

Ballarat Primary School (Dana St)

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Respect & Care



Responsibility



Inclusion, Tolerance & Understanding



Excellence

Dear parents, grandparents and friends,

And just like that, the term is over! Can you believe it?

This week has been a flurry of exciting activities and events. It would not surprise me, at all, if you are reading this as your children are resting on the couch, or even asleep!

On Tuesday, our school celebrated all things Japanese with our annual Japanese Day. The students were treated to a number of different activities, both cultural and linguistic, and thoroughly enjoyed them all. There were Japanese cartoon inspired key chains, origami, Japanese puppetry and even a demonstration of the martial art of Kendo. Who can forget the incredible sushi lunch! Thank you very much to Sensei Lauren for coordinating such a fantastic opportunity for our students.

Wednesday saw the magnificent Fun Run come to fruition, after countless hours of organisation and preparation. Fortuitously, the weather was on our side all day. It was fantastic to see so many of our students challenging and pushing themselves to be at their best. "Just one more lap...just a little bit faster." Equally as rewarding was seeing so many of our students encourage each other throughout the event. We are still receiving funds from sponsorship, so we will announce the total amount raised next term. Congratulations to our many lap winners for the event – we had many students completing the same amount of laps! I must also mention the effort that went into some of the costumes; especially considering that so many parents have been extra busy lately. To our many parent helpers, I thank you all, on behalf of Dana Street Primary School. The event would not have been as smooth, nor as enjoyable, without your support. Again, I thank you.

Today at assembly, we celebrated the many achievements of some of our amazing students. Our Values Award Recipients Lara, Violet and Lottie were honoured with some wonderful words of their exemplary work this term.

We also mentioned the winners of the Dojo point competition, who were treated to a special school lunch yesterday. Congratulations to Aleida, Billie, William, Henry Molly, Ava, Aara, Kentaro, Max, Molly, Harry and Scarlett for exemplifying our school values over the course of the term.



Last week, our school's NAPLAN results were released and distributed to parents. I am immensely proud of our school's achievements, with an incredibly high percentage of our students achieving either at or above the expected level in both Grades 3 and 5. I have shared this information with our staff and encouraged them to take a moment to feel pride at these great results. We are, indeed, embodying excellence. Whilst I also believe that NAPLAN results do not define a school, it is nice to celebrate these types of achievements when they come about.

As Term 3 comes to a close, I want to reiterate the importance of supporting your children to rest and relax. For many reasons, it was been a massive term and I have certainly noticed a lot of lingering fatigue within our school community. Term 4 is notoriously the busiest term of the school year, so I encourage you all to allow your children some activities that support rest and relaxation.

Finally, can I say a huge thank you to our dedicated staff and wonderful parent community for a positive term. Our students have thrived in many ways and I am so proud of them all. Have a fantastic break.

Ryan



Dates To Remember:

Monday 3rd October

PUPIL FREE DAY

Tuesday 4th October

Students Start Term 4

Grade 3-4 Camp



Last Wednesday, the 3/4 students made their way to Lady Northcote Camp in Glenmore. The camp was packed with lots of fun activities. The students spent their days rotating through a range of different activities and exploring the camp grounds.

The students thoroughly enjoyed each of the activities and it was fantastic to see their growth mindset shining through when they felt challenged. Some students describe their highlight as being the giant swing or flying fox while others enjoyed archery and cooking damper in the camp fire.

One of the focus activities we chose for our students was around teamwork. The students focused on their communication and problem-solving skills to solve different puzzles and challenges by working together.

Our nights were spent in the main hall and around the campfire roasting marshmallows.

It was great to watch the students interacting with each other, strengthening their current friendships and building new relationships with others.

All the students represented Dana St Primary School beautifully with our school values constantly on display.



Japanese Day

What an amazing day we had on Tuesday celebrating Japanese Day. The students were involved in a variety of Japanese themed activities including Japanese crafts, origami, sports and manga drawing. We also welcomed some special guests to our school. Anna from Heads and Tales Storytelling shared her traditional Kamishibai (paper theatre) stories, Anne Norman performed the story Kasa Jizo (Straw hat statue) and taught us 'The Wonderful Hat Song' and Gary Oliver from the Ballarat Kendo Club shared a very interactive Kendo demonstration including a very special guest of our own Mr. Oliver! As always, the highlight of the day for many students was the delicious Japanese lunch!

Here's what some of our students had to say about the day.



'I loved the Kendo!'

'I liked making my hachimaki headband'

'The kumihimo friendship bracelets were really fun, I gave mine to my friend'

'Anna taught us some fun ways to make our own Kamishibai stories out of envelopes and cardboard cup holders'



'The wonderful hat song was really great!'

'I had a bento box for lunch, it was really yummy!'

'I didn't know Mr. Oliver did Kendo, he was really good!'



Violet

Violet is a highly valued member of Foundation B. She comes to school each day with an eagerness to grow as an independent learner and a positive attitude to make the most out of every opportunity.



Violet is looked up to by the other students in the grade because of the warmth and inclusion she always shows. Consistently modelling respect and care to all members of the school community through her proven ability to be friendly, thoughtful and kind no matter the situation.

In class, Violet approaches tasks with both care and perseverance. Violet strives for excellence in all she does and we applaud Violet in her personal drive to always get the best out of herself.

At school Violet demonstrates responsibility on a daily basis, most noticeably in her desire to take responsibility for her own learning. In the classroom she is focused and ready to learn and will happily offer support and guidance to her peers. Her patience and understanding when working with a small group of students is a trait that is greatly admired by all of us.

