

Debney Meadows Primary Newsletter

LEARN

VOICE

FUTURE



2019 SCHOOL LEADERS



Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank the school community for their support this year. A school cannot function efficiently without a parent/carer partnership. Thank you to those families who worked with us this year in a productive and positive manner. Your involvement is much appreciated and we hope it continues next year. Thank you also to my wonderful, hardworking staff. You have been amazing this year and I can truly say it was a team effort with many people again taking on leadership roles within the school to lighten the load.



It is fitting to finish off a successful year with a number of opportunities to celebrate student achievements and come together as a community. On Tuesday, we had an amazing turnout for our school family picnic, with gorgeous weather. Thank you to all the families who helped out on the day to make it such a success. This week, we are looking forward to celebrating the Year 6 Graduation Dinner on Wednesday Night. The Year 6 Graduation Assembly is on Wednesday. Semester two reports will be sent home this Wednesday, 14 December. As the year draws to a close, it is a perfect opportunity to reflect on and celebrate all that we have achieved this year in our school improvement journey.

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the School Council for their generous contribution of both time and energy in participating on School Council and in various sub committees over the year. The commitment you make to the school is an outstanding one and is very much appreciated by the staff and the wider school community. I wish to pass on the school's deepest appreciation and gratitude to you all.

STAFFING FOR 2019

This time of year is also a time of farewell, as we acknowledge the children and families that are leaving us and the members of our staff that may also be moving on.

STAFF FAREWELL



Congratulations to Kerron, who has been successful in gaining a position of promotion as a, 'Learning Specialist', at Rosanna Golf Links PS. We will miss you Kerron and hope you come back to visit us from time to time.

2019 – FINAL STAFFING PROFILE

Debney Meadows offers a highly differentiated curriculum in every grade and students set their own learning goals to match their individual needs. A teacher working with a composite class plans and organizes the learning exactly the same as their colleagues and they are part of a highly collaborative teaching team. Students in a composite class are not disadvantaged or isolated, in fact they are in a learning space that cultivates collaboration, challenge and teamwork. Evidence across the state indicates that straight grades and composites achieve exactly the same results, but true learning growth occurs when there is a high quality teacher in front of the grade.

In 2019, Debney Meadows PS will have 4 composite classes. All classes are created with academic and social / emotional needs considered and the composite class is no different. We operate in highly collaborative teams across Debney PS with handover and team planning opportunities. I would like to introduce our teachers that will all be making a significant difference in your child/children's lives in 2019.

1) Foundation and Year 1 class- Jason Carabott

- 1) Year 1 and 2 class- Tim Jedwab- Curriculum and PLC leader
 - 1) Year 3 and 4 class- Abigail Ho
 - 1) Year 5 and 6 class- Louise Taylor- Curriculum and PLC leader
- Anita Moore – Daily organiser and Teaching and Learning leader

The grade structures are considered based on the number of students and guidelines from the Department of Education. Teachers have collaborated extensively to create grades. Students at DMPS participate in a Moving Up Day on the 11th of December. The children are very excited to return in 2019.



FAREWELL AND GOOD LUCK YEAR 6 STUDENTS

We wish our Year 6 students the very best as they move on to their secondary school of choice. We hope that they will look back on their time at DMPS with fond memories - good luck!

2018 AWARDS ASSEMBLY

As the school year draws to a close, DMPS will be holding our annual Awards Assembly in the school library. This will take place on **Thursday 20th December at 9am**. We hope many parents, extended family and friends are able to attend this assembly to celebrate outstanding student learning across the year. '2018 Dedication to Learning' awards will be distributed in Reading, Writing, Mathematics, PE, The Arts and Leadership and there will be a winner for each award selected from the F-Year 2 and Year 3-6 areas of the school. Peter and Gill from Kiwanis will also present the four Kiwanis Awards for Term 4.

HOLIDAYS ARE HERE! - DISMISSAL FOR END OF 2018 SCHOOL YEAR

A reminder that school will be dismissed for the 2018 school year on **Friday 21st December at 1:15pm**. All parents and carers are asked to be prompt in collecting students from school at this earlier time as all staff will be leaving the school by 1:45pm. Please make sure that students are collected at 1:15pm on the final day.

FORM KERRON WORSDELL

SAD FAREWELL TO DMPS

Finally, I need to let you all know that I will be leaving DMPS at the end of the 2018 school year to move to a new position at Rosanna Golf Links PS. After six years at DMPS, it is time for me to move to a new setting and challenge. I have learnt a great deal in my years at DMPS and I've formed close relationships with many students and their families. Thank-you for the trust you have placed in me. I will miss seeing your smiling faces and our conversations. I will especially miss the fabulous staff team at DMPS who are extremely dedicated, caring and outstanding in their various roles across the school.

