

DONCASTER PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



Issue 1

28th January 2021

Striving for Excellence ...

... leads to success in life and work in the 21st century

Discover the difference at Doncaster Primary School

We are a highly successful school that is valued within the global learning environment. We have high expectations for performance and achievement whilst promoting ethical behaviours, personal and social competence, critical thinking and intercultural understanding. Skills, behaviours and attributes developed will equip our students for success in life and work in the 21st century.



Register for a tour or view our virtual tour at

www.doncasterps.vic.edu.au

2 - 32 Council Street, Doncaster, 3108. Ph: 9848 1122

Find us on  www.facebook.com/doncasterprimary

157 Years of
Academic
Excellence

From the Principal's desk.....

Welcome to a new school year! Special welcome to all our new families, many of whom arrived in the last few days. I'm sure you will feel welcome at our wonderful school and you will make many great friends in our community.

We are looking forward to another successful year with lots of the usual activities and events but there are a few new initiatives we are excited about, so watch out for information in newsletters and on Compass.

I would like to welcome our staff back for another year, you can see the full staff list below. I give a special welcome back to Lisa Foster who was on family leave for the last two years and to Annie Fan who was on leave for 2020. Lisa will be teaching Cultural Studies/Library and Annie Fan will teach Mandarin (LOTE). I would also like to welcome Julianne Hyams who is our Acting Business Manager. At the end of 2020 we bid farewell to Lisa Reuss who was at DPS for many years in an administrative role. In respect of Lisa's wishes her farewell was low key as she didn't want a public goodbye. Lisa has moved back to the country where she grew up and has picked up a position in central Victoria, and we thank her and wish her well.

In 2021 we will continue our Specialist programs including Physical Education with Mr. Spinks, Art with Ms. Lui, LOTE (Mandarin for grades 4/5/6 with Mrs. Fan and Library/Cultural Studies (Prep/1/2/3) with Mrs. Foster.

As well as our Specialist Programs we have a tutoring program designed to support students to reach their potential. Some will be given support to catch up while others will be encouraged to challenge and extend themselves further. Our aim being to support and challenge all students to be the best they can be.

One of our new initiatives this year is the Everest Program. We are very excited about this new program which will challenge our top students beyond their capabilities. More information about the selection process and the program will be provided in coming weeks.

In 2020 we adapted on many levels, including changing bell times to minimise large crowd gathering. Moving forward some of these changes will continue. School bell times are as follows;

8:45am students arrive at school

9:00am Classes commence

11:00 - 11:10am students eat their morning snack in class

11:10 - 11:30am Recess playtime

1:30 - 1:45pm students eat lunch in class

1:45 - 2:15pm Lunch play time

3:15pm Dismissal

3:15 - 3:45pm All staff on duty

Determination Pride Success

I hope, like everyone, we can have a more "normal" 2021.

The latest information from DET indicates that precautions and restrictions as per term 4 2020 will continue as follows;

**Sanitisation of touch points will continue daily.

**Students and staff must sanitise regularly while in school.

**Mask wearing and social distancing are to be observed where ever possible.

**Limits to people in rooms will continue to be observed.

**Parents are not to gather at school gates if possible and not to enter school the grounds.

**Assemblies are not permitted at this stage, therefore virtual assemblies will continue lead by our new Captains until further notice.

**Canteen will be open from Friday February 12th. It may open on other days, which we will inform you about when we can confirm days.

**Staff must log in electronically on arrival for contact tracing purposes.

Late last year we had a full COVID audit to check on how we were dealing with Dept. of Health expectations as per the operations guidelines. I am pleased, but not surprised that we received an "exemplary" report. I also received a personal letter from our Regional Director congratulating our staff and community for the way in which we dealt with restrictions.

I can say with confidence, this will continue and your children are in very safe hands. I thank you for your ongoing support under the circumstances, we will continue to do our very best to manage the situation while maintaining our focus on education in our wonderful school!

That said, let's hope Victoria and Australia continues to manage this dreaded virus and once the vaccine takes effect, and works, we can get back to the way we were pre Covid.

Unfortunately, we are not able to have open classrooms and our welcome meet the teachers barbecue. If restrictions change in the coming weeks we will endeavour to do this.

Staff started the term on Wednesday January 27th, students in Grades 1-6 started today and our new Preps start their first day at big school tomorrow, Friday. Many staff were in school for the last 7-10 days to prepare for the year ahead which we are all looking forward to.

