



Debney Meadows
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Debney Meadows Newsletter

Term 1 Volume 2

9 February 2009

Principal's Report

Dear Parents,

We have had an excellent start to the school year. Teachers introduced to students our school wide Classroom Discipline Plan. Posters of agreed Expected Classroom Behaviours and Consequences have been placed in each classroom and specialist area.

Classroom Discipline Plan

Expected Classroom Behaviour

- Hands up
- Take turns to speak
- Listen to others
- Let others learn
- Use appropriate language
- Ask permission to leave the classroom
- Work safely
- Take care of all equipment

Consequences

Steps:

1. First reminder
2. Second reminder
3. Third reminder and moved away from the group
4. Removed from class and family contacted

Each teacher has discussed this process with their students and started to apply it when necessary. Students have responded to the process very positively and responsibly with very little disruption to the learning. Students in all areas of the school have been working well with their teachers and new classmates. I plan to meet with the year 6 students this week to discuss their leadership responsibilities in the school for the year.

The Parent Information Session we held last Friday was well attended. We discussed the school's commitment to allocate 2 hours a day to literacy and 1 hour a day to numeracy learning, differentiation and our homework policy. Louise talked to parents about the literacy and numeracy games parents are able to borrow from the library and additional homework sheets parents can collect. Parents are encouraged to read to their children each day and are welcome to borrow books from our library at any time. We also talked about the schools commitment to set aside 30 minutes each afternoon at After School Care for quiet reading and homework.

We are keen to identify a more suitable time to hold our Parent Information Sessions. Please let Jo, Khadra or Helen know if you have any thoughts. We are also keen to listen to parents and find out what in particular they would like their children to learn more about during the integrated inquiry units of work.

Christine Nash

Principal



SCHOOL NEWS

Parent Information Sessions

Positive Behaviour Support Program (Behaviour Management)

Friday 20 February

Cultural Diversity

Friday 6 March

Integrated Inquiry Based Learning

Friday 20 March

All sessions from 9.30 - 11am

EMA Reminder

Reminder for all families eligible to apply for Educational Maintenance Allowance. Please apply at the office before 27th February.

EMA is paid in 2 instalments \$77.35 for the 1st half of the year and \$33.15 for the 2nd half of the year. Families have the option of collecting a cheque at the school or having the funds transferred into a bank account.

We strongly encourage families to use part of their 1st EMA instalment to pay for the swimming fees.

Dates to Remember

Swimming Program Begins

Friday 20 February

Lunchtime Sausage Sizzle

Friday 27 February

Clean Up Australia Day and Market Day

Sunday 1 March

Labour Day Holiday

Monday 9 March

Parent Teacher Interviews

Tuesday 17 March

Wednesday 18 March

Last Day of Term

Friday 3 April

YMCA

JUNIOR SPORTS PROGRAM AGES 7-12

Designed to help your child get active in a friendly and fun environment.

Monday 4.15 – 5.15 (Soccer)

Thursday 4.15 – 5.15 (Basketball)

\$3.20 per child

North Melbourne Community Centre

49-53 Buncle St North Melbourne

t- 9320 4700



Debney Meadows PS

Market Day

Sunday 1st March
10am-2pm

If you have anything to sell
Please call DMPS on 93761570
to book a table
Stall fee is 10% of sales



School Uniform Update

Hats

Every student at Debney Meadows has received a maroon “bucket” hat to wear when outside during recess, lunch and sport activities. Students are to leave their hat at school at all times so they are able to be “sunsmart” when they are outside. Students who have misplaced their hat will need to stay inside until they locate it or replace it.

Uniforms

The Debney Meadows Primary School uniform is compulsory and students are expected to wear it each day. I am very pleased to report that most students are either wearing their uniform or have their uniform on order. We are hoping orders will arrive this week and look forward to every student wearing the full uniform. I conducted a uniform check last Friday and discovered the photographed students in full uniform in each class.

The school uniform consists of

- short or long sleeved maroon polo top (Prep to year 5)
- light grey leadership polo shirt (year 6)
- a maroon windcheater or bomber jacket
- plain black tracksuit pants, leggings, skirt, shorts or black jeans.
- lightweight red and white checked dress (with white or black leggings for those who prefer)
- a white (in summer) or maroon hijab for our Muslim girls.
- closed black school shoes with either Velcro, laces or buckles
- runners are acceptable but they look much better if they are black.

