



DRPS NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DIGGERS REST PRIMARY SCHOOL

VALUE OF MONTH



IMPORTANT DATES

May 29	Reconciliation Week	June 9	Curriculum Day
May 30	Division Cross country	June 12	King's Birthday
June 1	Sibling Photo Day	June 15	Gr. 3/4 Melbourne Zoo
June 1	DRPS Dad's STEM Night	June 16	Gr. 5/6 District Winter Sports
June 8	Gr. 5/6 Werribee Zoo	June 23	Last day of Term 2 - 2.30 pm dismissal -

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear DRPS Families,

As this winter season is upon us, I wanted to take a moment to share some information and updates with you.

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to our wonderful students for their hard work and dedication throughout this term. It has been truly inspiring to see their enthusiasm and progress.

In addition to academics, we have also had a fantastic month for extracurricular activities. I'd like to congratulate and make special mention of three students. Dylan, from Miss Smith's grade, won the Rotary Spelling Contest. Dylan competed against nine other schools, spelling all ten words correctly. Great Effort Dylan!

I'd also like to mention Grace and Ivy from Grades 5/6. Both girls competed in the Woodlands Divisional Cross Country event. Grace came an extremely impressive 7th and will be now moving on to Regionals. Ivy showed determination and grit coming in 16th. Well done girls!

With the colder weather upon us, I also wanted to remind everyone about the importance of dressing appropriately for school. Please ensure your child comes to school in their correct winter uniform (long navy pants and school jumper), a warm coat, and of course our DRPS beanie. We want to keep our students safe and comfortable during their time with us.

Lastly, I am thrilled to provide you with an exciting update on the progress of our school's building project. Over the past few months, Reliance has been working on enhancing our Administration building. I am delighted to announce that the construction is progressing according to schedule, and we are on track to move back in early September.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership this term. Together we can make this winter season a memorable and enriching time for our students.

Stay warm, safe and enjoy the long weekend!

Mrs. Thomas



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BEHAVIOUR NEWS

Congratulations on a great start to Term 2.

The overall behaviour of our students inside the classroom and out continues to be exceptional. We have had very little movement on the Traffic Light's all term. I would like to congratulate our amazing staff and students for their ongoing support and efforts in this area. Staff will continue to use restorative practices as the evidence suggests that it is a powerful tool in fostering a positive and inclusive school environment, where all students can thrive and grow.

The students are encouraged to continue to display the school values of 'Be Kind', 'Be Proud', 'Be a Learner' and 'Be Respectful'. Students demonstrating these skills are acknowledged with our 'Go Green' tokens and are announced at the assembly.



DRPS DAD'S GROUP - STEM NIGHT

On Thursday, 1st June, Diggers Rest Primary School held a STEM Night as part of our 2nd DRPS Dad's group for 2023. It was also a fantastic opportunity to officially open our brand new library which was completed earlier this term. Mr. Takacs did an amazing job coordinating the night's STEM challenge, where families were required to build the tallest spaghetti and marshmallow tower. Our families were required to draw upon their teamwork, critical and creative thinking, and resilience skills, which are all key skills learnt within our STEM curriculum. Thank you to the 200+ participants and DRPS staff for their contributions on the night.





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EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF DAY - 16TH MAY

On The 16th May, Diggers Rest Primary School celebrated our amazing Education Support Staff members who continually go above and beyond to cater for the individual needs of our children. Thank you to our administration, business managers, classroom support and facilities staff!



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

During Term 2, our DRPS student leadership team met with Mel Fielding and Dexter to discuss an inclusive fundraising event for Royal Children's Hospital. The leadership team are working through an improvement cycle to launch this year's event and they are extremely excited to get the input of the whole school population too. Stay tuned for more information from the Fielding family and our DRPS student leadership team about their amazing initiative.



RRRR - TERM 2

During term 2, DRPS students will be learning about positive coping and problem solving as part of our Respectful Relationships program.

