, Jake Stringer, Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti and Harrison Jones joined us for a online chat. They talked us about what being an AFL footballer is like, where they grew up and the things they need to do to keep fit and healthy. DGPS students had plenty of questions to ask. It was a very interesting talk.





# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING

## 10 tips for surviving school holidays

While school holidays are a welcome break from the busyness of school routines, there is never a break from parenting. The following tips will help you have fun and connect with your kids so you make the most of the school holidays:

### 1. Plan

- Get your kids involved in making a list of activities that they would like to do
  - Plan for good and bad weather
- Schedule downtime and time-out as well as time for one-on-one and family group activities

### 2. The best things in life are free

Make sure the list includes plenty of free activities such as picnics, bike rides, trips to the beach, the local library and the great outdoors.

### 3. Boredom is good

Unstructured time and time away from electronic devices is good for young minds

### 4. Use opportunities to teach new skills and self-reliance

Not having the pressure to rush out the door in the morning can allow for kids to develop new skills such as getting their own breakfast and lunch, taking the dog for a walk or going to the shops by themselves.

### 5. Ask for help

Don't be afraid to ask for help to share the load. For example, asking friends or family to help care for children or to provide assistance in other ways.

### 6. Accept that things may not always go to plan

Even the best made plans may need to be discarded at the last minute due to unforeseen events such as weather, illness or accidents. Whilst stressful, these unforeseen events often teach us and our kids valuable life lessons and may even become the source of family bonding or stories down the track.

### 7. Don't forget self-care

Look after yourself and take time out to relax, even if it's half an hour whilst you have a cuppa and read a book. Remember, happy and relaxed parents make for happy children.

### 8. Support and company

Having a support system can be crucial to any parent. It also gives parents the opportunity to interact with other parents whilst giving the kids a bit of play time.

### 9. Consider your child's mental health and wellbeing

Whilst it may be a family tradition to go on an annual family holiday or attend a family dinner, maybe your teenager is too depressed or your child with ADHD will be labelled by judgemental relatives. Consider if it's really worth maintaining the tradition when it may be at the cost of mental health and wellbeing.

### 10. Holiday connections help us the rest of the year

School holidays provide unique opportunities to connect with, listen to and get to know your kids. Use the time to spend one-on-one time with each family member.