Congratulations Violet, you thoroughly deserve the Term 3 School Values Award!

Lara

Lara is a highly respected member of our school, classroom and 1/2 area. She consistently displays respect and care to all of her friends and classmates. She goes out of her way to assist others within the classroom and nothing is too hard for her when it comes to showing respect to all students and teachers. When we think of care we think of Lara.



Lara is a very responsible learner who has enjoyed the challenge of extending herself in many areas of the curriculum. She is eager to go the extra mile to show the teachers she can lock into her learning and complete high-quality tasks. She is a responsible class member when looking after the class resources and is often the first to assist in helping tidy the room or help pack up after a task is completed. She exhibits that she is very mature with all that we do within and outside the classroom. She models exemplary behaviour through her excellent work ethic and her mature interactions with others.

Lara is a shining example of our school value of Inclusion, Tolerance, and Understanding. She is a supportive class mate who demonstrates friendly attitudes to other students and always makes every effort to be kind to all. Lara has a wonderful cheery personality that everyone enjoys. She loves to sing and has recently taught the whole class some songs. She is a vibrant and enthusiastic student who has many passions that she likes to share within her daily discussions in the classroom. Lara is interested in the world around her and often discusses ways that we can look after our world and make it a safer place. This maturity in itself displays the understanding she has of the world around her and the little things she can do to assist in making our world a better and safer place.

Congratulation Lara. You are a very worthy recipient of the School Values Award for Term Three. We are very proud of the wonderful student you are and continue to display every day.

Lottie

Lottie is an exceptional role model within our school, who consistently upholds our Dana Street School values. When you first meet Lottie, you will quickly notice that she is very hard working and that she is always willing to quietly lend a helping hand. When you know Lottie, you will quickly find that she is not always that quiet. She is, however, extremely passionate (especially about animals), fun loving, creative and such a considerate friend. She also has a great sense of humour.



Inside the classroom, Lottie demonstrates excellence by completing all of her learning tasks to the best of her abilities. She always has a growth mind-set in class. She asks questions to extend her learning, is always up for a challenge and quickly applies feedback. She takes pride in her learning this can especially be seen in her writing.

Lottie can always be relied upon to do the right thing and encourages others around her to do the same showing great responsibility. She constantly models respect and care to all members of the school community by carefully listening to all and responding in a thoughtful, friendly and courteous manner.

Lottie is a kind and thoughtful friend who aims to ensure that everyone feels comfortable and included. She shows her friends a tremendous amount of care. Lottie will go out of her way to be empathetic to others and find ways she can brighten up their day if they're feeling down.

Lottie we are so grateful for the positive, funny and helpful person you are each day. Thank you for being such an incredible member of Dana Street Primary school. You should be very proud of the person that you are!

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Fun Run

With the sun shining brightly, it was a perfect day for our annual Fun Run. The students loved dressing up and ran an amazing amount of laps to help raise money for our wonderful school. I would like to thank the parents that volunteered their time to monitor driveways and assist on the checkpoint tables. All lap sponsorship money is due by Wednesday 5th

October. Remember, you need to have your money paid by then to be in the running for one of the prizes. Major Prize winners will be announced at assembly on 7th Oct.

I would also like to congratulate the following students for running the most laps for their year level.

Foundation - Rory (14) and Ester (11)

Grade 1/2 - Conall (18) and Ava. R (12)

Grade 3/4 - Toby (15) and Maeve, Poppy, Eliza, Charlotte, Hannah and Cass (10)

Grade 5/6 - Bourne & Raiyan (16) and Annie (17)



Best Dressed



RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS



Respectful Relationships Curriculum Update

Dear Parents,

Respectful Relationships is a wide-ranging mandated initiative to help young Victorians deal with a range of challenges they may face and covers topics including being respectful, resilient and engaged at school and confident in themselves.

Respectful Relationships promotes equality and helps boys as well as girls learn how to build healthy relationships. The initiative prepares them to face challenges by developing problem-solving skills and building empathy, resilience and confidence.

In the primary years, the focus of Respectful Relationships is on treating everyone with respect and dignity. The teaching resources provide tailored learning materials for Prep to year 6, including age-appropriate lesson plans and activities that help students learn new skills and build confidence and resilience.

Ballarat PS are expanding their rollout of the Respectful Relationship classroom program and from next term students will be taught lessons from Topic 7 & 8 of the program.

TOPIC 7: GENDER AND IDENTITY

Learning activities within this topic assist students to challenge stereotypes and critique the influence of gender norms on attitudes and behaviour. They learn about key issues relating to human rights and gender identity, and focus on the importance of respect within relationships. The activities promote respect for diversity and difference.

TOPIC 8: POSITIVE GENDER RELATIONS

Learning activities within this topic focus on building an understanding of the effects of gender-based violence and focus on the standards associated with respectful relationships. Students develop the skills needed to solve problems, set boundaries within relationships, and play an active role within the prevention of gender-based violence. They develop peer support and help-seeking skills that can be applied in response to situations involving gender-based violence in family, peer, community or on-line relationships.

For more information on the Respectful Relationships program, we encourage you to visit the DET website here:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/respectfulrelationships.aspx>

The lessons can also be viewed at any time via the world wide web at:

<https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/ResourcePackage/ByPin?pin=2JZX4R>

For more information about the program please feel free to contact Central Highlands DET Respectful Relationships team members Trevor Edwards or Christian Brown. The team can be reached via Christian's email at christian.brown@education.vic.gov.au

Alternatively, you can contact either Ryan Oliver or Laura James via the school office.