Positive Coping - Students will identify, discuss and implement different types of positive coping strategies. Activities include: positive self-talk, persistence and facing challenges

Problem Solving - Through role play and social stories, students will explore and develop a range of appropriate problem solving skills in a variety of personal, social and ethical dilemmas.



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ROTARY SPELLING CHALLENGE



Well done to our AMAZING grade 6 student Dylan Evasco from Miss Smith's grade who won the Rotary Spelling Contest on Tuesday 23rd May.

Dylan competed against nine other schools, spelling **ALL TEN** words correctly. Dylan won \$600 for himself and \$500 to purchase literacy resources for DRPS. Congratulations Dylan and a massive thank you to the Rotary Club of Sunbury.



DRPS is having a Crazy Sock day on the last day of Term 2.

As part of Crazy sock day, we are running a Fundraiser through Sockable.

Orders closed Sunday 4th June.

Profits raised will go towards Upgrading the Courtyard.

Visit the Sockable Fundraising website: <https://www.sockablefundraising.com.au/>

At checkout, choose your school from the drop-down menu, and add your child's name and class. This tells us who to give your socks to!

Thanks for your support
DRPS Fundraising 😊



TEACHING AND LEARNING MATHEMATICS

During this Term, our wonderful staff have been undertaking professional development in the area of Mathematics. With the Guidance of a Numeracy Consultant Kathy Palmer, Mr Nolan and Mr Payton have delivered weekly sessions that focus on the big ideas in Mathematics. When staff participates in high-quality professional development, it positively impacts students' mathematical achievement. Staff gain a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts and develop instructional approaches that engage students, address their individual needs, and promote a love of mathematics. As staff enhance their knowledge and instructional practices they can provide more effective and engaging mathematics instruction to our students.





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GRADE PREP NEWS

LITERACY

Phonics

Our Preps have been working on two letters a week. We have seen amazing growth in their letter sound knowledge. Well done Preps!



Reading

In guided reading, our Preps have been focussing on improving their decoding strategies to read words. In shared reading, the Preps have been looking at story books related to our letters of the week.

Writing

We have continued working on our weekend recounts. The Preps have begun informative writing and writing wonderful reports on a sea creature weekly!

MATHEMATICS

In Mathematics, our Preps have been learning about their numbers from 11-20. They have also been working on their understanding of before and after numbers and number sequencing.

Our Preps are doing a fantastic job at learning about addition. Go Prep!

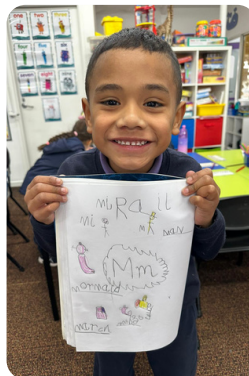
We have also been learning about length and money, which we have thoroughly enjoyed.



INQUIRY

Our Preps are absolutely loving learning about our inquiry topic 'Under the Sea'. They are creating wonderful fact reports about many sea creatures.

We had a recent incursion with Drama Box- Under the Sea. Our students learnt about various seas creatures through dramatic play, which was outstanding!



PREP
SUPER
STARS



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GRADE 1/2 NEWS

LITERACY

Reading

This term the focus has been on Fluency and comprehension skills. The students participate in guided reading groups with a focus on predicting, summarising and making connections to the text. As a team, the students have been exploring a range of non-fiction texts linked to our inquiry topic of living and non-living things.

Writing

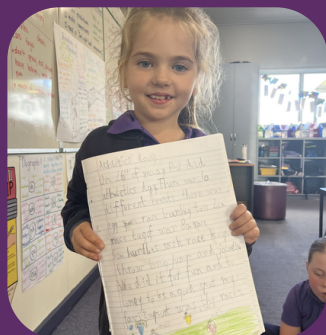
We have continued working on our writing by adding adjectives to make our recounts more interesting. We have begun informative writing focusing on the structural elements and features of an informative text. The students are excited about creating an informative poster to present to their parents.