Please don't hesitate to contact myself personally or any of our staff if you have any concerns or questions. DPS is your school and we are here to serve the Doncaster community the best way we know how, so let's continue to work together to ensure our students, your children, get the best opportunities possible.

Term Dates 2021

Term One January 27th – Thursday April 1st

Term Two Monday, 19 April 2021 - Friday 25th June 2021

Term Three Monday, 12 July 2021 - Friday, 17 September

Term Four Monday, 4 October - Friday, 17 December 2021

We are really looking forward to a great term and year ahead!

**Jim Hill
Principal**

2021 Staff

Principal: Mr Jim Hill

Assistant Principal: Mrs Sandra Bishop

Assistant Principal: Mrs Larissa Vesdrevanis

Administration: (Business Manager)

Mrs Rebecca Rolfe (Office Manager)

	Teachers/Staff	Grade
Junior School (Prep & Level 1,2)	Ms Cinzia Fava	Prep F
	Miss Sarah Quinn	Prep Q
	Miss Alisha Spiteri	Prep S
	Brent Granger	1G
	Miss Jessica White	1W
	Miss Cathy Wu	1C
	Miss Carly Epskamp	2E
	Mrs Kathey Coumaros	2C
	Mr Lachlan Poulton	2P
Middle School (Levels 3 and 4)	Miss Julia Bay	3B
	Mrs Priscilla Gale	3G
	Miss Courtney Larsen	3L
	Mrs Dimitra Ferizis	4F
	Mrs Kelly Soccio (0.5)	4SM
	Mrs Diane Meilak(0.5)	
	Mrs Marika Quinonero	4MQ
Senior School (Levels 5 and 6)	Mrs Vanessa Keen	5K
	Miss Celeste Pettinella	5P
	Mr Adam O'Callaghan	5O
	Mrs Niky Corfios	6C
	Mr Andrew Johnson	6J
	Miss Jeanette Papanastasiou	6W
Specialists	Miss Christine Lui	Visual Arts
	Mr Martin Spinks	Physical Education
	Mrs Sally Newton (0.8)	Literacy Tutor
	Mrs. Debra Waters	Literacy Tutor
	Mrs Lisa Foster	Library Cultural Studies
	Ms Annie Fan	LOTE
Education Support	Mrs Wendy McGeary -Classroom Support	5K
	Mrs Wendy Fairley - Classroom Support	4F
	Ms Joan Tan-Lawson - Classroom Support	1G
	Mrs Donna Walker - Classroom Support	3B / 6J
	Mr Barry Beechey	
	Ms Carolyn Bunston	School Chaplain
	EXTEND – OHSC (Co-ordinator – Shari)	Before/After School

RETURNING TERM 1, 2021

Learn to play **TENNIS**

SLAMIN
TENNIS & FITNESS



您需要和會說國語和中文的人討論您自己或者您孩子的網球課程的入學手續嗎？
現在只需要簡單的發短信到 0403129648，並填寫以下內容：您的姓名，聯繫號碼和電子郵件地址，
報名人的姓名和所在的學校（如果孩子是報名者），所需要翻譯的語言。我們將會有翻譯聯繫和幫助您辦理入學手續

Do you need to speak to someone in Cantonese or Mandarin to enrol your child or yourself in tennis lessons? Simply sms to: 0403 129 648 - your name, your child's name, child's age and your school, and our translator will call you to help you enrol. We also cater for special needs, including deaf, Autism and all abilities. NDIS funding is accepted for plan managed and self managed students.

FREE TRIAL

PACKAGE INCLUDES

- FREE racquet and start-up pack
- Max of (4) kids per group
- No expiry on replacement classes
- Pathways to squads, private lessons & competition
- Unique customer portal to track your child's attendance & book replacement classes

LOCATION & SESSION TIMES

- Doncaster Primary School
- TUESDAY & FRIDAY : 1:40pm - 2:25pm
- After school and week-end's at Doncaster Tennis Club

BOOK NOW 0403 129 648

www.slamin.com.au | info@slamin.com.au

Doncare Community Services Presents

RESILIENT KIDS POSITIVE FUTURES

An information webinar and dedicated Q+A session for parents and guardians about managing your child's anxiety

Date: Monday 15th Feb

Time: 7:30-8:30pm

Via zoom

This will be facilitated by Doncare's staff and will include tips and strategies for supporting your child with their anxious feelings going into 2021

To register please call Doncare on 9856 1500 or email olivia.troughton@doncare.org.au


MANNINGHAM

doncare
support | strength | empower

Determination Pride Success