However it is time to move on and continue to learn new things. I leave DMPS knowing that the school is in capable hands with Rachel as Acting Principal and outstanding teachers and a dedicated wider staff team. I look forward to hearing about Debney Meadows Primary School going from

strength to strength and being the best school it can be! I wish each and every member of the DMPS community well and hope that our paths cross again one day. Farewell

NEWS FROM F-2



Wow! 2018 has been a very busy year on F-2. It's been so exciting for the teachers to watch each student make progress with their learning. We have recently welcomed Rachel as our school and she has lots of exciting ideas for our school. Keep an eye out for more community picnics and other events in 2019! It was great to see so many families at our first community picnic.

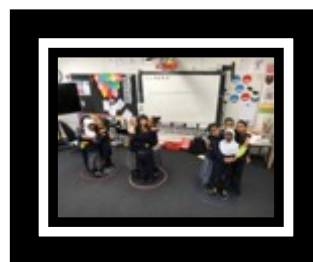
As 2018 draws to a close, we have already begun planning our new and exciting learning program for 2019. Recently, Rachel, Louise, Abigail and I were fortunate enough to attend professional development focused on thinking skills. We are all really excited to begin delivering these classes next year, called 'Thinkers Lab', and we believe that all of our students will benefit greatly from these sessions.



'Thinkers Lab' will focus on the teaching of thinking skills, and use specially designed tools that allow the students to apply, and practice, what they have learned. Over the course of 2019 the students will begin to apply these new thinking skills to other learning areas like Literacy and Mathematics. 'Thinkers Lab' will run from grade 1 to grade 6. We know we are very fortunate, as DMPS will be one of the first schools to teach this program in our area!

We wish everyone a happy and safe New Year, and we look forward to seeing you all in 2019!

Tim
F-2 Team



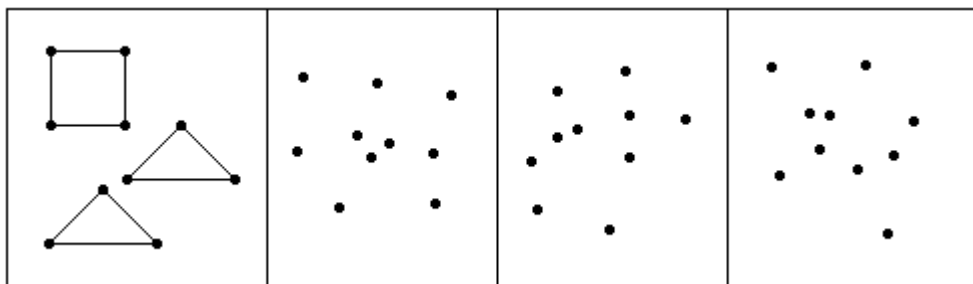
OUR 5/6L LEARNING SPACE



Wow, two days of 2018 to go! How time flies when you're learning and having fun! 2018 has been a highly productive year in 2018 – data collected throughout the year suggests that the strategies implemented in 5/6L are paying off, with many students demonstrating **greater** than a year of growth across different areas of the curriculum! As another year draws to a close, the growth shown across all areas is a testament to the effort and persistence displayed by the 3/4s throughout the year.

3-6 will be moving downstairs! This move will give the 5/6's easy access to the garden and the opportunity to work outside (and nibble on our delicious fresh produce).

Feuerstein Dots – Thinker's Lab



*Have
you
ever
gotten
lost
even
though
you
have
a
map?*

Do you get confused about your left and right?

Well our new 'Thinker's Lab' program is just for you!!! We will be implementing the world renowned Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment (FIE) program, to be known as 'Thinker's Lab', in 2019. The dots above are an example of the thinking tasks that will be used to mediate the development of our thinking. 'Thinker's Lab' will run two-to-three times a week, with students in 5/6L completing whole class and small group sessions. In 2018, FIE was only available in private schools but in 2019, DMPS will be one of a handful of public schools, and the only in the west, implementing this life changing program.

Have you ever gone to the fridge to get something and forgotten why you were there? Have you ever gotten lost even though you



ELECTIVE PROGRAM POSSIBILITIES – DESIGNING CRAFT TO SELL

have a map? Do you get confused about your left and right?

In 2019, the 3-6 team will be participating in an innovative electives program. This program will run once a week, with students working in multi-age teams to plan and create their own learning programs. Electives on offer include: Enterprising Canteen, Sporting Stars, Maker's Market, and Writing Masterclass. Electives such as Enterprising Canteen and Maker's Market, will give students in 3-6 an opportunity

INTERVENTION DAYS – TARGETED SMALL GROUP LEARNING

to plan, budget, create and sell back to the community.

Abigail and Louise will be running an intervention program in 2019. One day each week, Louise and Abigail will be out of the class to run small group and one-to-one sessions. Students identified as requiring extension, for example those working above their expected level, and those requiring additional support will be invited to participate in these targeted sessions.



MOUNT AITKINSON PROGRAM

Debney Meadows Primary School middle year's students have been lucky enough to have the opportunity to participate in the Mount Aitkinson Program. This program will run once each term, with students from each class participating in outdoor activities such as: mountain biking, hiking, low ropes, and outdoor art!

Abigail and I are very excited to see our students and families back in 2019! We are excited to share our new learning space and innovative programs with the DMPS and Flemington community!

Have a lovely holidays!

From Abigail and Louise