MATHEMATICS

In Mathematics, the Grade 1/2 students have focused on using our counting skills and our place value knowledge up to 3-digit numbers and beyond. The students demonstrated this knowledge when rounding to the nearest ten. The students have been developing a number of strategies for addition and subtraction problems. To reinforce this understanding, the students have been using manipulatives, such as counters and unifix when learning the jump and split strategy.

We have also been learning about the months and seasons using a calendar. The students also enjoyed participating in activities to build their understanding of probability and the chance of something happening.



INQUIRY

The students have been really enjoying our Living and Non-Living inquiry topic. The students have learned about different animals, their habitats, diets and how they are classified.

The students have been exposed to different activities that required them to get outside and explore their local environment.

The highlight of the inquiry topic was our excursion to the Werribee Zoo where the students had the opportunity to get up close to a variety of different animals.





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GRADE 3/4 NEWS

LITERACY

This term in reading, we have been working on understanding what we read by making our own connections, imagining what is happening and asking questions.

In writing, we have been enjoying learning about where writers get their ideas and adding to our Writer's Notebook. We have also been using our research about animals to create information reports with true facts.

Our Smart Words spelling program is well underway and we are trying to use what we learn to improve our spelling attempts when we are writing.

MATHEMATICS

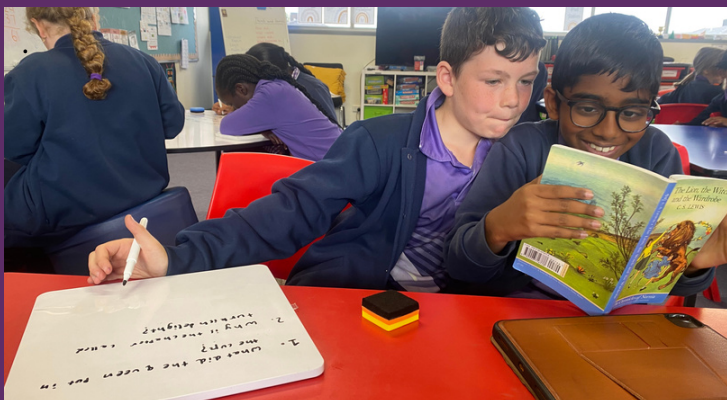
In maths, we have introduced lots of games to practice our number skills so we can add and subtract numbers more quickly and accurately. This has helped us to begin understanding how to add and subtract bigger numbers.

We have been using manipulatives such as Base 10 blocks, counters and number lines to help explain our thinking. We have also been learning how shapes transform and how to tell the time.



INQUIRY

We have had a fun term learning all about different groups of animals and their features and how they need each other to survive. Later this term we are looking forward to our Melbourne Zoo excursion where we will see some of our favourite animals in action and learn more about their features and the type of environment they need to survive.





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GRADE 5/6 NEWS

TERM 2 NEWS

We have had a very busy start to the Term and have had many exciting and interesting activities and learning experiences. We kicked off the term with students competing in our Cross Country competitions. Students were then chosen to represent the school at our District Cross Country. Following this, we also had Sunbury Downs College and Sunbury College come and visit our 5/6 students. In this session, students got a glimpse of what it was like to be in year 7 and had the chance to ask any questions they might have.

Grade 5/6 students also took part in a Cyber safety incursion at our school where Paula came and spoke to the students about how to be safe online. Following this, the students were able to write a Cyber Safety Report as we have been studying informative texts in writing. Their reports have been extremely interesting and inform the reader on a range of topics from cyberbullying to hacking and scams.

In Maths, we have continued to work on addition and subtraction and following this, we have started our focus on fractions and decimals. As well as this we have focused on time, length and perimeter.

In Inquiry this term, students are looking at animal adaptations and biological science.

Students have also been competing in many other activities, such as the Teachers vs Students basketball and soccer games and our new chess tournament which is about to begin.

Please remember our Werribee Zoo excursion is on the 8th of June and our District Winter Sports competition is on the 16th of June.