All enquires about prices and orders should be directed to the general office. We are also asking those students who have outgrown their uniforms or left the school to donate their second hand uniforms so we can set up a uniform exchange and lend out uniform items when students arrive at school out of uniform.

It is important to ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled especially with swimming

School Shoes

Now we need to focus on *safe suitable footwear*. Students usually participate in running activities each day both at play and in PE classes. It is important for them to be active and that they wear suitable, safe, closed toe shoes to school. Runners or closed black school shoes are safest and best. Sandals, open toe shoes and those with a heel can cause students to slip, trip, twist their ankles or hurt their toes. We will be phoning parents to request they bring a suitable pair of shoes to school for their child if we believe the shoes they come to school in are unsafe.

Swimming Program

Swimming starts Friday the 20th February at Kensington Community Recreation Centre. The program will run for seven weeks ending on Friday 3rd April. Students will have a thirty minute lesson provided by qualified aquatic education teachers. A bus will transport students to and from the pool.

The program focuses on 3 components

- Water Safety
- Stroke Development
- Personal Development

It is expected that all students participate as water safety is important.

Parent Volunteers

We are seeking parents who are interested in volunteering some time to help in the school on a Friday morning. We particularly need help with keeping the yard neat and tidy and assistance with teaching aides for the classrooms. If you would like to help out at the school at all please let Jo, Khadra or Helen know.

Thank you for your support

Voluntary Contributions Reminder

We are requesting a voluntary contribution per child/family to help pay for curriculum resources such as Reading, Mathematics, Computers and Physical Education equipment.

One or two children at school \$40

Three or more children at school \$50

If families are unable to make the full payment, all contributions are accepted

Thank you for your support

Debney Meadows Market Day and Flemington Clean Up Day Sunday 1st March

On Sunday 1st March Debney Meadows will be hosting the Flemington Clean Up Australia Day event coordinated by the Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee, Citylink Creek Connections Program as well as holding our Term 1 Market Day. The Clean Up Event has received funding to provide food. Bronwyn Riddell is asking if we have any parent volunteers who would be willing to cook and serve some of their cultural food for the event. The funding will cover all costs of ingredients. Please let Khadra, Helen or Jo know if you are interested.

We have attached a flyer asking for people interested in running a stall on the day. We are expecting about 200 people and many from outside the area so plenty of opportunity to make a lot of sales. The school is asking for a donation of 10% of sales. The money raised will be donated to the Bushfire Appeal Fund.

CAKE STALL

The grade six fundraising group will be running a cake stall this Friday the 13th. Money raised will go towards the Bushfire Appeal Fund. A plate and bag will be sent home on Wednesday to be returned on Friday with a cake.

We will sell cakes at 1:45pm, they will be 50 cents or \$1 so we are asking all students to bring some money on Friday.



Asthma Friendly Schools

The Victorian Schools Asthma Policy 2006 states that every student with asthma attending school should have a written Asthma Action Plan. This plan should be completed by the student's doctor, in consultation with the student's parent/carer. As students return to school this term we encourage schools to make sure that students with asthma have an updated written Asthma Action Plan which is kept in a central location.

Debney Meadows has been accredited as an Asthma Friendly School. Khadra and Helen will be contacting parents/families this week - If your child has asthma please make sure they have an Action Plan.

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE AN ASTHMA ACTION PLAN?



Every student with asthma should have a written 'Asthma Action Plan'. This is important for the school in caring for your child because it provides up-to-date, detailed information on how to manage your child's asthma. This plan should:

Be completed by the student's parent/guardian in consultation with the student's doctor

Outline how to care for day-to-day asthma (listing normal medications that have been prescribed and how often they should be taken)

List key symptoms or special features that indicate the student's asthma could be worsening or an 'attack' is developing and the steps that should be taken to manage it

List symptoms that are serious enough to need urgent medical assistance (ie. ambulance)

List the Asthma First Aid procedure for an asthma 'attack'

List the name and contact number of the parent/guardian, emergency contact and student's doctor

Be easily accessible for all school staff

Be updated annually or when a student's asthma changes significantly.

If an Asthma Action Plan is not provided, school staff will follow the Victorian Schools Asthma Policy for Asthma First Aid which is a standard first aid protocol.

For a copy of a School Asthma Action Plan or further information, please call the Asthma Helpline on 1800 645 130 or visit The Asthma Foundation of Victoria's website

www.asthma.org.au.