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STEM NEWS

STEM in the Junior School

In Term 2 our students have been busy learning about cyber safety. Students have learned to define the terms 'online' and 'offline', and have learned strategies to achieve a healthier media balance.

Students have now begun to learn the features of an iPad, including the home screen, swipe functions and applying appropriate care when using a device. Students are also learning to access the school's internet, search the web and create content relevant to their learning.



STEM in the Senior School

Our cyber safety unit continued in the senior school, with a visit from Paula Jarski, an ex-detective specialising in the area of cyber safety. Students enjoyed the session and were encouraged to reflect on their own media usage and whether any changes needed to be made.

Students completed the unit by assisting in the creation of a digital footprint display, which is currently showcased in our fantastic new STEM building.

Students have now begun working on an animation project; exploring traditional animation and stop-motion animations. Students will create a short film to be presented at the end of term two.

Well done to all.

Mr. Takacs





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ART NEWS

WE HAVE A NEW ART SPACE

Welcome to Term 2 and our new building!

The students have transitioned into the new library space so wonderfully.

We began the term looking at Pop artist Wayne Thiebaud. Wayne Thiebaud is famous for making pop art with a focus on food, particularly desserts.

The upper school has been spending the past few sessions working on oil pastel 3D-looking lollipops with fantastic results.

The junior schools has worked on direct draw cupcakes and donuts, with a focus on colour- particularly primary colours for the preps and texture. The students have been learning about texture and how to make a plain piece of paper look like it should feel like something.

This week we are moving into lessons that have different activities but all with a focus on pattern.

Well done everyone,

Mrs Taryn Paterra





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P.E NEWS

We have rolled into Term 2 in the physical education space quite literally with the P-2 students getting stuck into a unit on gymnastics. It has been great to see the children learning and developing their static shapes, rotations and balances. The new equipment from our Sporting Schools Grant has definitely come in handy here. The middle and senior years have been focused on invasion sports, with an emphasis on developing strategies in order to maintain possession.



SPORT NEWS

In the school sports landscape, 3-6 students had the opportunity to participate in the DRPS Cross Country Event. 2km or 3km for the older students sounds like a massive challenge, but students should be proud of how they took it on. From the school event, we selected a team of 38 students to attend the Sunbury District Cross-country Event. Here we were able to finish 2nd on the points table for the small schools and great result, well done. Congratulations to Ivy Karpavicius and Grace Wareham who progressed to the next level of competition.

Finally, the calendar and the weather cleared for the P-2 students to have their Athletics carnival. It was definitely a day full of excitement, energy and achievements, where the students got the opportunity to display their learning from PE lessons. Running, jumping and throwing their way to exhaustion our little athletes earned points towards their respective houses.

After the points were combined with the 3-6 Athletic Carnival Results and the House Chants extravaganza we found our 2023 Athletics Champions, Duncan!!! Well done Duncan, I'm sure the other houses will be keen to knock you off next year.





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ITALIAN NEWS

This term in Italian we have been looking at Italian landmarks. As a group, we collectively researched the famous Colosseum located in Rome and also the Learning Tower of Pisa, located in the city of Pisa. Students were completely engaged in learning about the history of each of the buildings and also enjoyed drawing the landmarks. This topic gave the students the opportunity to choose a landmark of their choice to research and then complete a mini-project on it. The Grade 3 to 6 students were given the choice to complete an information report or a persuasive piece on their chosen landmark.

The students did such an incredible job. Well done!

Signora Legudi





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COMMUNITY NEWS



ADULT
CLASSES
AVAILABLE

KARATE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

WHERE:

DIGGERS REST P.S.

WHEN:

MONDAY'S

- 3:30pm KIDS

- 4:30pm JUNIORS

"The Wellbeing Martial Arts Karate Program combines fun and fitness with the core martial arts values of respect and discipline, watch your child's confidence grow as they learn the art of karate"

Geoff Jackson – Chief Instructor.

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